

# CONTENTS

## Section V: Modernism

Introduction: Making It New in Canada, 1920–1960

EMILY CARR (1871–1945)

Ucluelet

FREDERICK PHILIP GROVE (1879?–1948)

Dawn and Diamonds

Canadians Old and New

E.J. PRATT (1882–1964)

Erosion

From *Towards the Last Spike*

ETHEL WILSON (1888–1980)

The Window

F. R. SCOTT (1899–1985)

Laurentian Shield

The Canadian Authors Meet

Trans Canada

Bonne Entente

All the Spikes But the Last

HARRY ROBINSON (1900–1990)

YOU THINK IT'S A STUMP, BUT THAT'S MY GRANDFATHER

A.J.M. SMITH (1902–1980)

To Hold in a Poem

The Lonely Land [First Version]

The Lonely Land

The Wisdom of Old Jelly Roll

A Rejected Preface

EARLE BIRNEY (1904–1995)

Canada: Case History: 1945

Can. Lit.

Bushed

The Bear on the Delhi Road

UP HER CAN NADA

i accuse us

Canada: Case History: 1973

HUGH MACLENNAN (1907–1990)

Boy Meets Girl in Winnipeg and Who Cares?

SINCLAIR ROSS (1908–1996)

The Painted Door

A.M. KLEIN (1909–1972)

Portrait of the Poet as Landscape

Heirloom

The Still Small Voice

DOROTHY LIVESAY (1909–1996)

Fire and Reason

Day and Night

The Three Emilys

Bartok and the Geranium

Lament

The Unquiet Bed

IRVING LAYTON (1912–2006)

The Birth of Tragedy

From Colony to Nation

The Fertile Muck

Keine Lazarovitch

MURIEL KITAGAWA (1912–1974)

From *This Is My Own*

P.K. PAGE (1916–2010)

The Stenographers

The Landlady

Stories of Snow

Photos of a Salt Mine

Planet Earth

Unless the Eye Catch Fire

THE MASSEY REPORT (1949–1951)

From *The Massey Report: A Royal Commission on National Development in the Arts, Letters and Sciences, 1949–1951*

Notes on the Massey Report

## FIGURES

- V.1 Tom Thomson, *The West Wind* (1916–17)
- V.2 Emily Carr, *Indian Church* (1929)
- V.3 Lawren Harris, *Mt. Lefroy* (1930)
- V.4 Alanis Obomsawin (Abenaki), *Indian Residential School 1934* (date)
- V.5 “Next Showing of Quints” (1936)
- V.6 “Keep these hands off! Buy Victory Bonds” (date)
- V.7 “I’m making bombs and buying bonds! Buy Victory Bonds” (date)
- V.8 Japanese fishing boats corralled on the Fraser River (1942)
- V.9 Kinu Murakami, *Quilt* (1942–45)
- V.10 Molly Lamb Bobak, *Gas Drill* (1944)
- V.10 “Miss Maple Leaf” Buy Canadian (1958)

## Section VI: Mid-Twentieth Century, 1960–1985

Introduction: Nationalists, Intellectuals, and Iconoclasts

CHIEF DAN GEORGE (GESWANOUTH SLAHOOT) (1899–1981)

If the Legends Fall Silent

A Lament for Confederation

NORTHROP FRYE (1912–1991)

Conclusion to *Literary History of Canada*

GEORGE GRANT (1918–1988)

From *Lament for a Nation: The Defeat of Canadian Nationalism*

AL PURDY (1918–2000)

The Country North of Belleville

Wilderness Gothic

Lament for the Dorsets

The Dead Poet

Home Thoughts

Grosse Isle

MARGARET LAURENCE (1926–1987)

A Bird in the House

A Place to Stand On

Letter to Margaret Atwood

ROY KIYOOKA (1926–1994)

from *Pear Tree Pomes*

We Asian North Americanos: An Unhistorical “Take” on Growing Up Yellow in a White World

ROBERT KROETSCH (1927–2011)

Stone Hammer Poem

On Being an Alberta Writer

ALICE MUNRO (1931–2024)

Family Furnishings

AUSTIN CLARKE (1934–2016)

Bakes

LEONARD COHEN (1934–2016)

A Kite Is a Victim

The Genius

The Only Tourist in Havana Turns His Thoughts Homeward

What I’m Doing Here

For E.J.P.

How To Speak Poetry

CAROL SHIELDS (1935–2003)

Hazel

JOY KOGAWA (1935– )

Obasan

ALISTAIR MACLEOD (1936–2014)

The Boat

JOHN NEWLOVE (1938–2003)

Samuel Hearne in Wintertime

America

MARGARET ATWOOD (1939– )

This Is a Photograph of Me

The City Planners

It is dangerous to read newspapers

From *The Journals of Susanna Moodie*

Death by Landscape

From *Survival: A Thematic Guide to Canadian Literature*

DENNIS LEE (1939– )

From *Civil Elegies*

Alligator Pie

Cadence

From *Cadence, Country, Silence: Writing in Colonial Space*

MARIA CAMPBELL (1940– )

Jacob

DAPHNE MARLATT (1942– )

From *Steveston*

generations, generations at the mouth

musings with mothertongue

MICHAEL ONDAATJE (1943– )

White Dwarfs

Pig Glass

The Cinnamon Peeler

To a Sad Daughter

Translations of my Postcards

bpNICHOL (1944–1988)

From *still water*

The Long Weekend of Louis Riel

landscape: 1

Blues

statement, november 1966

## FIGURES

VI.1 Expo 67: United States Pavilion (date)

VI.2 Expo 67: Ontario Pavilion with Canadian Pavilion in Background (date)

VI.3 “René Lévesque vs The British North America Act” (date)

VI.4 Joyce Wieland, *Reason over Passion* (1968)

- VI.5 Demonstration signs from a Vietnam War protest (1969)
- VI.6 Daphne Odjig, *The Indian in Transition* (1978)
- VI.7 Margaret Atwood, illustrations from *The Journals of Susanna Moodie* (1970)
- VI.8 Charles Pachter, *Ceremonial* (1973)
- VI.9 Greenpeace protest of whaling in the North Pacific

## Section VII: Turn of the Millenium, 1985–2010

Introduction: The Local, the National, and the Global

THE CANADIAN MULTICULTURALISM ACT (1988)  
From *The Canadian Multiculturalism Act*, 1988

FRED WAH (1939– )  
From *Diamond Grill*

PATRICK LANE (1939–2019)  
Winter 1  
Winter 4  
Winter 7  
Winter 8

DON MCKAY (1942– )  
Close-Up on a Sharp-Shinned Hawk  
Song for the Song of the Wood Thrush  
Load  
Sometimes a Voice (1)  
Après Chainsaw  
Quartz Crystal  
From "Baler Twine: thoughts on ravens, home, and nature poetry"

M. NOURBESE PHILIP (1947– )  
Meditations on the Declension of Beauty by the Giri with the Flying Cheek-bones  
Discourse on the Logic of Language

JEANNETTE ARMSTRONG (1948– )  
History Lesson  
The Disempowerment of First North American Native Peoples and Empowerment Through Their Writing

LEE MARACLE (1950–2021)

Goodbye, Snaug

ANNE CARSON (1950– )

Short Talk on Sunday Dinner with Father

Short Talk on My Task

Short Talk on Major and Minor

Father's Old Blue Cardigan

Audubon

ROHINTON MISTRY (1952– )

Squatter

DIONNE BRAND (1953– )

hard against the soul: I

Blues Spiritual for Mammy Prater

Ossuary 1

from *Nomenclature for the Time Being*

RHEA TREGEBOV (1953– )

Elegy for the Light

The Dinner Table, the Tulip

At or Above the Earth's Surface

Definition

MARILYN DUMONT (1955– )

The White Judges

Letter to Sir John A. Macdonald

Circle the Wagons

my life, a sweet berry

ARMAND GARNET RUFFO (1955– )

Poem for Duncan Campbell Scott

Doctrine of Discovery

The Tap

The Claim

Pauline Johnson's Dress, 1892

ANDRÉ ALEXIS (1957– )

The Night Piece

GEORGE ELLIOTT CLARKE (1960– )

Rose Vinegar

Blank Sonnet

Antiphony

NALO HOPKINSON (1960– )

Slow Cold Chick

MIRIAM TOEWS (1964– )

Blueprints

SUE GOYETTE (1964– )

Prologue

Seventeen

Forty-Seven

Forty-Eight

Fifty-Six

MICHAEL CRUMMEY (1965– )

What's Lost

Bread

STEPHEN COLLIS (1965– )

Future Imperfect

WARREN CARIOU (1966– )

An Athabasca Story

EDEN ROBINSON (1968– )

Dogs in Winter

RITA WONG (1968– )

nervous organism

canola queasy

write around the absence

Lessons From Prison: A Shackled Protestor Reflects

## FIGURES

VII.1 Shaney Komulainen, "Oka, Quebec, September 1, 1990"

VII.2 Minaajimo-Kwe (Alice Olsen Williams), *The Tree of Peace Saves the Earth* (1990–91)



- VII.3 Serge Chapleau, "We love you—Pas cette fois-ci j'ai mal à la tête!" (1995)  
VII.4 Jin-me Yoon, *A Group of Sixty-Seven* (1996)  
VII.5 Rosalie Favell, *I Awoke to Find My Spirit Had Returned* (1999)  
VII.6 Ken Lum, *There Is No Place Like Home* (2002)  
VII.7 Warren Cariou, *Suncor Structures Viewed from the Athabasca River*

## Section VIII: Contemporary Canada, 2010–2025

Introduction: Radical Upheavals, Necessary Hope

TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION COMMISSION OF CANADA

Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action on Education

IVAN COYOTE (1969– )

The Bathroom Chronicles

Their, There

LYNN COADY (1970– )

Mr. Hope

LEANNE BETASAMOSAKE SIMPSON (1971– )

gezhizhwazh

she is the only doorway into this world

RICHARD VAN CAMP (1971– )

On the Wings of this Prayer

WAYDE COMPTON (1972– )

The Lost Island

Three Riots: A Biotext for Watts, Rodney King, and George Floyd

ALEXANDER MACLEOD (1972– )

Lagomorph

DEREK BEAULIEU (1973– )

This half is for the ceremony

Please, No More Poetry

That's Not Writing

SAEED TEEBI (1973– )

Cynthia

MADELEINE THIEN (1974– )

Simple Recipes

VINCENT LAM (1974– )

Take All of Murphy

ADAM DICKINSON (1974– )

Resin Identification Code

Hail

Polyfederalsiloxane

From *Disruptors*

Pack your Bags

Perspiration, A Conspiracy

KAIE KELLOUGH (1975– )

... Asylum seekers have come from Syria

Solidarity without Borders wants to mobilize

... she had been living in Ft. Lauderdale

... a two-day bus ride from the northern border

SOUVANKHAM THAMMAVONGSA (1978–)

Picking Worms

EL JONES (1979– )

Easter Sunday, 2018

Still We Rise

ERIN ROBINSONG (1979– )

Like Everything That Has Lost the Formula for Stopping Itself

I Don't Believe We Can Save Our Civilization; I Do, I Do Believe It

Transformances

SACHIKO MURAKAMI (1980– )

Vancouver Special [1]

Vancouver Special [2]

Vancouver Special [3]

Vancouver Special [4]

OMAR EL AKKAD (1982– )  
Government Slots

PAOLA FERRANTE (1982– )  
When Foxes Die Electric

SHASHI BHAT (1983– )  
Food for Nought

CANISIA LUBRIN (1984– )  
In the Vault of the Morning  
All We Still Carry

LIZ HOWARD (1985– )  
Terra Nova, Terraformed  
Neural Cascade: A Chandelier of Forest Bones  
Standard Time  
Standard Time  
Contact

KIM FU (1987– )  
Liddy, First to Fly

KAI CHENG THOM (1991– )  
to the compulsive caregivers  
to J.K. Rowling  
to me, from a revolutionary trans femme of color living in the distant future  
diaspora babies

BILLY-RAY BELCOURT (1994– )  
Gay Incantations  
Sacred  
Towards a Theory of Decolonization  
Ars Poetica  
At the Mercy of The Sky  
Regarding Death, I Turn to the Photon

FIGURES  
VIII.1 Camille Turner, *Hometown Queen* (2010)

- VIII.2 Jalani Morgan, *Untitled*, (2015)
- VIII.3 Divya Mehra, *Dangerous Women (Blaze of Glory)* (2017), digital image
- VIII.4 Billy-Ray Belcourt (Driftpile Cree), *what's left of a residential school in Joussard, AB* (2019)
- VIII.5 Dennis Owen, *Children's Shoes and Toys* (2021)
- VIII.6 Carlos Osorio, "Canadian children school adults about climate crisis," *Canada's National Observer* (2019)
- VIII.7 Public signs from the COVID-19 pandemic (2020)
- VIII.8 Gord Hill (Kwakwaka'wakw), *Wet'suwet'en resistance to the Coastal GasLink pipeline* (2020)
- VIII.9 Kate Beaton, *Ducks: Two Years in the Oil Sands* (2022)
- VIII.10 Christi Belcourt, *What Are We Teaching Our Children*