

SOCIETY PAGES

NUMBER 41 ■ Spring 2014 ■ \$2.00



morrin

- NEW RESEARCH ON PRISONERS IN THE OLD GAOL
- THE DAY THE BRITISH ARMY LEFT QUEBEC CITY
- FORMER PRESIDENT DAVID F. BLAIR HONOURED

The Morrin Centre is managed by the Literary & Historical Society of Quebec.
Society Pages are published with the assistance of Canada Post.



Security
for Heritage
Workshop series



QUEBEC ANGLOPHONE
HERITAGE NETWORK
QAHN



RÉSEAU DU PATRIMOINE
ANGLOPHONE DU QUÉBEC
RPAQ

Regional Conference

Hosted by the
Morrin Centre

Friday, April 4, 2014

Featuring expert presentations on these conservation challenges:

Handling and storage of
antique guns and other
wood and metal objects

Identifying and reducing
risk to **heritage property**
and collections

Caring for **rare books**,
maps and historic papers
in museums & archives



Find out how the *Museums Assistance Programme* and the *Cultural Spaces Fund* can help your group with exhibits, collections and skills development.



Patrimoine
canadien Canadian
Heritage

Spaces are limited. Register toll-free at 1-877-964-0409.

Cost: \$35 for Quebec Anglophone Heritage Network (QAHN) members. \$45 for non-members

STUDY IN ENGLISH AT UNIVERSITÉ LAVAL

We offer:

- B.A. in English Literature and Linguistics (Baccalauréat en littératures et linguistique anglaises)
- M.A. in English Literature (Maîtrise en littératures d'expression anglaise)

with specialists in Canadian, American, British, and Irish Literatures.

Contact information:

Dr. Elspeth Tulloch
Graduate Program Director
elspeth.tulloch@lit.ulaval.ca



UNIVERSITÉ
LAVAL

Faculté des lettres
et des sciences humaines
Département des littératures

SOCIETY PAGES

NUMBER 41 ■ SPRING 2014

CONTENTS

Letter from the President	1	Sovita Chander
From the Executive Director	1	Barry McCullough
Transactions		
Downstairs at the Morrin	2	Steve Cameron
The Day the British Army left Quebec	5	Jack Bryden
Life of a President: William Wood	7	Maxime Chouinard
Events & Activities		
Imagination Writers' Festival	9	
Library Pages		
New Acquisitions	11	
Book Review	13	Cheryl-Anne Moore
Miscellanea		
David Blair Appointed to the Order of Canada	15	Rosemarie Fischer
Music Review	15	Barry McCullough

LIBRARY HOURS

Sunday	12:00PM-4:00PM
Monday	CLOSED
Tuesday	12:00PM-8:00PM
Wednesday	12:00PM-4:00PM
Thursday	12:00PM-8:00PM
Friday	12:00PM-4:00PM
Saturday	10:00AM-4:00PM

Front cover: Héloïse Leclerc's sold out Pop-up Restaurant held in the library on February 15th, 2014. Credit: Annie Simard Photo.

CONTENT
Jessica Kelly-Rhéaume

LAYOUT
Patrick Donovan

PROOFREADING
Louisa Blair

PUBLISHER
Literary & Historical Society of Quebec
44 chaussée des Écossais
Quebec, Quebec G1R 4H3

PHONE
418-694-9147

FAX
418-694-0754

GENERAL INQUIRIES
info@morrin.org

WEBSITE
www.morrin.org

LHSQ COUNCIL
lhsqcouncil@morrin.org
Sovita Chander, President
Ladd Johnson, Vice-President
Gina Farnell, Treasurer
Shauneen Furlong, Secretary
Donald Fyson, Honorary Librarian
Barry Holleman, Member at Large
Peter Black
William GK Boden
Katherine Burgess
Diana Cline
James Haberlin
Bruce Laurie
Hélène Thibault

David F. Blair, *Ex-Officio*

DIRECTOR
Barry McCullough
Executive Director
barrymccullough@morrin.org
FULL-TIME STAFF
Gail Cameron
Accounting & Financial Clerk
gailcameron@morrin.org
Maxime Chouinard
Conservation and Interpretation Advisor
maximechouinard@morrin.org
Rosemarie Fischer
Administrative Assistant
info@morrin.org
Stefanie Johnston
Guided Tours Coordinator
stefaniejohnston@morrin.org
Jessica Kelly-Rhéaume
Library Manager
lhsqlibrary@morrin.org
Elizabeth Perreault
Program and Communications Director
elizabethperreault@morrin.org
Mathieu Tremblay
Rentals and Events Coordinator
mathieutremblay@morrin.org

The mission of the **Morrin Centre** is to share and foster English-language culture in the Quebec City region. The Morrin Centre is administered by the Literary & Historical Society of Quebec.
ISSN 1913-0732

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear members and friends,

Spring is upon us and the Morrin Centre is blooming.

As this issue of the Society Pages goes to print, we are planning our Annual General Meeting for Monday, March 24. I know that turnout will be healthy because you, our members, are active and committed.

Having active, fully-engaged members is essential to the vitality of the Morrin Centre. In order to grow membership, we have launched a membership campaign. The first time I came to the Morrin Centre, I was dazzled by our library. Even today, after hundreds of visits, I am still infinitely inspired by this magical, Victorian gem. I'm sure many of you could tell similar stories about your first visit. Our goal is to share this experience with as many people as possible. Now, it's even easier to get information on what's happening at the Morrin Centre and become a member with our new website. I invite you all to visit the site, share it with your friends, relatives and colleagues.

On a sadder note, I would like to thank James Haberlin, who is stepping aside after nearly 20 years as a Council member, most of which were spent as Treasurer. His dedication and sage advice will not be easily replaced. Although James will no longer be on Council, I know that we will see him around the Centre at our events and activities.

Speaking of our activities, we have had an active winter, hosting a number of engaging cultural events. Many of you attend regularly, and we appreciate your support. The ImagiNation Writers' Festival is just around the corner, with 2014 marking the 5th anniversary. I am very excited about this year's lineup and as avid reader, will attend several events. It's wonderful to see the festival now taking its place as a must-see event in Canada's literary calendar. Hosting the festival always generates a lot of excitement amongst members, Council and staff members.

I hope to see you there,

Sovita Chander
President

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Dear members,

After finishing 2013 with the most total visitors since we officially opened in 2006, this winter has seen a host of great events and activities. In our *Connecting Through Culture* series, we presented two

musical events and two conferences. The series aims to build bridges between the Anglophone and Francophone communities, offer linguistic exploration and facilitate a meaningful cultural exchange. The bilingual discussion periods following the presentations have proven to be very popular. Be on the lookout for upcoming events in the series.

The Morrin Centre team has been busy planning other activities, such as the *ImagiNation Writers' Festival*. Be sure to check out the author biographies on page 7. Also, daily guided tours will start up in mid-May and run through September. I strongly recommend you come down for a tour with one of our talented guides for a truly memorable experience.

The Annual General Meeting will be James Haberlin's last as a member of Council. I would like to thank him for all he's done for the Lit & Hist. and me. I remember when I started as Administrative Director, James really showed me the ins and outs of how everything worked. I'm not sure I would have survived my first audit without him!

As many of you probably have seen, we redesigned our web site, of which we are very proud. Information is easier to find and it is also more convenient for users to pay/sign up for events, tours and memberships. Go have a look for yourself at www.morrin.org. Check it regularly to stay up-to-date on all of the happenings. If you don't want to miss out on anything Morrin-related, follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Pinterest.

I hope to see you soon – online and in person!

Barry McCullough
Executive Director

TRANSACTIONS

DOWNSTAIRS AT THE MORRIN PRISONERS FROM MY NECK OF THE WOODS

By Steve Cameron

Steve Cameron has been conducting extensive research, through written documents and oral history, on various inmates at the Quebec Gaol who came from his area, the St. Sylvester/St. Agatha/Leeds area south of Quebec City. Below are some of his findings.

“Our people, the prisoners, are back!” wrote Father John O’Grady to the Catholic Bishop of Quebec City in 1855 after a number of residents of the St. Sylvester/St. Agatha/Leeds area (about 60 km south of Quebec City) returned from a month-long stay in the Quebec City gaol (now the Morrin Centre). A trial had acquitted them of a recent murder. This was not the first nor the last time that residents of the area made the trek to Quebec City to the jail or the courthouse.

In this article, ‘locals’ refers to people who lived in the St. Sylvester/St. Agatha/Leeds area between 1825-1870. Prior to 1810-1815, the area was referred to as a ‘wasteland’, an uninhabited forest with the occasional seasonal visit from the Abenaki people. The arrival of the Craig’s Road in 1810-1811 (via St. Nicholas, through the hills en route to Richmond) connected the area to the townships and Boston. By the early 1820s, a few settlers had arrived, a mix of French-Canadian, Irish, Scot, American and even a few German (ex-mercenaries). The mid-1820s to mid-1830s saw the arrival of a massive wave of Irish immigrants, both Catholic and Protestant, which formed the main population of the area for generations. Although numerous Irish descendants in the area declare that their ancestors arrived as a result of the potato famine, the vast majority arrived after a turbulent period in post 1790-revolution Ireland, well before the potato famine.

In 1820, the area was relatively empty. Roads were in reality closer to being horse paths. Settlement was difficult. That the settlers survived their first Quebec

winters at all gives one an idea of their toughness and tenacity; their clearing the land and building their first shelters speaks of their creativity and resourcefulness.

There was no police force in the area, but a few justices of the peace were introduced in the mid-1830s. Times were tough, but so were the settlers. In St. Sylvester alone, five murders have now been documented between 1833-1886, each of them with a strong “Irish content.” In two of these cases the perpetrators were imprisoned in the Quebec Gaol which is now the Morrin Centre.



Steeple of Saint James
Anglican Church, Leeds, Quebec

1833/34... The extended Sutor (Shuter) family arrived in the early 1830s from Garvagh, in the North of Ireland. In December 1833, James sr., James jr., and William got into an argument with Living Lane, a newly arrived American from Maine. Lane had recently legally purchased a piece of land that the Suitors had been using, but did not own. The argument

ended with Lane being shot and killed. The Suitors were quickly captured, brought to trial and found guilty. They were to be “hanged, quartered and anatomized.” A few hours before the public hanging, the two James were given a reprieve and returned to prison. William was hanged publicly (above the Morrin Centre’s front door) in April 1834. In 1837, after a few years in prison, the two James were sent via London to Van Diemen’s Land (today’s Tasmania). They were given their freedom in the late 1840s, but were not allowed to return. Contact with their Australian descendants has revealed a successful post-prisoner life for the two James, who established a horse-taxi business that survived generations. Their remaining Canadian families lost touch over time and current descendants were unaware of the story. It did not pass down through oral tradition nor written documentation.

1855/56... In contrast, the Robert Corrigan story neither lacks documentation (frequently wrong) nor ☞

TRANSACTIONS

👉 *DOWNSTAIRS AT THE MORRIN (continued from previous page)*

local oral tradition (frequently contradictory). It caused a major turmoil at the time and its aftermath affected generations. Robert Corrigan arrived in Quebec 1844 with his Anglican wife, originally from County Tyrone, Ireland. His arrival surprised his seven Catholic brothers and parents who had been here since the early 1830s. Not only had he changed faith, but he was quite aggressive in expressing his anti-Catholic feelings and difficult with his Catholic neighbours. His fighting ability allowed him to claim he was the 'best man'. His arrival also coincided with the official sanctioning of the Orange Lodge in 1840 and the establishment of a secret Catholic Ribbonman society to counterbalance the Lodge. The Irish Catholic community also had its 'best man', and sooner or later a confrontation was bound to take place. In the fall of 1855, Corrigan was acting as a judge of sheep at an agricultural fair. His decisions were questioned, he reacted, someone sucker-punched him, and a large crowd surrounded him and proceeded to beat him up. He was moved away from the fight scene, and the fair continued ... but he died two days later. On his death bed he identified seven of the aggressors. A coroner's inquest identified a further four. The eleven accused (all Irish Catholics) disappeared, and multiple police efforts failed to find them. They spent Christmas in freedom, but ten of the eleven eventually gave themselves up in mid-January 1856. The eleventh was caught later that year, and tried separately. At the trial, held in February 1856, three of the accused were released immediately due to lack of evidence. Conflicting evidence flourished, and finally all the accused were found 'not guilty'. They returned to St. Sylvester and the Catholic community rejoiced, including Father John O'Grady. The Protestant and Orange population were outraged. The impact left sectarian scars for generations. Most of the accused spent about a month in prison. The last of the accused spent approximately seven months in prison after his arrest and eventual trial, where he also was found 'not guilty'.

But murder wasn't the only crime that landed people of this region in prison.

1837... A local English-born land agent in Leeds, Robert Layfield, spent six days in prison for sedition. Layfield was an active Reformer who was accused of preaching sedition in a tavern in Levis. He was released and continued his politics. Though in a minority in his

political views, he became a very successful businessman in both Leeds and Inverness and eventually mayor of the latter. There is no oral tradition about his being an Anglo Patriote in the area.

1847/48... two young Irish women, Eleanor Doonan and Eleanor Green, spent a month in prison 1847 for robbery, with a third (Mary McCrorey Rogers Doonan) spending six days in prison for knowingly receiving stolen goods. The goods? Bonnets, shawls, material, etc. The three were released pending a later trial. McCrorey Rogers Doonan was never brought to trial, but the two Eleanors were found guilty and spent another two months in jail in 1848.

1853... William Richardson, a successful tavern/inn owner in St Gilles, had/has a fairly positive reputation (donating land to the Anglican church, captain of the militia, etc.). Recently it has come to light that he was accused of sexual aggression, fighting, and the stabbing of an individual in unclear circumstances. This last skirmish resulted in his one-day prison stay. He died just before his trial.

1853... Daniel and John McCaffrey got into a fight with a Donovan neighbor in St. Agatha. Their prison stay was short-lived (six days) as they were found 'not guilty'. Again, there is no oral record of the incident, descendants being unaware of what had transpired. Interestingly, John McCaffrey, assumed to be an active Ribbonman at the time, was the man who owned the sheep judged by Corrigan to be inferior at the fair ground in 1855. McCaffrey died a painful death in 1857 in a stevedoring accident in Sillery Cove.

1855/56... John Kelly & Abraham Ramesay were working at the Craig's Road train station. During the Corrigan affair, a contingent of police were returning to Quebec City after an unsuccessful search for the Corrigan accused. The train de-railed at the station. The police assumed sabotage, and caught Kelly and Ramesay. Kelly just happened to be the brother of the head of St. Sylvester's Ribbonmen and the leader of those accused in Corrigan's murder. The feeling was that Kelly had ordered his subordinate, Ramesay, to cause the derailment. Kelly was released after three days in prison and Ramesay, despite an initial release, was brought back for a trial and spent another six months in prison prior to a 'not guilty' verdict on his having put the safety of the public at risk.

TRANSACTIONS

1856... Hammond Gowan Hall was the son of the seigneur of Broughton, a high-profile surveyor in Leeds. He was accused of raping a fourteen year old in Leeds. He was imprisoned for less than a week in 1856 and his trial ended with no decision. Pending a second trial in 1857, he was again imprisoned. This time, Hall, an active Orangemen, hired the best defence lawyer around, John O'Farrell (the Irish Catholic lawyer who was instrumental in getting the Corrigan accused acquitted). After almost three months in prison, he was found 'not guilty'. While he continued his high-profile career in Leeds, the young girl and her parents (a mixed marriage) henceforth led strained and difficult lives.

1857... Jean-Baptiste Napert was one of the Crown's prime witnesses at the Corrigan trial. Very much pro-Orange, his testimony/credibility was eventually destroyed by O'Farrell and the defence team. In 1857, he was accused of beating up one of the accused, Patrick Donaghue. Donaghue pressed charges and Napert was imprisoned for 18 days, but the jury decided he was 'not guilty'. His defence team argued that the charge was simply pay-back for having sided with the

Orangemen of St. Sylvester rather than with the Irish Catholics. Napert was again in trouble in 1886, charged with being an accomplice in a murder (by scythe) of Michael Keenan. He again spent time in prison (months) awaiting the results of the trial of the prime accused. The prime suspect, Joseph Fortier, after two trials, was given a two-year sentence for manslaughter (vs. first degree murder) and Napert was freed. Fortier died while in prison. The writer was invited to share the Napert story at a recent family reunion, most of whom were only slightly aware of the elements of their ancestor's series of encounters with the law.

As the stories of our ancestors are discovered and re-told, I have learned to appreciate the difficulties of their lives – and at the same time, I have learned that our ancestors were not the angels we were all taught to believe they were. They were human, with the same follies and vices found today. The violence and intensity of their actions reflect the violence of the times in which they lived. Also remarkable is how successfully these stories were simply hushed up – the stories of these men's crimes died shortly thereafter. Somehow, their discovery made them seem more human. ■

Our website has undergone a make-over!

The screenshot displays the Morrin Centre website interface. At the top, there is a navigation menu with links for 'What is the Morrin Centre?', 'A short history', 'News', 'General information', 'Contact us', and a language selector for 'Français'. Below this is a secondary menu with five main categories: 'VISIT our historic site', 'EXPLORE the library', 'PLAN your event', 'DISCOVER our upcoming events', and 'SUPPORT your Morrin Centre'. The main content area features a large banner for 'VISIT QUEBEC CITY'S FIRST PRISON' with a 'RESERVE TODAY' button. Below the banner are three smaller promotional tiles: 'GUIDED TOURS' with a 'PLAN YOUR VISIT' button, 'ENGLISH-LANGUAGE LIBRARY' with a 'HARVEST YOUR PASSION' button, and 'OUR SPACES, YOUR EVENT' with a 'FIND THE PERFECT ROOM' button. On the left side, there is a sidebar with the 'morrin' logo, a search bar, 'Opening hours' for the library and administration, and 'Guided tours' information.

Not only is it more visually appealing, but it makes navigating its pages a breeze. In one single click you can visit our historic site, explore the library, plan your event and discover our upcoming events, all at the same address:

www.morrin.org

TRANSACTIONS

THE DAY THE BRITISH ARMY LEFT QUEBEC

By Jack Bryden

Based on a presentation given by Jack Bryden at the Morrin Centre on February 26, 2014

After the American War of Independence, followed by the war of 1812-1814, strong mutual distrust existed between the young United States and the colonies of British North America. After the jarring loss of the thirteen American colonies, the British were determined not to lose any additional territory through battle with the Americans. As a result the British invested heavily in the defense of Upper and Lower Canada and the Maritimes. This was a continental strategy, and additional smaller expenditures were made by the British to defend British Columbia from potential American attack through the construction of military roads.

State of the art military fortresses costing millions of British pounds were built in the small but strategic cities of Kingston, Quebec, and Halifax. While difficult to quantify, the economic impact on this city of such immense capital projects must have been significant. The star-shaped citadel that we know so well was designed and built between 1820 and 1831 under the direction of British Army engineers. Its specific purpose was to defend the heights of Quebec and this portion of the St. Lawrence against potential American attack.



The 60th Regiment leaving the Citadel, Quebec
Credit: *Canadian Illustrated News*, December 2, 1871

Today, many Canadians are aware that certain buildings within the Citadel walls are used as an official residence by the Governor-General of Canada. However, the Queen's representative did not move in until the British Army left in 1871 when vacancies became available in

officers' quarters. That year, real British military might in Quebec was replaced by the symbolic person of the governor-general, whose presence could be interpreted as indicating that the British were on our side if ever Canada were attacked. Fortunately this was never put to the test.

The British Army left for a number of reasons, most

of them economic. Many in Britain believed the newly minted Canadian Confederation should bear most of the costs of its own defence. In addition, a century of animosity between Britain and the United States was finally beginning to dissipate as industry and business connections between the two countries rapidly increased.

When the British Army left, many in the United States began to see Canada less as a British military threat that was too close for comfort than as an occasionally interesting neighbour to the north. Most Americans were tired of war after 1865, and what was left of their own army was increasingly being used in the American west and in an attempt to police the volatile and resentful southern states.



TRANSACTIONS

Once the British Army left, we really did have the longest undefended border in the world. Canada had an artillery company or two equipped with outdated weaponry; some scattered militia companies, often more impressive on paper than in reality; and no real professionally trained officers. However, Canada slowly invested in the Canadian military and by the time the Boer War broke out, and then the First World War, our soldiers proved themselves to be professional, formidable and brave. ■



Training with outdated artillery, Quebec, 1873

THE 60TH FAREWELL TO CANADA

Some few short years have passed away,
 We've many changes seen,
 Since first we landed on the shores
 Of, Canada so green;
 But now our lot in life is changed --
 We can no longer stay,
 We have to speak our sad Farewell --
 Farewell, Farewell, we say.

Fair Ottawa and Montreal,
 Toronto and Quebec,
 We have watched them fading from our sight,
 From off the steamer's deck;
 But, then, we had one cheering thought
 We to our friends could tell,
 We will return again to you,
 Altho' we say Farewell.

But, now, we leave them far behind,
 'Tis for some distant shore,
 And see no prospect of return,
 To visit them once more;
 But, as we leave you, we will ask --
 May Earthly blessings dwell
 On you and all our loving friends,
 And we breathe our last Farewell.

Charlie.
 1st, 60th R.
 Citadel, 10th Nov., 1871



Follow us on
Facebook

Check out pictures of
 our events and more
www.facebook.com/



LE MILLE QUARANTE
 CABINETS DE JURISTES

Paolo Cusan
 Notary - Counselor At Law

1040 Belvédère Ave.
 Suite 102
 Sillery (Quebec)
 G1S 3G3
 Tel : (418) 525-6158
 Fax : (418) 525-7197
 pcusan@notarius.net



TRANSACTIONS

LIFE OF A PRESIDENT WILLIAM WOOD (1864-1947)

By Maxime Chouinard, Curator

In this last column I would like to document the story of a man who did much to further the cause of the LHSQ and of Quebec's history and cultural heritage. William Wood was one of the last members of the old guard of the LHSQ and he successfully led this institution through some of its most enduring achievements. Yet little certainty and much mystery surrounds the life of this discreet man.

First, several myths endure about the lineage of William Wood. One popular story goes that his grandfather Robert was the illegitimate son of Prince Edward Duke of Kent and Strathearn and Madame Alphonsine-Therese-Bernardine-Julie de Montgenet de St. Laurent, the duke's mistress of 28 years until his marriage in 1818. The story goes that they married while Edward was serving as an officer in Gibraltar.

After being sent to Quebec in 1791, the couple had a son whom they named Robert. Upon hearing of this, George III had the marriage invalidated and Edward was sent back to England in 1798. Young Robert was given to one of the Duke's servants, Robert Wood, who lived in Quebec and took care of his education. Robert grew up to become a wealthy lumber baron who built a mansion in Anse Saint-Michel called the Woodlands, which burned down in 1868, although his city house still

stands on Ste. Ursule street in Old Quebec. A pair of stained glass windows in Holy Trinity Anglican Cathedral commemorate his death, windows said to have been paid for by the English crown. Unfortunately for those who believe Robert was a half-brother to Queen Victoria, however, scholars have recently claimed that no children were born of the relationship between the Duke of Kent and Madame de Saint-Laurent, even though several other families in Canada also claim a link to the prince.

Another mystery, this one much darker, surrounds the Woods. One of Robert's daughters, Charlotte Wood, was sent to Troy Female Seminary in the United States along with her sister Harriet. In 1854 Charlotte, having apparently run away from the seminary years before and assumed the name of Henrietta

Robinson, was prosecuted for the murder by arsenic poisoning of two neighbors in Troy. After a sensational trial in which she refused to remove the veil covering her face, earning her the nickname of the veiled murderess, she was pronounced guilty and sentenced to hang. After receiving a petition from several citizens, the governor commuted the sentence to life in prison. She spent 18 years in Sing Sing before being transferred to Auburn and finally to Mateawan Hospital for the



William Wood
Credit: LHSQ Collection

TRANSACTIONS

Criminally Insane in 1890, where she died at the age of 89.

Returning to our main subject, her nephew William, born in 1864, was commissioned in the 8th Royal Rifles of Quebec in 1887. The Royal Rifles of Canada, as they came to be known, were stationed in Quebec City from their creation in 1862 to 1966. Long before Wood joined their ranks, the 8th was called on to stop the Fenian Raids on the 8th of March 1866. Some of their members were also sent to serve in the South African War between 1899 and 1900.

In 1906 Wood was already known as a Major and in 1908 as a Lieutenant Colonel. He became a member of the Literary and Historical Society around 1890 and started writing several books and articles on the history of Canada, even writing the entry for the country in the 1911 edition of the Encyclopaedia Britannica. Most of his research was centred, as one might expect, on military history.

After becoming president in 1900, Wood undertook many projects with the Society, some of whose fruits are very well known today. He spearheaded the creation of the Battlefield Commission which would help safeguard the Plains of Abraham as an historical landmark and public park. This was just in time for the 1908 Tercentenary, which he also helped organize. Finally, one of his most lasting contributions was the donation of the extensive historical archives collected and preserved for many decades by the LHSQ in order to create what is now Library and Archives Canada.

In 1910 Wood retired from the army, but rumour has it that he served as a secret agent during WWI. After the conflict Wood became active in the Scouts movement, and received a medal for his historical research from the Royal Society of Canada (RSC) in 1938. He was president of the English section of the RSC as well as president of the Historic Landmarks Association.

Wood was fond of the collections of the LHSQ. He was curator from 1887 to 1889 and did a thorough inventory of its books and manuscripts collection. Our oldest volume – a copy of *De Rei Militari, Vegetius' and Florus' History of Rome* from 1524 – was once in his family library and still bears his signature. During Wood's later years the LHSQ started to experience financial difficulties, and following his death after five long years of illness, Society officials decided to sell parts of its impressive collection in order to stay afloat. In his honour they named a lounge in the Morrin building after him: "Wood's room," which is now the staff's main office.

Col. William Wood left behind him no children and no close relatives were known to live in the region. His legacy is rather in the form of the precious landscapes, buildings and memories he helped to preserve and which make Quebec City the world heritage site it is today, and for that we are immensely thankful to him. We hope that other researchers will delve into his history and bring to light more about his interesting life and contributions. ■

morrin centre

a little extra goes a long way...

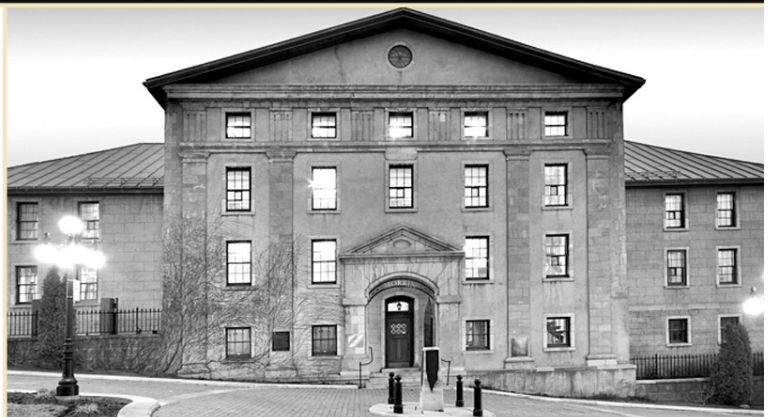
- One-stop shopping for your special event
- List of accredited caterers
- Fully equipped audio-visual system
- Free Wi-Fi

For more information

Contact Mathieu Tremblay at 418 694-9147, ext. 224 or mathieutremblay@morrin.org.



44 Chaussée des Écossais,
Quebec City, Québec, G1R 4H3
www.morrin.org



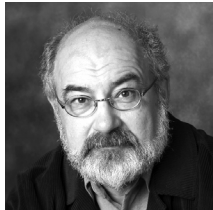
A prestigious VENUE
FOR YOUR EVENTS

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

Québec 2014

imagination

Writers' Festival • Festival d'écrivains


morrin.org/imagination


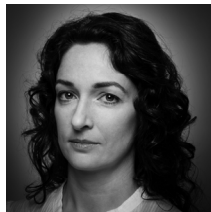
Family Secrets: Nothing is ever black or white

Wednesday, April 9 - 18:00

WAYNE GRADY is the author of fourteen works of nonfiction, including *The Bone Museum* and *Bringing Back the Dodo*. His first novel, *Emancipation Day*, was long-listed for the Scotiabank Giller Award and named one of the ten best books of 2013 by the CBC. The inspiration for it came when he was researching his own family tree and unearthed unexpected secrets. Grady's masterful novel touches on profoundly human themes such as family relations, love and racism, and is set against the backdrop of an evolving post-WWII Canada.

Aristotle's daughter, The Sweet Girl

Wednesday, April 9 - 20:00



ANNABEL LYON is the award-winning author of the novel and bestseller *The Golden Mean* in which she imagined the relationship between Aristotle and Alexander the Great. In her latest novel, *The Sweet Girl*, the focus is on Pythias, Aristotle's daughter. Blessed and cursed with her father's intellect in a society that doesn't value intellectual skills in a woman, Pythias must learn to cope as a second class individual.



*Members receive a 20% discount off the price of the pass and tickets



An epicurean odyssey across Canada

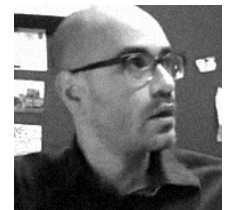
Thursday, April 10 - 19:30

Host/Moderator: Rachelle Solomon

JACOB RICHLER is an award-winning magazine writer and food critic. He contributes a regular food column to *Macleans* magazine and was the editor and chief critic for their recent special issue, *Canada's Best Restaurants*. In *My Canada Includes Foie Gras*, Richler draws from his twenty years of experience to introduce us to the country's finest chefs, dishes and restaurants.

Reflections on turning 40: Valuable life lessons from the inane

Friday, April 11 - 18:00



JONATHAN GOLDSTEIN, the author of *Lenny Bruce is Dead* and *Ladies and Gentlemen, The Bible!* as well as host and producer of *Wiretap* on CBC Radio, amazes us once again with his ability to see depth in some of the most commonplace aspects of the human condition. *I'll Seize the Day Tomorrow* is a collection of his thoughts in the year preceding his 40th birthday and a humorous celebration of everyday life.



Exclusive prelaunch of *All My Puny Sorrows*

Host/Moderator: Jeanette Kelly
Friday, April 11 - 20:00

MIRIAM TOEWS is the author of five novels: *Summer of My Amazing Luck*, *A Boy of Good Breeding*, *A Complicated Kindness* (winner of the 2004 Governor General's Literary Award for Fiction), *The Flying Troutmans* (winner of the Rogers Writers' Trust Fiction Prize) and *Irma Voth*, as well as one work of non-fiction, *Swing Low: A Life*. She'll be reading from her latest book, *All My Puny Sorrows*, scheduled to be released on April 15, 2014.

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

Children's Storytelling Workshop*

Saturday, April 12 - 10:30

RAE MARIE TAYLOR, author of *The Land: Our Gift and Wild Hope*, artist, and professional guide-interpreter, founded the first courses on Native American literature at Dawson College and Concordia University's Simone de Beauvoir Institute. Her workshop aims at familiarizing children ages 8 to 12 with the stories of the American Southwest and awakening their own creativity through storytelling and crafts.

*Please note that this workshop is restricted to 10 participants. This is a free event.



Writers' Out Loud: Making Québécois literature available to the world

Host/Moderator: Louisa Blair
Saturday, April 12 - 14:00

Award-winning French to English translator of some 150 books, **SHEILA FISCHMAN** has contributed to making Québécois literature accessible to English-speaking audiences. This discussion will highlight her role in redefining the context of literary translation in the country and proving that translation is in itself an art form.



Bullfighters and circuses: Perspectives on identity and truth

Host/Moderator: Angelica Montgomery
Saturday, April 12 - 16:00



ELIZABETH RUTH is the author of three critically acclaimed novels, *Matadora*, *Smoke* and *Ten Good Seconds of Silence*. In January 2014, the CBC named her one of the Ten Canadian Women You Need To Read. Her latest novel, *Matadora*, tells the story of a poor girl turned bull-fighter in the tumultuous period before the Spanish Civil War and tackles audacious themes such as power, pleasure and what it means to be a woman.

CATHERINE BUSH is the author of four novels. Her second novel, *The Rules of Engagement*, was a national bestseller and was chosen as a *New York Times* Notable Book. Her third novel, *Claire's Head*, was shortlisted for Ontario's Trillium Award. In her latest novel, *Accusation*, which explores the power of public allegations on people's lives and identities, journalist Sara Wheeler seeks the truth about accusations against the charismatic head of a travelling Ethiopian circus.



Satirizing Canada-US relations


Saturday, April 12 - 18:00



TERRY FALLIS is the author of *The Best Laid Plans* and *The High Road*, satirical novels about Canadian politics. *The Best Laid Plans* won the 2008 Stephen Leacock Medal for Humour and was crowned the winner of CBC Canada Reads as the "essential Canadian novel of the decade." A mini-series based on the book debuted on CBC in January 2014. Terry's third novel, *Up and Down*, debuted on the *Globe and Mail* bestsellers list, was a finalist for the 2013 Leacock Medal, and won the 2013 Ontario Library Association Evergreen Award.

Ridding oneself of the rubber duck's toxins

Saturday, April 12 - 20:00

A prominent Canadian author and environmentalist, **RICK SMITH** is the Executive Director of the Broadbent Institute. From 2003 to 2012 Rick was Executive Director of Environmental Defence Canada. Along with co-author Bruce Lourie, Rick wrote *Slow Death by Rubber Duck: How the Toxic Chemistry of Everyday Life Affects Our Health*—a bestseller in Canada and Australia, the book has now been translated into six languages and their latest book, *Toxin, Toxout: Getting Harmful Chemicals Out of Our Bodies and Our World* sets to answer the follow-up questions to the first book. He holds a Ph.D. in biology from the University of Guelph. **BRUCE LOURIE** is one of Canada's leading environmental thinkers. He is President of the Ivey 



EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

IMAGINATION FESTIVAL PROGRAM (continued from previous page)

Foundation, a private charitable foundation in Canada, a Director of the Ontario Power Authority and a Director of the San Francisco-based Consultative Group on Biological Diversity. He is an honorary director of the Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment and a member of the World Wildlife Fund's Climate Advisory Committee.



Tea and Poetry
Sunday, April 13 - 14:00

MIA ANDERSON is a writer, an Anglican priest, a gardener, an erstwhile shepherd and a long-time actress. She has published four books of poetry: *Appetite*, *Château Puits '81*, *Practising Death*, and most recently *The Sunrise Liturgy*. In 2013, the Montreal International Poetry Prize selected Mia's poem *The Antenna* from a manuscript of 52 poems from 12 countries, comprising the *2013 Global Poetry Anthology*.



Amazons throughout the ages
Sunday, April 13 - 15:30

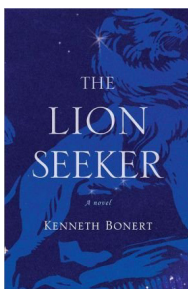
ANNE FORTIER is originally from Denmark and was educated at Oxford. She co-produced the Emmy-winning documentary *Fire and Ice: The Winter War of Finland and Russia*, and her 2010 *New York Times* bestselling novel *Juliet* was published in over 30 countries. Her first novel, *Shepherds on the Mountain*, was shortlisted for Best Debut of the Year at the Copenhagen Book Fair. Her latest book, *The Lost Sisterhood*, is a parallel tale about a young scholar setting out to prove the existence of the legendary Amazon warriors and an Amazon leader guiding her warriors through battle. ■

For more information about the authors or to purchase tickets, please visit: www.morrin.org/imagination or call us at 418-694-9147

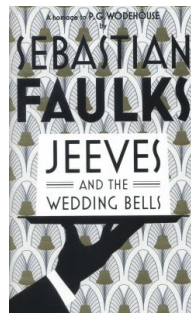
LIBRARY PAGES

NEW ACQUISITIONS

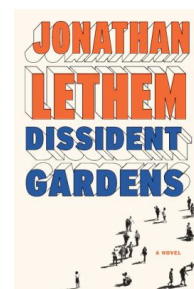
Here are a few of the recent additions to the Library collection. To reserve a title, please contact the Morrin Centre Library at **418-694-9147** or visit our online catalogue at www.morrin.org.



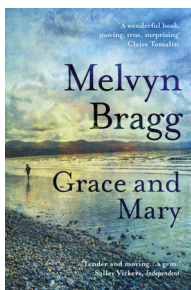
Fiction
The Lion Seeker
Bonert, Kenneth
B712 2013



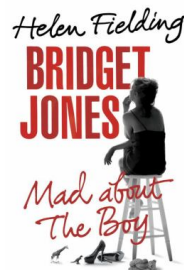
Jeeves and the Wedding Bells
Faulks, Sebastian
F263 2013



Dissident Gardens
Lethem, Jonathan
L647 2013



Grace and Mary
Bragg, Melvyn
B813 2013

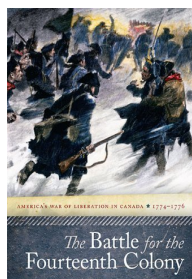


Bridget Jones: Mad about the Boy
Fielding, Helen
F459 2013



The Goldfinch
Tartt, Donna
T193 2013

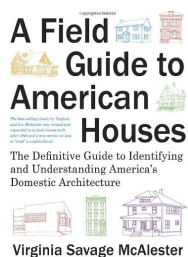
LIBRARY PAGES



Non-Fiction
The Battle for the Fourteenth Colony

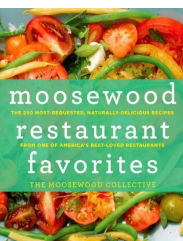
Anderson, Mark
971.024 A548

Mark R. Anderson



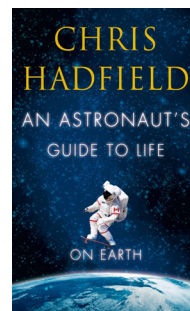
A Field Guide to American Houses

McAlester, Virginia et al.
728.0973 M114



Moosewood Restaurant Favorites

Moosewood Collective
641.5636 M825



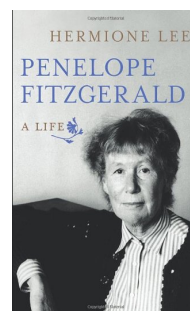
An Astronaut's Guide to Life on Earth

Hadfield, Chris
Bio H129 2013



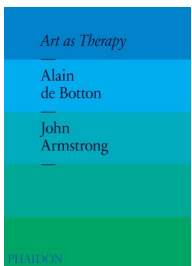
The Library: A World History

Campbell, James W.P.
OS 727.8 C188



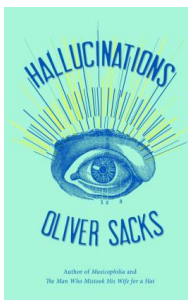
Penelope Fitzgerald: A Life

Lee, Hermione
Bio F554 2013



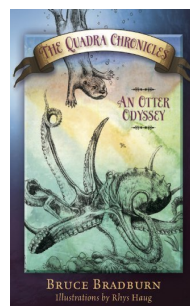
Art as Therapy

De Botton, Alain and Armstrong, John
701.18 D287



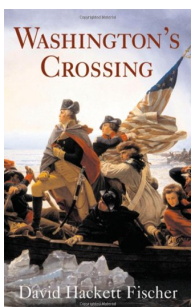
Hallucinations

Sacks, Oliver
616.89 S121



Juvenile
The Quadra Chronicles

Bradburn, Bruce
JF BRA 2013



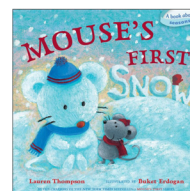
Washington's Crossing

Fischer, David Hackett
973.332 F529



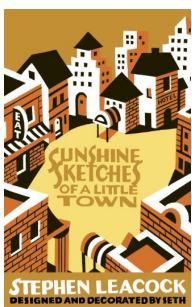
In Translation: Honouring Sheila Fischman

Simon, Sherry
418.02 F529



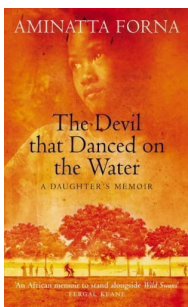
Mouse's First Snow

Thompson, Lauren
JF THO 2005



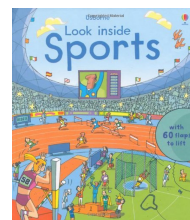
Sunshine Sketches of a Little Town

Leacock, Stephen and Seth
819.7 L434



Biography
The Devil that Danced on the Water :A Daughter's Quest

Forna, Aminatta
Bio F727 2002



Look Inside Sports

Jones, Rob Lloyd
J 796 R78 SPT

LIBRARY PAGES

ON THE SHELF

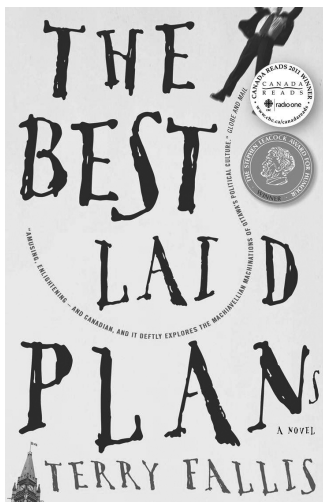
A THEMATIC REVIEW OF SOME INTERESTING, IMPORTANT OR JUST ENTERTAINING BOOKS IN THE LIBRARY OF LITERARY AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

By Britta Gundersen-Bryden

This issue's theme: Imagination, Anticipation and Tasting a Bit of the Backlist

When a new book by a well-known author hits the Library's shelves, when a positive review sparks interest in a new piece by a less-familiar writer, or when an author gives an engaging reading from a new work in College Hall, there is a rush to check out that work, take it home for a few weeks and savour it fully.

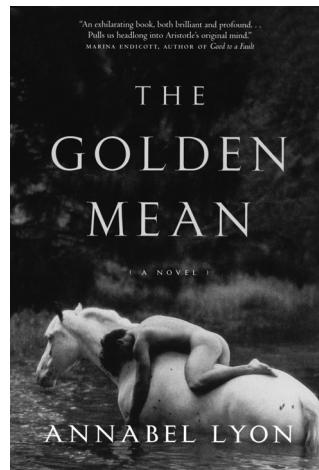
Continuing with the culinary metaphor, some tasty morsels from authors you are about to meet are waiting for you already in the Library. With the fifth annual *ImagiNation Writers' Festival* just around the corner, this column looks at three guest authors' earlier works that can be found "on the shelf".

**Madcap Politics****TERRY FALLIS**

published his third novel, *Up and Down*, in 2012. His fourth, *No Relation*, is expected this spring. But the appetizer, (or the main course, with those that follow the desserts) is his 2008 book, *The Best Laid Plans*. Simply put, this book is very funny. Billed as a political satire, this book is that and much more. There are many genuinely engaging

characters, several believable plot twists and fascinating glimpses into exactly how our House of Commons works. Do you follow municipal, provincial, federal or international politics and revel in talk of elections and budgets? Have you ever lived in a small town or a capital city? Do you know any strong-minded Scots, university students with green spiked hair or pompous academics? Do you split your infinitives from time to time or maybe even let a preposition hang? Do you know anything about either hovercrafts or chess? (or

have ever experienced a powerful winter storm...but why ask?). Even if the answer is "no" to all of the above, *The Best Laid Plans* is a delight, no matter what your political stripe.

**Pure Gold**

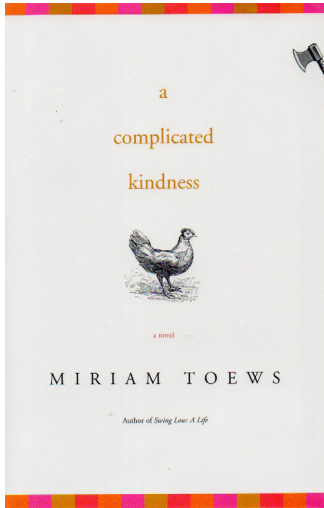
It is no wonder that *The Golden Mean*, by **ANNABEL LYON**, was nominated for the Giller Prize, the Governor General's English Language Fiction Prize and the Rogers Writer's Trust Fiction Prize (which it won) in 2009.

Lyon's work explores the relationships between Aristotle and his boyhood friend, Philip of Macedon, and Aristotle's gifted pupil, Philip's son Alexander (the future Alexander the Great). It also explores timeless balances: between rich and poor, men and women, free and enslaved, war and peace, passion and reason, compassion and cruelty. Lyon's seamless shifts between the elegant and the graphic, brings long-gone people (Aristotle, Alexander, Philip, Plato – and those around them) to life again. She explains the teachings and philosophies of Aristotle and Plato in ways that readers can grasp (much as they themselves did with their young pupils). She details virtually all aspects of life in ancient Greece, from medical practices, daily diet and sexual relationships to Greek theatre, religious rites and military strategy. And she does all of this in fewer than 300 pages!

Annabel Lyon has written a novel that also finds the "golden mean" between history and fiction. What more could a Lit and His reader want? (Ah yes, there may be an answer to this question: Lyon's 2012 novel, *The Golden Mean's* sequel, *The Sweet Girl*, the story of Aristotle's daughter, Pythias).

LIBRARY PAGES

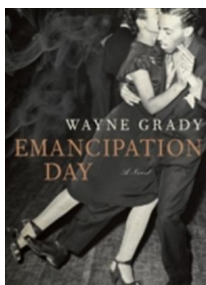
We could say *The Golden Mean* deserves to be at the top of the literary podium, and draped with a gold medal.



Prairie angst
MIRIAM TOEWS has half a dozen novels to her credit. Probably the best known is *A Complicated Kindness* (2004). Set in a small Mennonite town in Manitoba, this book is often referred to as a “coming-of-age” piece, not unlike J. D. Salinger’s *The Catcher in the Rye*.

Toews herself grew up in Steinbach, Manitoba and it is her descriptions of the prairie town, the farm land, the sky, the heat and the long drives south to have coffee across the border that make this truly a Canadian piece. Her central character, sixteen-year old Nomi Nickel, is more universal. Nomi goes through all the usual adolescent lows (confusion, introspection, loneliness) and highs (compassion, creativity, wonder). But her particular circumstances are anything but usual. Other characters, such as Nomi’s father Ray and boyfriend Travis, also capture the reader’s interest, and no reader can help but wonder what has become of Nomi’s mother Trudie, and sister Tash.

It is this sense of the normal wrapped up in the something thicker, something intense, that makes *A Complicated Kindness* a complex story. For those who went through their own adolescent angst in the late 1970s or early 1980s, there is an added bonus: the novel contains a virtual playlist of the music that was blaring from car radios and at school dances, and which sets the mood for a host of teenage memories.



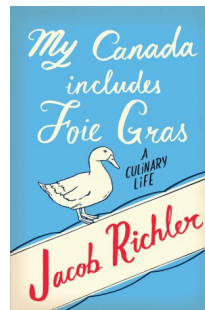
And for the backlist of books I still hope to read before ImagiNation begins ...

Topping the list is Wayne Grady’s *Emancipation Day* (2013), a novel about interracial marriage set during World War II. Grady is well known

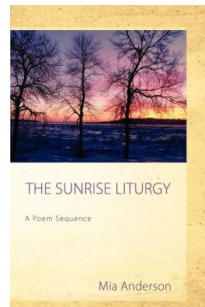
for his French-to-English translations and also for his scientific and nature non-fiction.



Then there is *Breakfast at the Exit Cafe: A Journey Through America* (2010, co-authored with Marilyn Simonds), to read before taking that next North American road trip.



With interesting travel and good food near the top of my interests, there is Jacob Richler’s *My Canada Includes Foie Gras: A Culinary Life* (2012) to consider.



Another “must read – again” is Mia Anderson’s prize-winning poem, “The Antenna”, which won the Montreal International Poetry Prize in 2013.



The list is certain to grow once the 2014 version of the festival brings these writers and more to the Morrin Centre. Many readers will create their own lists. Take your cue from the title of Jonathan Goldstein’s 2012 novel *I’ll Seize the Day Tomorrow*, and continue finding great reads “on the shelf” of the Library. ■

For the Library Catalogue

- I. Go to <http://www.morrin.org/>
- II. Mouse over the **Explore the Library** tab
- III. Click on **Library Catalogue**

MISCELLANEA

DAVID BLAIR APPOINTED TO THE ORDER OF CANADA

By Rosemarie Fischer

It was with great pride that we recently learned that former LHSQ President David Blair will be appointed Member of the Order of Canada during a ceremony to be held later this year in Ottawa. David has earned this prestigious award for his sustained engagement in promoting and preserving the culture and history of Quebec City.

David Blair's relentless efforts to convince Quebec City, Federal and Provincial Governments as well as private enterprise to invest \$5 million to restore the Morrin Centre have now been officially rewarded.

David Blair became President in 1999 when the LHSQ had one employee and operated on a shoestring budget. The building was badly in need of restoration and few people knew about the LHSQ and its library. David envisioned the creation of a cultural centre that would be a gift to the city's



David Blair
Credit: Bernard Vallée

population, to the Anglophone and Francophone communities alike.

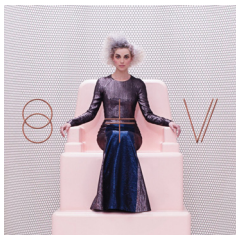
Over the years, he mobilized donor agencies, funders and partners, reached out to the community and built a strong network of friends and partners of the Society in order to spearhead the Morrin Centre project.

The building restoration took place from 2004 to 2011 and culminated in the creation of the Morrin Centre as we know it today.

We are forever grateful to David Blair for following through on his vision for the Morrin Centre. We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate him on being appointed into the Order of Canada, one of our country's highest civilian honours, which recognizes outstanding achievement, dedication to the community and service to the nation. ■

MUSIC REVIEW: ST.VINCENT

By Barry McCullough, Executive Director

**St. Vincent – St. Vincent**

St. Vincent – a.k.a Annie Clark – is on a roll. In fact, the roll dates back to her debut solo album in 2007, *Marry Me*. In her fourth album, the self-titled *St. Vincent*, Clark continues along what seems to be her logical musical trajectory, yet it is filled with many pleasant surprises.

A former student at Boston's Berklee College of Music, Clark was also member of The Polyphonic Spree and toured in Sufjan Stevens' band. She's a multi-instrumentalist and her albums are always eclectic mixes featuring a variety of styles and influences. Sometimes this happens all in the same song. "Huey Newton" opens with a cool, electro beat and closes with buzzing

guitar that finishes in abrasive territory ... and it all flows together quite nicely.

It's difficult to single out the highlights of this record since there isn't a single low point amongst its 11 tracks. Opener "Rattlesnake" kicks the album off with a jitterbug groove that will make you want to dance. The brassy "Digital Witness" evokes her 2012 collaboration with David Byrne, *Love This Giant*.

The album closes with the pensive "Severed Crossed Fingers" after a mere 40 minutes, leaving the listener wanting more. Could this be St. Vincent's crowning achievement? Very possibly, but that's how I feel after digesting each of her releases. All I know is that this is a fantastic album, as are her first three, and is no doubt an early contender to be on the year-end's "best of" lists. ■

Volunteer appreciation night sponsors

We would like to express our sincere thanks to our sponsors for their wonderful support!



Le Musée Royal 22^e Régiment
LA CITADELLE DE QUÉBEC



WE ARE THERE FOR YOU!



Bilingual health and social services

- Emergency: 7 days / week, 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.
- Diagnostic Services
- Senior Care
- Community Services
 - CLSC-type health and social services
 - Requests for Saint Brigid's Home



jhsb.ca



Jeffery Hale
Saint Brigid's
Une communauté de soins
A Community of Care

Jeffery Hale Hospital
1250, chemin Sainte-Foy
Québec Qc G1S 2M6
418 684-5333

YOUR AD HERE

Reach out to a **broad range of people** interested in Quebec City's **heritage** and **English-language culture**

Support a major **cultural institution** and **heritage site**

For more information contact the Morrin Centre at info@morrin.org

Québec 2014

imagiNation

Writers' Festival • Festival d'écrivains



morrin.org/imagination



5th ANNUAL FESTIVAL
e ÉDITION

APRIL 9 – 13 AVRIL

featuring/mettant en vedette

MIRIAM TOEWS MIRIAM TOEWS MIRIAM TOEWS
 TERRY FALLIS TERRY FALLIS TERRY FALLIS
 ANNABEL LYON ANNABEL LYON ANNABEL LYON
 WAYNE GRADY WAYNE GRADY WAYNE GRADY
 JACOB RICHLER JACOB RICHLER JACOB RICHLER
 JONATHAN GOLDSTEIN JONATHAN GOLDSTEIN JONATHAN GOLDSTEIN
 ELIZABETH RUTH ELIZABETH RUTH ELIZABETH RUTH
 RAE MARIE TAYLOR RAE MARIE TAYLOR RAE MARIE TAYLOR
 BRUCE LOURIE BRUCE LOURIE BRUCE LOURIE
 RICK SMITH RICK SMITH RICK SMITH
 CATHERINE BUSH CATHERINE BUSH CATHERINE BUSH
 SHEILA FISCHMAN SHEILA FISCHMAN SHEILA FISCHMAN
 MIA ANDERSON MIA ANDERSON MIA ANDERSON
 ANNE FORTIER ANNE FORTIER ANNE FORTIER



Patrimoine canadien Canadian Heritage

Canada



Entente de développement culturel



leSoleil



morrin

centre culturel • cultural centre

Morrin Centre

44, chaussée des Écosais Québec (Québec) G1R 4H3

418 694-9147 | info@morrin.org