

## BIOS



**Jordan Abel** is a Nisga'a writer from Vancouver. He is author of *The Place of Scraps* (winner, Dorothy Livesay Poetry Prize), *Un/inhabited*, and *Injun* (winner, Griffin Poetry Prize). Abel's latest project *NISHGA* (forthcoming 2020, McClelland & Stewart) is an autobiographical book that addresses the complications of contemporary Indigenous existence and often invisible inter-generational impact of residential schools. Abel's work has been published in *Canadian Literature*, *The Capilano Review*, and *Poetry Is Dead*—and his visual poetry has been included in exhibitions at the Polygon Gallery, UNITT/PITT Gallery, and the Oslo Pilot Project Room in Oslo, Norway. Abel recently completed a PhD at Simon Fraser University, and is currently working as an Assistant Professor in the Department of English and Film Studies at the University of Alberta where he teaches Indigenous Literatures and Creative Writing.



**Meaghan Cursons** is a community development consultant experienced in community economic development, capacity building, partnership development, project management, and communications. A tireless champion of community building, she is a high energy presenter, facilitator, manager, and workshop leader.

She has served on the board of the Comox Art Gallery, Cumberland Community Forest Society, Cumberland Museum and Archives, and the Cumberland Chamber of Commerce. She is currently a member of the Advisory Planning Commission for the Village of Cumberland.



**Dr. Dominick DellaSala** is President and Chief Scientist of the Geos Institute in Ashland, Oregon and former President of the Society for Conservation Biology, North America. He is an internationally renowned author of over 200 papers on forest and fire ecology, conservation biology, endangered species management, and landscape ecology. Dominick has given keynote talks ranging from academic conferences to the United Nations Earth Summit. He has appeared in National Geographic, Science Digest, Science Magazine, Scientific American, Time Magazine, Audubon Magazine, CNN, MSNBC, NPR, PBS documentaries, and even Fox News! His book *Temperate and Boreal Rainforests of the World: Ecology and Conservation* received an academic excellence award from Choice magazine. His recent book, *The Ecological Importance of Mixed-Severity Fires: Nature's Phoenix*, presents ground-breaking science on the ecological importance of large fires.



**Sonnet L'Abbé** is a Canadian poet, editor and professor. They are the author of *A Strange Relief* and *Killarnoe*. In their third book, *Sonnet's Shakespeare* (August 2019) they overwrite all of Shakespeare's 154 sonnets. Quill and Quire called *Sonnet's Shakespeare* "one of the most audacious volumes of poetry to appear in this country." In 2014, they edited the annual Best Canadian Poetry anthology; their work has been published internationally and appears in many anthologies of Canadian verse. Their chapbook, *Anima Canadensis*, won the 2017 bp Nichol chapbook award. They teach creative writing and English at Vancouver Island University, and sit on the editorial board of Brick Books.



**Matt Rader** is author of four collections of poetry: *Miraculous Hours* (Nightwood 2005), *Living Things* (Nightwood 2009) and *A Doctor Pedalled Her Bicycle Over the River Arno* (House of Anansi 2011), and *Desecrations* (PenguinRandomHouse 2016). He is also the author of the critically acclaimed collection of stories, *What I Want to Tell Goes Like This* (Nightwood 2014).

Matt's poems, stories, creative nonfiction, and reviews have appeared in journals and anthologies across North America, Europe, and Australia including the *Walrus*, *Geist*, *The Lonely Crowd*, *Wales Arts Review*, and *Best Canadian Poetry*.

He has presented his work at the Vancouver International Writers and Readers Festival, the Victoria Writers Festival, the Ottawa Writers Festival, The Kingston Writers Festival, the International Festival of Authors in Toronto, the Queensland Poetry Festival, and the Cork International Short Story Festival. He received the Jack Hodgins Founders Prize for fiction & Charles Lillard Founders Prize for nonfiction from the Malahat Review and the Joseph S. Stauffer Prize for literature from the Canada Council for the Arts.



**Jordan Scott** is the author of *Silt* (2005), and from Coach House Books: *blert* (2008), *Decomp* (2013, a collaboration with Stephen Collis and the ecosphere of British Columbia), and *Night & Ox* (2016). His chapbooks include *Clearance Process* (SMALL CAPS, 2016) and *Lanterns at Guantánamo* (Simon Fraser University). Both chapbooks treat his experience after being allowed access to Guantanamo Bay in April 2015. Jordan is also the author of the chapbook *Dawn* published by Tinfish Press of Hawaii (2017). He has been featured at international literary festivals such as Days of Poetry and Wine in Slovenia, and the Oslo International Poetry Festival in Norway. His work has been translated into Slovenian, French, and Portuguese. Scott was the 2015/16 Writer-in-Residence at Simon Fraser University. Scott was awarded the prestigious Latner Poetry Prize by the Writer's Trust of Canada in 2018.



**Jan Zwicky** has published nine full-length collections of poetry, most recently *The Long Walk*. Other poetry collections include *Songs for Relinquishing the Earth*, which won the Governor General's Award, *Robinson's Crossing*, which won the Dorothy Livesay Prize, and *Forge* which was short-listed for the Griffin Poetry Prize. Zwicky has also published fiction, translations, and numerous essays on music, poetry, philosophy, and the environment. Her books of philosophy include *Wisdom & Metaphor* and *The Experience of Meaning*. Originally from the northern great plains, on Treaty 6 territory, she now lives on Quadra Island, unceded territory with a history of both Kwakwaka'wakw and K'ómoks influences.