



P R E S S R E L E A S E

For Immediate Release

Full Course of Events for Poetry Month

Peterborough - The Cooked and Eaten Reading Series is excited to bring nationally acclaimed and unforgettable poet bill bissett to Peterborough for National Poetry Month. Headlining the weekend of events, bissett will be doing public readings, a meet the author night and workshops and will be keeping public office hours where poets and writers can meet and be inspired by this unique and energetic writer and artist.

Workshops will be presented by other writers and artists in which writers of all skill levels can be inspired or learn new tricks to improve their writing, readings and publishing efforts.

Also part of the weekend of events, The Poetry of Everyday Life Marathon is gearing up for its second year. A twelve hour marathon of poetry readings in unique locations by poets of all ages and stages in their careers, this event takes poetry out of the salon and makes it available to a wider audience in diverse and unique venues including bus stops, ferries, sculpture gardens, gas stations and more. Each reader who signs up arrives at his or her chosen venue at the appointed time and reads for up to 15 minutes to their audience and to passers by who happen upon the event during the day. Extended groups of readings are being organized in Peterborough, Kingston, Guelph and New Mexico.

From the flyer poets hand out on the day: "While you are listening to this poet, and as you go about the rest of your day, take a moment to notice the poetry all around you. The poetry of everyday life. Today, poetry is being brought to life across the country. Tomorrow? It will still be there, perhaps more silent, but still there. Take time to look for it, when you can."

Schedule of events is as follows:

- **Thurs - Sat, Apr 17 - 19, 2 - 6 pm**, Market Hall in the Gallery - Office Hours for bill bissett
- **Thurs, April 17, 7 pm**, at the Holiday Inn - Get to know bill bissett
- **Fri, April 18, 9 am - 9pm** - Cooked and Eaten Poetry of Everyday Life Twelve Hour Poetry Marathon.
- **Fri, April 18, 6 - 10 pm** at the Gordon Best Theatre - Poetry Marathon Evening featuring bill bissett
- **Sat, April 19, 10 am**, at the PAU - Word Lottery with Elizabeth Rhett Woods
- **Sat, April 19, 12 noon**, at the PAU - work n play with 7 approaches 2 poetree with bill bissett
- **Sat, April 19, 2 pm**, at the PAU - Make a Poetry Chap Book with Jessica Rowland
- **Sat, April 19, 2 pm**, at the Market Hall - Don't be a Fridge (Read Aloud With Confidence) with Esther Vincent
- **Sat, April 19, 4pm**, at Black Honey - How to Get Published with Ursula Pflug

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bill bissett

bill bissett, named by Jack Kerouac as the "greatest living poet today," has remained at the cutting edge of poetics and performance works for forty years and is one of Canada's most original and widely appreciated poets. The author of more than 60 books of poetry, he has twice won the Dorothy Livesay Poetry Prize and received the Milton Acorn People's Poet Award in 1991. In the 1960's bissett founded blewointmentpress, and co-founded Very Stone House. During this time, he garnered international attention as a pre-eminent figure of the counter-culture movement in Canada and the U.K. A pioneer of sound, visual and performance poetry, bissett consistently extends the boundaries of language and visual image. He has remained at the cutting edge of poetics and performance works. bill now writes and paints out of studios in Vancouver and Toronto.

bissett's charged readings, which never fail to amaze his audiences, incorporate sound poetry, chanting and singing, the verve of which is only matched by his prolific writing career - over seventy books of bissett's poetry have been published.

Elizabeth Rhett Woods

Elizabeth Rhett Woods was born in Prince George, B.C., and grew up in Kamloops and Vernon. Her professional writing debut was a half-hour play, *A Way of Loving*, on CBC Radio's *Introducing*, in 1968, followed by other radio plays, including a 90-minute verse drama, *Maya* (1974), and most recently, *Life and Death Along The Gorge*, on *OutFront*, in 2000. Her first novel, *The Yellow Volkswagen*, was published by Simon & Schuster, Canada, in 1971, followed by *The Amateur* (PaperJacks, 1980). Her third novel, *Beyond the Pale*, a story about limits, temptations, and consequences, was published by Ekstasis Edition in 2006. Her first book of poetry, *Men*, was published by Fiddlehead Poetry Books, in 1979, followed by *Bird Salad* (Moonstone, 1990), *Family Fictions* (Wolsak & Wynn, 2002), and *The Absinthe of Desire* (Ekstasis Editions, 2004).

Her latest book, *1970: A Novel Poem*, was published by Ekstasis, September, 2007. She lives in Victoria (www.elizabethrhettwoods.ca).

The Cooked and Eaten

The Cooked and Eaten hosts an ongoing series of events based in Peterborough, Ontario which motivates the creators of fiction, poetry, theatre, performance and lecture by promoting new and adventurous authors to an engaged and informal audience. We welcome primarily writers of short fiction but also include presenters of academic papers, poets and lyricists, both emerging writers and those with multiple publication credits in anthologies, literary journals or full length book form. As well the Cooked and Eaten presents special events, workshops and other services for writers in Peterborough and the Kawarthas.

This event is supported by The Ontario Arts Council, The City of Peterborough, The Peterborough Arts Umbrella, The Holiday Inn, Black Honey and The Market Hall