

OMDC plays an important role in Ontario's book publishing, music, interactive digital media, film, magazine publishing and television industries

Authors Celebrated at Trillium Book Awards

A spirited crowd audibly approved of the judges' selection of this year's Trillium Book Award and Trillium Book Award for Poetry winners, clapping and cheering at the event held in Toronto's St. Lawrence Hall ballroom on May 4. The award is Ontario's premier award for literature and poetry for English and French works.

The Hon. Madeleine Meilleur, Ontario's Minister of Culture, kicked off the awards by saying: "It is a great pleasure to be Minister of Culture in a province whose literature is hot here and around the world." To the authors, she said, "you make us all proud that this is the province where you choose to write, work and publish."

English and French-language recipients receive \$20,000 and their publishers receive \$2,500, the Trillium Book Award for Poetry recipients in English and French receive \$10,000 and their publishers receive \$2,000. The awards are designed to recognize excellence, support marketing and foster increased public awareness of the quality and diversity of Ontario writers and writing. The Trillium Award is open to books in any genre, including fiction, non-fiction, drama, children's books and poetry.

Meilleur awarded the Prix Trillium to two recipients: Serge Denis for *Social-démocratie et mouvements ouvriers*, published by Les Éditions du Boréal, and François Paré, who wrote *La distance habitée*, published by Le Nordir.

The Prix de Poésie Trillium was won by Angèle Bassolé-Ouédraogo. Judging by the excitement in the

crowd, her collection, *Avec tes mots* (Éditions Malaïka), was a deserving choice.

Marcelle Lean, OMDC Chair, announced the award winners for the Trillium Book Awards. Although there were many familiar names among the finalists, including Di Brant, Pier Giorgio Di Cocco, Barbara Gowdy, Djanet Sears and M.G. Vassanji, Canadian author Thomas King won the award for his book *The Truth About Stories*, published by House of Anansi Press. The book is based on his 2003 Massey lecture series.

King is well known for his popular CBC Radio series *The Dead Dog Café*, as well as his other works including *Green Grass*, *Running Water* and *Medicine River*. King is also professor of Native Literature and Creative Writing at the University of Guelph. The Trillium Book Award juries said that *The Truth About Stories* is "playful, philosophical and deeply political."

Adam Sol received the Trillium Book Award for Poetry for his collection *Crowd of Sounds* published by House of Anansi Press. The judges said of the poetry: "Sol's work is exhilarating in its ranges. The more you slow down in reading these subtle poems, the more they reveal."

Sol caught the festive spirit of the crowd as he thanked his publishers and supporters: "Poets like to work alone, but they like to party like anyone else."

Thanking all the finalists for their excellent contributions, Lean said, "OMDC looks forward to continuing to assist in building the capacity of Ontario publishers, who garner acclaim from audiences here and abroad."

E-mail your news and events by the third Thursday of each month to newsletter@omdc.on.ca

To add or remove yourself from this newsletter list, e-mail Hodan Waberi at hwaberi@omdc.on.ca

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The contents of this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views of OMDC

OMDC Updates and News

Congratulations to OMDC Staff

OMDC congratulates Donna Zuchlinski, the newly appointed Manager of Film. Donna's decade-long tenure as an OMDC Film Consultant, and her established relationships with some of the industry's top names will prove invaluable in helping to attract film and television production to both urban centres and rural communities across Ontario.

OMDC is also pleased to confirm that James Weyman has been appointed as the Manager of Industry Initiatives. James will continue to work with the Industry Initiatives team to offer business development programs for OMDC clients, including those in the book and magazine publishing, interactive digital media, music, film and television production sectors.

Raina Wells has been appointed Manager, Research and Strategic Planning, moving from her position as Senior Advisor, Tax Credits at OMDC. Before OMDC Raina worked for a number of years as a research and policy consultant to government and the cultural industries regarding the sector, and brings considerable research and planning expertise and knowledge of the cultural industries to her new position.

Tax Credits and Financing Programs Department

The OMDC Tax Credits and Financing Department would like to welcome two new staff members: Rick Mazza as Business Officer and Jennifer Blitz as Team Leader. And congratulations to Deborah Morris, who has moved to a new role as Business Officer, and Gina Vanni, who has been appointed Team Leader.

Hardwood Nominated for Six Golden Sheaf Awards

Congratulations to *Hardwood* (producer: Erin Faith Young, director: Hubert Davis), a short documentary produced with the assistance of the Al Waxman Calling Card program. The film is nominated for six Golden Sheaf Awards, which will be presented at the Yorkton Short Film and Video Festival (May 27-30).

Masterpiece Monday Wins Award at Worldfest

Masterpiece Monday, a comedy produced through OMDC's Al Waxman Calling Card Program, with addition-

al funding through the Canadian Film Centre's Worldwide Short Film Festival, won a Gold Award (Comedy Short) at Worldfest Houston. *Masterpiece Monday* has also been named a semi-finalist at the Moondance International Film Festival, and has also received three nominations at the Yorkton Short Film & Video Festival's Golden Sheaf Awards for Best Comedy, Best Director (Glenn Forbes) and Best Actor (Howard Jerome). Award winners will be announced at the end of May.

New Sponsor for Volume One

The Canadian Circulations Audit Bureau (CCAB), a division of BPA International and the organization that measures the circulation of Canadian magazines is the newest corporate sponsor of the Volume One program. OMDC would like to acknowledge the support of Mr. Richard Murphy, Senior Vice President of CCAB. The organization's sponsorship is valued at approximately \$3,000 per company, and will provide successful applicants with:

- free one-year membership at CCAB which will include membership dues, a circulation audit, an initial audit report, and two circulation statements; and
- free counselling on topics such as establishing a circulation infrastructure and using CCAB audit reports to improve sales.

OMDC Co-presents FIPRESCI Award

On April 30, Marcelle Lean, Chair of OMDC and Jacques Bensimon, Chair of National Film Board (NFB) co-presented the FIPRESCI Award (Fédération Internationale de la Presse Cinématographique) for Best First Feature Length Documentary to *Arna's Children* (Directors: Juliano Mer Khamis, Danniell Danniell) sponsored jointly by OMDC and NFB. This award was selected by members of the International Federation of Film Critics.

Some highlights of the **Hot Doc Awards** were:

- Best Canadian Documentary (Feature Length) *Army of One* (Sarah Goodman, Director)
- Best Direction in the Canadian Spectrum Program (Feature Length) *The Origins of AIDS* (Directors: Peter Chappell, Catherine Peix)
- Special Jury Prize: *Continuous Journey* (Ali Kazimi, Director)

Go to www.hotdocs.ca for a full list of award recipients.

OMDC Program Deadlines and Supported Events

May 12-15 | **Canadian Film Centre Worldwide Short Film Festival—Short Films, BIG IDEAS Symposium.** A series of 16 seminars, workshops and Inti-meets where a maximum of 20 participants will meet with an industry rep behind closed doors to get the low-down on topics related to the short film industry. www.worldwideshortfilmfest.com

May 13-16 | **digifest 2004: on the move** at the Design Exchange, Ontario Science Centre and Harbourfront Centre. This year's exposition explores the nomadic qualities of digital culture with over 25 presentations and installations. The festival will feature a keynote presentation by Steve Mann, the first human cyborg; John Maeda, graphic designer and author of *Design by Numbers*; Matt Owens, graphic designer and founder of one9ine.com; Bill Buxton, technology visionary and former chief scientist at Alias/ Wavefront and SGI. There is a business development program designed to increase opportunities for content developers by giving them access to business leaders. Other events include the SIMGallery installation, featuring The Sims art, a wired scavenger hunt, a robot rock band performance, and an exhibition entitled HOME: SELF: TRIBE running from April 27 to May 19 at the Design Exchange. Visit www.dx.org/digifest or call 416-216-2160 for information.

May 14 | Submission deadline for **Al Waxman Calling Card Drama and Documentary Programs.** Deliver them to OMDC, 175 Bloor Street East, Suite 501, South Tower, Toronto, ON, M4W 3R8 (note our new address). To access guidelines and application forms, visit the OMDC website at www.omdc.on.ca and look under Business Development / New Voices, New Visions.

June 15 | **Meet the Commissioning Editors—Fiction.** Part of the Banff Television Festival, this session provides an open forum where commissioning editors from around the world will give insight into

their markets. Other sessions focus on children's and documentary programs. www.banff2004.com

June 22 | **OMDC information session on the Ontario Book Publishing Tax Credit (OBPTC)** begins at 10 a.m. Representatives from OMDC and Ministry of Finance will be on hand to discuss issues surrounding the credit and the application process, as well as to answer questions. The session will be held in the third floor conference centre at 175 Bloor Street East, Toronto, North Tower. For more information or to register for the event, please contact Barbara Hingley at 416-642-6639 or e-mail at: bhingley@omdc.on.ca.

May 28 | **New Media Business Alliance iLunch Series 3.0: Six Steps Toward the Future**, held at Indian Motorcycle Club in Toronto. A growing number of interactive producers are experimenting with traditional media platforms such as music, book publishing, magazines and even feature film. This lunch-hour event will include presentations from companies that are developing models for new types of cross-platform interactive production. www.nmba.ca

June 11 | **BookExpo Canada.** The Department of Canadian Heritage and the Book and Periodical Council will assemble a panel of distinguished Canadians to reflect on our national literature. Moderated by journalist and social commentator Rex Murphy, the panel will discuss the growth of Canadian literature and book publishing, the role they have played in shaping Canada's identity, and the challenges that lie ahead to maintain their preeminent status and to strengthen the connections between writer and reader. Takes place from 2:00 to 5:30 p.m. at the Metro Convention Centre, Room 2003B, 255 Front St. W., Toronto. Tickets are \$16 and include a reception following the panel; \$21 after May 21. For more information, call 416-975-9366 or register online at www.reedexpo.ca/bookexpo

Congratulations!

Les Invasions Barbares scored high at the **Genie Awards**, taking home six awards including: Best Motion Picture (Denise Robert, Daniel Louis, Fabienne Vonier), Achievement In Direction and Best Original Screenplay (Denys Arcand), Performance by an Actor in a Leading Role (Remy Girard), Performance by an Actor in a Supporting Role (Stéphane Rousseau), Performance by an Actress in a Supporting Role (Marie-Josée Croze) and the Best Performance by an Actress in a Leading Role (Sarah Polley for *My Life Without Me*). For a complete list of the winners see the website at www.academy.ca.

Congratulations to this year's **Trillium Book Award/Prix Trillium** winners. Thomas King won the Trillium Book Award for *The Truth About Stories* (House of Anansi Press). Serge Denis shared the Prix Trillium award for *Social-démocratie et Mouvements Ouvriers* (Les Éditions du Boréal) with François Paré, who wrote *La Distance Habitée* (Le Nordir). Adam Sol took home the Trillium Book Award for Poetry for his collection entitled *Crowd of Sounds* (House of Anansi Press) and Angèle Bassolé-Ouédraogo won

the Prix de Poésie Trillium for *Avec Tes Mots* (Éditions Malaïka).

Gold Label recipient **Sonic Unyon Records and Distribution** was one of seven local businesses in the Hamilton, Ont. area to be singled out for outstanding achievement over the last year by the Hamilton Chamber of Commerce. Company co-owners Mark Milne and Tim Potocic were awarded the Young Entrepreneur Award for 2003. www.sonicunyon.com

Congratulations to **The Canadian Senate in Bicameral Perspective** by David E. Smith (University of Toronto Press) for being a runner up for the Donner Prize. This annual prize honours a book on Canadian public policy. The prize is sponsored by the Donner Foundation. Smith receives \$5,000; the winner, Michael Adams, won \$35,000 for **Fire and Ice: The United States, Canada and the Myth of Converging Values** (Penguin Canada).

Bravo to the **National Magazine Award** finalists. The winners will be announced on June 11. www.nmaf.net

Upcoming Markets and Festivals

May 11-14	E3, Los Angeles. www.e3expo.com
May 11-18	CFC's Worldwide Short Film Festival, Toronto. www.worldwideshortfilmfest.com
May 12-23	Cannes International Film Festival, Cannes, France. www.festival-cannes.fr
May 13-14	Innoversity Creative Summit 2004, Toronto. www.innoversitysummit.com
May 13-16	digifest 2004: on the move, Toronto. www.dx.org/digifest
June 4-6	Book Expo America, Chicago, IL. www.bookexpoamerica.com
June 8-11	2004 Mags University at the Old Mill in Toronto. www.magsu.com
June 11	27th Annual National Magazine Awards at The Carlu, Toronto. www.nmaf.net
June 11-14	BookExpo Canada, Toronto. www.reedexpo.ca/bookexpo
June 10-12	North by Northeast (NXNE) 10th Anniversary Music Festival, Toronto. www.nxne.com
June 13-17	Banff Television Festival, Banff, Alberta. www.banff2004.com
June 25-July 4	Toronto Downtown Jazz Festival. www.tojazz.com

Upcoming Events and Industry Deadlines

Month of May | **Harbourfront Reading Series** author readings in May. Tickets are \$8 or free for members, available at 416-973-4000. www.readings.org

May 21 | Deadline for the **Shaw Television Broadcast Fund**, a permanent, independently governed, not-for-profit corporation that provides financing for the production of high-quality Canadian children's, youth and family programming. Canadian independent film and television producers of projects in this genre are welcome to apply. Submit application forms and documentation to Leighsa Burmaster, Suite 900, 630 3rd Ave SW, Calgary, AB T2P 4L4. Call 403-750-4517 or e-mail inquiry@stbf.ca for information. www.stbf.ca

May 28 | **The North American Association of Asian Professionals** (NAAAP Toronto) is launching Canada's first-ever fund to support Asian-Canadian artists financed through a fundraiser banquet at the Ruby Restaurant in Scarborough. \$10,000 in grants will be awarded to three Asian-Canadian artists: the Film & Video Award (sponsored by RBC Dominion Securities) will go to Romeo Candido for his film *Rolling Longaniza*; the Performing Arts Award to Keira Loughran for her play, *Little Dragon*; and the Visual Arts Award to J.J. Lee for her mixed media paintings, *Still Life With Tangents*. The artists will accept their awards that night. The \$70 tickets (\$60 for partner organizations and \$45 for students) are available at www.acaf.tk, by calling 416-683-1006 or e-mailing acaf@naaaptoronto.org. For all inquiries, please contact Allan Tong at 416-351-7146 or a.tong@sympatico.ca. www.acaf.tk

July 2 | **Ontario International Animation Festival** (OIAF) entry deadline. For entry forms and festival information see www.animationfestival.ca or www.awn.com/ottawa. Inquiries may also be e-mailed to info@animationfestival.ca or call 613-232-8769.

July 15 | Deadline to apply to **NSI Global Marketing Program—MIPCOM 2004**. The National Screen Institute is accepting applications to the NSI Global Marketing Program culminating at MIPCOM 2004 in

Cannes, France. To qualify for the program, applicants must have had a minimum of one 30 minute project televised nationally and have at least one project in development with a broadcaster attached. www.nsi-canada.ca/global

July 27 | Submissions due for the **13th Annual Cabbagetown Short Film & Video Festival**. Screening Sept. 8 and Sept. 15. The festival is a juried show; selected entries will be eligible for awards including cash prizes. As well as showcasing Canadian cinematic talent, the festival will include works by emerging and established international filmmakers. No entry fee. Films should be 15 minutes maximum. Contact the Old Cabbagetown Business Improvement Area at 416-921-0857 or 416-924-3514, or e-mail info@oldcabbagetown.com. www.oldcabbagetown.com

July 30 | Deadline to apply to **Corus Export Initiative for MIPCOM Jr. and MIPCOM**. Open to small- and medium-sized, Canadian owned and controlled production or distribution companies. This program promotes international sales of Canadian programming. The funds available include travel grants, up to \$2,000 per applicant, per market or trade show and advertising and promotion support of up to \$3,000 per title. For info click "About Corus" at www.corusent.com then select "Funds & Initiatives."

Ongoing | **This Magazine's Film Club Newsletter**. This free e-newsletter provides showtimes of Canadian films. To add a new Canadian film to the list or to sign up for the e-mail newsletter, send an e-mail to filmclub@thismagazine.ca.

Ongoing | Sign up for the **Decima Publishing ICT Update**, a newsletter which comprises a sample of recent headlines. This free weekly news service is delivered via e-mail every Monday morning. Each issue is presented in a concise format that helps you stay on top of new media/digital media, broadcasting, wireless and telecommunications industry issues and developments. www.decima.com to sign up.