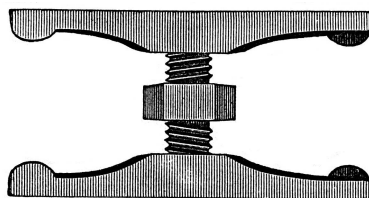




The Porcupine's Quill

DISTRIBUTED BY UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO PRESS

Fall 2019



The Porcupine's Quill
Press sharply.

Now Available as Exemplary e-Books



In recent years all of our frontlist, and select backlist, has become available in searchable PDF format designed primarily for use on tablets. Seventeen of these quality digital productions have been favoured with recognition by the eLit awards programme administered by the Jenkins Group of Traverse City, MI.

To date the collection as a whole includes more than 100 Porcupine's Quill titles as well as 22 backlist issues of the *Devil's Artisan*. To explore the range:

- contact us directly at store.porcupinesquill.ca
- or order through **Google Play**, which will facilitate international sales in any number of local currencies. Digital copies of the *Devil's Artisan* are also available from **Magzter**, and select PQL backlist may be available from **Ebsco**, **Gibson Library Services**, **ProQuest** and **Scribd**.

The collection features the poetry of P.K. Page, the wordless novels of George A. Walker and all eighteen titles in our Essential Poets series, showcasing work by Margaret Avison, Earle Birney, Don Coles, Daryl Hine, D.G. Jones, M. Travis Lane, Jay Macpherson, Richard Outram, P.K. Page, James Reaney and other luminaries.



STICKY fingers is a somewhat irreverent moniker we have adopted for a new digital imprint of the Porcupine's Quill that offers short, attractive, informative editions that probe the intersection between Canadian literature and the book arts, packaged exclusively for mobile devices.

Each chapbook is available in ePub for iPads and Android tablets, and Mobi for Kindle, and retails for \$2.99. The next release, *The Legacy of Leslie (Sam) Smart*, features three articles that originally appeared in the *Devil's Artisan* in 2018 together with an introduction by Brian Donnelly of the design programme at York / Sheridan.



Naming the Shadows

Sharon Berg

SEPTEMBER

Sharon Berg's quietly insightful collection focuses on relationships between generations, acknowledging the prevalence of the shadows that are everywhere—but also celebrating the light.

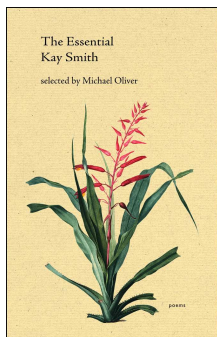
The stories in *Naming the Shadows* are touched with humour and outrage, mystery and shadow. Curious preteens receive an unexpected education at a mall-side carnival show. A lonely dairy farmer develops a special bond with his neighbours' children, then suffers unexpected consequences. An ageing author manages to get one up on her adversarial interviewer, while another woman's unsettling way of remembering past lovers confirms her emotional freedom.

In these stories of loss and learning, conflict and memory run through generations, innocence gives way to experience, and all must learn to redefine themselves and the way they see the world.

Sharon Berg is the author of poetry and stories as well as nonfiction that focuses on First Nations history and education. She has published several poetry collections, including *To a Young Horse* (Borealis Press, 1979), *The Body Labyrinth* (Coach House Press, 1984) and a number of chapbooks. After these early successes, Berg focused on her career as an educator, and on her international literary e-zine and chapbook press, Big Pond Rumours, which she established in 2006. Her retirement in 2016 inspired her to take up her pen once again, and since then she has written poems, short stories and novelettes for a number of publications, including *Story Quilt*, *Quarry*, *The Fiddlehead* and *The Malahat Review*. *Naming the Shadows* is her first published collection of short fiction. She lives in Sarnia.

\$18.95 • 176 pp • sewn, paperback • 8.75" x 5.56"

SHORT STORIES/Canadian • 978-0-88984-429-2



The Essential Kay Smith

selected by Michael Oliver

SEPTEMBER

Light and shadows clash in a collection that demonstrates an early modernist poet's attempts to reconcile faith, imagination, reality and being.

Over the course of her lengthy career, New Brunswick poet Kay Smith published in some of Canada's finest literary journals. Her work displays a sophisticated fusion of images, metaphors and symbols, forgoing clear connections in favour of fractured grammar, surprising diction and her own unique poetic mythology. In Smith's poetry, images are not signs of meaning or emotion, but rather forms of being—underpinned by her religious faith, her aptitude for metaphysical inquiry and her belief in the purity and wonder of the imagined world.

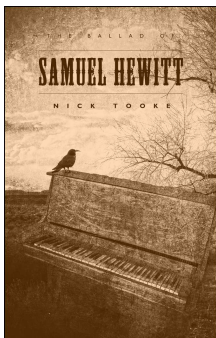
The Essential Poets Series presents the works of Canada's most celebrated poets in a package that is beautiful, accessible and affordable. *The Essential Kay Smith* is the twentieth volume in the increasingly popular series.

Born in Saint John in 1911, **Kay Smith** was a poet and educator whose career spanned more than fifty years and whose circle included such luminaries as painter Miller Brittain and writer-artist P.K. Page. Smith was known for her modernist style and her distinctly metaphysical poetic sensibility, and her poems frequently appeared in major literary publications such as *Contemporary Verse*, *The Cormorant* and *The Fiddlehead*. She published her first book, *Footnote to the Lord's Prayer*, in 1951, and her last, *The Bright Particulars*, in 1987. Kay Smith died in 2004.

Michael Oliver knew Kay Smith when he taught at UNBSJ, and once shared a poetry reading with her—an experience he vividly remembers both for the brilliance of her subtle poems and the gracious manner of her reading.

\$14.95 • 64 pp • sewn, paperback • 8.75" x 5.56"

POETRY/Canadian • 978-0-88984-426-1



The Ballad of Samuel Hewitt

Nick Tooke

OCTOBER

Set against the backdrop of the Great Depression, a young horse thief and his unlikely accomplice are pursued through the forbidding landscape of the BC interior. There they encounter villains, drifters and fiercely insular circus folk in a profound tale of friendship, forgiveness and finding home.

June 1934: the depths of the Great Depression. Reckless with anger and spoiling for a fight, seventeen-year-old Samuel Hewitt and his Shuswap friend Charleyboy conspire to steal a prize stallion and disappear into the blistered, unforgiving terrain of British Columbia's Thompson River Valley.

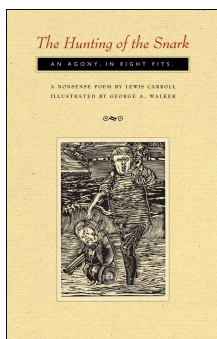
The boys are looking for a fresh start—and for somewhere to belong. But what they find is a hardscrabble existence enlivened by ruthless criminals and boxcar bums ... until they come upon the denizens of a once-majestic travelling circus struggling to survive in an era in which even marvels have lost their capacity to charm. In this surreal, ramshackle environment, Samuel develops an unexpected kinship with the failing ringmaster and his enigmatic daughter. But violence and treachery are prevalent in the shadows of the Big Top, and Samuel may well find himself on the run once more.

In *The Ballad of Samuel Hewitt*, Nick Tooke presents an uncommon coming-of-age story as well as a thoughtful examination of the meaning of home and family.

Nick Tooke was born in the UK, emigrated to Vancouver Island in 1982, and has since lived in Vancouver, Montreal, Tucson, Edmonton, Toronto and Niagara on the Lake—in that order. He now lives in Cayuga, Ontario, with his wife and daughter. *The Ballad of Samuel Hewitt* is his first novel.

\$19.95 • 208 pp • sewn, paperback • 8.75" x 5.56"

FICTION/Canadian • 978-0-88984-427-8



The Hunting of the Snark

Lewis Carroll / George A. Walker

NOVEMBER

Masterful wood engraver George A. Walker provides an uproarious reinterpretation of Lewis Carroll's classic poem as seen through the convex lens of contemporary American politics.

Lewis Carroll's classic nonsense poem *The Hunting of the Snark* follows a band of oafish misfits as they undertake an epic quest to catch a fantastical creature known as the Snark. Led by the bombastic and bewildering Bellman, the crew sets out with enthusiasm, a blank map—and no clear idea of what they're doing.

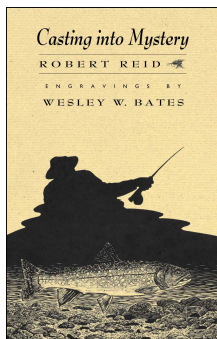
This newly illustrated edition contains all the delightful darkness and droll sarcasm of Carroll's original text; and yet, wood engraver George A. Walker cleverly reimagines the tale through his illustrations, drawing from the world of presidential politics to recast the story. In so doing, Walker creates an irresistible commentary on contemporary America, memorializing a baffling political climate and providing a sharp new way of looking at a familiar poem.

George A. Walker is an award-winning wood engraver, book artist, teacher, author and illustrator. He is Associate Professor at OCAD University in Toronto where he has taught popular courses in book arts and printmaking since 1985. Walker is also the illustrator of the first Canadian editions of Lewis Carroll's *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* and *Alice Through the Looking-Glass*. Walker was elected to the Royal Canadian Academy of Art in 2002 for his contribution to the cultural area of Book Arts. He lives in Toronto.

Lewis Carroll (1832–98) was a British mathematician who was best known for his novels and poems for children in the genre of literary nonsense.

\$16.95 • 80 pp • sewn, paperback • 8.75" x 5.56"

ART/Canadian • 978-0-88984-430-8



Casting into Mystery

Robert Reid / Wesley W. Bates

NOVEMBER

A celebration of the meditative sport of fly fishing and of the camaraderie and quietude to be found not only in the gentle flow of river currents, but also in the community and culture of anglers past and present.

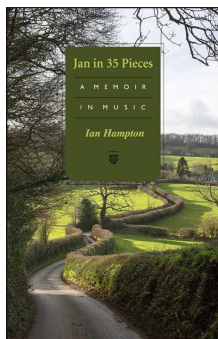
In *Casting into Mystery*, writer Robert Reid and wood engraver Wesley W. Bates—avid anglers, both—put ink to paper in homage to the venerable sport of fly fishing. Through text and image, they recall with fondness the ‘company of rivers’ that provides a glimpse inside a sporting culture rife with literature, art and music. Part memoir, part objet d’art and part field guide, *Casting into Mystery* will delight passionate fly fishing practitioners and armchair anglers alike.

Robert Reid is a writer, journalist and avid angler whose career in journalism spanned forty years. Reid got his start writing for newspapers in Strathroy, St. Thomas, Timmins and Simcoe before he landed a position covering arts at the *Brantford Expositor*, and later, the *Waterloo Region Record*. Since his retirement, Reid has continued to write about his passions—art and culture, malt whisky, dining and travel, and especially fly fishing—on his website at reidbetweenthelines.ca.

Wesley W. Bates was born in Whitehorse, Yukon Territory. One of Canada’s best-known wood engravers, Bates has ventured into book illustration, film, commercial art, letterpress publishing and acoustic country—played, naturally, on a bouzouki. A retrospective of his engravings, *In Black and White* was published by Bird & Bull in 2005, with a revised edition published by Gaspereau Press in 2008. He now maintains his studio, which is open to the public, in a nineteenth-century storefront on the main street of Clifford, Ontario.

\$26.95 • 288 pp • sewn, paperback • 8.75" x 5.56"

SPORTS & RECREATION/Canadian • 978-0-88984-428-5



Jan in 35 Pieces

Ian Hampton

RECENTLY ACCLAIMED



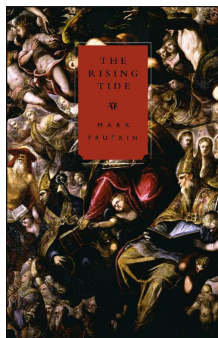
‘In vivid strokes, Hampton introduces us to the great conductors, performers and composers he encountered as a musician in England, California and finally, the west coast of Canada. Along the way, he introduces us to some of the finest music the world has produced.’

With charm, humour and a generous smattering of music history, cellist Ian Hampton (Jan to his colleagues) takes readers into the string section of the London Symphony Orchestra performing *The Rite of Spring* under the baton of Pierre Monteux; into a ubiquitous Bombardier snow-machine tracking across the Arctic tundra, late for a concert with members of the CBC Radio Orchestra; to a basement party where Ian plays Schubert with Stradivarius-wielding cellist Jacqueline du Pré; and on to the stage at Wigmore Hall in London, introducing the works of innovative Canadian composers with the Purcell String Quartet. Structured as if it were a concert, *Jan in 35 Pieces* revolves around thirty-five compositions that have influenced the course of Ian’s long career. *Jan in 35 Pieces* is more than a memoir—it is an extravaganza of music history in which Hampton offers smart, playful glimpses into the world of a professional musician.

Born in London, England, in 1935, **Ian Hampton** is a cellist, educator and administrator. After stints with the London Symphony Orchestra and the Edinburgh String Quartet, he moved to Canada to become principal cellist of the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra. Ian is a founding member of the Purcell String Quartet and the Academy of St Martin in the Fields, as well as Artistic Director Emeritus of the Langley Community Music School. In 2011, he was awarded an honorary doctorate from Simon Fraser University. He lives near Vancouver.

\$24.95 • 280 pp • sewn, paperback • 8.75" x 5.56"

MEMOIR/Canadian • 978-0-88984-413-1



The Rising Tide

Mark Frutkin

RECENTLY ACCLAIMED



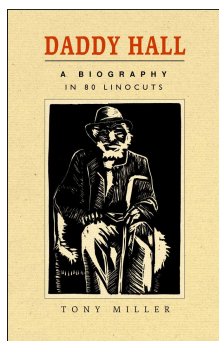
‘All things to excess might well have been the motto of Frutkin’s 18th century Venice, which includes a selection of exceedingly malodorous cheeses, a wolf wearing a priest’s cassock, a former priest living in a bordello, a virgin courtesan marked by a shocking version of stigmata, and a strange skeleton-bearing man who may or may not be Christ Almighty Again.’—Diane Schoemperlen

Venice, 1769. The City of Masks is awash with rumour. A strange man haunts the nearby island of Torcello, a skeleton strapped to his back. A wolf wearing a priest’s cassock is spotted running through the fields. A mysterious courtesan bears signs of a most unusual form of stigmata. Michele Archenti, former priest and devil’s advocate, and current publisher of a scandalous collection of erotic poetry, becomes reluctantly embroiled in political intrigue. Called upon to defend the skeleton-bearer—his friend Rodolfo—against charges of heresy, Archenti must navigate the murky political waters as well as the less-frequented canals of Venice, and outsmart the ambitious Inquisitor from Rome who vows not only to prosecute the heretic, but to see him burn. In the heady days of Carnival, the signs are ripe: the citizens of Venice prepare for the Second Coming of Christ.

Mark Frutkin is the author of over a dozen books of fiction, non-fiction and poetry. His works include the 2016 Trillium Book Award–winning *Fabrizio’s Return*, which was shortlisted for the Commonwealth Writers’ Prize for Best Book, and *Atmospheres Apollinaire* (Porcupine’s Quill, 1988), which was shortlisted for the Governor General’s Award, the Trillium and the Ottawa Book Award. Frutkin lives in Ottawa.

\$22.95 • 224 pp • sewn, paperback • 8.75" x 5.56"

FICTION/Canadian • 978-0-88984-414-8



Daddy Hall

A BIOGRAPHY IN 80 LINOCUTS

Tony Miller

RECENTLY ACCLAIMED



A striking visual saga in linocuts of the life of John ‘Daddy’ Hall, a man of Mohawk and African-American descent who survived war, capture and slavery to become a pillar of the community in 19th-century Owen Sound.

Born of a Mohawk father and an escaped-slave mother, John ‘Daddy’ Hall was a product of not one but two oppressed peoples. His gripping tale is the stuff of legends—of the War of 1812, the harsh realities of slavery and of triumph in the face of adversity. Over the course of his 117-year life, Hall identified as a freeman, a scout for the British under Chief Tecumseh, a captured slave, an escapee on the Underground Railroad, a town crier in Owen Sound, a husband and, as his nickname aptly suggests, father to an impressive number of children.

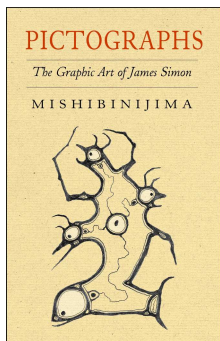
Tony Miller’s 80 stark and arresting linocuts present an unflinching portrait of a remarkable African-Canadian whose story of resilience and reinvention offers a fascinating glimpse into the history of Southwestern Ontario.

‘Kudos to Tony Miller in imagining and drafting Hall’s story as he does. We see the poised, white-hand-held bullwhip and we see the pregnant black belly; we see the War of 1812 as a series of muskets and tomahawks; we see Hall enslaved, we see him escape. Finally, we see him crying “Freedom!” through the streets of Owen Sound.’ — George Elliott Clarke

Tony Miller is a Canadian painter, sculptor and printmaker. Born and raised in Owen Sound, his experiences of facing racism and poverty instilled in him a fascination with his African roots. His art reflects an appreciation of the beauty of many cultures and seeks to explore the effects of past and present on humanity.

\$22.95 • 176 pp • sewn, paperback • 8.75" x 5.56"

BIOGRAPHY & AUTOBIOGRAPHY/Cultural Heritage • 978-0-88984-403-2



Pictographs

James Simon Mishibinijima

RECENTLY ACCLAIMED



‘Arresting, elegant, and powerful, the pictographs approach storytelling in an entirely new way to draw readers into a world of spirits, animals, lessons and knowledge. A silent exploration of interconnectedness and history, the collection speaks volumes.’ —Open Book Ontario

The drawings of Mishibinijima are a reflection, in the first instance, of the surface landscape of his native Wikwemikong First Nation on a peninsula at the eastern extremity of Manitoulin Island—both the immediate geography of forest and rock, but also that of the ancestral wisdom of the Elders who have left telling images graven on stone on the north shore of Lake Superior and at the burial sites on LaCloche Island. Quiet is perhaps the one prevalent theme. The quiet of the Woodlands, the birdsong, the frenetic workings of hummingbird wings and the gentle slapping of water at the shore of the North Channel. Quiet is a space in which the artist listens to the fauna, the Elders and the pervasive influence of the famous Anishinaabe-Ojibwe artist Norval Morrisseau and the Woodland School.

James Simon Mishibinijima, one of Canada’s foremost Native artists, has created a unique body of work over four decades which has attracted a loyal following in North America and amid the cloisters of the Vatican. He was born in 1954 in Wikwemikong, Manitoulin Island, where he grew up immersed in the legends of the Ojibway people. From the 1970s to the present, Mishibinijima has explored many of the sacred places around Manitoulin Island and originated the coveted Mishmountain series, among others. His uplifting philosophy has found resonance with those who seek solace in the midst of tragedy, and meaning in a world that is often confused and frightening. He lives at Wikwemikong, on Manitoulin.

\$24.95 • 208 pp • sewn, paperback • 8.75" x 5.56"

ART/Native American • 978-0-88984-405-6

Books in Print

This is a partial list of recent titles. For a complete listing of all Porcupine's Quill backlist currently in print please visit our website at <http://porcupinesquill.ca>

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The Porcupine's Quill is an independent Canadian publisher which operates with the assistance of the Canada Council for the Arts and the Ontario Arts Council. The support of the Ontario Media Development Corporation through the Ontario Book Publishers Tax Credit (OBPTC) and the OMDC Book Fund, as well as of the Government of Canada, are also gratefully acknowledged.



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