



**Montreal
Poetry Celebration**

**Wednesday, April 30 19h30
Hotel 10 - Salle Godin, 10 Sherbrooke West**

A Night of Poetry & Music
David McGimpsey, Catherine Kidd, Street Meat

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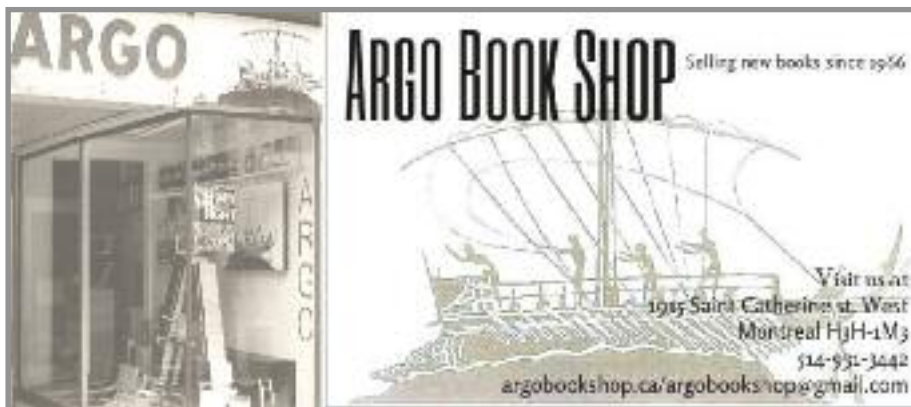
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Welcome to the Montreal Poetry Celebration

April 30, 2014 - 7:30PM-10PM | Hotel 10 - Salle Godin, 10 Sherbrooke St. W.

The **Montreal International Poetry Prize** and the **Blue Metropolis Literary Festival** have joined forces to bring to you a night of the finest poetry in town followed by some live music to celebrate Montreal's proud tradition of poetry.

The Montreal International Poetry Prize is a unique global poetry competition that works with poets around the world to produce the **Global Poetry Anthology Series**, available at the book concession. 10 accomplished poets from countries on every continent choose approximately 50 poems for the anthology from submissions entered online. A blind copy of the manuscript is then sent to the prize judge and he or she chooses the winning poem. In 2011, the Montreal Prize awarded \$50,000 to Australian poet, **Mark Tredinnick**. And in 2013, a \$20,000 prize went to **Mia Anderson**, who you will hear read tonight alongside Montreal's finest poetic voices.



None of this would be possible without the help of the **Blue Met** and **Gregory McCormick**. We would also like to acknowledge our sponsors, whose generous donations made it possible to turn this into a truly entertaining and pleasant evening.

The Montreal International Poetry Prize is quickly becoming an important part of the Montreal poetry scene. Here's what 2013 prize winner **Mia Anderson** had to say when she won the award:

"What I'm proud of, actually, is Montréal, and Québec, my adoptive home, for having created this Prize. As to winning it, that was a total unthought-of. I was so glad just to make it into the Global Anthology! But it's uncanny, the pleasure it gives that the judge seems to have 'got' what I was trying to toss aloft. I'm immensely grateful."

Bios of the Poets

Our poets tonight are each very talented and highly regarded artists. They will each read for approximately 10 minutes, leaving you wanting much, much more. We encourage you to buy their books and CDs!



Mia Anderson is a writer, a gardener, an Anglican priest, an erstwhile shepherd, and long-time actress. Hers is the voice of Atwood's *The Journals of Suzanna Moodie*, as recorded by the CBC. She has published four books of poetry. Her fifth is *Light Takes*, forthcoming with Cormorant Editions.

Catherine Kidd is author of the novel *Missing the Ark* and the poetry collection *Bipolar Bear*. Her acclaimed solo-show, *Sea Peach*, toured internationally, while her most recent poem series, *Hyena Subpoena*, will be launched as a CD/book in Spring 2014.

David McGimpsey is the author of five collections of poetry including the recent *Li'l Bastard* (Coach House Books), nominated for the Governor General's Award. McGimpsey was named by the CBC as one of the "Top Ten English language poets in Canada."



photo: James Tworow



Street Meat

Your band for the evening is **Street Meat**, a deliciously carnivalesque concoction of Rockabilly, Gypsy Jazz, Bluegrass, and Prog Rock.

"Their music is simple, acoustic, earthy, occasionally backwards, joyfully old-school, it is gypsy jazz that has gone through rockabilly, or the reverse, and with such energy!" — Yves Bernard (Le Devoir, December 14th, 2012)

Paul Dawson picked up the violin when he was 3 years old but ditched it in his teens when he picked up the guitar to play in hard rock bands. As bluegrass became an interest for him, the mandolin brought him full-circle back to the violin. He is both a composer and performer in equal measure.

Jean-Philippe Demers-Lelotte played electric bass before picking up the upright and developing a slap technique that essentially turned him into a percussionist as well as a hard-driving bassist. He has played with *Les Canailles*, *Bad Uncle*, and *Dylan Peron*, among others.



Lucas Choi Zimbel sang in choirs as a child and learned the clarinet in school. He completed a Jazz Guitar program in college. He also plays the accordion. Although mainly a composer, Lucas has played in a few local bands around Quebec.

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The 2013 Winning Poem

The Antenna

For Mike Endicott

The antenna is a growth not always
functional in all people.

Some can hoist their antenna with
remarkable ease — like greased lightning.

In some it is broken, stuck there in its old winged
fin socket way down under the shiny surface

never to issue forth.

Others make do with a little mobility,

a little reception, a sudden spurt of music
and joy, an aberrant hope.

And some — the crazies,
the fools of God — drive around

or sit or even sleep
with this great thin-as-a-thread

home-cobbled monkey-wrenched filament
teetering above their heads

and picking up the great I AM like
some hacker getting Patmos on his toaster.

And some, with WD40 or Jig-a-loo
or repeated attempts to pry the thing up

or chisel at the socket
do not give up on this antenna

because they have heard of how it works
sometimes, how when the nights are clear

and the stars just so and the new moon has all but set,
the distant music of the spheres is transformative

and they believe in the transformation.
It is the antenna they have difficulty believing in.

Mia Anderson



Comments from Prize Judge — Don Paterson

Here's what **Don Paterson**, Scottish poet, editor of the Picador Poetry Series and 2013 prize judge of the Montreal International Poetry Prize, said of Anderson's poem, "The Antenna":

“**‘The Antenna’** is that rare thing — a conceit which has the good taste not to outstay its welcome, but also makes us think again about its subject in an entirely new way. This poem about our spiritual ‘receivership’ is clever, musical, funny, and full of memorable lines; it manages — deliciously — to be simultaneously lyric and ironic in tone, and is full of delightful shifts of register. (To get from WD40 to the evening sky in a couple of lines without crunching the gears really is some feat.) It also has a nugget of real Jack Gilbertian wisdom at its heart — ‘wisdom’ being something one often thinks one has found in a poem, but which usually turns out to be the fool’s gold of mere sentiment. We will, indeed, need more than a chisel and some elbow grease if we’re to pry out that damn thing — that long-unused, rusted head-ariel; however, poems which broadcast as confidently as this one give me hope that it might really be down there.”

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