

# BRIAN CAMPBELL

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Brian Campbell is a Montreal poet, editor, singer-songwriter, translator, book reviewer and chapbook publisher. His third full-length collection, *Shimmer Report*, was published in 2015 by Ekstasis Editions. Brian Campbell is also the author of *A Private Collection* (Sky of Ink Press chapbook, 2014), *Passenger Flight* (Signature Editions, 2009), *Guatemala and Other Poems* (Window Press, Toronto, 1994), and *Undressing the Night*, his book-length translation of the selected poems of the Nicaraguan-Canadian poet Francisco Santos (Editorial Lunes, Costa Rica, 2006). Campbell's poems have appeared in numerous literary reviews in Canada, the U.S., and Europe; one was chosen by the British Columbia Ministry of Education for use on its provincial high school exam. He was a finalist in the 2006 CBC Literary Award for Poetry. In 2011, he was a recipient of a Canada Council creative writing grant towards the completion of *Shimmer Report*.

*The Courtier's Manuscript*, Campbell's independent music CD, was released in 2002, and *The Imaginary Album*, a cassette, in 1996.

## BOOKS AND AUDIO PRODUCTIONS (All currently in print)

*Shimmer Report* Ekstasis Editions, Victoria, B.C., 2015. 94 p. ISBN 978-1-77171-103-6 (pbk.); 978-77171-104-3 (ebook)

*A Private Collection* Sky of Ink Press, Montreal, 2014. 40 p. ISBN 978-0-9868890-3-5

*Passenger Flight* Signature Editions, Winnipeg, 2009. 90 p. ISBN 978-1-897109-33-5

*Guatemala & Other Poems* Window Press, Toronto, 1994. 66 p. ISBN 09696447-1-X

*Undressing the Night: Selected Poems of Francisco Santos, translated and edited*

by Brian Campbell Editorial Lunes, Heredia, Costa Rica, 2006. 144 p.

ISBN 9968-9542-9-2

*The Courtier's Manuscript* (BeeDeeCee Productions, 2002) audio recording, 74 min.

*The Imaginary Album* (BeeDeeCee Productions, 1996), 45 minutes.

## AWARDS/CITATIONS

Canada Council for the Arts: Professional Writer's Creative Writing grant, 2011: \$12,000

2006 CBC Literary Award for Poetry: Finalist

University of Toronto: Norma Epstein Award for Poetry, 1978

Unisong Competition, 2001 (London/Hollywood, CA): Certificate of Achievement for

*To My Whimsical Love* (song on *The Courtier's Manuscript*)

## POEM SELECTED FOR BRITISH COLUMBIA PROVINCIAL EXAM

In 2008, "Emblem", a poem previously published in the April, 2006 edition of *Prairie Fire*, was selected by the British Columbia (Canada) Ministry of Education for its provincial English 12 exam. It will be used up to three times between 2009 and 2014, and as an exam sample on its website until 2016.

## POETRY PUBLISHED IN REVIEWS AND ANTHOLOGIES

More than 50 poems published in 40 reviews in print and on line, in Canada, United States and Europe, including *Contemporary Verse 2*, *Saranac Review*, *Antigonish Review*, *Vallum*, *Grain*,

*Prairie Fire, The New Quarterly, Geez, Carve, Dusie, Apparatus, Poetry Quebec, Umbrella, MiPOesias, New Canadian Review, Poetry Canada Review, carte blanche, Nth Position, The Evergreen Review, and Eclectica*; and in the following anthologies: *Language Matters: Interviews with 22 Quebec Poets* (Signature Editions, 2013), *Shy* (University of Alberta Press, 2013) *The White Collar Book: Poetry and Prose of Canadian Business Life* (ed. Bruce & Carolyn Meyer, Black Moss Press, 2011) *After The Mountain: The A.M. Klein Reboot Project* (ed. Jason Camlot, Synapse Press, 2011), *Leonard Cohen You're Our Man* (Foundation for Public Poetry, 2009), and *Continuum: Time, the 4th Dimension* (Cranberry Tree Press, 2004.) See publications list.

## TRANSLATIONS OF POETRY PUBLISHED IN REVIEWS

Translations of Spanish poetry into English in *Indigo, Ruptures, and Free Verse* (Resistance Poetry Festival review): poems by Francisco Santos, Carmen Nozal, Marguerita Feliciano, Etnairis Rivera, and Hebe Bonifini. "Silences", an English translation of the French "Les Silences" by Quebec poet and novelist Louise Desjardins, recently appeared in *carte blanche* (Issue 17, Spring, 2013).

## LITERARY CRITICISM

### Book Reviews:

*Montreal Review of Books*: Christianne Frenette's *After the Red Night* (trans. Sheila Fischman) and Yves Engler's *The Black Book of Canadian Foreign Policy*.

*Rover* (www.roverarts.com): Poetry collections by Robert Creeley, David O'Meara, Katia Grubisic, Phil Hall, Shannon Stewart, Sina Queyras, Gendun Chopel, Thomas James, Angela Hibbs Susan Briscoe, Kenneth Sherman, Maxianne Berger, Annie Molin Vasseur, as well as the anthology *Jailbreaks: 99 Canadian Sonnets* (ed. Zachariah Wells) and collection of critical essays and reviews by Zachariah Wells, *Career Limiting Moves*.

*The Pacific Rim Review of Books*: review of Barbara Pelman's *One Stone*

### Essay:

*Rock Salt Plum Review, Spring 2006*: "Can Poetry Matter – 15 Years After", a 4,000 word commentary on reactions over the past decade and a half to Dana Gioia's seminal 1991 article, "Can Poetry Matter?"

## EDITING/PUBLISHING

### Sky of Ink Press

Founded in 2006 with Montreal poet Raphael Bendahan, Sky of Ink's mission is to feature talented poets in finely crafted chapbooks. As of 2013, Brian Campbell is solely responsible as editor and publisher. Chapbooks include:

Nina Bruck, *Still Light at Five O'clock*. 25 pages, 300 copies, © 2007

- Winner of the 2008 Writer's Circle of Durham Region Poetry Chapbook Challenge
- Nina Bruck was interviewed and read from *Still Light* on CBC Radio 1, The Sunday Edition (host: Michael Enright), and was featured on CBC TV's *Montreal Matters*.

Jocelyne Dubois, *Hot Summer Night*. 35 pages, 100 copies, © 2008

Raphael Bendahan, *Sit Up*. 25 pages, © 2011

Brian Campbell, *A Private Collection*, 40 pages © 2014

## BLOG

Brian Campbell has maintained a literary blog, *Out of the Woodwork*, primarily devoted to a discussion of contemporary poetry and poetics, since Sept. 2004. In over a thousand posts, poems are cited and critiqued, books reviewed, articles quoted, with occasional forays into contemporary art, film, dance, music, politics, etc. Over its lifetime, *Out Of The Woodwork* has received over 100,000 visits and had approximately 50 regular readers.

## ASSOCIATIONS

League of Canadian Poets (LCP)

Full Member: 1994-8; 2003- Present

2011- 2014: Membership Committee (evaluates applications for league membership).

2013-2014: Membership Committee Chair

2006 - 2009: Quebec/Nunavut Representative on National Council

Quebec Writer's Federation (QWF)

Writer Member, 2003- Present

-Approved Writing Coach, Oct., 2015-Apr. 2016, "Hire a Writing Coach" pilot project: poetry manuscript consultant for aspiring/emerging writers

-Approved Writer, Writers-in-CEGEPs Program: Gives lectures on creative writing and conducts poetry workshops for honoraria in CEGEPs, the system of pre-university colleges in the province of Quebec

Literary Translator's Association of Canada (LTAC) Member: 2007 – present

PEN Canada: Writer Member (Free Expression Circle) 2011– present

## FEATURED READINGS

Brian Campbell has been featured at many reading venues in Canada and the USA. A number of these readings have been supported by the Canada Council through the Canadian League of Poets. Venues include The Art Bar Poetry Series, Grossman's Tavern, The Brunswick House, Gallery No, and La Festival de la palabra y de la imagen (York University) in Toronto; the Yellow Door and Visual Arts Centre Reading Series, Poetry Plus (Arts Café), and Noches de Poesía in Montreal; Woolwich Arms Poetry & Music in Guelph, Ontario; The University of Winnipeg, and Emily Glen's in New York City. As LCP Quebec/Nunavut representative, he organized and hosted the 2007, 2008, and 2009 LCP Quebec (W)Rites of Spring Readings in Montreal.

## RADIO AND TELEVISION APPEARANCES

In June, 2008 Brian Campbell was interviewed and read a poem, "Bringing Summer to The Rock", on the St. John's Morning Show, CBC Radio One, in connection with the LCP Festival and Conference. In addition, he has given interviews, read and performed poetry and music on campus and community radio: on *Simply Speaking* and *Arts Notebook* (CINQ) and *SonArt* (CKUT) in Montreal and *Howl* on CKLN in Toronto. In 2007, he was interviewed on CBC TV's *Montreal Matters* in a feature on Nina Bruck's *Still Light at Five O'clock*.

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT: CONFERENCES/WORKSHOPS

Sage Hill Writing Experience: Poetry Workshop, Summer 2012, led by Ken Babstock

League of Poets AGM/Poetry Fest: 1994, 2004, 2006-9, 2011, 2013.

Quebec Writers' Federation Poetry Workshops: Fall, 2004, led by Susan Gillis; Fall 2013, led by Asa Boxer; April 26, 2014: one-day workshop led by Paul Vermeersch

## WORKSHOPS GIVEN

Collège Montmorency, Laval, Quebec (QWF Writers in the CEGEPs Program) Oct. 2, 2007

Lauren Hill Academy, Montreal (LCP National Poetry Month Program) April 28, 2007

## EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND AND OCCUPATION

Born in Toronto, Canada, Brian Campbell graduated (with distinction) with an Honours B.A. in English, University of Toronto, 1980. He completed a Diploma in Education at McGill University, Montreal, 1991. Currently Brian Campbell teaches English Language Acquisition as well as Academic English at the English Montreal School Board. He also does freelance commercial translation from French to English.