

authors

○ Harbourfront

International Authors

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

IFOA ONTARIO: NOW SEVEN LOCATIONS Canada's biggest literary festival travels beyond the boundaries of the GTA

TORONTO, October 1, 2009 --- The 30th anniversary International Festival of Authors (IFOA) (October 21 –31) expands its horizons this fall to include festival events in **Barrie, Midland, Don Mills Orillia and Uxbridge**, in addition to those already established in **Burlington and Parry Sound**. This touring component, **IFOA Ontario**, takes place **October 24 – November 3**, extending the IFOA's usual 11-day run to two weeks. IFOA Ontario makes its world-renowned events more accessible to communities throughout Ontario, stopping in seven locations to present authors from the Festival's roster of the best contemporary writers from around the globe.

"IFOA is delighted to be able to offer outstanding literary commentary across the province," says Geoffrey Taylor, Director of IFOA. "By expanding the number of locations, visitors from further away are able to enjoy a piece of the festival experience."

Participating authors include: this year's Harbourfront Centre Festival Prize winner **Helen Humphreys** and 2005 Governor General's Award for Fiction author **Miriam Toews**. Also, to coincide with the festival's **Writing Scotland** feature, Scottish authors **Alan Bissett, Margaret Elphinstone, Martin MacIntyre, and James Meek** take part.

IFOA Ontario events are as follows:

IFOA Barrie: Monday, November 2, 2009, 8pm, readings by **Michael Crummey, Jim Lynch, Martin MacIntyre, and James Meek** at the Downtown Community Theatre (1 Dunlop St. W.). Presented in partnership with the **Barrie Public Library, Laurentian University, Georgian College, L3 Festival and Page & Turners**. For tickets: Barrie Public Library (705-728-1010).

IFOA Burlington: Tuesday, October 27, 7pm, featuring readings by authors **Lorna Crozier, Barry Dempster, Margaret Elphinstone**, and Rogers Writers' Trust Fiction Prize shortlisted author **Annabel Lyon**, at St. Luke's Parish Hall (1382 Ontario Street). Presented in partnership with **A Different Drummer Books**. For tickets: Different Drummer Books (905-639-0925).

IFOA Don Mills: two events. Saturday, October 24, 3pm an event entitled *Thrilling Thinkers*, features a round table discussion with mystery authors **Linwood Barclay, John Brady, Iain Pears**, moderated by **Andrew Pyper**. On **Saturday, October 31, 3pm**, readings by **Anne Michaels**, Giller Prize longlisted author **Kate Pullinger**, and **Michael Turner**. Both events take place at McNally-Robinson Booksellers (1090 Don Mills Rd.). Presented in partnership with **McNally Robinson Booksellers**. For tickets: McNally Robinson Booksellers Box Office (416-384-0084).

IFOA Midland: three installments. Sunday, November 1, 8pm readings by **Michael Crummey, Jim Lynch, James Meek, and Claire Holden Rothman**. Then, on **Monday, November 2, 8pm** **Sarah Hall** and **Miriam Toews** are interviewed by the Globe and Mail's Books Editor. **Tuesday, November 3, 8pm**, a reading by authors **Lauren Kirshner, Olive Senior, Eleanor Thom, and Mary Tilberg**. All events take place at the North Simcoe Sports and Recreation Centre (527 Len Self Blvd). Presented in partnership with the **Midland Public Library and Coles**. For tickets: Midland Public Library (705-526-4216).

IFOA Orillia: Tuesday, November 3, 8pm readings by **Barry Callaghan, Don Gillmor, Martin MacIntyre, and Leon Rooke** is held at the Orillia Opera House Green Room (20 Mississauga St. W.). Presented in partnership with the **Orillia Public Library, the Stephen Leacock Museum, and Manticore Books**. For tickets: Orillia Public Library (705-325-2338).

IFOA Parry Sound: Sunday, November 1, 2pm readings by **Alan Bissett, John Brady, Diana Fitzgerald Bryden, and Miriam Toews**, at the Charles W. Stockey Centre for the Performing Arts (Two Bay Street). Presented in partnership with **Parry Sound Books**. For tickets: Charles W. Stockey Centre for the Performing Arts (705-746-4466).

IFOA Uxbridge: Sunday, October 25, 2pm, the event, entitled *Tea at Two*, is an intimate conversation between Harbourfront Festival Prize winner **Helen Humphreys** and Man Booker short listed author **Sarah Waters** at Mill Run Golf & Country Club (269 Durham Road 8). The event is accompanied by a classic High Tea. Presented in partnership with **Blue Heron Books**. For tickets: Blue Heron Books (905-852-4282).

Biographical information on all authors and their books can be found online at www.readings.org.

All tickets, \$10 each (except IFOA Uxbridge, which is \$20), can be purchased through the Harbourfront Centre Box Office at 416-973-4000 and online at www.readings.org. (NB: IFOA Parry Sound must be purchased directly from the Charles W. Stockey Centre for the Performing Arts).

For more information about IFOA the public may call the **Harbourfront Centre Box Office** at **416-973-4000**, or visit www.readings.org.

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The annual International Festival of Authors (IFOA) (October 21–31, 2009) – including YoungIFOA (October 27, 29 & 30, 2009) and IFOA Ontario (October 24 – November 3, 2009) – is part of the annual season programmed by Authors at Harbourfront Centre (AUTHORS). Since its inception in 1974, AUTHORS has hosted over 5,000 authors from more than 100 countries, including 16 Nobel Laureates. Its season runs from September to June and, in addition to a weekly reading series, includes the annual ALOUD: a Celebration for Young Readers with Forest of Reading® Festival of Trees™ (May 2010).

MEDIA INQUIRIES:

Becky Toyne ifoamedia@harbourfrontcentre.com; 416-973-5836

Lindsay Gulin ifoamedia@harbourfrontcentre.com; 416-973-4395

IFOA has a media site where you can download high-res image; media.harbourfrontcentre.com/ifo.