

BURNABY ART GALLERY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 29, 2012

WEALTH OF LOCAL CULTURE SHOWCASED

Photographer Barry Peterson presents work from his new book *111 West Coast Literary Portraits* in partnership with the Burnaby Art Gallery and McGill Library on Nov. 7

BURNABY, BC –The Burnaby Art Gallery and the McGill Library are pleased to present photographer Barry Peterson and six guest authors featured in the photographic series "West Coast Literary Portraits" currently on display at McGill Library in Burnaby, BC. These works are part of a larger body that celebrates our local cultural wealth. The photograph exhibition coincides with the launch of Peterson's book *111 West Coast Literary Portraits: Photographs by Barry Peterson and Blaise Enright - Text by BC Authors*, published by Mother Tongue Publishing. Peterson will present his work with contributions from the guest authors. Books will be available for signing. This free event takes place Wednesday, November 7, 2012, 7:00 pm at McGill Library, 4595 Albert Street, Burnaby, BC 604-299-8955. Light refreshments will be served and everyone is welcome.

"When it comes to West coast writing and publishing, we have gone from famine to feast in less than a lifetime. This unprecedented array of portraits celebrates the feast. Barry Peterson's approach is consistently non-pretentious, attempting to serve both the public and subject, in an honest fashion." – Alan Twigg, Publisher, BC Bookworld

Authors in attendance on November 7th:

Hadani Ditmars is a fifth-generation Vancouverite writer, photographer and journalist. She is the author of *Dancing in the No Fly Zone: A Woman's Journey Through Iraq* and the *Wallpaper* City Guide: Vancouver*. Her next book, *Ancient Heart*, is a political travelogue of world heritage sites in Iraq.

Phinder Dulai was poetry editor for the South Asian quarterly *Ankur*. He is included in the anthology *Making a Difference* (Oxford University Press, 2007) and his two books, *Ragas from the Periphery* (Arsenal Pulp Press, 1995) and *Basmati Brown* (Nightwood Editions, 2000).

Daniela Elza has lived on three continents and crossed numerous geographic, cultural and semantic borders. Her work has appeared in more than 50 publications. In 2011, Daniela received her Doctorate in Philosophy of Education from Simon Fraser University. Her debut poetry collection, *the weight of dew*, was published in 2012 (Mother Tongue Publishing).

Evelyn Lau is a Vancouver writer who has published ten books, including five volumes of poetry. Her prose books have been translated into a dozen languages; *Runaway: Diary of a Street Kid* was made into a CBC movie. Her poetry has received the Milton Acorn Award, a National Magazine Award and a Governor General's Literary Award nomination. Her latest collection, *Living Under Plastic* (Oolichan, 2010) won the Pat Lowther Award. Evelyn is the Vancouver Poet Laureate for 2011–14.

Meredith Quartermain is the author of four books of poetry and prose that often explore the forms and life of cities. *Recipes from the Red Planet* was a finalist for the 2011 B.C. Book Prize's Ethel Wilson Fiction Prize, and *Vancouver Walking* won the 2006 B.C. Book Prize's Dorothy Livesay Poetry Prize. *Nightmarker*, a book about Vancouver, was a finalist for the 2009 City of Vancouver Book Award. She is the new Vancouver Library Writer-in-Residence.

Ajmer Rode has published books of poetry, drama and translation in Punjabi and English. His 1,000-page book *Leela*, co-authored with N. Bharati, is included in important works of twentieth-century Punjabi poetry. Ajmer is considered a founder of Canadian Punjabi drama. His poem "Stroll in a Particle" is among eight international poems permanently inscribed on a public wall outside the new building of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation in Seattle.

###



The Burnaby Art Gallery is dedicated to collecting, preserving and presenting a contemporary and historical visual art program by local, national and internationally recognized artists. As the stewards of the third largest public art museum collection within the Province of British Columbia, the Burnaby Art Gallery cares for and manages over 4,000 works of art. The Burnaby Art Gallery is a nationally recognized leader in print culture dedicated to showcasing original hand pulled prints and ephemera related to printmaking in Canada.

For more information about the gallery's exhibitions, programs, tours, call 604-297-4422 or visit

www.burnabyartgallery.ca.

Located in the beautiful surroundings of Deer Lake Park, the Burnaby Art Gallery is open Tuesday to Friday, 10:00 am-4:30 pm and Saturday and Sunday, 12:00-5:00 pm. Admission is by donation; parking is free.

The Burnaby Art Gallery acknowledges the generous support provided by: the City of Burnaby; the British Columbia Arts Council; the Province of British Columbia, its patrons and visitors.

MEDIA CONTACT:

Brenda Finlayson
Marketing and Sponsorship
Coordinator

Burnaby Art Gallery
Direct Line: 604-297-4857
Main Office: 604-297-4422
FAX: 604-205-7339

Brenda.Finlayson@burnaby.ca
www.burnabyartgallery.ca