

# LITERARY LECTURE VIRTUAL SERIES

2025-26



THE HELICONIAN CLUB  
since 1999



*Interwoven Stories by Rosemary Tannock*

*All our Literary Lectures feature talented Canadian writers talking about their books, including:*

- |                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| <b>Corinna Chong</b>   | <i>2024 Giller Prize nominee</i>                                       |
| <b>Conor Kerr</b>      | <i>2024 Giller Prize nominee</i>                                       |
| <b>Ayelet Tsabari</b>  | <i>National Jewish Book Award winner</i>                               |
| <b>Ernie Louttit</b>   | <i>Saskatchewan Book Award and Reveal Indigenous Arts Award winner</i> |
| <b>Carol Off</b>       | <i>Gemini Award winner, Gabriel Award for Journalism</i>               |
| <b>Tanya Talaga</b>    | <i>RBC Prize winner, Massey Lecturer</i>                               |
| <b>Claire Messud</b>   | <i>Booker Prize nominee</i>  |
| <b>Maria Reva</b>      | <i>Writer's Trust Fiction Prize finalist</i>                           |
| <b>Paul McLaughlin</b> | <i>Toronto Book Award finalist</i>                                     |
| <b>Eric Chacour</b>    | <i>2024 Giller Prize shortlisted</i>                                   |
| <b>Emma Donoghue</b>   | <i>Dublin Literary Award and Giller nominee</i>                        |

All books are available at Ben McNally Books  
[shop.benmcnallybooks.com](http://shop.benmcnallybooks.com)

# SUBSCRIPTION PRICING

1 Series	2 Series	3 Series
<b>\$125</b> +HST	<b>\$150</b> +HST	<b>\$175</b> +HST
Choose 1 of the Tuesday OR Wednesday OR Thursday series	Choose 2 of the Tuesday, Wednesday OR Thursday series	All 3 series

*Lectures are pre-recorded and released monthly. Videos remain available until Aug. 31, 2026.*

Sign up now:

[HeliconianClub.org/LLS](https://HeliconianClub.org/LLS)

## TUESDAY SERIES

Emma Donoghue	Michelle Winter
Claire Cameron	Karin Wells
Tanya Talaga	Maria Reva
Kristen Den Hartog	Emma Knight

## WEDNESDAY SERIES

Ayelet Tsabari	Gurjinder Basran
Conor Kerr	Corinna Chong
Bill Gaston	Anne M. Smith-Nochasak
Loghan Paylor	Ernie Louttit

## THURSDAY SERIES

Eric Chacour	Katherine Ashenburg
Amanda Leduc	Carol Off
Claire Messud	Waubgeshig Rice
Paul McLaughlin	Kevin Lambert

SEP 30



Emma Donoghue  
**THE PARIS EXPRESS**

The novel reimagines the 1895 French railway disaster and takes place over a single day.

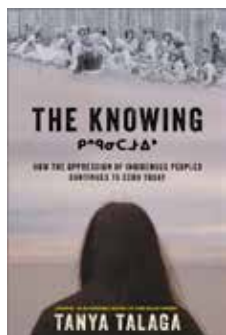
OCT 14



Claire Cameron  
**HOW TO SURVIVE A BEAR ATTACK**

Claire confronts the rare genetic mutation that gave her cancer by investigating an equally rare and terrifying event—a predatory bear attack.

NOV 11



Tanya Talaga  
**THE KNOWING**

A riveting exploration of Tanya Talaga's family's story beginning with the life of her great-great grandmother, Annie Carpenter, and her family.

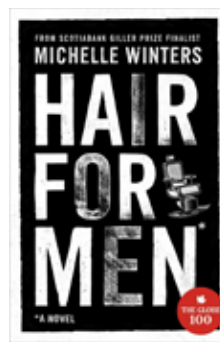
JAN 13



Kristen Den Hartog  
**THE ROOSTING BOX**

An exquisitely written history of the early years of the Christie Street Hospital and how war reshaped Canadian society.

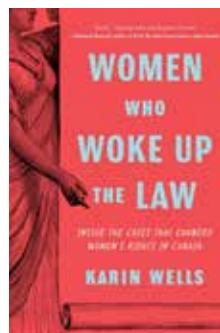
FEB 17



Michelle Winters  
**HAIR FOR MEN**

Spurred by adolescent trauma, Louise adopts a life of hardcore punk violence until she stumbles into a job at a mysterious men's hair salon.

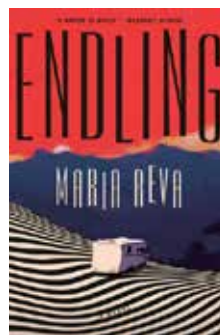
MAR 17



Karin Wells  
**WOMEN WHO WOKE UP THE LAW**

Karin Wells pulls us into the lives and the legal trials of a group of women integral to the advancement of women's rights in Canada.

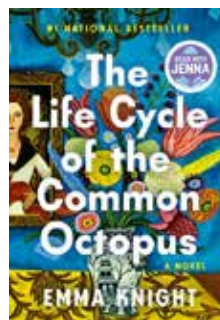
APR 14



Maria Reva  
**ENDLING**

An unforgettable debut novel about the journey of three women and one extremely endangered snail through contemporary Ukraine before and during Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

JUN 02



Emma Knight  
**THE LIFE CYCLE OF THE COMMON OCTOPUS**

A witty, warm and brilliantly told debut that is at once a love story, a story of female friendship and motherhood.

SEP 10



Ayelet Tsabari

## SONGS OF THE BROKEN HEARTED

In an overcrowded 1950s immigrant camp, shy Yaqub & married Saida fall into forbidden love. In 1990s Israel, her daughter discovers shocking truths about her family.

FEB 11



Gurjinder Basran

## THE WEDDING

A delightful and intimate portrait of the vibrant, complex Sikh community of Vancouver and Surrey. It is rife with family drama, and steeped in tradition and humour. An ode to love in all its forms.

OCT 08

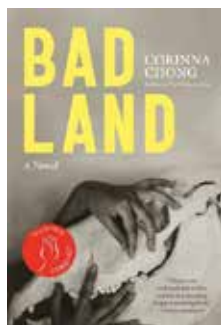


Conor Kerr

## PRAIRIE EDGE

Two very different Métis cousins, Ezzy and cynical Grey, embark on a bold yet dangerous political mission: capture a herd of bison from a national park and set them free in downtown Edmonton.

MAR 11



Corinna Chong

## BAD LAND

Regina is a socially awkward loner who is content to live a life withdrawn from everyone. That is, until her brother and niece - a peculiar six-year-old with an unnerving vicious streak - arrive, upending Regina's quiet life.

NOV 05

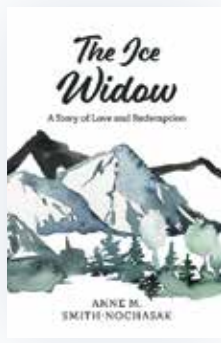


Bill Gaston

## TUNNEL ISLAND

Set on BC's Tunnel Island, these linked stories explore moral misjudgments, semi-legal schemes, and antisocial gaffes everyone seeks a remedy for what ails them.

APR 08

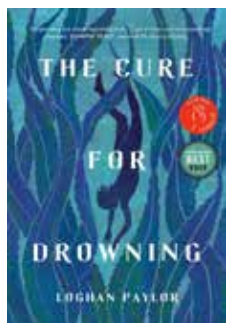


Anne M. Smith-Nochasak

## THE ICE WIDOW

During her first teaching year in an Inuit community, Anna Caine falls deeply in love with the beauty of the land and its people, but finds herself emotionally adrift when her lover stays true to his betrothed even though Anna is carrying his child.

JAN 07



Loghan Paylor

## THE CURE FOR DROWNING

Born Kathleen to a farming family in Ontario, Kit McNair has been a troublesome changeling since they fell through the river ice and drowned—only to be nursed back to life by Celtic magic.

MAY 06

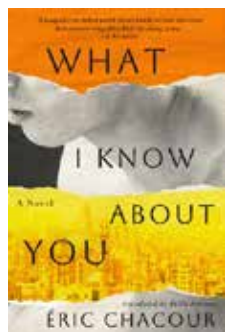


Ernie Louttit

## PINE BUGS AND .303s

Two soldiers, one Cree and one white, return home after World War II to Northern Ontario and try to restart their lives. But they will have to fight for justice amid disaster, deceit, racism, and corruption.

SEP 25

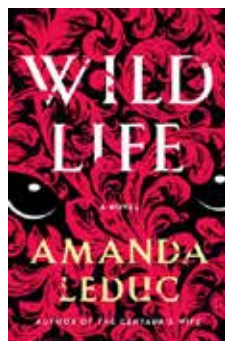


Suanne Kelman interviews  
Eric Chacour

## WHAT I KNOW ABOUT YOU

A heartbreaking tale of a family and an impossible love, torn apart by secrets and traditions in late-twentieth-century Cairo.

OCT 23



Amanda Leduc

## WILD LIFE

Two walking, talking hyenas interact with humans over decades blurring the line between human and animal. These strange messengers reveal what is possible when the cages that contain us are broken.

NOV 27

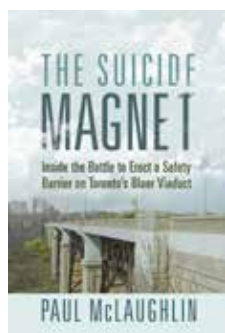


Claire Messud

## THIS STRANGE EVENTFUL HISTORY

From 1940 to 2010, the Cassars are separated in the chaos of World War II, escape their colonial homeland, and, after Algerian independence, have no homeland at all.

JAN 22



Paul McLaughlin

## THE SUICIDE MAGNET

The inside story of the grassroots fight to have a suicide barrier erected on Toronto's "bridge of death".

FEB 26

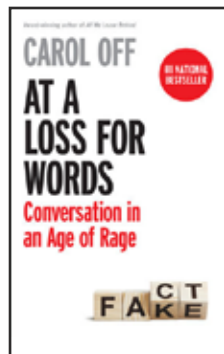


Katherine Ashenburg

## MARGARET'S NEW LOOK

Fashion, mystery, and politics combine in this novel set in a big-city museum where Margaret is launching a controversial exhibition of Christian Dior's "New Look."

MAR 26



Carol Off

## AT A LOSS FOR WORDS

Carol Off digs deep into six words whose meanings have been distorted and weaponized; democracy, freedom, truth, woke, choice and taxes—and asks whether we can reclaim their value.

APR 30



Waubgeshig Rice

## MOON OF THE TURNING LEAVES

After a world-ending blackout, a scouting party of hunters ventures into dangerous territory to find a new home for their slowly starving Northern Ontario Indigenous community.

MAY 21



Suanne Kelman lectures about  
Kevin Lambert

## MAY OUR JOY ENDURE

Céline Wachowski, a renowned international architect, unveils plans for her first major project in Montreal and is met with fierce criticism which threatens her elite status in her hometown.

# THE HELICONIAN CLUB

The Toronto Heliconian Club is a non-profit organization run by women actively engaged in the arts, founded in 1909.

The Club also owns and operates Heliconian Hall, a National Heritage Site located in Toronto's historic Yorkville district. The Hall is available for concert rentals, book launches, and other arts events at subsidized rates.

**HELICONIANCLUB.ORG**

*Our visiting writers stay at the Yorkville Royal Sonesta Hotel*