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Notes on Contributors

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NOTES ON CONTRIBUTORS

Lillian Allen is a long-time arts activist and Professor of Creative Writing at the Ontario College of Art and Design University where she initiated and spearheaded the establishment of an interdisciplinary, multimedia Creative Writing BFA program, inspiring students to claim space for their dreams in the world and to use their creativity to help transform the world. Acclaimed a foremother of Canadian poetry by the League of Canadian Poets, Ms. Allen's work is realized in a variety of media, including print, performance, and recordings. She is a two-time Canadian Juno award winner for her albums *Revolutionary Tea Party* and *Conditions Critical* and the author of several books and recordings for grown-ups and for children. Her latest book is *Make the World New: The Poetry of Lillian Allen* (selected by Ronald Cummings, Wilfrid Laurier UP, 2021). Visit Lillian Allen online at LillianAllen.ca.

McKenna James Boeckner (they/them) is a PhD candidate in English at the University of New Brunswick on the traditional unceded territory of the Wolastoqiyik people. Their academic specialization is in queer historiography and 18th-century literature. In their free time, they moonlight as a playwright, currently exploring themes of queer diasporas and ecological collapse(s). Follow and find more at memoirsofasodomite.com

Nicholas Bradley is an associate professor in the Department of English at the University of Victoria, where he teaches courses on aspects of Canadian literature and environmental writing. He edited *An Echo in the Mountains: Al Purdy after a Century* (McGill-Queen's UP, 2020) and *Current, Climate: The Poetry of Rita Wong* (Wilfrid Laurier UP, 2021). His most recent book is *Before Combustion*, a collection of poems (Gaspereau Press, 2023).

Wayde Compton has written five books and edited two literary anthologies. His collection of short stories, *The Outer Harbour*, won the City of Vancouver Book Award in 2015, and he won a National Magazine Award for Fiction in 2011. He co-founded the Hogan's Alley Memorial Project in 2002 and collaborated with others to raise awareness about Vancouver's original black community for a decade and a half. In 2006, Compton co-founded Commodore Books, western Canada's first Black

Canadian literary press. Compton is currently the Chair of Creative Writing at Douglas College in New Westminster, BC.

David Creelman is Professor of English at the University of New Brunswick in Saint John. He teaches in the fields of Canadian literature and Modern British literature. He has published a variety of articles and a book focusing on Maritime writers. He has also published articles on pedagogical practices in the university setting and conducted workshops on team-based learning across the Atlantic region. In 2015 he was named a 3M National Teaching Fellow.

James Hahn has a PhD in English from the University of Toronto. Their research examines the ethical dimensions of settler and Indigenous documentary literature. They are currently an Assistant Professor in the Canadian Studies Program at Mount Allison University.

Camille Isaacs is Associate Professor of English at the Ontario College of Art and Design University in Toronto, specializing in postcolonial and black diasporic literatures, particularly those of the Caribbean and Canada. She has considered the transmission of affect through social media for African women in the diaspora: "Mediating Women's Globalized Existence through Social Media in the Work of Adichie and Bulawayo" was published in *Safundi*. In addition, she is the editor of *Austin Clarke: Essays on His Works* (Guernica, 2013). She is deeply committed to equity work at OCAD University, co-chairing a task force that resulted in a commitment from the university to change the proportion of under-represented faculty and staff. Her current research considers aging and memory in Caribbean literature.

Billy Johnson is a SSHRC and Killam postdoctoral fellow at Dalhousie University who specializes in nineteenth- and twentieth-century Canadian literature, book history, and print culture. His current research focuses on the intersection of modernism and Black expressive culture in early-twentieth-century Canada. His criticism has appeared in *Studies in Canadian Literature*, *Confluences 1: Essays on the New Canadian Literature*, *The English Languages*, and elsewhere.

Ian Keteku is an award-winning writer and multimedia artist. He has written and directed projects for the National Film Board of Canada, CBC, PBS, and *Sesame Street*. An award-winning poet, Keteku is the 2010 World Poetry Slam Champion. With a heritage in Ghana, Ian's work follows in the lineage of ancient African storytellers by paying homage to the past and revisiting themes and lessons from previous generations. Keteku teaches creative writing and art activism at the Ontario College

of Art and Design University in Tkaronto.

Khadijah Morley (she/her) is a Toronto-based artist and educator with a BFA in Drawing and Painting and minor in Printmaking from the Ontario College of Art and Design University. Her work is autobiographical, informed by her lived experience as a Black woman in Canada born of Jamaican immigrants. She creates work from a Black-feminist framework, prioritizing subjectivity as a counter-narrative. Through the process of etching and relief printing, she depicts Afro-surrealist themes where dreams, magic, and reality converge. Khadijah has been featured on CBC Arts and has been a recipient of the Fellowship Program at Kala Art Institute in Berkeley, California.

Abigail Permell was born in Port of Spain, Trinidad, and immigrated to Canada, with her family, when she was seven years old. When she was a child, her mother would find her sitting on the floor, putting puzzle pieces together with the image face down. Over the years she started to look at the pictures. Pictures became an escape and a way for her to sense the world and her place in it. *Hibiscuses* was one of the pieces she painted during the first complete COVID-19 lockdown, in 2020, at the height of the social unrest following the murder of George Floyd. Lockdown restrictions allowed for physical and emotional retreat to one's property lines. For her that meant her home studio and access to her mother's garden. *Hibiscuses* was a reaction to the inability to pay her respects to the Floyd family but was also influenced by what she refers to as "The George Floyd Blues" that have become recurring hues in her work since then.

Basmah Rahman is a SSHRC-funded doctoral candidate in the Department of English at Queen's University. Her research focuses on Canadian Black, Indigenous, and People of Colour (BIPOC) literature and intersections of identity representation within public education systems. As an Ontario certified teacher and English language learner's instructor, Basmah prioritizes inclusive literacy models to further student engagement and representation in classrooms. Her research bridges literary and pedagogical studies by examining books that focus on the diasporic experiences of Canada as a nation-state.

Uchechukwu Peter Umezurike is an assistant professor in the Department of English, University of Calgary, Canada. His teaching and research interests include African and African Diaspora literatures, postcolonial literatures, gender and sexuality, cultural studies, and creative writing. An award-winning creative writer, Umezurike is the author of literary works such as *there's more* (U of Alberta P, 2023), *Double Wahala*, *Double Trouble*

(Griots Lounge Publishing, 2021), *Wish Maker* (Masobe Books, 2021), and a co-editor of *Wreaths for a Wayfarer* (Daraja Press, 2020).

Karina Vernon is Associate Professor of English at the University of Toronto Scarborough where she researches and teaches Canadian and Black Canadian literature. She is editor of *The Black Prairie Archives: An Anthology* (Wilfrid Laurier UP, 2020) and a companion volume, *Critical Readings in the Black Prairie Archives*, which is forthcoming. She is at work, with Winfried Siemerling, on a volume titled *Call and Response-ability: Black Canadian Works of Art and the Politics of Relation* (McGill-Queen's UP), which offers a Black Canadian theory of reception and relation.

Liam Waterman is an incoming MA student in English at the University of Bristol, and was formerly an undergraduate student at the University of Western Ontario. His research focuses on British Romantic poetry and the role of affect in defining relationships between humans and environments. His upcoming master's thesis will explore the way that boredom and other kinds of feeling-less states inform Romantic visions of nature, particularly in the poetry of Samuel Taylor Coleridge.

Carl Watts teaches at Huazhong University of Science and Technology, in mainland China. In addition to scholarly articles about Canadian literature, he has published two poetry chapbooks, *Reissue* (Frog Hollow Press, 2016) and *Originals* (Anstruther Press, 2020); a short monograph, *Oblique Identity* (Frog Hollow Press, 2019); and a book of essays, *I Just Wrote This Five Minutes Ago* (Gordon Hill Press, 2022).

Ania Wroblewski (PhD Université de Montréal) is Assistant Professor of French and Gender & Sexuality Studies at the University of Guelph.