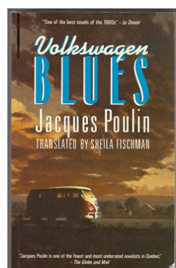


INTERNATIONAL BOOK CIRCLE - FALL 2021

SEPTEMBER

Volkswagen Blues - Jacques Poulin/Sheila Fischman (transl.) **Meeting : Sat. October 2 - 2pm**

Book available: September 1 (limited number of copies)



From the Gaspé Peninsula in Québec all the way to California, this classic road novel tells the story of a writer in search of his brother. At the beginning of his travels, Jack picks up a hitchhiker, a young Métis woman. Together they embark on a journey across the continent exploring their identities and culture through the history of French European contact with the native people of North America.

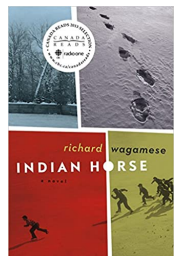
Jacques Poulin is often considered to be the most North American of Québec's francophone writers. He is fluently bilingual, and his work appeals to Anglophone Canadians and to Americans as much as to his Québécois readers. He has written 14 novels to date, many of which have won awards in Canada and abroad. *Volkswagen Blues* was nominated for the Governor General's Award for French-language fiction in 1984 and was one of the selected novels in the 2005 edition of Canada Reads.

OCTOBER

Indian Horse - Richard Wagamese

Meeting: Saturday October 30 - 2pm

Book available: October 2 (limited number of copies)



This is the story of Saul Indian Horse, a boy who finds release through his passion for hockey. The novel deals with the intergenerational trauma that played out in the lives of those of the First Nations people who were placed in residential schools in the 1960s and '70s. The book was adapted as a feature film in 2017.

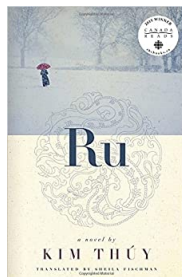
Richard Wagamese, an Ojibway from the Wabaseemoong First Nation in northwestern Ontario, was one of Canada's foremost writers. Many of his books are inspired by his own personal and family difficulties, which he attributed to the impact of the residential schools on his community. He won numerous awards and recognition for his writing. He died in 2017.

NOVEMBER

Ru - Kim Thúy /Sheila Fischman (transl.)

Meeting: Saturday November 27 - 2pm

Book available: October 30 (limited number of copies)



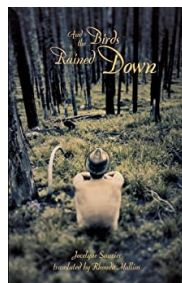
In Vietnamese, ru, means lullaby; in French it is a small stream. In vignettes of exquisite clarity, sharp observation and sly wit, we are carried along on an unforgettable journey and scenes from the author's life journey, from a palatial residence in Saigon to a crowded and muddy Malaysian refugee camp, her escape with the boat people and onward to a new life in Quebec.

Bio: Kim Thúy is a Vietnamese-born Canadian writer, whose debut novel *Ru* won the Governor General's Award for French-language fiction at the 2010 Governor General's Awards.

DECEMBER

And The Birds Rained Down - Jocelyne Saucier/Rhonda Mullins (transl.) **Meet: Sat. Jan. 8-2pm**

Book available: November 27 (limited number of copies)



Deep in a Northern Ontario forest live Tom and Charlie, two octogenarians determined to live out the rest of their lives on their own terms, free of all ties and responsibilities. But their solitude is disrupted by the arrival of two women, and the little hideaway in the woods will never be the same. This novel is a haunting meditation on aging and self-determination. The original French version was published in 2012 and adapted into a feature film in 2019.

Bio : Born and raised along the Upper St. John River in Clair, New Brunswick, Jocelyne Saucier is a Canadian writer and journalist now living in Québec. She has published several acclaimed novels. This one, her fourth, was nominated for the 2013 Governor General's Literary Award for French-to-English translation. The original version received several distinctions, including the *Prix de cinq continents de la Francophonie*.