

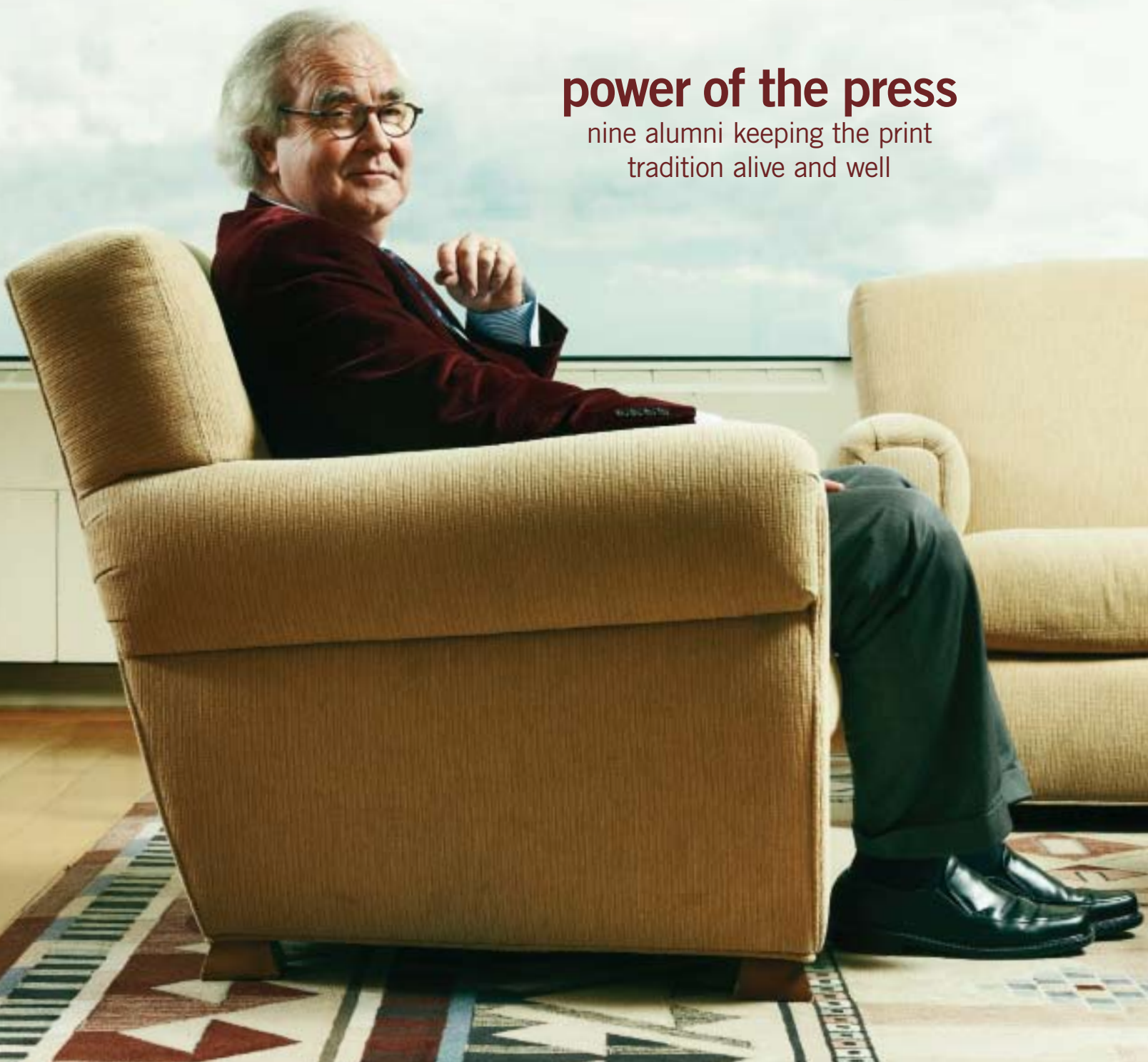
trinity

TRINITY ALUMNI MAGAZINE WINTER 2012

how Dr. Rebecca Auer is harnessing viruses to beat cancer

power of the press

nine alumni keeping the print
tradition alive and well





A Moment to Reflect

Sadness, gladness, change and growth at the College

Trinity, like all the liveliest entities, is a place of growth and flux. Sometimes the speed of development is bewildering: a provost's life can be swiftly stymied by, as Harold Macmillan supposedly said, "Events, dear boy, events." As I draw breath for a moment, to face a second and (to me at least!) welcome term as provost, I am grateful to be on sabbatical; a few months' leave that will allow me to reflect, relax and write. It has been an eventful five years, and looking backward as well as forward in that Janus-faced way that January invites, I see much to make the College proud.

There has been sadness: the sudden death just before Christmas of the Rev. Dr. Bill Craig, our public orator and sometime teacher in Divinity. That his tightly packed funeral was all at once warm, funny, moving, thought-provoking, informative, eccentric and Trin-centric caught the measure of the man precisely, with the added bonus of providing insight into Bill as a member of a wonderful family, to whom we send our sympathies. Such a special ceremony made those of us privileged enough truly proud to have known Bill.

Among others we lost recently was the truly extraordinary writer, emigré, fellow emeritus and professor, Josef Škvorecký, the only member of the English faculty at the U of T to be nominated for a Nobel Prize for Literature. Indeed, it was Graham Greene, in one of his characteristically terse and grumpy missives, who supported Josef's promotion to full professor, comparing his work to that of those infamous intellectual outlaws, the James gang: James Joyce and Henry James. Josef is survived by his equally impressive wife and fellow author, Zdena Salivarová, to whom we send our warmest thoughts.

There has been growth and change: growth, in two exciting new appointments in our faculties of Arts and Divinity. Mike Morgan (introduced in the last issue of *trinity*) and Jesse Billett (see pg. 7 of this issue) are both academic high achievers on a sharp upward trajectory, with, between them, degrees from Cambridge, Harvard and Yale. Certainly, such appointments send a buzz of freshness and intellectual regeneration throughout the entire College. Change, as

we bade farewell with fond wishes for a long and relaxing retirement to Dr. Bruce Bowden, long-serving registrar and director of Student Services. At a wonderful retirement party in the Provost's Lodge, there were witty speeches from an ABC of friends, colleagues and former students, as well as a tribute from Trinity professor emeritus and former provost Bob Painter. Join me in welcoming Nelson De Melo, who steps into Bruce's role as our new registrar.

There has been gladness: our impressive roster of Rhodes Scholars has been augmented by Steven Wang, who heads off to Oxford. Moreover, several Men and Women of College (over-)represented Trinity in the recently published list of students chosen for The Next 36, a program meant to transform the country's most promising undergraduates into Canada's top entrepreneurs. Of the 36 students representing 14 universities, 12 came from U of T, and of those, every single one from the Faculty of Arts and Science came from Trinity. The future looks bright indeed.

In my first term, I became inured to constant questioning about what exactly it is that the provost does, and I tended to answer by saying it is not so much what one does, but what one manages to get others to do (or, more often, stop doing!).

During my leave, I shall be in and around the College a lot, writing and researching: Toronto remains the best place for a medievalist to make a home. But there will be travels and research trips to Britain, France, Iceland and Finland, and books to complete (or fry trying!) on the Anglo-Saxon riddle tradition, the Old English poet Cynewulf, and Norse myths. In each, I shall be attempting to persuade readers that the Anglo-Saxons, and the Vikings in particular, were not the raucous, violent, drunken boors of popular legend, but rather (as I stress in my first-year class on "Raiders, Traders and Invaders"), witty, shy and sensitive antique dealers, sometimes sadly misunderstood. So, not unlike this provost then!

ANDY ORCHARD

Provost and Vice-Chancellor



champions *of the* written word

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Things to see, hear and do
in the coming months

For many Trinity grads who enjoyed their undergrad years in a setting that inspired, among others, acclaimed Canadian author Robertson Davies, it is little wonder that narrative plays a starring role in their lives. In this issue of *trinity*, read the stories of nine alumni – writers, editors and a publisher – who live for the written word. The profiles are written by eight freelancers, two of whom are recent College grads making their way in the world of

journalism, and one of whom bravely took on the very personal task of writing a profile of her father. We hope you enjoy the stories as much as we do! And for an inside scoop on each person profiled, visit www.magazine.trinity.utoronto. In a web-exclusive extra, each of the nine alums answer questions beginning with six words all writers know and love: who, what, where, when, why and how. **Page 9**



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Editor: Lisa Paul; magazine@trinity.utoronto.ca
Editorial Co-ordinator: Jill Rooksby
Art Direction and Design: Fresh Art & Design Inc.
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Steven Wang '11, who recently completed Trinity's specialist program in international relations, is the College's 36th graduate to receive a Rhodes Scholarship.

PHOTOGRAPHY: ANDREW JOHNSON '11

Meet Trinity's Newest Rhodes Scholar

In the fall of this year, Steven Wang '11 will be travelling across the Atlantic to the prestigious Oxford University, where he will begin an MPhil in International Relations. A proud member of Trinity College, Wang is one of 10 Canadians to win the Rhodes Scholarship this year – one of the world's highest academic honours.

"It is an amazing feeling. I am absolutely thrilled to begin a new phase of my academic life," says Wang, a recent graduate of Trinity's specialist program in international relations.

Established in 1903, the Rhodes Scholarship is a highly competitive award named after Cecil John Rhodes. Rhodes Scholars gain graduate enrolment at the University of Oxford and can choose to study any postgraduate course offered by the university.

With months to go before he even starts his program, Wang already has post-Oxford plans and a long-term career goal.

"Winning the scholarship has given me the right platform to pursue what I really want, which is a career in international law and politics. I would say that this is the beginning of my greater professional journey ... I'm going to absorb what Oxford has to offer and then apply for an international law program in the States."

Wang is quick to credit the College for much of his intellectual development. "I think one of the really nice things about Trinity is

that you are surrounded by such an interesting, diverse and talented group of students and faculty. I gave myself a lot of time to be part of that collegiate experience – there were countless sessions in Strachan Hall where I spent hours philosophizing with my peers about everything from food to conflict resolution."

For the time being, this well-rounded student (Wang is the founder of Community Action by Youth, a grassroots initiative dedicated to empowering youth to address issues of poverty and climate change) is finishing work on a conflict-resolution and global-citizenship project at the Mosaic Institute in Toronto.

Wang says his cross-cultural background is one of the main reasons why he is interested in the field of international law and politics.

"My parents had the audacity to emigrate from China to a small town in Ontario – the culture shock was present, in full force. Having grown up in Canada, I have a personal stake in both sides of the world. Part of what I hope to do in my field is act as a bridge, to build mutual trust between the East and the West. I want to bring China into the cultural and intellectual fold of international politics."

Trinity College boasts 36 Rhodes Scholars to date, including writer John Allemang '74, profiled on pg. 20, and the College's current Dean of Arts, Derek Allen '69.

Graham Library Gets Immaculate Collection

Trinity College's John W. Graham Library is the recent recipient of a book collection from the General Synod Library at Church House, which is in the process of shutting down after almost five decades of service to the Anglican Church of Canada. The closure is part of a series of cutbacks authorized by the General Synod in an attempt to establish a sustainable budget.

"With a mission to be the pre-eminent library for Anglican studies in Canada, the Graham Library is the perfect place for housing this extensive collection of publications," says Linda Corman, chief librarian at the John W. Graham Library, which serves both Trinity and Wycliffe colleges.

The inherited collection primarily includes Anglican Communion materials, which were managed by General Synod librarian Karen Evans. Unfortunately, the cutbacks meant that Evans, a long-serving and dedicated employee, had to end her research and reference services at Church House.

"I have answered more than 46,000 reference requests since starting to work at Church House more than 20 years ago," says Evans. She helped people work on complex research projects, fielding phone calls from members of the Anglican Communion in places as far away as Romania and Rwanda.

Corman praises Evans's strength and prowess at handling such an historic collection: "Her extensive personal knowledge and dedication to providing information about the worldwide Anglican Communion are manifest in the scope and depth of the printed resources now available here."

Corman acknowledges the importance of this addition to the Graham Library. "In the years to come, this collection will be invaluable to the work of students, faculty and other scholars, as well as members of the wider public, whether pursuing academic research or seeking to understand the engagement of the Anglican Church with global society today."



PHOTOGRAPHY: CAMELIA LINTA

170th Anniversary of the Faculty of Divinity



PHOTOGRAPHY: ARCHIVES P1173

Earlier this year, the Faculty of Divinity at Trinity

College celebrated its 170th anniversary, marking more than a century and a half of providing theological education within the Anglican tradition to both Canadian and international students.

The celebration took place on Jan. 8 at St. Peter's Anglican Church in Cobourg, Ont. To commemorate the occasion, Dean of Divinity David Neelands was preacher at the ceremony's morning service.

Trinity's Faculty of Divinity charts its historical origins from the Diocesan Theological Institute, which first opened in Cobourg in January 1842, making it the oldest theological institution in English Canada. Ten years later, the Institute officially became the Faculty of Divinity of Trinity College in Toronto. Some of the College's student traditions, such as the Lit, began at the original Cobourg Institute.

"We stand on the shoulders of wonderful folk like John Strachan and Alexander Neil Bethune, whose principal purpose was the perfection of our society," says Neelands.

Long-serving Registrar Retires

Dec. 20, 2011, marked Dr. Bruce Bowden's

last day at Trinity, after almost 20 years serving as College registrar – the primary intermediary between Trinity students and the University of Toronto.

"I was made to feel that to arrive at Trinity was to walk into the embrace of an enduring community in which memories of the interaction between College deans and students had lasted for decades," says Bowden, reminiscing about his first day on the job.

"But I didn't walk into an entirely happy community," he points out. "My first task was to steer our course through a public discussion of Episkopon (Trinity's secret society), which had caught the attention of the press, the university's president and the province's cabinet."

Recalling the darker moments in Trinity's history two decades ago, Bowden says, "The institution was being criticized for having unclear limits about an atmosphere of careless freedom in its students' traditions and their use of College facilities."

Twenty years later, however, through Bowden's own efforts, as well as the contributions of others, College traditions are

now practised more gently.

"I dare say we have restored a sense of institutional balance," he says.

David Bronskill, a student of the former registrar, praises Bowden for his attempts to foster a culture of support at Trinity: "Bruce worked hard to ensure that his students' needs – both academic and personal – were met while at the College. He certainly helped to make the College a better place than it was when he first arrived."

Trinity Provost Andy Orchard echoes this sentiment: "Throughout his time here, Bruce was a mighty champion of students and a fine captain of a steady ship; he will leave a lasting legacy."

But Bowden is quick to credit part of his legacy at Trinity to the "truly impressive" work of fellow staff members, particularly those in the Registrar's Office.

"Some of my most fulfilling moments were working with students of high promise as they overcame difficult issues during their undergraduate years. Every day I have enjoyed working with my colleagues who help to do this, I think, incomparably well,



Nelson De Melo (left) and Bruce Bowden.

PHOTOGRAPHY: SHIRLEY QUACH

and my regard for these student achievements just grows and grows."

And what plans does he have for the future? "I will continue to participate in Trinity's community through seminar teaching for a time," he says. "And perhaps I'll do a little travelling in the spring or fall ... and definitely improve on my bridge playing!"

Taking Bowden's place as the newly appointed registrar is Nelson De Melo, former associate registrar.

History in the Making

Trinity College will be home to a newly established Centre for Contemporary International History (CCIH), a collaborative academic enterprise with the Munk School of Global Affairs.

This exciting development will not only offer opportunities and support to undergraduates, particularly in our flagship International Relations (IR) program, but it also has the potential to grow into a research centre of fittingly international significance.

The College is a natural choice for such a venture; among the academics who have already expressed a deep interest and commitment to the CCIH, several have strong Trinity ties, including Chancellor Bill Graham, former provost

Margaret MacMillan, former director of IR Bob Bothwell, current IR Director Mairi MacDonald, and Trinity fellow Prof. Ken Mills. The College is also delighted to have the expertise of John English and Janice Stein, who both have impressive international and organizational credentials.

A founding event took place last term: a wide-ranging and hard-hitting lecture on "The Future of Liberalism" by Baron Steel of Aikwood, a high-profile member of the House of Lords in the U.K., and former leader of the British Liberal Party. In establishing such a Centre, Trinity hopes to foster and encourage its future growth.

New Prof in Faculty of Divinity

For the first time in over a decade, the Faculty of Divinity at Trinity has hired a new professor.

Jesse Billett will become the sixth full-time faculty member when he officially takes up his post on July 1, providing a new teaching and research capacity to the core academic program.

"We are trying to build up the faculty for the future, and I believe we have found a young scholar of great promise," says Dean of Divinity David Neelands.

Although the position attracted significant interest from within Canada and internationally, it was ultimately Billett's unique skills and experience, combined with his high level of scholarship, that made him the right fit for the job.

A native of Prescott, Ont., Billett started his academic career by obtaining an AB in music at Harvard University. He then travelled overseas on a choral scholarship to sing in the renowned choir of King's College, University of Cambridge, where he completed an MPhil and a PhD in history as well, writing dissertations on liturgy in the Middle Ages.

He was appointed a research fellow at St. John's College, Cambridge, where he continued his liturgical research, taught music undergraduates, and somehow found the time to officiate frequently at services in the College chapel.

In 2010, Billett returned to Canada to work as a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) post-doctoral fellow with the Centre for Medieval Studies at the University of Toronto, until the position concluded on Dec. 31 of last year. At

the same time, he began part-time theological studies in preparation for ordination in the Anglican Church of Canada, which he is hoping to complete this spring.

"Being offered a job at Trinity College feels like a dream come true," Billett says. "It's hard to imagine a better fit for my research and teaching interests, and the community's distinctive culture and character are immensely appealing."



PHOTOGRAPHY: JILL AITKEN

Wireless Technology: Then and Now



Give one of today's Internet-dependent journalists a beast like this to lug around and see how they make out! This 20th-century battlefield portable is housed in the Trinity College Archives. A far cry from modern-day laptops, tablets and smart phones, the 10-by-11-inch Corona Typewriter was used by reporters during the First World War to provide "live coverage" from the frontlines. Let's hear it for technology!

FICTION WRITING CONTEST

Submit an original, unpublished story in one of two category lengths to magazine@trinity.utoronto.ca by **April 30** for your chance to win.

First-place winners will be published in an upcoming issue of the magazine and will be awarded a cash prize.

Full contest details and entry regulations can be found at magazine.trinity.utoronto.ca



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PHOTOGRAPHY: CAMELIA LINTA

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shooting for the *star*

John Cruickshank has high aims for Canada's largest newspaper

BY ANITA LI '09

As a young man, John Cruickshank '75 never aspired to see his byline in a newspaper. Yet today, he is widely considered to be a titan in the journalism world. It's a curious contradiction that Cruickshank credits to chance.

"It was completely opportunistic. I hadn't really thought of a career in journalism. I hadn't thought of a career at all," says the affable 58-year-old publisher of the *Toronto Star*.

Cruickshank helms the country's largest newspaper from his spacious, sun-drenched office on the fifth floor of the *Star* building at Queens Quay and Yonge Street in downtown Toronto. He has a clear vision for the daily, emphasizing that it continue its tradition as "a progressive voice for Canadians."

But Cruickshank's vision wasn't always so certain – especially concerning his own future.

At age 20, he decided to spend some time drifting around Europe to expand his life experiences before completing his fourth year of university. He ended up joining an amateur Parisian theatre troupe, and for about eight months toured community centres across France. His de facto role was "roadie," taking on whatever odd jobs needed doing, sometimes even writing – though it was a far cry from journalism.

It wasn't until he returned to Canada that he got his real start in the profession. He was freelancing for *The Kingston Whig-Standard* when a friend of his, who had been working at the newspaper full time, left to attend journalism school at Columbia University in New York City. Suddenly, he found himself in line to take her place, when the paper hired him as a staff reporter.

Cruickshank had had no professional training, but he learned on the job, cultivating the meat and potatoes of journalism skills: reporting and writing. "You either pick that stuff up in the first six months or you don't – ever. So, you should go into PR," says the white-haired publisher with a chuckle, his eyes crinkling behind horn-rimmed glasses.

He started out as a general assignment reporter, covering mostly unpopular beats like real estate, which he describes as "the lowest on the totem pole – the stuff nobody else wanted to do."

Soon after, he moved on to other reporting positions, including a stint in Montreal at *The Gazette*, and then in Vancouver at *The Globe and Mail*, where he spent three years as the British Columbia bureau chief before becoming managing editor

in 1992. Following that, he became editor-in-chief of *The Vancouver Sun* for five years, leading the paper to break its record in National Newspaper Awards.

Working in so many different cities across Canada helped Cruickshank develop "flexibility of mind" to solve problems – a useful trait in an ever-changing industry that demands adaptability, he says. "One of the great delusions in any job – but especially crippling in journalism – is that there's just one approach to something, because it makes you inflexible."

This mindset also prepared him for a major challenge south of the border: taking on publishing duties at the *Chicago Sun-Times*. At the time, the paper was suffering from a deteriorating leadership that eventually resulted in David Radler, then-publisher, and Conrad Black, chief executive officer of Hollinger International, the parent company of the *Sun-Times*, being sent to prison for fraud.

"The situation was a mess. There was real concern that the paper – fragile at the best of times – might not survive, and I felt a moral responsibility to try to do something about that," Cruickshank says. "I was the only one there with the right skills who had empty pockets and clean hands."

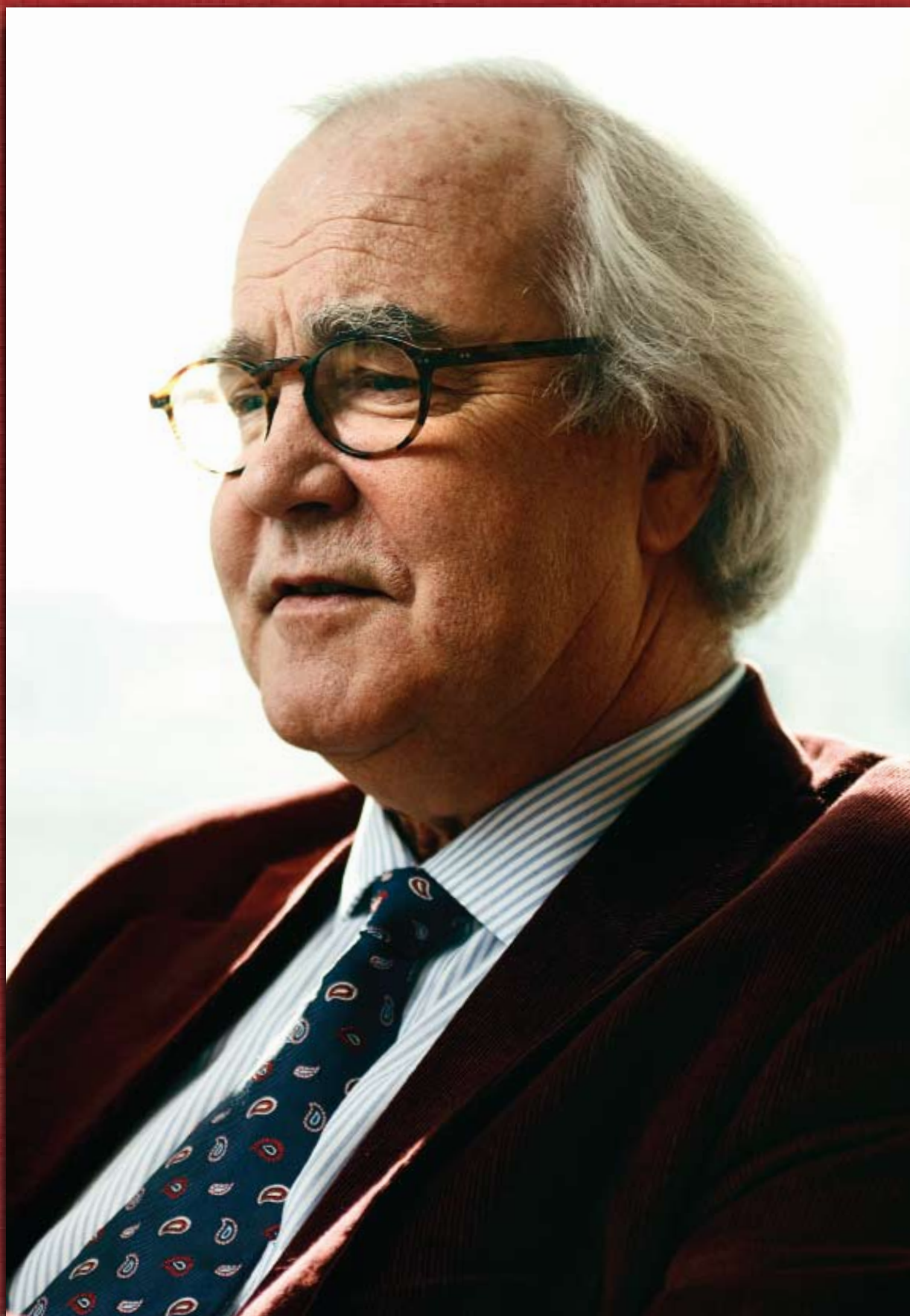
Under his leadership from 2003 to 2007, the Chicago daily won a George Polk award in journalism for uncovering city corruption. "I think it was that work that kept the newspaper alive in the end in very challenging circumstances," he says.

Cruickshank may have successfully revived an embattled newspaper, but his toughest role – publisher of the CBC – was yet to come. Working at the corporation for just over a year, he strove to integrate newsgathering on radio, television and the Internet, but he admits it was a failed attempt.

"I recognized after a while that what I was trying to do was just not possible, and I wasn't going to be able to make the impact that I'd hoped," he says. Still, he has no regrets. "I always wish that in all circumstances I could have succeeded," he says. "But I don't think regret is particularly useful."

And neither his own experiences with such setbacks nor the industry's murky future have deterred him from trying to produce the best journalism possible as current publisher of the *Star*.

"Somebody who has some level of detachment from particular partisanship has to be there, digging away at the most important issues of the day," he says. ▲



company, collaboration and creativity

How Sheila Heti breathes art into life

BY RANDI CHAPNIK MYERS

By the time Sheila Heti '01 was a student devouring books on art history and philosophy at the University of Toronto's Robarts Library, she was also writing her own book on the side and working as a publisher's assistant – and had already studied playwriting at the National Theatre School of Canada. For Heti, there are simply never enough ways to get inspired to write.

"I never planned on going to university and I wasn't there for the degree," she says of her undergrad years at Trinity College. Her decision was all about exposure: "It was just to be in contact with interesting ideas and good books and great teachers."

The daughter of an engineer and a doctor, she had hoped since she was a young girl that someday she would end up an author – even though her parents wondered how she would make enough money doing this to support herself.

"There are no living artists in my family, so I had no model for how it would work," Heti says.

And yet, the relative novelty of her chosen career path never made her question it. Today, whether she's tapping out thoughts or stories on her laptop in her home study (her pet rabbit and cat for company), or organizing lectures and events, she admits she would rather be working than doing almost anything else.

"Writing sustains me," says the petite blond, whose waif-like presence belies her Energizer Bunny passion for what she does. She continues: "When I'm writing, I feel so free. Sometimes, life is full of compromises and boredom and disappointment. But when I'm writing, there's this tremendous feeling of expansiveness, control, surprise. It's such a rich activity to engage in."

And that richness reaps rewards. The publishing world quickly embraced Heti's work, starting with her widely praised *The Middle Stories*, a collection of beguiling tales that hit Canadian and U.S. bookstores in 2001, followed by her novella, *Ticknor*, in 2006, and her 2010 novel, *How Should A Person Be?*

The idea for *Ticknor*, a fictional account of the life of Harvard intellectual George Ticknor, came from browsing books at The Green Room, a bar Heti used to frequent in Toronto's Annex neighbourhood. "I saw this slightly battered book with a leather-bound spine on the shelf and I had to touch it," she recalls of the 1863 copy of *The Life of William Hickling Prescott*. "The writing was just so captivating that I stole the book."

In *How Should A Person Be?*, she found inspiration closer to

home, casting herself and her best friend, Toronto-based artist Margaux Williamson, in the starring roles. "It's a book about art and friendship and sex and the relationship between two women," says Heti, who used their actual conversations to ensure that the characters' voices rang true.

While she prefers writing in solitude, Heti says the company of others is what fuels her creativity. "A lot has to do with seeking out people you enjoy working with," she says. "I don't shut myself off from the world, I collaborate. And that's what powers me forward."

Trampoline Hall is the result of one such collaboration: the avant-garde Toronto and New York lecture series, which Heti and her friend Misha Glouberman co-launched in 2001, features people speaking candidly on topics outside their professional expertise. The pair also teamed up on the book *The Chairs Are Where The People Go*, for which Heti transcribed Glouberman's thoughts on a wide variety of subjects that interest him, from charades to neighbourhoods to improv, and more.

"It's such a strange book. I didn't even know if it would get published," she says, marvelling at the fact that the title made *The New Yorker's* top non-fiction picks of 2011.

Working with others also means letting the actor inside emerge now and then, as she did back in 2006 when she appeared in Williamson's film *Teenager Hamlet*.

Acting and writing are just different ways to tell stories, Heti says: "Either way, you have to get inside other bodies, other minds. You are giving soul, embodying someone who doesn't otherwise exist except through you."

These days, her storytelling continues to evolve. As interviews editor of *The Believer*, a San Francisco-based monthly magazine for writers, directors and actors, Heti helps fashion Q and As for the artsy set – and somehow she found time to pen a children's book called *We Need A Horse*, which was published last spring.

"I'm always thinking about what to do next, and reading in areas I may want to write about in the future," Heti says.

But despite her tireless creativity, she is modest about her early success (after all, she only just turned 35). As far as she's concerned, it's all somewhat out of her hands.

"The world decides whether it will let you publish or not," Heti says. "I'll just keep doing my job – the writing – and see where things go from there." ▲



exploring *perspective*

Ian Brown is a dedicated narrator of the human experience

BY HALEY CULLINGHAM

Ian Brown '76 is an enemy of the foregone conclusion. On the first truly cold morning of the winter, the writer, fresh off his bicycle, pulls a toque from his head and warms his hands on a steaming Americano at an espresso bar steps from the University of Toronto. The hat is homemade, given to him 20 years ago by a woman who liked to knit in the sauna of the ski chalet where Brown and his family used to vacation. They would have long conversations while she worked.

Meaningful conversations with relative strangers are not uncommon for Brown, who says that 90 per cent of human experience remains untouched. Perhaps in an attempt to capture it, Brown seems to develop connections wherever he goes. The woman behind the counter of the espresso bar, for example, greets him in Italian with warm familiarity. He still lives around the corner from his alma mater: “The university is full of things designed to take you places you never expect to go,” he says.

Brown’s admitted “maggie mind” has been on university a lot lately. His eldest child, Hayley, has just started at McGill in Montreal, and her experience has Brown reflecting on his own time at Trinity College. He laments the fact that he never declared a major. Instead, in his undergraduate studies he explored several languages of thought – which won’t come as a surprise to those familiar with his robust and eclectic body of work.

“Ian expresses many large ideas that most journalists don’t know about,” says lifelong friend Ian Pearson, who has also worked with Brown as an editor.

Ian Brown’s life, like his writing, is all about the journey, not the destination. One of Canada’s most legendary journalists and a long-running contributor to *The Globe and Mail*, Brown grew up in a middle-class family in Montreal. A university education was neither expected nor encouraged. He can count the books he remembers having in his childhood home on one hand, but that didn’t stop him from becoming an avid reader. Borrowing novels from bookmobiles and libraries helped him develop an early fascination with language. He submitted stories to *Reader’s Digest*, recounting tales of his parents’ courtship. The stories never made it into print, but the experience lingered: Brown remembers sitting at his father’s typewriter, thinking, *I’m writing*.

Now the author of three books and the editor of and contributor to another, Brown has always been relentless in his commitment to

the genuine expression of an experience.

“I think Hemingway said somewhere that if you lie in writing three times, you forget what the truth is,” he says. “If you fake yourself out three times, you’ll forget – and that scared me.”

This commitment to what Brown calls “emotional accuracy” is inherent in his 2009 memoir, *The Boy in the Moon*, which explores his relationship with Walker, his severely disabled son. It made the *The New York Times*’ 2011 list of top non-fiction books, and the writing process provided many an unforeseen conclusion for a man who is fascinated by perspective: contemplating Walker’s perspective resulted in a shift in his own.

Brown’s wife, Johanna Schneller, is also a writer, and their house is packed with books. For Hayley, this instilled a love of learning. For Walker, things are more complicated. *The Boy in the Moon* sketches a portrait of the relationship between a father who is relentlessly expressive and a son who struggles to communicate.

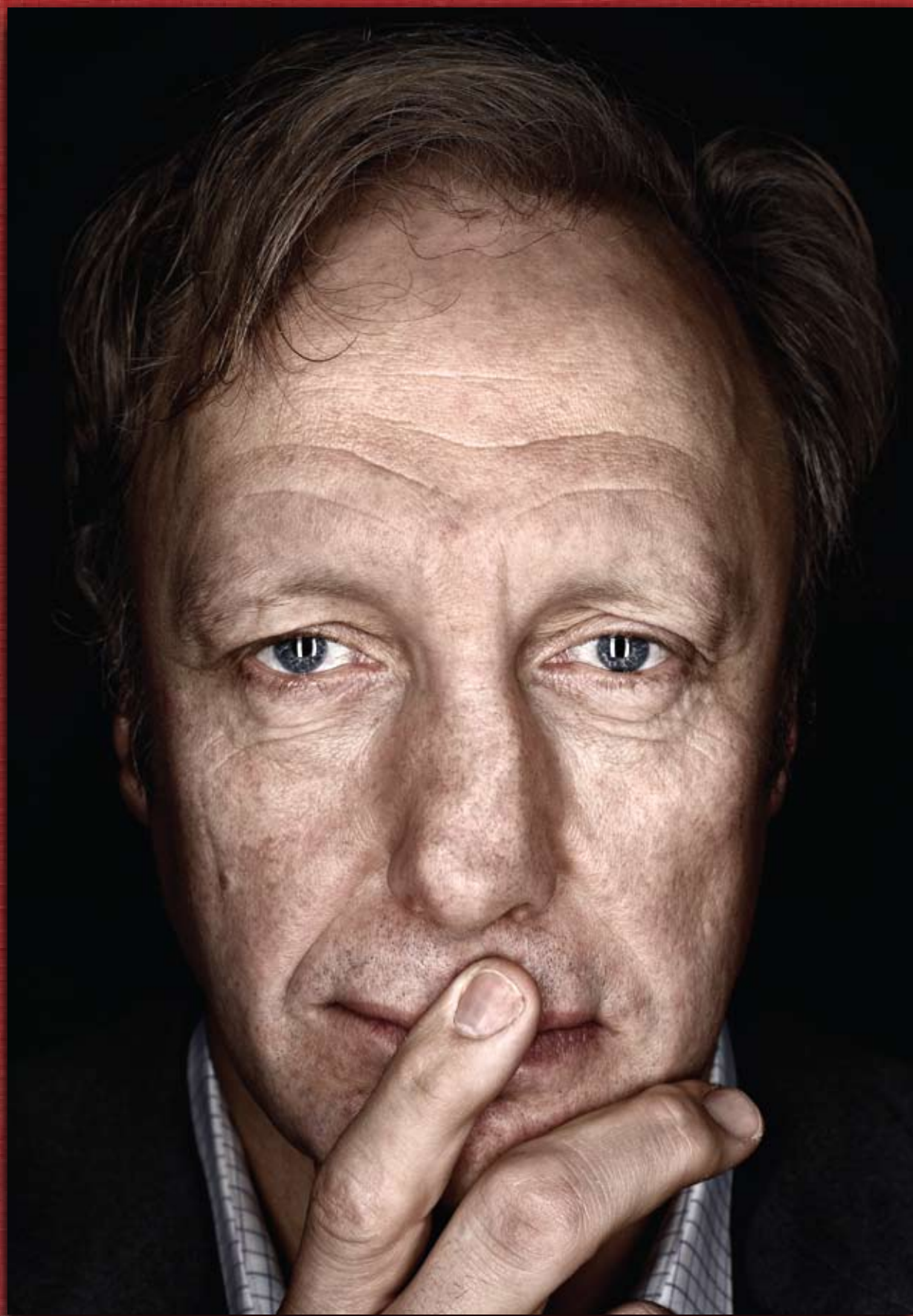
When Brown talks about his son, his storyteller voice changes audibly. There is reverence there: “You know that huge list of accomplishments that we all carry around with us, every day?” he asks. “With Walker, none of that applies. That liberates me from that list. And that redefines the world.”

From his undergrad studies in psychology, literature and philosophy, to his current incarnation as an explorer of human perspective, Brown has spent much time both contemplating his own view of the world and imagining the way others see it. He remembers a seminal moment from his Trinity days, while reading D. H. Lawrence’s *Sons and Lovers*, when he immediately identified with the protagonist’s older brother, William. But by the end of the seminar, his perspective had changed.

“The professor made me associate with the writer. It was sort of Nabokovian: if you could learn to think like a writer, then you could be a writer.”

“Ian is full of stories,” says Pearson, reflecting on their time together at U of T. “He tells stories you had forgotten about yourself, and wish he had forgotten, too!”

The stories won’t stop any time soon. On that early winter morning, Brown’s descriptions of the maps room at the Robarts Library and the horticultural section of the Thomas Fisher Rare Books Library, sound like something more Carroll than campus: around every corner, a catalyst for adventure. ▲





risky business

After a childhood of non-negotiable NOs,
Rupinder Gill's life motto is "go for it"

BY JULIA LECONTE

Rupinder Gill '01 never intended to write a book about herself. "I'm a reluctant memoirist," says the Canadian author over the phone from New York City, where she is spending the holidays. "If I had made a list of five books I would write some day, a memoir would have been number 12."

In fact, it wasn't until Gill was having dinner one evening in Toronto with fellow writer and Trinity grad Hannah Sung '00, that she thought anyone would be interested in her story. At the time, Gill was in the midst of tackling a list of experiences she hadn't been allowed to have during her ultra-sheltered Sikh upbringing in Kitchener-Waterloo, Ont. Missing out when she was young, she reasoned, shouldn't mean she had to miss out altogether.

Sung thought Gill's adventures – and misadventures – would be good fodder for a book. Though skeptical at first, after some convincing from Sung and others, Gill eventually agreed. The result, *On the Outside Looking Indian: How My Second Childhood Changed My Life*, chronicles her childish pursuits – learning to swim, attending summer camp, having a slumber party – as experienced by a 30-year-old. The memoir's critical success has already prompted a follow-up book (she is working on it now), this time about her professional life, and one of the big Canadian networks (she's not at liberty to reveal which one) has bought the rights to *On the Outside* to produce a sitcom.

While her parents fought to keep her life entirely free of risk, Gill says her first year at Trinity was the perfect opportunity to break away from her lovingly restricted childhood. Ever since then, she has taken a series of calculated academic and professional risks, starting with the switch to pursue a major in English (which was originally only her minor) after completing a promising year of the College's prestigious International Relations program.

"English is more of an abstract thing to study because it doesn't guarantee a career the way some degrees can," she says.

After graduating, Gill travelled for a while before enrolling in a postgraduate television writing program at Humber College. She had completed that and was working in Toronto as a film and TV publicist when she started writing *On the Outside*, but after six months, she took another leap of faith.

"I felt like I was supporting people and watching them do what I wanted to do," she says. "I thought, I could continue doing this, or take a risk and finish this book and see what happens."

So she packed up and moved to NYC to focus on her writing, and the gamble paid off. The confidence boost she got – sparked in part by the book's success, but mostly by realizing many of her childhood dreams – gave her the courage to pursue the day job she really wanted: a creative role in TV writing.

"Doing that makes you realize: Here's a list of goals I had and I have checked them off," she says. "So whatever is next on the list, why wouldn't I give it a shot?"

This risk led to her present nine-to-five job, or rather, her "nine-to-nine job": writing for CBC's *This Hour Has 22 Minutes* in Halifax. She began working for the satirical TV series late in its 2010-2011 season, and was invited back for the current one.

She says the work is fun, but challenging: "You're crying into a cup of coffee at 2 a.m., hoping you have something to hand in," she says, half kidding.

She prefers to focus entirely on television when she's working on the show, and dedicates herself to her own writing in her spare time. For now, she's concentrating on finishing the follow-up to *On the Outside*, but true to character, she has already made a tentative move into the unknown to try her hand at something new.

"I'm bored with writing about myself," she says. "I think fiction is the next step for me, so I've started, but I think the process is going to take me a lot longer."

For this she plans to mine from her Trinity days. "I still have most of my notes from most of my English classes," she says. "Those four years were the first time I really sat down and looked at how literature works in a concentrated way."

It's a mild December day in New York when we chat, but I can hear the wind blowing in the background. Gill is standing outside in order to get good cell-phone reception. She remarks on the many tourists snapping pictures of the tree in Rockefeller Plaza. Like them, Gill is charmed by the city. She had always considered living there "a childish dream" before she made it a reality while writing *On the Outside*. But she is not set on staying there, or in Halifax – or anywhere for that matter – forever.

"I would live wherever, I would take whatever job offer; I think it's all just a great experience," she says. "I'm honestly open to anything now because I feel that one of the things that worked out for me is that I've surrendered a bit of control as to what may happen, and it turned out pretty well." ▲



the accidental columnist

En route to becoming an economist, Andrew Coyne
landed in a profession where letters rule

BY VANMALA SUBRAMANIAM '09

“Tough? This?” Oh this isn’t tough – in fact it’s often been called the easiest of the professions,” Andrew Coyne ’83 says, chuckling when I ask him about his chosen line of work: journalism. So is the ease why he keeps at it? “Well, it’s really all I have ever done. I realized I was good at it and I just kept doing it.”

One of Canada’s foremost political thinkers, Coyne – a prominent columnist and former national editor at *Maclean’s* magazine – has made his mark on Canada’s media landscape. His political bias is unconventional, to say the least. He is seen by the left as a right-winger, and by the right as perhaps not conservative enough. He has famously shunned the political labels of left and right, calling them “tribes of self-quarantine.”

As a young journalist, I am excited to meet the man, but unsure of what to expect. I suddenly can’t help but visualize his dynamic and, at times, heated on-camera debates with CBC political panellist Chantal Hébert.

In person, Coyne is confident, but coy. He readily admits he had an easier-than-usual route into journalism, getting his big break through a Trinity classmate.

“I was lucky. I knew the son of the editor of the *Financial Post*, which was then a business weekly. I literally started out writing editorials and columns, and that’s been the case ever since.”

I get him to backtrack a few years. From a well-known Canadian family (his father is James Coyne, former governor of the Bank of Canada), Coyne started his academic journey at the University of Manitoba, majoring in economics and history. In his spare time, he wrote regularly for the student newspaper.

“It was an outlet for me,” he says. “I never consciously thought I was going to become a journalist, I just wrote for summer jobs – and later, between undergrad and grad school I worked at a radio station in Toronto as a business editor. But at the time, those were all simply jobs to do.”

In his third year of undergraduate studies, Coyne transferred to Trinity College. He recalls those days with fondness: “I enjoyed my time at Trinity. The thing that stood out for me most was the culture of eccentricity – you know, kids who would have been misfits became stars of the College. My theory is that it had something to do with the crazy traditions; I always valued that.”

After graduating, Coyne travelled across the Atlantic to the London School of Economics to pursue a Master of Economics.

He still calls himself an economics buff, but in retrospect, he notes, the field is not too far removed from journalism.

“Now that I think about it, economics and storytelling are vastly similar. I do think there is a human need and desire to want things to fit into a pattern. And to some extent you can find the narrative or a pattern in any model, whether you’re looking at an economic model or a work of fiction.”

Do we, as journalists, perhaps subconsciously seek out stories that fit a pattern, for the sake of simplicity?

“Possibly more in television than in print,” he says. “There is nothing wrong with trying to find a story in things, trying to find a pattern in things, but you always have to be conscious about whether you’re finding the pattern or inventing it.”

And this is where Coyne’s critical power is evident: in his ability to take a step back, observe the system and its flaws, without getting consumed by it. I’m eager to hear, from someone who has spent decades working in Canadian media, his views on how journalism in this country has evolved.

“There are some great writers in Canada, but we’re cautious,” he says. “Even if you consider some of the worst excesses of British journals, at least there is an aggressiveness, an unwillingness to take no for an answer. We should probably be a more like that, without tipping over into excess, of course.” He hesitates before continuing.

“For example, there are very intelligent people working in the Ottawa press, but at some point, this lack of aggressiveness becomes an occupational hazard and you see a kind of group-think kicking in – in the style of reporting, in the questions asked, in political affiliations.”

In January, Coyne moved from *Maclean’s* to work as a national columnist for Postmedia Network Inc. He is proud to be part of such an esteemed group of people, including fellow columnist Christie Blatchford.

Is he satisfied with the way things have fallen into place?

He says his only disappointment is that he has not stretched himself to capacity. “I don’t necessarily think I have used my talents as fully as I could have – but then again, I will absolutely not complain about what I have achieved so far, because I have been very, very lucky.

“But if you want my standard, one-line answer,” he goes on, “I’m happy, just because I get to tell the truth every day.” ▲

a rare approach to journalism

John Allemang lets stories speak for themselves

BY LIZ ALLEMANG

John Allemang '74 is a journalist, rather than someone for whom journalism is a job. His newsroom experiences date back to the days of newsmen smoking at their desks, filing stories by phone and couriering a cockroach from bureau to bureau in a cassette-tape case on a “Tour of the Bureaus,” making light of the travels of a managing editor.

Allemang is not the guy who produces follow-the-formula stories; he listens to his editors and works with them, but he lets his stories speak for themselves, rather than allowing editorial edict to dictate. Like so many writerly quirks, his intuitive independence likely stems from his upbringing. The eldest of four, he was often left to his own devices, enjoying a childhood spent exploring local drainage ditches, breaking bones and, according to one oft-quoted report card, doing his classmates’ work for them.

He attended University of Toronto Schools – where he excelled and flailed academically, dominated at sports from hockey to gymnastics, took dubious hitchhiking trips across North America in the summers, and cut class to go look at art and hear poetry.

He went on to Trinity, completing a specialty degree in Classics. He was awarded a Rhodes Scholarship (much to his surprise) and left for Oxford, where he studied Classics at Wadham College. While there, he sated a hunger for gastronomic knowledge.

“I spent a lot of free time in Soho studying the markets, stores, bakeries, dim sum restaurants, cafés,” he recalls. He would buy ingredients, like a pig’s head, and figure out what to do with them, turning his flat into a makeshift rendering plant.

And in those batches of DIY head cheese lie journalistic origins: Allemang began filing reports to *The Good Food Guide*, a British publication he describes as “a more literate pre-Zagat amalgam of people’s real dining experiences channelled through an intellectually sophisticated, allusive editorial sensibility.”

Following Oxford, he applied to the Canadian diplomatic services but was notified of a hiring freeze. He briefly considered a career as a hockey player in rural France, but chose to enter U of T’s law school instead, which he soon decided wasn’t for him. Eventually, he came back to writing. He contacted two publications, hoping they would hire him to write about food.

“*Toronto Calendar* was more encouraging and gave me my first opportunities,” he says, failing to mention that he would later marry his editor, who, the consummate professional, said “no” to

his advances, but agreed to go out once *Calendar* had folded.

He called *The Globe and Mail* a few times and was eventually rewarded for his doggedness. “The third time,” he says, “the editor was much more receptive and let me do a series of interviews with food-and-wine people.”

The editor passed his name on to a colleague who was starting a real-estate section. “I did feature writing for her as well – knowing less than nothing about the subject – and that combination was my entrée to the paper.” He applied for a temporary post starting in April 1984, and was hired at the end of the summer.

In the years since, Allemang has covered nearly every subject, writing features, critiques and poetry for *The Globe*, about food, news, television and travel, as well as columns such as a family column, Book a Day and Poetic Justice.

He prefers challenges over boredom, and though he has a strong need to please, it is largely self-directed. As someone for whom parsing and criticizing are instinctive practice, he is even harder on himself than he was on Victoria Beckham’s *That Extra Half an Inch* (“Hair, heels and everything in between”) during his Book a Day days – though, to be fair, he thought Beckham’s fashion bible was frivolous fun, even if it didn’t resonate with his stoic sensibilities.

He bears great intelligence, intuition and such an active awareness that he is probably rarely surprised, but he is open-minded. On those occasions when the unexpected prevails, it tickles, or, at the very least, fascinates him.

Allemang’s approach to journalism is, in my experience growing up with and living vicariously through him, lamentably rare.

He has no fear, or, if he does, thinks it wiser not to acknowledge it. He tells the truth, but has an ability to analyze and understand and thoughtfully consider the implications of the status quo. His honesty which can be blunt, is usually received with either admonishment or respect.

But it’s his approach to life that I find most striking. He is curious, critical and challenging in a climate where apathy often reigns. He has a sense of good rivalled only by his sense of humour. He compliantly rewrote the endings to my childhood bedtime stories (*The Berenstain Bears* books were a specialty), making them funnier, and typically setting up an unfortunate calamity for Papa Bear. And perhaps most importantly, he has vitality, resilience and a will that make me hopeful he will outlast us all. ▲

PHOTOGRAPHY: LIZ ALLEMANG





building great books

The architectural, editorial talents of Rosemary Shipton

BY CYNTHIA MACDONALD

Rosemary Shipton doesn't like clichés. So we won't say that she has worked as an editor on more books than you can shake a stick at – even if it is true.

Over the course of a career spanning more than 40 years, she has burnished, shaped and perfected countless documents: everything from lengthy judicial inquiries to lavish art books. She also co-founded Ryerson University's publishing program in 1990, and in 2007 was awarded an honorary doctorate from Trinity College for her contributions to Canadian publishing.

The acknowledgments sections of recent acclaimed books such as *Champlain's Dream* or *Kaszner's Train* reveal the admiration authors have for her. Pulitzer Prize winner David Hackett Fischer praises her skill and attention, and Anna Porter her imagination. Citing her contributions to his *Citizen of the World*, Pierre Trudeau biographer John English is equally fulsome: "Like all the prose she so expertly and graciously touches, mine has become clearer and better."

And still, many remain in the dark about what it is that Shipton – or any book editor – actually does. A non-fiction specialist, Shipton admits the relationship between authors and editors is a mysterious one, and never the same from one book to the next.

"If a manuscript needs no work at all, I'll leave it alone," she says. How often does that happen? She winces. "Very rarely."

Shipton has engaged in and taught all forms of editing. She compares substantive editing to architecture, in that sometimes the "walls" of a book need to be knocked down and completely restructured. Stylistic editing is more like interior design. The walls may be sturdy, but the furniture, or prose style, needs upholstering. Taking her analogy a step further, one might say copy editors are like house cleaners: they check facts, proofread for typos and enforce rules of grammar and punctuation.

Like most editors, Shipton loves the English language. But she chose her career largely because of an insatiable thirst for information. "I really enjoy learning about things to a certain depth," she says. "I find my life is much more interesting when I know something about a topic."

The phrase "a certain depth" is significant. Shipton had initially intended to be an academic, enrolling in a doctoral program in history at the University of Toronto. It was there, in 1967, that she met her husband, Patrick, who romantically trod

their twinned initials into the snow outside St. Hilda's residence at Trinity College, where she was then living as a don.

But while Shipton's time at U of T resulted in great personal success – she and Patrick were married in the Trinity chapel – it also led to a fork in her professional road. "I realized that I didn't enjoy very intensive research on one subject year after year."

Her first permanent position, editing at the University of Toronto Press, satisfied her craving to absorb vast amounts of information, and so did her next – working as a senior editor on the *Canadian Encyclopedia* in the mid-1980s.

"I really love culture and I got the most magnificent education by having that job," Shipton says.

She handled the entries on visual and performing arts and the history of native peoples, among other things. The knowledge gleaned has served her well ever since, particularly in the many freelance editing assignments she has taken on during her long career, starting right after the U of T Press job.

One of Shipton's most significant achievements is co-founding Ryerson's distinguished publishing program. In setting it up some 20 years ago, she interviewed a plethora of Canadian publishers.

"We found they didn't want to hire people with a theoretical degree; they wanted the students to come in ready to be useful from day one, with an emphasis on concrete publishing skills."

In a world where non-edited content is definitely on the rise, in the form of blogs and Internet commentary, Shipton is eager to assert the importance of what she does for a living.

"Behind very successful authors, there is often an editor," she says. "If we let manuscripts be posted on the web without receiving any editorial review or work, we are inevitably going to have a lot more poor or mediocre manuscripts!"

That said, she believes the Internet itself is no enemy. "I think human beings have always hungered to learn about worlds beyond their own little experience. We started with the oral tradition, and our print tradition has stood us very well for some 600 years now. Digital transmission is just the next phase: the technology has changed, but the ideas behind it will carry on in this new way."

Perhaps, but one can only hope the many residents scribbling away in this new cyber-house set a guest room aside for architectural talents such as Rosemary Shipton. She is proof that great books are rarely, if ever, built in solitude. ▲

all in the *family*

Susan Shipton '97 started at Trinity College fully prepared: she brought with her a graduation gown and ring. Both items belonged to her mother, Rosemary – someone who inspired not only her choice of alma mater, but her initial profession, too.

After graduating with a degree in English and history, Shipton really wanted to spend some time travelling, so she went to work for a year for a company that ran outdoor holidays in France. On the day she returned to Canada, a job posting for a position at McClelland and Stewart caught her eye.

Having grown up with a mother who was a professional editor, the publishing world was extremely familiar to her. Shipton recalls using her mother's page proofs as scrap paper to draw on while waiting for her to finish a meeting at University of Toronto Press. "And sometimes I would take a pencil crayon and pretend to be an editor, sitting at a little child-sized desk," she says, laughing.

But the McClelland and Stewart position dealt with the foreign-rights side of publishing. "It was an area of publishing that I knew nothing about. It involved a lot of different elements: marketing and selling; liaising with the editorial department; as well as contracts."

Shipton got the job and ended up spending 12 years in the field. After McClelland and Stewart, she worked for a while in England and then for Annick Press, a Canadian house best known as publisher of renowned children's author Robert Munsch. During this time she also taught in the publishing programs at Ryerson and

Simon Fraser universities and Humber College.

A year ago, however, Shipton decided to reinvent herself professionally. She is currently completing a two-year program in massage therapy, and plans to study osteopathy eventually.

"I've always been really drawn toward health care," she says. "I loved publishing, but it was time for a change. And it seemed like a good time to leave, because there were all these questions about where publishing was going."

Shipton says the digital revolution hit the book world about a year and a half ago, with the introduction of electronic readers such as the Kindle. While she admits that these readers are great for book lovers, in that they store a great deal of material and provide accessible links to enhance the reading experience, for publishers, things aren't so rosy.

"I don't think anybody has found an adequate business model. People want to buy books for a lot less, but it doesn't cost much less to produce digital books than physical ones. Printing and shipping are only one part of the cost; there's editorial, office overhead, accounting and marketing. So financially, it's a bit of a struggle."

Though she has left the profession that united them, Shipton still enjoys engaging her mother in publishing gossip.

"It's a small industry," she says. "I sometimes feel a bit bad for my dad and brother when my mom and I start talking about all these people they don't know!" ▲



PHOTOGRAPHY: DANIEL EHRENSWORTH



news junkie to journalist

Nathan Crooks turned his passion into his profession

BY DANA LACEY

Nathan Crooks '06 has always been a news junkie, but it took him a few years before he realized he wanted to be a journalist.

On the U.S. national debate circuit in high school, his first love was politics. While studying political science in his last two years at Trinity College, Crooks dabbled in reporting, writing stories for *The Varsity*, U of T's student newspaper. He also built a close-knit network of friends who continue to inspire him today.

"I've never been surrounded by so many interesting people, all doing unique and ambitious things. It pushed me to broaden what I thought was possible." More importantly, he says, it taught him that "you really have to step up your game if you are going to get ahead."

Approaching the end of his undergraduate studies, Crooks was determined to get a job in journalism. Then, just two days after graduation, he scored a position as editor-in-chief of *The Santiago Times*, Chile's premier online English-language newspaper. He had been enamoured with South America ever since visiting the continent as a high-school exchange student, and was eager to return and spend more time there.

While many industry newbies are initially stuck with grunt work, Crooks was immediately responsible for overseeing a small staff. He honed his editorial skills during coverage of such

momentous events as the death of Chile's former dictator and president, Augusto Pinochet.

After a year at the *Times*, Crooks stayed in Chile but moved on to work as a journalist at *Business News Americas*, where he got the chance to report on the infamous 8.8-magnitude Chilean earthquake and the daring rescue of 33 trapped miners that followed it in October 2010.

"There are no words to describe what it's like being right at the centre of an event that a billion people are watching live on TV," he says. "It's quite a thrill, but also an incredible responsibility to get the story out fast – and accurate."

Near the end of that same year, Crooks moved to Venezuela to work for his current employer, *Bloomberg News*, the news division of Bloomberg L. P., covering the energy and commodities beat.

"I think it's really hard to understand the country unless you've spent a considerable amount of time here. You can come for two weeks and – depending on who you talk to – see two totally different Venezuelas." Contributing to the country's complexity, he says, is its polarizing leader, Hugo Chavez.

On that note, Crooks is looking forward to covering Venezuela's upcoming federal election: "Politics affect every aspect of life here, so there is always a story to be written." ▲

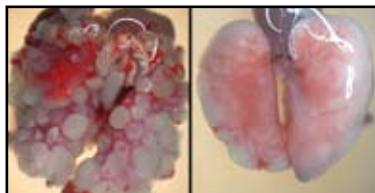
Everyday Miracles

As a cancer surgeon (surgical oncologist), I have the great privilege of offering hope to many of my patients. I offer the opportunity for a cure, sometimes from very big and complicated cancers, and sometimes when a cure was not even thought possible. This is one of the best parts of my job.

Then there are patients I see from time to time for whom surgery is not an option, and the chance of a cure ranges from extremely unlikely to impossible. During my training as a surgery fellow at the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York, I met one such person. He was an affluent man in his mid-50s, who had a cancer of the bile ducts. The MRI made it pretty clear that surgery was not an option – a cure was not possible. We recommended chemotherapy or a clinical trial. As I gathered up my papers, and he his coat, he turned to me and asked, “Do you believe in miracles?”

I have thought frequently about that patient and his question. A friend of mine, after years of failing to conceive and going through rounds of fertility treatments, finally decided just to adopt and was put on a wait list. Despite being told she could never get pregnant, shortly thereafter, she did. Two years later she calls her son her “miracle child,” but her husband calls him their “highly statistically improbable child.” After all, while a miracle often denotes an event attributed to divine intervention, it may be better described as any event that is statistically unlikely but beneficial. That, I think, is what my patient was looking for – some hope, a chance – even if statistically improbable.

For the other half of my job, I am a translational researcher, working with a team of doctors and scientists to get experimental treatments out of the lab and into the clinic. I am specifically interested in a form of treatment known as oncolytic viruses (OV), which selectively



Mouse lungs with metastatic colon cancer (left) are tumour free (right) after three doses of OV.

replicate within and proceed to kill cancer cells, leaving normal cells untouched.

The concept that certain viruses can target cancers is not new. It follows a long list of “miraculous cures,” such as a famous case involving a Hungarian chicken farmer who was spontaneously cured of terminal gastric cancer after contracting the Newcastle Disease Virus that devastated his flock.

But now we understand more about the science behind OV successes. One of the hallmarks of cancer cells is their propensity for unrestricted growth and their ability to resist cell death. When normal cells are infected with a virus, they respond by turning on an innate antiviral program, which includes suppressing their own growth, and in some cases, undergoing cell death in order to prevent the spread of the virus. Normal cells also send signals to adjacent uninfected cells to turn on their antiviral program to prevent infection.

Cancer cells are not able to fight off an invading virus, nor are they able to respond to warning signals from neighbouring normal cells and protect themselves. A virus is therefore able to replicate and propagate through the tumour, leaving the normal tissue uninfected. OV are genetically engineered or selected because of properties that make them much more virulent in cancer cells compared with normal cells.

There are a number of other hallmarks of cancers, including their ability to promote the growth of abnormal blood vessels (angiogenesis) and to evade destruction by the immune system. Research has demonstrated that OV do more than just infect and kill cancer cells; like a cancer vaccine, they can also hone in on abnormal tumour vasculature and turn the patient’s immune system against the tumour.

Working with a group under the supervision of Dr. John Bell during my graduate studies at the University of Ottawa, we were able, through intravenous delivery, to successfully cause OV infection in the cancer cells of mice without causing an infection of adjacent normal tissue. The virus also infected the abnormal blood vessels that fed the tumours and effectively choked off their blood supply.

Multiple doses of the virus cured all of the mice, even when their lungs were riddled with metastatic colon cancer. Even more remarkably, the cured mice were unable to grow that specific cancer again – they were effectively immune to it.

Considerable progress has been made since then, and we now understand a great deal more about these viruses. In clinical



Dr. Rebecca Auer (left) at the Centre for Innovative Cancer Research at the Ottawa Hospital, where she is principal investigator for a clinical trial using OV to treat cancer.

trials, we have treated more than 100 people with our frontrunner, the oncolytic vaccinia virus JX-594 (JennerexBiotherapeutics). The results have been enticing. As in the studies on mice, we have seen tumour-specific virus infection following IV delivery and, in some cases, complete eradication of the tumours. Using MRI scans that evaluate blood flow, we have also seen evidence that the virus is choking off the blood supply to the tumours, and biopsies have demonstrated infiltration of activated immune cells into the tumour following virus infection.

But we still have so much to learn. In some patients, a cure seems impossible, but

somehow it just happens – or as one of my patients put it: “I was supposed to be dead two years ago, but I feel great. It’s a miracle.”

I’m not in the business of making miracles. My job is to run clinical trials, to find out which patients and tumours are most likely to benefit, and to make OV just another treatment option in our armamentarium of cancer therapies such as chemotherapy, radiation and surgery. My goal is to take cancer cures from OV from statistically highly improbable to expected, and at the same time to understand why they work. In effect, my job is to make these miracles ordinary.

So what did I say to that patient with unresectable cancer during my training? “Of course I believe in miracles, I see them every day.” ▲

Dr. Rebecca Auer ’96 is the principal investigator of a clinical trial of JX-594 prior to surgery in patients with metastatic colon cancer, funded by the Ontario Institute of Cancer Research. JennerexBiotherapeutics is also running clinical trials in non-surgical patients with metastatic colon cancer, hepatocellular carcinoma and pediatric solid tumours. More information is available at www.jennerex.com/patient-resources.html.



reunions

who did you say you used to be?

Characters appearing in this work are fictional. Any resemblance to real persons, living or dead, is purely coincidental.

Show me a woman who's looking forward to an upcoming reunion, and I'll show you a husband who's willing to lie to avoid the expense of plastic surgery.

"Honey, trust me. You look fabulous! Exactly like your high-school graduation

"HARD TO TELL," I whispered, as I slid back beside him, "but I think I'VE NARROWED IT DOWN. It's either BILL WORTHWHILE OR SUSIE NEWBIE"

picture! Just keep sucking in like that and you'll stun them. Truly."

Men don't have the same anxieties. What man looks sideways into the mirror and announces, "I'm not going to this thing until I've had liposuction"? Or whines to his wife, "My hair! I don't care what it costs, I'm getting implants!"

No, he's more likely thinking, "Which will I casually mention first, my vintage Porsche or my penthouse in the Seychelles?"

For men it's all about success: they need to establish what they've *become*.

Women usually try to make sure that what they've become isn't too evident – and doesn't come oozing out of their Spanx.

Diana, a former classmate, was all about evidence when she came to a recent reunion flaunting her own distracting variety of catnip.

"Wow!" exclaimed my husband, John – with far too much zeal, I thought – as she entered the room, her 32F cups leading the way by four seconds.

The plain, scrawny girl I once knew had been silicone-transformed, and was now

strutting behind a pair of pluperfect orbs, the Tweedledum and Tweedledee of the breast-upgrade industry.

Bob Hope's signature tune, *Thanks for the Mammaries*, instantly sprang to mind.

But I was in no humming mood. "I bet those things were part of her divorce settlement," I hissed. "Procured, paid for and practically installed by a lawyer!"

As I whipped around to deliver a little

speech on the shallowness of cosmetic surgery, I could see that John was having problems of his own.

"Who on earth is that waving madly at me over there?" he asked, mystified.

I, meanwhile, was wondering delusionally who all these much older people were, and when their minders were coming to take them back to their rooms.

Seeing the stricken look on John's face as the stranger quickly approached, I rushed over to the memory-lane photographs the organizers had considerably hung on the wall, to search for some identifying clue.

"Hard to tell," I whispered, as I slid back beside him, "but I think I've narrowed it down. It's either Bill Worthwhile or Susie Newbie."

I was always easily recognizable until recent annoying advances in eye surgery. Now friends have stopped exclaiming, "Gosh, you haven't changed a bit!" and started blurting out, "Alena? Wow, I'm not sure I would have known it was you!" They were much more discerning when they had cataracts.

Lucky John has hardly aged at all. I take credit for that. Shortly after we married, I told him that if he ever got fat, lost his hair, or grew tufts in his ears, I'd have to leave. And I'm pleased to say he has worked hard to avoid all those shortcomings.

"How do you stay so slim?" his friends say, accusingly. And I usually step in, preening myself, and declare, "I starve him."

But a husband's appearance is important only until the 10th anniversary reunion, when handsomeness and successfulness and the exceptional giftedness of children are the sweepstake winners.

"Yes, that's my Cedric on the right. He's actually even more handsome from the neck down. And better looking since he became a partner at his law firm. Luckily Tommy takes after him, ha, ha..."

By the 20th, a few dark, ugly truths begin to emerge about husbands that turned out to be either philanderers or failures or both, and adolescent children that turned out to be *troubled*.

"Yes, that was Cedric's ugly puss you saw in the paper all right. He and his girlfriend are being had up on fraud charges. I worry that Tommy's a chip off the old block, ha, ha..."

And by the 30th, there's no mention of spouses or offspring, only of cosmetic surgery. Or new partners.

"Cedric? How should I know? Tommy? He's off finding himself. Right now I frankly wish he'd stay lost."

"And by the way, did I tell you that Diana and I are getting married?"

And there, as if on cue, is buxom Diana, her perky pair of 32Fs heading out the door ahead of her. ▲

Alena (Lustig) Schram '68 is the author of her own humour blog, which you can read at www.opinionatedoldcow.blogspot.com.

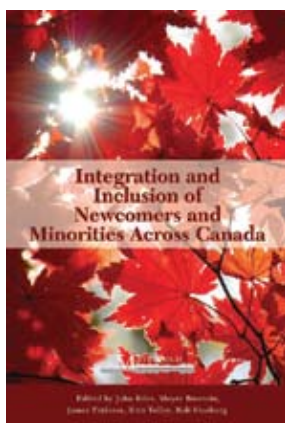
classnotes

NEWS FROM CLASSMATES NEAR AND FAR

book it!

If you have published a book within the past six months, or have one coming out in the near future, please e-mail the editor a high-resolution jpg of the cover, along with a 50-word-or-less description of the book and its publication date. Books published earlier than six months ago will not be included.

magazine@trinity.utoronto.ca



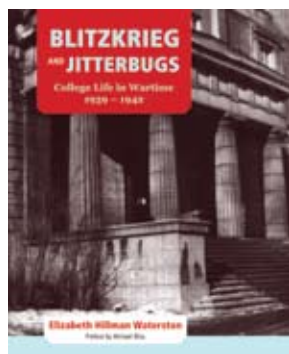
ROBERT VINEBERG '72

recently co-edited *Integration and Inclusion of Newcomers and Minorities Across Canada*. This book examines the activities of provincial and municipal governments, and other important local participants in immigration and integration. There are case studies of each province and the territories, as well as chapters on the history of federal-provincial co-operation in immigration, and the development of provincial multiculturalism policies and programs.

ELIZABETH WATERSTON '44

recently published *Blitzkrieg and Jitterbugs: College Life in Wartime, 1939-1942*.

The book begins at McGill and explains why Waterston transferred to Trinity as the Second World War went on. Full of lively Trinity characters, such as Mrs. Kirkwood, this is a general-interest story about college life, with an emphasis not only on the “jitterbugging,” but also on classes, seminars, student publications and more.



news

1940s

DONALD A. S. FRASER '46,

a professor emeritus in statistics at the University of Toronto, was named an Officer of the Order of Canada on Dec. 30, 2011. He was recognized for his contributions to the advancement of statistical sciences in Canada.

1960s

REG WICKETT '66 has retired from the University of

Saskatchewan – where he remains a professor emeritus – after a 40-year career in academia. He is also an adjunct professor at the College of Emmanuel and St. Chad in Saskatoon, and currently leads a series of seminars on theological education at the University of Cambridge, England.

CATHERINE “KIP” VEALE '67

retired as a seniors' social worker/gerontologist two years ago to spend time with her grandchildren. She was awarded the Premier's Award of Excellence for her legislative work on adult protection in the Yukon, where she lives with her husband, Justice Ron Veale.

1970s

DAVID EVANS '71 has been appointed to the newly created position of senior vice-president, Content & Experience, of the Direct Marketing Association, the world's largest marketing trade association.

ROBERT VINEBERG '72

retired from his position as director general, Prairies and Northern Territories Region, Citizenship and Immigration Canada, in 2008, after a 35-year career in the public service. He has since worked as a policy consultant and, among other published work, has recently released a book, *Responding to Immigrants' Settlement Needs: The Canadian Experience*.

DEBORAH (NELSON) KRAFT '75 has been appointed Arch-

deacon, deanery of Thunder Bay, by the Rt. Rev. Dr. Stephen Andrews, Bishop of Algoma.

1980s

ARON SOLOMON '87 is the vision holder and co-founder of SVbstance, a program that teaches its participants the attributes, values, and techniques of the world's most successful business culture, Silicon Valley.

1990s

BRENDAN CALDWELL '91

recently took over as the new Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel of the Queen's Own Rifles of Canada, the country's oldest rifle regiment.

JENNIFER EAST '94

is the founder of ONIDA Family Advisors Inc., a firm based in Toronto that helps family businesses and leading financial families with company-related challenges such as finding or establishing common goals between various family stakeholders and managing the business as it transitions from one generation to another.

2000s

BENNY CHAN '09 recently completed a year as a legal advocate on behalf of Latino immigrants in New York City. He is now pursuing an MA in religion at Yale University, where he is studying the various ways religion, ethics and development studies intersect.

marriages

JENNIFER EAST '94 AND

DOUG PROTHERO: July 11, 2011, in Georgian Bay, Ont. In attendance were Sarah Laugh-ton '94 and Lisa Rambert '94.

JEREMY TREVELYAN BURMAN '04 AND LAURA CATHERINE

BALL: June 25, 2011, in Lon-don, Ont. In attendance were best man Adam Wakefield '07, Alexandra Rutherford '93, Emily (Garrett) Kelly '03, Andrew MacDougall '03, Jon McKay '03, Michael Clark '04 and Chris Kelly '04. Jeremy is the grandson of L. M. Trevelyan '31.

DYLAN REID '89 AND MOLLY

MCCARRON: Oct. 29, 2011, in Toronto. In attendance were the groom's father, Tim Reid '59, and uncle, Patrick Reid '53. Their cousin Justice Barry Matheson '61 officiated. Also present were Kenneth Oppel '89 and Philippa Sheppard '89, Ursula Holland '93, Paul Golding '91 and Kelly Baxter-Golding '92, Ian Bell '92, Robyn Kalda '92 and David Lasby '91, and Patrick Cain '91.

births

BENITO '88 AND ADRIANA

ROSSITI: a daughter, Lorena, Sept. 16, 2011, in São Paulo, Brazil.

DAVID CRERAR '91 AND

JULIE LAWN: a son, Angus Robert Anthony, Dec. 14, 2011, in Vancouver.

LITZA SMIRNAKIS '99 AND

NICK ROUSTAS: a daughter,

Lexi Julietta, May 22, 2010, in Toronto.

RAVI VAKIL '92 AND ALICE

STAVELEY '92: a son, Jacob, Sept. 9, 2011, in Mountain View, Calif., a brother for Benjamin.

deaths

BALDWIN: DAVID '54, Oct. 22, 2011, in Toronto, husband of Diane Baldwin.

BUCHANAN: JEAN '52, Oct. 5, 2011, in London, Ont., wife of Ian Buchanan.

BYERS: STEPHEN, Nov. 28, 2011, in Toronto, stepfather of Jonathan Lofft '05.

CRAIG: WILLIAM '79 (MDIV '83, DTH '06),

Dec. 22, 2011, in Toronto. Bill was a member and public orator of the Trinity Senior Common Room, and a teacher in the Faculty of Divinity.

FARHA: DARYA '87, Nov. 16, 2011, in Toronto, sister of Soraya '85, Juliana '88 and Leilani Farha.

JOBLIN: FRED, Sept. 2, 2011, in Toronto, husband of Katherine (Stephen) Joblin '69.

KINGTON: JANET "JACY"

(DANKS) '53, Oct. 8, 2011, in Niagara Falls, Ont., wife of Barry Kington '51.

MORRIS: VALINDA MARGARET '52, Nov. 7, 2011, in Winnipeg.

PEREZ VELA: JANET

(PEACE) '55, Nov. 9, 2011, in Hamilton, Ont.

SCOTT: HELEN

(WORTHINGTON) '41, Oct. 21, 2011, in Peterborough, Ont.

STEPHEN: JOHN STUART

'39, Nov. 23, 2011, in Toronto, father of Katherine Joblin '69 and John Stephen '74.

THOMAS: SUSANNE (SU), Oct. 8, 2011, just outside of Toronto, wife of J. W. Nevil Thomas '61.

TRENT: DIANA (ELLIS) '56, Oct. 16, 2011, in Toronto, wife of David Trent '56, and mother of Michael Trent '85 and Jennifer Trent '83.

TRIN PROFS FEATURED IN "BEST CANADIAN ESSAYS"



The essays of two esteemed Trinity College professors – Mark Kingwell and John Duncan – are among the provocative works featured in *The Best Canadian Essays 2011*.

The anthology comprises some of Canada's best non-fiction magazine writing of 2010 – with topics ranging from post-partum depression to the plight of zoo elephants to the pros (not cons) of smoking.

In his timely essay "Wage Slavery, Bullshit and the Good Infinite," Kingwell goes beyond the mainstream discussion of the economics of unemployment to explore the spiritual danger of living without work.

"It was amazing to me that there had been very little philosophical response to the economic conditions created by the 2008 market debacle," he says. "There was plenty of punditry and evasion of responsibility, but not much searching critique – at least in English."

Duncan's essay, "Death from Above: Canadian Military Quietly Preps for Longer Afghan Mission," questions the legitimacy of Canada's involvement in Afghanistan.

"I became interested in NATO air strikes that hit two weddings in Afghanistan, did some research, and found a pattern of denial, under-reporting and finger-pointing that buried deep problems connected both to insurgent roadside bombs and Canadian casualties," says Duncan.

The Best Canadian Essays 2011 is the third in a series that launched to wide critical acclaim in 2009.

eventcalendar

THINGS TO SEE, HEAR AND DO IN THE COMING MONTHS

All events are free unless a fee is specified, but please phone us at 416-978-2651, or e-mail alumni@trinity.utoronto.ca to confirm the time and location, or to reserve a space.

lectures

Tuesday and Wednesday, March 13 and 14: Larkin-Stuart Lectures

Adam Gopnik, staff writer at *The New Yorker* and best-selling author of *Angels and Ages: A Short Book about Darwin, Lincoln, and Modern Life*, will present a two-part lecture series, *Christian Writers and Liberal Readers*. Gopnik will discuss how non-believing critics attempt to parse and appreciate the work of poets, mostly English – Samuel Johnson, Lewis Carroll, G. K. Chesterton, C. S. Lewis, and W. H. Auden in particular – for whom Christian belief is essential. Sponsored by Trinity College and St. Thomas's Anglican Church. George Ignatieff Theatre, 8 p.m. Space is limited. To reserve: 416-978-2651; alumni@trinity.utoronto.ca.

Wednesdays, March 28 and April 11: Alumni Lecture Series

This year's theme is the Trinity One Program. Prof. JoAnna Dutka, a College associate and Trinity One instructor, will deliver the March 28 lecture,

Ethics and the Creative Imagination. Prof. Simone Davis, a research associate and Trinity One instructor, will deliver the April 11 lecture, *In the Eye of the Other: Ethics and the Public Sphere*. St. Hilda's College, 7:30 p.m. To reserve: 416-978-2651; alumni@trinity.utoronto.ca.

Tuesday, April 3: Conversations with the Chancellor

Chancellor Bill Graham will talk to Congressman Barney Frank in *A Conversation with a Congressional Icon*. A former chairman of the House Financial Services Committee and a 16-term con-

gressman, Frank has been an outspoken advocate on a wide range of liberal issues and was a co-sponsor of the Dodd-Frank Act, which brought sweeping financial reform to Wall Street. George Ignatieff Theatre, 7:30 p.m. \$25/\$10 students. For tickets: 416-978-2707; julia.paris@utoronto.ca.

Wednesday, April 4: 11th Frederic Alden Warren Lecture

Leslie McGrath, head of the Osborne Collection of Early Children's Books at Toronto's Lillian H. Smith Library, on *Blithe Spirits: The Early Years*

of Children's Library Services in Toronto. George Ignatieff Theatre, 8 p.m. To reserve: 416-978-2653.

college

Thursday, April 26: Spring Meeting of Corporation

George Ignatieff Theatre, noon. For information, contact Helen Yarish: 416-946-7611; yarish@trinity.utoronto.ca.

divinity

Tuesday, May 8: Divinity Associates Conference

A day-long event with lectures, discussions, food and worship. Seeley Hall. Look for additional details on the online College events calendar.

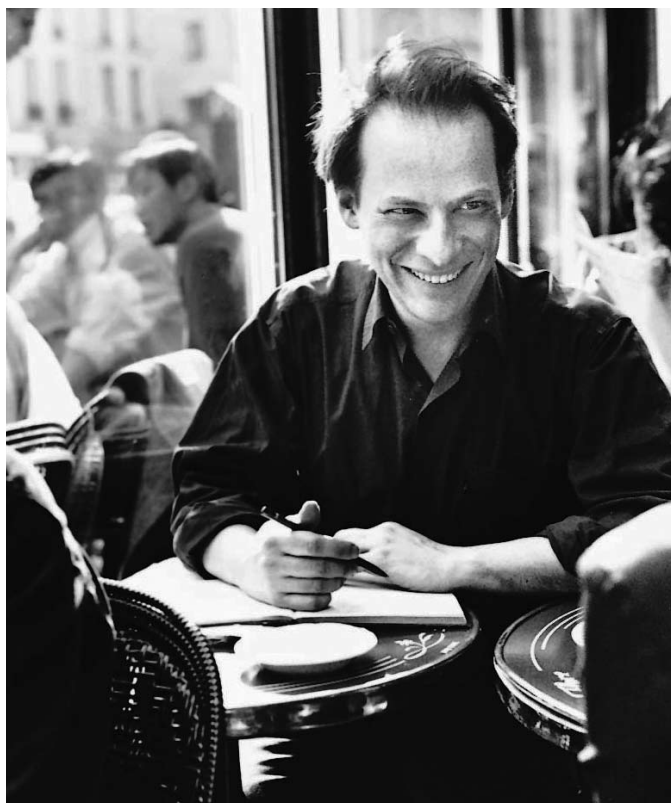
Tuesday, May 8: Divinity Convocation

Trinity College Chapel, 8 p.m. Reception to follow in the Buttery.

reunion

Spring Reunion Friday to Sunday, June 1 to 3, 2012 Calling all Grads!

Reunion years end in a 2 or 7, but all alumni are welcome. For information, contact Julia Paris: 416-978-2707; julia.paris@utoronto.ca.



PHOTOGRAPHY: THE LATE RICHARD AWEDON

Adam Gopnik, staff writer at *The New Yorker* and best-selling author.



PHOTOGRAPHY: AS ONE PHOTOGRAPHY



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Close to 50 per cent of the students who attend Trinity College are recipients of a bursary or scholarship.

Of the nearly \$1 million in financial aid the College distributes each year, most comes from funds set up through bequests made in a will. Not only do scholarships and bursaries enrich a student's experience, but they also inspire those recipients to become the next generation of donors.

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