



AUTUMN | 09

New Releases Supplement

See also: Autumn 2009 Catalogue

ANIMATION

The Art of Drowning

2:00 • 2009 • • \$140

Diego MacLean

Talented animation from Diego Maclean meets the poetic talent of American poet Billy Collins to ponder the possibilities of those last few moments of life. The film is a visual interpretation of the poem by Billy Collins.

Diego MacLean is a graduate of Emily Carr University of Art & Design. Billy Collins is a distinguished professor at Lehman College and the City University of New York and was named U.S. Poet Laureate from 2001 to 2003. His poem, *The Art of Drowning*, appears in a book of poetry with the same title, published in 2009 by the University of Pittsburgh Press.

A Case of Rape

3:30 • 2009 • \$120

Jonathan Amitay

Jonathan Amitay uses coloured sand in stop-motion animation to tell a story of sexual assault. The story is based on experience, as relayed to him by a friend.

Dancing with Northern Lights

2:30 • 2009 • \$120

Jonathan Amitay

Traditional dances of Canada's First Nations people and the wondrous spectacle of northern lights are the inspiration for this coloured sand stop-motion animation by one of Canada's most gifted animators.

Dinner Parade

2:30 • 2009 • \$120

Gillian Cole

Dinner Parade is an animated narrative that takes the viewer through fluid metaphors portraying consumption, both as the theme and protagonist. Although consumption is an abstract concept, the characters embody this concept by devouring or consuming through different scenarios, spanning from Darwinism and survival of the fittest to inter-relationships and corporate hierarchies.

Nature on its Course

2:30 • 2009 • \$120

Su-An Ng

Nature on its Course is a short mixed-media animation about a careless hunter who takes more than he needs. It's a reminder to viewers to respect their environment and not to underestimate the forces of nature.

Sheol

10:30 • 2004 • \$160

"Sheol" is the Hebrew word for the place under the earth where departed spirits are believed to go. Inspired by the debate between different religious beliefs on afterlife, Vancouver animator Rubén Möller combines computer graphics with elaborate time-lapse motion control movement in this unique film experience. Characters exist within a textured world of filmic space illuminated by a constantly shifting light to create a beautifully surrealistic animation.

ARTS

Cinema Studies • Dance • Music •
Theatre • Visual Arts

6 Possibilities

15:00 • 2002 • \$150

Daniel Conrad
Rhodopsin Productions

Dance, choreographed for the camera, speculates on the origins of life. It grows more complex as it courses to its climax, imagining the extinction of the human species in a grand "memento mori" to lines from Goethe's *Der Fischer*. Double exposure in the filming process layers imagery of dancers, architecture by Gaudi, and the wilderness of Haida Gwaii on Canada's Northwest coast.

Apart

7:30 • 2009 • \$150

Richard Martin

Avant-garde filmmaker Richard Martin creates an atmospheric meditation in *Apart*. He marries fluid visuals and views of the world through tracks of raindrops on glass with a powerful yet subtle sound design to create a cinematic poem on rain.

E.J. Hughes Restoration: Triumph Over Hard Times

58:00 • 2009 • 📺 • \$250

Jeff Patton
Cinnabar Vista Alef Productions

While tearing down the grand old Malaspina Hotel in Nanaimo, British Columbia, workers discovered a spectacular wall mural hidden behind a false wall. Like buried treasure, they had uncovered a lost

masterpiece, featuring work by one of Canada's greatest landscape artists, E.J. Hughes—a 1938 wall mural entitled "Lieutenant Malaspina Sketching the Gabriola Galleries." Hughes, along with west coast artists Paul Goranson and Orville Fisher, was hired in the 1930s to paint murals depicting the maritime explorations around Vancouver Island. Now valued at \$3 million, the mural contains all the elements of E.J. Hughes's mature artistic style.

Conservator Cheryle A. Harrison reveals some of the work that took place over the 13-year period required for the restoration of this mural. Ian Thom (Senior Curator, Vancouver Art Gallery), Charles C. Hill, (Curator of Canadian Art, National Gallery of Canada), and Dr. Laura Brandon, (Historian for the Canadian War Museum) comment on the mural, its place in Hughes's body of work, and his place as one of Canada's greatest painters. Anecdotes about Hughes's life and struggles as an artist from two nieces and his confidante, Pat Salmon, round out the portrait of this shy genius of Canadian landscape art.

Painted on the Spot: On the Road with Ernie Luthi...

14:00 • 2009 • \$150

Fiji Robinson
Rudecat Pictures

Between his drawings and paintings, it's estimated that Dr. Ernest Luthi created some 10,000 artistic works, many of which he painted "on the spot" in rural Saskatchewan. Ernie claimed it was his love of nature and the changing times that fuelled his passion for painting the Saskatchewan landscape.

Seducing the Guard

54:00 • 1999 • \$200

Daniel Conrad
Rhodopsin Productions

Every human culture makes art. Something so universal must have a purpose—what biologists call survival value. Yet our culture has marginalized art as a luxury and commercialized it as entertainment. Are we losing something vital for our survival? Interviewing some of the leading thinkers of our time, and filming artwork on location in the world's great museums, *Seducing the Guard* examines the purpose of art, finding deep connections between art and science.

"...brilliant juxtaposition of artists, scientists, philosophers, with works of art and thoughts."

— Oliver Sacks, M.D., Author,
The Man Who Mistook His Wife for a Hat

Travelling Medicine Show

28:00 • 2009 • \$150 (includes discussion guide)

Amnon Buchbinder

Fishing Trip Productions

Travelling Medicine Show is a half-hour film based on the Creation story. Its poetic, ambiguous narrative is expressed wordlessly through vivid imagery. Set entirely on an isolated beach, it weaves together two enigmatic lines of action that converge: in one, an adolescent boy rows across the water to the beach to conduct a private ritual. In the second, a performance by Dr. Theo's Travelling Medicine Show, on the same beach, depicts the creation of the world, showcasing Dr. Theo's medicine.

The film uses theatrical techniques developed by Shadowland Theatre, including large scale props, masks and hand-made puppets in outdoor settings. *Travelling Medicine Show* provides a starting point to explore, in a deeply imaginative and experiential framework, themes of creation, environment, rites of passage, imagination and storytelling. The DVD includes a discussion guide and has a menu with additional materials including an interview with the director that can be used to provide further avenues of study and creative exploration.

Yabai

11:00 • 2009 • \$150

Matthew Johnson

From jazzy scratch turntablism and ear-deafening electro breakdowns to contemporary fashion and articulate androids, *Yabai* features four of the most influential Asian North American artists in the scene today. They include Canadian marsupial turntablist Kid Koala (aka Eric San), born and raised in Vancouver and now based in Montreal as well as Vancouver fashion designer Natalie Purschwitz (Hunt & Gather). They join California artists Eric Nakamura, publisher of *Giant Robot* magazine, and Dim Mak DJ Steve Aoki to share their stories of becoming definitive figures in Asian North American art and culture.

Damian and Ende

10:00 • 2009 • \$120

Benjamin Schuetze

A young man visits his childhood friend in the forest where he lives. The two negotiate the changing seasons and the memory of the tragic event that brought them there in this film about friends growing apart.

Firebear Called Them Faith Healers

17:00 • 2009 • \$180

Kelvin Redvers

What is a story? What power is in our experiences? *Firebear Called Them Faith Healers* presents vignettes of oral storytelling, from the life experience of Métis author Richard Van Camp. Seven people, of different ages and race, stand over a white background to tell a story in three vignettes: *The Dream*, *The Fight* and *The Faith Healers*. Lines from the vignettes are passed from one storyteller to the next to form one overarching story of a mysterious man, "The Quiet One", who haunts their dreams and their lives.

Told from the foundation of Aboriginal storytelling, *Firebear Called Them Faith Healers* questions the forces that exists above what we can see touch or hear and will stimulate discussion on storytelling, filmmaking and spirituality.

So Far and Soar10:30 • 2009 •  • \$150

Jocelyne Chaput

English and French w/ English subtitles

A researcher is emotionally drained as she searches for connections, both in her lab work and relationships. So lost is she in the depth of her studies, it takes an unexpected event to change shift her perspective to a new direction.

SEE ALSO:

The Art of Drowning.....1
Who Killed the Goldfish?.....4

FAMILY STUDIES

Trolls

7:00 • 2009 • \$150
Brianne Nord-Stewart

There comes a time in every kid's life when they realize their parents are up to more than just "cleaning their room". For nine-year-old Billy, this discovery only comes with the help of his know-it-all younger cousin, Genevieve. When she explains the rules and point system of the "adults only" game, Billy and Genevieve start counting up their own points. Soon playground gossip turns anatomical, and Billy, with Genevieve close behind, tries to get to the bottom of what "doing it" actually means. *Trolls* is a hilarious reminder of those childhood moments which made growing up exciting, embarrassing and downright confusing.

Who Killed the Goldfish?

11:00 • 2009 • subtitled • \$160
Jin Hong
English and Korean w/ English subtitles

This short drama explores the power dynamic between a mother and the eldest daughter in a Korean immigrant family whose members vote to speak only English at home. The daughter takes advantage of her fluency in English to overpower her mother's authority. With the father remaining in Korea to work, the geographical and psychological separation of the family become amplified by the obstacles of communication. Cracks caused by individual transition provide a powerful glimpse of the domestic struggles of an immigrant family.

FINANCIAL LITERACY

419: The Nigerian Scam

20:00 • 2009 • \$160
Sorin Mihailovici

Every year, more than 50,000 people fall victim to the Nigerian Scam. It usually starts with an e-mail about a business proposal or winning a lottery, followed by stories with tempting outcomes until the victim's lifetime savings are lost. Article 419 in the Nigerian Constitution deals with

this scam reported to be the third most lucrative one in the country, generating over 5 billion dollars in the last 20 years. This short drama, based on a true story, shows how the scam works.

FIRST NATIONS STUDIES

Nehiyawetan: Let's Speak Cree (Series 2)

(6-part series)
24:00 each part • 2009 • \$175 per part
\$900 for full series
Loretta Todd/Kamala Todd/Jason Krowe
Nehiyawetan Productions

In the Garden 24:00 • \$175

Tansi! Kai and Auntie Josephine are back, and joined by new student, Kayla, for another fun year of Cree. What better way to start the new year than *In the Garden*, learning about all the things that grow right in their own backyard! Guest performer Jason Burnstick joins in on the fun with a song about the nature that surrounds us.

Colours 24:00 • \$175

The world is a colourful place, and Kai and Kayla are learning about the four colours of the medicine wheel—white, yellow, black and red—with their Auntie Josephine and guest performer, Art Napoleon. Artist Jerry Whitehead stops by to teach Kai and Kayla about mixing colours for their beautiful painting.

Seasons 24:00 • \$175

The harvest is here—it's time to celebrate the arrival of a new season and the perfect time to learn about the four seasons of the year! Children are welcomed at the Aboriginal Garden at the University of British Columbia, where Kai and Kayla help serve the elders and eat the delicious harvest meal. Guest performer Renae Morriveau drops in to sing a song about the seasons.

Clothing 24:00 • \$175

You are cordially invited to Kai and Kayla's dress up party! They are on a costume adventure with their Auntie Josephine, as they learn the Cree words for the clothes they wear and play an exciting game with funny clothes. To add to the fun, musical guest Joseph Naytowhow is scheduled to perform at the party.

Weather 24:00 • \$175

It is sunny, it is windy, it is rainy, it is snowy. Josephine and guest performer, Skeena Reece, teach Kai and Kayla the Cree words for various weather and they go to Science World to see how weather can help make energy. This episode is sure to bring sunshine to your house!

Feast 24:00 • \$175

Let's eat, feast, and give thanks with Josephine, Kai, and Kayla, as they celebrate the end of another great year! All are welcomed in the feast at the Klahoweya Centre in Surrey, BC filled with laughing and singing with the Children of the Rainbow. Guest performer Art Napoleon shares all the fun of feasting and of course, giving thanks for feast. Hai hai everyone!

Shi-shi-etko

12:00 • 2009 • subtitled • \$160
Marilyn Thomas
Monkey Ink Media
Halq'emalem w/ English subtitles

Shi-shi-etko, a six year old Native girl, has only four days before she is taken to residential school. Each of these days she spends with either her mother, her father, and her Yayah (grandmother). Knowing what's in store, each of them reminds her of the beauty of her culture, who she is and most importantly to never forget.

SEE ALSO:

- Firebear Called Them Faith Healers*3
- Growth Rings*.....6
- Muskeg Special*.....6

HEALTH

On a Moving Path

25:00 • 2007 • subtitled • \$180
Myriam Fougère/Francine Plante
Vidéo Femmes
French w/ English subtitles

With an approach that is both poetic and personal, this documentary portrays the variety of emotions experienced by women diagnosed with breast cancer as they attempt to cope with their new reality and what awaits them in the future.

The Red Jacket

24:00 • 2008 • \$180
White Angel Productions

A chance encounter in Esquimalt, BC led to life-altering consequences for Nicholas Chow Johnson, a visitor to this Victoria suburb. Nicolas was walking on a street late at night. He had no gang affiliations; but he was wearing a red jacket, and red is the colour of the Bloods street gang. He didn't realize the significance of this until confronted by a group of youths who were members of a rival gang, the Crips.

The beating that followed left Nick incapacitated for life, in a wheelchair and with a brain injury.

This victimization of an innocent youth illustrates the problems with gang violence that now crosses all sectors of society in Canadian cities. *The Red Jacket* is a powerful discussion starter for teens on how bad decision making carries lifelong consequences.

Revolving Doors

12:30 • 2009 • \$180
Kristen Kornis

Evanna Brennan and Susan Giles are public health nurses who have developed innovative strategies in their work with the unique population in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside. Over the last 15 years, they have become pioneers in providing street-level home care nursing to an essentially homeless population surviving the effects of drug addiction, mental illness and now HIV. *Revolving Doors* follows the nurses through the harsh streets of Canada's poorest postal code and provides a special glimpse of the extraordinary approach and amazing dedication they've developed to reach out to this fragile population.

HISTORY & SOCIAL STUDIES

Celesta Found

44:00 • 2003 • \$200
David McIlwraith/Rina Fratticelli
Wild Zone Films

A chance discovery of journals written in the early 20th century by a woman who lived in Quebec's Eastern Townships enticed Rina Fraticelli on a journey of discovery. The journals were written by

Celesta Taylor, and they give a powerful portrayal of daily life for women in rural Canada between 1895 and 1916. Dancer Peggy Baker portrays Celesta Taylor in dramatic recreations constructed from her journals.

Growth Rings

12:00 • 2009 • \$120

Mairin Deery

Deer Tracks

People who live in the seemingly pastoral setting of Canada's west coast and the First Nations people of the area reflect on the pressures from outside for change that will impact their ways of life and the fragile eco-system, specifically the liquid natural gas terminal proposed by Enbridge Gas for Texada Island.

Muskeg Special

110:00 • 2008 • \$200

Gregory Zbitnew

Embark on an extraordinary journey by train from The Pas to Churchill through Northern Manitoba and learn about the fascinating people who lived in communities along the Hudson Bay Rail Line. Taking footage shot on 16mm film in 1979 by a group of independent filmmakers from Winnipeg, Gregory Zbitnew has created an educational edition of digitally restored footage. The DVD includes a location map and scene selections.

Ohanashi: The Story of Our Elders (10 part series)

2008 • \$150 per part • \$900 series

Susanne Tabata

National Nikkei Museum & Heritage Centre

Ohanashi: The Story of Our Elders features 10 Japanese-Canadian elders who tell their stories, describing their lives both before the bombing of Pearl Harbour, which led to internment, and after World War II.

Tak Miyazaki 35:00 • \$150

Born in Steveston, BC in 1929, Tak Miyazaki spent time in the internment communities of Bridge River and Minto City. After internment, he returned to the coast to help his father in the fishing industry. Mr. Miyazaki represented

Steveston during the redress settlement and is active in the local Buddhist community.

Kazue Oye 30:00 • \$150

Kazue Oye was born in Steveston, BC in 1912. After completing Grade 8 in Steveston, she went to Japan to get a higher level of education. On her return to Canada, she married and had two children, but became a widow soon after that. During relocation, she worked at the self-supporting community of Christina Lake. Following internment, she worked for BC Packers to support her children and send them to UBC.

Shirley Omatsu 44:00 • \$150

Born in Vancouver in 1929, Shirley grew up on Powell Street, moving to the self-sustaining community of Notch Hill in the Okanagan during relocation. Following internment, she returned to Vancouver and managed a high-end hair salon.

Tom Sandow Kuwabara and Shig Kuwabara 47:00 • \$150

These two brothers were born in Skeena River, BC in 1922 and 1924. At the time Pearl Harbour was attacked, they were living in Steveston and were separated from their family. When they registered disagreement with this situation, they were put in a prisoner-of-war camp. After the war, they worked in Northern Manitoba.

Susumu Tabata 44:00 • \$150

Susumu Tabata was born in Steveston, BC in 1925 to a father who was an engineer on a fish packing boat. He and his family spent internment years in Kaslo. After internment, Susumu worked in a sawmill before attending UBC where he earned a Masters degree in Oceanography. He worked in Nanaimo for 15 years before attending the University of Tokyo where he completed a PhD. In 1959, he married a Caucasian woman, a rare inter-racial marriage at the time.

Alfie Kamitakahara 43:00 • \$150

Alfie Kamitakahara was born in Steveston in 1929 and spent internment years in Slocan. Following internment, he worked on a farm in Alberta before starting his own insurance agency.

Marie Katsuno 35:00 • \$150

Marie Katsuno was born in East Burnaby in 1923 and live there before moving to West Vancouver where her family was part of a small Japanese-Canadian fishing village. During interment, the family lived in New Denver. After the war, they moved to Japan, where Marie lived until meeting

her husband while working for the American government. They raised two children in Japan, and she returned to Canada with her husband in 1994.

Midge Ayukawa 33:00 • \$150

Midge Ayukawa was born in Vancouver in 1930 and lived there until the bombing of Pearl Harbour separated her family. Her father was sent to a labour camp, and the rest of the family were moved to Lemon Creek. After internment, she attended McMaster University and worked in Ottawa. When she returned to BC, she earned a PhD in Japanese-Canadian History at the University of Victoria.

May Komiyama 34:00 • \$150

Born in Vancouver in 1922, May Komiyama was raised in a non-Japanese neighbourhood. Her training at nursing school was disrupted by internment and the family's move to Kaslo. After internment, May completed her education in nursing at the University of Guelph.

Irene Tsuyuki 45:00 • \$150

Irene Tsuyuki was born in 1925 and grew up on Powell Street in the heart of Vancouver's Japanese Canadian community. Her family moved to Tashme during internment. After internment, her father's poor health took the family to Japan, where he recovered. Irene worked there but never felt welcome. When she decided to return to Canada, she had to apply and be sponsored by a family to return to the country of her birth.

Shipyards Lament: The Yukon's Lost Frontier

40:00 • 2001 • \$180
Andrew Connors/Dianne Carruthers

The Shipyards was a riverside squatters community in downtown Whitehorse that symbolized the Old Yukon lifestyle. *Shipyards Lament* follows the forced eviction of the residents of this neighbourhood, the last of its kind in urban Canada. John Hatch, photographer and free spirit, was a resident of the Shipyards. The documentary follows him as he is forced to give up his home to make way for southern style development: condos, strip malls and fast food joints. John serves as a guide into the homes and hearts of this vanishing community in a powerful lament that illustrates the changing character of Canada's last frontier.

See also:

Shi-Shi-Etko.....5
Who Killed the Goldfish?.....4

INTERNATIONAL LAW & HUMAN RIGHTS

Besieged Land

65:00 • 2007 • subtitled • \$250

Maria-Teresa Larrain

Spanish w/ English subtitles

In Southern Chile, in a region of vast forestry plantations, two neighbours, a powerful landowner and a respected Mapuche Chief, fight over contested land. One night, the landowner's home catches fire. He blames his neighbour and, without listening to the Mapuche Chief's protestations of innocence, takes him to court. What starts as a mere dispute between neighbours escalates into "The Trial of Pascual Pichun", a clash between two cultures that have opposing views of the world. At the centre of the conflict lies, in desolation, the land.

Reclaiming Rights

52:30 • 2009 • \$200

Brishkay Ahmed

Farsi (Pashtun) w/ English subtitles

Hokouk is the word for "rights" in the language spoken by Afghan women. Reclaiming Rights follows a team of sassy Afghan lawyers and their clients, the young girls under the turquoise blue burqas, in and out of meetings and court appointments.

For the uneducated girls, words like "Section 183 of the Constitution" or "Item Number 12 of the Civil Rights" mean little. But from their lawyer's perspective, a window has opened. The opportunity to reclaim lost legal rights through courage and education has arrived. Sex, marriage, love and the law are explored as the girls share their stories to seek freedom with fellow Afghan and filmmaker, Brishkay Ahmed. The DVD includes both a play through and chaptered version and provides insight into the fight within Afghanistan to preserve human rights and the rule of law in a constitution that fell under pressure from the Taliban.

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