

The Dalhousie Review

90.1 SPRING 2010

GUEST EDITORS CLAIRE CAMPBELL CARRIE DAWSON

EDITOR ANTHONY STEWART

ASSOCIATE EDITORS SUE CAMPBELL IAN COLFORD BARBARA DARBY
KRISTA KESSELRING ROBERT MARTIN MEGHAN NIEMAN JUDITH THOMPSON

PRODUCTION MANAGER JENNIFER LAMBERT

EDITORIAL ASSISTANT LENA PATTERSON

EDITORIAL ADVISORY BOARD BRUCE BARBER BETTY BEDNARSKI
MARIAN BINKLEY STEVEN BRUHM DEIRDRE DWYER SUSAN KERSLAKE
KENNETH KIERANS EDWARD LOBB CARL MATHESON

The Dalhousie Review is published three times a year. The Editors and the Editorial Advisory Board gratefully acknowledge the support of the Laing Foundation and the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences.

The Dalhousie Review invites contributions of short fiction, poetry, and articles in such fields as history, literature, political science, philosophy, sociology, performing arts, and visual culture. Submissions should be in hard copy only, posted to the address below. Please include an email address, if you use it. If you prefer notification by post, or return of a manuscript we do not use, please enclose a self-addressed envelope and return postage in Canadian stamps or International Reply Coupons.

Institutional subscriptions within Canada are \$40 per year or \$100 for three years. Individual subscriptions within Canada are \$25 for one year or \$60 for three years. GST is included in all Canadian orders, registration no. R119519007. Outside Canada institutional subscriptions are \$48 per year, \$120 for three years; individual subscriptions are \$30.00 and \$75.00. Orders outside of Canada are payable in US dollars. Enquiries concerning subscriptions, advertising, and other financial matters should be addressed to the Production Manager.

The Dalhousie Review
Dalhousie University
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3H 4R2 Canada

Telephone: (902) 494-2541
Dalhousie.Review@dal.ca
<http://www.dalhousiereview.dal.ca>

Design by presti.digi.tation
printing by etc. Press Ltd., Halifax, NS

ISSN—0011-5827

© 2010

Contents

90.1 SPRING 2010

CLAIRE CAMPBELL AND CARRIE DAWSON GROUNDTRUTHING: CANADA AND THE ENVIRONMENT (EDITORIAL)	5
CATRIONA MORTIMER-SANDILANDS CALYPSO TRAILS: BOTANIZING ON THE BRUCE PENINSULA (ESSAY)	7
LEN GASPARINI IN A COUNTRY CHURCHYARD (POETRY)	23
TRAVIS MASON NAMING AND KNOWING IN DON MCKAY'S POETRY (ESSAY)	25
ROGER NASH SEA-CHANGES (PROSE/POETRY)	41
JENNY KERBER PULLING UP ROOTS: BORDER-CROSSING AND MIGRANCY ON SOUTHERN ALBERTA'S IRRIGATION FRONTIER (ESSAY)	47
STEPHEN BOCKING SEEKING THE ARCTIC: SCIENCE AND PERCEPTIONS OF NORTHERN CANADA (ESSAY)	61
ROBERT O. NORMAN KEELUT COMES TO AKLIASUK 1918 (POETRY)	75
SUSANNE MARSHALL MOOSE STEAKS ON STYROFOAM: MICHAEL WINTER REIMAGINES NEWFOUNDLAND WILDERNESS AND IDENTITY (ESSAY)	77
ROBYN JEFFREY DIVINING ROD (POETRY)	93
EDWARD MACDONALD THE YANKEE GALE, THE AUGUST GALE AND POPULAR CULTURE ON PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND (ESSAY)	95
DANIEL COWPER VANCOUVER CHERRY TREES (POETRY)	111
NICOLE SHUKIN ECOLOGICAL CITIZENSHIP, ECOLOGICAL MELANCHOLIA: THE RUINS OF STANLEY PARK (ESSAY)	112
JOCELYN THORPE AND STEPHANIE RUTHERFORD NATIONAL NATURES IN A GLOBALIZED WORLD: CLIMATE CHANGE, POWER AND THE ERASURE OF THE LOCAL (ESSAY)	127
BOOK REVIEWS	139
CONTRIBUTORS	157

GROUNDTRUTHING: CANADA AND THE ENVIRONMENT

AS KERMIT THE FROG SO OFTEN SAID, “It’s not easy being green.” It would appear, though, that it is easy to buy green. Increasingly, companies selling everything from cars to clothes are harnessing the language of sustainability to convince consumers to spend their way to a greener planet. Though wary of seeming cynical, we begin by noting the prevalence of corporate greenwashing because it speaks to the very pervasive perception of ours as an era of ecological crisis. Equally important, it reminds us to take stock of the ways in which the pressing realities of environmental degradation are understood and represented. As humanists, we are very aware of language’s power to shape, demonstrate, and disguise the “inconvenient truth” of an environmental situation, and that awareness is reflected in the essays selected for this special issue of *The Dalhousie Review*. To reflect the vibrant and multifaceted nature of Canadian Studies, a number of the essays are also rigorously and self-consciously interdisciplinary; for example, one offers a history of Bruce Peninsula National Park that foregrounds the “web of commodity relations” in which its many varieties of orchids are enmeshed (Sandilands); another carefully draws on ornithology so as to read bird poems in a manner that “measures the distance” between poetic and scientific languages and the things they describe (Mason); and a third uses literary representations of sugar beet production to address “the transnational flows—of geography, capital, technology, and human and nonhuman life—that will need to be better understood if future environmental challenges are to be met equitably and sustainably” (Kerber).

In an attempt to speak to both the interdisciplinary range and the very disciplined attention to detail that characterizes the essays collected here, we have borrowed the idea of “groundtruthing,” a scientific term for a method of verifying or measuring location coordinates that places particular emphasis on site visits. In essence, it is about verifying the abstract conclusions in scientific analysis by surveying actual terrain. For us, groundtruthing also signals the distances between observed environmental realities and popular Canadian