



www.junctionartsfest.com

MEDIA INFORMATION – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Please retain for literary listings

JUNCTION ARTS FESTIVAL

**They'll shout it from the rooftops, they'll stop you in the street;
authors, poets, writers and readers challenge you to become a
member of the "BookThug Nation", September 12 and 13**

Toronto, ON, August 26, 2009 – The Junction Arts Festival (September 9 – 13, 2009) presents a mosaic of unique visual, dance, musical and literary arts, and independent Junction publisher BookThug seeks new recruits for its literary nation; writers and readers share and recite their work in unexpected and unusual ways (daily throughout the weekend street closure, Saturday, September 12 and Sunday, September 13 between 11:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.).

BookThug founder Jay MillAr states, "It's easy to be a citizen of the 'BookThug Nation': just be curious! We at BookThug are aware that our books are not for just anybody. So why not become somebody? Poetry, visual literature, conceptual literature, translation, the lyric, critical texts and fiction; each one is distinctly BookThug."

During the weekend only, BookThug (2009 Junction Arts Festival literary sponsor) is looking for new citizens to join the "BookThug Nation". Over 20 authors, poets, writers and readers present their work from many angles. They broadcast it from rooftops, perform it in the street, interrupt everyday conversations and challenge festival attendees to consider poetry and literature as part of their lives.

The "BookThug Nation" presents three literary street components:

Roaming Readers: Poetry read to you one on one by the author or by a BookThug youth.

Battling Bards: Look up, look way up. Poets battle it out (call and response style) with megaphones from rooftops and window sills.

Resting Readers: For traditionalists, there are four readings a day by various BookThug writers; on the back patio of the Troubadour bar (3071 Dundas St. W.). Schedule, TBA.

Authors on Saturday (alphabetical order):

Amanda Earl
Angela Carr
Gili Haimovich and Meagan English
Greg Betts and Gary Barwin
Margaret Christakos
Marianne Apostolides
Melissa Ma
Sistah Lois
Steven Zultanski

Authors on Sunday (alphabetical order):

Adam Seelig
Daniel F. Bradley
Gili Haimovich & Meagan English
Jay MillAr
Jenny Sampirisi
Mark Truscott
Shannon Bramer
Stephen Cain
The Amorphus BookThug Readers

PLEASE NOTE: All artist biography information is available at www.junctionartsfest.com.

Attracting 200,000 visitors in 2008, the Junction Arts Festival (produced by the Junction Forum for Art and Culture) takes place along Dundas Street West between Keele Street and Quebec Avenue, and features five free days of artistry and innovation: Visual Art Exhibits (Sept. 9 to 13), Live Music Concerts (Sept. 10, 11 and 12), and during the weekend – Street Performance Artists, Literary Artists, KidZone, Green Village and Artisan/Vendor Market (Sept. 12 and 13).

BookThug is an independent literary publisher, founded by Jay MillAr, that operates out of Toronto's west end. For more information go to; www.bookthug.ca.

The 17th annual Junction Arts Festival is generously supported by title sponsor the Junction Business Improvement Area, the Toronto Arts Council and the active involvement from Junction area businesses and residents.

The Junction Forum for Art and Culture (JFAC) is a non-profit arts presenting organization and its main project is the annual Junction Arts Festival. The JFAC Board of Directors, chaired by Councillor Bill Saundercook, consists of dedicated cultural producers, artists, residents, business owners and politicians, all of whom are based in the Junction.

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For media information, interviews and photos please contact:

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Councillor Bill Saundercook (Ward 13, City of Toronto), JFAC Chair