

Canadian Literature Symposium 2012

**The Worlds of Carol Shields**  
**April 27-29 2012**

**PROGRAMME**

**Friday, April 27<sup>th</sup> 2012**

7:00 pm **Keynote Presentations (I)**  
Chair: David Staines, University of Ottawa  
**Carol Shields in Conversation and Correspondence** – Eleanor Wachtel, Toronto

**Carol Shields: The Measure and Experience of Time** – Anne Giardini, Vancouver & Joseph Giardini, Montreal

*Reception to Follow*

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**Saturday, April 28<sup>th</sup> 2012**

9:00 – 10:15 am **A1 Short Fiction Panel 1**  
Chair: Robert Stacey, University of Ottawa  
**“Others” and Some Others: Canadian Writers Double-Voice the Short Story** – Laurie Kruk (Nipissing University)

**Carol Shields and Joyce Carol Oates: The Gift of a Scarf in an “Economy of Femininity”** – Elizabeth Reimer (Thompson Rivers University)

**A2 Short Fiction Panel 2**  
Chair: Jennifer Blair, University of Ottawa  
**“Cool Empathy”: the Management of Compassion in Carol Shields’ Short Fiction** – Marilyn Rose (Brock University)

**Carol Shields and the Short Story Form** – Neil Besner (University of Winnipeg)

10:15 – 10:30 am **Coffee Break**

10:30 – 11:45 am **B1 Panel 1**  
Chair: Robert Stacey, University of Ottawa  
**On *Small Ceremonies***– Elizabeth Waterston (Guelph University)

**Revisiting the Sequel: Carol Shields’s Companion Novels** – Wendy Roy (University of Saskatchewan)

**B2 Panel 2**  
Chair: Jennifer Blair, University of Ottawa  
**“Departures, Arrivals”: Reassessing Canadian/American Migrations in the Fiction of Carol Shields** – Alex Ramon (Kingston University, London)

**Archives as Evidence of Life Process and Engagement: the late years of the Carol Shields fonds** – Catherine Hobbs (Library and Archives Canada)

11:45 am –  
1:00 pm

**Lunch**

1:00 –  
2:30 pm

**Keynote Presentations (II)**

Chair: David Staines, University of Ottawa

**All that 'below-the-surface stuff': Carol Shields's Conversational Modes** – Coral Ann Howells (University of Reading)

**Prepositional Domesticity** – Aritha Van Herk (University of Calgary)

2:30 –  
2:45 pm

**Coffee Break**

2:45 –  
4:00 pm

**C1 Swann**

Chair: Janice Fiamengo, University of Ottawa

**Sarah Binks, Pat Lowther, and the Satirical Gothic Turn in *Mary Swann: A Mystery*** - Cynthia Sugars (University of Ottawa)

**Absence, Authorship, and The Epitaph of Victim in *Swann***–Brenda Beckman-Long (McMaster University)

**C2 *The Stone Diaries* Panel**

Chair: Gerald Lynch, University of Ottawa

**Assembling Identity: Late-life Agency in *The Stone Angel* and *The Stone Diaries*** – Patricia Life (University of Ottawa)

**The Practice of Everyday Life in Carol Shields: Creating a Lexicon of Things** - Bethany Guenther (University of Ottawa)

**Agential Absence: The Political Possibilities of Absence in *The Stone Diaries*** – Martin Winquist (University of Saskatchewan)

4:00 –  
4:15 pm

**Coffee Break**

4:15 –  
5:30 pm

**D1**

Chair: Janice Fiamengo, University of Ottawa

**On “Thirteen Hands and Other Plays”** – Nora Foster Stovel (University of Alberta)

**Male-Pattern Bewilderment in *Larry's Party*** – John Van Rys (Redeemer University College)

**D2 *Republic of Love***

Chair: Cynthia Sugars, University of Ottawa

**The Asymmetries of Deep Water Transcendence: Uncanny Relationships in *The Republic of Love*** – Jessi MacEachern (Concordia University)

**Siren Asylum: Queering the Single in *The Republic of Love* – Brianne Colon (Queen’s University)**

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**Sunday April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2012**

9:30 –  
10:45 am

**A1 *Unless* (Panel 1)**

Chair: David Staines, University of Ottawa

**Narrative Pragmatism: Goodness in Carol Shields's *Unless*** – Tim Heath (Ambrose University College)

**“To Be Faithful to the Idea of Being Good”: The Expansion to Goodness in Carol Shields’s *Unless*** –Margaret Steffler (Trent University)

**A2 *Unless* (Panel 2)**

Chair: Zachary Abram, University of Ottawa

**Shields’ Guerrilla Gardeners: Planting Seeds of Gendered Defiance in a Middle-Class World** – Shelley Boyd (Kwantlen Polytechnic University)

**“Light fiction, being closer to real life, knows better”: Class and the conventions of “chick lit” in Carol Shields’ *Unless*** – Jennifer Baker (University of Ottawa)

10:45–  
11:00 am

**Coffee Break**

11:00 am–  
1:00 pm

**The Achievements of Carol Shields**

Chair: Eleanor Wachtel

- Wayson Choy (Author and Teacher)
- Joan Clark (Author)
- Martin Levin (Critic)
- Jane Urquhart (Author)

***Closing Remarks***