

SOCIETY PAGES

NUMBER 42 ■ Summer 2014 ■ \$2.00



- NEW *TEATIME* ACTIVITY AT THE MORRIN CENTRE
- THE QCT: CONSERVATIVE TO LIBERAL AND BACK AGAIN
- MEET OUR SUMMER GUIDES

morrin

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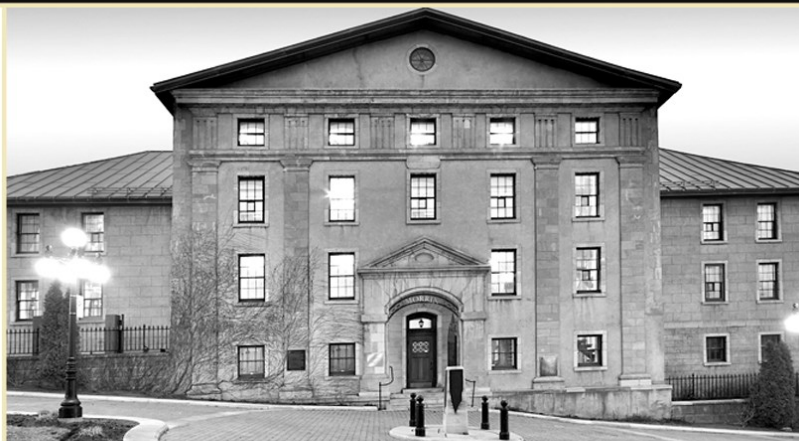
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SOCIETY PAGES

NUMBER 42 ■ SUMMER 2014

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LIBRARY HOURS

Sunday	12:00PM-4:00PM
Monday	CLOSED
Tuesday	12:00PM-8:00PM
Wednesday	12:00PM-4:00PM
Thursday	12:00PM-8:00PM
Friday	12:00PM-4:00PM
Saturday	10:00AM-4:00PM

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The mission of the **Morrin Centre** is to share and foster English-language culture in the Quebec City region. The Morrin Centre is administered by the Literary & Historical Society of Quebec. ISSN 1913-0732

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear members and friends,

At the start of this summer season, I am pleased to report that your efforts for our membership campaign are paying off. Thanks to the work of the Membership Committee and you – our supporters – we have never had as many members as we do right now. This is a very encouraging development, and we want to see this number continue to grow. A one-year membership for new members is only \$20, an offer that will last for the entirety of 2014. Think of the people in your life who love heritage, literature, and culture. Membership is an ideal gift for a birthday, wedding or, even Christmas...in July!

The Morrin Centre is now a well-known venue for rentals, particularly Christmas parties and weddings. Our Executive Director even held his own wedding here in April. The Centre is also becoming a prime

location for business meeting rentals. I encourage you, our members, to consider the Centre for your next meeting or press conference. There are beautiful and inspiring spaces available for meetings of all types and sizes. For more information, contact Rentals Coordinator Mathieu Tremblay at the Centre.

After a highly productive strategic planning session in March, staff and Council have been busy furthering the development of our three pillars of Heritage, Education and the Arts. There are many interesting projects currently being established that we hope to announce over the next few months. I am confident these projects will continue to cement the Morrin Centre's status as an institution for all to cherish.

Wishing you a great summer,

Sovita Chander
President

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Dear members,

Now that the flowers are in bloom, the winter that would never end seems like a distant memory. I am sure I do not need to tell you how glad we all are that summer is here.

The Morrin Centre is a buzz every summer and 2014 will be no different. We launched *Teatime* at the Morrin Centre on June 7. We are excited to work with our partner, Sebz, who is generously providing the teas for the activity. The activity has already received impressive media coverage in all formats; television (Radio-Canada), radio (CBC) and print (QCT, QuébecHébdô). Check out the article on page 11 for more information.

This spring and early summer has seen more student groups than ever before come through the Morrin Centre. Not only are guided tours an important self-generated revenue stream, but they are at the core of our Heritage Pillar. It is our mission to share the unique history of our building with as many people as possible and we are thrilled to see people visiting the Centre in record numbers.

We are proud to kick off our 10th annual Book Quest. The launch party, which was held on June 14, was a great success. With education as one of our three pillars, Book Quest is an important outlet for kids aged 5 to 12 years old to explore a thematic summer reading club. This year's theme is "Create" and it's not too late to enrol. Those interested should contact Library Manager Jessica Kelly-Rhéaume.

June 20 marked the beginning of Program and Communication Director Elizabeth Perreault's maternity leave. On behalf of staff and Council, I wish her all the best and look forward to seeing her back at the Morrin Centre in summer 2015!

I wish all of you, our loyal members, a fantastic summer.

I hope to see you around the Morrin Centre for tea or a tour.

Barry McCullough
Executive Director

TRANSACTIONS

LIFE OF A PRESIDENT
JONATHAN SEWELL

By Jessica Kelly-Rhéaume

Jonathan Sewell was one of the early presidents of the Literary and Historical Society of Quebec (1830-1831). Along with Dalhousie, he was instrumental in establishing the LHSQ and wrote the first paper for the Society on French civil law, which he mastered as well as British Common Law. His involvement with the LHSQ was neither his first nor his last cultural contribution to Quebec City. Indeed, he was a patron of the Société Littéraire de Québec, with which Aubert de Gaspé was involved, in 1809, and was a violinist. He possessed an impressive library of close to 1500 books and owned the Théâtre Royal on Rue Saint-Stanislas in the 1830s. He was an important benefactor of the Anglophone community and funded the construction of the Anglican Trinity Chapel on Rue Saint-Stanislas in 1824.

Born in Massachusetts, Jonathan Sewell is best known for having been Chief Justice of Lower Canada. He was also a politician and an author. He spent the majority of his life in Lower Canada and was very influential in government. Throughout his career, he remained loyal to England and the Crown. Sewell fought against the power of the Catholic Church in Lower Canada, fearing the influence of the Catholicism over the population. He also used the education system to help promote and maintain British rule.

When Sewell was eight years old, his Loyalist father took the family to England, fleeing upset in America. There, Sewell explored his many artistic talents as a young man, delving into the theatre as well as into painting and music. He had a natural flair for the arts and was later a member of an amateur orchestra in Quebec City.

In 1785, at the age of 18, Sewell returned to North America to study law in New Brunswick. He came to

Quebec three years later. He temporarily became Attorney General of the province the year after, which launched his long and prolific career in law and politics. In 1795, he was appointed permanent Attorney General and Advocate General. He worked on Lower Canada legislation, prosecuted in criminal and civil law cases and defended British interests.



Jonathan Sewell

Sewell was very fair, even lenient in some cases, in criminal prosecutions that did not involve the Crown. Indeed he adopted different views on punishment than most of his colleagues. He focused more on prevention than punishment, and this translated into occasional manipulation of the law and of evidence to avoid certain convictions, mostly in cases where the death penalty was a possible outcome. Some of his legislative work aimed at reducing the number of crimes punishable by death. He believed that severe punishment was not necessarily the

strongest deterrent. He felt that the certainty of a conviction and a smaller punishment could be just as effective in preventing crime.

Sewell's involvement in politics was extensive. As Attorney General, he composed countless regulations and legal opinions for the government. He defended the political interests of Britain and became close to Lord Dalhousie, Governor of Lower Canada from 1820-1828, acting as his advisor. He was a constant and devoted member of the Executive Council, giving Dalhousie great influence over the Executive Council and vice versa.

One year after being appointed Attorney General, Sewell married Henriette Smith. They had sixteen children. Sewell died in 1839 and was laid to rest in Holy Trinity Cathedral, leaving behind large estate and a host of descendants. ■

TRANSACTIONS

THE IDEOLOGICAL HISTORY
OF THE QUEBEC CHRONICLE-TELEGRAPH

By Charles André Nadeau

Most histories of the *Quebec Chronicle Telegraph*, which celebrates its 250th anniversary this year, revolve around the changes, and in particular the mergers, that have allowed the publication to survive. But one aspect of its evolution that tends to be neglected is the ideological path that the paper followed over the two and a half centuries of its career.

The newspaper started in 1764 under the name *The Quebec Gazette/La Gazette de Québec*, and was then the first to be published in the province. Its founder, William Brown, realized, even before opening his printing establishment, that he needed government contracts for his business to be viable and to prosper. In consequence, during the early years of the paper, he avoided publishing any commentary that could offend the British colonial administration. It discouraged, for example, public submissions supporting the patriot cause in the period leading up to the American Revolution. After the repeal of the Stamp Act, in 1766, Brown wrote a notice stating that the weekly would not be at the service of any political faction.

John Neilson, Brown's nephew, inherited the printing establishment in 1793. With a colonial administration that was ultra conservative and clearly favoured the great landowners and merchants of the province, Neilson, who had married Marie-Ursule Hubert from Trois-Rivières and was fully bilingual, started to sympathize with the Parti canadien. He developed a friendship with Louis-Joseph Papineau and, in 1818, was elected to the Assembly of Lower Canada for the riding

of Quebec under the banner of the Parti Canadien. *The Quebec Gazette/La Gazette de Québec* reflected of course its political ideology. Neilson found himself in conflict of interest, being a critic of the Executive Council while

owning the paper that served as the voice of the government. To remedy to the situation, he handed over the enterprise to his son Samuel for a two-thirds interest, and to William Cowan for the remainder. Governor Dalhousie seemed satisfied with the transaction and officially appointed Samuel Neilson as King's printer in 1822. However, in the same year, the Neilsons' opposition to a project of union of the Lower and Upper Canada favoured by Dalhousie led to the firm losing its government contracts.



John Neilson as a member of the
Parliament of Lower Canada.
(JE Livernois. C1830, BAnQ)

John Neilson was a moderate liberal and remained attached to the Parti canadien (renamed the Parti patriote in 1826) until 1834. Following the adoption of the 92 Resolutions, he broke away from Papineau and lost his seat in the following election. This coincided with the ill health and eventual death of his son Samuel. John Neilson then returned to the direction of *The Quebec Gazette/La Gazette de*

Quebec. In his editorials, he took a stand against the Parti patriote. After the Rebellion of 1837-38, he attempted to publish separate issues of the newspaper in French and English. Competition from the French dailies of Quebec City proved too strong and, in October 1842, Neilson decided to cease publishing French or bilingual versions and the paper became simply *The Quebec Gazette*.

In 1847, a political crisis arose in the colonies about the

TRANSACTIONS

question of local responsible government. John Neilson opposed the position of Robert Baldwin and Francis Hincks who favoured the notion of elected executives. Robert Middleton, who had been the Neilsons' main collaborator at *The Quebec Gazette* for the past fifteen years, supported Hincks and Baldwin and left the paper to found *The Morning Chronicle* with Charles Saint-Michel. John Neilson died shortly afterwards. None of his remaining children seemed capable of assuming the succession and, in 1849, his son John managed to attract Middleton back to the firm. On 11 November 1850, Robert Middleton became sole proprietor of *The Quebec Gazette*, thus ending 86 years of ownership by the Brown and Neilson families.

Middleton, who supported Baldwin and Louis-Hippolyte Lafontaine's plans for replacing appointed with responsible government, naturally implanted his political views in the paper's editorials.

The Morning Chronicle was purchased by S. B. Foote in 1860 and run by his brother John Jackman Foote, who later took over ownership. When Middleton died in 1874, J.J. Foote bought *The Quebec Gazette* and incorporated it into *The Morning Chronicle*. His views were conservative, and the paper became the publication of the elite and the Conservative party. A year after this merger, James Carrel founded *The Daily Telegraph*, oriented towards the working class and supporting the Liberal party. However, there was not enough room for all the English newspapers in town, and *The Quebec Mercury*, another conservative daily, folded in 1903.

The drop in the English-speaking population of Quebec City was phenomenal in the last 30 years of the century. The dredging of the St. Lawrence had shifted the

maritime traffic towards Montreal and the railway operated primarily on the south shore. The wood industry had suffered from Britain's new free trade policy and the shipbuilding industry declined substantially with the advent of steam power and iron hulls. Confederation moved the government to Ottawa and the British garrison left the Citadel. Both the surviving English newspapers found it difficult to make a profit.

In 1925, a solution was envisaged by the Price family, by then owner of the paper (now known as *The Quebec Chronicle*) and by James Carrel's son, Frank, and it was fused with *The Daily Telegraph*. The merger surprised the press milieu in the province.

The shotgun marriage proved in fact very difficult. It had been understood that the paper would be Conservative on the federal scene and Liberal at the provincial level. In practice it proved unsatisfactory to all.

With the arrival of Gwyllym Dunn at the head of *The Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph* in 1937, and its fusion with Dunn's little *Quebec News*, which had supported the election of Maurice Duplessis, the paper's political ideology changed again. In 1949, when the newspaper moved from its location at the corner of Buade and Du Trésor to a more modern facility on Boulevard Saint-Sacrement, it was Duplessis who pushed the button to start the new press.

After the death of Dunn, in 1967, the switch to a weekly, in 1971, and the purchase of the establishment by Herbert Murphy, two years later, *The Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph* adopted a neutral and independent political stance in support, however, of the interests of the English-speaking community, a stance which it has maintained to this day. ■



Gwyllym Dunn in his office financially encouraging three of the duchesses du Carnaval
(Family photo graciously provided by Peter Dunn)



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BOOK QUEST CREATE!

Readers and dreamers, create!
English-language summer reading club

Lecteurs et rêveurs, créez !
Club de lecture estival en anglais

June 14 - August 23, 2014

Join us to celebrate the launch of Book Quest for children 5 to 12 years old at the Morrin Centre on Saturday, June 14 at 10 a.m.
RSVP before June 7th

Venez fêter le début du Book Quest pour enfants âgés de 5 à 12 ans lors de notre lancement au Morrin Centre le samedi 14 juin à 10 h.
RSVP avant le 7 juin

Sign up today! / Inscrivez-vous aujourd'hui!
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LIBRARY PAGES

BOOK QUEST – CREATE! *READERS AND DREAMERS, CREATE!*



Book Quest, our English summer reading club for children, is celebrating its 10th anniversary this year!

Book Quest – Create! offers children aged 5 to 12 the opportunity to nurture their imagination and be creative throughout the summer using reading as inspiration. Whether through drawing, painting, writing or any other form of expression, they will be encouraged to be inventive and bring their ideas to life while finding enjoyment in reading.

The Book Quest Launch Party took place on Saturday, June 14, in the Morrin Centre library. Children received their reading logbook, a poster and instructions to the game they will be playing over the summer. Camille Morin is back as Book Quest coordinator and is very enthusiastic about this year's edition of the Summer Reading Club.

As creativity is the theme, we have added a fun twist to the way we are keeping track of how many books each participant has read. At the launch, children made dreamcatchers after learning about them through a First

Nations legend. For every book they finish, they will receive an extra bead or piece of ribbon to add to their dreamcatcher. After completing ten books, there will be a second game for them to play. To keep track of their reading, the children fill out their reading logbooks with the titles and authors of the books they have read. They are also encouraged to make notes on their overall opinion of the books.

Special bi-monthly activities for kids will take place at the Morrin Centre, on Saturdays at 10:30 a.m. Please consult our website for a schedule of the activities (www.morrin.org).

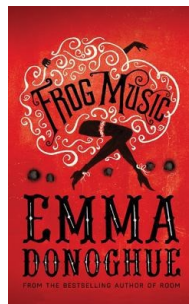
Children can register for Book Quest throughout the summer during opening hours at the library. They will receive materials to make their very own dreamcatcher as well as their reading logbook, a poster and instructions to this year's summer reading club.

For more information on Book Quest – Create! please contact Camille Morin by email at library@morrin.org or by phone at 418-694-9147. ■

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NEW ACQUISITIONS

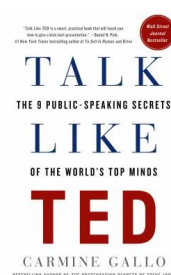
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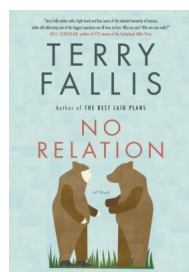
Fiction
Frog Music
Donoghue, Emma
D687 2014



The Son
Nesbø, Jo
N458 2014



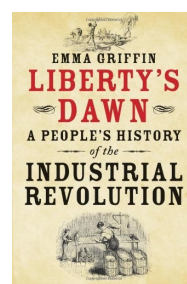
Non-Fiction
Talk like TED
Gallo, Carmine
658.452 G172



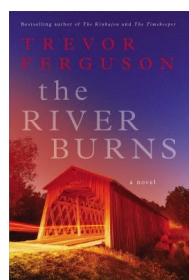
No Relation
Fallis, Terry
F194 2013



The Girl Who Was Saturday Night
O'Neill, Heather
O58 2014



Liberty's Dawn
Griffin, Emma
330.941 G851



The River Burns
Ferguson, Trevor
F352 2014



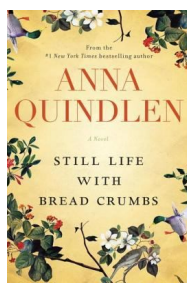
Boy, Snow, Bird
Oyeyemi, Helen
O98 2014



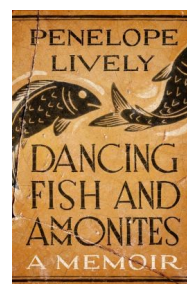
Cruise Control
Howe, Ken
819.12 H856



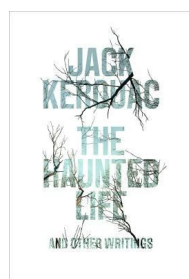
The Blazing World
Hustvedt, Siri
H968 2014



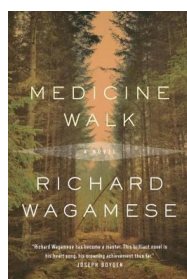
Still Life with Bread Crumbs
Quindlen, Anna
Q7 2014



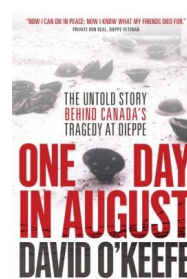
Dancing Fish and Ammonites
Lively, Penelope
Bio L784 2013



The Haunted Life
Kerouac, Jack
K39 2014

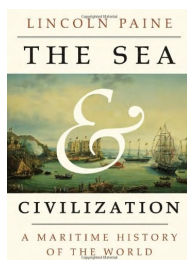


Medicine Walk
Wagamese, Richard
W129 2014



One Day in August
O'Keefe, David
940.5421 O41

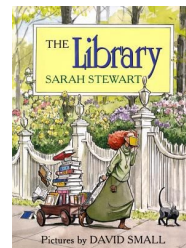
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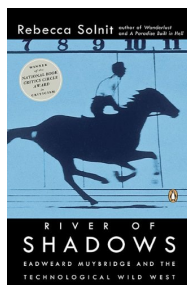
The Sea and Civilization
Paine, Lincoln
910.45 P144



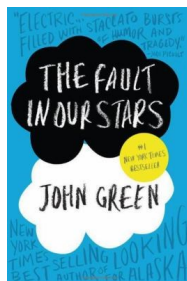
Juvenile Fiction
Bark, George
Feiffer, Jules
JF FEI 1999



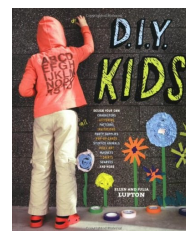
The Library
Stewart, Sarah
JF STE 1995



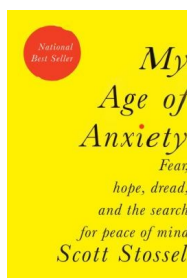
River of Shadows
Solnit, Rebecca
778.5 M993



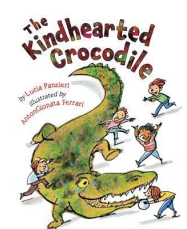
The Fault in Our Stars
Green, John
JF GRE 2012



Juvenile Non-Fiction
D.I.Y. Kids
Lupton, Ellen &
Lupton, Julia
J 745.5 L965 RDA



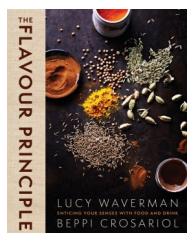
My Age of Anxiety
Stossel, Scott
616.8522 S888



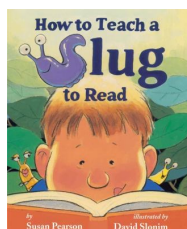
The Kindhearted Crocodile
Panzieri, Lucia
JF PAN 2013



Down to Earth: How Kids Help Feed the World
Tate, Nikki
J 630 T217 GEN



Flavour Principle
Waverman, Lucy
641.8 W355



How to Teach a Slug to Read
Pearson, Susan
JF PEA 2011



Explore... Simple Machines!
Yasuda, Anita
J 621.8 Y29 MACH

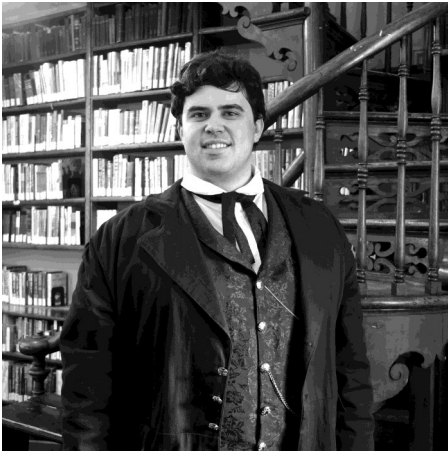


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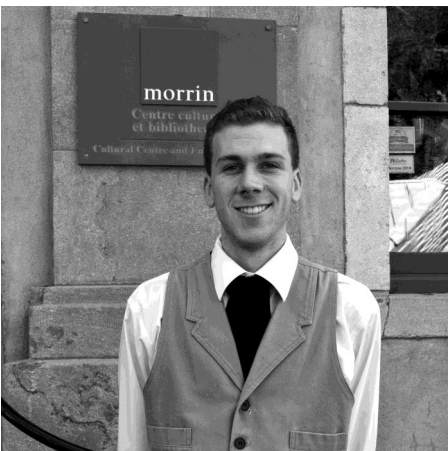
EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

MEET OUR MORRIN CENTRE TOUR GUIDES



Name: Benjamin de Sève-Simard
Hometown: Lennoxville (AKA Sherbrooke)
Field of studies: BA History, MA Education

This is my third summer at the Morrin Centre and I have been offering various tours and activities. I have a soft spot for the *Life of a Convict* tour, where the group arrives and we treat them as prisoners were treated in the year 1860. It is an interactive tour, so it is very dynamic and the guides take up roles as well. A doctor examines the prisoners and the jailer teaches them about their future life inside the prison. Playing the role of the jailer has its fun moments. Not only do I get to handcuff people, I can also yell at them and get away with it! ;)



Name: Ryan van den Berg
Hometown: Ottawa
Field of studies: B.A. Canadian Studies, M.A. Educational Studies

My favourite tour to give is the *Discovery Tour* because of the open, two-way conversation that tends to develop between the visitors and the guide. While not as theatrical as the *Life of a Convict*, you really get to know the visitors and can cater to their interests!



Name: Tiffany Lussier
Hometown: Quebec City
Field of studies: Comedy script-writing and psychology

There are certain parts of each tour which I prefer. In *Discovery Tour*, I particularly enjoy informing people about the evolution of prison conditions throughout time as I think it is something that, as a society, we should know more about. I also greatly enjoy being the nurse in *Life of a Convict* as I have always had morbid fascinations, so discussing amputations and various diseases is always appealing to me – and the guests seem to like the gruesome details.

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

MEET OUR MORRIN CENTRE TOUR GUIDES



Name: Philippe Martin

Hometown: Sainte-Foy

Field of studies: B.A. History, M.A. History

My favourite tour is the *Discovery Tour* because it allows me to really get to know visitors through conversation. Moreover, this tour allows me to use my sense of humour to make the visitors' experience unique. I also have a soft spot for *Teatime* at the Morrin because the responsibilities that have been assigned to me bring out my best qualities: honesty, audacity, benevolence – and humility!



Name: Malena Johnson

Hometown: Quebec City

Field of studies: Creative Arts, Literature and Languages

Nothing makes me happier then when I bring a group into the library and they all gasp because of how beautiful it is. My favourite role is the maid who serves afternoon tea during the Morrin Centre's new *Teatime* activity. I almost feel as if I was part of *Downton Abbey*!



Name: Janick Tremblay

Hometown: Salaberry-de-Valleyfield

Field of studies: Masters in English Literature

The *Discovery Tour* is my favourite. I love talking about the various functions of the building over time and about the role of the Morrin Centre in present-day Quebec City. I also enjoy this tour because of the way it enables me to connect and interact with the visitors in more depth, answering their questions and learning more about them and where they come from. It's always a privilege! The role of the matron of the prison during *Life of a Convict*, though she is very authoritative, is my personal favourite. I like how the visitors seem to find her endearing despite her rather stern and unfriendly manners. Playing a character whose personality is so different from mine is what makes the matron such an enjoyable challenge.

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

TWO CENTURIES OF TEA AT THE MORRIN CENTRE

By Elizabeth Perreault

Foodies and bloggers have elected tea as one of the top ten food trends in 2014 – but here at the Morrin, it's been trendy forever. Tea has been served here since the building opened as the common gaol in 1813, and still today the staff often end their workday with a cuppa. Now we are sharing our 200-year old tradition with the public.

On June 7, *Teatime* at the Morrin Centre officially opened to the public, and over 120 people have already attended this addition to our summer programming. Participants travel back in time as our costumed guides greet them and usher them into the library. Built at a time when Britain's love affair with this beverage first swept through all the social classes of the nation and beyond, our building's Victorian decor and English charm is the ideal setting to experience afternoon tea. Our fine bone china, tiered platters, delicate teacups and saucers, dainty teaspoons and sugar tongs set an atmosphere of elegant refinement.

While teatime at the Morrin is synonymous with sophistication and casual conversation, it is also an opportunity to learn how tea has played a large role in colonization, revolution and even war. From now until Labour Day weekend, participants can sample a variety of teas and cookies while our guides explain the history of tea, starting with its origins in China 3,000 years ago. Afternoon tea as the social activity that we know today would not exist without a royal marriage, an aristocrat's need for an afternoon snack or, in Quebec's case, the Conquest. Guests can also learn about the less refined part that tea has played in this building's past as the city's first common gaol.

Adults and children alike are welcome to join us on Saturdays and Sundays at 4 and 5 p.m. to discover why Henry James wrote: "There are few hours in life more agreeable than the hour dedicated to the ceremony known as afternoon tea." For more information or to purchase a ticket, visit www.morrin.org. ■

MISCELLANEA

MUSIC REVIEW: EMA—THE FUTURE'S VOID

By Barry McCullough

EMA



Erika M. Anderson is better known by her stage name EMA. Originally from South Dakota, she left everything behind and headed for Los Angeles, eventually forming the lo-fi folk band Gowns. Part of this experience was described at length

on the track "California" from her outstanding 2011 album, *Past Life Martyred Saints*. After the widespread critical acclaim for her last record, she signed to indie "giant" record label Matador for her latest release, *The Future's Void*, which came out in April.

Upon initial listens, the album feels a bit more accessible than her previous effort. The tunes are catchier tunes

than those on *Past Life*, and include the buzzing drum-loop filled opener "Satellites" and the '90s acoustic jangle of "So Blonde." "3Jane" slows things down a bit.

Side 2 (for those of you listening on vinyl – I mean it's on purple vinyl!) slows the pace with the sparse, intimate and gripping "100 Years." The album could have ended with this, but instead things pick up again with "Solace," which speaks of freeways, Atlanta and the Plains States. The organ-driven closer, "Dead Celebrity," is one of the album's finest moments.

Following up well-received albums is not an easy task. Even though the album may not reach the lofty heights of *Past Life*, *The Future's Void* is still one of the finer records of the first half of 2014. Admirably, EMA has carved out new territory and hasn't merely offered a regurgitation of her previous work. I'm already looking forward to hear what she has in store on album #3. ■

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CONGRATULATIONS!



Congratulations to former Library Manager Louis Carmain (whom you probably knew under a different name) for his first novel **Guano**. This accomplished French-language novel recently won the **Prix littéraire des collégiens** and was shortlisted for the **Grand Prix Littéraire Archambault**. Set in 1860s Peru, the novel provides a satirical look at a conflict with Spain over the guano trade.

Carmain managed the library at the Morrin Centre from 2007 to 2010.

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Reach out to a **broad range of people** interested in Quebec City's **heritage** and **English-language culture**

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For more information contact the Morrin Centre
at info@morrin.org

Teatime



"There are few hours in life more agreeable than the hour dedicated to the ceremony known as afternoon tea."
- Henry James

Come sample traditional teas and pastries while boning up on Victorian etiquette and teatime customs in our historic library which boasts a collection of over 20,000 books, a spiral staircase reminiscent of the library in Disney's Beauty and the Beast and artifacts dating back to a time when afternoon tea was in fashion. Teatime at the Morrin will be the opportunity to celebrate special occasions or to simply discover the English heritage that is part of our city's history.

Tea is served in the **Morrin Centre** library on Saturdays & Sundays
at 4 & 5 p.m.

Cost:

General: \$10.00 + tax

Children 8 years of age and younger: Free

Tickets available online at morrin.org.

