

# Katherine Govier

## About Katherine

Katherine has published 10 novels, 3 short story collections and 2 anthologies of travel writing. She has won the City of Toronto Book Award and the Findley- Engel Award for a writer in mid-career. She is a Distinguished Alumna of The University of Alberta, one of York University's "Famous Fifty" alumni, and was recognized by the Canadian Civil Liberties Association in 2018 for Excellence in the Arts. In 2019 she received the Order of Canada in 2019 for her contributions to literature. In 2022 she received the Queen Elizabeth Platinum Jubilee Medal from the Province of Alberta.

Katherine's novel **CREATION**, about John James Audubon, was a New York Times Notable Book of the Year. Her novel **THE GHOST BRUSH** has been published in the United States, France, Spain, Romania, Latvia, and Japan. Her most recent novel is **THE THREE SISTERS BAR AND HOTEL**, set in the fictional town of Gateway, on the eastern slopes of the Rockies.

Katherine was born in Edmonton and grew up in Edmonton and Calgary, skiing and hiking around Banff. She now divides her time between Toronto and Canmore, with her husband Nick and two grown children. She has been President of PENCanada and Chair of the Writers' Trust. She founded and directed The Shoe Project, a nationwide writing workshop for refugee and immigrant women, in which they write about the shoes that symbolize their journey to Canada.

## Curriculum Vitae

### EDUCATION

M.A. English, York University, Toronto, Canada (1972)

B.A. Honours English (first class), The University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada (1970)

Shodan (black belt) Kobudo, ancient Japanese weapons (2002); Brown Belt, Iaido, Japanese sword (2003)

Illustrated Japanese Books, 1 week course, 2006, Rare Books School, University of Virginia

**PUBLICATIONS**

**FICTION**

**2016**

**THE THREE SISTERS BAR AND HOTEL, a novel**

Harper Avenue 2016

**2014**

**HALF FOR YOU AND HALF FOR ME, an anthology**

Whitecap Books, 2014

**2011**

**THE PRINTMAKER'S DAUGHTER, a novel**

Harper Collins, US, 2011

A Harper Perennial paperback

(published in Canada as The Ghost Brush)

**2010**

**THE GHOST BRUSH, a novel**

Harper Collins, 2010

(published in the US under the title The Printmaker's Daughter)

**2005**

**THREE VIEWS OF CRYSTAL WATER, a novel**

4th Estate, London, 2005

Harper Collins, Toronto, 2005

Harper Perennial, Toronto and London, 2006

**2002**

**CREATION, a novel**

Random House Canada, 2002

Overlook Press, New York, 2003

Vintage Canada, 2003

**2000**

**THE TRUTH TELLER, a novel**

Random House Canada, 2000

Vintage Canada, 2001

**1996**

**ANGEL WALK, a novel**

Little, Brown Canada, 1996

Little, Brown Canada, 1997; reprint - Vintage Canada, 2000

**1994**

**THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PHOTOGRAPHY GALLERY, short stories**

Little, Brown Canada, 1994

Little, Brown Canada, 1995; reprint - Vintage Canada, 2000

**1991**

**HEARTS OF FLAME, a novel**

Viking Canada, 1991

Penguin Canada, 1992

**1989**

**BEFORE AND AFTER, a collection of short stories,**

Viking Canada, 1989

Penguin Canada, 1990

**1987**

**BETWEEN MEN, a novel**

Viking Canada, 1987

Penguin Canada, 1988

Viking U.K., 1988

Penguin U.K., 1988

**1985**

**FABLES OF BRUNSWICK AVENUE, short stories**

Penguin Canada, 1985

Penguin U.K., 1986

Harper Perennial Canada, 2005

**1982**

**GOING THROUGH THE MOTIONS, a novel**

McClelland & Stewart, Toronto, 1982

St. Martins Press, New York, 1983

Seal Books, Toronto, 1983

**1979**

**RANDOM DESCENT, a novel**

Macmillan of Canada, 1979,

New American Library, 1980

Penguin Canada and U.K., 1986

Vintage Canada, 2000

**NON-FICTION, editor**

## **2003**

**SOLO: WRITERS ON PILGRIMAGE:** Stories by Margaret Atwood, Ivan Klima, Mark Kurlansky, Kate Grenville and others.

McClelland and Stewart, Toronto

Mondadori, Italy

Mouria, Netherlands

## **1994**

**WITHOUT A GUIDE:** Contemporary Women's Travel Adventures MacFarlane, Walter & Ross, Toronto, 1994

Hungry Mind Press, U.S, 1996

Pandora UK, 1996

Bzztoh, Netherlands, 1996

## **WRITING ON/WITH ART AND ARTISTS**

"Moorings" in Tim Zuck: Learning to Talk, Art Gallery of Nova Scotia /Museums London 2002

"Chasing Audubon". Imperial Oil Review, Toronto 2002

"Lisette Model, A Life in Pictures" in PAPER GUITAR: 27 WRITERS CELEBRATE 25 YEARS OF DESCANT MAGAZINE, HarperCollins Publishers Ltd 1995

"Grass", The McIntyre Ranch Project, Southern Albert Art Gallery, 2005. A wall mounted prose poem in exhibition of visual and prose artists.

## **ARTICLES AND REVIEWS**

Published widely in Canada, the UK and the USA in such magazines and newspapers as Time Canada, The Washington Post, Harpers& Queen, Saturday Night, The Walrus, Macleans, the Globe and Mail, the National Post, the Toronto Star, and others.

## **SCRIPTS**

1997 'Angel Walk': for Bravo Fact video

1998 'Angel Walk': full-length dramatization for Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) Radio

1994 'The Immaculate Conception Photography Gallery': 3 stories for CBC radio

1992 'The Immaculate Conception Photography Gallery': television half-hour commissioned by CBC

1989 Three stories from BEFORE AND AFTER, ' Toronto / New York ', 'Monte Carlo Night', and 'The Bomb Scare': for CBC radio

## **KEYNOTE SPEECHES**

2023 The Hurtig Lecture on the Future of Canada, October 5, University of Alberta, Edmonton  
2016 European Alpbach Forum in Alpbach, Austria, August

### **SPEAKING TOURS**

2006 India tour: World Book Fair, New Delhi; American International School, Delhi University  
2004 Princeton University Canadian Studies program  
2004 Tokyo-Embassy of Canada  
2003 New York and Boston Public Libraries  
2002 Distinguished Visiting Lecturer, Alberta College of Art and Design, Calgary, Alberta  
2000 Fellow, Maclean Hunter Program for Creative Non-Fiction, Banff Center for the Arts, Chaired by Michael Ignatieff, July.  
1995 Lahti International Writers' Reunion, June, Lahti, Finland (Representing Canada)  
1993 Reading tour of Japan, at invitation of the Canadian Embassy

### **AWARDS**

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Medal, (Alberta) April 2023  
The Order of Canada, December 2019  
"Famous Fifty": one of 50 alumni chosen to celebrate 50 years of York University, Toronto  
Distinguished Alumni Award, University of Alberta, 1998  
Marian Engel Award for a Woman Writer in mid-Career, 1997  
Toronto Book Award, *Hearts of Flame*, 1993

### **ACTIVITIES**

2011-2023 founder, director, Board Chair and Board Member Emerita, The Shoe Project  
2005- 2007 Board member Toronto Arts Council  
2000- 2018 Board member, Canadian Council for Civil Liberties  
1997- 2000 Board Member, Canadian Centre for Studies in Publishing, Simon Fraser University  
1997-98 President, PEN Canada  
1989-92 Chair, Writers' Development Trust

### **APPOINTMENTS**

Visiting Lecturer, Canadian Journalism for Foreign Trained Writers, Sheridan College, Oakville, Ontario  
Writer-in-Residence, Richmond Hill Public Library  
Lecturer, Journalism After Degree Program (JRAD), Ryerson Politechnical University, Toronto 2002  
Writer-in -Residence, Toronto Reference Library, April- June, 1998  
Writer-in-Residence, Toronto Public Library System, October 1994-April 1995

Research Fellow, Leeds University, Leeds, England, 1987

Visiting Lecturer, Program in Creative Writing, York University, Toronto 1982-1986

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