



## Writer Ann Elizabeth Carson Launches *The Risks of Remembrance* on November 2/10

Toronto, Ontario – October 01, 2010 –

Writer, poet and sculptor **Ann Elizabeth Carson** asks: *What is remembrance and what does it mean?* in her new book of poems, ***The Risks of Remembrance***, (Words Indeed, Toronto) launching on November 2, 2010, 7:00 p.m. at The Toronto Heliconian Club, 35 Hazelton Ave., Toronto.

Carson's subtle, accessible poems risk "one fierce question at a time" as she excavates the "layered mulch of memory." In perceptive and detailed imagery she unfolds how we create mythologies of our lives in "life's long fact-fiction dance." Carson observes how we create composites of memories that shape and re-shape us: the changing meanings we take from memories mould how we see and interact with life. "Some pasts never get older/And there are some to which we can never return."

A poetics of sustained, layered reflection allows the reader to consider how we experience memory and what meaning we ultimately take from our memories. "And you cannot go back to a time when it wasn't there."

Carson's new work presents images that untangle the skeins of life and offer the possibility of transforming travail into songs of celebration. Sustained by the comfort offered by the creatures of the air and of the water, the "thin humming ache" of sorrow is eased, "voices sing in the winds" and long sought-after peace spills onto the page.

Fay Becks, award winning Manitoulin Island poet writes: "Your book is a lovely

publication, both inside and out. I am fascinated by how you manage to encase the reoccurring dread of grief and loss in such a cozy, almost reassuring way, like a shot of whiskey for courage, in a warm cup of tea. The details in your poems show us how to focus on the present. They shine light for those of us who recognize that we will all experience similar wounds and unravellings, if we haven't already."

For review copies: John Parry, [wordsindeed@rogers.com](mailto:wordsindeed@rogers.com) or 416 964 0802.

For more about Ann Elizabeth Carson:

[www.anncarson.com](http://www.anncarson.com)

[www.anncarson.blogspot.com](http://www.anncarson.blogspot.com)

## **2010 Event Information**

*At Art Speaks with Music and Words* at The Toronto Heliconian Club on September 24, Ann read "Norway Poems", a section from *The Risks of Remembrance*, with Roger Greenwald, Norwegian speaker and Brenda Muller on cello. *Flying Dinosaur*, the painting by Jane Burns that illustrates this section was displayed. Ann also read from *The Risks of Remembrance* at a Poetry Festival in July at the Gore Bay Museum on Manitoulin Island and signed books in August at two Manitoulin art galleries. In October she is one of 25 pairs of artists and writers participating in this year's "Cross-pollination Two", sponsored by the Manitoulin Writers' Circle and the Gore Bay Museum and Heritage Centre, and in "The 6 foot by 6 foot Project" sponsored by the Debajehmujig Theatre Group.

Ann Elizabeth Carson leads workshops in the arts, such as: "What's the Difference? Exploring Poetic Prose and Poetry", and "Solutions in your Hands: How the Arts Create a New Perspective in the Way We See Ourselves". Ann recently completed her fourth book, *We All Become Stories: Old Age and the changing experiences of memory*.

## **Biography**

ANN ELIZABETH CARSON – poet, writer, sculptor, feminist, was named one of Toronto's Mille Femmes at the 2008 Luminato Festival which paid tribute to women who have made a contribution to the arts.

Earlier in her career, Ann was psychotherapist focusing on expressive therapies, and also worked as a counselor at York University. A Toronto native and long-time summer resident on Manitoulin Island, she enjoys leading arts workshops and reading from her work. She loves music, theatre, gardening, gallery hopping, bookstore browsing and the company of family and friends.

Also by the author: *My Grandmother's Hair*, a tale about how family stories make our memories and shape our lives (Edgar Kent, 2007); and *Shadows Light*, a collection of poetry and sculptures (Longboat Alliance, 2005).