GETTING STARTED

EXPLORING CONTEMPORARY CANADIAN VOICES: the spoken word

A FREE ONLINE STUDY GUIDE

for Senior English, Drama and Media Arts

produced by
Owen Sound's inaugural Poet Laureate, Liz Zetlin

in collaboration with
the Words Aloud Spoken Word Festival
www.wordsaloud.ca

and in partnership with
Durham Art Gallery, South Grey/Bruce Youth Literacy Council
The Owen Sound North Grey Union Public Library's Poet Laureate Project
www.owensound.library.on.ca/page.php?PageID=80

"This package is student and teacher friendly. Students will be energized, stimulated and entertained by the emotion and intellect of these poets. Teachers will enjoy the willingness of students to offer their opinions about the writing and the performances. Both students and teachers will be inspired to embrace more of their own creativity."
– Doug Abell, English Teacher, John Diefenbaker Secondary School, Hanover, Ontario

© Liz Zetlin 2009

Introduction

The core of the study guide is a set of presentation slides in PDF format that takes the class through a collection of performance, interview and workshop videos on YouTube. There is a set of slides for each lesson that contains bios, background information, warm-up questions, links to the YouTube video content, follow-up questions and suggested activities. The lesson slides are supported by resources such as a glossary, the text of a poem, instructions for planning a poetry slam and more.

Two Approaches

There are two ways to use the study guide:

- Download a single zip file containing the entire study guide in PDF format. This works well if you want to print the materials or if you want offline access to all of the content except the videos. This *Getting Started* document describes this approach, and is part of the complete package downloaded from http://wordsaloud.ca/studyguide/content/download-study-guide.
- Use this Web site to navigate the lessons and read the supporting materials. This is the simplest way (no files to download and manage) but requires Internet access at all times and isn't ideal for printing.

Whichever approach you choose, the lesson slides are always in PDF format and the video content is always online (YouTube).

If you'd like to use the study guide and supporting materials from the Web site, you can skip the rest of this document and browse to http://wordsaloud.ca/studyguide/content/getting-started. Otherwise, read on!

What's in the study guide

Performance, Interview and Workshop Videos

- Over 50 YouTube videos of individual performances by some of Canada's best poets and storytellers, filmed at the 2007 Words Aloud 4 Festival in Durham, Ontario.
- Excerpts from interviews with the performers reveal their writing process, where their inspiration comes from, how they got started, and advice to young writers.
- Writing workshops, filmed live, provide ready-made activities.

Study Guide

- Profiles of 14 of Canada's best poets and storytellers, including bios, photos, discussion questions for previewing, viewing and after viewing the videos and suggested activities. It is available free, as a PDF file at www.wordsaloud.ca/studyguide. Teachers can print out or project sections for classroom use.
- Glossary of terms
- Links to additional resources in print, online, on DVD
- Together, the videos and study guide provide an introduction to the world of contemporary Canadian spoken word (e.g., slam, storytelling, dub, performance and lyric poetry).

What you'll need

- Internet access and projector to view YouTube videos and the online guide
- Adobe Acrobat
- External speakers may be necessary to raise the audio volume for classroom use
- Handouts printed from the guide, if required

How to access the guide and videos

- Download the zip file from http://wordsaloud.ca/studyguide/content/download-study-guide.
- Unzip the file to create the following support and lesson files:
    - Support
        - Getting Started.pdf (this document)
        - Teaching Tips.pdf
        - What is Spoken Word.pdf
        - Glossary.pdf
        - Additional Resources.pdf
        - How to Plan a Poetry Slam.pdf
        - Globetrotter by Amo Ede.pdf
    - Lessons
        - Koyczan.pdf
        - Priest.pdf
        - Silverberg.pdf
        - Hiebert.pdf
        - Pozzuoli.pdf
        - Mullin.pdf
        - White Noise Machine.pdf
        - Halfe.pdf
        - Joseph.pdf
        - Crozier.pdf
        - Crozier Workshop.pdf
        - Steffler.pdf
        - Coyote.pdf
        - Khan.pdf
        - Ede.pdf
- Refer to the Lessons by Genre and Application table for suggested order and classroom applications.
- Read the Important notes on using the PDF lesson slides.
- With an Internet connection established, open a lesson PDF and walk through the slides. Each performance or interview is linked to YouTube - click the title of the poem, interview or workshop, or click the image to view.

Important notes on using the PDF lesson slides

Here are some notes about using the PDF slide shows:

- Downloading the latest version of Adobe Reader is highly recommended:

  http://get.adobe.com/reader/

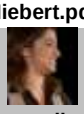
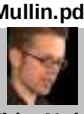
- You may be prompted to open the PDF in full-screen view. If so, click **Yes**, and select the **Remember my choice** check box. To leave full-screen view, press the Escape key. To return to full-screen, press Ctrl-L (Command-L on a Mac).

- When you click a video link in a lesson (either the title of the piece of the YouTube graphic) you may be prompted to allow the PDF to open a Web site. Click **Allow**, and select the **Remember my action** check box to avoid this prompt in the future.

- Once you have finished the video, close the Web browser window and return to Adobe Reader for the next slide.

- It's possible that Adobe Reader has been set up not to allow Web links. In that case, you will not be prompted and the link will not work. To fix this, can change the security settings in Adobe Reader as follows: Preferences > Trust Manager > Change Settings > Default behavior for Web sites that are not on the list.

Lessons by Genre and Application

	Spoken Word	Dub	First Nations	Slam	Lyric	Storytelling	Song-writing	Children's Literature	Writer-in-Exile	English	Dramatic Arts	Media Arts
 Koyczan.pdf	■				■					■	■	
 Priest.pdf	■				■		■	■		■	■	
 Silverberg.pdf	■			■						■	■	
 Hiebert.pdf	■			■						■	■	
 Pozzuoli.pdf	■			■						■	■	
 Mullin.pdf	■			■						■	■	
 White Noise Machine.pdf	■			■						■	■	■
 Halfe.pdf			■		■					■	■	
 Joseph.pdf	■	■								■	■	
 Crozier.pdf					■					■		
 Steffler.pdf					■					■		
 Coyote.pdf	■					■				■	■	
 Khan.pdf	■					■		■		■		
 Ede.pdf					■				■	■		

For more information

Contact Liz Zetlin, **ezetlin@gmail.com**, 519-986-4073