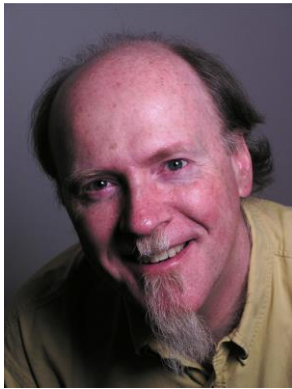


2014 Kent Centennial – A Commemoration of Rockwell Kent In Newfoundland

Curators, Moderators and Presenters

Dennis Costanzo is an associate professor of art history at the State University of New York at Plattsburgh. He is originally from St. Paul, and he received his BA in art history from the University of Minnesota and his PhD from the University of Michigan. In addition to SUNY Plattsburgh he has also taught at Illinois State University and Tulane University. He has published on various aspects of later nineteenth-century and early twentieth-century art, including three recent articles on Rockwell Kent.



Mac Furlong acts, writes and makes music in St. John's. He appeared as Paul Moth in the cult CBC radio classics *The Great Eastern* and *Sunny Days and Nights*, which he co-created. He serves as co-artistic director with Sound Symposium and plays percussion with the Black Auks, an improvisation group whose agenda is to partake deeply of experience.

Mack has long been a Rockwell Kent aficionado. He co-authored the play *I Want it All* with the late Fran Locke, based on Kent's time in Newfoundland and great gusto for life.



Caroline Stone is Curator, Collections at The Rooms Provincial Art Gallery (St. John's, NL), coming to that gallery when it was established in 2003. She worked in art exhibition and education roles for its predecessor, Memorial University of Newfoundland Art Gallery/The Art Gallery of Newfoundland and Labrador, since 1983.

At The Rooms, Stone has been involved in collections development and exhibitions, particularly those about Newfoundland and Labrador. Recent projects included the nationally touring retrospective Mary Pratt and The Rooms cross-divisional exhibition *Back in the Day: David Blackwood's Newfoundland and Labrador*. She is curating *Pointed North: Rockwell Kent in Newfoundland and Labrador* for the summer of 2014, and conducting research for a large exhibition about Newfoundland and Labrador artist Gerald Squires.

Stone holds a BA (visual arts) from the University of Ottawa and an M. Phil. in Humanities from Memorial University of Newfoundland. She lives in Paradise, NL.

2014 Kent Centennial – A Commemoration of Rockwell Kent In Newfoundland

Curators, Moderators and Presenters



Frederick Lewis is a documentary filmmaker, freelance writer, and a professor in the School of Media Arts & Studies at Ohio University. He has received numerous grants, awards and nominations for his productions, which have aired on PBS stations across the U.S. and screened at various universities, film festivals and museums, including the National Gallery of Art. These projects have taken him to

Russia, Greenland, Argentina, Chile (sailing to Cape Horn), Denmark, Ireland, Newfoundland and Alaska.

The Washington Post wrote that his 2-part, 3-hour documentary on artist, adventurer, political activist Rockwell Kent, “plays like a two-night installment of PBS’s ‘American Masters,’ calling it a sweeping, detailed, visually rich portrait of a man who emerges as a complex, compelling and finally contradictory force of nature, a charismatic reflection of the eras in which he lived...”

Professor Lewis is a recipient of the Presidential Teacher Award, Ohio University’s highest honor for transformative teaching, curriculum innovation and mentoring. He has also taught at Boston University and the Rhode Island School of Design. Internationally he has professed at Leeds Metropolitan University in Yorkshire, UK, and the University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy in Ukraine. He has been a visiting lecturer at the University of Social Sciences and Humanities, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, and a U.S. Embassy (Berlin, Germany) lecturer at Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg and the University of Freiburg in Saxony.

A strong proponent and practitioner of experiential education, he has designed and directed international study programs in Malaysia, Guyana, Ecuador, Germany and Ireland, having taken more than 130 students overseas.



Kevin Major was born in Stephenville, NL, and graduated from Memorial University and then taught school for a number of years. He is the author of 16 books, for both young people and adults. The first, *Hold Fast*, won several awards in Canada and was placed on the Hans Christian Andersen Honour List. It has just been released as a movie. The second book, *Far From Shore*, was the winner of the first Canadian Young Adult Book Award. Others which followed include *Blood Red Ochre* and *Eating Between the Lines*, winner of the CACL Book-of-the-Year Award.

2014 Kent Centennial – A Commemoration of Rockwell Kent In Newfoundland

Curators, Moderators and Presenters

In 1992 Kevin was given the Vicky Metcalf Award, for an outstanding body of work of significance to young people. The languages into which his work has been translated include French, Danish, German, Spanish, Portuguese, and Hebrew.

An adult novel, *No Man's Land*, about the Newfoundland Regiment in World War I, was published in 1995. Kevin adapted it for the stage, and was performed each summer for a dozen years by Rising Tide Theatre in Newfoundland. His more recent books include a history of Newfoundland and Labrador: *As Near To Heaven By Sea* (a Canadian best-seller and finalist for the Pearson Non-Fiction Prize). *Ann and Seamus*, released in 2003 was shortlisted for a total of eight awards. It has since been turned into an opera. Performed by Shallaway Choir, it has toured nationally and internationally.

His most recent play for Rising Tide Theatre, *Lead Me Home*, went on stage in 2009. It centres on the sinking of the Cabot Strait ferry, the S.S. *Caribou*, by a German U-boat in October of 1942. A adult novel, *New Under the Sun* was released by Cormorant Books in 2010.

Kevin has been named the Newfoundland and Labrador Arts Council's Artist-of-the-Year, and in 2011 was awarded an honorary degree by Memorial University.

John Moss, writing in "A Reader's Guide to the Canadian Novel," has said, "Kevin Major is among the best Canadian writers of his generation. He has established himself as a figure of singular importance in our literature.



Constance Martin is a Research Associate and Fellow at the Arctic Institute of North America, University of Calgary. She holds a University of Calgary BA and MA in History and Art History.

She has taught art history at both the Alberta College of Art and the University of Calgary, and has given numerous lectures on the Arctic, including a lecture entitled "Toward No Earthly Pole: the Search for Franklin in Nineteenth Century Art" at the National Museum of Man in Ottawa.

In addition, in the 1980s she was a co-owner of an art gallery in Calgary. Later she organized art tours to New York; Washington, DC; San Francisco and Japan, as well as participating in two Rockwell Kent symposiums on Monhegan Island, Maine in 2003 and 2007.

Awards include grants from the Canada Council, the Alberta Foundation for the Literary Arts, the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, the Arctic Institute of North America, and the Gladys Kriebel Delmas Foundation, as well as funding from various corporations in Calgary.

Constance curated the exhibition *Distant Shores: The Odyssey of Rockwell Kent* for the Norman Rockwell Museum in Stockbridge, Massachusetts, which subsequently travelled to museums in

2014 Kent Centennial – A Commemoration of Rockwell Kent In Newfoundland

Curators, Moderators and Presenters

Florida, Chicago and Alaska, and gave rise to a book co-authored with Richard West, Director of the Fry Museum, Seattle, and published by the University of California Press, Berkeley, in 2000. Patronage and funding for *Distant Shores* was provided by the Norman Rockwell Museum and R. R. Donnelly & Sons Company, Chicago.

In addition to *Distant Shores*, her exhibitions and accompanying catalogues include *James Hamilton: Arctic Watercolours* (Glenbow Museum, Calgary, 1983-84); *J. Dewey Soper's Arctic Watercolours* (Nickle Arts Museum, University of Calgary, 1995); and *The Search for the Blue Goose: J. Dewey Soper, The Arctic Adventures of a Canadian Naturalist* (Bayeux Arts Press). She also co-edited the book *Elisha Kent Kane's Arctic Explorations: The Second Grinnell Expedition in Search of Sir John Franklin, 1853, 54, 55* with Dr. Chauncey Loomis, English Department, Dartmouth College for R. R. Donnelly & Sons Company, Lakeside Press in 1996.

Research and study have taken Constance to the following collections: The New York Public Library; Columbia University, New York; The Scott Polar Institute, Cambridge, England; the Royal Society in London; the Royal Geographic Society in London; the Hydrographic Office, Taunton, England; Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts; the Steffanson Collection, Dartmouth College, Hanover, New Hampshire; Monhegan Island, Maine; and the Hermitage Museum in St. Petersburg, Russia.



Peter Neary was born on Bell Island, Conception Bay, Newfoundland, and is a graduate of Memorial University and the University of London. He has written extensively on the history of Newfoundland and Labrador. He is the author of *Newfoundland in the North Atlantic World, 1929-1949* (1988) and *On To Civvy Street: Canada's Rehabilitation Program for Veterans of the Second World War* (2011), the co-author of *Part of the Main: An Illustrated History of Newfoundland and Labrador* (1983), and the editor of *White Tie and Decorations: Sir John and Lady Hope Simpson in Newfoundland, 1934-1936* (1996). His contributions to the art history of Newfoundland and Labrador include essays on Clare Bice, Frederic Edwin Church, Alan Collier, Maurice Cullen, and Rhoda Dawson. He is a Professor Emeritus in the Department of History, University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario.

Robert Rightmire had a thirty-year career of teaching at both the high school and college levels. He has written more than 25 articles on the American artist, Rockwell Kent and is the author of revised edition of *The Prints of Rockwell Kent, A Catalogue Raisonné*, which was published in 2002 and *The Greeting Cards of Rockwell Kent* in 2013.

He has been a guest speaker at SUNY Cortland & SUNY Plattsburgh, St. Joseph's College, the Norman Rockwell Museum and the Cortland County Historical Society. In 2010, he curated an exhibition at the Cortland Free Library devoted to the work of Ryah Ludins, whose mural graces the Cortland Post Office.

2014 Kent Centennial – A Commemoration of Rockwell Kent In Newfoundland

Curators, Moderators and Presenters

He has written articles on such vastly different topics as the 1960's TV show, Rowan & Martin's Laugh-In and on a long forgotten medal honoring Abraham Lincoln.



Edward Roberts Edward Roberts has been involved in public life in Newfoundland and Labrador for more than fifty years, as a journalist, lawyer, and politician. He was a member of the House of Assembly for twenty-three years and served as Newfoundland and Labrador's lieutenant governor between 2002 and 2008. He has long been passionately interested in the history of Newfoundland and her people.



Will Ross is an administrative judge with the United States Department of Defense. He has been a collector, writer and lecturer about Rockwell Kent for over 20 years. Will concentrates on the advertising and illustration art of Kent, as well as RK's often controversial political and legal activities. He was the guest curator at the exhibition "Rockwell Kent: Bringing Art to Advertising," which was shown at the SUNY-Plattsburgh Art Museum. In addition to Kent, he writes and lectures about diverse subjects including stamps, grief recovery, the law of security clearances, and President Ronald Reagan. Will, and his Australian-born wife Joanne, are pleased to be in Newfoundland and look forward to exploring the province and making new friends.



Jane Urquhart, one of Canada's best loved writers, was born in the north, (in Little Longlac, Ontario), and grew up in Northumberland County and Toronto. She is the author of seven internationally acclaimed novels: *The Whirlpool*, which received Le prix du meilleur livre étranger (Best Foreign Book Award) in France; *Changing Heaven*; *Away*, winner of the Trillium Award and a finalist for the prestigious International IMPAC Dublin Literary Award; *The Underpainter*, winner of the Governor General's Award, a finalist for the Rogers Communications Writers' Trust Fiction Prize, and long-listed for the Orange Prize in Britain; *The Stone Carvers*, which was a finalist for The Giller Prize and the Governor General's Award, and longlisted for the Booker Prize; *A Map of Glass*, a finalist for a Commonwealth Writers' Prize for Best Book, and, most recently, *Sanctuary Line*. She is also the author of a collection of short fiction, *Storm Glass*, and four books of poetry, *I Am Walking in the Garden of His Imaginary Palace*, *False Shuffles*, *The Little Flowers of Madame de Montespan*, and *Some Other Garden*. Her work has been translated into numerous foreign languages. Urquhart has received the Marian Engel Award and the Harbourfront Festival Prize, and is a Chevalier dans l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres in France and an Officer of the Order of Canada. She was invited to deliver the 2011 Pratt Lecture and was recently named the Banff Distinguished Writer.

2014 Kent Centennial – A Commemoration of Rockwell Kent In Newfoundland

Curators, Moderators and Presenters

She holds an Honorary Doctorate from MUN and was the 1992 writer-in-residence at MUN (when she discovered and fell in love with Kent Cottage).

Urquhart has received nine honorary doctorates from Canadian universities and has been writer-in-residence at the University of Ottawa and at Memorial University of Newfoundland, the University of Toronto, and the University of Guelph. She has also given readings and lectures in Canada, Britain, Europe, the U.S.A., and Australia. In 2007 she edited and published “The Penguin Book of Canadian Short Stories,” and in 2009 she published a biography of Lucy Maud Montgomery as part of Penguin’s “Extraordinary Canadians” series.

Jane Urquhart lives in Northumberland County Ontario, Canada, and occasionally in Ireland.



Eleanor Wachtel is the host and co-founder of CBC Radio's *Writers & Company*, which recently celebrated its 23rd anniversary and won the New York Festivals Award. She also co-founded and hosts *Wachtel on the Arts*. Her most recent books are *Original Minds* and *Random Illuminations: Conversations With Carol Shields*, which won the Independent Publisher Book Award. Wachtel has received many honours for her contributions to Canadian cultural life including eight honorary degrees and the Order of Canada.



Richard V. West is currently Director Emeritus of the Frye Art Museum in Seattle, Washington. After completion of graduate work in Art History at the University of California, Berkeley, West was awarded a Ford Foundation fellowship at the Cleveland Art Museum in Ohio and subsequently at the Albright-Knox Art Gallery in Buffalo, New York. Shortly after being appointed Director and Curator of the Bowdoin College Museum of Art (Brunswick, Maine) in 1967, West befriended the artist Rockwell Kent, which led to the organization of the last major exhibition in that artist’s lifetime, *Rockwell Kent: The Early Years*. The occasionally dramatic events surrounding that exhibition were

described in his essay “Recalling Rockwell,” which appeared in the 2005 exhibition catalogue, *Rockwell Kent: The Mythic and the Modern*, organized by the Portland (Maine) Museum of Art.

In 1977, West published an article, “Rockwell Kent Reconsidered,” in the *American Art Review*, which contributed to a new appreciation of an artist whose career had been obscured by the political and artistic events of the mid-twentieth century. In 1985, West organized and curated a major Kent painting retrospective at the Santa Barbara Museum of Art, “An Enkindled Eye:

2014 Kent Centennial – A Commemoration of Rockwell Kent In Newfoundland

Curators, Moderators and Presenters

The Paintings of Rockwell Kent”. The exhibition toured nationally. The emergence of Kent as a painter early in the century and the political and domestic issues that faced Kent in post-war

America are described in the essays “Before the Odyssey” and “After the Odyssey” in *Distant Shores: The Odyssey of Rockwell Kent*, organized by the Norman Rockwell Museum in 2000. West has made presentations at numerous symposia dedicated to Kent and his art over the years and is currently compiling an annotated checklist of Kent paintings. In his role as curator and museum director, West has also been a staunch advocate of contemporary representational art and currently serves as a Trustee of the Gage Academy of Art in Seattle.



Jake Milgram Wien is an independent curator and historian. He has curated and written publications for *Rockwell Kent in Greenland* (Silkeborg Kunstnerhus, Denmark, 1995), *Rockwell Kent: The Mythic and the Modern* (Portland Museum of Art, Maine, 2005), and *Rockwell Kent: Visionary Works from Greenland* (Lighthouse Center for the Arts, Florida, 2008), and co-authored *Rockwell Kent's 'Egypt':*

Shadow and Light in Vermont (Bennington Museum, Vermont, 2012). He is currently co-curating an exhibition exploring the relationship between Thomas Hart Benton and Hollywood and is completing the catalogue raisonné of prints, drawings, and paintings by Paul Landacre.

Michael Winter grew up in Newfoundland and now lives in Toronto. He is the author of five novels and two collections of short fiction.

His novel, *The Big Why*, centers around Rockwell Kent's life in Newfoundland. To avoid his own inadequacy at writing historical fiction, Winter adopted the voice of an elderly Kent -- a man who lived into his nineties and was still alive when Winter was born, thus escaping the definition of historical fiction (the action takes place prior to the author's birth).

