

# Thomas Merton Society of Canada 2005-06 Programs

**Fri. Sept. 30**  
7:30 pm  
**Subversive Orthodoxy: Outlaws, Revolutionaries, and Other Christians in Disguise**  
Thomas Merton's Life and Thought Series  
Co-sponsored by the TMSC and Vancouver Public Library  
Vancouver Public Library - Central Branch  
350 West Georgia Street, Vancouver (Hamilton & Georgia)  
Speaker: Robert Inchausti - Free

**Sat. Oct. 1**  
2 pm - 4 pm  
**Philosophers' Café**  
**Subversive Orthodoxy: Outlaws, Revolutionaries, and Other Christians in Disguise**  
St. John's United Church  
1401 Comox Street, Vancouver (Broughton & Comox)  
Facilitator: Robert Inchausti - Cost: \$10

**Fri. Oct. 21**  
7:30 pm  
**The Sacred Art of Listening**  
Thomas Merton's Life and Thought Series  
Co-sponsored by the TMSC and Vancouver Public Library  
Vancouver Public Library - Central Branch  
Speaker: Kay Lindahl - Free

**Sat. Oct. 22**  
10 am - 4 pm  
**Seminar-The Sacred Art of Listening**  
Canadian Memorial Church & Centre for Peace  
1825 W. 16th Avenue, Vancouver (16th & Burrard)  
Leader: Kay Lindahl - Cost: \$50 (includes lunch)

**Wed. Nov. 9**  
7:30 pm  
**Thomas Merton and the Beats of the North Cascades**  
Thomas Merton's Life and Thought Series  
Co-sponsored by the TMSC and Vancouver Public Library  
Vancouver Public Library - Central Branch  
Speaker: Ron Dart - Free

**Sat. Nov. 12**  
10 am - 4 pm  
**Something Far Beyond Ourselves:**  
**Thomas Merton and Spiritual Autobiography**  
One-Day Retreat  
Canadian Memorial Church & Centre for Peace  
1825 W. 16th Avenue, Vancouver (16th & Burrard)  
Retreat leader: Bonnie Thurston  
Cost: \$55 TMSC member; \$65 non-member (includes lunch)  
Limit: 20 participants

**Mon. Nov. 14**  
7:30 p.m.  
**'I Woke Up': Thomas Merton and Buddhism**  
Sponsored by the Chair of Christian Thought, University of Calgary  
St. Mary's University College, 14500 Bannister Rd. S.E., Calgary  
Speaker: Bonnie Thurston - Free

**Tues. Nov. 15**  
12:00 noon  
**Zeal for the Glory of the One God: Thomas Merton and Islam**  
Sponsored by the Chair of Christian Thought, University of Calgary  
Rozsa Centre, University of Calgary  
Speaker: Bonnie Thurston - Free

**Fri. Nov. 18**  
7:30 p.m.  
**Stalking the Holy: The Pursuit of Saint Makers**  
Thomas Merton's Life and Thought Series  
Co-sponsored by the TMSC and Vancouver Public Library  
Vancouver Public Library - Central Branch  
Speaker: Michael Higgins - Free

**Sat. Nov. 19**  
2 - 4 pm  
**Philosophers' Café**  
**Stalking the Holy: The Pursuit of Saint Makers**  
Canadian Memorial Church & Centre for Peace  
1825 W. 16th Avenue, Vancouver (16th & Burrard)  
Facilitator: Michael Higgins  
Cost: \$10

**Jan. 7 - 21**  
**Thomas Merton in Cuba**  
14-day pilgrimage to Cuba following Merton's footsteps from Havana to Matanzas, Camagüey, Santiago de Cuba, El Cobre and Trinidad. Includes fourteen nights accommodation, breakfast and dinner daily, ground transportation by private coach, and services of Cuban guide.  
Cost: \$1,995 (land); \$619/taxes (airfare) Toronto/Havana return; \$929/taxes (airfare) Vancouver/Toronto/Havana return  
Faculty: Anna Baignoche, Donald Grayston, Judith Hardcastle  
Limit: 18 participants

**Wed. Jan. 25**  
7:30 pm  
**Geographical Metaphors of the Soul: Thomas Merton's Sense of Place**  
Thomas Merton's Life and Thought Series  
Co-sponsored by the TMSC and Vancouver Public Library  
Vancouver Public Library - Central Branch  
Speaker: Angus Stuart - Free

**Fri. Feb. 10**  
7:30 pm  
**Concert-A Song for My God: A Concert of Psalms**  
Kathleen Deignan, CND  
Co-sponsored by the TMSC and Vancouver School of Theology's Chalmers Institute  
6050 Chancellor Blvd., Vancouver  
Cost: by donation

**Sat. Feb. 11**  
10 am - 4 pm  
**Retreat-The Great Encircling:**  
**Recovering the Vision of Celtic Spirituality**  
6050 Chancellor Blvd., Vancouver  
Co-sponsored by the TMSC and Vancouver School of Theology's Chalmers Institute  
Leader: Kathleen Deignan, CND  
Cost: \$65 TMSC member; \$75 non-member (includes lunch)

**Wed. Feb. 22**  
7:30 pm  
**Thomas Merton: Exile and Homecoming**  
Thomas Merton's Life and Thought Series  
Co-sponsored by the TMSC and Vancouver Public Library  
Vancouver Public Library - Central Branch  
Speaker: Donald Grayston - Free

**Fri. Mar. 3**  
7:30 pm  
**Conference-Climate of Fear/Commitment to Peace**  
Co-sponsored by the TMSC and Canadian Memorial Church & Centre for Peace  
1825 W. 16th Avenue, Vancouver (16th & Burrard)  
Keynote speaker: Mel Hurtig

**Sat. Mar. 4**  
9 am - 5 pm  
**Climate of Fear/Commitment to Peace**  
Plenary and concurrent presentations and workshops  
Cost: \$55 TMSC member; \$65 non-member (includes lunch)

**Wed. Mar. 15**  
7:30 pm  
**Thomas Merton's Poetics: A Revelation of Love**  
Thomas Merton's Life and Thought Series  
Co-sponsored by the TMSC and Vancouver Public Library  
Vancouver Public Library - Central Branch  
Speaker: Lynn Szabo - Free

**Tues. Apr. 4**  
7:30 pm  
**Three Simple Steps to a Contemplative Lifestyle**  
Thomas Merton's Life and Thought Series  
Co-sponsored by the TMSC and Vancouver Public Library  
Vancouver Public Library - Central Branch  
Speaker: Jeff Imbach - Free

**Tues. May 9**  
7:30 pm  
**Rhinos, Lizards & The Click of Being**  
Thomas Merton's Life and Thought Series  
Co-sponsored by the TMSC and Vancouver Public Library  
Vancouver Public Library - Central Branch  
Speaker: John Porter - Free

**May 18 - 28**  
**Thomas Merton in France**  
10-day pilgrimage to Prades in the south of France. Includes ten nights accommodation, breakfast daily, seven evening meals, scheduled land transportation to St. Michel de Cuxa and St. Antonin. Cost: \$1,995  
Faculty: Kathleen Deignan, CND, Jim Forest, Judith Hardcastle

**Tues. June 6**  
7:30 pm  
**Thomas Merton as Spiritual Mentor**  
Thomas Merton's Life & Thought Series  
Co-sponsored by the TMSC and Vancouver Public Library  
Vancouver Public Library - Central Branch  
Speaker: Doug Beardsley - Free

**July 3 - 7**  
**Official Opening of the Thomas Merton Reading Room**  
Vancouver School of Theology, 6000 Iona Drive, Vancouver  
**Vancouver School of Theology Chalmers Institute Summer School**  
July 3 - 7, 2006, 8:30 - 11:30 am  
"Thomas Merton, Henri Nouwen and Donald Nicholl: Pilgrims of Wisdom and Peace" with Michael Higgins  
**Official Opening of Thomas Merton Reading Room Reception and Public Lecture**  
Tuesday, July 4, 2006, 6:30 pm  
Speakers: Michael Higgins, Paul Pearson  
**A Hidden Wholeness: The Zen Photography of Thomas Merton**  
July 3 - 28, 2006.  
An exhibit of 35 photographs by Thomas Merton.  
Iona Building, Vancouver School of Theology

**July 10 - 12**  
**Thomas Merton and The Beats**  
Leader: Ron Dart  
3-day pilgrimage adventure to the North Cascades with hikes to Desolation Peak and Sourdough Mountain, where the early Beats worked as lookout rangers in the 1950s.  
Includes accommodation at Ross Lake Resort, meals & boat transportation. Cost: \$275 TMSC member; \$325 non-member

## H O W T O R E G I S T E R

By Mail: **Thomas Merton Society of Canada**  
705 - 700 Chilco Street, Vancouver, BC  
V6G 2R1

By Phone: 604-669-2546  
By Fax: 604-669-2594  
By Email: tmsc@telus.net

## R E G I S T R A T I O N F O R M

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

PROVINCE/STATE \_\_\_\_\_

POSTAL/ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE (HOME) \_\_\_\_\_

(WORK)

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

I am registering for the following:

## M E T H O D O F P A Y M E N T

Cheque  Money Order  VISA

(payable to the Thomas Merton Society of Canada)

Amount enclosed/authorized on VISA: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

VISA # \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry Date \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder Name \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

## S P E A K E R B I O G R A P H I E S

**Doug Beardsley** is professor of English at the University of Victoria where he teaches courses in aboriginal literature and the literature of the Shoah. He has published over a dozen books in a career that has spanned more than three decades, including *The Only Country in the World Called Canada*, *Kissing the Body of My Lord: The Marie Poems*, and *Wrestling with Angels*. Doug presented talks on Merton's spiritual theology at conferences in Victoria and San Diego in 2005.

**Ron Dart** teaches in the Department of Political Science, Philosophy and Religious Studies at the University College of the Fraser Valley in Abbotsford, BC. He is author of thirteen books that deal with the interface between literature, spirituality and politics, including *Thomas Merton and the North Cascade Beat Poets*. Ron is the political science advisor to the Stephen Leacock home/museum in Orillia, Ontario. He is a board member of the Thomas Merton Society of Canada.

**Kathleen Deignan**, CND, is a theologian, musician and professor of Spirituality Studies at Iona College in New York, and author of *Christ Spirit: The Eschatology of Shaker Christianity* and *When the Trees Say Nothing: Thomas Merton's Writings on Nature*. Kathleen serves on the Board of the International Thomas Merton Society.

**Jim Forest** has been a newspaper reporter, edited several magazines and journals, headed the staff of the *International Fellowship of Reconciliation*, and now edits the journal, *In Communion*. His many books include *The Wormwood File: E-Mail from Hell*, *Praying with Icons* and biographies of Thomas Merton and Dorothy Day. Thomas Merton dedicated *Faith and Violence* to Jim, and Merton's letters to Jim have been published as part of *The Hidden Ground of Love*. Jim lives in Holland with his wife, Nancy.

**Donald Grayston** taught religious studies at Simon Fraser University in Vancouver for 15 years, for the last three of which he was director of the Institute for the Humanities. An Anglican priest, he is director of the Pacific Jubilee Program in Spiritual Formation and Spiritual Direction at Vancouver School of Theology. Donald is past president of the Thomas Merton Society of Canada, and is currently vice-president of the International Thomas Merton Society.

**Judith Hardcastle**, a candidate for ministry in The United Church of Canada, is in her third year of M. Div. Studies at Vancouver School of Theology. Founding member and program director of the Thomas Merton Society of Canada, she has organized and co-led Merton pilgrimage programs to France, New York and Alaska.

**Michael W. Higgins** is president of St. Jerome's University, a professor of English and Religious Studies, and the author and co-author of numerous books and articles, including the award-winning *Heretic Blood: The Spiritual Geography of Thomas Merton*. His most recent work is *Stalking the Holy: In Pursuit of Saint-Making*, published by Anansi and aired on the CBC Radio One IDEAS program. Michael is a board member of the Thomas Merton Society of Canada.

**Mel Hurtig** is an Officer of the Order of Canada and has been awarded honorary degrees by six Canadian universities. Among his many other awards and honours, are the Lester B. Pearson Man of the Year Peace Award, the Speaker of the Year Award, the Royal Society of Canada's Centenary Medal, and, on two occasions, the Canadian Book Publisher of the Year award. He has been Chairman of the Board of the Canadian Booksellers Association, the National Chairman of the Committee for an Independent Canada, and is the founder and former Chairman of the Council of Canadians. Mel Hurtig also founded and published *The Canadian Encyclopedia*. He is the author of several best-selling books, including *The Betrayal of Canada*, *Pay the Rent or Feed the Kids*, his autobiography *At Twilight in the Country*, *The Vanishing Country* and his latest book *Rushing to Armageddon: The Shocking Truth About Canada, Missile Defence and Star Wars*, which *The Globe and Mail Review* called "perhaps the most important book published in Canada this year."

**Jeff Imbach** is the author of *The Recovery of Love: Christian Mysticism and the Addictive Society* and *The River Within: Loving God, Living Passionately*. Jeff and his brother, Steve, are co-founders of SoulStream, a program for spiritual direction training and a resource for retreats and seminars. Jeff is president of the Henri Nouwen Society in Canada.

**Robert Inchausti** is professor of English at California Polytechnic State University. He is author of *Subversive Orthodoxy: Outlaws, Revolutionaries, and Other Christians in Disguise*, *Thomas Merton's American Prophecy*, and *The Ignorant Perfection of Ordinary People*. He also edited *Seeds*, a popular selection of Thomas Merton's writings.

**Kay Lindahl** is the founder of The Listening Center and is recognized as an inspiring teacher and spiritual guide to people of all religious backgrounds. An ordained interfaith minister, she conducts workshops, seminars and retreats around the world on the sacred art of listening for religious, spiritual, community and business groups. She is author of *The Sacred Art of Listening, Practicing the Sacred Art of Listening* and *How Does God Listen?*

**Paul M. Pearson** is Director and Archivist of The Thomas Merton Center at Bellarmine University in Louisville, Kentucky. He is editor of *Seeking Paradise: The Spirit of the Shakers (Thomas Merton)* and has published many articles on Merton's life and thought. Founding member and former Secretary of the Thomas Merton Society of Great Britain & Ireland, Paul is president of the International Thomas Merton Society. He travels worldwide presenting papers and talks on Thomas Merton.

**John Porter** is the author of *The Thomas Merton Poems* and *Spirit Book Word: An Inquiry into Literature and Spirituality*. Born in Belfast and educated in Canada, he is a passionate and omnivorous reader. John is an accomplished poet, critic and teacher who also writes for the *Literary Review of Canada* and *The Globe and Mail*. He has spoken on Thomas Merton in Canada and the United States.

**Angus Stuart** is Rector of St Francis-in-the-Wood Anglican Church in West Vancouver. He has degrees in Geography and Theology from the Universities of London and Durham respectively and a PhD on the experience of aging and environment from the University of London, England. A former Chair of the Thomas Merton Society of Great Britain & Ireland, Angus has presented and published a number of papers on Thomas Merton and the Beats in the UK and abroad.

**Lynn Szabo** is Associate Professor of American Literature at Trinity Western University in Langley, BC. She is the editor of a new comprehensive collection of Merton's poetry, *In the Dark Before Dawn: New Selected Poems of Thomas Merton*, which was published in 2005. Lynn teaches courses and leads retreats on Thomas Merton at Trinity Western University, and has presented talks on Merton both in Canada and the United States. She serves on the Board of the International Thomas Merton Society.

**Bonnie Thurston** is living as a solitary in the hills of West Virginia after 27 years of university teaching. She is the author of ten books in New Testament studies and theology, and two books of poetry—*The Heart's Lands* and *Hints & Glimpses*. Bonnie is a founding member of the International Thomas Merton Society who continues to write and lecture extensively on Merton's life and thought. She is an ordained Minister of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and a gifted retreat leader.

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