

EXTRAORDINARY CANADIANS

**The most widely acclaimed series
of biographies ever published in Canada**

**Now releasing in paperback, with a 12-part
television series launching October 23**

How do civilizations imagine themselves?

One way is through the people who made them. *Extraordinary Canadians* rediscovers twenty Canadians—rebels, reformers, thinkers, writers, painters, political leaders—who built modern Canada. Another way is through the eyes of eighteen of today’s most interesting and engaged writers—people who are building Canada today.

On April 2, 2008 Penguin Canada launched the most ambitious set of biographies ever to be published in this country. Working in collaboration with Publishing Director Diane Turbide, General Editor John Ralston Saul commissioned eighteen award-winning Canadian writers to add their distinctive voices to the Series.

Authors Joseph Boyden, Adrienne Clarkson, Andrew Cohen, Douglas Coupland, Lewis DeSoto, Charles Foran, Charlotte Gray, Mark Kingwell, Vincent Lam, Margaret MacMillan, Daniel Poliquin, André Pratte, Nino Ricci, David Adams Richards, John Ralston Saul, Jane Urquhart, M.G. Vassanji and Rudy Wiebe embarked on a journey that informs us who we really are as Canadians.

Over the past three years, in a series of eighteen books, with original cover portraiture by leading Canadian artists and illustrators, each bestselling writer delved into the unique personalities of the people who made this nation and their interactions in the wider world; in Emily Carr’s case, from Paris to a visual mythology of the wilderness, in Lord Beaverbrook’s, from the Miramichi to Churchill’s cabinet, in Nellie McClung’s, from shaping the women’s movement in Canada to becoming one of the most influential feminists in the world.

The series has received unprecedented critical acclaim, with glowing reviews in *The Globe and Mail*, *The Edmonton Journal*, *The Ottawa Citizen*, *The National Post*, *Maclean’s*, *Canada’s History* magazine and countless other publications. The authors have appeared at sold out on-stage events across the country.

Extraordinary Canadians will air Sundays at 8:30pm ET/PT on Citytv, premiering Sunday, October 23, and later on The Biography Channel, airing Saturdays at 7:30pm ET/PT, premiering Saturday, October 29. The series will also air in Mandarin, Hindi and Italian language on OMNI Television in spring 2012.

Read the books. Watch the television series. And discover what it means to be Canadian.

(over)

Why They Mattered Then.
Why They Matter Now.



Founded in 1974 as a distribution company for Penguin books from all over the world, Penguin Canada began publishing Canadian and international titles in 1977 and quickly became known as one of Canada's pre-eminent publishers of literary, thought-provoking fiction and non-fiction.

Penguin Group (www.penguin.com) is one of the world's largest English-language trade book publishers, with established divisions and key market positions in Canada, the United States, the United Kingdom, Australia, India, China, South Africa, New Zealand and Ireland. The Penguin Group is part of Pearson plc, the international media company.

John Ralston Saul is Canada's leading public intellectual. Declared a "prophet" by *Time* magazine, Saul is included in the prestigious *Utne Reader's* list of the world's 100 leading thinkers and visionaries. His thirteen works have been translated into more than a dozen languages. His biography, *Louis-Hippolyte LaFontaine and Robert Baldwin* is included in the series. He is the President of PEN International.

PMA Productions Inc. was founded in 2003 with the objective of working with Canada's most talented creators, established and emerging, in the development and production of first quality film and television programs. While the company's primary focus is high-impact documentaries and documentary series, the company also develops and produces selected animated projects, shorts and feature films. Located in Montreal, PMA Productions draws upon Quebec's immensely talented film and television communities and works closely with its writers and directors to produce entertaining and provocative programming for audiences in Canada and abroad.

Rogers OMNI Television is a free over-the-air regional broadcasting system operated by Rogers Communications in the Rogers Media division. The OMNI stations have the collective mandate to reflect Canada's diversity through the airing of inclusive and accessible multilingual and multicultural programming. Rogers OMNI.1 and OMNI.2 are currently available across Canada to subscribers of Starchoice and ExpressVu satellite systems.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

Trish Bunnett, Penguin Canada
416.928.2408 or Trish.Bunnett@ca.PenguinGroup.com

Ingrid Hamilton, GAT PR
416-731-3034 or ingrid@gat.ca

Meghan Hardy, Rogers Media Television Citytv, OMNI, OLN, Bio, G4
416.764.3197 or Meghan.Hardy@rci.rogers.com

Extraordinary Canadians Television Episodes, airing every Sunday beginning October 23rd:

Episode 1: Mark Kingwell on GLENN GOULD
directed by Adrian Wills

Episode 2: Adrienne Clarkson on NORMAN BETHUNE
directed by Karen Cho

Episode 3: Lewis DeSoto on EMILY CARR
directed by Joshua Dorsey

Episode 4: Rudy Wiebe on BIG BEAR
directed by Adrian Wills and Kenneth Hirsch

Episode 5: Margaret MacMillan on STEPHEN LEACOCK
directed by Tom Puchniak

Episode 6: David Adams Richards on LORD BEAVERBROOK
directed by Joshua Dorsey

Episode 7: Charlotte Gray on NELLIE MCCLUNG
directed by Karen Cho

Episode 8: Andrew Cohen on LESTER B. PEARSON
directed by Karen Cho

Episode 9: Jane Urquhart on L.M. MONTGOMERY
directed by Helene Klodawsky

Episode 10: M.G. Vassanji on MORDECAI RICHLER
directed by Lewis Cohen

Episode 11: Nino Ricci on PIERRE ELLIOT TRUDEAU
directed by Helene Klodawsky

Episode 12: John Ralston Saul on ROBERT BALDWIN
and LOUIS-HIPPOLYTE LAFONTAINE
directed by Kenneth Hirsch

EXTRAORDINARY
.....
CANADIANS



MACLEAN'S



pma
PRODUCTIVE

bio.
THE BIOGRAPHY CHANNEL™