



Newsletter

gabrielle la maison ROY

Get updates on activities at
Maison Gabrielle-Roy on our
website

(www.maisongabrielleroy.mb.ca)
as well as Facebook and Twitter.

Should you wish to comment on
this newsletter, or share
information, please write us at
Box 133-375 Deschambault St.,
St. Boniface, Manitoba, R2H 3B4
or email us at
info@maisongabrielleroy.mb.ca.

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MAISON GABRIELLE-ROY

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Vice-president:

Christian Morissette

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Executive Director:

Lucienne Châteauneuf

Accountant

(contract basis):
Stella Labossière

TEN YEARS AGAINST \$20,000!

Last May, at the Annual General Meeting of Maison Gabrielle-Roy, the Board reiterated the importance of short and long term viability for the museum as well as its continued visibility and growth.

As you probably know, 2013 will mark the 10th anniversary of the opening of Maison Gabrielle-Roy as a museum; a place whose mission is to perpetuate the memory of one of Canada's greatest writers and to ensure that the writer's work and person continue to be relevant.

In order to celebrate this anniversary fittingly, the Board has already undertaken the

FRANÇOIS LENTZ, PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF MAISON GABRIELLE-ROY

planning of a series of activities that will be intentionally very diverse; our traditional spring brunch will be the launch of these celebrations and a banquet at the Fort Garry Hotel on October 17, 2013 (we will revive the tradition of the banquet for this occasion) will be an official conclusion of sorts.

As relates to the 10th anniversary, on June 8, 2012, Maison Gabrielle-Roy officially launched an ambitious and symbolic fundraising campaign which is co-chaired by

Ms Annette Saint-Pierre, the honorary president of Maison Gabrielle-Roy, and Senator Maria Chaput, a great friend of the museum.

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to them both: indeed, we would like to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the museum in style by paying off the mortgage. Ten years against \$20,000!

It would bring us great pleasure to announce, during the banquet, that objective "Zero mortgage" has been reached! Thanks in advance to all who will make a contribution towards this achievement!

Happy reading!

IF THE RED RIVER WERE TOLD TO ME...

This past year has been a very creative one for me at Maison Gabrielle-Roy. Three collaborative projects have been my main focus: *Regards croisés*, *Haïkus de bois* and the *Kukäï rouge*. I will elaborate further about the two latter activities in an upcoming edition of the newsletter.

Regards croisés is a collaborative project between Maison Gabrielle-Roy and the Alliance française that has allowed Eveline Ménard, a storyteller from the Chambly region in Quebec and myself to compose a collection of original tales that

BERTRAND NAYEY, WRITER-IN-RESIDENCE AT MAISON GABRIELLE-ROY

will be accompanied by an oral version (executed by Eveline) recorded on CD and illustrations in ink (drawn by myself).

While profoundly anchored in the locale and traditions of the Red River, the eight tales that have been written to date also touch upon universal themes associated with the founding of a community: bonds between families and lovers, fraternity and equality between citizens and lovers, pathways (psychic

and physical) between people and between generations. Fittingly, archetypes representing birth, death, a quest, transformation (alchemical elements such as water, air, fire and the earth are recurrent symbols) can be found throughout.

As the theme of connections between people and between generations is so strong, the tales are also linked to one another through the presence of two main characters: Bala-dère (the traveller) and Faience (the potter). While partaking in a beautiful love story, each of

Summary of Activities

◆ **Double record** – The Gabrielle-Roy Brunch that took place on March 18, 2012 at the Norwood Hotel was attended by **128** people and garnered a profit of **\$3,121.49**, the highest numbers recorded since 2009. Participants took part in a draw; the four prize winners were Rolande Fontaine, Simone Lafrenière, Roger Léveillé and Claudette McKay.

◆ **Numbers tell the tale** – No less than 92 people attended public gatherings centred on the theme of tales in February and May 2012 at the Maison Gabrielle-Roy and the Alliance française du Manitoba within the context of the « Regards croisés d'artistes littéraires » project. The next step will be the revision of the texts and illustrations created by Maison Gabrielle-Roy's writer-in-residence Bertrand Nayet and Quebecois storyteller Eveline Ménard, in view of the publication of the collection and CD by Éditions des Plaines in the spring of 2013.

◆ **A new audience** – In May 2012, Maison Gabrielle-Roy expanded its potential audience by becoming associated with the Cultural Access Pass of the [Institute for Canadian Citizenship](#) (ICC) initiative. The Pass allows new citizens of Canada (about 170,000 people per year) and their children to have free access to more

than a thousand attractions throughout Canada (museums, historical sites, national and provincial parks, etc.) for one year. The agreement reached between the two organizations includes a commitment by the ICC to help Maison Gabrielle-Roy increase its visibility and strengthen its connection to this new audience.

◆ **“Zero mortgage”: first report** – On September 6, 2012, about three months after its official launch, the “Zero mortgage” fundraising campaign had received a total of **\$8,702**. Maison Gabrielle-Roy extends a warm thank you to the **39** donors. A reminder that the goal is to collect \$20,000 from now until October 2013, the year of the 10th anniversary, in order to pay off the mortgage in its entirety. With this in mind, we invite all the friends of Maison Gabrielle-Roy to make a donation by sending a cheque to our address (375 Deschambault St., R2H 3B4) or by calling 204-231-3853 (to pay by credit card). Donors will receive an official tax deductible receipt.

◆ **Mélina will be back** – A total of 101 people attended six performances of *La Visite chez Mélina*, which was held at Maison Gabrielle-Roy from June to September 2012. The theatrical monologue



September 29 and 30, 2012

JAZZ AT THE MUSEUM

As part of **Culture Days 2012**, two students from the Jazz program at the University of Manitoba, pianist **Anatol Rennie** and



bassist **Cody Valentonis**, bring a fresh perspective to old favourites. The duo's repertoire varies, citing Red Garland, Charles Mingus, and John Coltrane as influences. Their selection includes such classics as Irving Berlin, Rogers & Hammerstein, Antonio Carlos Jobim; works by Bill Evans, McCoy Tyner, and Freddie Hubbard, as well as new compositions with new arrangements of well-known works by Gérard Jean, Coldplay, and others.

Shows will take place on Saturday, September 29th and Sunday, September 30th, 2012 at 1:15, 2:15 and 3:15 p.m.

Information: 204-231-3853 or info@maisongabrielleroy.mb.ca

Bulletin Board

◆ **FAREWELL AND THANK YOU**
Marcel Thompson, who passed away on March 29, 2012 at the age of 74, was not only an accomplished businessman, he was also very involved in his community. He helped a number of organizations, including Maison Gabrielle-Roy; we would like to express our sincere condolences to his family and friends.

◆ **THE BOARD RENEWS ITSELF**
Following the Annual General Meeting on May 17, 2012, four new members joined the Board of Directors of Maison Gabrielle-Roy. They are **Jules Chartier** (named treasurer), **Mélanie Jichuk**, **Laura Sims** and **Francis Tremblay**.

They will replace **Jacqueline Blay**, **Roland Dion**, **Rachid Jouahri** and **Laurence Véron**, to whom we would like to express our warmest thanks for their help and their commitment.

◆ **HELP MUCH APPRECIATED**
Many thanks to our summer guides **Sylvie Brassard**, **Claire Paetkau** and **Anatol Rennie**, who greeted visitors with enthusiasm and put their talents to work while accomplishing a number of tasks at Maison Gabrielle-Roy from May 28 to August 31. We would also like to thank all of the volunteers who are present throughout the year.

staging *Mélina* Roy, Gabrielle's mother, will be presented in 2013 for a third consecutive year.

◆ **In the news** – The national and international media is expressing interest in Manitoba and by the same token, to Maison Gabrielle-Roy. Over the past few months, the museum was mentioned on the Franco-Ontarian television chain TFO (March 20, 2012, <http://relief.tv/videos/1100029353>), in the magazines *Camping Caravaning* (Quebec, [March-April 2012](#)) and *Camping et destination famille* (New Brunswick, May-June-July 2012), in the *Winnipeg Free Press* (June 28, 2012) and even in the French daily *Le Figaro* ([May 3rd, 2012](#)).

A great big thank you to Tourisme Riel, an organization that always remembers Maison Gabrielle-Roy in its promotional campaigns about St. Boniface and French Manitoba.

Gabrielle Roy on stage, from Avignon to Trois-Rivières

The 35th season of the Orchestre symphonique de Trois-Rivières in Quebec will be marked by the creation of an operatic symphony based on correspondance between Gabrielle Roy and her mother Mélina.

Playwright Michel Tremblay and composer André Gagnon are the authors of this work whose world premiere will be presented November 11, 2012 at Trois-Rivières (www.ostr.ca). Featured soloist will be contralto Marie-Nicole Lemieux.

This event proves, beyond the shadow of a doubt, that Gabrielle Roy continues to inspire the world of the arts, and this even outside of Canada. This summer, the prestigious Festival d'Avignon, in the south of France, welcomed a theatrical adaptation of



Poster from Théâtre de l'Île in Gatineau

La détresse et l'enchantement (*Enchantment and Sorrow*). Since its creation in 2009 by the French theatre troupe Actant-scène (www.actant-scene.fr), the show has been performed about sixty times in several cities in France. In a radio interview

given in July 2012 (www.radioorient.com), the stage director and main actress of the show, Laure-Marie Lafont, explains how she was seduced by the work of the person she describes as a 'word magician'. Further to this, we learn that the reason Gabrielle Roy's autobiography, based on the years preceding the Second World War, elicits a response in contemporary France is that it touches on modern-day themes: the desire to integrate and the search for identity with a world crisis as a backdrop.

Closer to Manitoba, the Théâtre de l'Île, in the Ottawa-Gatineau region, presented *La petite poule d'eau* (*Where Nests the Water Hen*) in the spring of 2012. This theatrical adaptation of Gabrielle Roy's novel was created by the Cercle Molière in 1992.

10th anniversary of Maison Gabrielle-Roy in 2013

A PEEK INTO THE CELEBRATIONS

- **Brunch** at the St. Boniface Golf Club (April 14)
- **Film presentations** (April, May, September, October)
- **Conferences** (May, September, October)
- **Writing contest** (May to September)
- **Bus tour** in La Montagne (June)
- **Summer show** (June 19)
- **Special issue** in *La Liberté* (June)
- **Lunchtime Entertainment** (June, July, August)
- **Words and music** (readings with musical background) (September)
- **Banquet** at the Fort Garry Hotel (October 17)

More details on all of these activities will be provided in upcoming editions of the newsletter.

◀ IF THE RED RIVER WERE TOLD TO ME, continued from page 1

them experiences adventures and encounters that incorporate the above-mentioned themes repeatedly. Further to this, Franco-phone readers from Manitoba will recognize certain historical events as well as geographic and climatic elements, aspects which are used to evoke images and universal emotions. The strong presence of natural matter (river, earth, water, vegetation, wind) and hand-worked matter (pottery, thread, material, wood) allows me to steep these tales further into reality as well as symbolism.

I believe that I have also managed to create a lyrical style in which several levels of language (from literary to slang) are combined, defined by a captivating rhythm of refrains (sentences, expressions, actions and situations) that reinforce the cohesion of the work while allowing for an original and ancient air that is punctuated by poetry and humour.

Eveline and I have had the opportunity to read these tales to the public at the MGR and the Alliance française du Manitoba and I passed a few of them around to readers and reactions have been very positive, even enthusiastic.

Eveline is currently adapting these written tales to her style of oral expression and is composing musical arrangements of the recordings. For my part, I am continuing to write new tales (there will be



Crane woman by Bertrand Nayet

about a dozen of them) and I spent the summer creating the illustrations. The tales relate encounters and bring to mind the bonds that exist between humans. Most of the illustrations represent meeting places on the Red River as well as a few of its tributaries. Certain characters, such as Faience, create images as well (on fabric and clay); I will also make these

Our thanks to **Rinella Printers Limited** for sponsoring parts of the printing costs of this Newsletter!

► **Gabrielle Roy** HEADLINES

RADIO

► **Lire Gabrielle Roy et Albert Camus**

LES CHEMINS DE TRAVERS
Radio-Canada, August 12, 2012
www.radio-canada.ca/emissions/les_chemins_de_travers/2012-2013/archives.asp?date=2012-08-12

Sociologist and radio host **Serge BOUCHARD** discusses the life and work of Gabrielle Roy with two specialists, **François RICARD** and **Sophie MARCOTTE**. You can listen to the show online by referring to the link indicated above.

HERITAGE

► **Gabrielle Roy Literary Circuit**

The **AMIS DE GABRIELLE ROY** (<http://amisgabrielleroy.com/>) planned the inauguration of the fifth station of the Literary Circuit of Gabrielle Roy for September 19, 2012 at Waterhen, an island located north of Dauphin. A monument created by architect Étienne Gaboury showcasing a quotation from the author of *Where Nests the Water Hen* will be placed on the site of the school where Gabrielle Roy taught in the summer of 1937.

BOOKS

► **Un jardin au bout du monde et autres nouvelles**

Gabrielle Roy
Les Éditions du Boréal, October 2012, 202 p., \$30

This collection of four short stories is the newest volume added to **L'ÉDITION DU CENTENAIRE**, a unique collection that presents the complete works of Gabrielle Roy.

PRIZES/GRANTS

► **Bourse d'écriture Gabrielle Roy**

The Fonds Gabrielle-Roy and l'Union des écrivaines et des écrivains québécois awarded the Bourse d'écriture Gabrielle Roy 2012 to writer **Marcel LABINE**, former winner of the Governor General's Literary Award for Poetry (1988).

► **Gabrielle-Roy Prize**

The Association for Canadian and Québec Literatures (ACQL) that offers the Gabrielle Roy Prize for the best Canadian and Québécois works of literary criticism, announced the names of its two 2011 recipients on May 26, 2012. In the French category, the prize was awarded to **Karine CELLARD** for her work entitled *Leçons de littérature. Un siècle de manuels scolaires au Québec* (Presses de l'Université de Montréal). **Herb WYLE** was the recipient in the English category for his book *Anne of Tim Hortons: Globalization and the Reshaping of Atlantic-Canadian Literature* (Wilfrid Laurier University Press).



MEMBERSHIP AND DONATION

OUR MISSION

Maison Gabrielle-Roy was established to offer the community – and indeed the whole world – a museum that is a fitting tribute to Gabrielle Roy, to disseminate her works and to protect a cultural heritage.

OUR VISION

375 Deschambault Street is the house where Gabrielle Roy was born in 1909, and lived until she left Manitoba to travel in Europe in 1937. Now restored as a museum, it is designated both a Provincial and a National Historic Site and houses a collection of objects and artifacts associated with Gabrielle Roy and her family during the years 1909-1937. The museum enables young people, researchers and the general public to learn more about the author herself, her works and her influence. Maison Gabrielle-Roy is also an important cornerstone of the cultural development of St-Boniface.

MEMBERSHIP

Enclosed please find \$25.00 for my annual membership in support of the museum's activities and the preservation of our cultural heritage. I understand that my payment entitles me to receive the museum's newsletter.

DONATION

I would like to make a donation to Maison Gabrielle-Roy.
 (A tax receipt will be issued.)

\$150 \$250 \$500 \$1,000 other \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Province: _____

Postal Code: _____ Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Name on VISA card: _____ Card number: _____

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