



LINEbooks
invites you to join us for
the launch of
The Artist & the Moose
a fable of forget
by Roy Kiyooka
edited with an afterword
by Roy Miki with
Guest Readers
george bowering
brian dedora, glen lowry
daphne marlatt, john o'brian
renee rodin, fred wah,
rita wong
Thursday April 30th
7:30pm
at the Rhizome Cafe
317 East Broadway

The Artist and the Moose, A fable of forget by the late artist/writer Roy K. Kiyooka.
Edited with an afterword by Roy Miki

Often zany and wildly humorous, *The Artist and the Moose* features a narrator who is commissioned by the federal government to come up with a multicultural aesthetics for the 21st century. The answer, he thinks, resides in the big mystery that surrounds artist Tom Thomson. Was Thomson's sudden death in Algonquin Park, in that fateful summer of 1917, an accident or was he murdered? To solve this mystery, the narrator sets out from his hometown, Forget, Saskatchewan, to visit the national archives in Ottawa. As his quest unfolds, readers meet the usual suspects in the Tom Thomson saga, including Tom's love interest, but as well a cast of fabulous non-human characters, such as the little bird, Thomson's pipe, Plot, Text, and most prominent of all, the magical Moose, named Ol' Twig-Eater. While recognizing Thomson's artistic legacy, Kiyooka's fable offers a compelling critique of Canadian cultural nationalism and its violent appropriation of native land and culture, a long process of colonization that exiled the Moose from the very homely spaces once his own. Complementing this newly edited work is the serial poem, "letters purporting to be abt tom thomson," first published in *ArtsCanada* in 1972. These poems capture Kiyooka's initial thoughts on Tom Thomson and the Group of Seven, and set the stage for his writing on Tom Thomson in the years ahead. *The Artist and the Moose: A fable of forget* is edited with an afterword by Roy Miki, editor of *Pacific Windows: The Collected Poems of Roy K. Kiyooka*.

Roy Miki is a Vancouver poet, critic, and editor who has published widely on Canadian literature and culture. He is the author of *Redress: Inside the Japanese Canadian Call for Justice* (2004) and *There* (2006). His book of poems, *Surrender*, received the 2002 Governor-General's award.