

## Bruce Rice Biography



Bruce Rice is a Regina poet, editor, and essayist living in Regina, Saskatchewan. He grew up in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan and returned to the province after ten years in the Maritimes. He holds a B.A. from Saint Thomas and a MSW degree from Dalhousie University. Bruce writes about community, reclaiming the voices of those who live on the margins, and how we are transformed by landscape even as we leave our footprints on it. He has five award-winning books of poetry, including *The Trouble With Beauty* (Coteau), which received the 2015 Saskatchewan Book Award for Poetry, and *Life in the Canopy* (Hagios), which was nominated for Saskatchewan Book of the Year. He has collaborated with artists on performances incorporating dance, music and film. Rice's first book, *Daniel*, which won the Canadian Author's Association Award, has been called "a tour de force of voice." His work ranges from social observation and critique, to meditations on art, landscape and wilderness. As Rice puts it in a *Malahat Review* interview, "I became a better poet when I surrendered to beauty."

### **Awards**

- *Malahat Review* Longpoem Competition shortlist, 2017.
- League of Canadian Poets' Colleen Thibaudeau Award, 2106. Volunteer award for founding the Canada-wide Mayor's Poetry City Challenge.
- Saskatchewan Book Award for Poetry, 2015 (*The Trouble With Beauty*).
- *Briarpatch Magazine*, Writing in the Margins Creative Nonfiction Award, Best Regina Entry, 2014.
- *Malahat Review* P. K. Page Founders' Award for best poem appearing in *Malahat* in 2013.
- CBC/Canada Writes Award nominee, 2008 and 2013.
- Saskatchewan Book of the Year nomination, 2009, (*Life in the Canopy*).
- John V. Hicks Manuscript Award, 2008, 2011 (2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> place).
- City of Regina Award, Saskatchewan Book Awards, 2003 (*The Illustrated Statue of Liberty*).
- *Grain Magazine* Anne Szumigalski Award, for best poem in *Grain* in 2002.
- John V. Hicks Scholarship, Saskatchewan Summer School of the Arts.
- Saskatchewan Writers Guild Literary Award (twice).
- Canadian Author's Association Award for Poetry, 1989 (for *Daniel*).

### **Books**

- *The Trouble With Beauty*, Coteau Books 2014.
- *Dorothy McMoogle With Kumquat and Bugle*, artist by Wendy Winter, Wild Sage Press 2014.
- *Life in the Canopy*, Hagios Press, 2009.
- *The Illustrated Statue of Liberty* (Coteau, 2003).
- *Descent into Lima* Coteau Books, 1996.
- *Daniel*, Cormorant Books, 1988.

### ***Magazines, Broadcasts***

- *ARC, Briarpatch, Canadian Author and Bookman, Dalhousie Review, The Dance Current, Event, Fiddlehead, Freelance, Grain (8 issues), Malahat Review, Prairie Fire, Transition, CV2, and CBC Radio.*

### ***Selected Anthologies***

- *Refugium: Poems for the Pacific*, Caitlin Press, 2017.
- *Best Canadian Poetry in English 2014*, Tightrope Books.
- *The JLG (Jean Louis Godard) Project*, Regina, 2014.
- *Regina's Secret Spaces: Love and Lore of Local Geography*, Canadian Plains Research Centre, 2006.
- *Reading the River: A Traveller's Companion to the North Saskatchewan River*, Coteau, 2005.
- *Facing the Lion*, Beacon Press, 1996 (essay).
- *Beyond Borders*, New Rivers/Turnstone Press, 1992.
- *100% and 200% Cracked Wheat*, Coteau Books (humour), 1989 and 1992
- *Open Windows*, Quarry Press, 1988.
- *Heading Out: The New Saskatchewan Poets*, Coteau 1986.

### ***Performances***

- *spring is a stony partner* - multidisciplinary performance with Bruce Rice (poetry), Robin Poitras and Johanna Bundon (dance), Peter Dickof (guitar), and Richard Deiner (film), presented at the Cathedral Village Arts Festival, 2013. The work was also produced as a film with Bruce Rice, Shayna Stock (voice), Peter Dickof and Richard Deiner.
- *Cathedral Chronicles*, with The Poets Combine Members Bruce Rice, Paul Wilson, Robert Currie, Jim MacLean, and Judith Krause, with photographic images by Gordon Hunter. *Chronicles* was written for the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Regina's Cathedral Village Arts Festival. Presented in 2011 reprised in 2012 by popular demand.
- *Tabloid Love*, with The Poets Combine: Bruce Rice, Paul Wilson, Gary Hyland, Robert Curry, Judith Krause and Byrna Barclay.
- Globe Theatre's "On the Line" series. Dramatized excerpts from *The Illustrated Statue of Liberty*.
- *The Home Show*, with the Correction Line, Victor Enns, Anne Campbell, Paul Wilson, and Brenda Baker.

### ***Organizations***

- Bruce is a former President of the Saskatchewan Writers' Guild and has served as the Saskatchewan rep on the League of Canadian Poets National Council.
- He is a member of LCP, The Writers Union of Canada, and Saskatchewan Film Pool.

### ***Other Stuff***

Cooks, tries to grow vegetables, and between droughts, raises trout in his brother's dugout.