



NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release
October 14, 2009

Calgarians and artists from around the world share their stories during this week's culture lineup

(Calgary, AB) – Calgarians take part in sharing stories this week with the launch of this year's WordFest, the 2nd Annual Home Movie Day and Glenbow Museum's one minute video challenge.

WordFest starts up again with 60+ literary events featuring 11 Albertan authors, 57 authors with Canadian ties as well as writers from Australia, France, the United Kingdom, Mexico, Pakistan, Sierra Leone and Spain.

This year's festival includes the collective creation of a 150 metre-long poem, the inclusion of Web 2.0 events, the expansion of the Spanish language events as well as the expansion of Festival des mots, the francophone and Francophile component of the festival.

It also includes Book Rapport, a highly popular educational program that brings students together with popular children's authors to stimulate literacy and encourage a love of reading and writing.

Calgarians can share their own stories during the 2nd Annual Home Movie Day this Saturday. The "bring your own film" event, running in over 50 cities worldwide, allows people to see their home movies projected on the big screen.

At the Glenbow Museum's So Called Real Life Launch Party, local filmmaker Sandi Somers, one of Glenbow's artists-in-residence, will debut a one-minute video to kick off Glenbow's public one-minute video challenge about the reality of life at home.

The contest celebrates the museum's new exhibit, *Real Life*, which features work by Ron Mueck, including an uncannily lifelike 800 pound baby, and by Guy Ben-Ner, whose videos and installations include members of his own family acting out scripted narratives situated somewhere between reality and fiction.

This week's CalgaryCulture.com highlights:

[WordFest](#)

October 13 – 18, various locations

WordFest brings readers and writers together for six days each October, showcasing 70 top Canadian and international writers in over 60 events and performances throughout Calgary and the Bow Valley.

[2nd Annual Home Movie Day](#)

October 17, Memorial Park Library, 1221 2nd Street SW

Home Movie Day is a celebration of amateur films and filmmaking held annually at venues worldwide.

Home Movie Day events provide the opportunity for individuals and families to see and share their own home movies with an audience of their community, and to see their neighbors' in turn.

Members of the public are invited to bring their home movies to the Memorial Park Library where they will be inspected by HMD projectionists and shared with an enthusiastic audience in a day-long celebration of amateur filmmaking and home movie preservation.

[So Called Real Life Launch Party](#)

October 17, Glenbow Museum, 8th Ave & 1st Street SE

Meet Glenbow's artists-in-residence: local filmmaker Sandi Somers, who will debut her 1 minute video and kick off Glenbow's video challenge, and Calgary-based musician Kris Demeanor, who will perform new work made in response to Ron Mueck's hyper-realistic sculptures. Learn about Ron Mueck, one of the world's most exciting sculptors today, during a gallery tour of the Real Life exhibition with curator Jonathan Shaughnessy from the National Gallery of Canada.

STO Union presents 7 Important Things

October 14 – 17, Theatre Junction GRAND

The 60's Hippie movement. The 70's Punk movement. George Acheson was consumed by both. Now in his mid-fifties, George sees himself as an invisible, generic, middle-aged man. As such, he has a story to tell. In this Western-Canadian premiere, writer/director Nadia Ross collaborates with George, who was kicked out of his house at sixteen because he would not cut his hair. Now a barber, George faces the irony of his fate and looks to the past in an attempt to reconcile a life profoundly marked by the times.

STO Union is a multidisciplinary company of artists working in different mediums to create new Canadian theatre. The company has performed in Germany, Sweden, the United States, Austria, Ireland, and the Netherlands. Founder and Artistic Director Nadia Ross is a Dora and Chalmers' award recipient.

Theatre Calgary presents 7 Stories

October 13 – November 2, Max Bell Theatre, Epcor Centre for the Performing Arts

20th Anniversary Production - Outlandish Comedy

On the 7th storey ledge of an apartment building, a man is about to jump. Before he steps off, a parade of zany inhabitants interrupt his train of thought. From the same whimsical playwright behind Vigil and The Overcoat, this wonderfully oddball comedy shows us that the line between sanity and insanity might be right behind the next window. Fast paced and full of energy, a leap of faith never had more surprising results.

Mob Hit Productions presents Fully Committed

October 15 – 24, Arrata Opera Centre

Sam works in the reservation department of a ridiculously trendy, multiple award winning restaurant on Manhattan's Upper East Side. But when her coworkers desert her one particularly busy day three weeks before Christmas, the dingy basement is transformed into a war zone complete with coercion, threats, and bribes from scheming socialites, fickle

celebrities, divas, and the mafia! Don't miss this hilarious rollercoaster ride filled with over forty wild characters all portrayed by a solitary actor.

[Ghost River Theatre presents Pack of Lies](#)

October 15 – 24, Joyce Doolittle Theatre (Pumphouse Theatres)

Pack of Lies...An Our Town for Our Time. Written and performed by Lindsay Burns and directed by Ghost River Theatre Co-Artistic Director, David van Belle, Pack of Lies is a topical show tailor-made for post-boom Calgary. Beginning with the pack of lies bred in boom times—a collective misconception of our own wealth—Burn's one-woman virtual tour gently invites you to embrace life in a time of economic truth. Through a diverse spectrum of Calgary characters, footage of Calgary today and yesterday, and her own distinctive and cutting sense of humour, Burns presents her witty manifesto for better living in a post-boom city. Perhaps we need look no further than our own backyards for the green shoots in our midst.

[Design Matters](#)

October 15, The Uptown

Special Guest: Adrian Parr

The EVDS Design Matters Series will be interdisciplinary in that presenters will come from a variety of backgrounds, education and expertise. The public and the U of C community will be challenged to expand their thinking on a myriad of topics relating to “design.” Topics will range from science and art, urbanization, environmental and ecological designs, to sustainable architecture and livable cities.

[Canopy by Mindy Yan Miller](#)

October 16 – November 14, Stride Gallery main level, 1004 Macleod Trail SE

Artist Talk: October 16 at 10am. Nickle Arts Museum, U of C.

Reception: Friday, October 16 at 8pm. Artist in attendance.

“This work begins with a lump of clay in the centre of my hand. I slowly model the features of a face: nose, lips, cheeks — ears are hardest. Each one is a portrait: a new, imaginary, little friend. Canopy began with an idea of trolls and mountains: clay and clothing. For this project, I purchased a 700-pound bale of secondhand clothing. After weeks of sorting and arranging, piling and placing, I found myself particularly drawn to the babies’ clothing and I put everything else aside. All the baby sleepers and undershirts in the bale of clothing are included in this exhibition.”

[Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra presents The Magic of Chopin](#)

October 16 & 17, Jack Singer Concert Hall

Enjoy an evening of romance as Honens Laureate Minsoo Sohn shares the wonder of Chopin alongside the most beloved French symphony in the world, Franck’s passionate Symphony in D Minor.

[Storybook Theatre presents The Legend of Sleepy Hollow](#)

October 17 – 31, Pumphouse Theatre (2140 Pumphouse Ave SW)

Recommended for school aged children and families.

Just in time for Halloween! The classic tale of a small American country town, where superstitions abound and strange tales are told. Ichabod Crane, falls in love with the beautiful Katrina Van Tassell (and her fortune) and tries to woo her away from his rival, prankster Brom Bones, until one night, he is pursued by the Headless Horseman, and disappears.

For more information about these events, visit CalgaryCulture.com and follow us on Twitter [@CalgaryCulture](https://twitter.com/CalgaryCulture).

Contact Information

For interview requests and other inquiries, please contact:

Melissa Kushnir

Marketing Specialist, Calgary Arts Development

Phone: (403) 921-1692

Email: melissa.kushnir@calgaryartsdevelopment.com

About Calgary Arts Development

Calgary Arts Development was created in 2005 to lead long-term, strategic development of the arts sector in Calgary, guided by the 2004 Civic Arts Policy. Calgary Arts Development invests municipal arts funding of \$3.75 million annually in 160 local arts organizations, provides support to the arts community, private developers and public and private sector funders engaged in arts space projects and engages in strategic marketing initiatives to increase arts participation and raise awareness of Calgary's arts sector locally, nationally and internationally. Visit CalgaryArtsDevelopment.com for more information about our activities and initiatives.