



# Bloody Words 2010

May 28 to 30, 2010

Toronto, Ontario, Canada

## Now We Are 10!

Mark the weekend of May 28 to 30, 2010, on your calendar, and come celebrate 10 years of Bloody Words, Canada's largest and longest-running conference for crime/mystery authors and readers.

Since our humble start in 1999 in the sweat bath known as the Arts and Letters Club to our current 2010 home at the downtown Toronto Hilton – with stops in Ottawa (2003 and 2009) and at the Delta and Marriott hotels in Toronto – we've seen Bloody Words grow in the number of guests of honour, attendees, participants, and events.

To celebrate our birthday, we are thrilled to have three award-winning authors as our special guests:

- Canadian Guest of Honour – Giles Blunt
- International Guest of Honour – Deon Meyer (South Africa)
- Master of Ceremonies – Linwood Barclay



**Register by December 31, 2009, and SAVE!!!**

Membership costs \$150 before December 31, 2009

Membership goes up to \$175 as of January 1, 2010

To register, go to <http://www.bloodywords2010.com>

## Giles Blunt

<http://www.gilesblunt.com/>



Canadian guest of honour  
**Giles Blunt** is best-known for his award-winning John Cardinal police procedural series set in Algonquin Bay in northern Ontario (a thinly disguised North Bay, Giles's home town). This series is one of the very few exceptions to the agent- and publisher-stated rule that books set in Canada don't sell in the U.S.,

where the Cardinal series has always been popular.

Although Giles's last two books have not been part of his award-winning John Cardinal series – *Breaking Lorca* (2009) is an uncomfortable exploration of the mindset of a torturer in El Salvador, while *No Such Creature* (2008) is a delightful road-trip caper – he's returning to Algonquin Bay in 2010 (but alas, probably not in time for Bloody Words).

Giles moved to New York City in 1980 where he worked at a number of jobs including bartender, room service waiter, and television screenplay writer (*Diamonds, Law & Order*) before writing his first novel, *Cold Eye*. The novel was a critical success in a number of languages but (yes, you can see this coming, can't you?) less than a commercial success in the U.S. The upshot: Giles took to staying home and playing blues guitar for three years.

Giles rebounded onto the book scene in 2000 with the publication of his first John Cardinal mystery, *Forty Words for Sorrow*, a major critical – and commercial – success, and he hasn't looked back since. The series has been translated into a number of languages. Giles is currently working on book 5 (so far untitled) in the Cardinal series, but he won't say whether Wudky (World's Dumbest Criminal) will be back. I guess we'll just have to wait till next fall to find out...

Giles lives in Toronto with his wife, Janna.

### **John Cardinal police procedural series**

*Forty Words for Sorrow* (2000)

*The Delicate Storm* (2002)

*Black Fly Season* (2005)

*By the Time You Read This* (2006)

### **Non-series books**

*Cold Eye* (1989)

*No Such Creature* (2008)

*Breaking Lorca* (2009)

## Deon Meyer

<http://www.deonmeyer.com/>

Our international guest of honour this year is award-winning South African author **Deon** (pronounced Day'n) **Meyer**. Deon was born (1958) and grew up in South Africa, where, after serving in the military and graduating from university, he worked as a press liaison, advertising copywriter, creative director, Web manager, Internet strategist, and brand consultant. Deon lives on the South Africa West Coast with his wife, their four children, his writing, and his hobbies – rugby, motorcycling, music (from Mozart to rock), cooking, and reading.

Although he wrote his first book at age 14, it was not a critical success (his brothers, whom he bribed to read it, panned it), and he didn't write fiction again till his early 30s, when he started publishing short stories in South African magazines. His first novel, written in Afrikaans, was published in 1994, but it has not been translated. His six subsequent novels, however, have been translated in 20 languages, including (happily for us) English.



Deon's books are thrillers set in contemporary South Africa, but events are coloured by the years of apartheid. The books feature a host of recurring colourful characters, who take turns as protagonist, depending on the book:

- Thobela (Tiny) Mpayipheli, a Xhosa and former KGB-trained assassin during apartheid, sometime bodyguard to a crime lord, eventually a motorcycle shop dogsbody
- Benny Griessel, an aging alcoholic (but working on drying out) Capetown police inspector
- Mat Joubert, an overweight Capetown police captain trying to function after his wife and fellow-officer was gunned down in the line of duty
- alcoholic former cop, now reluctant P.I., Zatopek van Heerden
- freelance bodyguard Lemmer

### **Deon Meyer's thrillers**

*Dead before Dying* (1999)

*Dead at Daybreak* (2000)

*Heart of the Hunter* (2003)

*Devil's Peak* (2007)

*Blood Safari* (2009)

*13 Hours* (2010)

## Linwood Barclay

<http://www.linwoodbarclay.com/>

Our 2010 master of ceremonies – back by popular demand for the third year – is the ever-funny, ever-scary, award-winning author **Linwood Barclay**.



Linwood's wildly popular stand-alone thrillers are noteworthy for the way he infuses suspense and terror into completely ordinary situations (a 14-year-old girl wakes up one morning...and finds her parents and brother gone; a boy is hiding out in his friend's house...when he hears someone shoot his friend's family; a 17-year-old girl is late coming home from her summer job...but her father discovers that no one where she's been working has ever heard of her; a small-town investigative reporter takes his wife and 4-year-old son to an amusement park one summer day...only to have both of them disappear).

His first thriller, *No Time for Goodbye*, was fourth for several days on the German Amazon Website, surpassed only by three versions of the final Harry Potter book. His second, *Too Close to Home*, was catapulted to the top of the U.K. bestseller list when Richard and Judy (the Brit equivalent of Oprah) featured it on their TV show.

Linwood's funny side comes to the fore in his mystery series featuring Zack Walker, a neurotic, paranoid, safety-obsessed SF writer, who has to unwillingly solve murders while dealing with such charmers as dominatrixes and white supremacists. And if you can find it, don't miss reading *Last Resort* (2000), Linwood's humorous but bizarre memoir of growing up in a trailer park run by his family.

A former columnist for the *Toronto Star*, Linwood took early retirement a couple of years ago to devote himself to writing thrillers and building increasing intricate model train layouts. He lives in Burlington, ON, with his wife, Neetha, and has two adult kids, Paige and Spencer.

### Stand-alone thrillers

*No Time for Goodbye* (2007)

*Too Close to Home* (2008)

*Fear the Worst* (2009)

*Never Look Away* (upcoming, March 2010)

### Zack Walker mystery series

*Bad Move* (2003)

*Bad Guys* (2004)

*Lone Wolf* (2005)

*Stone Rain* (2006)

## I'm thrilled already. How much is all this excitement going to cost me?

Register by December 31, 2009, and it will cost you a mere \$150. Go to <http://www.bloodywords2010.com>, click on Registration (at the bottom of the page), and follow the directions. You can pay online with Paypal (\$150 plus \$5 service fee) or send in a cheque for \$150. **Whichever payment method you use, remember to print out the registration form, fill it in, and mail it to the address at the bottom of the page. You are not fully registered until we receive your registration form.**

You can also order your Bloody Words X T-shirt at the same time, but you have to pay for T-shirts (\$20 each) with a cheque at this time (i.e., not with Paypal). T-shirt info is on the registration form.

So register now to get the early bird rate of \$150. The price goes up to \$175 as of January 1, 2010, and remains at \$175 until the con.

For our 10th birthday, we've moved to the Hilton Hotel in downtown Toronto. They're giving us a great convention special room rate – the lowest since Bloody Words started in 1999 – of \$169 per night, single or double occupancy. For more information on booking your room at this special rate, go to <http://www.bloodywords2010.com>, and click on Hotel at the bottom of the page.

## Just what does my registration fee give me?

What? Our terrific triumvirate of special guest authors aren't enough for you? OK, how about:

- reception & banquet
- two tracks of panels on everything from first novels to the latest in forensics and publishing
- the Mystery Café
- loot bags (with lots of free books & stuff)
- lots of authors, fans, and folks in the publishing biz to schmooze with
- dealers' room
- Bony Pete short story contest
- the Hammett Awards
- three workshops
- manuscript evaluation service (small extra fee)
- an opportunity to pitch your book to an agent
- the Friday night special event – a party to celebrate our 10th birthday
- plus, of course, some surprises

Sound good? Then go right now to <http://www.bloodywords2010.com> and register for Bloody Words X.



## We need YOU!

Don't run away, my criminous beauties – this won't hurt at all.

As many of you know, **Lyn Hamilton** was to have been our special guest of honour this year. Sadly, Lyn died of cancer in September. It is traditional to have articles about our guests of honour in our program book, and it seems a pity to break with tradition just because Lyn died. So we're collecting your memories of this wonderful woman and talented author to put together an article honouring her. **Send us your anecdotes about Lyn** – maybe how she inspired you directly or indirectly in your writing, perhaps how her books piqued your interest in traveling to some of the countries Lara McClintock visited, possibly some small kindness that she showed you. Anything goes here, but please try to keep your anecdote to under 150 words. Send your remembrances to [publications@bloodywords2010.com](mailto:publications@bloodywords2010.com), and if you have any pix (they must be high resolution, 3 inches wide at 300 dpi), send those along, too.

As part of our birthday celebrations, we're doing an article in the program book about the **10 years of Bloody Words**. Whether you're an old hand and have attended BW since 1999, or last year was your first time, **we want to hear about your memories of past bloody cons**. Did you meet anyone special at a BW? Learn something important? Have a funny or silly experience? Sign your first book at BW? Meet your first author? Get pissy-eyed drunk and embarrass yourself completely? Send us your anecdotes about Bloody Words past. Again, please try to limit yourself to 150 words and send your story to [publications@bloodywords2010.com](mailto:publications@bloodywords2010.com). We welcome pix, too – see above for specs.

Do you have any **ideas for programming**? Any topics you're particularly interested in, either to hear about or to talk about yourself. Contact us at [chair@bloodywords2010.com](mailto:chair@bloodywords2010.com).

If you have a Website or blog, if you're on Facebook or My Space, if you tweet, if you're on DorothyL or any other mystery board, please help spread the word about Bloody Words 2010. Mention us. Link to the BW 2010 Website <http://www.bloodywords2010.com>. Help make our 10th birthday celebration the biggest and best ever con.

## DEADLINES

**\*\*\*December 31, 2009. Register for Bloody Words and pay the early-bird rate of \$150. The fee goes up to \$175 on January 1, 2010. Go to <http://www.bloodywords2010.com> and click on Registration (bottom of page)\*\*\***

**ASAP.** Book an appointment to pitch your manuscript to an agent. For more info and the agent request form, go to <http://www.bloodywords2010.com/BW10-agent.html>. Note that agent appointments are first come, first served.

**April 15, 2010.** Deadline for submitting your short story to the Bony Pete short story contest. For contest details and the entry form, go to <http://www.bloodywords2010.com/BW10-story.html>.

**April 15, 2010.** Deadline for submitting 30 pages of your work-in-progress for a manuscript evaluation. For submission details and the submission form, go to <http://www.bloodywords2010.com/BW2010-MS-crit.html>.

**Sometime before May 4, 2010.** Book your room at the Hilton Hotel at the special Bloody Words convention rate. For more details, go to <http://www.bloodywords2010.com/hotel.html>.

**SEE YOU AT BLOODY WORDS X  
MAY 28 - 30, 2010  
TORONTO, ONTARIO, CANADA**

