The Centre for Indo Canadian Studies and the English Dept.
present:

South Asian Writers Series
Readings, book signings and discussion

Tuesday, Feb 24th, 6 – 8 pm
Room F125, Centre for Indo Canadian Studies

Phinder Dulai has given readings and talks on Canadian literature, with an emphasis on migrant voices, for schools, colleges and universities both in and outside of Canada. He has worked in print journalism in Vancouver's South Asian media and as an associate producer for Gabereau Live. His poetry has been published in Ankur, Rungh, The Canadian Ethnic Studies Review, and the Toronto South Asian Review. Excerpts of his poetry have been featured in the Vancouver Sun and The Globe and Mail. He published his first book of poetry, Ragas from the Periphery, in 1995. Basmati Brown was published by Nightwood in 2000.

Ashok Mathur was born in Bhopal, India, and immigrated to Canada with his family in 1962. At first they settled in Nova Scotia but by 1968 they were in Calgary, where he began working on a variety of small press and art projects. Mathur has published three books: Loveruage, a dance in three parts, (poetic novella, 1994), Once Upon an Elephant (novel, 1998), and The Short, Happy Life of Harry Kumar (novel, 2001). His fiction addresses postcolonial concerns through humour, satire and, other narrative devices that challenge normative assumptions of race, identity, and politics. He is currently working on a multidisciplinary project entitled A Little Distillery in Nowgong, which traces the Parsi diaspora through forms of the novel, video poetry, and installation. Mathur is the Canada Research Chair in Cultural and Artistic Inquiry at Thompson Rivers University

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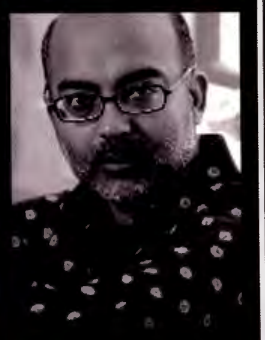
Anjali Banerjee was born in India, raised in Canada and California and received degrees from the University of California, Berkeley. When she was seven, she wrote her first story about an abandoned puppy on a beach in Bengal. Her book, Maya Running is on the American Library Association's "2007 Popular Paperbacks for Young Adults Nominations" list. Horn Book Magazine called Anjali's second novel for children, Looking for Bapu (Wendy Lamb Books, 2006) "a moving story about surviving an unexpected, shocking loss;" Booklist called the book "imaginative," "hilarious" and "an excellent read aloud". In October 2005, Anjali's first novel for adults, Imaginary Men (Downtown Press/Pocket Books, 2005) was chosen as a Book Sense Notable Book.



Jaspreet Singh is the author of Chef, a novel nominated for the 2008 Hugh MacLennan Prize and Seventeen Tomatoes: Tales from Kashmir, which won the 2004 McAuslan Best First Book Prize, and has been translated into Spanish and Punjabi. His stories have appeared in Walrus, World Cup Cricket Anthology, Francis Ford Cappola's Zoetrope and on CBC Radio. He recently finished writing Speak Oppenheimer, a play for Montreal's Infinite Theatre and he is one of the contributors along with Kiran Desai, Vikram Seth and Salman Rushdie to the anthology of essays, Aids Sutra: Untold Stories from India. Jaspreet was the 2006-07 Markin-Flanagan Writer in Residence at the University of Calgary, he is currently the Writer in Residence at the University of the Fraser Valley.

Tariq Malik was born in Pakistan in 1951. He lived in Kuwait for two decades prior to immigrating to Canada in 1995. He lives in Vancouver and works as an industrial chemist. Malik's book Rainsongs of Kotli is set in the plains of Punjab, amidst the breathtaking mountain snowmelts and the monsoon rainstorms, these beautifully told and haunting stories explore the lives and the longings and memories of the Lohar people of Kotli. For centuries the Lohars have worked as iron-, silver- and goldsmiths. We meet this place and this people a decade after the tumultuous Partition of India, when millions fled their homes to live elsewhere.

Open to the public, FREE event!

For more information, contact:

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