

Contents

Acknowledgements xiii

Introduction 1

The Repertoire

Daniel T. Williams (ca. 1840–1887) 39

Notebook 1872–1875 41

Letter to Hudson's Bay Company Factor, George Kennedy, April 12,
1873 42

Alfred Schmitz Shadd (1870–1915) 43

To the Electors of the District of Kinistino 45

Defamation 46

Sorry but Happy 47

Mildred Jane Lewis Ware (1871–1905) 48

Letter May 4, 1898 50

Letter June 6, 1898 50

Letter June 20, 1899 51

Reverend George Washington Slater, Jr. (1873–1940) 52

Why I Became a Socialist 55

Emancipation 57

Our Negro Citizens (April 17, 1922) 59

William Sylvester Alpheus Beal (1874–1968) 62

Big Woody 64

3 Glass-Plate Photographs 63

- Rosa Shannon (ca. 1880–1931)** 70
From *Window of Our Memories*: “We gave our lives to this part of the country” 70
- Alice Ethel Lewis (1886–1960)** 74
In Loving Memory of Alberta 74
- Jefferson Davis Edwards (1888–1979)** 76
From *Window of Our Memories*: “There was a cloud over Amber Valley” 77
- John Bell Bowden (1888–1982)** 82
Interview with Velma Carter: “Always be a factor in the community!” 83
- Sylvester Long (1890–1932)** 88
My Trail Upward 90
From *Long Lance: The Autobiography of a Blackfoot Indian Chief* 96
Canoe Song 102
Death Song of Long Lance 103
- Martha Edwards (1890–1977)** 105
From *Window of Our Memories*: “That is what pioneers had to go through” 106
- Amanda Janet (Nettie) Ware (1893–1989)** 108
John Ware 109
- E.A. Cobbs (dates unknown)** 114
Black Cultural Research Society Interview: “This bias was good, for it caused the black people to fight” 115
- Ellis Hooks (1907–1979)** 120
From the Provincial Archives of Alberta Oral History Project: “The way I felt, I wanted to plead guilty: I wanted the world to know” 121
- Luther Gerard (1914–2004)** 127
From *Window of Our Memories*: “Community spirit” 127
- Woody Strode (1914–1994)** 133
From *Goal Dust* 134
- Lloyd Mayes (1916–ca. 1972)** 145
From *North of the Gully*: “Homebrew” 145
- Golder (“Goldie”) Gordon (dates unknown)** 150
From *North of the Gully*: “Even the bad was good” 150

- Gwendolyn Hooks (1920–2018)** 155
 From *The Keystone Legacy: Recollections of a Black Settler*: “We were considered Indians” 156
- Fil Fraser (1932–1917)** 160
 From *Alberta’s Camelot: Culture & the Arts in the Lougheed Years*: “Alberta’s own Quiet Revolution” 163
- Claire Harris (1937–2018)** 174
 From *Drawing Down a Daughter* 176
- Addena Sumter-Freitag (1944–)** 183
 From *Stay Black & Die* 184
- Linus Tongwo Asong (1947–2012)** 190
 From *No Way to Die* 191
- Nigel Darbasie (1950–)** 202
 Our Subdivision 203
 Pan Man 203
 New Terra 205
- Tololwa M. Mollel (1952–)** 206
 Feasting on Words 207
 Canada Dry 217
- Selwyn Jacob (ca. 1950s–)** 220
 A Filmmaker’s Journey to an Untold Story 221
- F.B. André (1955–)** 224
 Is There Someone You Can Call? 225
- Cheryl Foggo (1956–)** 232
 From *Pourin’ Down Rain* 234
 From *John Ware Reimagined* 240
- Lawrence Hill (1957–)** 251
 Meet You at the Door 253
- Margaret Robinson-Gudmundson (1957–)** 267
 The Severance 268
- George Bwanika Seremba (1958–)** 275
 From *Come Good Rain* 276
- Valerie Mason-John (1962–)** 297
 Self Portrait Two 299
 Yellowknifed 300

- Nduka Otiono (1964–)** 302
Homeland Securities 303
Archive Fever 305
University of Work 307
- Sheila Addiscott (1964–)** 309
Coloured 310
- Suzette Mayr (1967–)** 316
From *Monoceros* 318
From *Dr. Edith Vane and the Hares of Crawley Hall* 323
- Dawn Carter (1968–)** 333
Restoration 334
A Monumental Love 335
Get into My Car 336
- Minister Faust (1969–)** 338
From *The Coyote Kings of the Space-Age Bachelor Pad* 339
From *The Alchemists of Kush* 344
- Deanna Bowen (1969–)** 354
sum of the parts that can be named 355
- Bertrand Bickersteth (1969–)** 366
Accidental Agriculture 367
What We Used to Call It 369
We, Too 370
The Invisible Man on the Prairies 371
- Troy B. Bailey (ca. 1960s–)** 373
From *The Pierre Bonga Loops* 374
- Wakefield Brewster (1972–)** 379
i can 380
mediumz 383
- Odario Williams (Mood Ruff) (1972–)** 387
Front from the Past, Pt. II 388
Front from the Past, Pt. III 390
- Bola Opaleke (1973–)** 393
The Autobiography of Water 394
- Chantal Hitayezu (birthdate unknown)** 398
My Grandfather's Poem, My Grandmother's Dance 398
- Ian Samuels (1975–)** 404
From *The Ubiquitous Big* 405

- Kaie Kellough (1975–)** 409
 boy hood dub II 410
 night gallery 413
 vox versus 415
- Georges Edy Laraque (1976–)** 418
 From *Georges Laraque: The Story of the NHL's Unlikeliest Tough Guy* 420
- Esi Edugyan (1978–)** 430
 From *The Second Life of Samuel Tyne* 432
- Nestor Wynrush (Elliott Walsh) (1978–)** 439
 Winnipeg South Blues 440
 Ole Mine Town 444
- Nehal El-Hadi (1979–)** 446
 Djinn in Saskatchewan 447
 La Puerta 448
- Francisco Alexander Fwallah (ca. 1980s–)** 459
 Na Corrente do rio (“In the River Flow,” trans. Erin Mouré) 460
 Aquilo que Mereces (“What You Deserve,” trans. Erin Mouré) 460
- Michelle Jean-Paul (1980–)** 462
 Learning to Love Me 463
- Marika Warner (1981–)** 466
 From *Mulatto Nation* 467
- Lisa Codrington (1982–)** 481
 From *Cast Iron* 482
- Khodi Dill (1983–)** 494
 Grey 495
 Holes 497
 Oil and Water 499
- Ahmed Ali (Knowmadic) (1984–)** 501
 Child Soldier 502
- Tchitala Nyota Kamba (ca. 1984–)** 504
 Récit d’un voyageur: Rêve ou utopie (“Tale of a Traveler: Dream or Utopia,” trans. Erin Mouré) 505
 Makala! (Trans. Erin Mouré) 511
 Je suis d’ici, je suis d’ailleurs (“I’m from Here; I’m from Over There,” trans. Erin Mouré) 514

Títílopé Sónúgà (1985–)	519
Grandpa Igbobi	520
Sacrifice	521
Roland (Rollie) Pemberton (Cadence Weapon) (1986–)	526
Oliver Square	527
30 Seconds	529
How Black?	531
Frank Fontaine (Young Kidd) (1988–)	534
Wonderful Winnipeg	535
Hometown	537
Miranda Martini (1990–)	540
The Drinking Gourd: Three Tales	541
<i>Works Cited</i>	549
<i>Copyright Acknowledgements</i>	567
<i>Index of Authors and Titles</i>	573