



*presents*

A Free Reading and Workshop  
with award-winning author and poet,

**Renée Sarojini Saklikar**



**Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2 p.m.**

Program: Part 1 - Reading of her latest works:  
Tree poems from a new anthology, "Worth More Standing."  
And a reading from a new essay forthcoming from Arsenal Press in an  
anthology about fibre arts.  
Part 2 – Workshop: Sustaining your writing practice

**ZOOM ONLY ACCESS FOR THIS MEETING:**

To participate in our online meeting, please send  
an e-mail to: [tri.city.wordsmiths@gmail.com](mailto:tri.city.wordsmiths@gmail.com) with a request to attend.  
Further instructions will follow.

## **About the readings:**

### [Worth More Standing](#)

Renee will read from her poems included in this wonderful anthology

In *Worth More Standing: Poets and Activists Pay Homage to Trees*, celebrated poets and activists pay homage to the ghosts of lost forests and issue a rallying cry to protect remaining ancient giants and restore uncolonized spaces.

Themes of connection, ecology, grief, and protection are explored through poems about trees and forests written by an impressive number of influential poets, several of whom have attended the recent Fairy Creek blockades and still others who defended old-growth ecosystems in Clayoquot Sound for nearly 30 years ago.

Contributors include ninth Parliamentary Poet Laureate Louise Bernice Halfe-Sky Dancer, GG winner Arleen Paré, Canadian icon Bill Bissett, Griffin Poetry Prize winner Eve Joseph, ReLit Award winner Patrick Friesen, Order of Canada and Order of the Rising Sun recipient Joy Kogawa, Vancouver Poet Laureate Fiona Tinwei Lam – among many others.

“This anthology grounds us in the earth’s daily miracles, also known as trees, reminding us not to take them for granted. These poems acknowledge how we rely on and are part of a life force much bigger and wiser than us, giving us glimpses into the sacredness that trees make as they unconditionally transform sunlight into ‘nourishing air.’ From love to grief to gratitude to awe, this collection gives us lessons in the language of trees, crucial lexicons with which to navigate climate emergency.”—Rita Wong, activist-poet

Renee will also read from her essay for a fibre arts anthology

Arsenal Pulp Press plans to publish a yet-to-be-named literary essay anthology that examines our deep and complex relationship with the fibre arts. Authors will engage fibre arts practice as a lens (positive or negative) through which to examine larger contemporary issues: identity, technology, climate change, personal struggle, politics, family, adventure, relationship, art, science, or any other complexities of life. The editors' interests include lived experiences and perspectives historically underrepresented in the fibre arts space, work that challenges the dominant culture view and pushes beyond easy nostalgia and sentimentality to examine the unusual and unexpected.

## **About the workshop:**

This is entitled "The power of micro steps in helping to sustain your writing practice" - We'll do a set of writing prompts to promote habits that I've found useful in my own writing practice

## **About the Author and workshop presenter:**

Renée Saklikar's ground-breaking poetry book about the bombing of Air India Flight 182, [children of air india](#), won the Canadian Authors Association Prize for Poetry and was shortlisted for the Dorothy Livesay Poetry Prize. Her book [Listening to the Bees](#), co-authored with Dr. Mark Winston, won the 2019 Gold Medal Independent Publishers Book Award (Environment/Ecology).

Trained as a lawyer, Saklikar is an instructor at SFU and VCC. She was the first Poet Laureate for the City of Surrey (2015–2018) and was the 2017 UBC Okanagan Writer in Residence. Curator of the poetry series Lunch Poems at SFU and the Poetry Phone (1-833-POEMS-4-U), she has seen her work adapted for opera, visual art and dance.

[THOT J BAP](#) is her sci-fi poetry epic, ten years in the making.

*Renée Sarojini Saklikar – Harbour Publishing*