RENAISSANCE MAN
Musician, photographer, designer, in-demand hairstylist — R. Kelly Clipperton explains how he masters it all and stays sane, E2

ENTERTAINMENT

INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF AUTHORS

Mysteriously Yours... Mystery Dinner Theatre
NOW PLAYING:
UPHOWN

Time to Save a Date For Your Festive Fun!
(416) 486-7469
www.MysteriouslyYours.com
Darryl Sterk says translating books to English from Chinese is a creative experience

JANE GERSTER
STAFF REPORTER

When more than a hundred authors take the stage during the International Festival of Authors, which starts Thursday at Harbourfront, the art of translation will be under the microscope.

How translators convert a novel from one language to the next and still keep the meaning and phrasing of the author — never mind the poetry and “music” of writing — is one of the festival’s two major themes this year (the other is a focus on young authors, called Brave New World).

This is the fourth year the festival has paid tribute to the “art of literary translation,” but the first time a translator — who is not an author — has been invited to discuss how his work can be just as creative as penning a novel.

Darryl Sterk, who will appear at the IFOA on Saturday, may have spent the summer on Taiwan’s east coast, soaking in the landscape and culture that provides the backdrop to Wu Ming-Yi’s novel, The Man with the Compound Eyes, but it wasn’t for pleasure. It was to do his job.

An Edmonton-born Chinese-English translator living in Taiwan, Sterk had just translated the book in its entirety, and the trip to the coast was the next step in the elaborate fine-tuning process that is translation.

“I had a sense of the place in reality... so I can convey some kind of feeling of the actual place when I’m doing the translation,” he said.

BOOKS continued on E5

An insider’s guide to IFOA must-sees

Geoffrey Taylor
Director, IFOA

The 24th edition of the International Festival of Authors begins this week. As the director of the festival, I am often asked to survey the list of participants to pick the best of the best, and to help audiences navigate the festival.

As you can well imagine, after spending over a year putting the roster together, I think all the participants are fantastic and I hope that they will all find new readers.

That said, I realize that with more than 200 participants and 70-plus events, you might be wondering what to see — particularly if you’ve never been to the festival before. And for those who have not been in a while, maybe this is the year to revisit and see how we have grown.

Our audience experiences the festival in different ways. Some come to see authors that they have read and enjoyed, while others come to discover new favourites. Of the 21 Nobel laureates we have presented on our stages, most have been at the IFOA before they were acknowledged by the Nobel Foundation. Maybe you’ll find a future winner on this year’s stage.

To help you navigate the next 11 days of onstage author events, here are 10 highlights that are not to be missed, in chronological order:

YoungIFOA: In conversation with Gordon Korman
Events for young readers are a growing part of our festival.

IFOA continued on E5

Drake rarely talks — yet his lyrics speak volumes

Deciphering the Toronto hip-hop titan’s lyrics in time for his birthday concert

Aubrey Drake Graham makes no secret of his love for the town things Drake.

Yep, Drake’s still getting paid. “Coming off the last record, I’m getting 20 million, off the record / Just to off these records, nigga / That’s a record,” he boasts on album opener “Tuscan Leather.” Later, “This is the life for me,” he affirms on “Furthest Thing.” “My momma told me this was right for me.” But “From Time” finds Drake warmly finding time for his once-estranged father: “I been dealing with my dad, speakin’ of lack of patience...”