

**NUNT**

Get ready for an outrageous, provocative, and terrifying tour-de-force...

This fall, Mingus Tourette's *Nunt* (Zygote Publishing, September 2004) explodes with the shocking story of a man who walks out on his wife and embarks on a ferocious two year odyssey of womanizing and alcohol-fuelled violence. Tourette roars across a barbaric America in this savage tale of murderous fist fights and Molotov cocktails, doing battle with malevolent priests, falling in love with obsessed prostitutes, and desperately trying to exorcise the ghosts of his failed marriage.

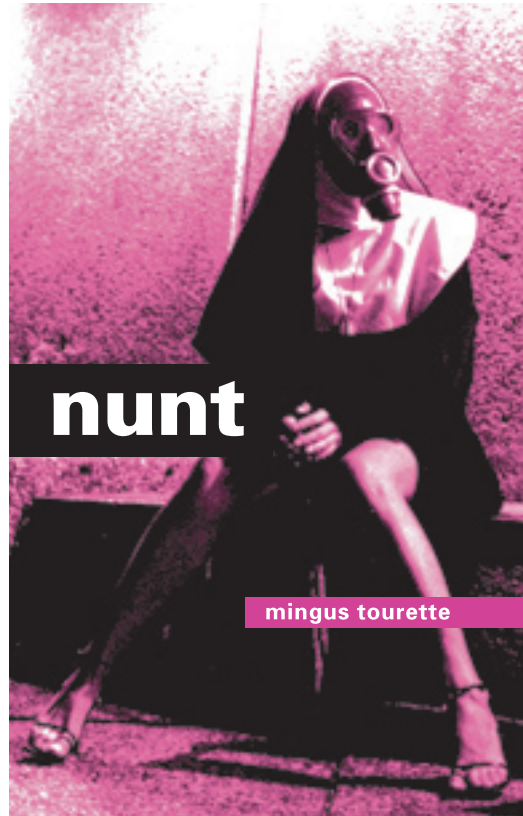
A fascinating narrative of destructive and mercurial love, "*Nunt* makes *Fight Club* look like *Three Little Bunnies*... these verses have something to mortally offend everyone who reads them. I devoured them in one sitting (before they devoured me), struck again and again by their tireless and imaginative violence - passion, really. Tourette wrenches tormented, nihilistic and surreally brutal feelings out of the pornographic and into the poetic. Like drinking yourself sober, there's virtue in the excess."

— **Daniel Richler**

To learn more about Mingus Tourette, read *The Daily Mingus* at [www.nunt.com](http://www.nunt.com), showcasing biting social commentary, wild sex romps, and blistering tales from the drunk tank. For more about Tourette's book, including excerpts and contests, visit [www.zygotepublishing.com](http://www.zygotepublishing.com) or inquire about *Nunt* at a fine bookstore near you.

**Marketing Campaign**

- Author Tour: Edmonton, Calgary, Vancouver, Winnipeg, Toronto, Montreal (see release)
- American and Canadian National Review Mailing (500 copies)
- Targeted review mailing to high-traffic opinion blog sites (100 copies)
- Postcard mailing and summer Fringe distribution campaign (minimum 1500 postcards)
- Radio & Television appearances, print interviews
- High traffic author web site with thousands of unique visitors per month
- Monthly digital artwork contest
- Online 60 Second Commercial
- Online Chat Tour



[W]ritten with economy and momentum and a raw, poetic grace ... still sticks in my guts after several months.

**The Edmonton Journal**  
**Shawn Ohler, Culture Editor on Nunto 35**

**About the Author**

Mingus Tourette was born and raised in western Canada. He is the author of *The Daily Mingus*, an online serial with a fanatical fan base. Tourette still lives in the west, where he is working on his next novel. He is no longer married and has no children, to the best of his knowledge.

**WRITE THE NATION: A STATE OF EMERGENCY**

Mingus Tourette takes on Bush, the Church, &amp; the State of Canadian Poetry - In a Pink Ambulance

**Edmonton – September 15, 2004**

This fall, when you see a man in a gas mask driving a pink ambulance down your street, be afraid, be very afraid - for Mingus is coming and he's not happy. On October 1st, Mingus Tourette and a volatile band of poets and writers embark on a three-week, cross-country book tour in a fully functional 1986 Chevy C-30 One Ton Pink Ambulance.

"Poetry is in a state of emergency in this country," says Tourette. "Within popular culture, it's almost invisible. There is some great writing out there, but there aren't three poets in the country who don't have other jobs to support themselves. We want to do whatever it takes to change that, and if it means driving 15 000 km in an ambulance, then so be it. People can either get on board, get out of the way, or get run down in the street like a dog."

In addition to a number of small town saloons and various centres of academic learning, Mingus Tourette's WRITE THE NATION TOUR will be stopping in: Edmonton, Vancouver, Calgary, Saskatoon, Regina, Winnipeg, Thunder Bay, Toronto, Ottawa and Montreal. The tour plans to hook up with readers and other writers at open mics, poetry series, university pubs and independent bookstores. In doing so, the tour hopes to right a national perspective.

"The image of the poet in Canada needs a makeover in the public eye," says Tourette. "Poets and writers are the most interesting people I know. They're intelligent, fun, hard-drinking, articulate folk, yet they're often seen as stuffy, ivory-tower types. In other countries, poets and writers are national heroes, yet who do we worship? The Canadian Idol, or worse - the American Idol. Ridiculous."

Such provocative statements come easily to Tourette, who's latest book, *Nunt* (Zygote Publishing, September 2004), has already attracted religious and moral criticism. Packed with tales of murder, apostasy, lust-filled nuns, and absinthe-stoked prostitutes, *Nunt* seems custom built not only to taunt and challenge the right-wing conservatives, but everyone who dares to read it.

"[These] verses have something to mortally offend everyone who reads them," comments Daniel Richler, a literary bad boy in his own right. "I devoured them in one sitting (before they devoured me), struck again and again by their tireless and imaginative violence - passion, really. Tourette wrenches tormented, nihilistic and surreally brutal feelings out of the pornographic and into the poetic. Like drinking yourself sober, there's virtue in the excess."

Mingus Tourette's WRITE THE NATION TOUR kicks off at Edmonton's LitFest this fall and blows into a fine bookstore or open mic near you. For more information about local dates, appearances and interviews please feel free to contact us, or check online for tour updates at [www.zygotepublishing.com](http://www.zygotepublishing.com).

- 30 -

**Zygote Publishing** is a collective of highly motivated, like-minded, literature-loving, Western Canadian individuals who are dedicated to presenting literary works in a manner that captivates and entices new audiences.

## REVIEWS AND QUOTES

*"Nunt makes Fight Club look like Three Little Bunnies ... these verses have something to mortally offend everyone who reads them. I devoured them in one sitting (before they devoured me), struck again and again by their tireless and imaginative violence - passion, really. Tourette wrenches tormented, nihilistic and surreally brutal feelings out of the pornographic and into the poetic. Like drinking yourself sober, there's virtue in the excess."*

**Daniel Richler**

*"His writing is passionate and driven, sometimes so gritty and down to earth, that you can taste the earthworms...I admired the guy's juice, his devotion to the craft, the whiffs of Bukowski and insanity in the poetry-prose."*

**Wayne Arthurson, The Edmonton Journal**

*"Mingus Tourette may be the most exhilarating voice to emerge on the Canadian poetry scene in decades."*

**Misty Harris, CanWest News Service**

*"Ed's favourite iconoclast..."*

**Ed Magazine**

*"[I] really liked your story, a profane, nightmarish tale whose narrator travels to Cambodia and blows up a barn, then a cow, with hand grenades. It was written with economy and momentum and a raw, poetic grace, and had this compressed Apocalypse Now vibe that invoked Latin and satori, the Buddhist notion of sudden enlightenment ... still sticks in my guts after several months."*

**The Edmonton Journal, Shawn Ohler, Culture Editor on Nunto 35**

## ONLINE RAVES

*Well, I'm neither web nerd nor New York poet, but I still enjoyed reading your site ... because it is so brutally honest, so raw.*

**MH**

*I've composed a list of men I'd sleep with just for their brainpower / talent alone... #6. Mingus Tourette - he's not famous yet, but give it time. He frightens me... in a good way.*

**Afrochic, afrochic.net**

*He's a really creative guy - an artist with many talents... it's a great read. Those who are easily offended might want to steer clear, but don't let that stop you from checking it out.*

**Fritzkrieg, indignantninja.com Forums**

### MINGUS IN THE PRESS



#### Front Page Masthead:

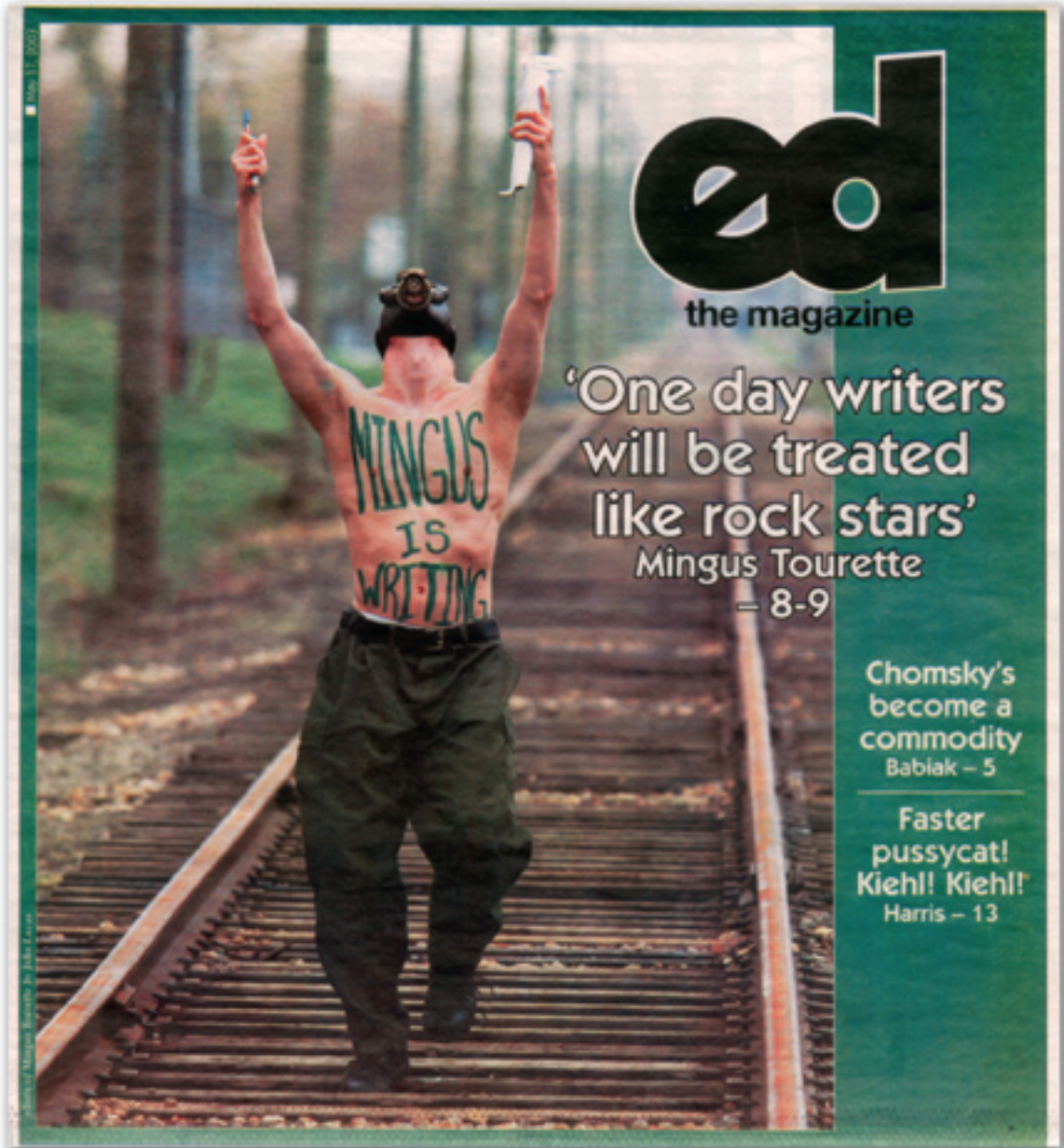
The Edmonton Journal



#### Feature Article: ed the magazine

A Publication of The Edmonton Journal.

MINGUS IN THE PRESS



Front Page: *ed the magazine*

A Publication of *The Edmonton Journal*.

MINGUS IN THE PRESS

art ATTACKS  
eye for the unusual

Writing  
on the wall



**Grffiti on pavement**  
Outside the Edmonton Remand Centre, 9660 104th Ave.

Across from the Remand Centre, chalk and spray-painted graffiti are scrawled onto a sidewalk south of the 87th St. train overpass. But the graffiti is created by friends of prisoners, sending messages to the inmates. Those who take the time to cross 87th and climb the stairway on the east side of the bridge will see brighter and bolder graffiti on a path along the north side of the jail.

University of Toronto professor Doug Frayne studies graffiti. He said this phenomenon is quite normal. "Wherever you have prisons, and the prisoners can see the people outside, they'll have sign language, or artwork, or paintings on cars that they drive past," Frayne said. "This is like sending smoke signals to somebody in particular. Probably it is quite personal between the individuals and the prisoners inside."



**Welcome greeting in Chinatown**  
Lucky Town Market, 10402 97th St.

An image of a bustling square on the Lucky Town Market serving in Chinatown shows a woman standing with a straw hat slung over her arm. She looks beyond the fruit and veggie on display before her into the intersection of 97th Street and 106th Avenue with a peaceful look on her face.

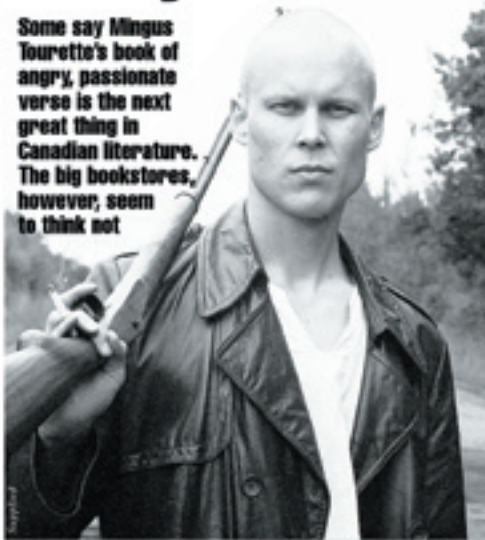
Behind her is a crowded walkway leading to Angkor Wat, a Buddhist temple in Cambodia. The temple, built as a Hindu place of worship in the 12th century, is now part of the Angkor Archaeological Park world heritage site.

The sewing depicts life and architecture far removed from that found in Edmonton, a city only just approaching its centennial. It serves equally as a welcome to those visiting Chinatown to capture a taste of home and as a reminder of Canada's varied heritage.

Julie Molins ■  
jmolins@thejournal.com

Poetry in furious motion

Some say Mingus Tourette's book of angry, passionate verse is the next great thing in Canadian literature. The big bookstores, however, seem to think not



Mingus Tourette and his poetic license

Mingus Tourette may be the most emboldening voice to emerge on the Canadian poetry scene in decades.

The 29-year-old Edmonton poet, who was profiled in **ed** a year ago, wields his pen like a weapon in verse after unrepentant verse in his new book *Must* — a collection he hopes people will care enough about to someday broeze or burn.

The angry intellectual's verses have already won over one leading commentator, book television's Daniel Richler (son of Canadian book icon Mordecai), who says he was struck "again and again with their steely and imaginative violence."

In one passage, for example, Tourette writes:

*after the hiss of burning sugar cubes  
it's all about the stomach pump  
and the violence  
you  
it's a bad night  
when I'm phoning the hospital  
and telling them to beef up security  
for about 12:30  
cause I'm on my way.  
And in another:  
simply said  
I empathize with everyone these days  
for fighting, indeed — we got to be at  
the murdering age by now.*



**Must**  
Mingus Tourette,  
with foreword by  
Mordecai Richler  
32 pages, \$14.95,  
paperback  
Zygote Publishing  
Available September  
2008. Preview at  
www.must.com or  
www.zygotepublishing.com

Tourette's verses, which attack religion, politics and even that "Victorian fruitcake" Billy Shakespeare, have "something to mortally offend everyone," Richler says approvingly.

And this gritty breed of poetry may be the vanguard of an emerging Can Lit west, according to a communications professor at Simon Fraser University.

"You get the feeling this is a new energy coming to authors and publishers," says Rowland Lorimer, who studies publishing and its relationship to cultural industries. "We're really seeing the beginning of the changing of the old guard."

Young, angry and scrappy describes this new generation of Canadian poets, most of whom wouldn't be recognized outside their local haunts. Inspired by kindred spirits like Canadian urban poet Jon Paul

Florentino, they are relentless in their pursuit of mainstream success.

Each one is Holden Casfield, Charles Bukowski and Fight Club's Tyler Durden rolled into a stick of lyrical dynamite. And each one must reconcile dueling senses of excitement and resentment over North America's culture of celebrity.

"Poets are third-rate citizens," Tourette says, sucking on a Camel cigarette.

"It's f---ing horrible that who Britney Spears is dating is more important than what George Browning, poet laureate, is writing about."

Lorimer believes an even bigger roadblock to wider awareness of these writers is the hesitation of major retailers to keep such controversial company. But there may be a positive side to the poets' need to tirelessly advance their own cause.

"It's more legitimate to have come through a channel that doesn't really exist and to have pushed hard to get media attention," he says. "If Random House published (your book), it wouldn't have the same edge, or be seen as so important."

Richler says there seems to be a de facto censorship on the part of big bookstores that rarely order titles from small presses. Subsequently, "there's a significant gap between the amount of poetry published in Canada and the amount of attention it receives."

For Tourette, being shut out of Chapters and Amazon for lack of a distributor means *Must* could die before it has the chance to find an audience. Indie retailers like Audryns and Greenwoods may be the book's only lifeline — if you don't count Tourette's personal website-cum bookstore, www.must.com.

The steady-eyed author says he'll do whatever it takes to get the collection into the public consciousness.

"There will be one-night poetry events at small-town, gin joints, there will be screaming matches in the ram-fuelled saloons of the big cities," Tourette says. "You just need to put the right spin on it and put a little bit of rock-star appeal into it."

In 2005, for example, the Griffin Poetry Prize made front-page news when presenter Scot Thompson concluded his monologue by waggling a sextoy in poet Anne Michaels's face. At the time, Michaels was so appalled she left her seat. But these days, Tourette says he'd fully expect her to nip the toy from Thompson's hand and beat the hell out of him with it.

"Cause as far as I see," he says, "poets are done being f---ed with."

Misty Harris ■  
CanWest News Service

**BACKGROUND**  
Mingus Tourette was profiled in **ed** in May 2007. www.edmontonjournal.com, click on Online Extras

ed the magazine

A CanWest Publication. This story ran in the *Calgary Herald* & *ed the magazine*.

**ABOUT THE AUTHOR:****Mingus Tourette**

Mingus Tourette was born and raised in western Canada, and has been obsessed with writing and literature from an early age. Since 1999, he has been published regularly online and is now the writer / editor of *The Daily Mingus*, which is an online serial with a large, fanatical fan base.



Tourette is frequently quoted in local print media on subjects ranging from metrosexuality to the state of poetry in Canada, and continually participates in online debates concerning religion, evolution, and American foreign policy. In 2003, Tourette garnered media attention while protesting the invasion of Iraq. He was photographed wearing a gas mask and an American flag fashioned as a diaper, which later prompted police to detain and interrogate him.

Tourette has been labelled a "shiv-wielding, profanity-hurling church-baiter, but in a good way" (*Edmonton Journal*, 2003) for his oft-profane tongue and for arriving at interviews with

a shiv in hand. It is his belief that writers should be treated like rock stars, and should have the right to make a living from the written word.

Mingus Tourette still lives in the west where he is working on his next novel. He is no longer married and has no children, to the best of his knowledge.

He signs his name:

**Mingus Tourette**

*Emphatic Graphomaniac*  
*Chronic Neologist*  
*Thanaphobic Bastard*  
*Purveyor of Fine Apostasy*  
*Effervescent Fuckaroo*  
&  
*Notorious Drunkard, Esquire*