The Dressing Gown: New fiction by Giller Prize winner Elizabeth Hay On the beat with veteran cop Gerry Kinnear | Dishing on Stuntman Stu's home life THE ALLIER PICNIC WINES PARTYING WITH ARTIS PATRICK JOHN MILLS READING LIST O DOW'S LAKE

DEVELOP YOUR TASTES – AND SKILLS – WITH THESE

BLOCKBUSTER EVENTS & QUIRKY WORKSHOPS

BY PAUL GESSELL









#### 1. Star-Struck

This summer there's a new opportunity to see stars within the city limits. As part of Cube Gallery's month-long art show Nuit Noir: A Festival of the Night Sky, nearby Julian Street will be darkened and closed to traffic for one night, allowing passersby to peer at the night sky through telescopes provided by the Royal Astronomical Society. July 2. Cube Gallery, 1285 Wellington St. W., www.cubegallery.ca.

## 2. True Grit

Art lovers with a yen for something edgier than traditional landscapes should stroll by the **Urban Art Show**. The juried show is going for "truly urban" this year — think, the visual equivalent of urban music. Expect more photography, new media, graffiti art, and graphic design. **July 23**. Minto Park, Elgin Street between Gilmour and Lewis streets.

www.urbanartinmintopark. blogspot.com.

## 3. On the Make

Always wanted to make your own soap? Build a toy camera? Learn how to slow dance? Les Ateliers is here for you. A co-operative and casual group of like-minded people, "Les Ats" organizes

## affordable monthly workshops

— and invites collaborators to share their skills. Get on their list by emailing organizers Rachel Thera and Lauren Potosky at *lesateliersottawa@gmail.com*, or look them up on Facebook.

### 4. Shock and Awe

How shockable are you? This summer La Petite Mort Gallery hosts a month-long exhibition called Golden, in which each artwork references urine, often humorously. The seven participating artists include always outrageous Ottawa ex-pat Evergon and the rising queer art star from Saskatoon, Zachari Logan. Vernissage July 2.

La Petite Mort Gallery, 306 Cumberland St., www.lapetitemortgallery.com.

#### 5. Fools' Gold

Shakespeare's Antony and Cleopatra is generally regarded as a tragedy. Unless, that is, it's being performed by local theatre troupe Company of Fools, whose members think the star-crossed lovers are hilarious. But then these irreverent Shakespearean revisionists find humour everywhere. The Fools perform their take on the Egyptian diva and Roman general in parks for seven weeks (their longest run

yet). July 4 to August 20. www.fools.ca.

#### 6. Art School

Give yourself a holiday and send the kids to art camp. During one week, young participants morph into superheroes; another week, kids make animal masks and totem poles. Teens get their own half-day camp to learn silk-screening, jewellery-making, and other DIY skills. \$90-\$175.

www.ottawaartgallery.ca.

# 7. On the Fringe

For theatre at its grittiest, troll the Ottawa Fringe Festival. Some Fringe productions graduate to Broadway; others, thankfully, die quickly. Be prepared for ribald clowns, earnest soliloquies, and considerable theatre of the absurd (some of it unintentional). June 16 to 26. Arts Court and nearby venues. www.ottawafringe.com.

## 8. High Flyers

Love the circus? Adore the symphony? The two performance genres unite for Cirque de la Symphonie.

Aerialists fly through the air of Southam Hall while the NAC Orchestra musicians below play favourites, both classical and contemporary. June 16 to 18.

From \$20.45. National Arts Centre, Southam Hall, 53 Elgin St., www.nac-cna.ca.

#### 9. Turning Japanese

Create origami, compose a haiku, or model a kimono: five years in the making, the Canadian Museum of Civilization's big summer exhibition examines ancient and contemporary Japanese technology and culture. It is also bolstered by plenty of hands-on activities. So say sayonara to the Western culture outside and Hello Kitty to all things kawaii (a word encapsulating Japan's love of all things cute and adorable). Until Oct. 20.

Canadian Museum of Civilization, 100, rue Laurier, Gatineau, www.civilization.ca.

## 10. Scout the Talent

In the continuous search for new and unique literary voices, browse the Ottawa Small Press Book Fair for poets, historians, memoir writers, and novelists. You might even encounter the next Giller Prize winner. Watch robmclennan.blogspot.com for details about the popular pre-fair reading at the Carleton Tavern. June 25. Noon to 5 p.m.

www.smallpressbookfair. blogspot.com.