

Blue Metropolis

During my stay in Montreal I have been going to Atwater library to participate in lunchtime series that were held at 12:30 pm every week on Thursdays. It was April 24, 2013 and Mr. Gregory McCormick, programming Director, gave a preview of the 2013 blue metropolis international literary festival. I got a book that was included some information about their events. It was quite new for me and I had no idea of their activities. In the beginning of the book, there were interviews with several public figures and they had answered a question: "what was the book that you have been reading in the age of fifteen?" I had it in my book shelf for months and read their opinion every now and then. I had a lot of fun reading this kind of bilingual writing and tried to understand French words with the help of English version. Besides I had a dream of writing in English and I was looking for a class to improve my skill.

There were some workshops in YWCA that were seeking to revive women's natural talents. One of them was a workshop hosting by three ladies, a writer and poet, a photographer and a representative of Blue metropolis. Their warm and generous personality amazed me from the first meeting on November 11. The event took place in a quiet room on the fourth floor of YWCA. When they introduced themselves to the group, I remembered the event in the library and the book from blue Metropolis.

I dared to write prose poems and learned about Haiku and Tanka for the first time. The photographer had a fancy purse with herself to make the photos more attractive. The writer told us that the theme of her writing was garden and plants. So we took some unique pictures using the purse and vases of flowers.

Next time we went to Concordia university art exhibition. It was clear that having a professional photographer beside us was so inspiring. I was really surprised about all creative ideas from every participant. Sometimes the focus was on our faces, feet, hands and jewelries. After taking photos we left the exhibition and came back to YWCA. The writer had a jar with herself and suggested that everyone may write three words and put them in the jar. Then we were supposed to write about three words that were chosen accidentally, in ten minutes. She asked us to write more haikus and poems during the week. After that we received an email from the photographer containing a link to her gallery with persuading words, such as: Happy clicking.

The workshop were held and run in a very creative way for one month. At last the writer revised all the writings and sent us a copy of them.

When I came back home, I received an email with a wonderful photo that was shot by one of the members. They mentioned that as a "so studios" picture. By seeing that photo I imagine myself being in the workshop and get more inspiration for writing.

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