



**For Immediate Release**

## **KIDS CAN PRESS SWEEPS GOVERNOR GENERAL'S LITERARY AWARDS FOR CHILDREN'S LITERATURE**

(November 18, 2008 — Toronto, Canada) **Corus Entertainment's Kids Can Press** is proud to announce it has won the **2008 Governor General's Awards for Children's Literature in English** in both the text and illustration categories.

**John Ibbitson's *The Landing*** was awarded the prize for English Language Text, while **Stéphane Jorisch's** illustrations for ***The Owl and the Pussycat*** won in the English Language Illustration category.

John Ibbitson, *Globe and Mail's* Washington correspondent, set his coming-of-age novel *The Landing* in his childhood hometown of Gravenhurst, Ontario. His previous young adult novel, *Jeremy's War 1812*, was shortlisted for the award.

Stéphane Jorisch drew inspiration from the films of Fellini, the art of Miro and The Beatles' *Yellow Submarine* to create whimsical yet powerful images to accompany Edward Lear's nonsense poem. Jorisch, now a four-time Governor General's Literary Award winner, won previously for KCP's *Jabberwocky* in 2004.

Ibbitson and Jorisch will receive their awards from Governor General Michaëlle Jean on December 10 at the presentation ceremony at Rideau Hall in Ottawa.

Kids Can Press illustrator Isabelle Arsenault, a previous Governor General's French-language winner, was also nominated in the children's illustration category for *My Letter to the World and Other Poems*.

Arsenault and Jorisch's books are part of Kids Can Press's critically acclaimed *Visions in Poetry* series, an innovative collection of books that reinterpret classic poems through the eyes of contemporary illustrators. Five of the seven books in the series have been nominated for Governor General's Literary Awards.

Karen Boersma, Kids Can Press's Vice President and Publisher, stated, "Congratulations to John and Stéphane on this great honour. We are thrilled to have our publishing program and the work of our authors and illustrators recognized this way. It is also an acknowledgment of the hard work that our editors, designers and the rest of our staff put into making each and every one of our books a success."

Kids Can Press is the largest Canadian-owned children's publisher, with an award-winning list of over 500 picture books, non-fiction and fiction titles for toddlers to young adults. Kids Can Press is the home of *Franklin the Turtle*, the most successful publishing franchise in the history of Canadian publishing, which has sold over 60 million books in over 30 languages

around the world. Kids Can Press is owned by Corus Entertainment Inc., a Canadian-based media and entertainment company.

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