

## Montreal Journalist Arnold August Wins Prestigious Journalism Award

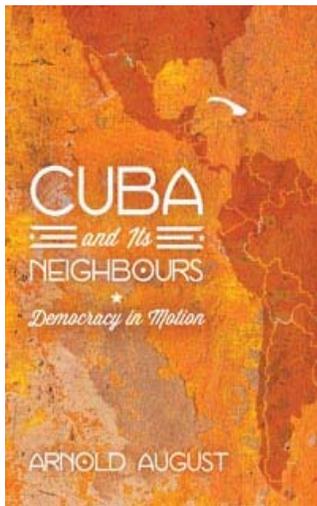
(Halifax, Nova Scotia) March 18, 2013 – Fernwood Publishing is pleased to announce that Montreal journalist and Fernwood Publishing author Arnold August has been presented with the *Distinción Félix Elmuza* (the Félix Elmuza Award). Created by the Cuban Council of State in 1979, it is Cuba's highest journalism award. The award is granted on behalf of the Council of State by the Association of Cuban Journalists for outstanding work carried out by Cuban journalists. The Association is also mandated, as circumstances warrant, to bequest the award to non-Cubans devoted to reflecting the Cuban reality. The Association's March 2013 statement recognizes the author, journalist and lecturer's numerous articles on Cuba and collaboration on Cuban web sites. The statement also highlights his writings about the Cuban Five, and his books dedicated to opposing the media war against Cuba. His most recent publication is *Cuba and Its Neighbours: Democracy in Motion* (Fernwood Publishing, 2013). The neighbours under consideration in his book are: the U.S., Venezuela, Bolivia and Ecuador. On March 6, on the occasion of the award presentation, Arnold was asked to speak in Havana to a group of Cuban journalists. For the full text of Arnold's presentation outlining his journalistic endeavors and his impression of the Cuban press as well as his comments on the death of Hugo Chávez, click here <http://fernwoodpublishing.ca/blog/> or here <http://democracycuba.com/media.html>

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*“This book, a tour de force from an expert who clearly knows his field well, is one that goes out of its way to make us think about what we understand by ‘democracy’ and how we should view new manifestations in the ‘Third World.’”*  
— Antoni Kapcia, Professor in Latin American History, Cuba Specialist, University of Nottingham, U.K. Campus

*“A must-read for anybody seriously interested in Cuba, and in the overall question of democracy and its practices.”* — Claudia Kaiser-Lenoir, Professor Emerita of Latin American Studies, Tufts University, Medford, Massachusetts

*“A trailblazing perspective: August contrasts the experiences in Cuba and some Latin American countries, where participatory democracy is taking shape, to the pretences of the U.S. model. Compulsory reading.”*— Claude Morin, Honorary Professor, Latin Americanist, Université de Montréal, Québec

*“Arnold August cuts through the common propaganda about democracy in the U.S. and the supposed lack of democracy in Cuba.”* — Cliff DuRand, Professor Emeritus of Social Philosophy, Morgan State University, Baltimore, Maryland

ARNOLD AUGUST has an MA in political science from McGill University. The Montreal- based writer, journalist and lecturer is the author of *Democracy in Cuba and the 1997–98 Elections* (Editorial José Martí). He has also contributed a chapter entitled “Socialism and Elections” to Azicri and Deal’s edited collection *Cuban Socialism in a New Century* (University Press of Florida). For full information on his current book, *Cuba and Its Neighbours: Democracy in Motion*, including the complete Table of Contents and Reviews, Visit [www.democracycuba.com](http://www.democracycuba.com)