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**First prepared in 2006 by the Survival Research Institute of Canada (Debra Barr and Walter Meyer zu Erpen).** Capitalization of any name or subject in the text below indicates that you will find an entry on that topic in the third edition of Rosemary Ellen Guiley's *Encyclopedia of Ghosts and Spirits* (2007). Updated August 2013.

## **Colombo, John Robert (1936- )**

Prolific Canadian author, poet, editor, and compiler of dictionaries of quotations along with anthologies relating to Canadian history and culture. Colombo was born on 24 March 1936 in Kitchener, Ontario. He has been the author, compiler or translator of over 230 books during the past five decades.

Colombo often turns his attention to Canadian tales of the supernatural, GHOSTS and UFOs. Among his publications are *Colombo's Book of Marvels* (1979), *Friendly Aliens* (1981), *Mysterious Canada* (1988), *Mackenzie King's Ghost* (1991), *Close Encounters of the Canadian Kind* (1994), *Ghost Stories of Ontario* (1995), *Haunted Toronto* (1996), *Mysteries of Ontario* (1999), *Weird Stories* (1999), *Ghost Stories of Canada* (2000), *Canadian Tales of Terror* (2004), *The Monster Book of Canadian Monsters* (2004), *True Canadian UFO Stories* (2004), and *The Big Book of Canadian Hauntings* (2009).

In [Conjuring Up the Owens](#) (1999), Colombo compiled the memories of the many friends and colleagues of Canadian psychical researchers A.R.G. OWEN and IRIS M. OWEN, as a tribute to their multi-faceted careers. He has kindly allowed the Survival Research Institute of Canada to digitize that tribute and make it available for research purposes ONLY on the [SRIC website](#).

In 2006 Colombo hosted a six-part Canadian television mini-series, *Unexplained Canada*.

For a complete list of Colombo's books, see: [www.colombo.ca](http://www.colombo.ca)

### **FURTHER READING:**

Colombo, John Robert.

- *The Big Book of Canadian Hauntings*. Toronto: Dundurn Press, 2009.
- *Ghost Stories of Ontario*. Toronto: Hounslow Press, 1995.
- *Ghost Stories of Canada*. Toronto: Hounslow Press, 2000.
- *Lambert's Day: An Appreciation of R.S. Lambert*. Toronto: Colombo & Company, 1999.
- *Mackenzie King's Ghost*. Toronto: Hounslow Press, 1991.
- *Mysterious Canada: Strange Sights, Extraordinary Events, and Peculiar Places*. Toronto: Doubleday Canada Limited, 1988.