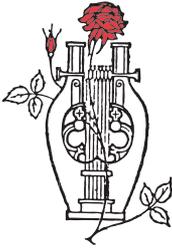


# Ekstasis Editions



Fall 2014



Welcome to the Ekstasis Editions Fall 2014 catalogue. Ekstasis has some special presentations for Fall 2014 and some extraordinary offerings for Spring 2015. Stay tuned for what we will be releasing for the furtherance of our literary mandate.

Ekstasis Editions produced its first book in Victoria in 1982, and has gone on to publish over three hundred fine volumes of today's best literature. In this season we are grateful to the Canada Council for the Arts for their continued support of the revival of our translation series, now called "Passport to the Imagination." This support enables us to release exciting titles from Quebec authors like *Summer Days* by **Célyne Fortin**, *The Body Vagabond: Selected Poems* by **Martine Audet**, *Lashing Skies* by **Madeleine Monette** and *The Terror Chronicles* by **Normand De Bellefeuille**. There is also standout Canadian poetry from **Jim Christy**, **Lesley Choyce**, and **JJ Steinfeld**, among others, as well as literary criticism from **Gregory Dunne** and **Mike Doyle**.

Ekstasis Editions has been characterized by a creative spirit and resilience during more than 30 years of remarkable growth. From early books of poetry, meticulously produced by hand, to a stimulating front and backlist of fiction, criticism, metaphysics, non-fiction and children's books, Ekstasis Editions has maintained the commitment to literature that inspired its creation. From newly translated fiction to drama and a healthy variety of poetic passions, our books will nourish the hungry mind and satisfy the longing spirit, as they have for the last 32 years. Join us in this literary adventure as we forge into our next thirty years of publishing!

Please see our back cover for ordering information and our generous 'Terms of Trade.'

Richard Olafson, Publisher



Canada

Ekstasis Editions acknowledges with gratitude the generous support of the Canada Council for the Arts and the Canada Council for the Arts translation program.

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# Summer Days

CÉLYNE FORTIN

translated by Margaret Wilson Fuller

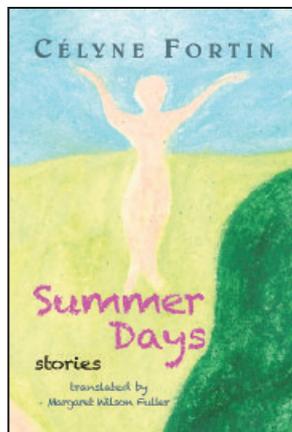
An extraordinary collection of stories by Quebec writer and artist, Célyne Fortin, *Summer Days* shines a gentle light on the many facets of human love. In simple yet moving tales, the author explores with insight and humour the diverse forms in which love manifests. Whether love as a game between lovers, love when partnered by loss, love as longing and searching, the love of an old woman for her cat or love between a dying mother and her daughter – each story holds a mirror up to our own forays in love's domain. Célyne Fortin introduces the reader to fascinating characters and scenes, painting inner and outer landscapes with deft strokes that reveal unvarnished truths as well as atmospheric washes to sooth the wounded heart. In these subtle encounters a master artist builds a world in which we see ourselves as players in a universal game of love and death, longing, freedom and destiny. Written from a woman's perspective but of interest to all, the stories of *Summer Days* have a haunting appeal, lingering in the heart like the memory of a burnished sunset as summer fades away.

A Quebec poet, painter and author **Célyne Fortin** has published over ten books since the publication of her first poetry collection, *Femme fragmentée*, by Editions du Noroît in 1982. *Summer Days* is her first book to be translated into English. Célyne Fortin lives and works in Montreal, Quebec.

Ads: *Pacific Rim Review of Books*, *BC Bookworld*

Readings: Montreal, Toronto, Victoria, Vancouver, and other locations across Canada.

Review copies available.



ISBN 978-1-77171-037-4

Fiction

130 pages

\$23.95

5 x 8

Available

September 2014



# The Strong Box

HEATHER SPEARS

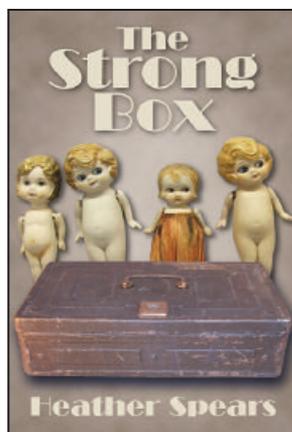
*The Strong Box* is a dark romp along the undercurrent of ordinary family life. Set in the 70s in Ontario, this short, quirky novel by a usually serious author follows four sisters no longer young as they are dragged, by impending mortality, into a confrontation with the past. Murky subjects, snarky humour, characters as real, irritating and forgiveable as life, and a plot tight as a drum.

*Scope, generosity, candour, harmony of passion and detachment...the intensity, the objectivity, the vision, the power of an extraordinarily selfless and dedicated writer...to read her is to extend one's experience into areas of life most of us are sheltered from.*

~ Jay Macpherson

**Heather Spears**, Canadian writer and artist, has lived in Denmark since 1962. She has published 14 collections of poetry, 3 novels of speculative fiction (*The Moonfall Trilogy*) and one of creative non-fiction (*The Flourish*), and 3 books of drawings. *The Creative Eye: drawing, vision and the brain*, (2007 and [illustrated] 2012) is the first of a series on art and the brain. The second, *Stranger than a Wolf*, on constructing the head in clay, is forthcoming. Among her awards are the Lowther Memorial Award (3 times) and The Governor General's Award for Poetry. She instructs and lectures about drawing and has drawn in courtrooms, war zones, concert halls, literary festivals and hospitals: she specializes in drawing premature and stillborn babies. She has exhibited widely in Europe and America.

Ads: *Pacific Rim Review of Books, BC Bookworld*  
Readings: Victoria, Vancouver, Toronto, Montreal.  
Review copies available.



ISBN 978-1-77171-069-5  
Fiction  
154 pages  
\$24.95  
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October 2014



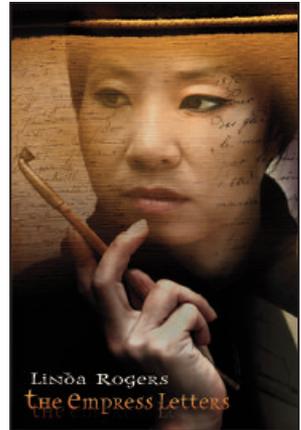
# The Empress Letters

## LINDA ROGERS

In the pristine gardens of quiet Oak Bay, the von Stronheim family seems perfectly at home, until young Poppy uncovers a mysterious subterranean world in which her mother is involved. Now years later, aboard the ocean liner *The Empress of Asia*, en route to China in search of her own daughter, Poppy begins a series of letters, determined to reveal the family secrets that shrouded her own life. From the proper drawing rooms of turn of the century Victoria, to the Chinatown opium trade and the studio of painter Emily Carr, to the gay London of Tallulah Bankhead, *The Empress Letters* is a riveting adventure exposing disturbing fractures beneath the smooth veneer of colonial society.

Poet, Novelist, lyricist and journalist **Linda Rogers** is the past Poet Laureate for Victoria. Her recent publications include: *Homing*, poetry from Ekstasis Editions, and *The Carter Vanderbilt Carter Anthology 2014*, from Exile Editions. She is a recipient of the Gwendolyn MacEwen Award, 2013, and the Montreal Broadside Prize, 2012. In addition to the *Empress Trilogy*, with two subsequent volumes, current projects include co-writing *The Arioso Games* with Ben Murray and Bozuk, a travel novel.

Ads: *Pacific Rim Review of Books*, *BC Bookworld*  
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 Review copies available.



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 Fiction  
 288 pages  
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 Available  
 September 2014



# Nerve Line

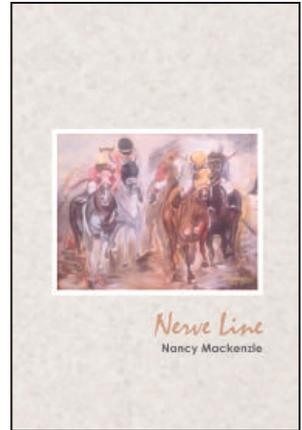
## NANCY MACKENZIE

For some, the beauty of Juniper Glen Farm comes from the rolling hills on which broodmares and foals graze. For others, the spirit of the ranch is found in the thrum of hooves on the homestretch at the race-track—but only when the horses are winning. Lineage, of course, matters. And Gran understands that there are horses that can make or break Juniper Glen's success: an Irish thoroughbred colt named Kilfenora, for one. It's just that her daughter, Mary, has a history of sacrificing anything to win.

A poetic and painterly view of the world of horseracing Alberta-style, *Nerve Line* includes a touch of true history, a dose of magic, and a palette full of surprises. It will settle you on your porch swing, then take you through the lush Irish countryside and out to the Rocky Mountains and ranchlands for a spell.

**Nancy Mackenzie** is the author of several books of poetry and books for children. A dressage enthusiast and long-time fan of horseracing, Mackenzie lives in Edmonton, Alberta where she operates a professional writing service called Bronze Horse Communications. *Communion*, Mackenzie's third book of poetry, was published by Ekstasis Editions in 2010.

Ads: *Pacific Rim Review of Books, BC Bookworld*  
Readings: Vancouver, Edmonton, Calgary, Toronto.  
Review copies available.



ISBN 978-1-77171-038-1  
Fiction  
248 pages  
\$25.95  
6 x 9  
Available  
September 2014



# What Will I Become Until I Die?

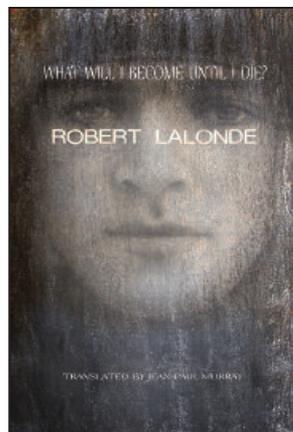
ROBERT LALONDE

translated by Jean-Paul Murray

You're thirteen years old and boarding school is a prison that teaches nothing. Heart filled with gloom, you escape to the bay of your childhood. But you share a dark secret with your father. You know you have to face life, but haven't a clue how. You're pinned to the floor by the grave certainty everything's over before it started. Fortunately, you have friends who understand, and hours of solitude you spend reading. Entranced by a book painting the Laurentian flora, you write your first poems, you discover words you suspect will make you free someday. Filled with poetic and sensual metaphors, *What Will I Become Until I Die* is a stunning portrait of adolescence, of its doubts and sudden flashes of anger. A glowing panegyric to Nature, it's the key to understanding Robert Lalonde's literary work.

An actor, playwright and translator, Robert Lalonde is one of Quebec's leading novelists. His previous novels published in translation by Ekstasis Editions include *The Ogre of Grand Remous*, *The Devil Incarnate*, *One Beautiful Day to Come*, *The Whole Wide World*, *Seven Lakes Further North* and *The Last Indian Summer*.

A writer, translator, researcher and communications specialist, Jean-Paul Murray has translated eleven books. From 1995 to 1998, Mr. Murray was managing editor of *Cité libre*, a magazine founded by Pierre Trudeau, and was the magazine's English translating coordinator from 1998 to 2000.



ISBN 978-1-77171-032-9  
 Fiction  
 124 pages  
 \$24.95  
 5 x 8  
 Now Available



# Mystery Valley

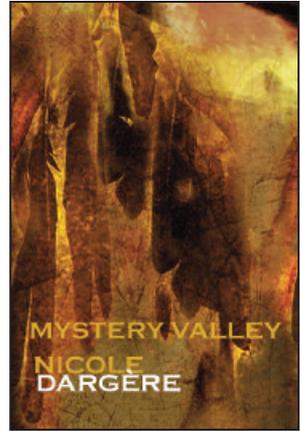
NICOLE DARGÈRE

translated by Margaret Wilson Fuller

*Mystery Valley or The Secret of the River People* is a captivating tale of love, legend and reconciliation set in the late nineteenth century amidst a close-knit First Nations community in south-western British Columbia. Luyana, the matriarch of the tribe discovers a baby sasquatch abandoned in the tall grasses on the banks of the Harrison River. Luyana becomes the creature's secret guardian and teacher. As the story unfolds, Luyana reveals her protégé to the members of her tribe who welcome him as their brother. Intruders from afar threaten to destroy the legendary creature's relatives in Mystery Valley and shatter the orderly ways of a peaceful people living in harmony with nature. *Mystery Valley* takes you along a mysterious journey filled with discovery, enlightenment and revelation.

The author's novel reflects her enchantment with the supernatural beauty of British Columbia and her fascination with aboriginal culture and native art. She is a keen observer of her surroundings and displays an acute sensory appreciation of nature, vividly portrayed in this novel.

**Nicole Dargère**, originally from France has lived in British Columbia for over thirty years. She has written several successful plays and musical comedies for children. *Mystery Valley*, her first novel, is the result of almost three years of extensive research and writing.



ISBN 978-1-77171-028-2  
Fiction  
160 pages  
\$24.95  
5 x 8  
Available 2015



# Betsi Larousse

LOUIS HAMELIN

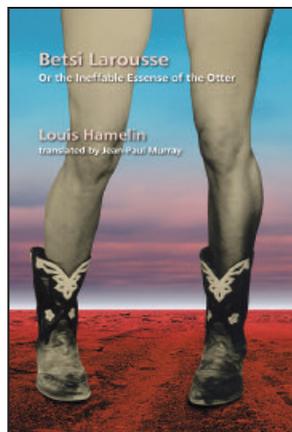
translated by Jean-Paul Murray

Sculptor Marc Carrière's wilderness adventure begins when a moose crashes through his windshield.

On the heels of this accident, he runs into an old friend, Yvan Lépine, a Quixotic dreamer-explorer who's madly in love with pop diva Betsi Larousse. Together, Lépine and Carrière embark on a journey filled with renewal, emotion and reassessment.

*Betsi Larousse* is Louis Hamelin's fourth novel and features coincidence, roads and momentous encounters. *Betsi Larousse* is a story told in shades of truth and madness, where humour, friendship, desire and nostalgia sweep readers off their feet. Through the eyes of an author sensitive to beauty and authenticity, common occurrences appear in a new light against the dazzling backdrop of the Laurentian wilderness.

**Louis Hamelin** is a novelist, journalist and academic. His novel *La Rage* won the Governor General's Literary Award for French Fiction in 1989. He is a literary critic for *Le Devoir* and *Ici Montréal*. He lives in Sherbrooke, Quebec.



ISBN 978-1-77171-079-4  
 Fiction  
 242 pages  
 \$24.95  
 5 x 8  
 Available 2015



# The Body Vagabond: Selected Poems

## MARTINE AUDET

translated by Antonio D'Alfonso

A particular sort of stylistic restraint marks Martine Audet's poetry. She brings her linguistic camera as close as possible to objects that lie around her. Be it a table, a chair, the breeze, or the poem itself, the focus is primarily the space in between one thing and another. The shortest of distances is crossed over in order to adjoin extremities. A go-between, the poet mediates bifurcating shorelines. Martine Audet's soft deep voice is a sea lulling the reader to understanding and trust.

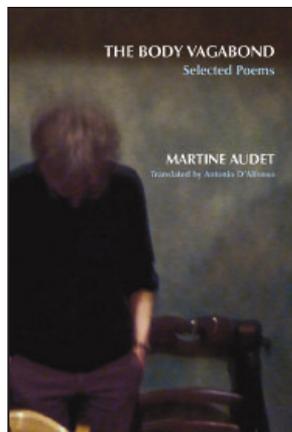
Born in 1961, **Martine Audet** is the author of seven books of poetry. Her work has been published in the most important anthologies of French-language poetry in Canada. Her poetry has garnered illustrious awards, including the Prix Estuaires des Terrasses St. Sulpice and the Prix Alain-Grandbois. She has been a finalist for the Governor General Award of Canada three times. Audet also co-wrote a book of poems for children with Michel Van Schendel. She is presently on the editorial board of the poetry magazine, *Estuaire*.

Antonio D'Alfonso is an award-winning writer and filmmaker. He was also a publisher for thirty-three years. He lives in Montreal and Toronto. His latest collection of poems, *The Irrelevant Man*, appeared in 2014.

Ads: *Pacific Rim Review of Books*, *BC Bookworld*

Readings: Montreal, Toronto, Victoria, Vancouver, and other locations across Canada.

Review copies available.



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Poetry  
100 pages  
\$23.95  
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Available  
September 2014



PASSPORT TO THE IMAGINATION

# The Terror Chronicles

NORMAND DE BELLEFEUILLE

translated by Antonio D'Alfonso

*The name is what invents being, the personal and the interior of being. It also designates the social dimension of being; that is, what the individual does for others. The face is the privileged incarnation of the name, its immediate manipulation for others. It is the external world translating the internal world, the soul become the offering of the body. As for the noise, it is the external world again but this time as the expression of the I crossing over to the body and objects. This surely includes the immaterial world, because it is invisible. It imposes itself as presence, as shock.*

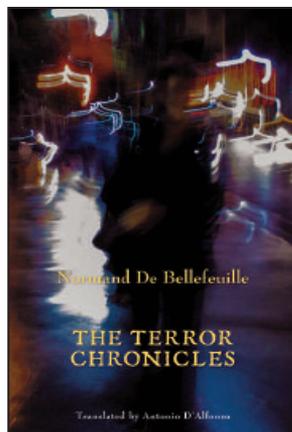
~ André Brochu, *Voix et images*

**Normand De Bellefeuille** was born in 1949. His first book appeared in 1973 and De Bellefeuille has never stopped writing important books since. He is the author of essays and novels, but it is his poetry that has brought him fame. In 2000 he won the Governor General's Award for Poetry. In 2011 *Mon visage* won the Prix Estuaire-Leméac, and in 2012 *Mon bruit* won the Grand Prix Québécois du festival international de poésie de Trois-Rivières. *Mon nom*, *Mon visage* and *Mon bruit*, all included in this translation, form a trilogy. Normand De Bellefeuille has been a literary critic, a professor, and an editor. He is presently the Editor in Chief at the Éditions Druide.

Ads: *Pacific Rim Review of Books*, *BC Bookworld*

Readings: Montreal, Toronto, Victoria, Vancouver, and other locations across Canada.

Review copies available.



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Poetry

216 pages

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Available

September 2014



PASSPORT TO THE IMAGINATION

# Cordless

THOMAS RAPHAEL VERNY

*Thomas Verny's **Cordless** is the work of a jester. This powerhouse of masks produces an effect that we have not read in many years. There is no learned rhetoric to dazzle the sleeping mind. There is none of that strange madness some of us share of investigating dimensions that lie beyond our stations. Black stays black in this poet's words. In the hands of a less sly writer the jabs and jeering would grate the ears of many rulers and serfs. His call for conscienceness comes from a fearless thirst for not so much remembrance as much as the awareness that the torments of evil have been constant and are sadly unending.*

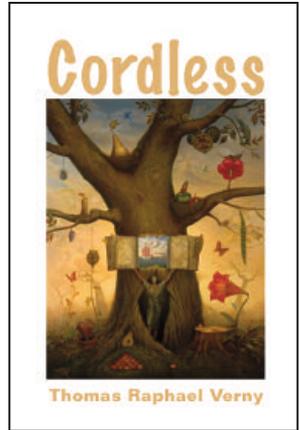
~ Antonio D'Alfonso, author of *Fabrizio's Passion*

*Beyond the uncertainty of the world's inhumanity, lies the fragile possibility of wisdom and perhaps even faith. With a complexity of resonant personal and historical memories, Thomas Verny's keen intellect challenges those who doubt the power of poetry to connect us to each other.*

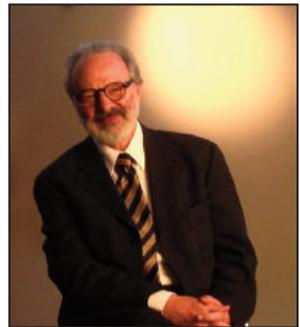
~ Geoff Hancock, *Canadian Fiction Magazine*

**Thomas Verny** has published five books including the international best seller *The Secret Life of the Unborn Child* and 44 scientific papers. He has also edited two books: *Pre and Perinatal Psychology: An Introduction* and *Gifts of Our Fathers*, a collection of short stories and poetry. Thomas Verny is a psychiatrist and lives in Stratford, Ontario, Canada. This is his first full length collection of poems.

Ads: *Pacific Rim Review of Books, BC Bookworld*  
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 September 2014



# Marlene Dietrich's Eyes

## ISABELLA COLALILLO KATZ

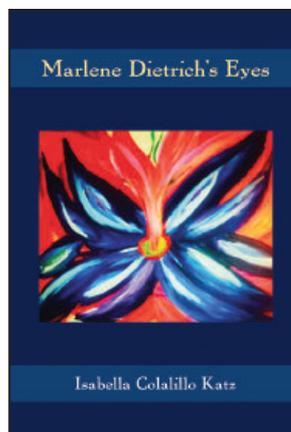
*Marlene Dietrich's Eyes* is a collection of poems that speaks to a woman's journey through time, history, and the self. These poems reflect luminous insights appearing on a dark horizon when hope and courage seem to dim. The poet's voice finds its place in language that explores reflections that open any human heart to the possible, the redeemable, the precious. Writing is a ritual of self-definition, a visible striving to defy forces that would limit and define without the power of self-authorship. The poems are construed as rites that expand a feeling into a tangible medium that clarifies a deep preoccupation with the intentional power of the creative.

*For a woman to pick up a pen and write is a political act. Isabella Colalillo Katz takes it further into the language of poetry exploring the lives of women, the intellectual life and the human condition with curiosity, empathy and intelligence. Isabella writes "woman is mystery" and in the continuing struggle leads her to a passionate rendezvous with the gods and goddesses of ancestry.*

~ Gianna Patriarca

**Isabella Colalillo Katz** is a poet, writer/editor based in Toronto. She leads workshops and courses in personal creativity and creative writing. Isabella is the author of two previous books of poetry, *Tasting Fire* (Guernica, 1999) and *And Light Remains* (Guernica, 2006). Her creative work appears in numerous anthologies and journals.

Ads: *Pacific Rim Review of Books, BC Bookworld*  
Readings: Victoria, Vancouver, Toronto, Montreal.  
Review copies available.



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Poetry  
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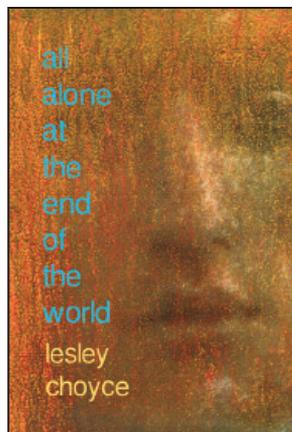


# All Alone at the End of the World

## LESLEY CHOYCE

In this hauntingly lyrical and always surprising collection of Lesley Choyce's latest poems, he offers his unique observations of life in all its wonders. Geographically the poems range from his home in Nova Scotia to Greece, England, Ireland, Italy and New Jersey. Along the way, the poet falls into a well, encounters a dead seal, eavesdrops on university students, drives to the English Channel, hangs up laundry, makes lasagna and has an epiphany while mailing a letter on a snowy day. He learns lessons inside a cancer ward, dreams of having a picnic with Hitler, fights the hostility of an empty page, encounters a world of contradictions and flees from the dark dreams of a North Carolina casino. There are poems of death here but also of healing and hope. *All Alone at the End of the World* is a wild ride across real continents and imaginary landscapes for anyone willing to turn off the news and tap into the imagination.

**Lesley Choyce** is a novelist and poet living at Lawrencetown Beach, Nova Scotia. He is the author of 86 books for adults, teens and children. He teaches in the English Department and Transition Year Program at Dalhousie University. He is a year-round surfer and founding member of the 1990s spoken word rock band, The SurfPoets. Choyce also runs Pottersfield Press, a small literary publishing house and hosted the national TV show, *Off The Page*, for many years. His books have been translated into Spanish, French, German and Danish and he has been awarded the Dartmouth Book Award, the Ann Connor Brimer Award and the Atlantic Poetry Prize.



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 Poetry  
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 October 2014



Ads: *Pacific Rim Review of Books*, *BC Bookworld*  
 Readings: Victoria, Vancouver, Toronto, Montreal.  
 Review copies available.

# Manhattan Poems

## CLAUDIO ANGELINI

translated by Antonio D'Alfonso

*I have loved reading these poems. They are beautiful, and worthy of the contemporary enchanted island. Claudio Angelini sees New York with the intimacy of one who dwells there, yet with the wonder of an outsider — and he tells what he sees with the voice of a poet, enriching the city's music with the music of the Italian language.*

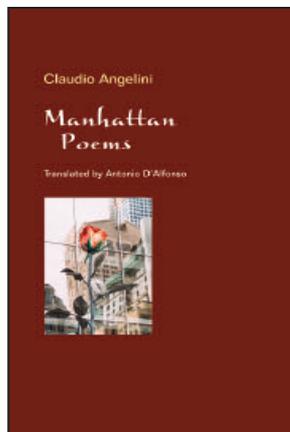
~ Robert Pinski

**Claudio Angelini** was born in Italy where he has made a career as a writer and a journalist. His first collection of poems, *Prima della fine*, edited by the Nobel Prize Salvatore Quasimodo, won an Italian award for the best first book. He published many other books of poetry, novels and essays. His novel, *Malato speciale*, won the Bancarella Opera Prima Award. His novel, *Il mistero di Simonetta* (*The Mystery of Simonetta*), was published in America by Guernica Editions in 2007. *Poesie a Manhattan* (*Manhattan Poems*) won Camaiore Award. Claudio Angelini has been living in New York, with his wife, for the past twenty years. There he became bureau chief of RAI-TV for America, director of the Istituto Italiano di Cultura. Currently, he is director of the New York Dante Alighieri Association and chairman of Poetry Capri Awards board. Claudio Angelini was the first journalist to broadcast for Italian audience the 9/11 terrorist attack, a tragedy that inspired many poems collected in this book. Angelini wrote also the musical *Obama in Naples*, that has been staged in New York and in Washington, DC. His comedy, *The woman in a chador*, has been staged in New York.

Ads: *Pacific Rim Review of Books*, *BC Bookworld*

Readings: Montreal, Toronto, Victoria, Vancouver, and other locations across Canada.

Review copies available.



ISBN 978-1-77171-067-1  
Poetry  
120 pages  
\$23.95  
6 x 9  
Available  
October 2014



# The Big Thirst and Other Doggone Poems

## JIM CHRISTY

The poetry in this collection covers plenty of ground: to the ends of the earth and back again. The poems range from righteous honkytonk to religious mysticism. It's like Hank Williams is in the backseat of the Caddy convertible picking out a tune while Francois Villon offers him lyrics. Christy can soften you up with a joke and a kind word then the dog bites and the knife slips in. *The Big Thirst* takes a great big gulp of nectar and blood, joys and vicissitudes, all of it stirred with a big stick of awe.

“His poetry is like a cross between Catullus and a country song.”

~ John Moore, *Sub-Terrain*

“A polymath.”

~ *Toronto Star*

“A Canadian Indiana Jones.”

~ *National Enquirer*

“An Indiana Jones built for the real world.”

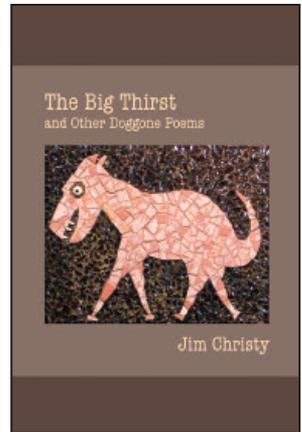
~ *Globe and Mail*

*The Big Thirst* is **Jim Christy's** 32<sup>nd</sup> published book. He continues to explore the earth as well as the ways and doings of women and men. He is also an artist who has exhibited in many countries. His songs have been recorded by singers in Canada, Europe and elsewhere.

Ads: *Pacific Rim Review of Books, BC Bookworld*

Readings: Victoria, Vancouver, Toronto, Montreal.

Review copies available.



ISBN 978-1-77171-073-2

Poetry

90 pages

\$23.95

6 x 9

Available

October 2014



# Identity Dreams and Memory Sounds

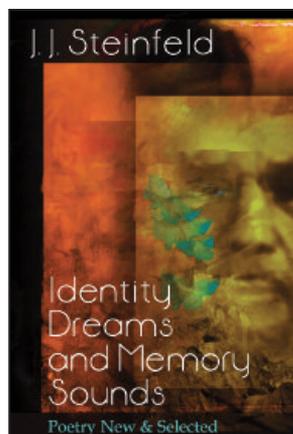
## J.J. STEINFELD

*Is History amenable to notions of redemption, healing, and forgiveness? Or is such just an illusion, if not a lie? J.J. Steinfeld's potent poetry bears witness to the second possibility. The son of Holocaust survivors, he cannot—does not—will not adopt either the “forget” or the “forgive” nostrums with which calamitous History is supposedly resolved. **Identity Dreams and Memory Sounds** is an archive of unimaginable horrors that are rendered both unforgettable and unforgivable. That the perpetrators of industrial-scale genocide are dead does not make them unassailable; that their victims are also deceased does not make their witness less salient. These are truths that Steinfeld pursues through verse that sounds agonies and anxieties. In these poems, the Post-Holocaust period reads as an existential confrontation between those who are determined to remember and to remind and those who wish to render the mass destruction of human beings as merely a policy of the past, suitable for popular consumption—i.e. entertainment—now. The jolting insistence of these poems is that the Third Reich cannot be exorcized or the Holocaust excised from our daily consciousness.*

—George Elliott Clarke

Poet, fiction writer, and playwright **J. J. Steinfeld** lives on Prince Edward Island, where he is patiently waiting for Godot's arrival and a phone call from Kafka. While waiting, he has published fifteen books. More than 300 of his short stories and nearly 700 poems have appeared in anthologies and periodicals internationally, and over forty of his one-act plays and a handful of full-length plays have been performed in Canada and the United States.

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# Words and the Stone

PIERRETTE MICHELOUD

translated by Antonio D'Alfonso

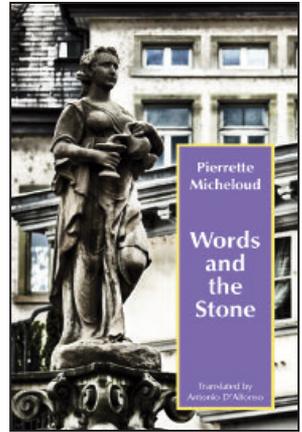
When we read Pierrette Micheloud's poetry, we notice how she fashions private mythology into what unfolds the mysteries of the universe, by removing the barriers of time and space. If a poem points to some secret interior image (in other words, the esoteric), she bends meaning to include the sensitive reading of what can be accessible to anyone who is willing to take the time to dedicate her total attention to the work.

Micheloud's poetry is exoteric as well. She lives in perfect symbiosis with nature, in which even a stone possesses a soul. She also rebels against society's tendency to dehumanization. Pierrette Micheloud writes a poems of new hope.

~ Jean-Pierre Vallotton, from the Afterword

**Pierrette Micheloud** discovered poetry at sixteen years old, reading the works of Villon, Lamartine, and Baudelaire. Between 1945 and 2004, she produced about twenty poetry books. She abandoned her more classical approach to writing verse for a more subtle and musical versification. In 1964, she and Edith Mora created the Parisian award, Le Prix de poésie Louise Labé, an award whose jury is composed exclusively of women. Considered a troubadour of modern times, Pierrette Micheloud often rode her bicycle and recited her poetry throughout the Swiss countryside of Valais. She moved to Paris in the 1950s, where she developed a love for painting. She had more than ten major exhibits of her work during her lifetime. She passed away on 17 November 2007, at ninety-two.

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# Lashing Skies

MADELEINE MONETTE

translated by Phyllis Aronoff  
and Howard Scott

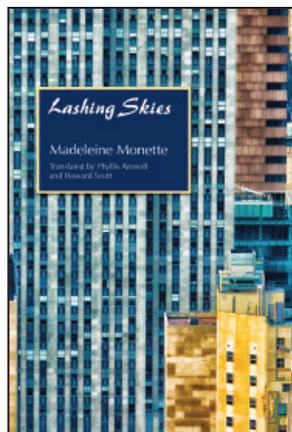
Against the backdrop of the great catastrophes of our time, in *Lashing Skies* we encounter a number of individuals in the grip of tragedy in New York City. We are projected unsparingly into their collective and private traumas and share their experience intimately. They could be Japanese, Haitian, Iraqi... This powerful, hard-hitting writing is a unique blend of fiction and poetry. It goes to the heart of the historical moment, confronting raw emotions and appealing to our deepest empathy and compassion.

**Madeleine Monette** is a novelist, short story writer, and poet from Quebec, Canada. Born in Montreal, she has lived in New York City since 1979. After her first novel, *Le Double suspect*, won the Robert-Cliche Award in 1980, she devoted herself to writing novels and short stories that combine an intimate sense of reality with an acute social consciousness. In 2007, she turned to poetry as another way to explore our subjective and physical relationship to the present world, while keeping a close eye on social reality and the historical moment. Her poems, which channel the sensuality of her novelistic writings, reconsider and renew the art of the narrative, combining fiction and poetry in a singular way. Since the early 1980s, Monette also contributed to promote Quebec and francophone literature in the United States and Europe, and as far as New Caledonia in the South Pacific. She was received into the Académie des lettres du Québec (Québec Academy of Letters) in 2007.

Ads: *Pacific Rim Review of Books*, *BC Bookworld*

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# Quiet Accomplishment: Remembering Cid Corman

## GREGORY DUNNE

Cid Corman's *Origin Magazine*, along with Robert Bly's *Sixties Magazine*, was one of the most influential non-academic poetry journals of last half of the 20th century, what is less remembered is Cid Corman's important work as both a poet and translator. Gregory Dunne's remembrance, *Quiet Accomplishment*, brings all facets of Cid to life in this wonderful work.

Dennis Maloney, Editor/Publisher, White Pine Press

Although Cid Corman was a seminal figure as editor and publisher of both the magazine *Origin* and early books by a number of important poets of the 20th century, his own poetry has not before been the subject of serious study. This situation has finally begun to be rectified with Gregory Dunne's *Quiet Accomplishment*, which is part memoir, part interview, part scholarly investigation of the volumes of Corman's major collection, *of*, that have so far been published.

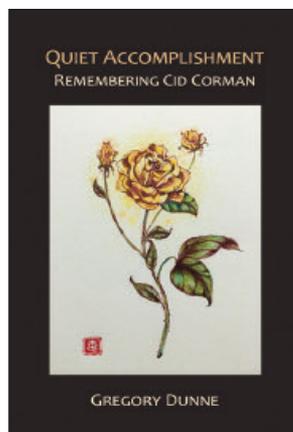
Jonathan Greene, author of *Seeking Light*

**Gregory Dunne** is the author of two collections of poetry: *Home Test* (Adastra Press, 2009) and *Fistful of Lotus* (2000). He has contributed to *Strangest of Theaters: Poets Writing Across Borders* (McSweeney's and the Poetry Foundation, 2013). His poetry and prose have appeared in numerous magazines, including the *American Poetry Review*, *Manoa*, *Poetry East*, and *Kyoto Journal*. He lives in Japan and teaches in the Faculty of Comparative Culture at Miyazaki International College.

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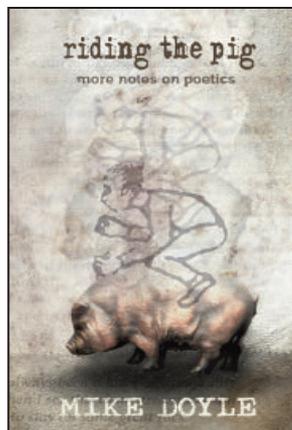


# Riding the Pig: more notes on poetics

## MIKE DOYLE

With *Riding the Pig*, the third volume in the author's autobiographical "notes on poetics" series, Mike Doyle celebrates his 70th year in literature. Doyle's taste, rooted in the twin pillars of Yeats and Williams, has always been eclectic, his interests ranging from East European masters to French symbolists to Latin American poetry. Doyle has always hewn his own path, however, and in this volume, he renders sharp consideration of his contemporaries such as Robin Skelton, P.K. Page, and others, as well as a balanced assessment of writers who resonate deeply, such as Katherine Mansfield, Richard Aldington, H.D., Karl Stead and Basil Bunting. *Riding the Pig* is a personal book — challenging, often contrarian, but sustaining a firm commitment to poetry.

**Mike Doyle** is a poet, critic, biographer and editor. His other work includes *William Carlos Williams and the American Poem* (1982), *Richard Aldington: A Biography* (1989), *Paper Trombones* (2007) and its follow-up *Softwood Trumpets* (2012), a journal of his life as a poet in Canada, and *Intimate Absences* (1993), a "Selected Poems" from work up to that date. He has also published critical essays on Williams, Wallace Stevens, H.D., Irving Layton, Al Purdy and others. He has received a UNESCO Creative Artist's Fellowship, an American Council of Learned Societies Fellowship, and a Jessie Mackay (PEN) Award for Poetry. He wrote his book on Williams while a visiting Research Fellow of American Studies at Yale University. Doyle has lived in Victoria for over forty years.



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# A Journey with the Endless Eye

## Stories of the Komagata Maru incident

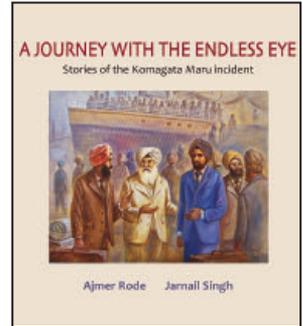
### Story: AJMER RODE

### Art: JARNAIL SINGH

The Komagata Maru steamship with 376 Indian passengers arrived in Vancouver Harbour on 23 May 1914. Many of the passengers were ex-military men who had made sacrifices for the British empire in wars and expected no problem in immigrating from one British colony to another. But to their utter dismay Canadian Immigration imprisoned them in their own ship, refused water and food and forced them back in humiliation after two months. When they reached the Indian port of Budge Budge Ghat near Calcutta the British-India police fired on them killing several and injuring many more. *A Journey with the Endless Eye* narrates the Komagata Maru tragedy in words and art.

**Ajmer Rode** has published books of poetry, drama, prose and translation in Punjabi and English. Most of his poetry is included in his 1000-page book *Leela* (co-author N. Bharati) critically acclaimed as an outstanding work of 20th century Punjabi poetry. Ajmer is considered founder of Canadian Punjabi drama and his full length play *Komagata Maru* was recently digitized and published on-line by Canada's Simon Fraser University.

**Jarnail Singh** is an artist, illustrator, designer, photographer, and art journalist. He resides in Surrey, British Columbia after immigrating to Canada in 2000, and has become the most popular and sought after artist of Punjabi origin in Canada. He continues the tradition of portraying Sikh Gurus and historical events. As well he has done much to capture the images of fast-disappearing Punjabi folklore.



History/Art

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# There Once Was a Camel

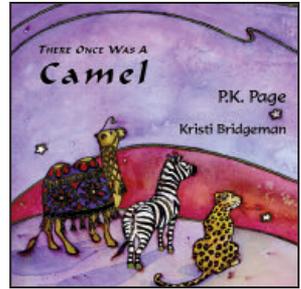
P.K. PAGE  
& KRISTI BRIDGEMAN

*There once was a camel  
all dressed in enamel...*

*There Once Was A Camel*, a delightful new picture book by Canada's revered poet P.K. Page, introduces children to endearing animal friends who offer a bold approach to life. Combining the fun of a nonsense rhyme with the wisdom of Aesop's fables, it is sure to become a story-and-bedtime favourite. Imaginative illustrations by Kristi Bridgeman draw the reader into the colourful world of one extraordinary camel and his remarkable friends.

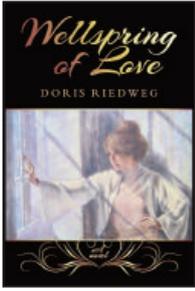
The late **P.K. Page** is one of Canada's most esteemed poets whose literary career spanned over five decades. She was the author of some twenty books including ten volumes of poetry in addition to memoir, fiction and children's titles. Winner of the Governor General's Award for Poetry in 1957, P.K. Page was also appointed a Companion of the Order of Canada in 1999. Most recently her volume *Planet Earth: Poems Selected and New* was short-listed for the prestigious Griffin Poetry Prize. *There Once Was A Camel* is P.K. Page's seventh book for children. Born in England and brought up on the Canadian prairies, P.K. Page lived in Victoria, British Columbia.

**Kristi Bridgeman** is both an exhibiting visual artist and an illustrator of books for children, including the popular picture books *The Sock Fairy* and *The Knot Fairy*. Born and raised on the West Coast of Canada, she attended Emily Carr College of Art and now resides in Victoria, British Columbia. Actively involved with the environment, children and the arts, she is vice president of the Island Illustrator's Society.



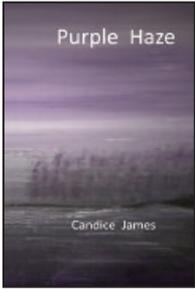
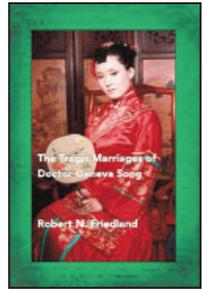
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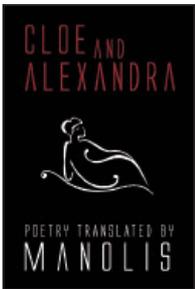
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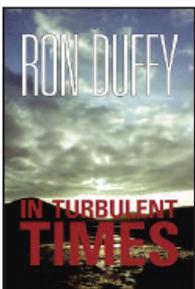
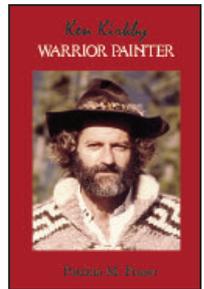
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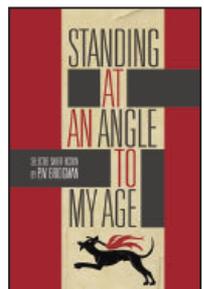
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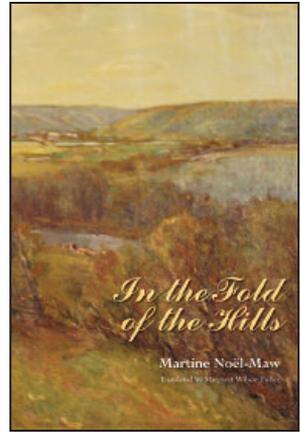
# In the Fold of the Hills

MARTINE NOËL-MAW

translated by Margaret Wilson Fuller

Legend has it that Saskatchewan’s Qu’Appelle Valley echoes with mysterious voices. Novelist Martine Noël-Maw seems to have heard them, spinning a masterful tale of secrets hidden *In the Fold of the Hills*. Set in the valley’s historic sanatorium known as Fort San, the novelist weaves a dramatic fiction of family entanglements and a search for origins. When a young doctor, Emile Murray, grandson of the pioneering tuberculosis specialist who ran Fort San, inherits an aunt’s diaries and letters, his journalist wife, Sophie, discovers in them surprising revelations which could restore the family’s good name but with upsetting implications for her husband. After digging to uncover the truth, Sophie must decide whether some secrets are best left intact. This spell-binding story of unfolding revelations was originally published in French, winning a Saskatchewan book prize.

Born and raised in Québec, **Martine Noël-Maw** has made Saskatchewan her home since 1993. In 2001, inspired by the enchanting landscape and the rich history of this often undervalued province, she left a successful career in communications and human resources to plunge headfirst into writing. Since then, her books have multiplied and her stories for adults and youth have earned her many honours, including two Saskatchewan Book Awards (*Amélia et les papillons* and *Dans le pli des collines*, 2<sup>e</sup> édition). She lives in Regina with her longtime husband, best buddy and greatest supporter Tim Maw.



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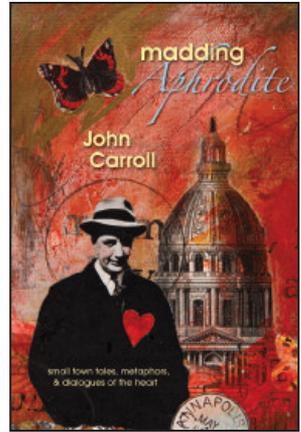


# Madding Aphrodite

## JOHN CARROLL

The laws of Aphrodite are inviolable, but they are also indecipherable; that’s what the many characters in *Madding Aphrodite* discover and endure—from the mythical Greek Actaeon to the sad sack Lucky whose home is above the bus depot; from the old man who carries rags up the hill to the seal who returns from an adventure beyond the big rock. And interspersed amongst these small town tales are the dialogues carried on between the abstractions that haunt all our lives and metaphors for the experience of being in Aphrodite’s thrall.

**John Carroll** is a writer and educator. He was born in Buffalo, New York. He immigrated to Canada in 1972. He has received degrees from Wesleyan University, Western Washington University, and The University of British Columbia. He has worked as a house painter, stevedore, busboy, speech writer, stage actor and director, movie extra, composer, free lance writer, and English professor. He is an Associate Professor of English at the University of the Fraser Valley. This is his third poetry collection.



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# Ragged Light

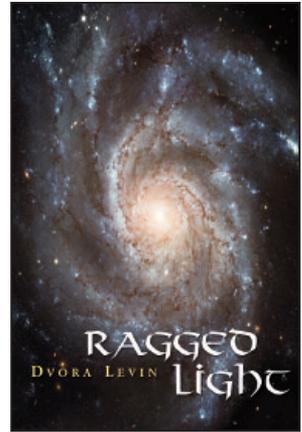
## DVORA LEVIN

From the edges of the universe to the essential spark of being, Dvora Levin's *Ragged Light* tracks human experience with penetrating insight and a wry wit. The poetry celebrates the raggedness of existence, reflecting the frayed quality of the refracted light by which we perceive life. Melding quantum physics and mystical awareness, Levin reminds us that we too are this same light. In seven sections, from Ragged Universe to Ragged Time, the reader journeys through light's myriad, ragged forms – stars, relationships, spirit, places or people – all fractured events on a silent stage to which the voice offers praise while it may. Simultaneously humorous, conversational and intensely deep, the poems of *Ragged Light* are tattered prayer flags on an eternal clothesline.

*Dvora Levin's poems pulsate with light, reach into the crevasses and unlit places of the world and of ourselves. Here is a book for poetry lovers and those just coming into poetry, for light, she tells us, is not a metaphor. It is where we come from. Read this book and you'll declare the same is true of poetry.*

~ Pamela Porter, author of *Cathedral* and *No Ordinary Place*

**Dvora Levin**, a former project manager in B.C. and Israel, has now projected herself into poetry. She has published two books, *Sharav* and *To Bite The Blue Apple* (Ekstasis Editions) and edited two collections of poems from her writing groups: *Voices From The Edge* (Ekstasis Editions) and *Victoria From The Banks Of The Mainstream*.



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# Morning After You

## CARMELO MILITANO

*Morning After You* is an articulate and deeply human new poetry collection by novelist and poet Carmelo Militano. Militano writes in a variety of styles: confessional, free verse, lyric, personal monologue, long poem, and prose poem. Each style is dense with sensual and evocative detail regardless of whether he is describing a city landscape, the sky, or the body of a woman. Militano's poems also celebrate and mediate and seek to capture the complicated dual reality of being and seeing from two cultural perspectives. Militano's use of direct language, image, and subtle ironic tone combine to create a unique and fresh voice in Canadian letters.

**Carmelo Militano** is a Winnipeg poet and writer. He was born in the village of Cosoleto, province of Reggio di Calabria, Italy and immigrated to Canada at an early age with his parents. He won the 2004 F.G. Bressani award for poetry for his collection *Ariadne's Thread* (Olive Press, 2004). He has since published *The Minotaur's Keys* (Olive Press, 2006) a chapbook, collected poems *Feast Days* (Olive Press, 2010) and another chapbook *Weather Reports* (Olive Press, 2011) which was short-listed in 2012 for the Bressani poetry award. His prose includes the travelogue and family memoir *The Fate of Olives* (Olive Press, 2006) and the novel *Sebastiano's Vine* (Ekstasis Editions, 2013). He reluctantly gave up chicken and hog farming for literature.



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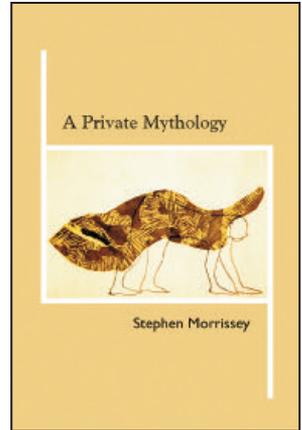
# A Private Mythology

## STEPHEN MORRISSEY

*A Private Mythology* is Stephen Morrissey's ninth book of poetry. He is also the author of several poetry chapbooks and numerous book reviews. Morrissey is gathering his essays on poetry for book publication, entitled *All Art is Vision*. Morrissey's body of work is an important part of the rich poetic tradition of English-speaking Quebec writers.

Stephen Morrissey is a poet of the various ways in which family experience manifests itself, whether in love, in conflict, or in the generations of a family's history. Ancestors, the human psyche, salvation through self-revelation, life's spiritual dimension: these are all themes and concerns in his poetry. For Morrissey, writing poetry is the expression of his life-long journey to meaning and redemption. He is the sixth generation of his family in Canada, his ancestors having arrived here from Ireland in the late 1830s.

Stephen Morrissey earned his B.A., Honours English with Distinction, at Concordia University. He studied with poet and scholar Louis Dudek at McGill University, earning an M.A. in English Literature. While at McGill, he was awarded the Peterson Memorial Prize in English Literature. Morrissey's literary papers are archived at McGill's Rare Books and Special Collections in the McLennan Library. The Government of Quebec named an island in northern Quebec after a phrase from one of Morrissey's poems, "la vingt-septième lettre."



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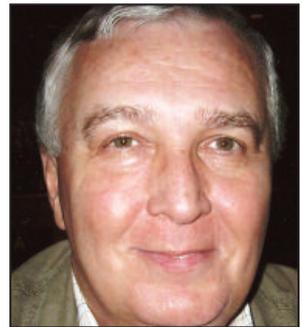
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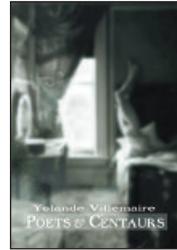
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