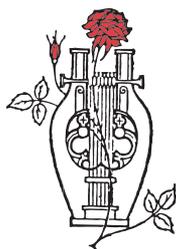


Ekstasis Editions
Spring 2017



Welcome to the Ekstasis Editions Spring 2017 catalogue. As we celebrate 35 years of publishing, Ekstasis has some extraordinary offerings this Spring.

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 truly exciting titles from Quebec authors like *The World on the Side of a Trout* by **Robert Lalonde**, *The Cygnus Constellation* by **Yolande Villamire**, and *New Shoes for Scorched Earth* by **Michel Albert**. This season we also present standout Canadian fiction from **Stanley Evans** and **Lillian Boraks-Nemetz**, and poetry from **Patrice Desbiens**, **Walter Hildebrandt**, **Ken Cathers**, **Ajmer Rode**, **Candice James**, **Stephen Roxborough**, **Andrea Mackenzie Raine**, **Bill Wolak** and **Manolis**, as well as the anthology *Wordless* celebrating 40 years of Haiku Canada, and the international title *On Love* by Belgian poet **Jack Keguenne**.

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 35 years. Join us in this literary adventure as we forge into our next thirty five 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.

Contents

New Fiction

- The Cygnus Constellation by Yolande Villemaire 4
Mouth of Truth by Lillian Boraks-Nemetz 5
Seaweed Under Fire by Stanley Evans 6

New Poetry

- The DNA of NHL by Stephen Roxborough 7
On Love by Jack Keguenne 8
The Nakedness Defense by Bill Wolak 9
Wordless: 40 Years of Haiku Canada 10
The Art of Disappearing by Patrice Desbiens 11
Poems at My Doorstep by Ajmer Rode 12
New Shoes on Scorched Earth by Michel Albert 13
Missing Pieces by Ken Cathers 14
A Year of Mornings by Andrea Mackenzie Raine 15
The Medusa Glance by Manolis 16
The Water Poems by Candice James 17
Blackfoot Country by Walter Hildebrandt 18

New & Notable Non-Fiction

- The World on the Side of a Trout by Robert Lalonde 19
Blaise Cendrars Speaks... by Blaise Cendrars 20

Juvenile & Youth

- There Once Was a Camel by PK Page & Kristi Bridgeman 21

New from Libros Libertad 22

Notable Fiction - Now Available

- An Unauthorized Biography of Being by J.J. Steinfeld 23
The Griffin in the Griffin's Wood by Stephen Scobie 24
Useless Things [Redacted] by Charles Tidler 25

Recent Poetry - Now Available

- Toward the Rising Sun by Robert Giroux 26
Sails for Exile by Mona Latif-Ghattas 27
Mack the Naïf by Charles Noble 28
News of the World by Irv Huck 29
Fossil Light by Erling Friis-Baastad 30

The Cygnus Constellation

YOLANDE VILLEMAIRE

translated by Margaret Wilson Fuller

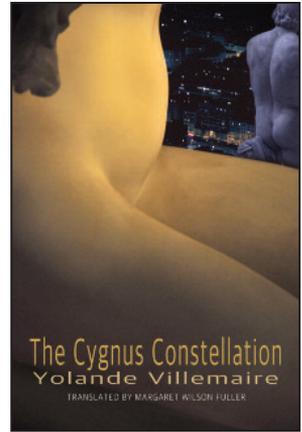
In occupied Paris in 1940, Celia Rosenberg, a prostitute, discovers passion through Karl-Heinz Hausen, a Wehrmacht officer. Everything separates them. Nevertheless, she follows him to Germany and Poland, as she clings to this strange relationship. But, as a Jew, her fate catches up with her. Little by little, the implacable Nazi death machine eats away at her illusions, at her refusal to see the truth. She is drawn into another love which opens her to every dimension of consciousness. In this novel the author's masterly style renders the atmosphere of the times, eroticism, suffering and memory palpable.

Yolande Villemaire is one of Quebec's most prolific writers, proficient in both poetry and prose. She has given poetry readings and performances around the world. Her novel *La vie en prose* won an award from the *Journal de Montreal* in 1980 and her poems, *L'armoire* received a Radio-Canada award in 2002. She also received a Quebec-Mexico poetry prize in 2008 and the Career Award from Quebec's Council of Arts and Letters in 2009. Also in 2009, she was a guest of honor at the Festival de la Poésie de Montréal. She has published more than twenty-five books, four of which are available in English translation from Ekstasis Editions: *Midnight Tides of Amsterdam*, *Poets & Centaurs*, *India*, *India and Little Red Berries*. Yolande Villemaire lives in Montreal and is the director of TOTEPOÉSIE.

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

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

Review copies available.



ISBN 978-1-77171-145-6

Fiction

114 pages

5.5 x 8.5

\$24.95

Available

April 2017



Mouth of Truth

LILLIAN BORAKS-NEMETZ

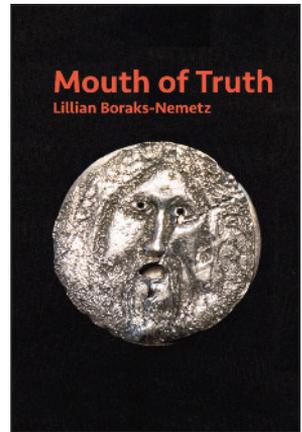
Based on the author's personal experience as a child in the Warsaw Ghetto, *Mouth of Truth* is a gripping tale of impossible choices, divided loyalties, and unimaginable horrors. Batya, now a grown woman, has been trying to live a normal Canadian life. One day, a friend confronts her with a secret revelation about her father, which makes her question her family history and its legacy of guilt. Shocked and betrayed, she forsakes her current life and embarks on a journey of discovery to look for the truth in hope of finding what lies behind the terrible secret. Batya approaches a crisis brought on by series of events that trigger memories of her family's dark past with which she must cope before she can feel love, find healing and peace.

Lillian Boraks-Nemetz was born in Warsaw, Poland, and is a child survivor of the Holocaust. She escaped from the Warsaw Ghetto and spent the remainder of the war in hiding under a false identity. Boraks-Nemetz graduated from the University of British Columbia with a Masters Degree in Comparative Literature. She is an author of the award winning novel *The Old Brown Suitcase* as well as *The Sunflower Diary* and *The Lenski File*, and two volumes of poetry *Ghost Children* and *Garden of Steel*. Boraks Nemetz is a creative writing instructor at the University of British Columbia's Writing Center and often speaks to students about the consequences of racism as a member of the Holocaust Center's Outreach Program. She lives and works in Vancouver, B.C.

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

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

Review copies available.



ISBN 978-1-77171-211-8

Fiction

241 pages

6 x 9

\$26.95

Available

May 2017



Seaweed Under Fire

STANLEY EVANS

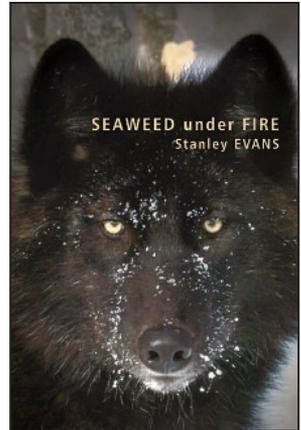
If you want someone's legs broken, even if you want somebody killed it can be arranged... for a price. The murder of a confidence trickster, followed shortly afterwards by a ruthless second murder suggests that hired killers are at work. Murders pile up. Pursuing the killers takes Coast Salish cop Silas Seaweed on a search through the city's seedy night clubs and bars. Add a Coast Salish mystic who takes Silas on a return trip to the land of the dead, and a strange black wolf that leads Silas to a mysterious cave and you have another suspenseful thriller.

Stanley Evans' previous novels are *Outlaw Gold*, *Snow-Coming Moon*, and the first six novels in the Silas Seaweed series: *Seaweed on the Street*, *Seaweed on Ice*, *Seaweed Under Water*, *Seaweed on the Rocks*, *Seaweed in the Soup*, and *Seaweed in the Mythworld*. He lives in Victoria, BC.

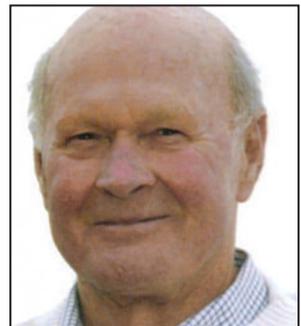
Ads: *Pacific Rim Review of Books*, *BC Bookworld*

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

Review copies available.



ISBN 978-1-77171-192-0
Fiction
212 pages
5.5 x 8.5
\$25.95
Available
May 2017



The DNA of NHL

STEPHEN ROXBOROUGH

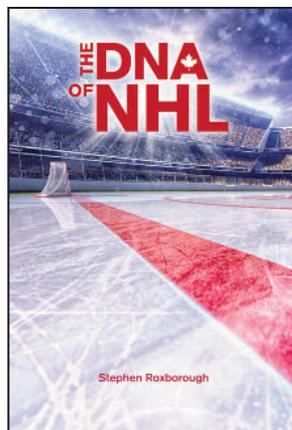
Celebrating the 100th anniversary of the NHL, as Canada celebrates 150 years of confederation, Ekstasis is proud to present *The DNA of NHL*, Stephen Roxborough's homage to Canada's national sport, a series of poems that skate on solid ice and always deliver the winning goal. *The DNA of NHL*, captures the many ways hockey connects our nation, and, though the game is not always pretty, Roxborough stick handles the poetic puck with a poignancy and grace. He offers a humorous, touching and deeply resonant story, illustrating how hockey influences our perception of the world. A remarkable tour de force. Poetry and hockey have a lot in common: both are metaphors of attack while maintaining fluidity and grace. *The DNA of NHL*, deconstructs and illuminates the Canadian national sport of hockey in an extraordinary merger of sports and art.

Stephen Roxborough was born in New York to a Canadian father and American mother. He was raised in the Midwest, and grew up in Vancouver, B.C. He won Canadian and British swimming titles and represented Canada on the national team. He is the co-founder of the Burning Word poetry festival, board member of the Washington Poets Association and Head Poet for Madrona Center. An award-winning performance poet, Roxborough was nominated for a 2003 Pushcart Prize. He lives in Anacortes, Washington.

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

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

Review copies available.



ISBN 978-1-77171-205-7

Poetry

114 pages

5.5 x 8.5

\$23.95

Available

April 2017



On Love

JACK KEGUENNE

translated by Antonio D'Alfonso

Jack Keguenne is a Belgian poet. A ferociously independent spirit, he has written a dozen books published with aesth éditions in Belgium. *Notes sur l'amour (On Love)*, originally published in 2009, contains 421 entries. These apophthegms are not the usual self-help recipes one reads on birthday cards and in our dailies. Keguenne pushes the poetic image into the realm of philosophical inquiry. He establishes the chassis into which he screws a primary sentence. From there he erects a secondary phrase that contradicts or discards the first proposition. The ensuing contradiction creates a rift that quickens the unexpected resolution. Love is not easy. It does not come easy, and sometimes it does not come at all. But when love does appear lovers frequently break down in front of the warning signals cautioning them what can be done to keep love alive. Jack Keguenne designates the possibilities out of the rashness, the deadlock, the hurting. **On Love** is one of the best books on love I have read.

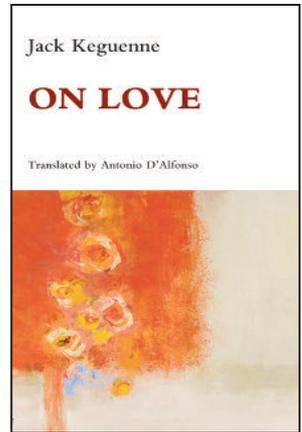
~ Antonio D'Alfonso

Jack Keguenne is a poet, novelist, essayist and visual artist. A literary and art critic, and the author of more than thirty books, he also worked as a librarian and was an art gallery owner. His artworks have been presented across the world in solo and group exhibits. He lives and works in Bruxelles.

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

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

Review copies available.



ISBN 978-1-77171-198-2

Poetry

100 pages

5 x 8

\$23.95

Available

May 2017



The Nakedness Defense

BILL WOLAK

If the unexpected interests you, Bill Wolak's poems in *The Nakedness Defense* will captivate you with their mixture of kinky subjects and historical oddities rendered in an uncomplicated narrative style. These poems delight in unwinding tantalizing anecdotes with surgically precise language. The book is an erotologist's investigation into the culturally shifting representations of love, arousal, gender bending, aphrodisiacs, magical charms, and other sexual enigmas and transgressions.

Like a painter exploring every tone of a single hue patiently and like a singer endeavoring variations of a note in constant motion, Wolak explores the body with words. Reading these poems one realizes that without language it would have been impossible to perceive beauty. Who would have believed that fragile flesh had so much of eternity within!

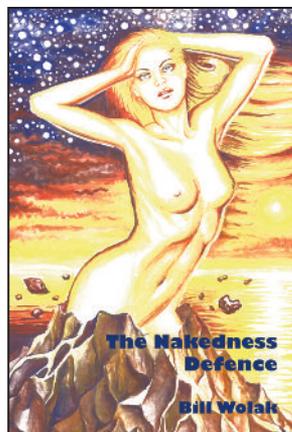
~ Dileep Jhaveri

Bill Wolak is a poet who lives in New Jersey and teaches Creative Writing at William Paterson University. His most recent collection of poetry was entitled *Love Opens the Hands: New and Selected Love Poems* published by Nirala Publications in 2015. His poetry has appeared in over a hundred magazines. His most recent translation with Mahmood Karimi-Hakak, *Love Me More Than the Others: Selected Poetry of Iraj Mirza*, was published by Cross-Cultural Communications in 2014.

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

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

Review copies available.



ISBN 978-1-77171-215-6

Poetry

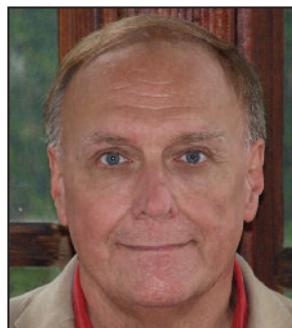
170 pages

6 x 9

\$24.95

Available

May 2017



Wordless: Haiku Canada: 40 years of haiku

edited by Marco Fraticelli
& Claudia Coutu Radmore

A unique anthology, *Wordless* is more than the usual collection of three-line poems. It's a story of the paths poets have taken to write their best haiku, a contemporary history of Haiku Canada members who write in English and French. This is a collection to browse through – along with the process of learning to write haiku, you will find reminiscences of the poets' favourite moments and mentors, right through to the poems they are proud to have published in this anthology.

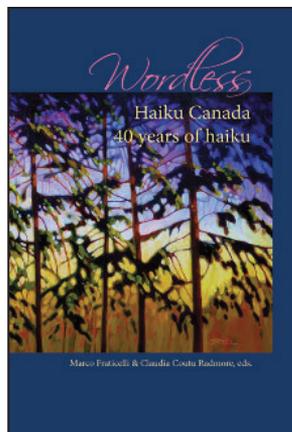
Marco Fraticelli has been a member of Haiku Canada for 40 years. For much of that time he served on the executive, primarily as Membership Secretary and the editor of the electronic newsletter. He has edited numerous anthologies, most notably, *Carpe Diem* 2007, and *The Touch of a Moth* 2012. His latest book *Drifting* was published by catkin press (Ottawa) in 2014.

Claudia Coutu Radmore writes lyric and Japanese-form writes and publishes both under catkin press. She has mentored and edited a trade haiku manuscript under an Ontario Arts Council mentoring grant, edited several Haiku Canada anthologies, and co-edited *The Touch of a Moth* in 2012. Among books edited and published for other poets are *Drifting* by Marco Fraticelli, *Singing in the Silo* by Philomene Kocher, *Swooning* by Hans Jongman, and *Firefly in the Room* by Grant D. Savage.

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

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

Review copies available.



ISBN 978-1-77171-231-6
Poetry Anthology
184 pages
5.5 x 8.5
\$24.95
Available
May 2017



The Art of Disappearing

PARICE DESBIENS

In *The Art of Disappearing*, his first book written entirely in English, the Franco-Canadian poet Patrice Desbiens explores through his poetry the alienation of the French-speaking minority of Ontario trapped between Anglo-Canadian and Quebec culture. One of the few poets who has both a critical and popular success, his poetry is that of everyday life. Inspired by jazz, his popular and dissonant poems are based on a discordance syntax as well as rhythmic lyricism.

There's something of Jack Kerouac, the San Francisco Beat poets, or Charles Bukowski to Desbiens's haunting, gritty writing.

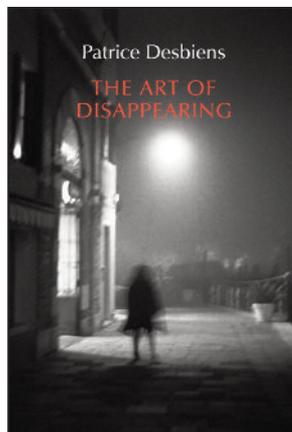
~ Pat Donnelly, *Montreal Gazette*

Patrice Desbiens is a Francophone Canadian poet. He was born in Timmins, Ontario and began his career as a journalist. Since making his literary debut in 1972, he has been regarded as one of Canada's most successful French-language poets. He is associated with the founding of the publishing house Éditions Prise de parole and the Théâtre du Nouvel-Ontario in Sudbury, Ontario. He has received many awards for his poetry, including the Prix Champlain in 1997 for *Un pépin de pomme sur un poêle à bois* and the Prix de poésie Terrasses Saint-Sulpice-Estuaire for *La Fissure de la fiction* in 1998. He was also a finalist for the Governor General's Prize in 1985, for his book *Dans l'après-midi cardiaque*.

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

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

Review copies available.



ISBN 978-1-77171-227-9

Poetry

102 pages

6 x 9

\$23.95

Available

May 2017



Poems at My Doorstep

AJMER RODE

In *Poems at My Doorstep* Punjabi-Canadian poet Ajmer Rode has written precise and exact poems attuned with a lyric and ecstatic energy. In these poems Rode has captured ephemeral moments in tranquility and grace, driven by a succinct and powerful spark that ignites all existence.

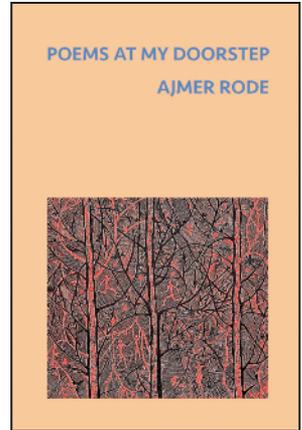
In poems like these, Ajmer Rode reminds us of just why poetry is such a special form of literary enchantment. In just a few economical verbal strokes, it is capable of giving us a perspective, an entirely new way of seeing.
~Arundhathi Subramaniam

Ajmer Rode has published books of poetry, prose, drama and translation in English and Punjabi. His works are included in several English and Punjabi anthologies and prescribed in Punjab and Delhi universities. His poem “Stroll in a Particle” is one of the 8 international poems inscribed on a public wall outside the new office complex of Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation in Seattle. He has written and directed about a dozen plays and is the founder of Canadian Punjabi drama; has served on the national executive of the writers Union of Canada and on juries for Canada Council and British Columbia Arts Council. Among his more than dozen awards are, University of British Columbia Lifetime Achievement Award, Punjab Government’s Best Overseas Author award, Guru Nanak Dev University’s Best Citizen (literary) award, The Anād Foundation’s (Delhi) Anād Kāv Sanmān award and *Darpan Magazine’s* Extraordinary Achievement Award.

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Review copies available.



ISBN 978-1-77171-233-0

Poetry

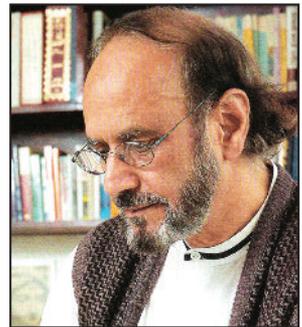
76 pages

6 x 9

\$23.95

Available

May 2017



New Shoes on Scorched Earth

MICHEL ALBERT

translated by Donald Winkler

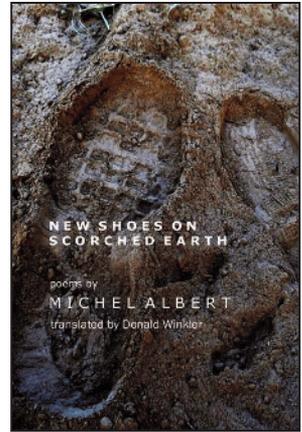
Michel Albert is the author of eight collections of verse, in addition to having produced the only comprehensive translation of Irving Layton's poetry and prose into French, *Layton, l'essentiel*, in 2001. His affinity with English language Canadian and American poets is stronger than that of most Quebec poets, leading him to collaborate with Canadians George Bowering and David McFadden on a book of baseball poems, *Poèmes et autres baseballs*, in 1999. His own work is plain-spoken, and hews close to the working-class realities of his own life, far from the Quebec literary whirl. *New Shoes on Scorched Earth* is his seventh collection, published in French in 2000, and concerns itself with the death of his father when he was a young man, and his experiences as a single father in the wake of a failed relationship. Ekstasis Editions is pleased to introduce him to an English language readership.

Born in 1957, **Michel Albert** holds a bachelor's degree in French literature from McGill University. He began his doctoral studies at the Université du Québec à Montréal in 1985; His thesis is entitled *The Theory of the Game in the Interactive Novel on Computer*. He worked in the film industry in Quebec for 20 years, as a machinist. In 1981 he was awarded the Scarlett Key Award from McGill University.

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

Review copies available.



ISBN 978-1-77171-207-1

Poetry

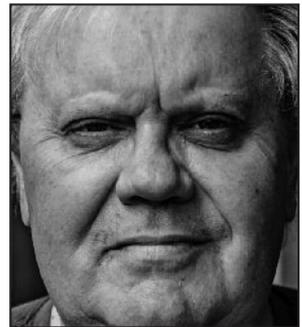
80 pages

6 x 9

\$23.95

Available

May 2017



PASSPORT TO THE IMAGINATION

missing pieces

KEN CATHERS

Ken Cathers has for decades been one of the country's best, if unsung, poets. In his late middle-age he's now becoming nothing less than a master. Cathers always "sounds" right, and never more than here in *Missing Pieces*. He knows how to score a poem—line, breath, stanza, breath again—where few poets have any ear at all for what they are doing. There's a sensitivity, a subtlety and inventiveness, in these poems that allows cadence to dance slow down the heart of each page. Above all, though, his lines flow like pure liquid. Cathers has never been a dullard mainstream poet, and never a glitz boy. The narrowest of niches, then, that he works in, without the attention due. This is the strongest book so far, by one of our most consummate poets. A stunning book: no-one else could have written it this well.

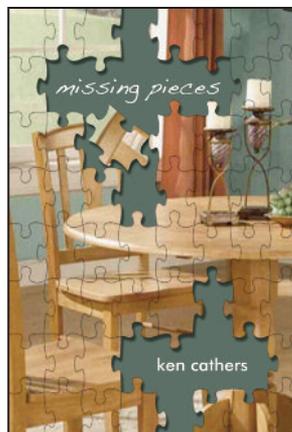
~ Stephen Bett

Ken Cathers is married with two sons and lives with his family in the town where he was born, Ladysmith, B.C. He has worked at Harmac Pacific Pulp Mill in Nanaimo for thirty-two years. He has a B.A. from University of Victoria and a M.A. from York University in Toronto. His previous books include *World of Strangers* and *Blues for the Grauballeman* (Ekstasis Editions). This is his sixth published book of poetry.

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

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

Review copies available.



ISBN 978-1-77171-221-7

Poetry

60 pages

6 x 9

\$23.95

Available

May 2017



A Year of Mornings

ANDREA MCKENZIE RAINE

A Year of Mornings is a collection of ghazals that are quiet meditations on the early moments of each day, enveloped by themes exploring relationships, seasons, daily life, writing, as well as projections of hopeful dreams. These ghazals are reflected in accompanying illustrations to enrich the experience of these thoughts and happenings.

Andrea McKenzie Raine was born in Smithers, BC and grew up in Victoria, BC where she still resides. She was enrolled in the Creative Writing program and earned a B.A. in English Literature at the University of Victoria in 2000, and completed a post-degree Public Relations certificate program. She has attended the successful Planet Earth Poetry reading series (formerly known as Mocambopo) in Victoria, BC since 1997, and participated in the Glenairley writing retreats led by Canadian poet and novelist Patrick Lane in Sooke, BC. In 2005, she published her first book of poetry, titled *A Mother's String*, through Ekstasis Editions. Her poetry has also appeared in *Mocambo Nights*, *Canadian Literature* journal, *Quills*, *Borderlines* anthology (*Ascent Aspirations* magazine), *Tempus* anthology (Rubicon Press), *Poems from Planet Earth* (Leaf Press), *Tongues of Fire* anthology, and several Glenairley chapbooks edited by Patrick Lane (Leaf Press). Raine has also published two novels through Inkwater Press: *Turnstiles* is her debut novel and her second novel, *A Crowded Heart*, is a prequel to *Turnstiles*. She lives with her husband and two young sons.



ISBN 978-1-77171-184-5
Poetry
100 pages
6 x 9
\$23.95
Available
May 2017



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

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

Review copies available.

The Medusa Glance

MANOLIS

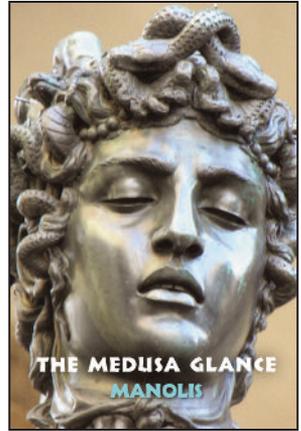
The Medusa Glance is a present-day triptych, a rich and profoundly nuanced contemporary narrative, sensitive to all the immanent and minute shades of reality, aspiring to embrace and incorporate the whole spectrum of lived experience. The fragmented narrative serves the enlargement of the horizon of our experiences through an immersion in the inexhaustibly divergent possibilities of subjectivity. The poetry of Manolis is a valid, cogent and timely exhortation, a perennial admonition endeavoring to disclose the hidden and mysterious dynamics of consciousness and the underlying metaphorical architecture of our lives in a new hermeneutical framework of poetic truth.

Manolis (Emmanuel Aligizakis) is a Cretan-Canadian poet and author. He's the most prolific writer-poet of the Greek diaspora. He was recently appointed an honorary instructor and fellow of the International Arts Academy, and awarded a Master's for the Arts in Literature. He now lives in White Rock, where he spends his time writing, gardening, traveling, and heading *Libros Libertad*, an unorthodox and independent publishing company which he founded in 2006 with the mission of publishing literary books.

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

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

Review copies available.



ISBN 978-1-77171-217-0

Poetry

184 pages

6 x 9

\$24.95

Available

May 2017



The Water Poems

CANDICE JAMES

“One of B.C.’s indefatigable poets and literary spark-plugs, Candice James is prolific, exuberant, and writes grown-up poetry that’s seen its share of dust and joy out on the road. A poet with the long view her work is nature observant, freighted with tenderness and shaped by traditional form as well as metrical invention. There’s no artifice here: what you see is what you get—James is a poet of direct experience and recollected emotion.”

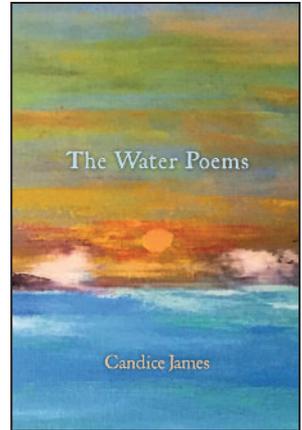
~ Trevor Carolan

After serving two 3 year terms as Poet Laureate **Candice James** has been awarded the title of Poet Laureate Emerita of New Westminster, BC, by order of City Council. She is also a visual artist, musician, singer/songwriter, book reviewer and workshop facilitator. She is Founder, Board Advisor and Past President of Royal City Literary Arts Society; Director of Pacific Festival of the Book Society; Past President of the Federation of British Columbia Writers; Past Director of Slam Central and Past Director of SpoCan. She is a full member of the League of Canadian Poets and The Writers Union of Canada. She also is founder of: “The Fred Cogswell Award For Excellence In Poetry”; “Poetry In The Park”; “Poetic Justice” “Poetry New Westminster”; and she has been keynote speaker at “Word On The Street”, “Word on the Beach”; and “Black Dot Roots Cultural Collective.” She is the author of eleven previous books of poetry.

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

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

Review copies available.



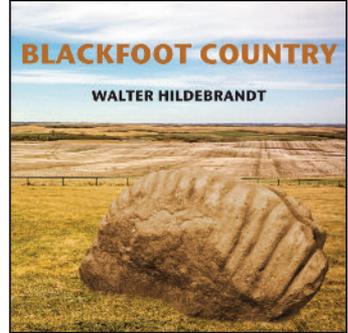
ISBN 978-1-77171-225-5
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Blackfoot Country

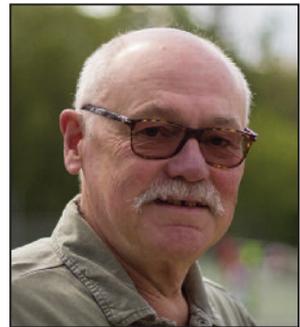
WALTER HILDEBRANDT

In this requiem to Narcisse Blood, Walter Hildebrandt writes a history or “istorin” (as a verb not noun from the Greek) in the sense of American poet Charles Olson “to look”, “to find out” the story of *Blackfoot Country*. As told to him by Narcisse Blood the story is grounded in place or geography and then rises up in his docu-poem to allow us to see the intricate and elaborate life of the Blackfoot people who were on the Great Plains, as Narcisse Blood tells, long before the pyramids of Egypt.



Historian and poet **Walter Hildebrandt** was born in Brooks, Alberta and now lives in Edmonton. He was the Director of University of Calgary Press and Athabasca University Press. He has worked as a historian for Parks Canada and as a consultant to the Treaty 7 Tribal Council, the Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations and the Banff Bow Valley Task Force. He was awarded the Gustavus Meyers Award 1997, for outstanding work on human rights in North America, for his book *The Spirit and Intent of Treaty 7*. His long poem *Sightings* was nominated for the McNally-Robinson Book of the Year in Manitoba in 1992. A previous volume of poetry, *Where the Land Gets Broken*, received the Stephan G. Stephanson for best poetry book in Alberta in 2005. This is his tenth book of poetry.

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NEW NON-FICTION

the world on the side of the trout

ROBERT LALONDE

translated by Jean-Paul Murray

The World on the Side of a Trout is a meteorological journal of the mind, a meditation on the art of seeing, reading and writing by one of Quebec's finest novelists.

Robert Lalonde tells us he writes to stop knowing, to start seeing and feeling, to chase away the night's bad mysteries, to change morning into spring...

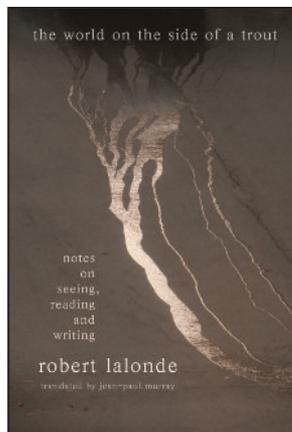
"The world seen in water, or on the side of a trout. From the corner of my eye, I see it, and words quietly appear, one by one, going into the great lake of sky that fills my head. And I love, madly, absolutely relentlessly, incomprehensibly, insanely, to struggle before the right moment, lose bets and wither on the stalk, still stupid, writing rough sentences, waiting, straining, hoping—"break your heart, your back, your brain"... I then give up and go for a walk; I come back, dejected, when, looking in the water, I realize the scene had been stirring there all this time: new, sparkling, fully fleshed-out: the world on the side of a trout."

From April to April, through the days and months of a year, the author paints a nature inexhaustible in its beauty and complexity, while musing on the writers and books that nourish his soul.... Michel de Montaigne, Flannery O'Connor, Gabrielle Roy, and so many others...

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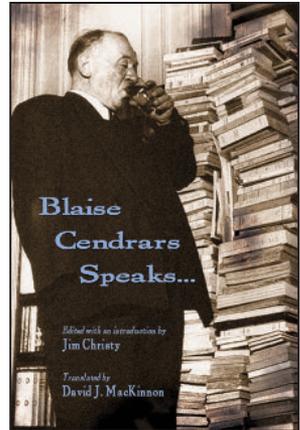
Blaise Cendrars Speaks...

BLAISE CENDRARS

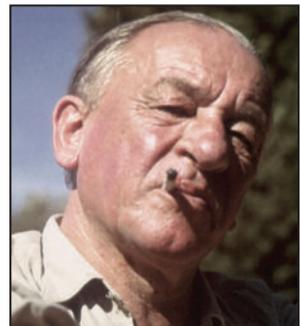
Translated by David MacKinnon

Originally published by Denoel in 1952, *Cendrars Speaks...* is a collection of radio interviews and memories of his life and times. From Surrealism to Cubism to the French novel, Cendrars was enormously influential — the heir of Rimbaud and the precursor of the beat poets and of Marshall McLuhan. He was a close collaborator and crony of Léger, Modigliani, Chagall, and venerated by Henry Miller. John Dos Passos immortalized him as the “Homer of the Transsiberian”. But Cendrars, unlike most of his contemporaries, also marked his era as a participant and front-line witness to the tragic events of the twentieth century. Cendrars own experience and compassion transformed him into a Cassandra-figure who sounded early warnings that modernism was reeling out of control at the expense of our common humanity. It is all here in these remarkable oral memoirs — the theft of the Mona Lisa for which Apollinaire was accused, his drinking bouts with Modigliani, the caustic asides on Breton and Picasso, his days in the circus with Chaplin, his friendships with tziganes and train robbers, whaling in the south seas, the pathos of the last days of Apollinaire, and the tragedy of having his works destroyed by the Gestapo and being falsely placed on the infamous “Otto List” as a Jewish writer.

Frédéric-Louis Sauser (September 1, 1887 – January 21, 1961), better known as Blaise Cendrars, was a Swiss-born novelist and poet who became a naturalized French citizen in 1916. He was a writer of enormous influence in the European modernist movement.



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There Once Was a Camel

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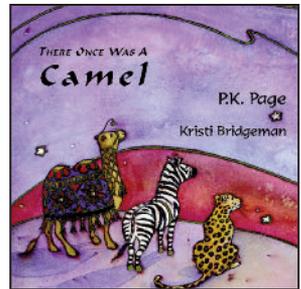
& KRISTI BRIDGEMAN

*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.

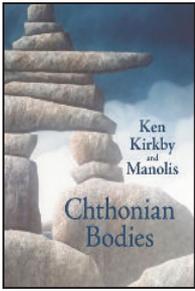
The late **P.K. Page** is one of Canada's most esteemed poets whose literary career spanned over five decades. She was the author of some twenty books including ten volumes of poetry in addition to memoir, fiction and children's titles. Winner of the Governor General's Award for Poetry in 1957, P.K. 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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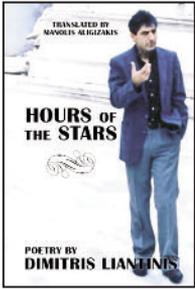
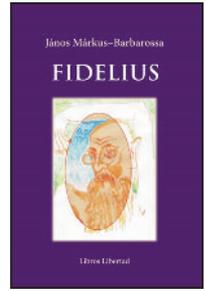
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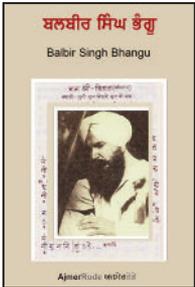
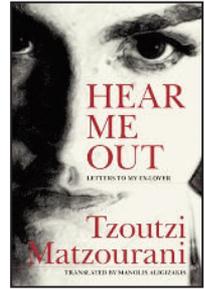
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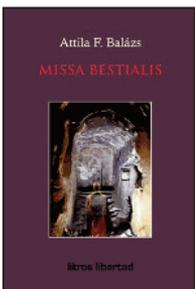
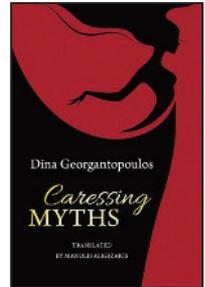
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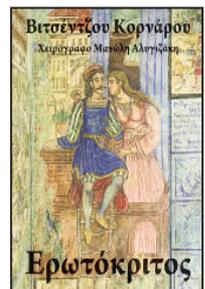
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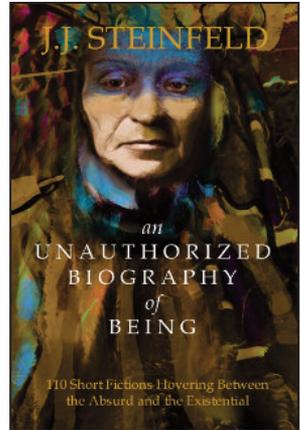


An Unauthorized Biography of Being

J.J. STEINFELD

In the very short stories of *An Unauthorized Biography of Being* J.J. Steinfeld continues to chronicle the enigma of modern life as he has for over thirty years. As Ian Colford said of his previous collection *Madhouses in Heaven, Castles in Hell*, “these are fearless, funny, nightmarish and wildly entertaining stories of existential crisis and the struggle for clarity.” J.J. Steinfeld crafts gripping and sometimes absurd drama out of our everyday-life attempts to find essential human connections in an unyielding world.

Fiction writer, poet, 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 seventeen books: two novels, twelve short story collections, and three poetry collections, along with two short-fiction chapbooks and three poetry chapbooks. More than 300 of his short stories and 700 poems have appeared in anthologies and periodicals in every Canadian province and internationally in eighteen countries, 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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The Griffin in the Griffin's Wood

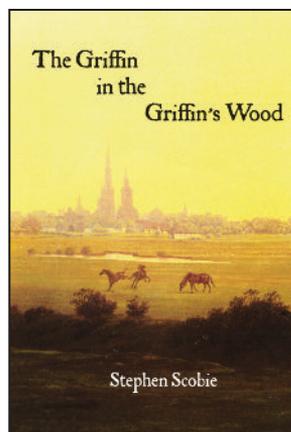
STEPHEN SCOBIE

East Germany, 1989. The government of the so-called German Democratic Republic is stumbling through the last months before the fall of the Berlin Wall. But in the shadows, the old antagonisms continue between spies and counter-spies, double and triple agents. And a young Canadian intelligence officer, Frank Carpenter, finds himself drawn into a mystery which leads him to a bizarre and personal form of German Reunification.

The Griffin in the Griffin's Wood is a gripping spy novel, expertly set against the backdrop of a critical moment in modern European history, and at the same time a playful game with the genre conventions of the spy novel itself.

Thrilling, evocative, and always ironically self-aware, *The Griffin in the Griffin's Wood* offers esoteric pleasures to appeal to any reader.

Stephen Scobie is a Canadian poet, critic, and scholar. Born in Carnoustie, Scotland, Scobie relocated to Canada in 1965. He earned a PhD from the University of British Columbia in Vancouver after which he taught at the University of Alberta and at the University of Victoria, from which he recently retired. Scobie is a founding editor of Longspoon Press, an elected member of the Royal Society of Canada, and the recipient of the 1980 Governor General's Award for *McAlmon's Chinese Opera* (1980) and the 1986 Prix Gabrielle Roy for Canadian Criticism.



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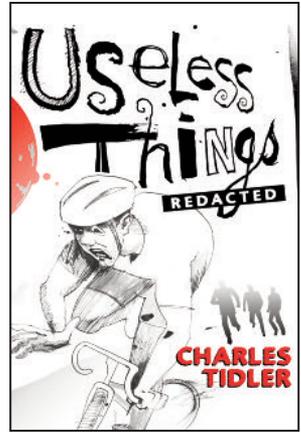
Useless Things

CHARLES TIDLER

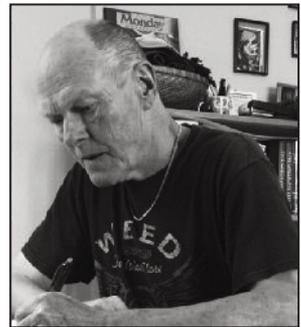
Dumbed by his beloved Lostlove, *Useless Things* is the woeful [redacted] narrative of jazz trumpeter Lewis King. Do we ever get away from the painful truth?

Charles Tidler is a novelist, playwright and poet. Born in Ohio, he grew up in Tipton, Indiana, and attended Purdue to study poetry and philosophy. A Vietnam War draft resister, Charles became a Canadian citizen in 1976. His writing has won many honours and awards. He lives in Victoria, B.C.

“At The [redacted] Coffee House this morning after kind of a good sleep. At least my heart wasn’t a jackhammer pounding in my chest. In a dream, Lostlove was kissing my belly between belly button and cock like a cat lapping a saucer of milk. I keep re-reading the “Dear Jane” note. There’s a copy of it folded in my billfold. Want to know it by rote like a fucking mantra. Dropped by [redacted] Brew Pub last night for five or six pints. Fun hanging with friends, and all the women came around asking me *What’s different? You look great tonight!* Up on stage last set for a trumpet solo, my usual genius presides.”



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Toward the Rising Sun

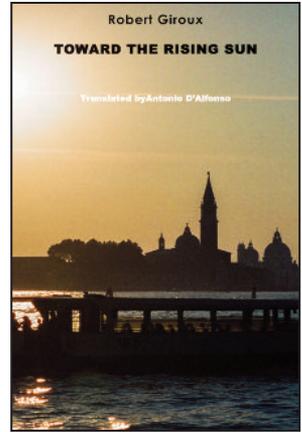
ROBERT GIROUX

Translated by Antonio D'Alfonso

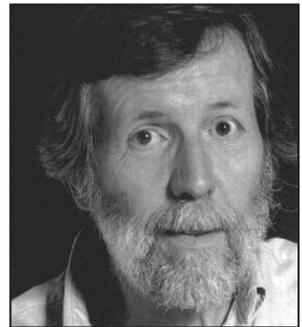
Toward the Rising Sun covers more than fifteen years of poetic writing by Robert Giroux. Included in this collection are *Voice Gymnastics* (2001), *Toward the Rising Sun* (2002), *And Yet* (2010), and *Standing on Objects* (2014). Giroux deliberately flirts with narrative prose, toys with sentence rhythms and breaks, and adheres to poetic syntax and voice. This attraction for story-telling and discourse is Robert Giroux's response to Stéphane Mallarmé's verse crisis.

Robert Giroux taught at Sherbrooke University for twenty-five years. Parallel to his teaching career, he was the publisher of Editions Triptyque between 1980-2016. He was also part of the editorial committee of the magazine *Moebius*. Author of more than a dozen books, Giroux initiated his writing with a book dedicated to Stéphane Mallarmé in 1978. He has given conferences in Canada and Europe and is a serious analyst of popular songs and music. He lives in Montreal.

The translator, **Antonio D'Alfonso**, is an award-winning author and translator.



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Sails for Exile

MONA LATIF-GHATTAS

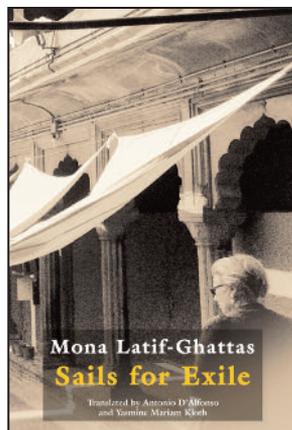
translated by Antonio D'Alfonso
and Yasmine Mariam Kloth

In *Sails for Exile* a young girl of six with her parents spends time at the Cataract Hotel in Aswan. There, she befriends Ali Lawi, the Nubian servant for Agha Khan. The girl now a poet, immigrated to Montreal, recalls in a superbly poetic prose the journey to Egypt, a few years before the creation of Lake Nasser as a result of the construction of the Aswan High Dam.

Poet, novelist, translator, and stage director, **Mona Latif-Ghattas** has published more than twenty-five books, most of them in Quebec. Born in Egypt, she has lived in Montreal since 1966. Her work, written in French, mixes the cultures of the East and the West. Her work has been translated in Arabic, and has been the subject of numerous theses. Her latest poems, written during the Egyptian revolution, were published by L'Harmattan in Paris, in 2013.

Antonio D'Alfonso is an award-winning author, translator, and filmmaker.

Yasmine Kloth has a B.A. in French and Arabic and an M.S. in Physiology from Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. Yasmine lives with her husband and daughter.



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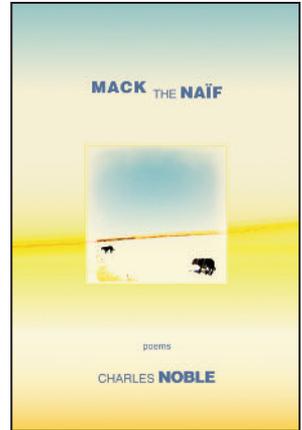
Mac the Naïf

CHARLES NOBLE

Humbly Dasein or “being there” and super-focused; heavyweight researcher, lifter, and award-winning writer; farm-rooted and globally haunted Charles NOBLE is now often off-farm in Banff at his Saltlik “office.” A regimen of gym days and measured drinks of wine and coffee underwrites voluminous reading all to power up a style that teases and tilts at this historical material world. Noble’s *Mac the Naïf* is all over the place, spinning an incidental mosaic, where mini-narratives or “short hairs” are dropped and picked up to ghost then a trans-narrative over a gallimaufry of pop-up poems, living ends against this kindly arc.

He says conversation, his aesthetic gambit, “can be bait for the research reading I do—letting it bite when it’s ready. And conversation includes the much maligned anecdote and ordinary observations, and the fish” (interview with Steven Ross Smith in Westword).

Since 1972, **Charles Noble** has been publishing poetry in a modest Canadian literary underground. A few of the titles that have emerged are *Doubt’s Boots* (U of C Press), *hearth wild / post cardiac banff* (Thistledown Press), and *Wormwood, Vermouth, Warphistory* (Thistledown Press), which won the 1996 Writers Guild of Alberta poetry award. Also a dedicated farmer, Noble works the land of his family’s farm in Nobleford, Alberta and spends a significant amount of time in Banff.



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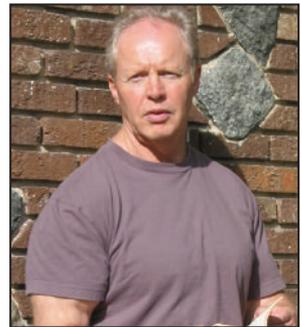
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News of the World

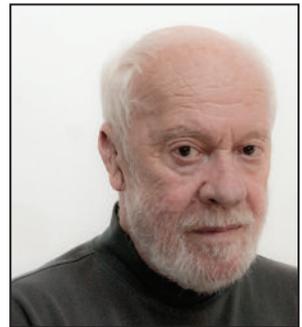
IRV HUCK

Referencing the Ezra Pound dictum that “poetry is news that stays news,” Irv Huck offers *News of the World*. A former student of Theodore Roethke, Huck has quietly sustained a small and steady output of poetry over many years. *News of the World* is a selection from his best work. The poems are attentive to tone, yet resonate with ceremony. A gallant and refined lyricism gives them a deceptive simplicity. For those familiar with Irv Huck’s life-long dedication to poetry, music and dance, this book is long awaited and much appreciated.

Irv Huck was born in Chicago. He received his BA in English from the University of Illinois. He studied under Theodore Roethke at the University of Washington, receiving an MA in English literature. He taught in the English faculty at Bellevue Community College in Bellevue, Washington. He spent many years as the class accompanist at Pacific Northwest Ballet School in Seattle. This is his first book.



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Fossil Light

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“Erling Friis-Baastad’s remarkable poems... become prayer-like in their transcendence of hard conditions.”

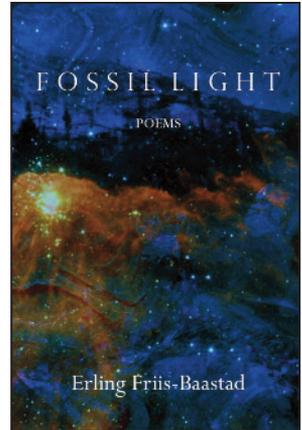
~ Charles Lillard, *Victoria Times-Colonist*

In his impressive new collection, *Fossil Light*, Erling Friis-Baastad continues to explore and find language for not only the northern Canadian landscape — both human and other-than-human—but also our moment in cosmic history. He extends his gaze to undertake an attentive traverse of deep space and deep time. These taut, intense poems are the words of a poet determined to relocate our place in the cosmos during an age of immense dislocation.

“With an exile’s voice, Erling Friis-Baastad calls forth the mythology lost in each of us. From northern forest, to Andalusian desert, out across conjectured galaxies, these poems tune to their environment, then startle themselves new. From an essential northern poet, the magnesium light of these poems will bear us out.”

~ Michael Eden Reynolds author of *Slant Room*

Erling Friis-Baastad’s previous poetry collections include *The Exile House* and *Wood Spoken: New and Selected Poems* and *The Ash Lad*. A long-time resident of the Yukon Territory, he now lives in Winnipeg, Manitoba.



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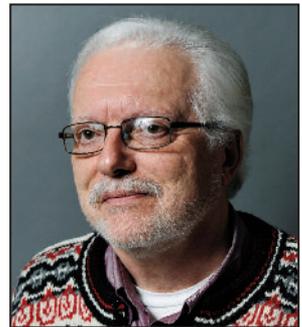
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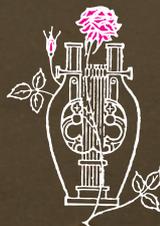
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2808 Prior St., Victoria, BC V8T 3Y3

Carol Sokoloff, Vice President & Account Manager

Voice & Fax (250) 385-3378 Message (250) 361-9941

email: orders@canadabooks.ca



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