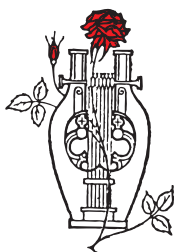


Ekstasis Editions



Spring 2020



Welcome to the Ekstasis Editions Spring 2020 catalogue. As we celebrate 38 years of publishing, Ekstasis has some extraordinary offerings this Fall.

Ekstasis Editions produced its first book in Victoria in 1982, and has gone on to publish over four 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," which allows us to publish non-fiction by **Robert Lalonde** and poetry by **Denise Desautels**. This season we also present the completion of The Empress Trilogy by Linda Rogers, new fiction from **Manolis**, and new poetry by **Jude Neale**, **Bill Wolak**, **Janet Vickers**, **Karen Shenfeld**, and **Deborah L. Kelly**.

Ekstasis Editions has been characterized by a creative spirit and resilience during more than 38 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 38 years. Join us in this literary adventure as we forge into our next thirty-eight years of publishing!

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

Richard Olafson, Publisher



Funded by the
Government
of Canada

Canada

Ekstasis Editions acknowledges the support of the Government of Canada, the B.C. Book Publishers Tax Credit and of the Canada Council for the Arts and the Canada Council for the Arts translation program.

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Repairing the Hive

LINDA ROGERS

Repairing the Hive is the third and final book in The Empress Trilogy, which follows a family and diverse community through generations of social and political change to reconciliation in post-colonial Victoria. The previous volumes, *The Empress Letters* and *Tempo Rubato*, are first person accounts of the lives of women artists who struggle to thrive in a family buried in secrets and lies, genocide in Europe and the opium trade and rum running on the west Coast of America. The final book is a third person account of the community coming together to bring the post-colonial generation out of the silence as readers are asked to consider the lilies where they grow in fields nourished by history.

Linda Rogers' multi-layered narrative about East meets West finds common ground from the impact of music on our lives. Rogers brilliantly tweaks the musical imagination to pull you into the inner world of the characters.

~ Gary Karr, solo bassist

Poet, Novelist, lyricist and journalist **Linda Rogers** is a 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*

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

Review copies available.



ISBN 978-1-77171-303-0

Fiction

293 pages

5 x 8

\$25.95

Available

March 2020



The Empress Trilogy

LINDA ROGERS

Volume 1: *The Empress Letters*

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. As she crosses the Pacific towards a hoped for reunion, Poppy relives and relates the extraordinary events of her 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.

Volume 2: *Tempo Rubato*

Based on the musical term meaning ‘stolen time,’ *Tempo Rubato* is a concerto of passion that moves between past and present, Western and Eastern culture, exploring the meaning of identity and love. Continuing the saga of the Von Stronheim family of Victoria, BC, this second novel of a trilogy by Linda Rogers, centres on Precious Von Stronheim, daughter of the main character of the previous volume *The Empress Letters*. Like an intricate oriental brocade, *Tempo Rubato* weaves strands of culture and personal history into a fascinating celebration of music, identity and love. Caught in the echoes of past loss and the plaintive melodies of the East, Precious at last comes to terms with the present moment and the enduring nature of love.



ISBN 978-1-77171-372-6
Fiction
288 pages
5 x 8
\$25.95



ISBN 978-1-77171-374-0
Fiction
288 pages
5 x 8
\$25.95

Swamped

MANOLIS ALIGIZAKIS

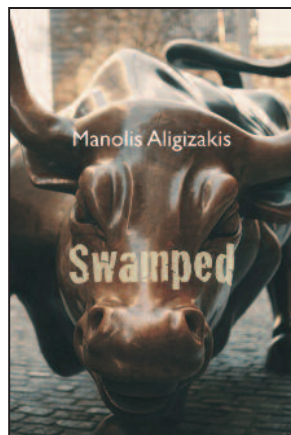
This book is a compass that guides the reader through the vortex of life and the whims of the stock market. Eteo, the Greek-Canadian protagonist, sometimes drags us into the depths of the Stock Exchange where he catches its unseen secrets and sometimes returns us back, like a mysterious river the waters of which turn back to memories of his birth and childhood in Crete. A book that oscillates between yesterday and today, poverty and wealth, good and evil yet it remains steadfast in the universal human values by watching them through the lens of an honest stockbroker who reaches Vancouver's top while he remains intact. Lyrical, erotic, humane, realistic and at the same time surrealistic, it captivates the reader as it manages to keep alive the child within by releasing his curiosity through the lens of humanity. The hero learns that man is made for greatness and it teaches him the lesson of dignity, reinforcing within him the power of grace and love.

Emmanuel Aligizakis, (**Manolis**) is a Cretan-Canadian poet and author. 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 emigrated to Vancouver in 1973. 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 978-1-77171-392-4

Fiction

276 pages

5.5 x 8.5

\$25.95

Available

May 2020



All the Wind's Unfinished Kisses

BILL WOLAK

Bill Wolak has given us a cornucopia of sexual delights, some sweet, others mouth-watering, and many more that titillate our veiled fantasies. His poems are finely tuned expressions of urgency and desire. They explore the body with expectation on the brink of pleasure.

~ John Digby

Bill Wolak is a poet who lives in New Jersey and teaches Creative Writing at William Paterson University. He has published his fifteenth book of poetry entitled *The Nakedness Defense* with Ekstasis Editions. 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. His translations have appeared in such magazines as *The Sufi Journal*, *Basalt*, *Visions International*, *World Poetry Journal*, and *Atlanta Review*. His critical work and interviews have appeared in *Notre Dame Review*, *Persian Heritage Magazine*, *Gargoyle*, *Southern Humanities Review*, and *Prime Numbers Magazine*.

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

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

Review copies available.



ISBN 978-1-77171-368-9
Poetry
112 Pages
6 x 9
\$23.95
Available
February 2020



Impromptu

JUDE NEALE

Jude Neale's latest collection of poetry, *Impromptu*, grew from an International Poetry Month challenge that required the writer to respond to a daily prompt, creating a poem each day for one month. The resulting selections were so compelling that Jude continued past the 30-day limit with prompts of her own, producing in 47 days a book that is fresh, insightful, and vital, venturing far beyond what initially started as a simple writing exercise.

This volume is a 21st Century exploration of the infinite mystery of love and light, taking the reader on a journey encompassing surrealism, sonnets, haiku, and many other poetic forms. It was a labour of deep inspiration, that will hopefully nudge other writers to forge new paths in their creative endeavors.

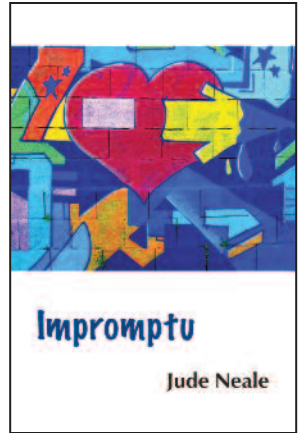
Like Jude's five previous books, this volume was written solely on her iPhone.

Jude Neale is a Canadian poet, flash fiction writer, opera singer, retired master teacher, spoken word performer, editor and mentor. She has been shortlisted, highly commended and finalist for many international and national competitions. She has written eight books.

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

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

Review copies available.



ISBN 978-1-77171-358-0

Poetry

92 pages

6 x 9

\$23.95

Available

February 2020



Sleep With Me: Lullaby for an Anxious Planet

JANET VICKERS

“Let me begin with a warning” heads one of Janet’s poems and readers should be warned that not all these poems are lullabies. Many home in on truths that sear into the mind and might disturb sleep. That, after all, is the job of a poet. These poems also offer: the balm of hard-won compassion for self and others, a wisdom sad and sweet, and always startling turns of phrase that pull readers to attention and possibilities for their own voices. As Janet’s poem for Greta ends, “Now the rest of us must find/ our instruments before dawn.”

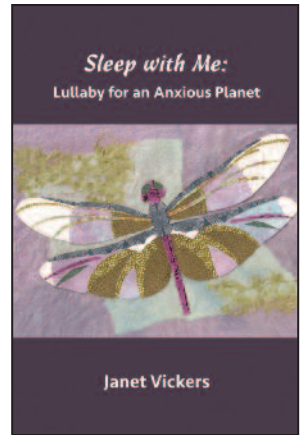
~ Sonja Arntzen, Professor Emerita, University of Toronto

Janet Vickers was born in the UK, came to Canada in 1965 and became Canadian by the love and friendship of other Canadians. She married in 1969 and celebrated her 50th wedding anniversary to her husband Tony, last year. They have three children, three in-laws, one grand-dog and four grandchildren. Her previous books include *Impermanence* (2012) and *Infinite Power* (2016) published by Ekstasis Editions.

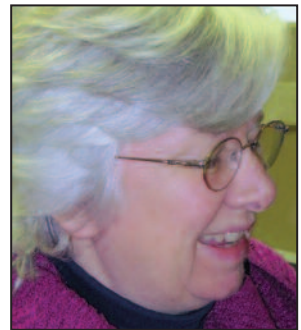
Ads: *Pacific Rim Review of Books*, *BC Bookworld*

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

Review copies available.



ISBN 978-1-77171-360-3
Poetry
84 pages
6 x 9
\$23.95
Available
April 2020

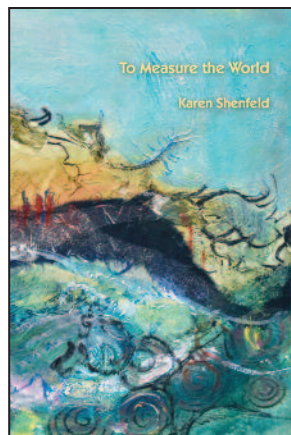


To Measure the World

KAREN SHENFIELD

In *To Measure the World*, Karen Shenfeld confronts the chimerical nature of love — erotic, domestic, familial — and its power to sustain and harm. With a language that’s immediate, transcendent, and visual, the poet celebrates conjugal love, then strips bare the self when she’s blindsided by its dissolution. She pays tribute to friends and family; she explores her evolving relationship with her mother, bearing witness to the debilitation of aging and disease with wit and compassion. Here, too, Shenfeld ventures away from the home into the world: She follows the footsteps of Keats and Tennyson to England’s Isle of Wight where she conjures a fragile landscape, “mutable as marriage,” “slip-sliding to the knowing sea.”

Karen Shenfeld has published three books of poetry with Guernica Editions: *The Law of Return* (1999), which won the Canadian Jewish Book Award for Poetry in 2001, *The Fertile Crescent* (2005), and *My Father’s Hands Spoke in Yiddish* (2010). Her poetry has also appeared in journals and anthologies published in Canada, the U.S., England, South Africa, and Bangladesh, and she has given readings nationally and internationally. Her poetry has also been featured on Canada’s CBC Radio and CKLN, and on shortwave radio programs broadcast from the U.S. and Italy. As well, Karen Shenfeld has brought her poetic sensibility to the writing of magazine stories and to filmmaking. She is currently writing a screenplay that has been optioned by the director, Bruce McDonald.



ISBN 978-1-77171-362-7

Poetry

56 pages

6 x 9

\$23.95

Available

April 2020



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

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

Review copies available.

Lessons from Venice

DENISE DESAUTELS

translated by Alisa Belanger

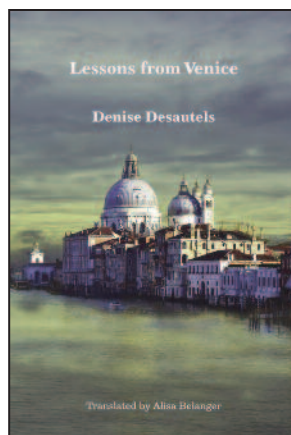
When Denise Desautels traveled to Italy in 1988 to write about Michel Goulet's art installations at the 43rd Venice Art Biennale, she brought with her the autobiographical themes to which she frequently returns in her writing: memory, childhood, mourning. As she circled Goulet's sculptures and moved through the City of Masks, Desautels sought to look beyond their facades, exploring relationships between language, silence, place, and the self. No one could have known, however, that a mass shooting at the École Polytechnique would soon send shockwaves through Montreal. Having begun as a reflection on art and objecthood, proximity and distance, truth and illusion, *Lessons from Venice* then turned into a moving tribute to the fourteen women killed by a misogynist gunman in the Montreal Massacre on December 6, 1989.

Denise Desautels was born in Montreal. She is a past vice-president of the Académie des lettres du Québec. She won the Prix de la Fondation Les Forges for *Leçons de Venise* (1990), the original French version of *Lessons from Venice*. She also won the Governor General's Award and the Prix de la revue Estuaire for *Le saut de l'ange* (1992), the Prix de la Société des écrivains canadiens and the Prix de la Société Radio-Canada for *Tombeau de Lou* (2000). In 1999 she received La Médaille Échelon vermeil, the highest honour given by the city of Paris.

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

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

Review copies available.



ISBN 978-1-77171-370-2

Poetry

76 pages

6 x 9

\$23.95

Available

June 2020



Songs of the North

...the inspired poems

DEBORAH L. KELLY

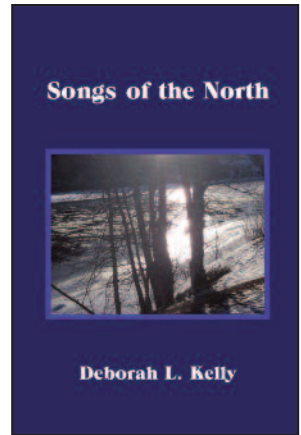
Songs of the North ... the inspired poems was written for and inspired by the many voices of Gaia. In order to reconnect, we must reclaim the balance we have lost. We must acknowledge our inner connection to all the natural energies which surround us. This collection of poems will take the reader into the deep forests of British Columbia's North. You will soar with the eagles, sit in a nest on the top of a tree, travel the banks of the mighty Nechako River, and so much more. This book will take you on a journey through one full circle in the spiral of life; let us travel through the seasons together, and smell the sweet, fresh air of the mountains mists. *Songs of the North ... the inspired poems ...* tells a story of the sacred beauties of the natural world; a renewal of the reverence and appreciation we seem to have collectively misplaced. It is a tribute to the Mother, and to the many wondrous facets of this living earth.

Deborah L. Kelly has been writing poetry for more than 40 years. Having begun writing poetry in her teenage years, she discovered that it helped her to cope with the conditions around her during her youth. The author of four published books of poetry; both in Canada and Internationally, *Deborah* always enjoys a new challenge. An award winning poet and short story writer, she lives in the beautiful forests, editing on the Land of the Midnight Sun, in Prince George, BC. It is here *Deborah* spends her time writing, gardening, and breathing in the delights of her beautiful grandchildren.

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

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

Review copies available.



ISBN 978-1-77171-364-1

Poetry

100 pages

6 x 9

\$23.95

Available

June 2020



Haiku in Canada: History, Poetry, Memoir

TERRY ANN CARTER

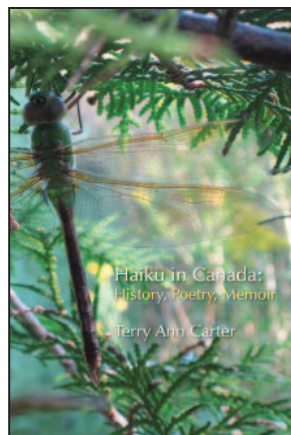
From the haikukai circles of British Columbia's internment camps to the seminal Canadian anthologies edited by George Swede, Dorothy Howard and André Duhaime, and Marshall Hryciuk, to the avant-garde elements of Gregory Betts's *Haikube*, and Gary Barwin and derek beaulieu's *frogments in the frag pool*, Terry Ann Carter has given haiku a wide sweep in the pages of *Haiku in Canada*. Featuring over 175 poets, including translated poems from French Canada, her labour over a decade has resulted in a tour de force of history and poetry.

Poet and paper artist **Terry Ann Carter** is the author of six collections of long form poetry, two haiku guidebooks, and five haiku chapbooks; she has edited four haiku anthologies. As past president of Haiku Canada, founder of and facilitator for KaDo Ottawa (2001-2012) and Haiku Arbutus Victoria Study Group (2014-present), she has given hundreds of haiku and book arts workshops around the world. *Tokaido* (Red Moon Press, 2017) won a Touchstone Distinguished Book Award, and in 2019, she was a judge for the first International Haiku Contest for the city of Morioka, Japan. In June 2020, she will be teaching a book arts master class in Umbria, Italy.

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

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

Review copies available.



ISBN 978-1-77171-382-5

Non-Fiction

111 pages

5.5 x 8.5

\$24.95

Available

April 2020



Iotékha'

ROBERT LALONDE

translated by Jean-Paul Murray

Iotékha', which means “he burns” in the Mohawk language, is the journal of a feverish traveler who is torn between the pains and passions of life, who reveals his hopes and despairs, tirelessly seeking illuminations. *Iotékha'* is a book about things barely glimpsed, tobacco smoke, imaginary doomsdays, amazing yet ordinary people and fires that call us in the distance...

“A book of remarkable subtlety and exceptional quality... The reader can’t help but be moved and transformed. Once again, Robert Lalonde is a magician.”

~ Yvon Paré, *Lettres québécoises*

“Pages of incredible beauty and great poignancy... An extraordinary and magnificent book.”

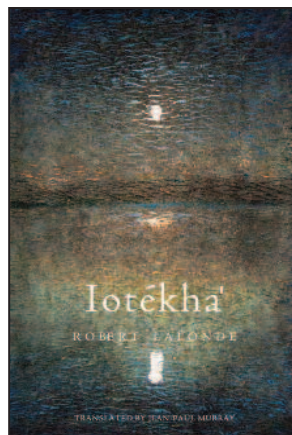
~ Chantal Jolis, Radio-Canada

An actor, playwright and translator, **Robert Lalonde** is one of Quebec’s leading novelists. His previous books 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*, *The Last Indian Summer*, *What Will I Become Until I Die?*, *Little Eagle with a White Head*, *The Heart Is What Dies Last*, *The World on the Side of a Trout* and *The Little Thief*.

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

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

Review copies available.



ISBN 978-1-77171-366-5

Non-Fiction

111 pages

5.5 x 8.5

\$24.95

Available

April 2020



A Poet's Journey

STEPHEN MORRISSEY

Stephen Morrissey's *A Poet's Journey: on poetry and what it means to be a poet* includes essays and notes on becoming a poet and the art of poetry. Writing from a poet's perspective Morrissey discusses the influence of older poets who act as mentors; the poet friends of one's youth; poets whose books influence one's own work; and the varied experiences of life that are important to the development of the poet's writing. The art of poetry includes ideas about poetry; poetry as the voice of the human soul; visionary poetry; the purpose of experimental poetry; confessional poetry; and finding an authentic voice in poetry. Included, as well, are some of Morrissey's early experiments in concrete poetry. The essays in this book are the culmination of a lifetime of thinking about what it means to be a poet and the art of poetry.

Stephen Morrissey has published nine books of poetry and several chapbooks. He has received writer's grants from the Canada Council for the Arts. In 1997 the Government of Quebec named an island in northern Quebec after a phrase from one of his poems, "La Vingt-Septieme Lettre". A French translation of *The Mystic Beast* was published by Les Éditions Triptyque as *la bête mystique* in 2004. In the mid-1970s Stephen Morrissey was associated with the Véhicule Poets, a group of young poets who organized poetry readings at Véhicule Art Gallery and brought about a rebirth of contemporary poetry in Montreal.



ISBN 978-1-77171-356-6
 Non-Fiction
 124 Pages
 5.5 x 8.5
 \$24.95
 Now Available



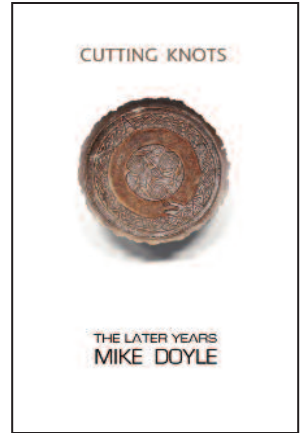
Cutting Knots

MIKE DOYLE

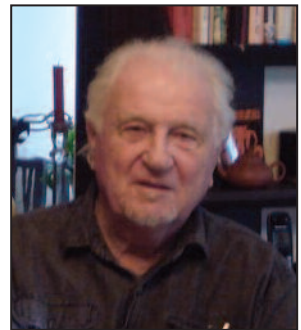
Meantime, on a sunny summer after noon, on an off-shore island west of North America, a place never brought to my notice until mid-life, I am settled in the grateful knowledge that fate has bucketed me about but, on balance, treated me kindly.

On December 28th 2016, in Victoria B.C., Mike Doyle, poet, critic, biographer, and father, departed this earth, but not before he could finish *Cutting Knots*, the final volume in his series of memoirs. Here Mike charts his life in a new and strange century, beginning with a final voyage to his beloved Ireland in 2002 and concluding with the publication of *Echoes from Pluto*, his last book of verse. Although Mike’s body slows over the years (or “cuts knots,” as he has it), his mind remains as lively and adventurous as ever. He offers us penetrating insights into books and films alongside ruminations about everything from mortality to baseball. *Cutting Knots* is an engaging farewell from a man who loved language and life itself until the very end.

Mike Doyle (1928-2016) was 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-ups *Softwood Trumpets* (2012) and *Riding the Pig* (2014), a journal of his life as a poet in Canada, and *Intimate Absences* (1993), a “Selected Poems” from work up to that date. Ekstasis Editions published his *Collected Poems 1951-2009* in 2010. Doyle lived in Victoria for over forty years and was a Canadian citizen of long standing.



ISBN 978-1-77171-237-8
 Memoir
 186 Pages
 5.5 x 8.5
 \$25.95
 Now Available



There Once Was a Camel

P.K. PAGE

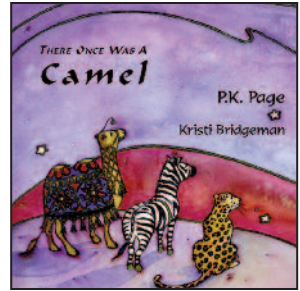
& KRISTI BRIDGEMAN

*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.

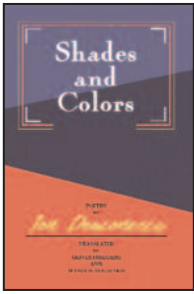
The late **P.K. Page** is one of Canada's most esteemed poets whose literary career spanned over five decades. She was the author of some twenty books including ten volumes of poetry in addition to memoir, fiction and children's titles. Winner of the Governor General's Award for Poetry in 1957, P.K.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



ISBN 978-1-897430-31-6
Children's picture book
32 pages
10 x 10
\$19.95
Now available





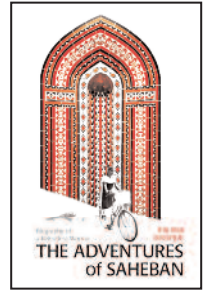
Ion Deaconescu
Shades and Colors
 ISBN: 9781926763491
 Paperback 6.0 x 9.0 in
 102 pages, \$20.00

István Turczi
Write the Way Others Pray
 ISBN: 9781926763477
 Paperback 6.0 x 9.0 in
 67 pages, \$20.00



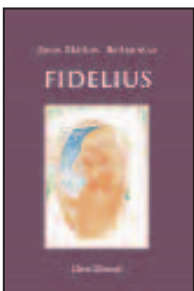
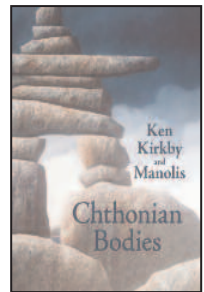
ΚΑΡΟΛΟΣ ΦΕΛΙΝΓΚΕΡ
ΦΩΣ ΣΤΙΣ ΠΕΥΚΟΒΕΛΟΝΕΣ
 ISBN: 9789267630484
 Paperback 5.5 x 8.5 in
 94 pages, \$20.00

Fauzia Rafique
The Adventures of Saheban
 ISBN: 9781926763446
 Paperback 6.0 x 9.0 in
 212 pages, \$20.00



translated by Manolis
Karyotakis-Polydouri:
The Tragic Love Story
 ISBN: 9781926763453
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Celebrations

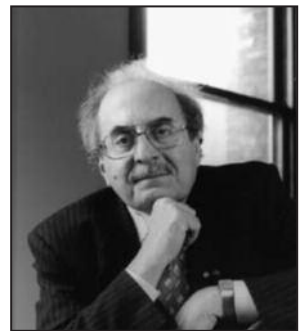
NAÏM KATTAN

A Syrian writer living in Montreal, René Shems is also a specialist of Canadian history. After participating in a celebration organized in his honor, Shems decides to send letters to friends and colleagues. He also writes to his ex-wife, his daughter living in the U.S.A., and a past lover. Through this letters the reader meets a successful man. And yet once the letters sent, Shems questions his own success and works. *Celebrations* contains wonderful pages on culture shock. But also interesting thoughts on love, friendship, urban living, people, and cultures. Naim Kattan has produced a marvelous work of fiction and ideas.

Naïm Kattan is a Canadian novelist, essayist and critic of Iraqi Jewish origin. He has written under many titles: author and critic; academic; pluralist; Arab; Jew; Canadian and Francophone. He has famously never accepted or rejected any one of these titles. Instead, Kattan has embraced the theme of identity and concept of rebirth. Naim Kattan has said that he was born three times: first in Baghdad, then in Paris and a third birth in Montréal. Kattan wrote a literary column in *Le Devoir*, and for close to 25 years he headed the writing and publishing division of the Canada Council for the Arts Writing and Publication program. Kattan was also an Associate professor in the Department of Literary Studies at the Université du Québec à Montréal. Kattan's greatest legacy is his literary work, especially *Farewell, Babylon*.



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Gregor Samsa Was Never in the Beatles

J. J. STEINFELD

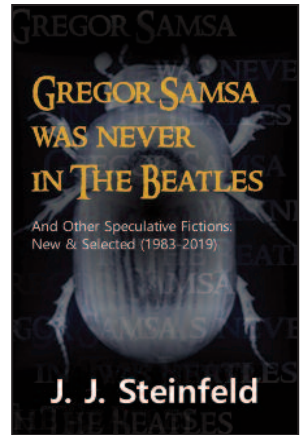
Gregor Samsa Was Never in The Beatles, J. J. Steinfeld's twentieth book and thirteenth short story collection, is an eclectic and thought-provoking mix of 45 speculative fictions written between 1983 and 2019. These wide-ranging stories explore many of the themes and the psychological terrain, from the absurd to the existential, through the varied literary lenses of science fiction, the surreal, fantasy, horror, the Kafkaesque, and the otherworldly, which the author has been dealing with in his literary writing over the years as he grapples with the desire for meaning and sense in the human condition while confronting the lives of his fictional characters and their imagined habitations. As with his other short story collections, the author's literary exploration of the past, present, and future leads the reader through a multitude of worlds and realities, from the darkly comic to the deeply tragic.

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 nineteen books: two novels, twelve short story collections, and five poetry collections along with two short-fiction chapbooks. Over fifty of his one-act plays and a handful of full-length plays have been performed in Canada and the United States.

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

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Saying Hello to the Hangman

STANLEY EVANS

It is 1950 in Vancouver. Gamblers and brothel keepers bribe the city's untrained underpaid cops to look the other way. Grisly unsolved murders are piling up. Are these murders the work of a serial killer? The city's Chief Constable is too busy dealing with the problems presented by his pregnant 17-year-old girlfriend to worry about it. Enter Chief Detective Inspector Walter Jackson, an honest cop. Pursuing the killer takes Jackson through the city's unlicensed bottle-clubs, strip-clubs and brothels. Add Jackson's love affair and his encounter with an ancient Coast Salish mystic and *Saying Hello to the Hangman* adds up to another suspenseful page turner.

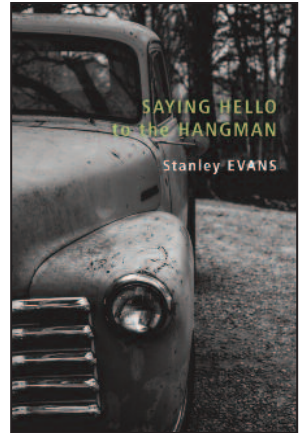
Stanley Evans's novels are among Canada's most exciting new crime fiction, with satisfyingly twisted plots and engaging eccentric characters.
~ *Calgary Herald*

Stanley Evans's previous novels are *Outlaw Gold*, *Snow-Coming Moon*, and the first seven novels in the Silas Seaweed mysteries. He lives in Victoria, BC.

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Catching Desire

CARMELO MILITANO

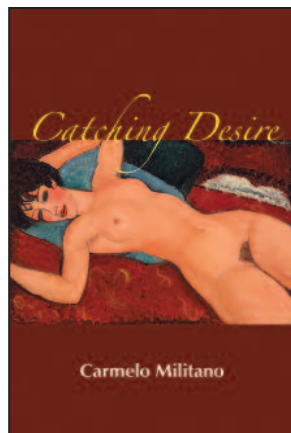
Carmelo Militano's new book *Catching Desire* is a personal account of the turbulent artistic life, and often erotically charged art of the **maudit**, 'damned,' Modernist painter and sculptor Amedeo Modigliani. Militano effectively mixes poetry and prose to evoke the life and art of Modigliani. The writing is rich in texture, images, and detail; a type of sensual reasoning. Modigliani's development as an artist, his tragic search for beauty, and ultimately his reach to express his vision of spiritual eroticism grounded in the flesh is the poetic heart beating inside the brain of this new book.

Carmelo Militano is the author of two books of poetry (*Morning After You* and *The Stone Mason's Notebook*) as well as three books of prose (*The Fate of Olives*, *Sebastiano's Vine* and *Lost Aria*). He is the winner of the F.G. Bressani award for poetry and each of his prose works have been short-listed for various literary awards. *Catching Desire* is his sixth book.

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In Formless Circumstance

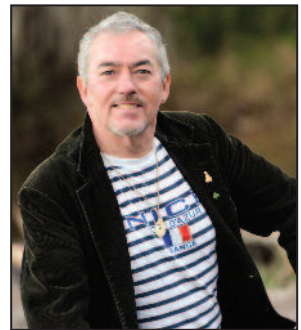
TREVOR CAROLAN

In *In Formless Circumstance* Trevor Carolan is a traveller whose eloquent voice reverberates as we journey with him through centuries, across continents and in the simple everyday moments which bind us. Bringing the sacred yet ordinary together, Carolan masters the beauty of words, his skill only outshone by his heart. Whether you are called to see the *Book of Kells* and the importance of holiness in an ordinary life; a Manchurian cornfield where everything and nothing has changed over thousands of years; or are stirred by the sound of an ambulance siren evoking the memory of one father's passing by a son, image after image sticks with you. Carolan brings you across the world with him, while at the same time illuminating what you have in your own backyard.

Trevor Carolan has published nineteen books of poetry, non-fiction, translation, fiction and anthologies. He has also produced documentary films and held senior arts positions with the Olympic Games and Banff Centre. Co-editor of the award-winning edition *Cascadia: The Life and Breath of the World*, and a former elected Councillor in North Vancouver, he holds a Ph.D. in International Relations and has advocated on behalf of Conservation issues and Indigenous land claims in B.C. He teaches at UFV near Vancouver.



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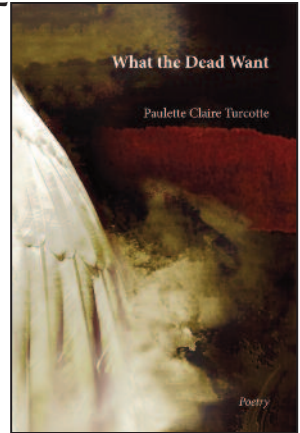
What the Dead Want

PAULETTE CLAIRE TURCOTTE

“The poems in *What the Dead Want* have grown out of a sense of social outrage, an immense love of this creatured world, wild nature, and out of my own journey through madness and Grace. They’ve grown out of a precious relationship with love and death, and hope. The boundaries between the living and the dead are more porous than we would like to think. My poems are my way of journeying when I am not dreaming and making art. They are my way of giving form and character to the unseen and unheard, the shadows, the untouchables, the unredeemed, and of stretching the boundaries between madness and sanity, between the banal and the mystical in an attempt to restore our quivering humanity.”

~ Paulette Claire Turcotte

Known for her work with dreams and creativity, **Paulette Claire Turcotte** has worked 30 years in Jungian analysis and studies, and more than 40 years in the arts. She is an author, visionary and outsider poet and artist. Her work has been published in numerous presses in print and online. She is editor of *Banned Poetry*, cdriS/ARTS Press, co-founder of Split Quotation Press, a founding member of the Pacific Festival of the Book, Curator of a ZINE-Alternative & Modern Arts and Review and an AVANT-GARDE poetry ZINE. She has been recipient of the ANTHOS Poetry prize and a Canada Council grant for writing (short stories). As well as two non-fiction books, she has three chapbooks of poetry with her art, and has a new chapbook, *The Silence in the Centre of Bone*; forthcoming.



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city of beasts

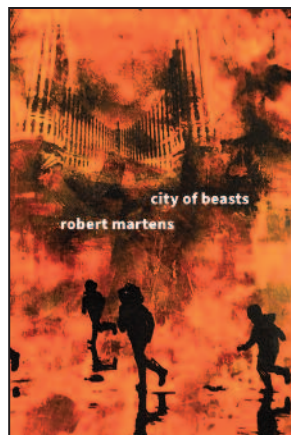
ROBERT MARTENS

How do we live together in a world debased by injustice and violence? Robert Martens' *city of beasts* suggests that embracing transience, acceptance, and yes, love, can light a flame in the empire's heart of darkness.

Raw and healing all in one breath, Martens invites readers into the realm of voice in all creatures, an honest search for humility, forgiveness and reconciliation with the natural world. An entire world comes to life in his poetic mastery, invoking harmony in diversity, a reminder of all the species we share the Earth with. Martens' divinely crafted collection highlights the elemental respectfulness of listening, breaking issues into the light, integration into awareness. The book is beautifully divided into thematic sections, gently evoking philosophical yearnings about the nature and path of humanity, acknowledging both the sacred and unspeakable in the ordinary, hearing and renewing them in everyday light.

~ Cynthia Sharp, Poet, Director, Federation of BC Writers, Writer in Residence, City of Richmond

Robert Martens was raised in Yarrow, a village built by Russian Mennonite refugees in an effort to replicate how they had lived in the old country. Farming was king, and beasts abounded in barn and pasture. Robert learned the hard urban ways of the wider world while attending university and joining the long-hair student rebellion that helped stop a war. He eventually settled in Abbotsford, BC, where he writes, edits, and grieves for the degradation of our planet.



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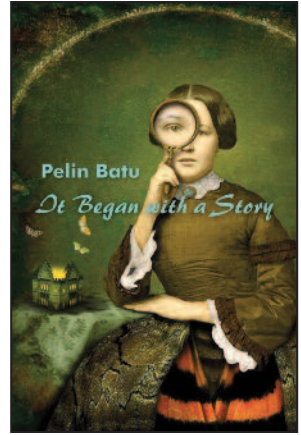


It Began with a Story

PELIN BATU

Recently politician and activist Canan Kaftancıoğlu was incarcerated by the oppressive Turkish government for almost ten years because she recited a poem. Pelin Batu, an accomplished and well respected poet, comes from this oppressed country and with *It Began with a Story* she embarks in the quest of self-discovery by unravelling one by one all the pages of her inner cosmos. Her work, astoundingly clear and eloquently formatted leads the reader to her quest when she introduces Lady Chaos, her opening symbol that leads her way the way Homer uses his Muse to begin his reciting of *Odyssey*.

Pelin Batu was born in 1978. After graduating from Marymount School, she studied drama and literature at New York University. She received her B.A in history and M.A. in Western Languages and Literature from Bosphorus University. She is currently a PHD candidate in Literature at Bosphorus University. She has had a number of notable performances in theatre and film. Her first book “Glass” was published by Yapı Kredi in 2003 and her second book “The Book of Winds” by Artshop in 2009. Her book of paintings and lyrics “Resim Defteri” was followed by the latest book of poetry, “The Divan of Lost Things” which was published by Everest Publishing in 2015. Pelin Batu is an active political and environmental activist. She has lectured extensively throughout rural Anatolia with the NGOs such as Toplum Gönüllüleri. She currently lives in Istanbul.



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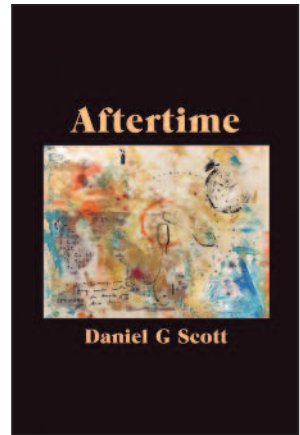


Aftertime

DANIEL G SCOTT

A collection of poems that play with time, retirement, glimpses across generations and ponders aging, death and their (im)possibilities. How is time felt in moments of life transitions? We live in time yet experience it at different tempos. Some days fly. Some hours crawl. And what of time itself – how do we live in time as we age, as we leave the world of work and duty, as death becomes more substantial? *Aftertime* also explores the nature of time itself to wonder if there is time after time, if one can be outside of time. A provocative look at time from the vantage of later in life.

Daniel G Scott is the current (5th) Artistic Director of the Planet Earth Poetry Reading Series. He has written in a variety of forms but poetry is his long-standing love. He has previously published *gnarled love*, *terrains* and *Random Excess* (with Ekstasis Editions), and *black onion* and two chapbooks: *street signs* and *Interrupted* (with Goldfinch Press). He has individual poems in anthologies and chapbooks as well as numerous academic publications including journal articles and book chapters and, with Shannon McFerran, *The Girls Diary Project* (University of Victoria, 2013). He won a one-act playwriting competition in New Brunswick in 1984. He is an Associate Professor Emeritus, University of Victoria, School of Child and Youth Care, father and grandfather.



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 Poetry
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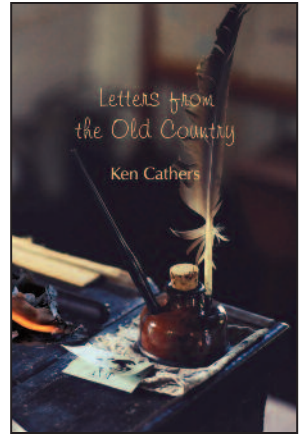
Letters from the Old Country

KEN CATHERS

“Cool, clean, precise, the descent into a deep, memorable cenote, is where Ken Cathers captures the world in a cavern. His short lines focus attention on apparent minutia, which is the first unravelling of seedpod, pure liquid, a flower you had not until that moment imagined. In words as minimal as I, he, she, 700 years of history, of Tenochtitlan, of Aztecs and invading rulers in Cathers’ *Letters from the Old Country* centre the universe in as few words as possible. Ken Cathers, like John Pass, is ‘the best poet you’ve never heard of’. Paul went on to the GG, and Ken deserves the same.”

~ D.C. Reid, author of *These Elegies*

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*, *Blues for the Grauballeman* and *missing pieces* (Ekstasis Editions). This is his seventh published book of poetry.



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A Thousand Pieces

JOANNE MORENCY

translated by Jill Varley

The original French publication of *A Thousand Pieces* (*Miettes de moi*) received the 2010 prize for a first book of poetry from the Foundation L.A. Finances.

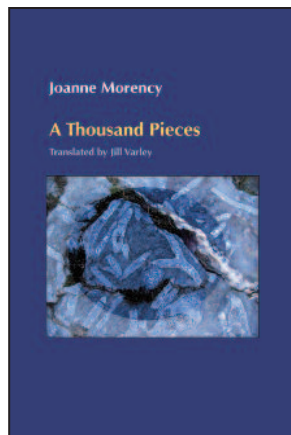
“Joanne Morency succeeds in transforming everyday objects, facts and gestures into vectors of poetry, revealing the strangeness they possess beneath their apparent familiarity. (...) She knows how to bring forth a form of paradoxical lyricism that Reverdy called “the lyricism of reality”: it expresses not only the interior life of the poet, but also his or her relationships with the surrounding world.”

~ Michel Collot, Jury Member, Professor, Université Sorbonne Nouvelle

“Reading *Miettes de moi* takes one into the gentle flow of a sensibility that requires intense and simultaneous contact with the thousand home ports of being.”

~ René Lafleur, *Canadian Literature*, no 106, 2010

Joanne Morency lives on the Gaspé Peninsula in eastern Quebec. She has published five poetry collections with Montréal’s Éditions Triptyque and two books of haibun (poetic prose and haiku) with Ottawa’s Éditions David. She has received several awards including the 2015 CBC poetry prize and the 2010 award for a first collection in Paris.



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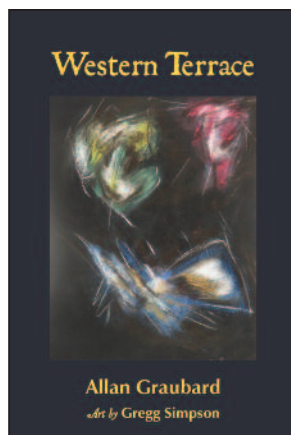
Western Terrace

ALLAN GRAUBARD

Within a churning universe of super-charged totems, Allan Graubard articulates equations that emit lyricism and meaning — which is what poetry is all about. If you have a soft spot for Surrealism, these serious, sensuous and masterfully gilded anti-solipsisms will whip your ride.

~ Jeffrey Cyphers Wright

Allan Graubard’s poems, fiction, literary criticism and theater works are published and performed in the U.S., Canada, Brazil, Chile, U.K., and the E.U., with translation into numerous languages. His books include: *A Crescent by Any Other Name*, (Anon Editions, NY/LA, 2017); *Sirenes* (Phasm Press, NY, 2016); *Targets* (Anon Editions, NY/LA, 2013); *And tell tulip the summer* (Quattro Editions, Toronto, 2011); *Roma Amor* (Spuyten Duyvil Press, NY, 2010); *Ascent of Sublime Love* (MDS Editions, SF, 1986), and others. Of his theater works, there are: *Erotic Eulogy* and *Modette* (collaborations with composer-conductor Lawrence D. “Butch” Morris); *Woman Bomb/Sade*; *For Alejandra*; *Lache pas la patate*, and others.



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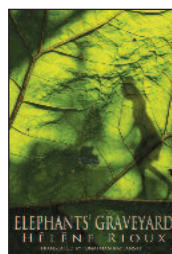
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