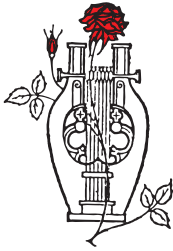




Fall
2021

Ekstasis Editions



Welcome to the Ekstasis Editions Fall 2021 catalogue. As we celebrate 39 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 this season allows us to publish new non-fiction by **Robert Lalonde**. We also present new fiction by **Harpreet Singh Sekha**, and new poetry by **Franci Louann**, **Elizabeth Cunningham**, **Elana Wolff**, **Rhonda Batchelor**, **Pasquale Verdicchio**, **Ilya Tourtidis**, **Deborah Kelly**, and **Arianna Dagnino**. As well, we are pleased to release a volume of essays on the world and literature by **Richard Wirick**.

Ekstasis Editions has been characterized by a creative spirit and resilience during more than 39 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 39 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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Prism

HARPREET SINGH SEKHA

A sensitive and observant writer describes the toil and true grit of immigrants, our agonizing moral choices between a previous generation's standards of honor and the demands of an unfamiliar world. Along the way, each character shows how love or desperation can guide us to re-imagine and transform our futures. These are stories to inspire and replenish our resilience.

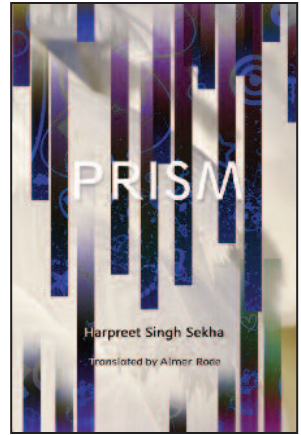
~ Shauna Singh Baldwin

Harpreet Sekha is a fiction and non-fiction Punjabi author based in Surrey, BC, Canada, as he migrated to Canada with his parents in 1988. Harpreet's written work explores themes and experiences that resonate with South Asian Canadians, such as gender inequality, social justice, and the migrant experience. Harpreet's body of work includes the non-fiction work, *Taxinaama*; the novel, *Hanerey Raah*; and short story anthologies, *Bi Ji Muskra Paye*, *Baaran Boohey*, and *Prism*. Of these works, *Baaran Boohey* has been translated into Hindi, and *Taxinaama* into English. Harpreet's work has received academic recognition, as his work has been the focus of many students' M. Phil research. His work has also been adapted for the stage by many celebrated theatre artists and brought to film as well, in the form of a serial.

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

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

Review copies available.



ISBN 978-1-77171-420-4
Fiction
111 pages
5.5 x 8.5
\$24.95
Available
October 2021



Argentina Two

FRANCI LOUANN

Franci Louann's *Argentina Two / Uruguay Too / Cuba Tambien* is a delightful follow up to her earlier *Argentina poesía*. This volume is a rich, playful but serious romp through her travel adventures in three Latino cultures. Louann creates a hybrid form she calls poemoirs. Through her use of "Spanglish", readers will find themselves awakening inside another language. The pleasures of wine and exotic food merge with politics, social commentary, and intimate interconnections with friends and strangers. Louann's poems invite us to taste, touch, smell, hear, and see more deeply our capacity for intercommunion. The secular and the sacred become as one: "no soy católica / but somehow / it's about godliness / Sunday morning / in the cathedral's souvenir shop."

~ Susan McCaslin, author of *Heart Work*

Franci Louann lives and write in New Westminster, BC, which she calls "Qayqaytland", to honour the First Peoples there. Born Frances Louann Workman, she was first published as Fran Workman, in Dorothy Livesay's last anthology, *Woman's Eye: 12 BC poets* (Air, 1974). In 2010 Lipstick Press published *Beach Cardiology*. *Cuba Tambien*, originally named *Cuban Suite*, is the first manuscript that Franci has prepared with poems continuing in the same document. Ekstasis released *Argentina poesía* in 2020.

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

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

Review copies available.



ISBN 978-1-77171-446-4

Poetry

157 pages

6 x 9

\$24.95

Available

September 2021



Glass Houses

DEBORAH L. KELLY

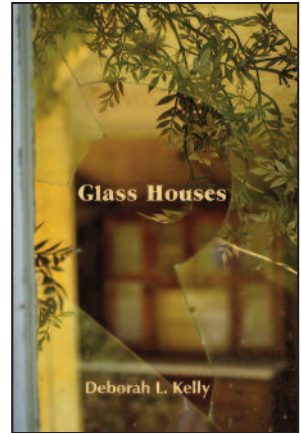
Glass Houses is about the underbelly; the darkness of society, with threads of light woven throughout its fabric. It poetically portrays the stealth of darkness: slowly, insidiously beginning its rise to prophecy. *Glass Houses* brings to light all those things society frantically sweeps under the collective carpet, until one with courage jumps on the dust and bares the dark side of humanity's Truth.

Deborah Kelly has been writing poetry for more than 40 years. Having found poetry in her teenage years, she discovered it helped her to cope with the conditions around her during her youth. Over the years, Deborah has written upwards of a thousand works, and began to recite and experience other aspects of the wonderful and healing world of poetry in 2010. Ms Kelly is the author of 5 published books of poetry, and one Chapbook; both in Canada and Internationally; she always enjoys a new challenge. An award winning poet and short story writer, she lives in the beautiful forests, edging 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 978-1-77171-442-6

Poetry

76 pages

6 x 9

\$23.95

Available

September 2021



Shape Taking

ELANA WOLFF

The poems in *Shape Taking* tend to the betwixt, beyond and out of bounds. They speak to living, dreaming and imagining in times of inner and global flux; seek connectivity in disparate things, and contend with the unreasonableness of miracle. They want to believe, with work, that the brain can change.

Elana Wolff is the author of seven collections of poetry and a collection of essays on poems. She has also co-authored, with the late Malca Litovitz, a collection of rengas; co-authored, with Susie Petersiel Berg, a limited-edition chapbook of poems; and co-translated, with Menachem Wolff, poems from the Hebrew by Georg Mordechai Langer. Elana's poems and creative nonfiction pieces have appeared in Canada and internationally and have garnered awards. She has taught English for Academic Purposes at York University in Toronto and at The Hebrew University in Jerusalem. She currently lives and works in Thornhill, Ontario. Elana's sixth collection, *Swoon* (Guernica Editions, 2020), received the 2020 Canadian Jewish Literary Award for Poetry. *Shape Taking* is her seventh book of poems.

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

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

Review copies available.



ISBN 978-1-77171-444-0
Poetry
80 pages
6 x 9
\$23.95
Available
September 2021



Allow Me

RHONDA BATCHELOR

These are tender, grave poems and it's as though the poet is encountering everything—a fox, a tunnel, a lily, a sunset—for the first and last time. *Allow Me* is an eyes-cracked meditation on time, what we do with it, and how it treats us. We must pay attention to the silences between comings and goings, between lines and stanzas and poems; the poems themselves are loud with life and what comes to life from the other side.

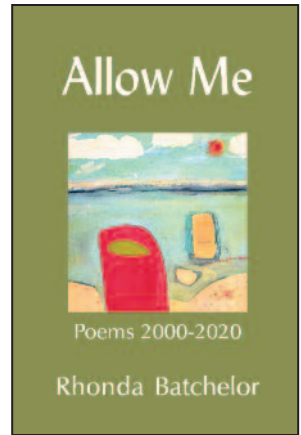
~ Michael Kenyon, author of *Travellers May Still Return*

Rhonda Batchelor has worked in and around publishing, as a writer, editor, publisher, bookseller, and consultant, since the 1970s. She and her late husband, the poet Charles Lillard, operated Reference West Press, publishing over 100 chapbooks by some of Canada's finest writers. The accompanying readings, The Hawthorne Series, ran from 1990 to 2000. Her own poetry titles include *Bearings* (Brick Books), *Interpreting Silence* (Beach Holme), and *Weather Report* (Dundurn Press). She recently retired as a long-time assistant editor of *The Malahat Review* and lives in Victoria, British Columbia.

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

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

Review copies available.



ISBN 978-1-77171-448-8
Poetry
83 pages
6 x 9
\$23.95
Available
September 2021



Only You

PASQUALE VERDICCHIO

Language is always about transitions, and these compositions represent transitional moments experienced with others. From a child's first responses to the world, to a mother's last words, from the incongruities of cross-language dialogues, to the frame narratives of lives lived within multiple cultural contexts, the words contained within these pages are the expression of a need to shave communication as close to silence as possible. *Only You* is an invitation to contemplate our singularity not as individualism but as communal and participatory.

Pasquale Verdicchio has published a number of books of translation and his own poetry through presses in Canada and the U.S. *This Nothing's Place* (Guernica) received a Bressani Prize for Poetry in 2010. As a translator, he has published works by Pier Paolo Pasolini, Antonio Gramsci, Giorgio Caproni and Alda Merini among others. His translation of Vivian Lamarque's *The Golden Man* was published by Ekstasis in 2016. His essays on poetry, film, literature and the environment have appeared in journals and in book form in North America and Europe. Verdicchio is Emeritus Professor at the University of California, San Diego, where he taught literature, film and writing from 1986 to 2021.

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

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

Review copies available.



ISBN 978-1-77171-430-3

Poetry

95 pages

6 x 9

\$23.95

Available

September 2021



The Fire We Share

ILYA TOURTIDIS

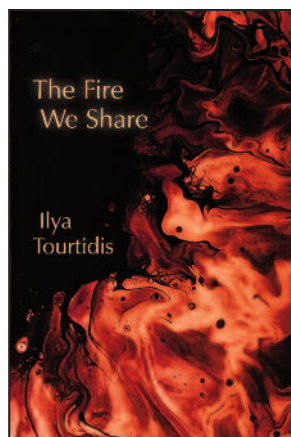
It would seem that an integral part of our mortality is our capacity to not know. To a divine observer, this may be viewed as intriguing but to us mere mortals this capacity to not know can only be internalized as a burden. A burden that flares through the human experience like fire and inspires us to stir the alchemy of our existence as we search for meaning. Perhaps it is this labour...this creative twirling through the chaos imbedded in our lives that nurtures the heroic hope we have: that regardless of what we do not know, the act of reaching for what we can only imagine but cannot hold, is the way to fulfilment.

Ilya Tourtidis was born in Greece in 1949. He emigrated to Australia when he was four years old and to Canada when he was fifteen. Educated at the University of Victoria, he worked as a teacher and later as a counselor in the Comox Valley where he now resides. He was co-winner of the Gerald Lampert Award in 1994 for his first book of poems *Mad Magellan's Tale* (Sono Nis Press, 1993). A subsequent collection of his poetry, *The Spell of Memory* was published by Oolichan Books (2004). This was followed by *Path of Descent and Devotion* (Libros Libertad, 2009), *Bright Bardo* (Libros Libertad, 2011) and *Romancing Eternity* (Ekstasis, 2017).

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

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

Review copies available.



ISBN 978-1-77171-456-3

Poetry

88 pages

6 x 9

\$23.95

Available

October 2021



Watching the Light Below the Storm

ELIZABETH CUNNINGHAM

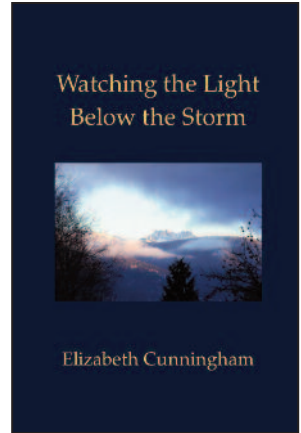
Watching the Light Below the Storm finds its source of inspiration in family and in nature; the poems are rooted in keen observation of the daily perceptions of eye, ear and heart. They are mirrored by subtle, haunting photographs. Contemplate these poems from a place of natural quiet outside the rumble of city life. Cunningham writes with that rare gift of etching gritty and everyday truths in light. Laced with wonder and subtle irony, her poetry describes people facing into their mortality and aging, human life cradled by the natural world, and the close bonds forged as we discover together that we share the vulnerability of children and the fragility of aging.

Born in Toronto, **Elizabeth Cunningham** moved to Eden Mills, near Guelph, with her three children and husband for a teaching position in the 90's, Elizabeth volunteered for many years at the Eden Mills Writer's Festival where eventually she read her own poetry after winning first prize in the literary competition at that event in 2015. This award encouraged her to keep working towards publishing this collection of poetry. Now residing in Nelson, B.C. with composer Doug Jamieson, her partner for over 40 years, Elizabeth spends her time exploring the mountains, playing with her grandchildren, writing, teaching, photography, music, and enjoying her practice as an Expressive Arts Therapist.

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

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

Review copies available.



ISBN 978-1-77171-422-8

Poetry

135 pages

6 x 9

\$26.95

Available

November 2021



Seaborn Eyes

ARIANNA DAGNINO

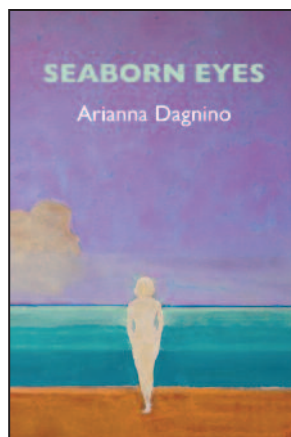
We are all born in the confined sea of our mother's womb. but once we realize we belong to the infinite ocean of life, we act like selkies drawn to those wider horizons. The poems of *Seaborn Eyes* can be read in many ways, depending on your "seaborn eyes." They are deeply private messages from the inside person we wish someone else could know; fleeting reports of universal longings that people can use as they like, like good song lyrics – both urgent and wistful. To a more basic level, they are chronically hopeful odes written by someone who is missing who she used to be.

Over the years **Arianna Dagnino** has built an international experience as a lecturer, writer and literary translator. She was raised by the sea in Liguria, Italy; later on she lived in London, Moscow, Boston and Johannesburg before moving to Adelaide, Australia, by the ocean, where she obtained a PhD in Comparative Literature. She currently teaches at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, on another shore. Arianna has written across genres and languages (English and Italian) as much as she has lived across borders. Among her books, the transcultural novel and screenplay *The Afrikaner* (Guernica, Toronto, 2019; also available in audio-book), inspired by the five years she spent in South Africa as an international reporter, and the creative nonfiction *Il quintetto d'Istanbul* (Ensemble, Roma, 2021), a fictionalized account of her encounters with five renowned authors met on the transcultural frontier. *Seaborn Eyes* is her first collection of poems.

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

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

Review copies available.



ISBN 978-1-77171-450-1
Poetry
59 pages
6 x 9
\$23.95
Available
November 2021



Hat of Candles

RICHARD WIRICK

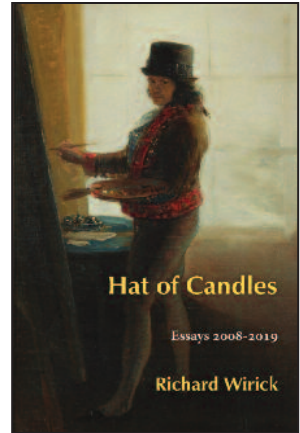
Hat of Candles is a sparkling and trenchant collection of non-fiction ranging over qualities of mind that preoccupy most thinking people of our time. The wide range of essays on literature feature illuminations of that sullen art from numerous countries and many languages. Every page offers new discoveries, new climes whose lakes and peaks are traced with Wirick's impeccable poetic style. The portraits of individuals—writers, murderers, Balinese cockfighters—jump out with the vividness of cinema. This is a dazzling collection, encompassing all that we care about, and much that we should.

Richard Wirick is the author of four books that have been translated into more than ten languages. *One Hundred Siberian Postcards* (2006), short memoir-fiction pieces, was a *London Times* Notable Book and nominated for the PEN/Bingham Award for best first work by an American writer. It was followed by another story collection, *Kicking In* (2010). The novel *The Devil's Water* was published in 2014, and a new novel, *Volta: Chapters Of The Ghost Year*, is forthcoming in 2022, as well as a third story collection. He writes for a wide variety of periodicals in the U.S. and U.K., and is a senior voting member of the National Book Critics Circle. Originally from the Midwest, he practices law in Los Angeles, where he lives with his family.

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

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

Review copies available.



ISBN978-1-77171-440-2

Essays

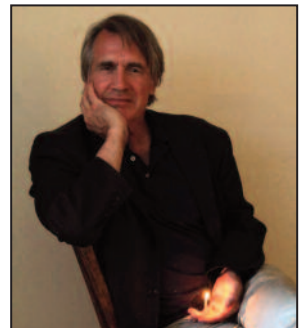
379 pages

5.5 x 8.5

\$25.95

Available

July 2021



Rebuilding Paradise

ROBERT LALONDE

translated by Jean-Paul Murray

On a cold December night, Robert Lalonde's house burned to the ground. Built and lovingly maintained over the last forty years with his wife, their home was reduced to a pile of rubble and ashes in the middle of a devastated garden. Firemen tried to save the four thousand books inside the burning house—alas, mostly in vain. Though reduced to ashes and smoke, the books were waiting to be reborn. Sifting through the burnt debris, the author finds, unscathed, Walt Whitman's *Leaves of Grass*. "I think I'm going to translate Whitman! All *Leaves of Grass*!" he tells his wife. "That'll keep me busy!"

Punctuated with passages from the great American poet's masterpiece, this book tells the story of how the writer, driven out of one paradise to witness the building of another, passionately regains a zest for a completely new life. From this tragedy, Robert Lalonde drew inspiration to write one of his most luminous books.

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 978-1-77171-454-9

Non-Fiction

131 pages

5.5 x 8.5

\$25.95

Available

November 2021

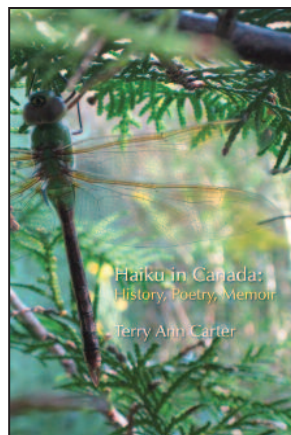


Haiku in Canada: History, Poetry, Memoir

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.



ISBN 978-1-77171-382-5
Non-Fiction
111 pages
5.5 x 8.5
\$24.95
Now Available



There Once Was a Camel

P.K. PAGE

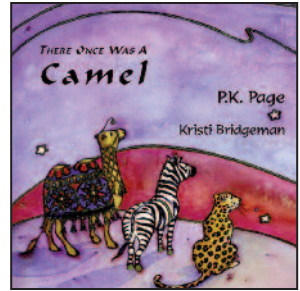
& KRISTI BRIDGEMAN

*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.

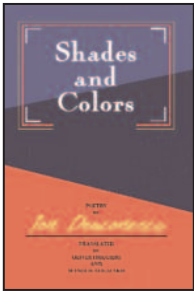
The late **P.K. Page** is one of Canada's most esteemed poets whose literary career spanned over five decades. She was the author of some twenty books including ten volumes of poetry in addition to memoir, fiction and children's titles. Winner of the Governor General's Award for Poetry in 1957, P.K.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



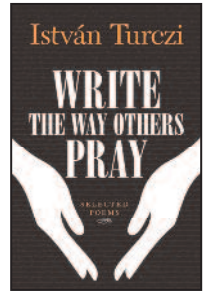
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Children's picture book
32 pages
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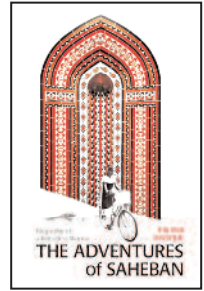
Ion Deaconescu
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István Turczi
Write the Way Others Pray
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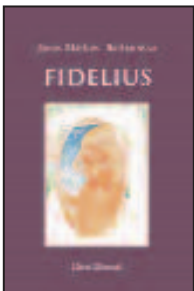
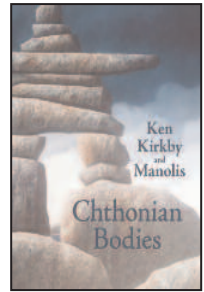
ΚΑΡΟΛΟΣ ΦΕΛΙΝΓΚΕΡ
ΦΩΣ ΣΤΙΣ ΠΕΥΚΟΒΕΛΟΝΕΣ
 ISBN: 9789267630484
 Paperback 5.5 x 8.5 in
 94 pages, \$20.00

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



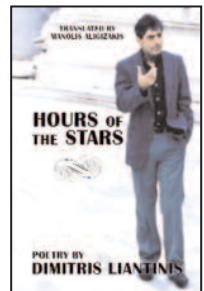
translated by Manolis Karyotakis-Polydouri:
The Tragic Love Story
 ISBN: 9781926763453
 Paperback 6.0 x 9.0 in
 122 pages, \$20.00

Ken Kirkby & Manolis
Chthonian Bodies
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 Paperback 8.5 x 10.0 in
 102 pages, \$48.00



János Márkus-Barbarossa
Fidelius
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 Paperback 6.0 x 9.0 in
 115 pages, \$20.00

Dimitris Liantinis
Hours of the Stars
 ISBN: 9789267630415
 Paperback 5.5 x 8.5 in
 86 pages, \$20.00

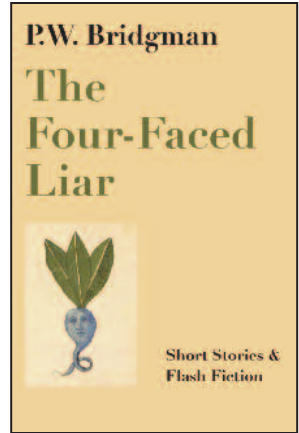


The Four-Faced Liar

P.W. BRIDGMAN

As is evident in his previous books, P.W. Bridgman’s imagination is curiously nomadic and adventurous. Informed by his family history, his extensive travels and his life experience across three careers, Bridgman dips his writerly ladle into many wells in the course of serving up this latest fictional fare for his readers. These newest stories reflect the cadences and colour of life and spoken language, not only in urban and rural Canada but in Northern Ireland and England as well. At times unsentimentally tender, and at others prickly and discomfiting, the stories in *The Four-Faced Liar* continue Bridgman’s explorations of love, loss, life, death, redemption and the surprisingly banal, everyday face of evil.

P.W. Bridgman writes from Vancouver, Canada. He has worked, variously, as a cobbler’s helper, a grocery boy, a delivery driver, a general labourer and electrician’s helper at a paper mill, a child behaviour therapy clinician and researcher, an autism treatment program director, a member of the editorial board of a psychological journal, a university law faculty research assistant, an articulated student-at-law, a barrister, the editor-in-chief of two legal journals, and a judge. His first book—a selection of short stories entitled *Standing at an Angle to My Age*—was published by Libros Libertad in 2013. His second—a selection of mostly narrative poems entitled *A Lamb*—appeared under the Ekstasis Editions imprint in 2018.



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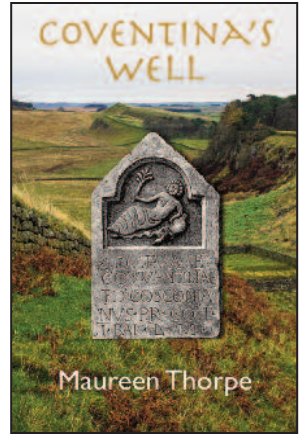


Coventina's Well

MAUREEN THORPE

A spellbinding journey through time and cultures... In *Coventina's Well*, three women, each from a different century, find themselves on a hazardous journey from the Roman Fort of Eboracum (York) to Hadrian's Wall on the roof of England. Annie Thornton, modern midwife and witch, joins her hereditary witchy Aunt Meg to aid the ailing young wife of the Fort Commander in 296 A.D. Without explanation, Aunt Meg disappears. Annie becomes a fugitive from the Roman Army and seeks help from local natives and her old 15th century adventurers, ex-soldiers Will and Jack. As the three women separately venture north, the complex relationship between the Celtic tribes and their Roman conquerors is exposed. Meanwhile, back in Eboracum, disaster awaits. Once again, vivid historical detail, combined with magic realism and human fallibilities, take the reader on a fascinating journey through time.

Maureen Thorpe was raised in Yorkshire and now lives in Invermere, B.C. After a career as a nurse, yoga instructor and running coach, Maureen started writing fiction, drawing upon her background and interest in history. Since releasing *Tangle of Time* in 2018 she has shared presentations on medieval England in libraries and community centres.



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Crying Houses & Other Catastrophes

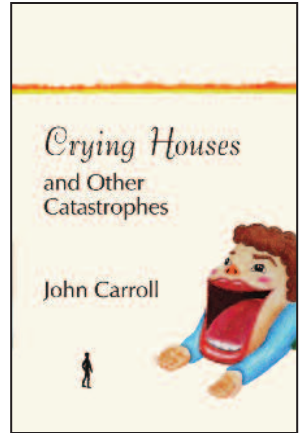
JOHN CARROLL

A daughter learns from her father how to thrive beyond the reach of conventional morality; paranoia convinces someone their alphabet soup has been hacked; a bored teenager decides his fate is selling rocking chairs for a living; a jolly lady tries to infuse life back into the hopeless residents of a “crying house”; the Lying Machine spits out “alternative facts”; —in this collection of narratives set against a backdrop of encroaching menace, victims struggle to preserve their threatened humanity. *Crying Houses* limns the destinies of heroes and fools who confront the calamitous demands of a world on the cusp.

Poignant, witty, terse, ferociously honest and full of dark humor—John Carroll’s *Crying Houses* raises contentious yet relevant questions faced by humanity as it navigates a constantly monitored life in a world eternally divided on political, religious and ideological lines.

~ Rajnish Dhawan, author of *That Land Beyond the Waves*

John Carroll is a director, actor, writer, and professor emeritus. He lives in the Fraser Valley, British Columbia.



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The River Answers

JUDE NEALE

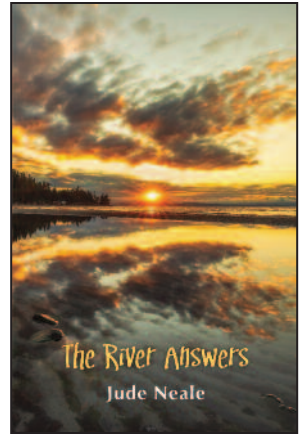
Leonard Cohen sang “They are leaning out for love and they will lean that way forever” and here Jude Neale is leaning in her quest for love, leaning into light, and “into the dark” through memory, through dreams and the substance of ordinary things. She calls for tenderness to birth love and kindness as she lets a river of words answer.

~ Daniel Scott, author of *Aftertime*

Jude Neale’s poems are full of questions that make us lean closer in to answer. They speak of love with a wisdom gathered from childhood through half-opened eyelids in the dusk. These poems are generous; they toss up the scenes of a life and offer them like food. And fearless in their selection. This is her gift: the poet’s eye, the image paired with the sound that rings for years. She always finds the one small door that will open me on any particular day. Then, tell me, she asks, what did you see?

~ Ursula Vaira, author of *And See What Happens*

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 of poetry.



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Speaking in Tongues

H.C. TEN BERGE

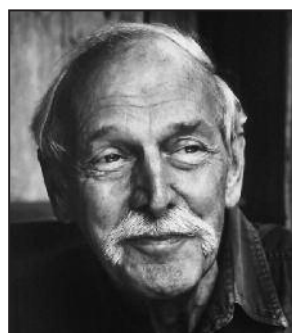
translated by Pleuke Boyce

Speaking in Tongues should come as a welcome surprise to English-language readers, as it not only opens new doors, but also presents exciting technical challenges. **H.C. ten Berge** is a master of many genres, but poetry informs all of his writing. In this generous new selection of poems and poem-sequences translated into English—his first publication in book form in North America—we follow the exciting trajectory of the poet from his initial collection, *Poolsneeuw* (*Polar Snow*) in 1964, to his most recent, *In tongen spreken* (*Speaking in Tongues*), which came out in 2020. His poetry is nourished and influenced not only by the contemporary world, but also by the European Middle Ages and earlier civilizations. A major voice in The Netherlands, Ten Berge has won many prizes and distinctions, including the prestigious P.C. Hooft Award (2006), the jury celebrating that he “has opened Dutch poetry to worlds that until then had gone unnoticed.”

H.C. ten Berge was born in 1938 in Alkmaar, the Netherlands. One of Holland’s most important poets, he is the author of a large body of work that includes not only poetry but also novels, novellas, essays and translations. Apart from translating from modern languages, he collected and translated poetry and myths of the Aztecs, Inuit, Eastern Siberian Peoples and First Nations of the Pacific Northwest. He has received many awards for his work, including the most important and prestigious oeuvre prize in the Netherlands, the P.C. Hooft Award.



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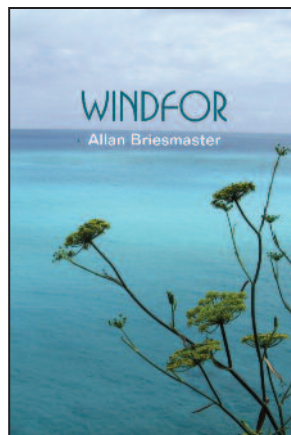


Windfor

ALLAN BRIESMASTER

The poems in *Windfor* invite readers to explore three broad areas of concern that are at once intimate and universal. The first section presents pivotal episodes from early childhood through late middle age. Autobiographic elements interweave with motifs of travel and restless motion. The second section anxiously examines personal relationships that will sometimes give gifts of dissonance, further complicated by the dilemma of those who chafe at the wide harm of a globalized technocratic culture. The third section fondly immerses in outdoor scenes, shadowed by the awareness of markets oblivious to a climate out-of-kilter. Throughout the book, an ingenious use of varied forms and styles lends vitality to an abundance of ideas and metaphors.

Allan Briesmaster is a freelance editor and publisher. He was a founding partner in Quattro Books and currently runs his own literary press, Aeolus House. He is the author of eight books of poetry, most recently *The Long Bond: Selected and New Poems* (Guernica Editions, 2019), and he has read his work, given talks, and hosted literary events across Canada. He lives in Thornhill, Ontario.



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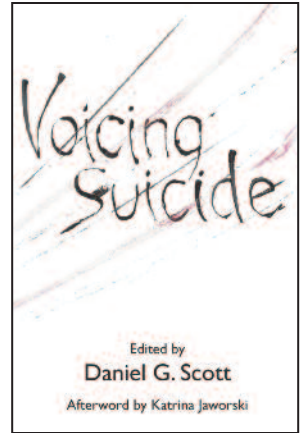


Voicing Suicide

EDITED BY DANIEL G SCOTT

Voicing Suicide is a collection of poems about suicide and its impact on lives. The book arises out of a conviction that poetry offers an opportunity to understand some of the difficult aspects of suicide by allowing us to give it voice; through memory, and elegy, through an honest declaration of the draw of death. In poetry, we can enter the spaces suicide shapes around loss and sorrow and give it voice. Poems can speak to the loss of a loved one, to considering suicide, to struggling to make sense of suicide and poems can offer the words of those who have suicided. Although intense and sometimes painful the book is honest, in moments delicate and tender. It offers an important exploration of suicide by writers who have been close to suicide and speak of it without disguise.

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 is an Associate Professor Emeritus, University of Victoria, School of Child and Youth Care, father and grandfather.



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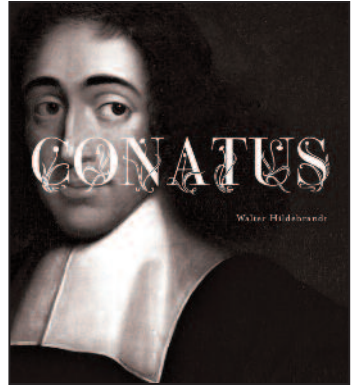


Conatus

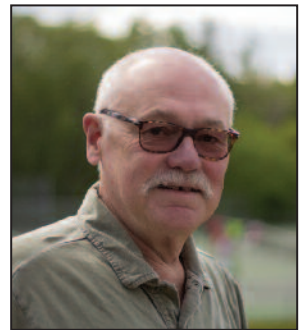
WALTER HILDEBRANDT

While reading Leonardo Padura’s novel *Heretics* Hildebrandt became fascinated by the tolerance that existed in Havana Cuba, and Amsterdam in the Netherlands. These two cities became havens and harbours for Sephardic Jews initially driven out of the Middle East by Romans, then persecuted in Spain and Portugal by the Inquisitions of the Catholic Church. Hildebrandt uses a wide variety of people and characters to bring us a greater understanding of the two remarkable cities. These include Rembrandt, Spinoza, and the fictional characters detective Mario Conde, Elias and Judy from *Heretics*. This long poem is powerful, thought-provoking and engaging. Like his other long poems, Hildebrandt draws on an array of disciplines and forms, including history, culture, philosophy, fiction and diverse lyric and narrative poetics. In these troubled, increasingly intolerant times, *Conatus* is an important read.

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 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 thirteenth book of poetry.



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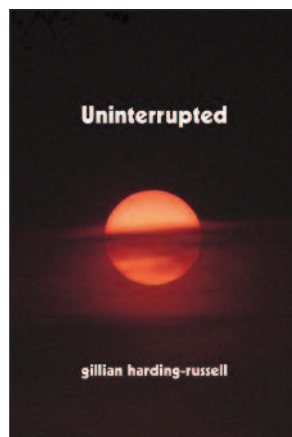


Uninterrupted

GILLIAN HARDING-RUSSELL

Nature in its beauty and dynamism is a fragile system that could be lost to us – though it will continue in some form without us. ‘Uninterrupted’ nature was once our home and identity, one that we looked to for meaning and solace, a world larger than ourselves – but lately we seem to have forgotten our place in the cosmos. These poems of warning evoke terror in recognition of what could be our future. Yet they are written out of love for what could be lost and they search for what may be wrong in ourselves.

Regina poet, editor and reviewer **gillian harding-russell** has published in journals across Canada and her poems have been anthologized in seventeen collections. Her recent poetry collection, *In Another Air* (Radiant 2018), was shortlisted for a City of Regina Saskatchewan Book Award. Her work has been shortlisted or has won the Thomas Morton Award, gritLIT and Exile’s Gwendolyn MacEwen chapbook competitions. She received a Ph.D. from the University of Saskatchewan, completing her dissertation on postmodern Canadian poetry. *Uninterrupted* is her fifth poetry collection.



ISBN 978-1-77171-410-5
 Poetry
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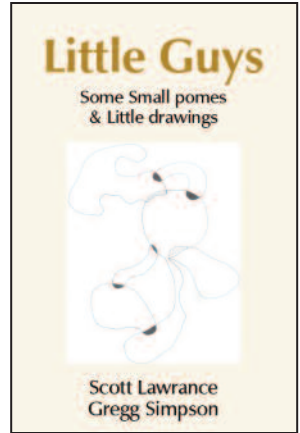
Little Guys

SCOTT LAWRENCE & GREGG SIMPSON

Growing up within a block of one another, when they weren't in the forest out back, Gregg & Scott spent days on the living room floor, teleporting and time travelling with their Little Guys through planetary spheres, frontier forts, and medieval castles. They have stayed with the Imaginal through further collaborations, starting with *apocolips*, in 1967. In *Little Guys*, they continue their play on behalf of the gods, the small ones, the ones who care not for Big, Here are intertwined words and images from the shores and forests of the Salish Sea, settling into place.

Scott Lawrence grew up outside on the fringes of Vancouver, B.C. He currently works as a Wilderness Rites-of-Passage facilitator and is busily engaged in encouraging his children and grand-children to get into as much of the good kind of trouble as they can.

Born in Ottawa in 1947, Bowen Island artist **Gregg Simpson** has been active in visual art, music, video and multi-media performances since the mid-1960s. He was instrumental in the early developments in Vancouver's 1960s "golden age" of multi-media, such as the Sound Gallery and Intermedia.



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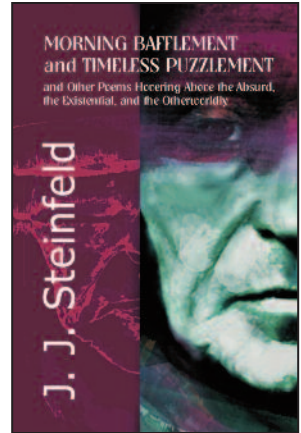


Morning Bafflement and Timeless Puzzlement

J. J. STEINFELD

The 102 poems of *Morning Bafflement and Timeless Puzzlement* continue the dialogue with and a questioning of the human condition as they hover above what the author sees as the absurd, the existential, and otherworldly elements of life, the ordinary and the extraordinary spheres of being, that J. J. Steinfeld embarked upon in his previous Ekstasis Editions poetry collection, *A Visit to the Kafka Café* (2018). These poems once again attempt to make sense out the way we conduct our lives, to find meaning in our not always meaningful surroundings, to look at individuals caught in the sometimes joyous, sometimes frightening, yet endlessly fascinating moments of existence and being.

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 twenty-one books: two novels, thirteen short story collections, and six poetry collections, along with five chap-books of poetry and fiction. Over fifty 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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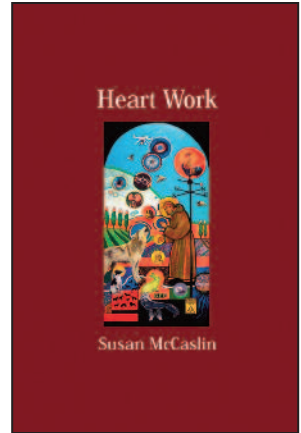


Heart Work

SUSAN MCCASLIN

Over the decades Susan McCaslin’s body of poetry has gravitated to openings where contemplative poetry and social justice kiss. *Heart Work* explores the non-dual regions of “the educated heart” where heart and mind, feeling and thinking conjoin. Hildegard of Bingen, Julian of Norwich, and John Keats whirl together in liminal and earthy places where beliefs and concepts open to unknowing and mystery. Her breathtaking union of minimalist, Zen-like poems paired with her husband’s powerful photos in “Cariboo Fires, 2017,” and her sequence on living during the pandemic, “Corona Corona,” offer hope by tying the cosmic to the particular and the everyday.

Susan McCaslin is a Canadian poet from Fort Langley, British Columbia who has published fifteen volumes of poetry, including her most recent, *Into the Open: Poems New and Selected* (Inanna, 2017). She has recently collaborated with J.S. Porter on a volume of creative non-fiction, *Superabundantly Alive: Thomas Merton’s Dance with the Feminine* (Wood Lake, 2018). Her *Demeter Goes Skydiving* (University of Alberta Press, 2012) was shortlisted for the BC Book Prize for Poetry (Dorothy Livesay Award) and the first-place winner of the Alberta Book Publishing Award (Robert Kroetsch Poetry Book Award) in 2012. That year, she initiated The Han Shan Poetry Project in a successful effort to help save a rainforest near her home along the Fraser River in Glen Valley.



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In Praise of Small Mistakes

LESLEY CHOYCE

We learn from our mistakes more often than from our success. In *In Praise of Small Mistakes* the title poem sets the stage for an unlikely and engaging examination of the minor and major events of a life. The events are perhaps down to earth but Choyce comes at them from curious angles and presents his own singular interpretation of what the world offers up to an engaging mind. The geography is home on the coast of Nova Scotia but also on the streets of England, France, Italy, Greece and Germany. Wandering through these landscapes, Choyce provides a virtual tour of the real and the imagined through the lens of language that speaks of both perplexity and awe.

Lesley Choyce is the author of 100 books of literary fiction, poetry, creative nonfiction and young adult novels. He runs Pottersfield Press and has worked as editor with a wide range of Canadian authors. Choyce has been teaching English and Creative Writing at Dalhousie and other universities for over thirty years. He has won The Dartmouth Book Award, The Atlantic Poetry Prize and The Ann Connor Brimer Award and has been short-listed for the Governor-General's Award. He surfs year round in the North Atlantic. He lives in Lawrencetown Beach, Nova Scotia.



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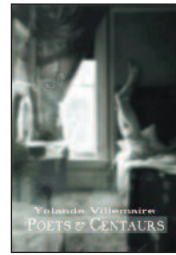
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