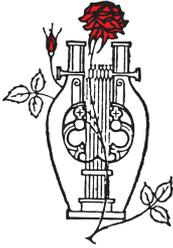




Ekstasis Editions
Spring 2018



Welcome to the Ekstasis Editions Spring 2018 catalogue. As we celebrate 36 years of publishing, Ekstasis has some extraordinary offerings this Spring.

Ekstasis Editions produced its first book in Victoria in 1982, and has gone on to publish over three hundred fine volumes of today's best literature. In this season we are grateful to the Canada Council for the Arts for their continued support of the revival of our translation series, now called "Passport to the Imagination," which allows us to publish poetry by **Larry Tremblay** and **Hugues Corriveau**. This season we also present a new novel from **Manolis**, and poetry from **Dvora Levin**, **Len Gasparini**, **Surjeet Kalsey**, **Elizabeth Cunningham**, **Jude Neale**, **Bonnie Nish** and **John La Greca**, as well as a new English/Chinese bilingual edition of poetry from **Andrew Parkin**.

Ekstasis Editions has been characterized by a creative spirit and resilience during more than 35 years of remarkable growth. From early books of poetry, meticulously produced by hand, to a stimulating front and backlist of fiction, criticism, metaphysics, non-fiction and children's books, Ekstasis Editions has maintained the commitment to literature that inspired its creation. From newly translated fiction to drama and a healthy variety of poetic passions, our books will nourish the hungry mind and satisfy the longing spirit, as they have for the last 35 years. Join us in this literary adventure as we forge into our next thirty five years of publishing!

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

Richard Olafson, Publisher



Funded by the
Government
of Canada

Canada

Ekstasis Editions acknowledges the support of the Government of Canada and of the Canada Council for the Arts and the Canada Council for the Arts translation program.

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The Quest

MANOLIS

The Quest is the story about a young boy's dream of someday returning to his family's home on the island of Crete. Pericles grew up listening to his grandfather tell stories of the Greek myths and life in the family's former home. By the time Pericles is old enough to embark on his quest, Romania is in Communist hands and it is impossible to leave the country. Determined, Pericles travels on foot, alone through the mountains. Eventually he arrives in Greece, but the country is under a dictatorship. The people of Greece are impoverished and disillusioned. Pericles makes his way by boat to Crete, but life there isn't as carefree as his grandfather had described. What is most surprising is the shocking revelation that he learns about his grandfather. Disappointed but undeterred, Pericles leaves Crete, setting off on a new quest to make a better life for himself.

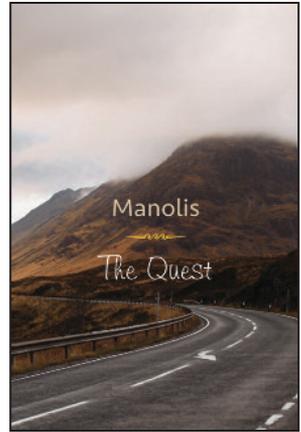
Today, the stories of refugees crossing borders in search of a better, safer life make Pericles' quest all too familiar.

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 978-1-77171-283-5

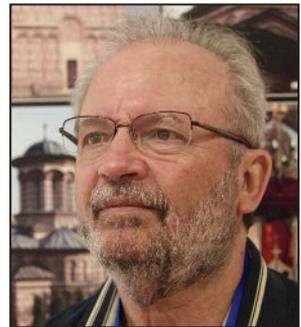
Fiction

242 Pages

5.5 x 8.5

\$25.95

Available June 2018



Star With a Thousand Moons

ANDREW PARKIN

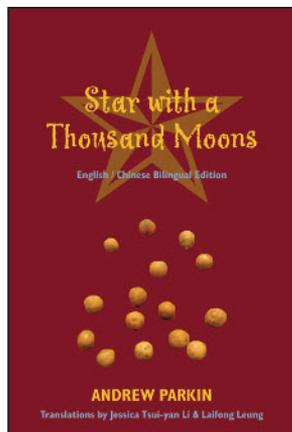
Star With a Thousand Moons appeared in English from Ekstasis in 2011. Ekstasis now presents the poems translated into Chinese by Laifong Leung and Jessica Li with the original English *en face*. “Star of a Hundred Years” is a tribute to the late Run Run Shaw, father of many Chinese movies. It mixes the Greek ode to the conventions of a film scenario to point up Chinese history, film as an art, and fragments of a film producer’s life. “Gourds” is a collection of lyrical fragments that evoke the Chinese past of Taoist legend, the wars of princes, and the loves of wives and concubines. Dry gourds about the size of billiard balls are engraved with scenes and characters from Chinese legend and literature. The poems were suggested by a personal collection of gourds.

Andrew Parkin has been Canadian since 1970. Educated at Pembroke College Cambridge and the Drama Department of Bristol University, he has taught at UBC and at the Chinese University of Hong Kong, where he instigated Chinese-English poetry readings involving several distinguished Chinese poets. His first three collections of original poetry, including *Yokohama Days*, *Kyoto Nights* (Ekstasis Editions) were published in Canada. He now writes poetry, fiction and academic essays full-time in Vancouver.

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

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Review copies available.



ISBN 978-1-77171-269-9

Poetry

98 Pages

6 x 9

\$23.95

Available April 2018



Reflections on Water

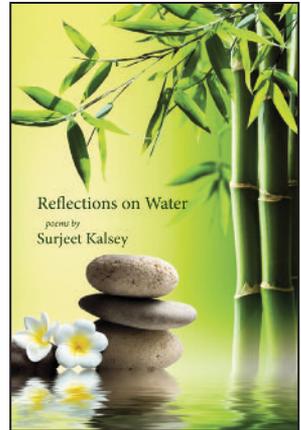
SURJEET KALSEY

Surjeet Kalsey is an outstanding South Asian Canadian writer who came to Canada in 1974 with a background in broadcasting, as a News Anchor of “*Pradeshik Samachar*” Regional News for All India Radio Chandigarh. Surjeet writes both in Punjabi and English and is the author of 19 books of poetry, short stories, drama, and translations, and has edited several books. Surjeet Kalsey was given B.C.’s Prestigious Writer’s Lifetime Achievement Award in 2014 for her dedication as a writer to the Punjabi Literature, language and culture in Canada for the last 40 years in an Award Ceremony on 1st May 2014 at Centre Stage, New Surrey City Hall, as a part of Late Harjit Kaur Memorial Program of the Department of Asian Studies in the University of British Columbia. As a social activist, Surjeet has worked intensively in the community to raise awareness about violence against women and children. Working many years with families who went through family violence, her writings especially short stories and drama reflect women’s issues.

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

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

Review copies available.



ISBN 978-1-77171-285-9

Poetry

102 Pages

6 x 9

\$23.95

Available April 2018



Shared Motion: Science and Spirituality

DVORA LEVIN

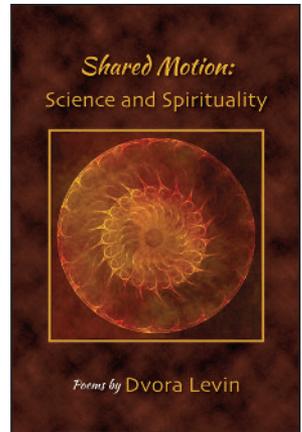
Shared Motion: Science and Spirituality is a timely collection that explores the complex relationship between science and spirituality, when many see science and religion in conflict, each determined to win. Others see them as two separate *magisteria*, answering different questions, while a few see them as elements of a unified whole. These poems will resonate especially with the growing number who identify as “spiritual but not religious”, as well as those studying the dynamic fields of quantum physics and cosmology, in their attempt to deepen their understanding of these evolving mysteries.

Once having been a Director for Social Change Projects in Victoria and Israel, **Dvora Levin** now devotes herself to poetry. She has published four collections of her own work: *To Bite The Blue Apple*, *Sharav*, *Ragged Light* (published by Ekstasis Editions) and a unique hand-bound book, *Zeroing In On Nothing*. Dvora also edited two poetry collections written by the homeless, sex workers and addicts in recovery: *Voices From The Edge* (Ekstasis Editions) and *Victoria On The Banks Of The Mainstream* (funded by the City). She continues to lead weekly poetry writing sessions with federal parolees living in a halfway house.

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

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

Review copies available.



ISBN 978-1-77171-281-1

Poetry

68 Pages

6 x 9

\$23.95

Available May 2018

158 Fragments for Francis Bacon

LARRY TREMBLAY

translated by Norman Cornett

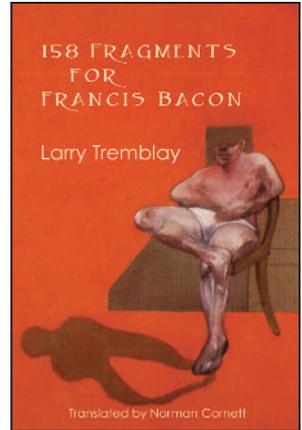
Concise and incisive, Larry Tremblay's poems in *158 Fragments for Francis Bacon* create a tessera of Bacon's troubled universe, revealing the artist's relationship to light and time. Tremblay has cultivated a special fascination for Francis Bacon's paintings: its theatre of bodies, the physicality of the soul and its metamorphosis into flesh.

Larry Tremblay is a writer, director, actor and specialist in Kathakali, an elaborate dance theatre form which he has studied on numerous trips to India. He has published more than twenty books as a playwright, poet, novelist and essayist, and he is one of Quebec's most-produced and translated playwrights (his plays have been translated into twelve languages). His novel, *The Bicycle Eater*, published by Leméac, was unanimously praised by the critics, and won the Prix Roman 2003 at the Salon du Livre in Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean and was a finalist for the Governor General's Award. In 2006 he was awarded the Canada Council Victor Martyn Lynch-Staunton Award for his contribution to the theatre. He was a finalist in 2008 and 2011 for the Siminovitch Prize. One of Quebec's most versatile writers, Tremblay currently teaches acting at l'École supérieure de théâtre de l'Université du Québec à Montréal.

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

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

Review copies available.



ISBN 978-1-77171-202-6

Poetry

179 Pages

6 x 9

\$23.95

Available May 2018



Words for the Traveler

HUGUES CORRIVEAU

translated by Antonio D'Alfonso

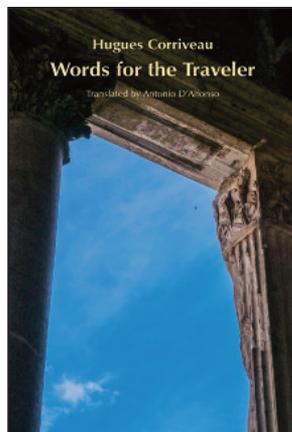
How to bring oneself to inhabit a foreign city? How to experience the everyday life found on streets that are not your own? Whether it be in poetic prose or in verse, the texts of *Words for the Traveler* become chanting and lament for travelers in search of answers when faced with unexpected change. One is asked to find in this book a need to survive at all cost, a obstinate desire for joy and incarnation. The noises of the world become a call to resist any sign of collapse. Poetry is a crossing, a path that leads to reality.

Poet, fiction and non-fiction writer **Hugues Corriveau** was poetry reviewer for Montreal's daily *Le Devoir* between 2006 and 2017. He also was a literary critic for *Lettres québécoises* between 1990 and 2011. A five-time finalist for the Governor General Award, he has written over thirty books since 1978. His writings have been recognized for their excellence; he has won the Alfred-Desrochers Award twice and the Grand Prix du livre de Sherbrooke. In 1999 he was offered the Alain-Grandbois Award for *Le livre du frère* (Book for a Brother). His latest novel, *La fêlure de Thomas*, was published in 2018. Hugues Corriveau lives in Montreal.

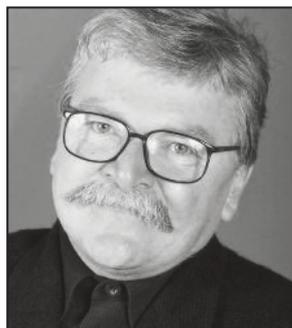
Ads: *Pacific Rim Review of Books*, *BC Bookworld*

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

Review copies available.



ISBN 978-1-77171-289-7
Poetry
76 Pages
5 x 8
\$23.95
Available May 2018



PASSPORT TO THE IMAGINATION

Homeless Memorial

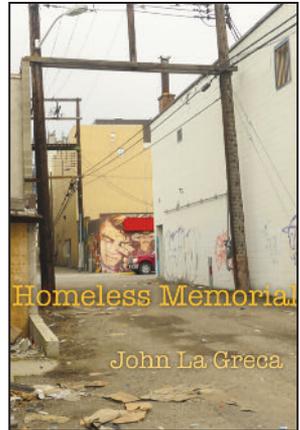
JOHN LA GRECA

John La Greca is Canada's Charles Bukowski, writing with deep and at times blistering honesty and humour of a side of Okanagan culture never seen in tourist brochures. For nearly fifty years, he has been our greatest poet of the streets. For all this time, he has lived with a mind given many diagnoses, including schizophrenia and obsessive compulsive disorder. He has been in and out of care since 1967, surviving on inadequate government and community support, drawn by poverty, curiosity and community into close relationships with homeless and disenfranchised people on the margins of society. Out of these circumstances, he has grown in strength, compassion and stature. As the streets where he spends his days and much of his nights have become increasingly the realm of a drug culture, he has struggled against an increasing sense of alienation from home. *Homeless Memorial* is John's remarkable record of a city he knows better than anyone else, which he places within the context of his extensive readings of history and world society. It is an affirmation of the power of art, a testament to love, and a challenge to any conception that considers schizophrenia or poverty as limiting handicaps on the spirit.

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

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

Review copies available.



ISBN 978-1-77171-275-0
Poetry
132 Pages
6 x 9
\$23.95
Available May 2018



The Social Life of String

LEN GASPARINI

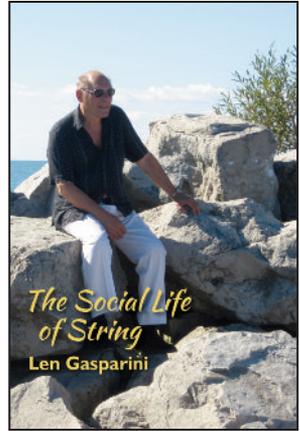
The Social Life of String is Len Gasparini’s first book of poetry since his *Collected Poems* (2015). With characteristic vigor and honesty, he continues his investigations into the themes that have absorbed his work from the beginning—the struggle to give expression and meaning to the experience and understanding of our situation in the world. Gasparini meditates on youth and mortality and natural phenomena in poems that pulse and shimmer with imagination. He writes with the vitality of a man coming to terms with his own life. Anyone who reads “Halloween 1945,” “A Walk Through Lanspeary Park,” or “Dog Star” can only agree.

Len Gasparini is the author of numerous books of poetry, including *The Broken World: Poems 1967-1998* and a collection for children, *I Once Had a Pet Praying Mantis*. He is the author of three story collections, *Blind Spot A Demon in My View* and *When Does a Kiss Become a Bite?*, and a work of nonfiction, *Erase Me*, with photographs by Leslie Thomson. In 1990, he was awarded the F. G. Bressani Literary Prize for poetry. He lives in Toronto.

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

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

Review copies available.



ISBN 978-1-77171-271-2

Poetry

74 Pages

6 x 9

\$23.95

Available June 2018



A Fragile Grace

ELIZABETH CUNNINGHAM

“*A Fragile Grace* is an impressive collection of poems that leaves no stone unturned. As an exploration of the natural landscape, it travels from the still winds above mountaintops to the roots beneath our feet, lingers where seasonal shifts create beautiful alchemy. Juxtaposing strength and vulnerability, it reflects on relationships past and present, on youth, aging, gracefully mapping the crescendos and diminuendos of both the human and natural world.”

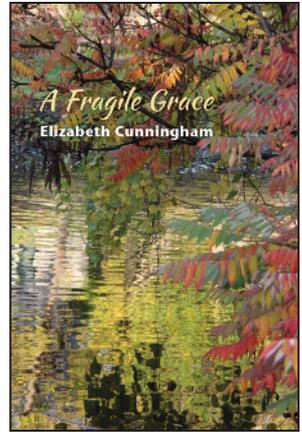
~ Leesa Dean, author of *Waiting for the Cyclone*

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 978-1-77171-291-0

Poetry

129 Pages

6 x 9

\$25.95

Available June 2018



Cantata in Two Voices

JUDE NEALE & BONNIE NISH

When two voices sing together in poetry they begin an exploration into a world that is rich and dynamic. *Cantata in Two Voices* is a book written over the course of three months in which each poet embraced an epigraph sent to them by the other. A third voice reaches into the hearts of these two women as they play back and forth with one another in words meant to make you think twice, listen deeply and in the end sing. The line by line format makes it impossible to distinguish between the two voices as they gradually meld into one. This is a poetic journey into unknown territory as Neale and Nish reveal themselves, lose heart, win games, respond to love and ultimately exist through the friendship forged together in the process of writing.

Jude Neale is a Canadian poet, vocalist, spoken word performer and mentor. She has written six books. Her book, *A Quiet Coming of Light, A Poetic Memoir* (leaf press), was a finalist for the 2015 Pat Lowther Memorial Award and three of its poems were nominated for the coveted Pushcart Prize (US) by three different publishers.

Bonnie Nish is Executive Director of Pandora's Collective Outreach Society. Her first book of poetry *Love and Bones* was released by Karma Press in 2013. Her latest book *Concussion and Mild TBI: Not Just Another Headline*, an anthology of concussion-related stories, was published by Lash and Associates in August 2016.

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

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

Review copies available.



ISBN 978-1-77171-279-8
 Poetry
 75 Pages
 6 x 9
 \$23.95
 Available June 2018

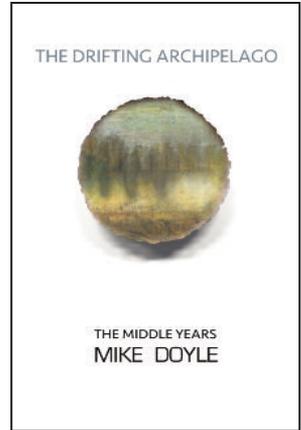


The Drifting Archipelago

MIKE DOYLE

The second volume of Doyle’s trilogy of memoirs that began with *Floating Islands* (2015), *The Drifting Archipelago* covers his life from his arrival on Vancouver Island in 1968 to the demise of his third marriage at the end of the century. In it, Doyle discusses his progress as a poet and his at times uneasy relationship with the Canadian literary scene. In the book’s last line, he mentions “the exhilaration of being alone.” Much of the preceding volume deals with Doyle’s complex relationships with others, and his adventures as a professor, activist, husband, and father. Sounds, textures, tastes, colours, trajectories, and intimations are gathered with a poet’s intelligence to convey a vivid and illuminating record of his life and times, as the author drifts from island to island. *The Drifting Archipelago* offers a vivid and lyrical presentation of a full and extraordinary life.

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 978-1-77171-235-4
 Memoir
 214 Pages
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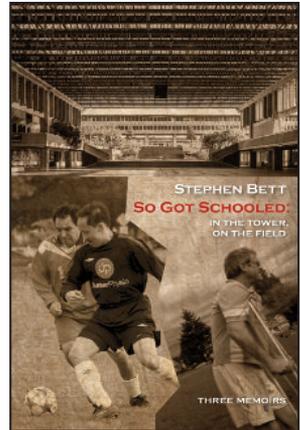


So Got Schooled

STEPHEN BETT

Stephen Bett is a widely and internationally published Canadian poet with eighteen books in print. In his first book of (non-fiction) prose, *So Got Schooled: in the tower, on the field*, we find three memoirs, from the hilarious tell-all account of managing a senior men’s soccer team where players more often than not seem to be smacking each other about in the kindergarten sandbox, to the last-ditch stand of a ‘terribly’ British-style boys’ school in the far west Canadian ‘colonies’ of the early 1960s, to the feudalism of 1970s grad school under supervision of the brilliant, but also petulant, Robin Blaser, before the advent of student grievance rights.

Stephen Bett is a widely and internationally published Canadian poet with 18 books in print. His personal papers are archived in Simon Fraser University library’s “Contemporary Literature Collection.” He is recently retired after a 31-year teaching career largely at Langara College in Vancouver, and now lives with his wife, Katie, in Victoria, BC.



ISBN 978-1-77171-247-7
 Memoir
 150 Pages
 5.5 x 8.5
 \$25.95
 Now available



the world on the side of the trout

ROBERT LALONDE

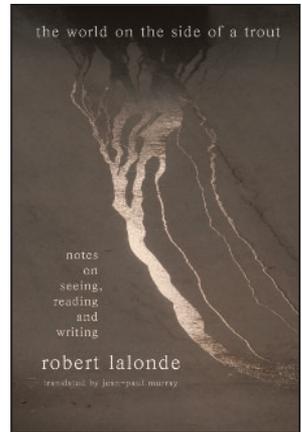
translated by Jean-Paul Murray

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

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

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

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



ISBN 978-1-77171-209-5
Essays/ Biography
143 Pages
6 x 9
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There Once Was a Camel

P.K. PAGE

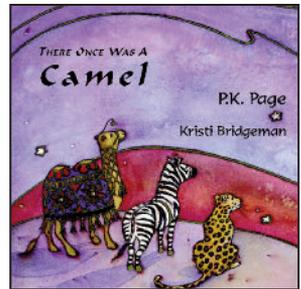
& KRISTI BRIDGEMAN

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

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

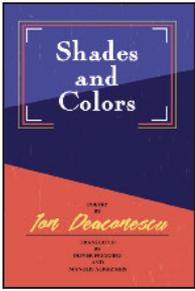
The late **P.K. Page** is one of Canada's most esteemed poets whose literary career spanned over five decades. She was the author of some twenty books including ten volumes of poetry in addition to memoir, fiction and children's titles. Winner of the Governor General's Award for Poetry in 1957, P.K.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

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



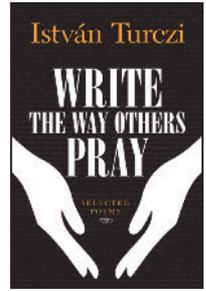
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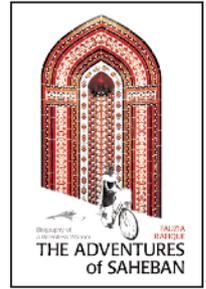
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István Turczi
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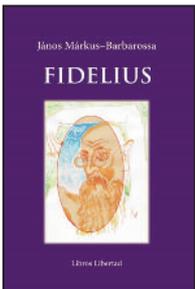
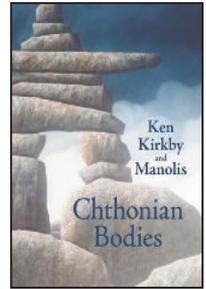
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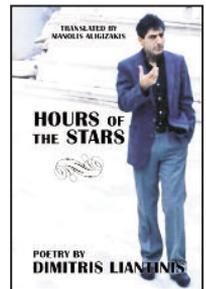
translated by Manolis
Karyotakis-Polydouri:
The Tragic Love Story
 ISBN: 9781926763453
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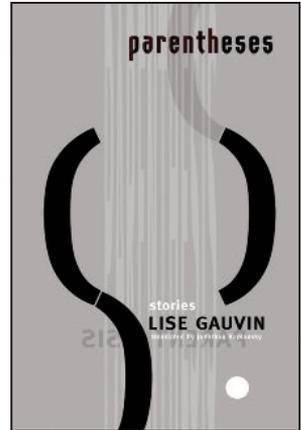
Parentheses

LISE GAUVIN

translated by Jonathan Kaplansky

Hailed by critics as a “first-rate short story writer” (Michel Lord, *Lettres québécoises*), in *Parentheses* Lise Gauvin explores ever-changing feelings in a world where the ease of travel contains its share of unpredictability and surprises. This clear-headed observer of the social scene combines intricate detail with a larger picture conveyed in forms that are new each time in a style pared down to the essentials, free of artifice and pathos. Each short story is a sequence snatched from passing life, a parenthesis excerpted from day-to-day existence examined with clinical precision.

Lise Gauvin has published approximately twenty works (non-fiction, fictional essays, interviews, poetry, narratives, and short stories) and contributes to the newspaper *Le Devoir* as a literary critic. Her collection *Fugitives*, which won the Prix des Arcades de Bologne, is a kind of triptych with *Arrêts sur image* (translated as *Freeze-frame*) and *Parenthèses*, published in 2015. Her novella *Le Sursis*, an eBook, has just been published by éditions Libre court (Paris).



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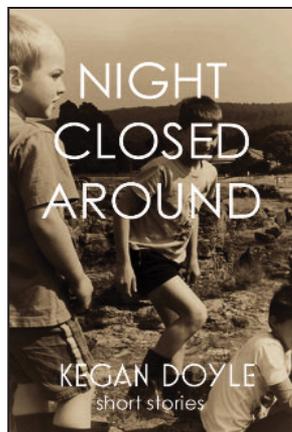


Night Closed Around

KEGAN DOYLE

In *Night Closed Around*, his debut collection of stories, Kegan Doyle explores what happens when day turns to night, and touches on themes of desire and despair, obsession and regret. A boy goes on a disastrous fishing trip to Campbell River with his obese, alcoholic father. At a summer camp in the Okanagan, a young would-be intellectual becomes recklessly infatuated with a Christian counselor. A scarred and washed-up hockey goalie from Victoria has one final moment of glory in the big city. A grieving widow encounters a miracle outside her East Vancouver kitchen window. A beach party on the longest day of the year ends in life-altering mayhem. An errant wasp troubles two lovers on Galiano Island. A jilted talent agent loses his mind in the city of angels. A cancer-stricken former Blue Jays player thwarts a dangerous liaison in the upper deck. A lawyer spends his life haunted by a clown in a velvet painting. Two young lovers discover that Paris is no place to escape history.

Originally from New Zealand, **Kegan Doyle** grew up in Victoria, BC, and has lived in the United States, France, Costa Rica, and Australia. His writing has appeared in *Aethlon*, *SubTerrain*, *Geist*, *Canadian Literature*, *Critical Sociology* and elsewhere. He currently lives in the People's Republic of East Vancouver with his partner and two children.



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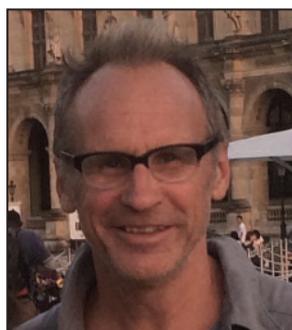
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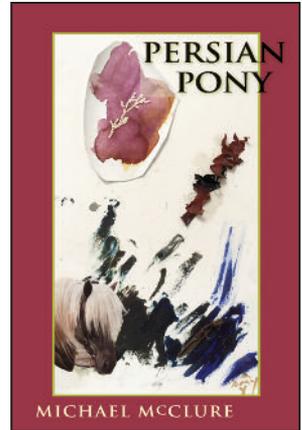


Persian Pony

MICHAEL MCCLURE

A new book of poems by Michael McClure is a cause for celebration. One of the readers at the legendary Six Gallery reading, McClure has been an influential and inspired cultural presence in American literature for the past six decades. His poetry offers a radical aesthetic that is original and profound. In *Persian Pony*, McClure writes with conviction and authority, addressing the metaphysical vision at the heart of his work with lyric precision. Like electrons in a spiral cosmos, the poems of *Persian Pony* rise in an operatic wave, revealing a master poet at the height of his powers whose eco-visionary and bio-romantic awareness extends the borders of consciousness, enlarging our world with passionate observation.

Michael McClure is an award-winning American poet, playwright, songwriter, and novelist. A key figure of the Beat Generation, McClure is immortalized as Pat McClear in Jack Kerouac's novels *The Dharma Bums* and *Big Sur*. He also participated in the '60s counterculture alongside musicians like Janis Joplin and Jim Morrison. McClure remains active as a poet, essayist, and playwright, and lives with his wife, Amy, in the San Francisco Bay area.



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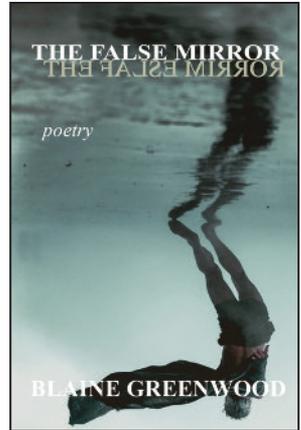


The False Mirror

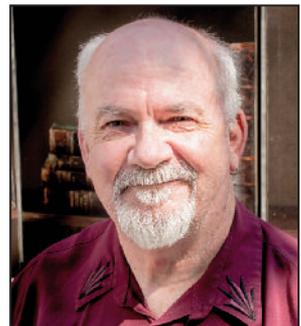
BLAINE GREENWOOD

The title *The False Mirror* is taken from the painting by Magritte. Magritte’s work takes ordinary objects and turns them into thought provoking mysteries. Dali, an ultra-surrealist, is an artist of dreamscapes that seem to scream for psychoanalysis. Matisse, who appears to be more serene of the three, is an artist that uses flat patches of intense color and tends towards an economy of line and shape. These three artists – Matisse, Magritte and Dali – having experienced many common life experiences, represent their views of reality in radically different ways. Hopefully what this collection of poetry will cause you to do is see reality not just with your eyes but your mind and your imagination as well.

Blaine Greenwood, born in Viking Alberta 1951, is an educator by profession – with a career spanning from classroom teacher to museum educator and event planner. It is from this foundation that Blaine’s poetry has come to reflect his interest in psychology, history and spirituality. His verse has been described as “dark, homespun, sensual, rich with images.” The title of Greenwood’s first chapbook *Walking Naked Down the Street* describes the experience of a writer baring his soul to the public. A selection of his poems have been published in the *Interpscan Journal* (Canada), in *Our Journey* (Oregon, USA), and in *Mudlark Press’ Rags: Journal of Creative Writing*. His first book *Black Cat in the Shadows* was published by Ekstasis in 2015.



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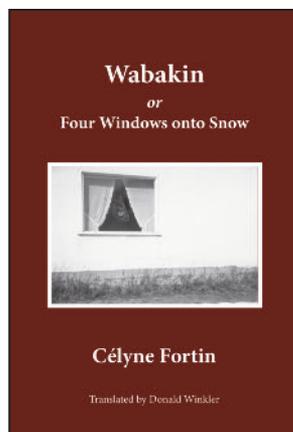
Wabakin

CÉLYNE FORTIN

translated by Donald Winkler

Quebec poet, painter and author Célyne Fortin has published eleven books of poetry since the publication of her first collection *Femme Fragmentée* by Éditions du Noroît in 1982. Her collection of short stories *Summer Days* was published in 2014 by Ekstasis Editions. In *Wabakin or Four Windows onto Snow*, published in French by Les Heures bleues in 2013 and now translated by Donald Winkler, she reflects on the winter months spent in her home region of Quebec, Abitibi, with her older sister, Cécile. In 2014, the French edition won the Prix AQPF-ANEL, awarded jointly by the Association québécoise des professeurs de français and the Association nationale des éditeurs de livres.

Born in La Sarre in Abitibi in 1943, **Célyne Fortin** co-founded and co-directed the Éditions du Noroît from 1971 to 1991, along with René Bonenfant. There she published collections of poetry and art books. Since 2003, she has been responsible for the collection “Le Dire,” at Heures bleues. She has published eleven books of poetry of her own since the publication of her first collection *Femme Fragmentée* by Éditions du Noroît in 1982. Her collection of short stories *Summer Days* was published in 2014 by Ekstasis Editions.



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Hive

RANDY KOHAN

Buried, hidden — in nature, history and the words of poets who've come before — is the riddle of self. These are the elements *Hive* explores on a lyric journey of quiet affirmation.

In this third finely spun, yet deeply wrought and thoughtful collection of poetry, Randy Kohan, once again, has strung a suite of incantatory songs that shudder the heart and render luminous glimpses of the poet's constant striving as he moves back and forth across the ages, and always forward, toward the vision that constantly compels the poet to speak

*the dove grey breathless sounds
you feared you'd never hear*

~ Pierrette Requier,
6th Edmonton Poet Laureate, 2015 – 2017

Hive is **Randy Kohan's** third collection of lyric poetry with Ekstasis Editions. His previous works are *Rain of Naughts* (2015) and *Hammers & Bells* (2013). Two of his poems, "Trains" and "Northern Monks," can be viewed as poetry videos on YouTube. He lives in Edmonton with his wife and their two sons.



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Song of the Open Sea

JOANNE MORENCY

translated by Jill Varley

In her fifth collection, *Song of the Open Sea*, Joanne Morency explores a more inclusive voice that moves from a sense of individual grief to collective freedom from all human experiences of separation.

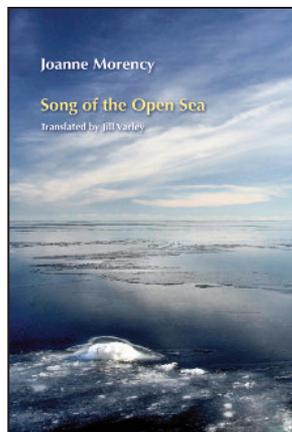
“Joanne Morency’s new title *Song of the Open Sea* deals with survival in the face of separations, a follow-up to her magnificent *Le corps inachevé*, about the death of her mother.”

~ Mario Cloutier, *La Presse*, April 2014

“A collection that avoids the perils of overly candid emotion and that lets us hear a sound like a foghorn, whose echo continues to reverberate after the book has been set down.”

~ Jacques Paquin, *Lettres québécoises*, Winter 2014

Joanne Morency lives on the Gaspé Peninsula in eastern Quebec. She has published four 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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Daring Touch

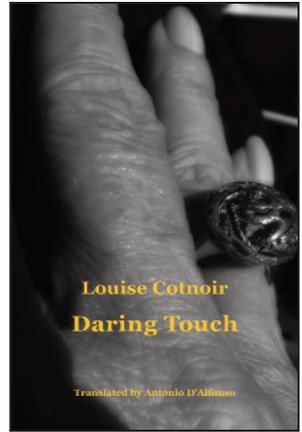
LOUISE COTNOIR

translated by Antonio D'Alfonso

Daring Touch includes the translation of two poetry books by Louise Cotnoir, *The Audacity of Hands* and *Tell Me I'm Imagining This*. In *The Audacity of Hands* (1987) Cotnoir explores the double nature of hands. Firstly, she proposes poems that display the negative forces of hands that inflict pain, cause damage, kill. She affirms, secondly, their positive qualities: hands touch, caress, create. The hand is knowledge expressing both suffering and gentleness, disfigurement and beauty. In *Tell Me I'm Imagining This* (1996), Louise Cotnoir probes the concept of barbarism, past and present acts of cruelty. By wandering through various artistic utterances, a woman witnesses and listens to the cacophony destroying our world.

'Each term leads to a space of unforeseen meanings into which we fall and lose our sense of being. Though the verses are simple, short, and clear, their logical connection pull us backward into that infinite place where words have yet to be been formulated.'
~ André Brochu, *Voix et Images*

Louise Cotnoir is the author of more than twenty books. In 1996, *Tell Me I'm Imagining This* was a finalist for the Governor General's Award. In 2016, she published a collection of poems entitled *Vanessa Bell soeur de Virginia Woolf*, and, in 2017, *Le frère d'Antigone*, her first novel.



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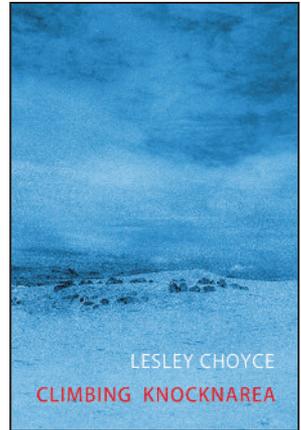


Climbing Knocknarea

LESLEY CHOYCE

Climbing Knocknarea is Lesley Choyce's 92nd book. Included are poems about wonder and loss, simplicity and transcendence, grief and joy, history and imagination, hurt and happiness as well as the multitude of ordinary everyday things that shape our lives. The travel poems take the reader to Mt. Vesuvius and Pompeii, Dublin and Donegal, Santa Cruz and San Francisco, the Bay of Fundy and Bulgaria, Aberdeenshire and Amalfi, Paris and Rome, New Jersey and Nova Scotia. Many of these poems reflect how the poem itself can take on a personality and a life of its own, each attempting in its own way to become a living entity possible to leap off the page and become part of the reader's life.

Lesley Choyce is the author of over ninety books of literary fiction, short stories, poetry, creative non-fiction and young adult novels. He runs Pottersfield Press and has worked as editor with a wide range of Canadian authors. He has edited a number of literary anthologies and hosted several television shows over the years. Choyce has taught Creative Writing at Dalhousie and other universities for over thirty years and has acted as mentor to many emerging writers during that time. He has won The Dartmouth Book Award, The Atlantic Poetry Prize and The Ann Connor Brimer Award. He has also been shortlisted for the Stephen Leacock Medal, The White Pine Award, The Hackmatack Award, The Canadian Science Fiction and Fantasy Award and The Governor General's Award. He surfs year round in the North Atlantic.



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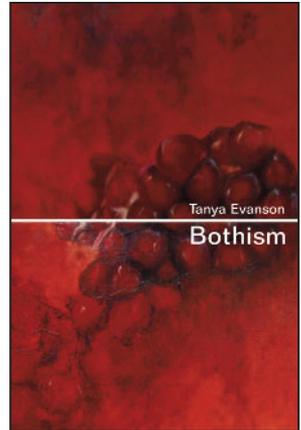


Bothism

TANYA EVANSON

Bothism is an experimental Sufi text. It is both sorrow and joy, day and night, content and form, dot and circle, the threshold between worlds. It moves from unity to multiplicity and back again exploring that which can be split and reunited: a cell, a relationship, society, faith, time, words on the page. It posits that if one thing is true, then the opposite must also true, and when asked to choose, the poet's answer is always both.

Tanya Evanson is an Antiguan-Canadian writer and performer from Tio'tia:ke/Montreal. She is a graduate of Concordia University Creative Writing and program director of Banff Centre Spoken Word. Evanson has released four audio recordings including *ZENSHIP* (2016) and recent spoken word performances include *Suoni per il Popolo*, Ubud Writers and Readers Festival, Tasmanian Poetry Festival, Edinburgh Book Festival and Glastonbury Festival. Her second book of poetry *Nouveau Griot* is forthcoming from Frontenac House in 2018 and recent publications include *WSQ* (Feminist Press), *40 Years of Room Magazine* (Caitlin Press), *Resist Much / Obey Little* (Dispatches Edition) and *Where the Nights Are Twice as Long* (Goose Lane). Evanson is a past recipient of the Golden Beret Award and was Poet of Honour at the 2013 Canadian Festival of Spoken Word. She moonlights as a whirling dervish.



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The Man Who Best Drew Women

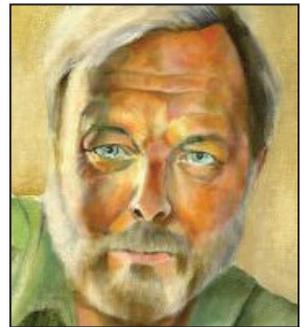
MARTIN GRAY

The Man Who Best Drew Women is a long poem in the epic heroic narrative style, a continuation of the poet's themes developed in previous work such as *Blues for Bird* or *Death of Villeneuve*. Modigliani is the representative figure of modern art, the artist as tragic hero. The poem is a reflection on aspects of the heroic, both personal and public, secular and divine, a theme in poetry as ancient as Homer and Beowulf, and as modern as television. The narrative poem is an accurate and vivid portrayal of one of the most interesting and extraordinary artists of the twentieth century. *The Man Who Best Drew Women* is a lyric biography, exact and with universal truth presenting the life of the artist in accessible and clear poetical statement, making it an essential volume for the general reader and for the student of art alike.

Martin Gray is the author of the internationally acclaimed *Blues for Bird*, an epic biographical poem on the life of jazz great Charlie Parker. He is also published *Jackson Pollock: Memories Arrested in Space*, a long poem on the turbulent life of the great Abstract Expressionist painter. Gray is recognized as one of the world's foremost scholars of Alfred Lord Tennyson's poetry and is the editor of the Penguin Classic annotated edition of Tennyson's *Idylls of the King*. Gray has published poems on Charlie Parker, Gilles Villeneuve, Amedeo Modigliani, Osip Mandelstam, and Caesar Vallejo, and has taught at several major universities across Canada. He lives in Victoria, British Columbia.



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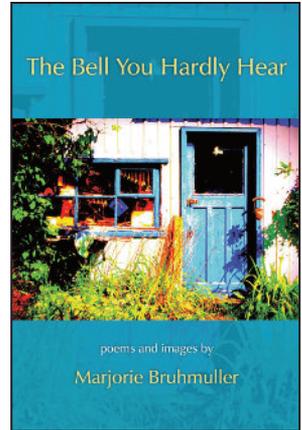


The Bell You Hardly Hear

MARJORIE BRUHMULLER

Unconventional and candid, Marjorie compresses personal experience into a taut and informal poetry that convey exceptional observations. *The Bell You Hardly Hear* carries in the tune of its pages, a sounding of truth, from a somewhat fringe perspective. Unveiling the humour, simple beauty, and curiosities that this world offers us emphasizes the unnoticed in the cacophony of our busy lives, which allows this ringing to strike us with a profound reverberation of appreciation and reverence for life.

After 13 years of owning and managing her own natural soap business, **Marjorie Bruhmuller** took on writing poetry. She is a part of, and now leads, a writing group that has kept its core members for 20 years. Her latest adventures include writing a mystery novel with a friend and learning to write haiku. Her poems have appeared in over fifty reviews and journals in Canada, the US and Britain. She enjoys life in the Eastern Townships of Quebec, Canada, even in winter. You'll find her poetry at *Tupelo*, *Orion online*, *Carte Blanche*, *Waterstone Review*, *The Antigonish Review*, *Room*, *Event*, *One Hundred Gourds* and *Wordless*, *Haiku Canada 40 years of Haiku*.



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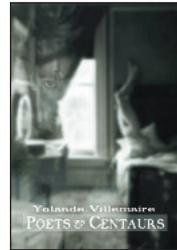
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