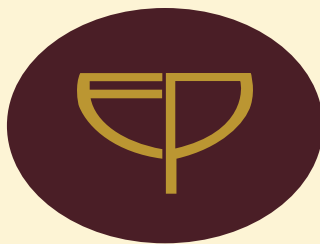
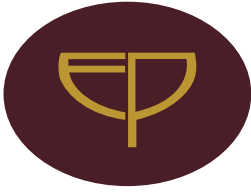


2018 RELEASES



etruscan press





# etruscan press

bearing imagination

[www.etruscanpress.org](http://www.etruscanpress.org)

**Etruscan Press is a nonprofit organization producing and promoting books that nurture a dialogue among genres and cultures. We encourage you to join and support our mission. For more information, visit our website or email us at [books@etruscanpress.org](mailto:books@etruscanpress.org).**

## **A Note From the Executive Director . . .**

These books. They come from everywhere, or nowhere. They come from unknown distances, across the transom, or from past Etruscans, or word of mouth; they come from Ireland and Greece and lands of redolent imagination. They come disguised as bizarre dictionaries and dialogues with the dead; they come as alternative histories of post-Stalinist Russia and post-Celtic Ireland. The poems challenge ideas of poetry; prose scrabbles conventions and preconceptions.

At first glint, *Aard-vark to Axolotl* looks like a lexicon—but as you enter its Wonderlandscape of language, it opens a new rabbit hole to definition. *Rough Ground* seems like a companion to Wittgenstein, but it reflects on our own fragmenting world, while *Romer* updates Dante's metaphysical apocalypse. *Silk Road* abjures Marco Polo's highway for the less travelled, emotionally fraught journey of his wife, Donata Badoer. *Wattle & daub* sidles between Kafka and Flann O'Brien in a not-your-granddad's emerald isle. Sometimes the invisible road is long. Seven years it's been since Auguste Corteau sent his epic novel, *Sixteen*.

We're finally ready for it. We think you are too. Belly up and join us in the journey.

## **Founders**

Philip Brady, Executive Director; Robert Mooney, Executive Editor; Steve Oristaglio, Business Advisor

## **Advisers**

Nin Andrews, Robert Carioscia, Bonnie Culver, J. Michael Lennon, Robert Lunday, Siena Oristaglio, Mark Van Tilburg

## **Staff**

Bill Schneider, Managing Editor; Pamela Turchin, Production Editor; Judith Jones, Jennifer McLaughlin, Kelci Piavis, Jeannie Saoirse, Danielle Watson, Editorial Associates; Mark Van Tilburg, Outreach Coordinator; Monica Purich, Outreach Coordinator - Prison Program; Douglas Martin, Website Designer; Brad Curtis, Proof Reader; Shawn Hatten, Videographer

## **Copy Editors**

Robert Antinozzi, James Cihlar, Karen Krumpak, Alyssa Waugh

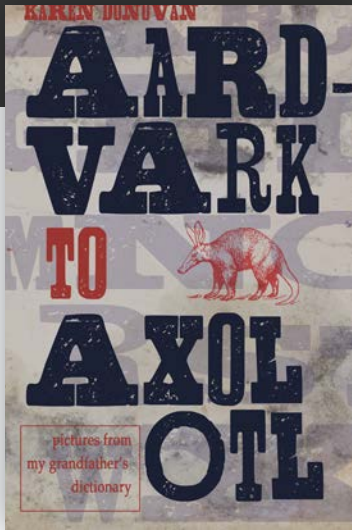
## **Designers**

James Dissette, Aaron Petrovich, Julianne Popovec, Laurie Powers, Lisa E. Reynolds, Carey Schwartzburt

## **Technical Liaison**

Justin Bodnar

Cover image: *Spaceship* by Aron Wiesenfeld  
Catalog design: Abigail Sanders



# Aard-vark to Axolotl: Pictures From My Grandfather's Dictionary

*Essays*

KAREN DONOVAN

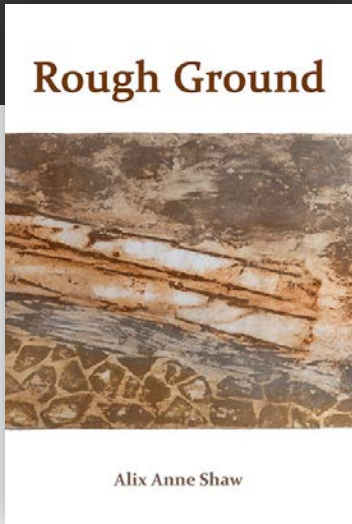
**Available April 2018**

Karen Donovan's eclectic series of tiny essays is a collaboration of text and image based on a set of illustrations from an old dictionary. This collection of prose poems is disguised as imaginary definitions that tease and captivate the reader. From pictures of plants and animals, diagrams and devices, and dozens of other charmingly quirky objects from the pages of her grandfather's 1925 *Webster's New International Dictionary*, Donovan creates a series of wild and whimsical narratives. Sometimes mysterious, sometimes downright weird, these small stories offer alternative definitions for items drawn from a cabinet of curiosities.

*Aard-vark to Axolotl* is a book that fits into a hybrid category: it is at times lyric essay, or micro-memoir, or prose poetry, or flash. The book is a triumph of ekphrasis; each image from the dictionary prompts a fable, anecdote, remembrance, or unearthly denotation. The dynamic juxtaposition of image and text layers *Aard-vark to Axolotl* with new connections that surprise and delight, making us wonder about the frangibility of all definitions.

Donovan is the author of two collections of poetry: *Fugitive Red* and *Your Enzymes Are Calling the Ancients*. She co-edited ¶: *A Magazine of Paragraphs*, a journal of short prose published by Oat City Press. She lives in East Providence, Rhode Island.

A5 | 107pp | \$15.00 | 978-0-9977455-6-6



# Rough Ground

*Poetry*

ALIX ANNE SHAW

**Available June 2018**

With a lyricism that is both delicate and painful, *Rough Ground* explores the devastating consequences of trauma on our ability to speak about the world. Based upon Wittgenstein's *Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus*, *Rough Ground* distills philosophical speculation to poetic text, enacting an utterance almost beyond speech. While the philosopher concludes "that which we cannot speak about, we must pass over in silence," the poems writ on "rough ground" enact a portentous silence, mapping a path between word and world.

Shaw is the author of two full-length poetry collections, *Dido in Winter* and *Undertow*. She is a visual artist and resides in Chicago.

6 x 9 | 138pp | \$15.00 | 978-0-9977455-5-9

# Romer

*Poetry*

ROBERT EASTWOOD

**Available July 2018**

Using the schema of Dante's *Purgatorio*, *Romer* is a poem of thirty-three Cantos in three-line stanzas, illuminating the experience of a modern man at every stage of his life. Just as the *Purgatorio* explores the psyche in terms of its earthly existence, *Romer* follows the journey of one man who needs to know who he is, where he is, and what he is trying to do. This need is universal, so in that sense, *Romer* is every man.

Robert Eastwood's first book, *Snare*, was published by Broadstone Press in 2016. His chapbooks are *The Welkin Gate*, *Over Plainsong*, *Night of the Moth*, published by Small Poetry Press. Eastwood's work has appeared most recently in *Legendary*, *Up The Staircase Quarterly*, *Loch Raven Review*, and *The Steel Toe Review*. He has been nominated twice for the Pushcart Prize.

6 x 9 | 124pp | \$15.00 | 978-0-9977455-8-0



# Silk Road

*Poetry*

DANEEN WARDROP

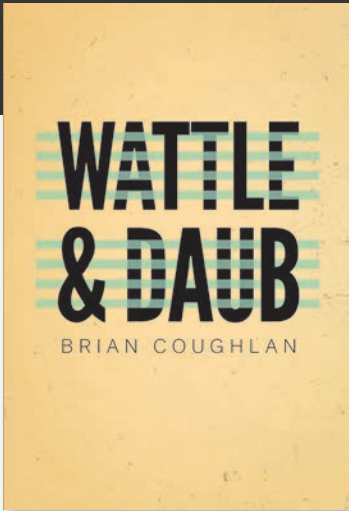
**Available September 2018**

In *Silk Road*, Marco Polo's wife goes about everyday activities as her reveries form at least partly in the breach between her home in Venice, Italy, and Polo's stay in Suzhou, China. In imagining eastern and western hemispheres braced to collide, to coincide, she is a global citizen even as she stays at home, living in vivid divide between regions at odds, still envisioning comity.

Daneen Wardrop is the author of seven books, including three collections of poetry: *The Odds of Being*, *Cyclorma*, and most recently *Life as It*, which received the 2017 Independent Publisher Book Award. She is a recipient of a National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship and a Robert H. Winner Award from the Poetry Society of America.

6 x 9 | 88pp | \$16.00 | 978-0-9987508-2-8





## Wattle & daub

*Fiction*

BRIAN COUGHLAN

**Available October 2018**

Dragged forward by an ear-twisting narrative force, the stories in this debut collection meld and stretch into truly new directions. Unsettlingly funny/bleak backgrounds inform *Wattle & daub* and introduce singular oddball characters to a coldly unconcerned world. Every page is mined with humor, sympathy, and blistering language that mark Brian Coughlan as a unique fabricator of short tales.

In *Wattle & daub* the world is a mysterious, menacing and peculiar place. Characters inhabit their individualized zones with a mixture of ignorance and apprehension, ever at the mercy of changes to their circumstances, or else striving to make sense of their own shortcomings and disappointments.

Brian Coughlan lives in Galway, Ireland. *Wattle & daub* is his first collection of short stories.

6 x 9 | 236pp | \$16.95 | 978-0-9987508-3-5  
eBook \$16.99 | 978-0-9987508-5-9



## Sixteen

*Fiction*

AUGUSTE CORTEAU

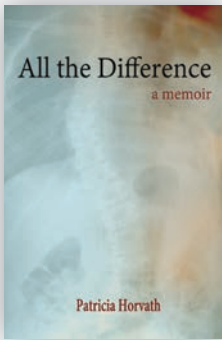
**Available January 2019**

A famous Soviet composer kills himself upon the announcement of Stalin's death, leaving behind a symphony that provokes mass defections. A haunting tale of love, loss and obsession, *Sixteen* is also a literary thriller centered around the mystery that is music. But can music on its own bring about a revolution?

Auguste Corteau (pen name of Petros Chatzopoulos) was born in Thessaloniki, Greece, in 1979. Over the past 18 years, he has published more than 20 books in Greek. An internationally bestselling author, critically acclaimed translator of English-language literature, and a vocal LGBT+ activist, he lives in Athens with his husband.

6 x 9 | 254pp | \$16.95 | 978-0-9987508-4-2  
eBook \$16.99 | 978-0-9987508-6-6

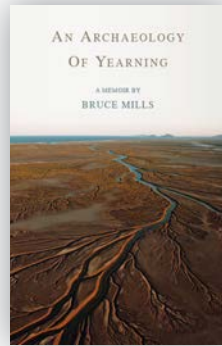
COMPLETE BACKLIST



***All The Difference***  
Patricia Horvath

An account of the author's transformation from a visibly disabled woman to someone who could "pass" for able-bodied. Horvath details experiences with bracing and spinal fusion.

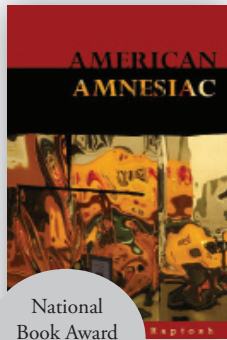
Memoir, 188 pages, trade paper  
\$16.95 (978-0-9903221-9-1)  
**eBook** \$15.99 (978-0-9977455-7-3)



***An Archaeology of Yearning***  
Bruce Mills

Mill's remarkable memoir maps the artifacts of the life of a father and his autistic son, as they learn the depth of relationships.

Memoir, 232 pages, trade paper  
\$15.00 (978-0-9839346-9-1)  
**eBook** \$14.99 (978-0-9886922-2-0)

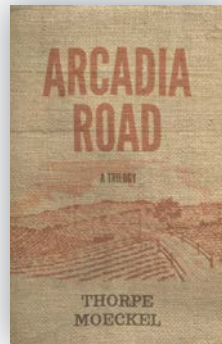


***American Amnesiac***  
Diane Raptosh

The manic journey of a man stripped of memory confronts the complexities of being American in an age of corruption, corporations, and global conflict.

Poetry, 96 pages, trade paper  
\$16.00 (978-0-9839346-6-0)

National  
Book Award  
Longlist



***Arcadia Road: A Trilogy***  
Thorpe Moeckel

Consisting of three long poems--narrative, lyrical, meditative--Moeckel's poetry as each audacious as down-to-earth, and strange as intimate.

Poetry, 208 pages, trade paper  
\$17.00 (978-0-09897532-5-8)



***American Anger: An Evidentiary***  
H. L. Hix

More than an expressive book of poems, this work is an evidentiary reflection of civility and self-correction born from the poet's own philosophical research.

Poetry, 215 pages, trade paper  
\$19.00 (978-0-9897532-4-1)

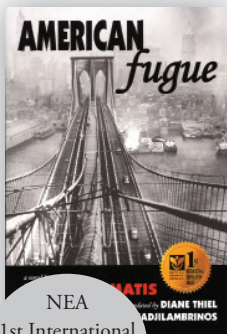
2018 Poets'  
Prize Finalist



***Areas of Fog***  
Will Dowd

This collection of essays takes us on a journey through one year of New England weather. *Areas of Fog* combines wit and poetry with humor and erudition in a fun, breezy, and discursive read.

Essays, 160 pages, trade paper  
\$15.00 (978-0-9977455-3-5)



***American Fugue***  
Alexis Stamatis

This literary thriller follows the odyssey of a Greek writer traveling a strange and compelling landscape, where he re-discovers America—and himself.

Fiction, 353 pages, trade paper  
\$16.95 (978-0-9797450-2-7)

NEA  
1st International  
Translation  
Award

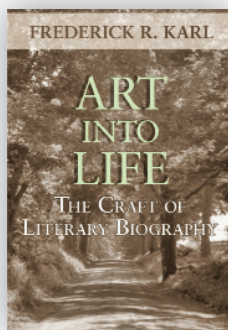


***The Arsonist's Song Has Nothing to Do With Fire***  
Allison Titus

This highly compressed prose poem of a novel explores the loneliness of three misfits—a wallflower, an arsonist, and a doctor—as they attempt to reconnect to the modern world.

Fiction, 244 pages, trade paper  
US \$15.00, CAN \$16.50 (978-0-9886922-5-1)  
**eBook** \$9.99 (978-0-9886922-7-5)

COMPLETE BACKLIST



***Art Into Life***

Frederick R. Karl

*Art Into Life* collects essays on biography by one of the twentieth century's most distinguished biographers, Frederick R. Karl.

Literary Criticism, 295 pages, hardcover  
\$29.95 (978-0-9745995-3-3)



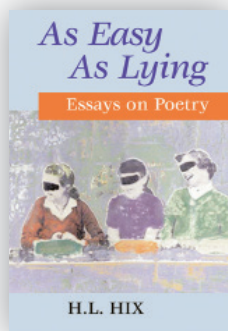
***The Burning House***

Paul Lisicky

*The Burning House* finds its narrator at his most vulnerable, and explores what it means to be a good man amidst chaos.

Fiction, 126 pages, trade paper  
\$14.95 (978-0-9819687-8-0)

eBook \$14.99 (978-0-9832944-6-7)



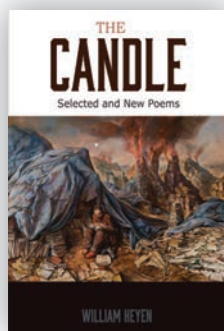
***As Easy As Lying:***

***Essays on Poetry***

H. L. Hix

Accessible and ebullient, these essays delve into the workings of the poetic mind and offer keen assessments of contemporary American poets and poetics.

Literary Criticism, 148 pages, trade paper  
\$17.95 (978-0-9718228-3-2)



***The Candle: Poems of Our 20th Century Holocausts***

William Heyen

Heyen wrote the record, unlike any other in our literature, of a poet staring into the central atrocities of our 20th century to find ways to realize, to understand, to remember.

Poetry, 352 pages, trade paper  
\$18.00 (978-0-9903221-7-7)

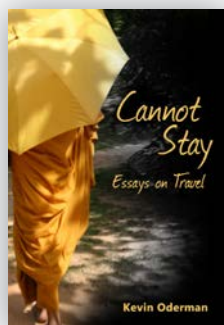


***As Much As, If Not More Than***

H. L. Hix

*As Much As* is an intellectual venture, testing the boundary between poetry and prose.

Poetry, 184 pages, trade paper  
\$17.00 (978-0-9886922-1-3)



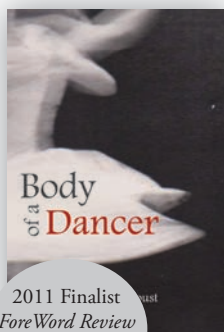
***Cannot Stay: Essays on Travel***

Kevin Oderman

These dozen essays explore Oderman's journeys from arid lands to tropical and spooky destinations.

Essays, 238 pages, trade paper  
\$15.00 (978-0-09897532-8-9)

eBook \$15.99 (978-0-9903221-0-8)



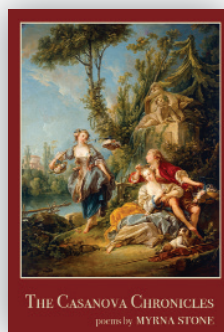
***Body of a Dancer***

Renée E. D'Aoust

*Body of a Dancer* provides a powerful, acidly comic record of what it is to love, and eventually leave, a life centered on dance.

Memoir, 154 pages, trade paper  
\$15.00 (978-0-9832944-1-2)  
eBook \$14.99 (978-0-9839346-1-5)

2011 Finalist  
ForeWord Review  
Book of the Year



***The Casanova Chronicles***

Myrna Stone

In this book of voices, speakers resurrected from the deeper past and the dead chafe against the circumstances of love, sex, loss, and longing.

Poetry, 72 pages, trade paper  
\$17.95 (978-0-9819687-3-5)

COMPLETE BACKLIST

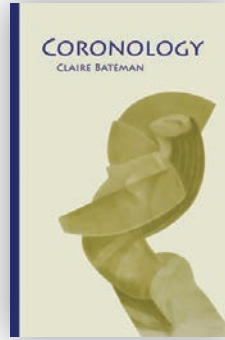


**Choir of the Wells**

**Bruce Bond**

*Choir of the Wells* is a tetralogy that coheres as a singular exploration of the mind-body problem grounded in daily heartbreak, wonder, novelty, and compulsion.

Poetry, 232 pages, trade paper  
\$17.00 (978-0-9839346-5-3)

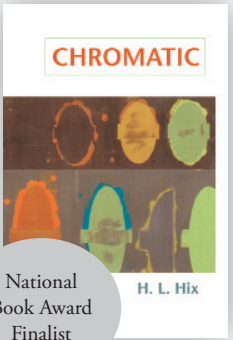


**Coronology**

**Claire Bateman**

Through a variety of questions both overt and embedded, the poems in this collection explore the inexplicable too-muchness/not-enoughness of imaginative experience.

Poetry, 71 pages, trade paper  
\$17.95 (978-0-9819687-5-9)



**Chromatic**

**H. L. Hix**

*Chromatic* examines the effects of human desire and explores the full range of effects caused by human emotion.

Poetry, 69 pages, trade paper  
\$15.95 (978-0-9745995-6-4)



**Crave: Sojourn of a Hungry Soul**

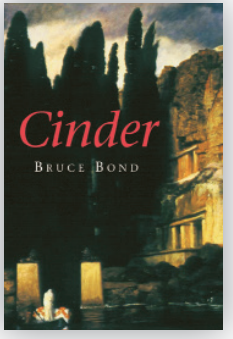
**Laurie Jean Cannady**

This coming-of-age memoir chronicles a young girl's journey through abuse and impoverishment.

Memoir, 384 pages, trade paper  
\$19.00 (978-0-09897532-9-6)  
eBook \$18.99 (978-0-9903221-4-6)

National Book Award Finalist

ForeWord Reviews Book of the Year Finalist

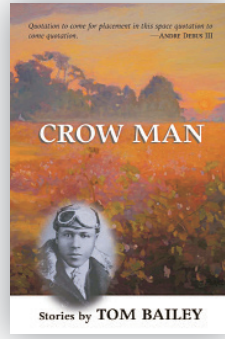


**Cinder**

**Bruce Bond**

With the luminous precision of music, Bruce Bond has crafted a generous and urgent collection of poems, a work that celebrates the human condition and terrifies us with it in equal measure.

Poetry, 66 pages, trade paper  
\$14.95 (978-0-9718228-5-6)

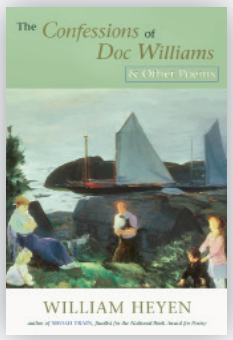


**Crow Man**

**Tom Bailey**

These eleven quintessentially American stories fully demonstrate our unstinting capacity for love and loss.

Fiction, 179 pages, hardcover  
\$22.95 (978-0-9718228-8-7)

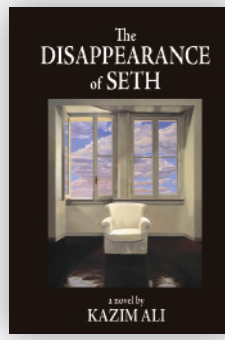


**The Confessions of Doc Williams and Other Poems**

**William Heyen**

The “urgency and authenticity” and the “plain directness” of Heyen’s voice ring true in this collection, Heyen’s eighteenth volume of poetry.

Poetry, 74 pages, trade paper  
\$15.95 (978-0-9745995-5-7)



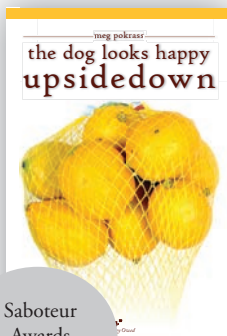
**The Disappearance of Seth**

**Kazim Ali**

A lyrical, hypnotic narrative that attempts to historicize the political events of recent years with the personal struggles of its protagonists.

Fiction, 197 pages, trade paper  
\$16.95 (978-0-9797450-8-9)

COMPLETE BACKLIST



Saboteur Awards Longlist

***The Dog Looks Happy Upside Down***

Meg Pokrass

This collection of flash fiction contains bite-sized glimpses into the lives of everyday people, leaving readers with long and lasting effects of further contemplation.

Flash fiction, 124 pages, trade paper  
\$15.00 (978-0-9903221-2-2)

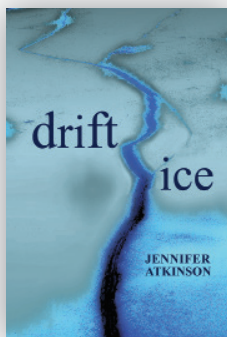


***The Football Corporations***

William Heyen

This uncompromising and authoritative collection powers its way into a post-catastrophe setting of dirty bombs in stadiums, tortured athletes, corporate domination, and cynicism on a global level.

Poetry, 80 pages, trade paper  
\$14.00 (978-0-9832944-5-0)

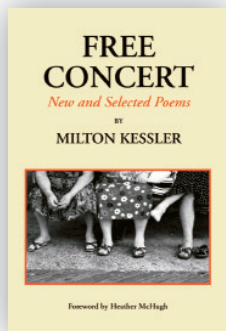


***Drift Ice***

Jennifer Atkinson

The poems in *Drift Ice* address the myth of a once pristine wilderness, the indifferent, ever-changing nature of Nature, and our human place in it.

Poetry, 81 pages, trade paper  
\$16.95 (978-0-9797450-0-3)



***Free Concert: New and Selected Poems***

Milton Kessler

Kessler left behind new work that celebrates the life and work of a gifted poet of original voice, presenting work from each of his books together with his new poems.

Poetry, 125 pages, hardcover  
\$29.95 (978-0-9718228-2-5)  
Trade Paper  
\$17.95 | 978-0-9718228-4-9

Theodore Roethke Memorial Poetry Prize

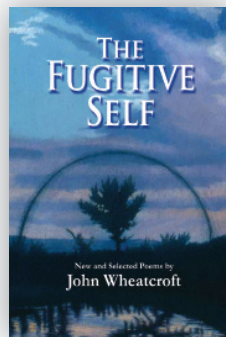


***Fast Animal***

Tim Seibles

*Fast Animal* plots the movement from innocence to awareness, and what happens to each of us as we bounce off the various obstacles life places between us and our fulfillment.

Poetry, 88 pages, trade paper  
\$14.00 (978-0-9832944-2-9)



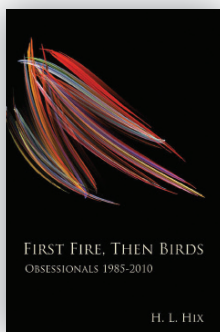
***The Fugitive Self: New and Selected Poems***

John Wheatcroft

A tribute to a distinguished career spanning fifty years in American letters. Meditative, whimsical, and hard-hitting, it illuminates the cost of American expansion.

Poetry, 218 pages, trade paper  
\$18.95 (978-0-9797450-9-6)

National Book Award Finalist

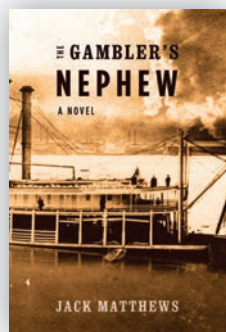


***First Fire, Then Birds: Obsessionals 1985-2010***

H. L. Hix

*First Fire, Then Birds* is H. L. Hix's version of a "selected poems," presented not simply as a chronological accumulation but as a synoptic and stereoscopic vision of a new whole.

Poetry, 240 pages, hardcover  
\$27.95 (978-0-9819687-4-2)



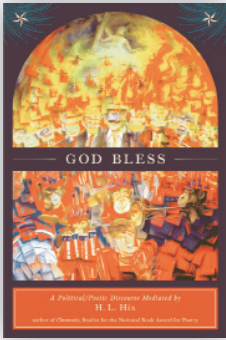
***The Gambler's Nephew***

Jack Matthews

*The Gambler's Nephew* presents a world of abolitionist passion, murder, and old-fashioned cussedness. Here is a world as richly confused as our own—and as alive as living can get.

Fiction, 270 pages, trade paper  
\$15.95 (978-0-9819687-7-3)

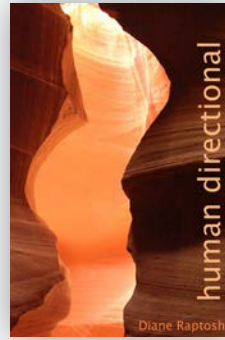
COMPLETE BACKLIST



***God Bless:***  
***A Political/Poetic Discourse***  
H. L. Hix

In poems at once playful and grave, H. L. Hix pits excerpts from the speeches of George W. Bush against arguments from Osama bin Laden in a poetic dialogue.

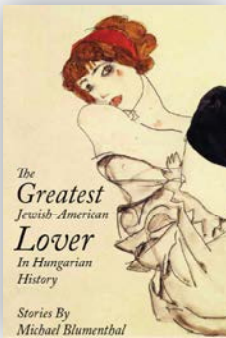
Poetry, 169 pages, trade paper  
\$19.95 (978-0-9745995-7-1)



***Human Directional***  
Diane Raptosh

*Human Directional* reveals the heartbreak and absurdity of our world by exploring—and often exploding—its most sacred memes.

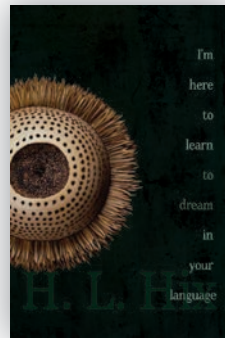
Poetry, 96 pages, trade paper  
US \$16.00 (978-0-9903221-6-0)



***The Greatest Jewish-American Lover in Hungarian History***  
Michael Blumenthal

Blumenthal draws a humorous and heartrending portrait of expatriate life in an increasingly connected and globalized world.

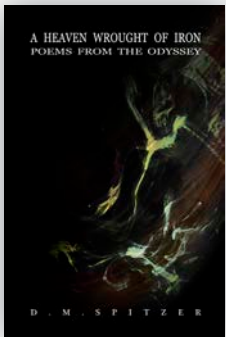
Fiction, 238 pages, trade paper  
US \$15.00, CAN \$16.50 (978-0-9886922-4-4)  
**eBook** \$9.99 (978-0-9886922-6-8)



***I'm here to learn to dream in your language***  
H. L. Hix

Hix extends his ongoing inquiry into spiritual and sexual ecstasy in lyric sequences that record a lover's dreams and a dreamer's loves.

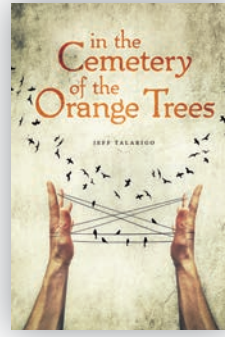
Poetry, 103 pages, trade paper  
US \$17.00, CAN \$18.50 (978-0-9897532-0-3)



***A Heaven Wrought of Iron:***  
***Poems from the Odyssey***  
D.M. Spitzer

This collection of poetry unfolds a poetic engagement within the Greek Odyssey within the framework of an ancient epic.

Poetry, 176 pages, trade paper  
\$15.00 (978-0-9903221-3-9)



***In the Cemetery of the Orange Trees***  
Jeff Talarigo

Mytho-poetic tales delve beneath the long Palestinian diaspora, told through the eyes of characters whose voices echo in the mind of an American stanger as he witnesses the beauty and horror of this ancient land.

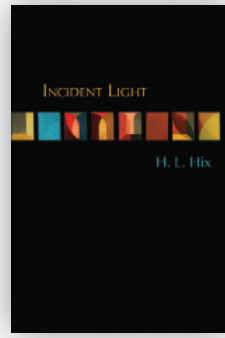
Fiction, 196 pages, trade paper  
\$16.00 (978-0-9977455-4-2)



***Help Wanted: Female***  
Sara Pritchard

This collection of short stories tells the tale of women needing and offering help in all forms, as their lives interconnect as all do.

Fiction, 188 pages, trade paper  
\$15.00 (978-0-9832944-8-1)  
**eBook** \$14.99 (978-0-9839346-7-7)

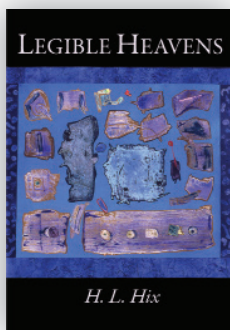


***Incident Light***  
H. L. Hix

Hix's lyric poetry invites emotional connection to artist Petra Soesemann who embraces a newly discovered life, one made "instantly mythical" by a startling revelation.

Poetry, 73 pages, trade paper  
\$17.95 (978-0-9745995-1-9)

COMPLETE BACKLIST



**Legible Heavens**

H. L. Hix

*Legible Heavens* continues H. L. Hix's ongoing inquiry into what the most personal and intimate forms of experience reveal about our most cosmic and universal concerns, and vice versa.

Poetry, 89 pages, trade paper  
\$16.95 (978-0-9797450-4-1)

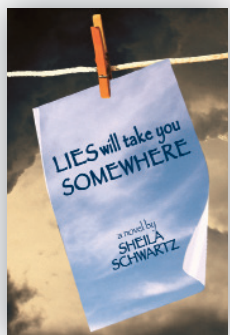


**Mr. Either/Or**

Aaron Poochigian

This verse novel melds American mythology, noir thriller and classical epic. Imagine Byron's Don Juan on a high-stakes romp through a Raymond Chandler novel, or Hamlet in Manhattan with a license to kill.

Fiction, 192 pages, trade paper  
\$15.00 (978-0-9977455-2-8)

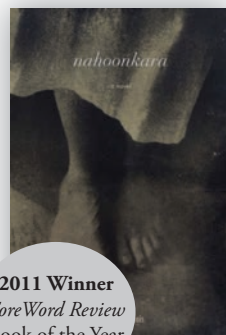


**Lies Will Take You Somewhere**

Sheila Schwartz

In this novel, a middle-class Jewish family journeys through infidelity, murder, and suicide. Weaving together nuanced meditations, this remarkable book provides insight into faith's ability to divide, to heal, and to forgive.

Fiction, 387 pages, trade paper  
\$15.95 (978-0-9797450-6-5)



**Naboonkara**

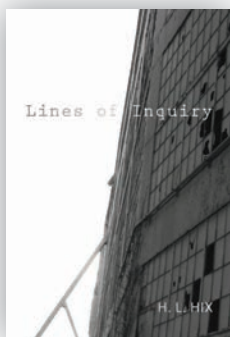
Peter Grandbois

*Naboonkara* opens an oneiric space of wonder, one that exists both within the natural world and within our own minds, a place outside preconceived notions of reality and identity, a place where we are free to re-imagine ourselves.

Fiction, 161 pages, trade paper  
\$16.95 (978-0-9819687-6-6)

**eBook** \$16.99 (978-0-9839346-8-4)

2011 Winner  
*ForeWord Review*  
Book of the Year

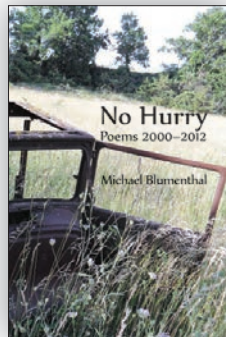


**Lines of Inquiry**

H. L. Hix

In verse essays, letters, and interviews, H. L. Hix's lines of inquiry ponder philosophic questions distilling answers with an insight intrinsic to a poetic heart.

Literary Collections, 131 pages, trade paper  
\$17.00 (978-0-9832944-0-5)

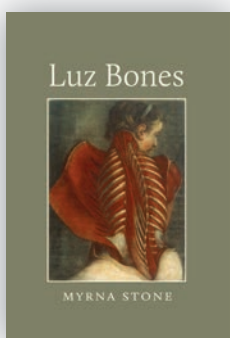


**No Hurry**

Michael Blumenthal

*No Hurry* is a book of poems for the aging in body but youthful in spirit, for those interested in continuing to ask most meaningful questions as they head "downhill."

Poetry, 125 pages, trade paper  
\$16.00 (978-0-9832944-7-4)



**Luz Bones**

Myrna Stone

These fiercely crafted poems take us on a journey through time and the psyche. The range of voices explore both mortality and what might lie just beyond it.

Poetry, 112 pages, trade paper  
\$16.95 (978-0-9977455-1-1)



**One Turn Around the Sun**

Tim Seibles

*One Turn Around the Sun* is a panorama of poems that attempt to define the twilight during which a person becomes caretaker of parents and grinds against the saying, "Life is too short."

Poetry, 120 pages, trade paper  
\$16.00 (978-0-9903221-8-4)

COMPLETE BACKLIST

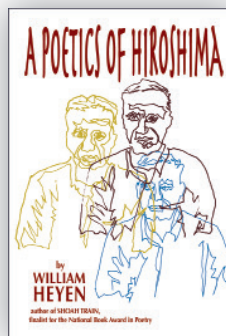


Helen Smith  
Poetry Book of  
the Year Finalist

***The Other Sky***  
Bruce Bond/Aron Wiesenfeld

Through a dialogue between poetry and visual art, this title probes the depths of the psyche: childhood roots, reveries, tensions.

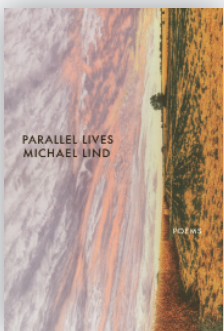
Poetry, 104 pages, trade paper  
\$30.00 (978-0-9897532-6-5)



***A Poetics of Hiroshima***  
William Heyen

*A Poetics of Hiroshima* is a collection of poems and prose pieces firmly rooted in history, exposing the conflict between obscenity and song, atrocity and beauty, and their eventual moral fusion.

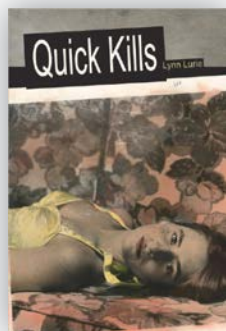
Poetry, 77 pages, trade paper  
\$17.95 (978-0-9797450-5-8)



***Parallel Lives***  
Michael Lind

Lind's range of experience that goes beyond the purely academic or literary and into the realm of domestic and foreign policy is reflected in this collection.

Poetry, 95 pages, trade paper  
\$16.95 (978-0-9745995-8-8)



***Quick Kills***  
Lynn Lurie

*Quick Kills* chronicles the desperate longing to belong as well as the effects of neglect, familial absence, and the nature of secrets. The young female narrator's disquiet escalates after she agrees to be the subject of an older man's photographs.

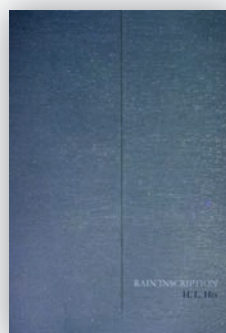
Fiction, 135 pages, trade paper  
US \$14.00, CAN \$15.50 (978-0-9886922-8-2)  
eBook \$9.99 (978-0-9886922-9-9)



***Peal***  
Bruce Bond

In *Peal*, the reader is led to discover a sustained exploration of mortality and its embodiment in the consolations of beauty as the poet shapes language for the powers of renewal, faith, and the imagination.

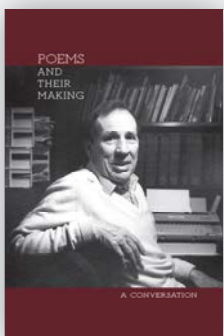
Poetry, 68 pages, trade paper  
\$17.95 (978-0-9819687-0-4)



***Rain Inscription***  
H. L. Hix

*Rain Inscription* gives vivid testimony to the paradox that human making is both lasting and fleeting. Each of its three sections extends an already capacious dialogue beyond its prior limits.

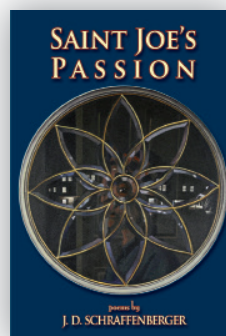
Poetry, 138 pages, trade paper  
\$18.00 (978-0-9977455-0-4)



***Poems and Their Making: A Conversation***

Moderated by Philip Brady  
Anthology of poems and essays delving into the origin and development of poetic thought, line, and structure.

Poems and Essays, 240 pages, trade paper  
\$23.95 (978-0-9903221-5-3)

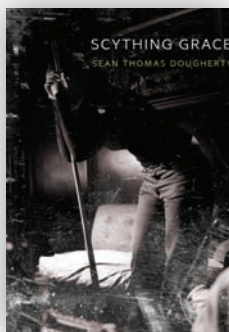


***Saint Joe's Passion***  
J.D. Schraffenberger

The poems of *Saint Joe's Passion* recount the lonely, lecherous life of Joseph Johnstone, painting the portrait of a man who was never quite able to open himself up to genuine love and intimacy.

Poetry, 62 pages, trade paper  
\$16.95 (978-0-9797450-3-4)

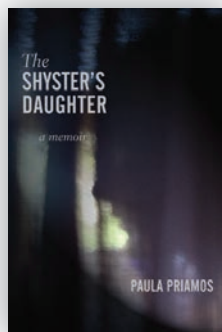
COMPLETE BACKLIST



***Scything Grace***  
Sean Thomas Dougherty

Through the still industrial Midwest, Dougherty offers us the stories he has lived and collected of men and women still going on, even if unsure.

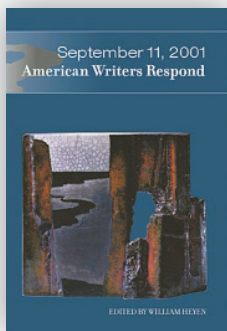
Poetry, 88 pages, trade paper  
\$16.00 (978-0-9886922-0-6)



***The Shyster's Daughter***  
Paula Priamos

This searing, detective noir memoir paints a vivid portrait of a Greek American family caught up in the scandal-obsessed, drug-addicted culture of California in the late 1980s.

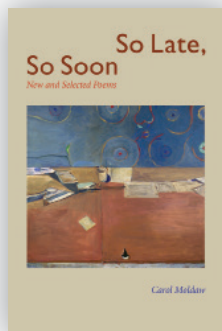
Memoir, 250 pages, trade paper  
\$16.00 (978-0-9832944-3-6)  
eBook \$15.99 (978-0-9839346-3-9)



***September 11, 2001  
American Writers Respond***  
Edited by William Heyen

In *September 11, 2001, American Writers Respond*, more than 125 fiction writers, poets, and essayists are seized in ways that often surprise themselves.

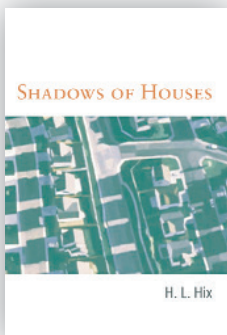
Literary Criticism, 419 pages, paperback  
\$19.00 (978-0-9718228-0-1)



***So Late, So Soon:  
New and Selected Poems***  
Carol Moldaw

Out of acutely observed, deeply felt particulars, Carol Moldaw constructs poetry of imaginative daring that illuminates and transforms the life within us all.

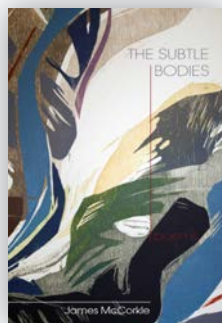
Poetry, 158 pages, trade paper  
\$18.95 (978-0-9819687-2-8)



***Shadows of Houses***  
H. L. Hix

Patiently looking at and through the quotidian, H. L. Hix registers the tiny and immense phenomena of change and variation the seasons and hours bring.

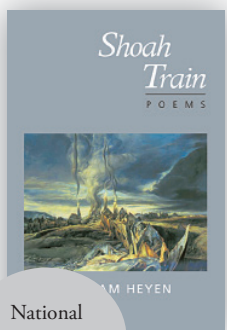
Poetry, 80 pages, trade paper  
\$15.95 (978-0-9745995-4-0)



***The Subtle Bodies***  
James McCorkle

*The Subtle Bodies* moves between lush landscapes and the violence imposed by humans upon the land, making contact with the world as it ebbs into a digitized silence.

Poetry, 82 pages, trade paper  
US \$16.00, CAN \$17.50 (978-0-9886922-3-7)

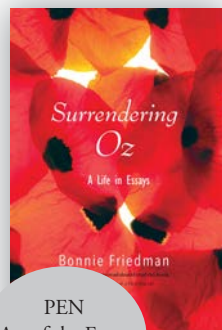


***Shoah Train***  
William Heyen

*Shoah Train* collects more than seventy lyrics of “discipline and honesty and courage and restraint,” as Archibald MacLeish described *The Swastika Poems*.

Poetry, 78 pages, trade paper  
\$15.95 (978-0-9718228-7-0)

National  
Book Award  
Finalist



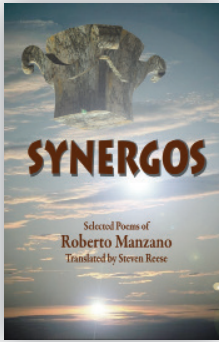
***Surrendering Oz***  
Bonnie Friedman

This memoir in essays charts the emotional awakening of a bookish Bronx girl from her early job as a proofreader at The Guinness Book of World Records through a series of dominating and liberating friendships and secret connections.

Essays, 241 pages, trade paper  
US \$14.00, CAN \$15.50 (978-0-9897532-2-7)  
eBook \$9.99 (978-0-9897532-1-0)

PEN  
Art of the Essay  
Longlist

COMPLETE BACKLIST

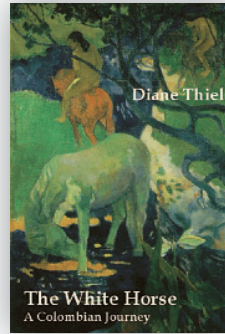


***Synergos:  
Selected Poems***

**Roberto Manzano**

These compendious, impassioned poems, registering the bizarre turns of the late twentieth century, represents the first English translation of Cuba's most prominent poet.

Poetry, 219 pages, trade paper  
\$18.95 (978-0-9797450-1-0)

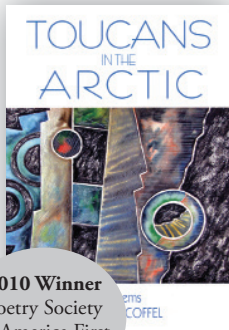


***The White Horse***

**Diane Thiel**

Diane Thiel's writing beckons us deeper into the heart of nature, reawakens our consciousness of the South American forest, and evokes the spirit of adventure.

Travel, 264 pages, trade paper  
\$19.95 (978-0-9718228-9-4)



***Toucans in the Arctic***

**Scott Coffel**

In this lyric case study of tumult and tranquility, the dominant voice is of a man both enthralled and appalled by the vast national park of the psyche as he scrambles across its eerie landscapes of identity and marriage.

Poetry, 64 pages, trade paper  
\$17.95 (978-0-9797450-7-2)



***White Vespa***

**Kevin Oderman**

Does art clarify or obscure love? With a photographic eye, Kevin Oderman probes family secrets on an exotic island.

Fiction, 280 pages, trade paper  
\$16.00 (978-0-9832944-9-8)  
eBook \$15.99 (978-0-9839346-4-6)

2010 Winner  
Poetry Society  
of America First  
Book Award



***Venison***

**Thorpe Moeckel**

The process of a family working up a deer in their shed and then kitchen serves as both focus and departure for this book-length poem. At stake are no less than the origins and mysteries of flesh and touch—food.

Poetry, 66 pages, trade paper  
\$17.95 (978-0-9819687-1-1)

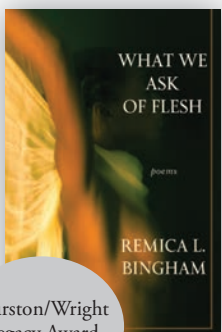


***Who's Afraid of Helen of Troy:  
An Essay on Love***

**David Lazar**

Lazar extends the language of prose poetry, finding nothing is as far apart as we think, except for chaos and order, innocence and experience.

Poetry, 72 pages, trade paper  
\$15.00 (978-0-9903221-1-5)



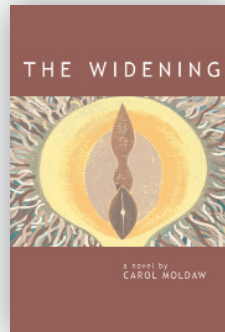
***What We Ask of Flesh***

**Remica L. Bingham**

Through biblical re-tellings, narratives, and lyric poems, this young African-American poet examines and heals wounds of flesh and spirit.

Poetry, 96 pages, trade paper  
\$14.00 (978-0-9839346-2-2)

Hurston/Wright  
Legacy Award  
Finalist



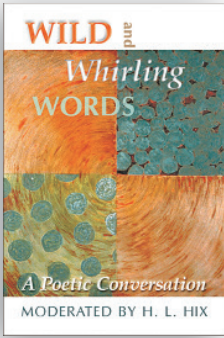
***The Widening***

**Carol Moldaw**

By turns picaresque, dark, and edgily erotic, *The Widening* is a poetic novel, presenting a portrait of a young woman's volatile mix of passivity and wildness.

Poetry, 114 pages, trade paper  
\$14.95 (978-0-9745995-9-5)

COMPLETE BACKLIST

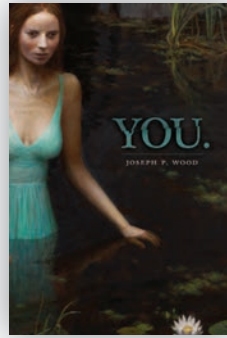


***Wild and Whirling Words:  
A Poetic Conversation***

Moderated by H. L. Hix

Thirty-three of America's best poets each volunteered one of his or her own poems, which the moderator then circulated anonymously among the other poets, who then responded for this collection.

Literary Criticism, 201 pages, trade paper  
\$22.95 (978-0-9745995-0-2)



***YOU.***

Joseph P. Wood

*YOU.* is the ultimate relationship poem: husband and wife, father and daughter, addict and rehab, self and god.

Poetry, 110 pages, trade paper  
\$16.00 (978-0-09897532-3-4)



***Zarathustra Must Die***

Dorian Alexander

In *Zarathustra Must Die*, sex, drugs, and rock 'n' roll meet Nietzsche's concept of eternal recurrence in a wild exploration of the nature of time and its relationship to our existence.

Fiction, 106 pages, trade paper  
\$11.00 (978-0-9832944-4-3)

Etruscan Press is proud of support received from

Wilkes University

Youngstown State University

The Stephen and Jeryl  
Oristaglio Foundation

The Ohio Arts Council

The Nathalie and James  
Andrews Foundation

The National Endowment  
for the Arts

Dr. Barbara Brothers &  
Gratia Murphy Endowment

The Rayen Foundation

The Raymond John Wean  
Foundation

The Youngstown Corporation

**WILKES**  
UNIVERSITY

**Ohio Arts Council**  
A STATE AGENCY  
THAT SUPPORTS PUBLIC  
PROGRAMS IN THE ARTS

**NATIONAL  
ENDOWMENT  
FOR THE ARTS**  
A great nation  
deserves great art.

**Youngstown**  
STATE UNIVERSITY

**THE RAYMOND JOHN  
WEAN FOUNDATION**

## OUTREACH PROGRAM

---

**The Etruscan Press outreach program continues to pair acclaimed authors with underserved students in area high schools, working to increase the literacy of students and offering a general appreciation for the literary arts.**

Our outreach program provides several events to promote a love of literature across multiple demographics in the Mahoning Valley. The target audience has grown from middle and high school students to include incarcerated college students, disabled adults, and senior citizens. We strive to increase cultural and literary awareness amongst all these underserved populations.

Incarcerated men and women at Northeast Pre-Release Center, Trumbull County Correctional Institute and Trumbull County Correctional Camp are enrolled in Youngstown State University writing and literature courses. Our approach in the outreach program provides a glimpse of the vast literary world to students whose education is too often constricted by ceaseless testing, restrictive rules, lacking resources, and low expectations.

**The outreach program goals include the following:**

- Expand cultural and literary awareness throughout Northeast Ohio and Northeast Pennsylvania
- Demonstrate a love of literature to young people
- Promote intercultural acceptance and understanding
- Prepare underserved students for success in college
- Plant Little Free Libraries, which aim to bring Youngstown and Wilkes-Barre communities together through music and literature
- Continue to build alliances with community business partners to promote literacy, the love of reading, and enrich local neighborhoods





## Small press. Big opportunity.

Interested in publishing? Want to see what working for a small press is all about? We may have just the opportunity for you. Etruscan Press offers a variety of internships to help you acquire valuable skills and credentials while learning the publishing world from the inside.

Etruscan offers a variety of publishing internships. There are many aspects of running a small press, and we are on the lookout for folks interested in writing, editing, marketing, design, public relations, social media, and business. We may have just the internship you are looking for.



# etruscan press

### **Design and Editing**

Design covers and internal text. Develop concepts for promotional materials and website copy.

### **Social Media**

Research new networking opportunities, market through social media.

### **Marketing**

Work with authors to promote individual titles, arrange readings and book signings; interact with universities and libraries, research marketing niches, and work with bookstores and other potential venues for author appearances.

### **Community Outreach**

Explore opportunities to bring Etruscan books and authors to classrooms and other learning sites and develop accompanying educational materials.

### **Grant and Promotional Writing**

Research new funding sources and help write grants to support new projects. Work on publication releases, as well as promotional copy for new books, website, and other venues.

### **Website Development**

Take on a variety of projects to enhance Etruscan's virtual presence.

For more information, please visit [etruscanpress.org](http://etruscanpress.org) and click the following: community and resources tab.



# Interview with Karen Donovan

by Pamela Turchin



A 1925 *Webster's New International Dictionary of the English Language* that once belonged to her grandfather became the inspiration for Karen Donovan's forthcoming *Aard-vark to Axolotl* (Etruscan Press, 2018). It is an eclectic series of tiny stories and prose poems, based on a set of illustrations from the pages of that very dictionary. She collected pictures of plants and animals, diagrams and devices, and created a new narrative for each one. The charming result of her effort is an assortment of small poetic stories that work on the reader like alternative definitions for items drawn from a cabinet of curiosities.

How did Donovan come to be in possession of her grandfather's dictionary? "My mother owned this dictionary for decades before I ever knew about it," she says. "She had packed it away in a chest with a bunch of her father's belongings long ago and forgotten it was there. One day she showed up at a family gathering with it in her arms and said to my husband, Walker, 'Here, you like books.' I think it amused her to unload this gigantic dictionary on him and see what he would do. Of course, he was delighted because she was right. He does like books. We trucked it home and immediately set it up on a bookstand."

And that's where the dictionary lives now. "It's a venerable presence in a house full of books," Donovan says. "Picture a very small cottage perched on the edge of a tidal marsh off a small cove of Narragansett Bay. Inside the house, you can pretty much get anywhere you need to go in a few steps. It's really more of a boat than a house. The walls are covered with art, and the ratio of books to total square footage is considerable, so visitors don't have much chance of noticing the dictionary per se right away. Once you see the darn thing on the bookstand in all its tonnage, though, there is a definite wow factor. The digital generation can't quite believe it exists."

Although she lives in a house full of books, she wouldn't consider a love of books necessarily runs in her family. "To wit, my mother's relief that we agreed to take the dictionary off her hands," says Donovan. "But my lifelong practice of book hoarding has made up for any lost ground. It's lucky that I turned out to be a poet, because you can easily fit four or five books of poems on a shelf in the same space a novel would occupy. That works out great."

But there's more to the story behind *Aard-vark to Axolotl* than meets the eye. Sure, it's a fun and fascinating read, full of wit and whimsy and clever observations on life. But Donovan's connection to her grandfather, to whom she dedicates this book, goes far beyond being captivated by the pictures in his old dictionary. She says, "I knew my grandfather Raymond as a gentle, soft-spoken man who taught me how to play chess and died when I was ten years old. Not until much later did I learn about his awful drinking problem and then finally understood why he did not live with my grandmother and why my mother was mad at him a lot."

She goes on to describe a bookplate pasted on the flyleaf of the dictionary. "It reads 'The R. H. Burton Estate Service, established 1921.' It gives his office address in downtown Providence in the Industrial Bank Building, an iconic feature of the city skyline that everybody calls the Superman Building. An old leather bookmark is still stuck in at the start of the 'O' section. For me," she says, "the dictionary is a token of the real man behind the disease. He managed to have a life before everything fell apart on him, and this dictionary tells me he would have been thoughtful with language—that he cared about words."

It's obvious this attention to the details of language and words was passed along. Not only is Donovan the author of two prior volumes of poetry, *Your Enzymes Are Calling the Ancients* (Persea Books, 2016) and *Fugitive Red* (University of Massachusetts Press, 1999), but for 20 years she and her husband co-edited a literary journal of short prose called ¶: *A Magazine of Paragraphs*. It was a true labor of love. "We published ¶ from 1985 to 2005," she says. "From the beginning, it was a tremendous amount of arduous, painstaking work and a total blast. We did our entire run of 25 issues before the Internet struck. Everything was paper. Piles and piles of submissions coming in the mail from everywhere, following us doggedly through three states and five changes of address. One day the postman asked me, 'What is it you guys do again?'"

Donovan especially loved reading submissions. "Once the box of envelopes reached a certain unmanageable height, we would call time and spend a weekend reading," she says. "The magic was that you never knew what might be in the envelope. When all you ask for is paragraphs of 250 words or less, you can get some wondrously berserk and idiosyncratic voices. The concept behind ¶ was homeopathic. Many small doses of reality in very short form, perfectly sized to fit in the back pocket of your jeans. We assembled each issue, printed only 400 copies, and sent them out as an antidote to the world's ills."

Donovan has continued this thread with *Aard-vark to Axolotl*. Her quirky images and definitions may not be the solution to the problems of our world, but they certainly are a welcome distraction and sure to cure what ails you.

*Pamela Turchin is pursuing her M.F.A in fiction from Wilkes University, where she serves as a graduate assistant and as the production editor at Etruscan Press.*

## DONATE TO ETRUSCAN PRESS

---

**Etruscan Press is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and can exist only through the support of readers like you — those interested in sustaining the work of independent presses publishing quality literature. We ask you to join and support our mission.**

*“I hear America singing, her varied carols I hear.”*  
--Walt Whitman

**Nothing attested, everything sung,** writes Etruscan poet H. L. Hix, echoing Walt. Since our first release, *September 11, 2001: American Writers Respond*, Etruscan writers have sung a resonant chorus of poetry, fiction, creative nonfiction, and literary criticism.

**People have taken notice.** Three of our 81 titles have been finalists for the National Book Award. Etruscan books have won honors from the Poetry Society of America and *ForeWord Magazine*. We’ve been in *Best American Poetry* and on Garrison Keillor’s show. We’ve partnered with The National Endowment for the Arts, Wilkes University, and Youngstown State University. Our outreach program brings new literature to thousands of at-risk students.

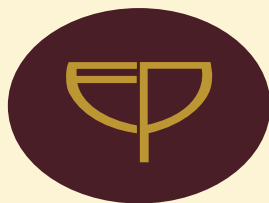
**We ask you to join Etruscan’s varied carols.** Help us continue to show what an independent, nonprofit literary press can do: orchestrate the literary music of authors not often heard in the mainstream. Help us show that books matter because they sing, not because of a bottom line.

Come join our swelling chorus. Please make a tax-deductible contribution today.

**Visit our website at [etruscanpress.org](http://etruscanpress.org) and click DONATE HERE tab.**

## Etruscan Press 2017 Highlights

- *One Turn Around the Sun* and *Mr. Either/Or* reviewed by *Publisher’s Weekly*
- Tim Seibles’ *One Turn Around the Sun* was given to students at East High School, Choffin Career & Technical Center, Youngstown Early College, and Austintown Fitch High School in Youngstown, OH
- Remica Bingham-Risher’s *What We Ask of Flesh* and Aaron Poochigian’s *Mr. Either/Or* was given to students at Choffin Career & Technical Center, Austintown Fitch High School, Chaney High School, Youngstown Early College, and the YSU Incarcerated Student Program
- *Areas of Fog* author Will Dowd interviewed on six radio stations, including NPR’s WCAI *The Point*
- Thirteen Etruscan authors participated in 17 panels, over 10 book signings and offsite events at AWP17, held February 8-11 in Washington, DC. Etruscan also co-hosted the AWP Old School Slam, which produced nearly 30 slam poets
- Etruscan Prize awarded to Ronnie Stephens for his poetry piece (judged by Etruscan author Myrna Stone)
- Continued Etruscan outreach program in partnership with Youngstown State University Poetry Center featuring Austintown Fitch High School, Chaney High School, Choffin Career Center & Technical Center, East High Early College, Park Vista Retirement Home, and the YSU Incarcerated Student Program



etruscan press  
bearing imagination

[www.etruscanpress.org](http://www.etruscanpress.org)

**Website:** [www.etruscanpress.org](http://www.etruscanpress.org)

**Email:** [books@etruscanpress.org](mailto:books@etruscanpress.org)

**Phone:** (570) 408-4546