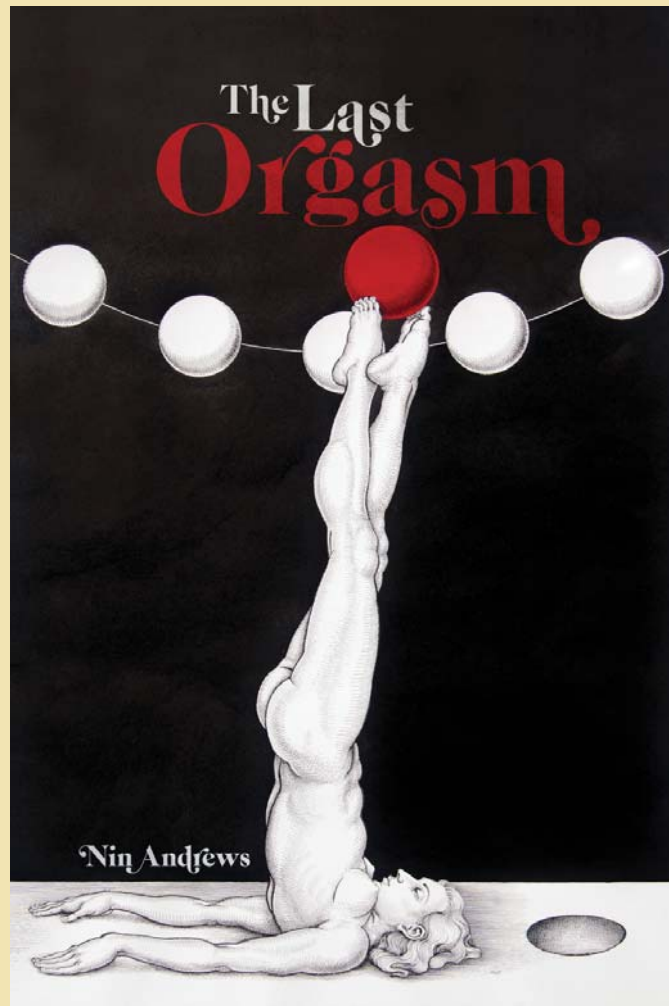


2020 RELEASES



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bearing imagination

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A Note from the Executive Director...

2020 used to mean eyesight. Now I'm seeing double—no, *Triptych*. This decade kicks off with three volumes in one. Neither a marketing gambit nor editorial compromise, *Triptych* brings poetry back to its communal roots. Peter Grandbois' *The Three-Legged World* is joined by James McCorkle's *In Time* and Robert Miltner's *Orpheus & Echo* to invite us back to the hearth where all have their turn to sing.

Diane Raptosh's *Dear Z: The Zygote Epistles* has its own distinguished pedigree as the third book in a trilogy that includes National Book Award Longlist *American Amnesiac* and *Human Directional*. In the long-awaited final episode, find out what happens to generation Z (and the human race). Doubling down on mono-lettered handles, *Variations in the Key of K*, by new Etruscan Alex Stein, launches into meta-histories of Kafka, Picasso, Artaud, and a pride of other great artists.

I can't wait to pitch our Spring titles: *Bestiality of the Involved*, *The Last Orgasm*, and *Scar*. Sounds scary, but in fact these three books are as non-genred as possible. Spring Ulmer's essays are erudite and heart-breaking; Nin Andrews shows why she is one of America's pre-eminent prose poets; and Bruce Bond, whose brilliance has sustained us through many titles, has compiled a "Triptych" of his own, taking us through a personal and national history in verse both delicate and transformative.

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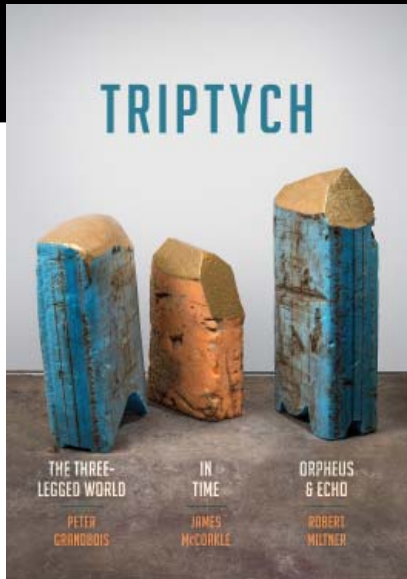
Justin Bodnar

poetry • fiction • creative nonfiction

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Triptych: The Three-Legged World, In Time, and Orpheus & Echo

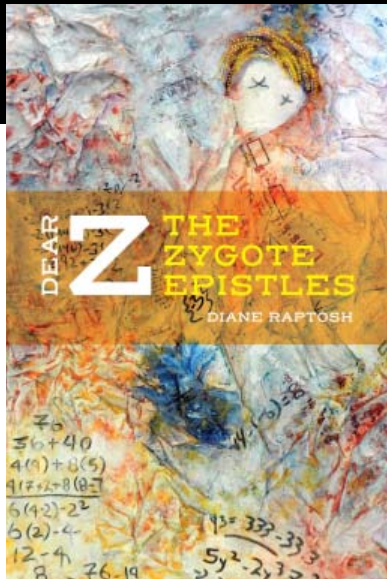
Poetry

PETER GRANDBOIS, JAMES McCORKLE, ROBERT MILTNER
Available Spring 2020

Between two covers are three books: *The Three-Legged World* by Peter Grandbois, *In Time* by James McCorkle, and *Orpheus & Echo* by Robert Miltner. They are bound by no prior agreement or collaboration; it has no precedent with this publisher. Grandbois and McCorkle are veteran Etruscans, and Robert Miltner is a valued colleague. Etruscan brings these three books together because they exerted upon our editors a gravitational pull. Sufficient on their own, these books achieve new altitudes when aligned.

Peter Grandbois has written ten books, the most recent, *half-burnt* (Spuyten Duyvil.) He is a senior editor at *Boulevard* and teaches at Denison University. James McCorkle is the author of *Evidences* (selected for the 2003 Honickman First Book Award) and *The Subtle Bodies* (Etruscan Press.) He teaches at Hobart and William Smith Colleges. Robert Miltner's prose poetry collection, *Hotel Utopia* (New Rivers Press,) won the Many Voices Project poetry prize. He is an emeritus professor at Kent State University Stark.

7 x 10 | 248 pp | \$18.00 | 978-0-9997534-2-2



Dear Z: The Zygote Epistles

Poetry

DIANE RAPTOSH
Available Spring 2020

Dear Z collects verse-letters to a newly fertilized zygote—not quite a person, nor even an embryo—but rather, the great human *maybe*. The speaker delivers the “Z” a taste of what this might mean in poems whose topical range traipses from AutoFill to Idaho, New Zealand rivers to the zombie apocalypse.

Diane Raptosh's fourth book of poetry, *American Amnesiac* (Etruscan Press) was longlisted for the 2013 National Book Award as well as a finalist for the Housatonic Book Award in poetry. An active poetry ambassador, she has given poetry workshops everywhere from riverbanks to maximum-security prisons. She teaches creative writing and runs the program in Criminal Justice/Prison Studies at The College of Idaho.

6 x 9 | 112 pp | \$17.00 | 978-0-9997534-5-3

Variations in the Key of K

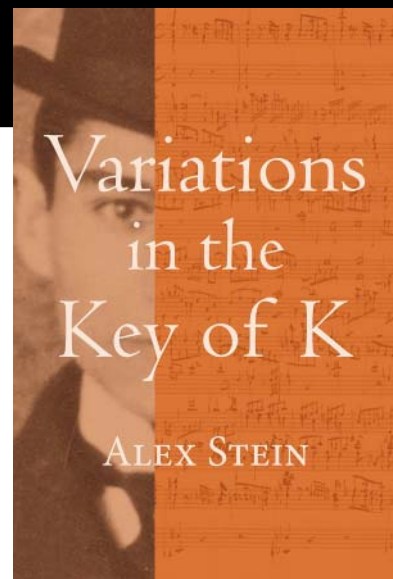
Fiction

ALEX STEIN

Available Spring 2020

Variations in the Key of K begins where history leaves off, delving into imagined lives of Kafka and other great artists, including Picasso, Blake, and Artaud. Part scholarship, part novel, *Variations In The Key of K* is a wry critique and a celebration of the creative life.

Alex Stein was born in Washington State and raised in Canada. He is the co-editor of *Short Flights*, an anthology of modern aphorisms. He received a doctoral degree in Writing and Literature from the University of Denver. He works as a research librarian at the University of Colorado.



6 x 9 | 192 pp | \$16.00 | 978-0-9997534-7-7

eBook | \$16.95 | 978-1-7336741-6-4

The Last Orgasm

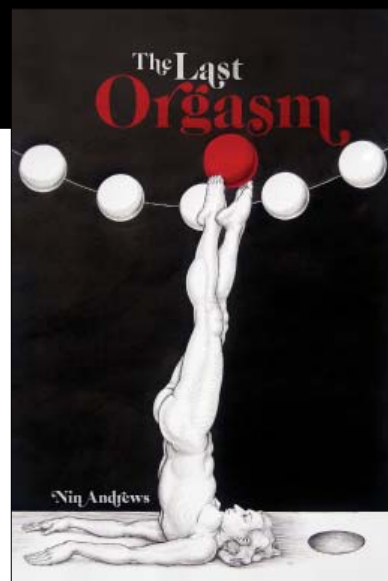
Poetry

NIN ANDREWS

Available October 2020

The Last Orgasm continues the journey of Nin Andrew's notorious collection, *The Book of Orgasms*, which became a cult classic that has been translated into Turkish, performed in Prague and has readers around the globe. In both books the orgasm is an ethereal presence, puzzled by humanity in general and Nin in particular.

Nin Andrews' poems have appeared in many literary journals and anthologies including *Ploughshares*, *Agni*, *The Paris Review*, and four editions of *Best American Poetry*. She lives on a farm in Charlottesville, Virginia with her husband, cows, coyotes, and many bears.



6 x 9 | 128 pp | \$19.00 | 978-1-7336741-1-9



Scar

Poetry

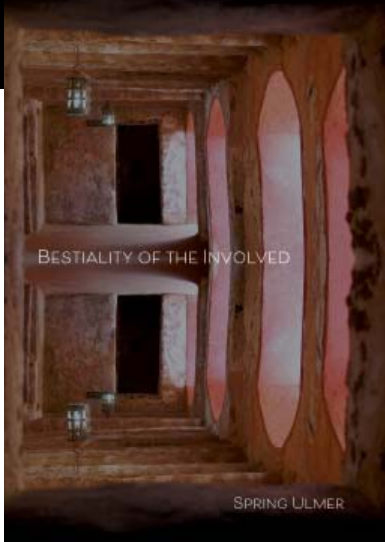
BRUCE BOND

Available Fall 2020

Bruce Bond's trilogy of sonnet sequences explores trauma and self-alienation and the power of imaginative life to heal—to reawaken with the past; to better understand its influence, both conscious and unconscious; to gain some measure of clarity, empathy, and freedom as we read the world around us.

Bruce Bond is the author of twenty-three books including, most recently, *Blackout Starlight: New and Selected Poems 1997-2015* (E. Phillabaum Award, LSU, 2017), *Rise and Fall of the Lesser Sun Gods* (Elixir Poetry Prize, Elixir Press, 2018), *Frankenstein's Children* (Lost House Press, 2018) *Dear Reader* (Free Verse Editions, 2018), and *Plurality and the Poetics of Self* (Palgrave, 2019). Other awards include Lynda Hull Memorial Poetry, Allen Tate, Laurence Goldstein Poetry, Richard Peterson, and fellowships from the NEA and the Texas Institute for the Arts. Presently he is a Regents Professor of English at the University of North Texas. His poems have appeared in Best American Poetry six times.

6 x 9 | 144 pp | \$18.00 | 978-1-7336741-4-0



Bestiality of the Involved

Essays

SPRING ULMER

Available October 2020

What does it mean to want to become a mother, as children around the world die of treatable diseases, are killed by bomb or bullet, are held in cages? In *Bestiality of the Involved*, Spring Ulmer lives this question out loud, refusing any easy answer.

Spring Ulmer is the author of *Benjamin's Spectacles* and *The Age of Virtual Reproduction*. She teaches at Middlebury College.

6 x 9 | 208 pp | \$19.00 | 978-1-7336741-2-6
eBook | \$19.95 | 978-1-7336741-3-3

COMPLETE BACKLIST



50 Miles
Sheryl St. Germain

50 Miles is a memoir in linked essays that addresses addiction and alcoholism. The book traces the life and death of the author's son, Gray, a talented by troubled young man.

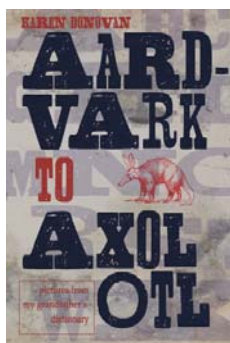
Essays, 199 pages, trade paper
\$17.00 (978-0-9997534-4-6)
eBook \$17.95 (978-0-9997534-9-1)



American Anger: An Evidentiary
H. L. Hix

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

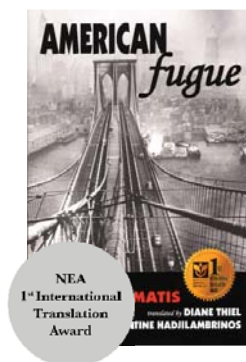
Poetry, 215 pages, trade paper
\$19.00 (978-0-9897532-4-1)



Aard-vark to Axolotl
Karen Donovan

Donovan creates a series of whimsical narratives based on illustrations from an old dictionary. The juxtaposition of image and text surprises and delights, making us wonder about the frangibility of all definitions.

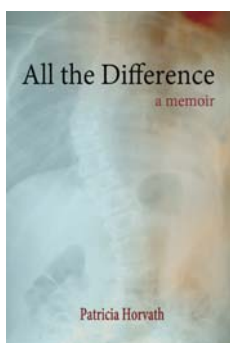
Essays, 107 pages, trade paper
\$15.00 (978-0-9977455-6-6)



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.

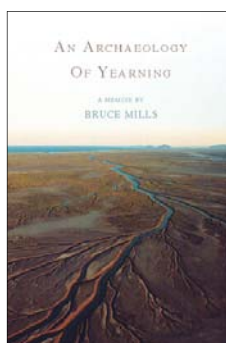
Fiction, 353 pages, trade paper
\$16.95 (978-0-9797450-2-7)



All The Difference
Patricia Horvath

All The Difference is a captivating account of the author's transformation from a disabled young woman to someone who could pass for able-bodied, detailing experiences with bracing and spinal fusion and the literature of physical transformation.

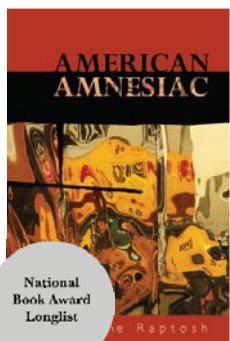
Memoir, 188 pages, trade paper
\$16.95 (978-0-9903221-9-1)
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An Archaeology of Yearning
Bruce Mills

Mills remarkable memoir maps the artifacts of the life of a father and his autistic son as they learn the depth of relationships.

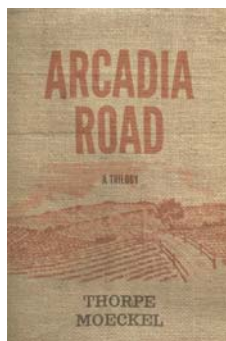
Memoir, 232 pages, trade paper
\$15.00 (978-0-9839346-9-1)
eBook \$14.99 (978-0-9886922-2-0)



American Amnesiac
Diane Raptosh

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

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

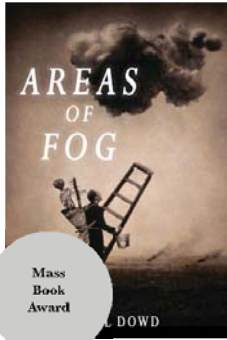


Arcadia Road: A Trilogy
Thorpe Moeckel

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)

COMPLETE BACKLIST



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.

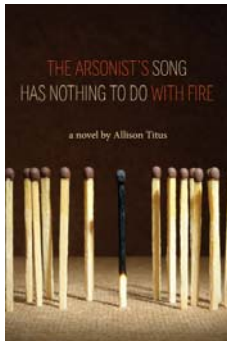
Essays, 160 pages, trade paper
\$15.00 (978-0-9977455-3-5)
eBook \$15.00 (978-0-9977455-9-7)



As Much As, If Not More Than
H. L. Hix

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

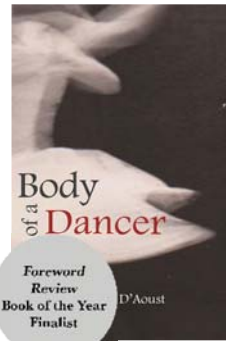
Poetry, 184 pages, trade paper
\$17.00 (978-0-9886922-1-3)



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.

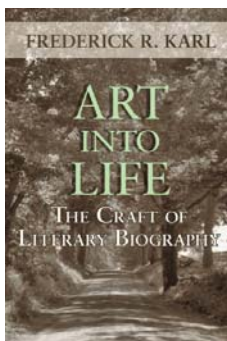
Fiction, 244 pages, trade paper
\$15.00 (978-0-9886922-5-1)
eBook \$9.99 (978-0-9886922-7-5)



Body of a Dancer
Renée 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)
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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.

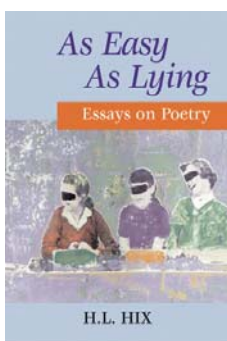
Literary Criticism, 295 pages, hardcover
\$29.95 (978-0-9745995-3-3)



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.

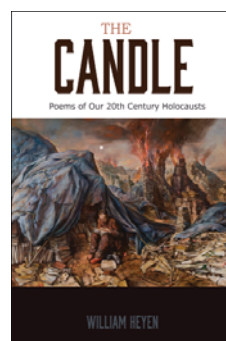
Fiction, 126 pages, trade paper
\$14.95 (978-0-9819687-8-0)
eBook \$14.99 (978-0-9832944-6-7)



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)

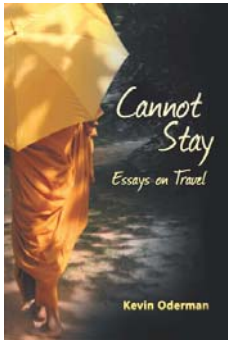


The Candle: Poems of Our 20th Century Holocausts
William Heyen

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
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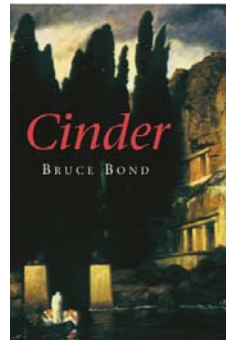
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Cannot Stay: Essays on Travel
Kevin Oderman

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

Essays, 238 pages, trade paper
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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.

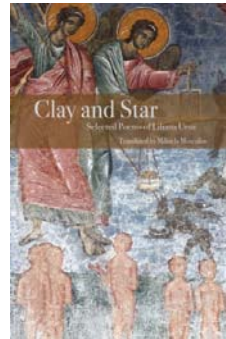
Poetry, 66 pages, trade paper
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The Casanova Chronicles
Myrna Stone

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)



Clay and Star: Selected Poems by Liliانا Ursu
Translated by Mihaela Moscaliuc

In *Clay and Star*, Romanian poet Liliانا Ursu captures with breathtaking precision the convergence of the sacred with the mundane.

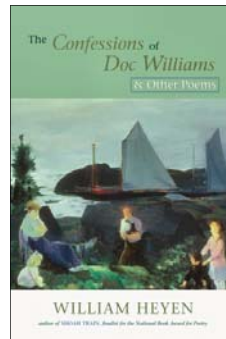
Poetry, 96 pages, trade paper
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Choir of the Wells
Bruce Bond

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
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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.

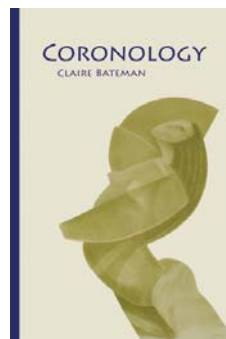
Poetry, 74 pages, trade paper
\$15.95 (978-0-9745995-5-7)
eBook \$14.99 (978-0-9832944-6-7)



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)



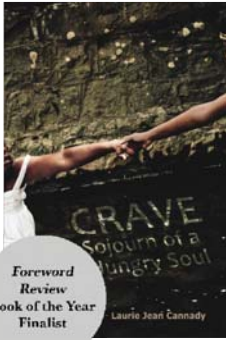
Coronology
Claire Bateman

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)

National
Book Award
Finalist

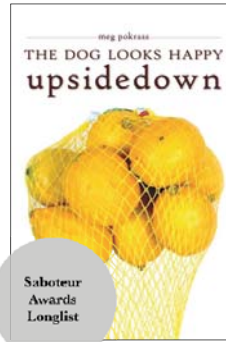
COMPLETE BACKLIST



Crave: Sojourn of a Hungry Soul
Laurie Jean Cannady

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

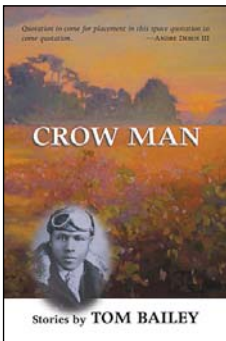
Memoir, 384 pages, trade paper
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eBook \$18.99 (978-0-9903221-4-6)



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.

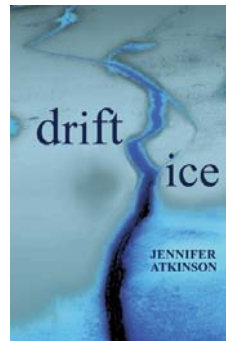
Flash Fiction, 124 pages, trade paper
\$15.00 (978-0-9903221-2-2)



Crow Man
Tom Bailey

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

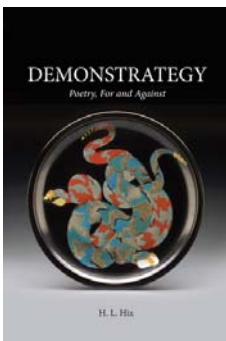
Fiction, 179 pages, hardcover
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Drift Ice
Jennifer Atkinson

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.

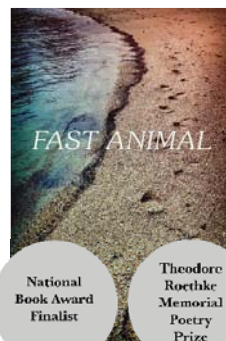
Poetry, 81 pages, trade paper
\$16.95 (978-0-9797450-0-3)



Demonstrategy: Poetry, For and Against
H. L. Hix

Demonstrategy shows that in an ever more technological, globalized, and privatized world, poetry is more important, not less.

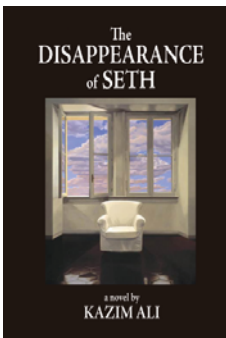
Essays, 200 pages, trade paper
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eBook \$18.95 (978-1-7336741-0-2)



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 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)

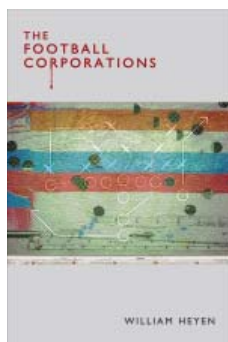


First Fire, Then Birds: Obsessionals 1985-2010
H. L. Hix

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 visions of a new whole.

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

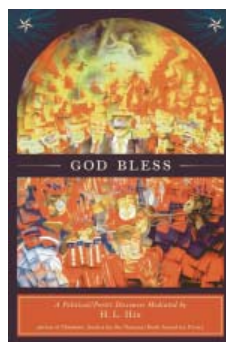
COMPLETE BACKLIST



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.

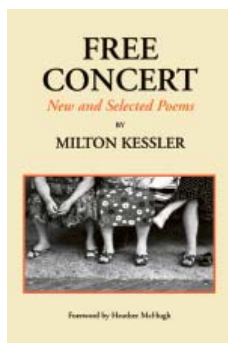
Poetry, 80 pages, trade paper
\$14.00 (978-0-9832944-5-0)



*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)



*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.

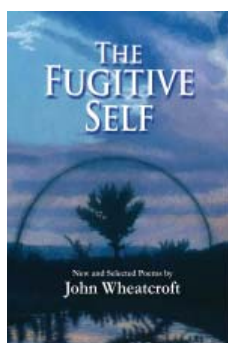
Poetry, 125 pages, hardcover
\$29.95 (978-0-9718228-2-5)
trade paper \$17.95 (978-0-9718228-4-9)



*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
\$15.00 (978-0-9886922-4-4)
eBook \$9.99 (978-0-9886922-6-8)



*The Fugitive Self:
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John Wheatcroft

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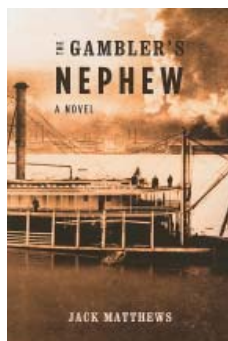
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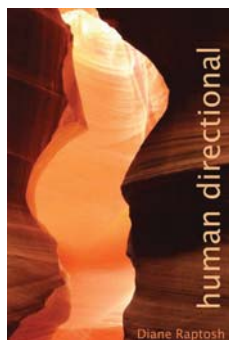


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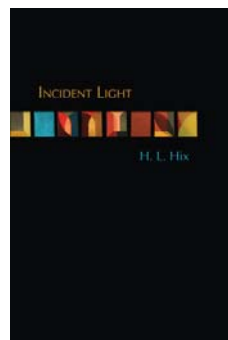
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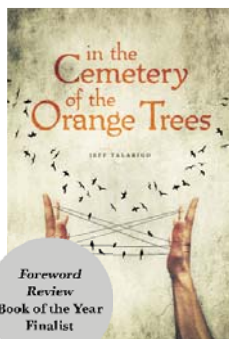
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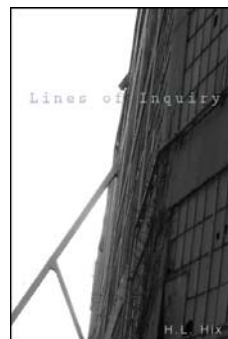
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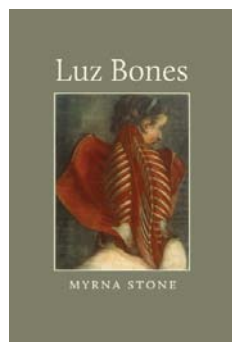


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In verse essays, letters, and interviews, H. L. Hix's lines of inquiry ponder philosophic questions distilling answers with an intrinsic to a poetic heart.

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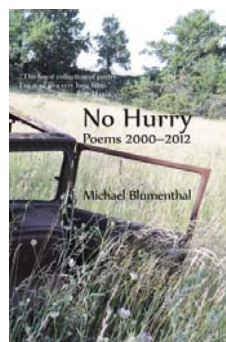
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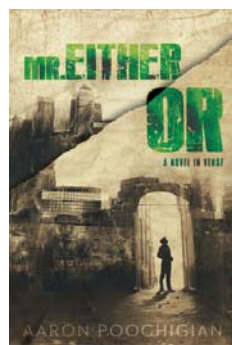
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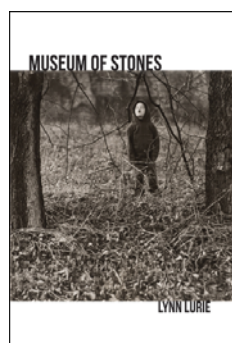
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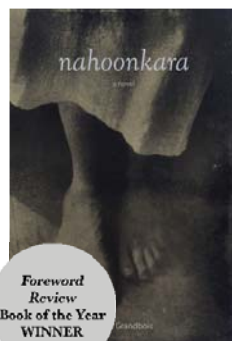
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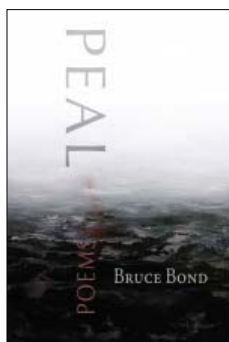
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Michael Lind

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.

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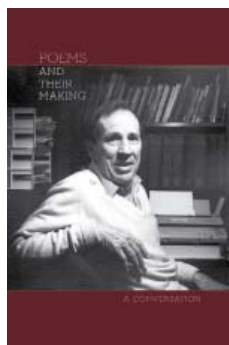
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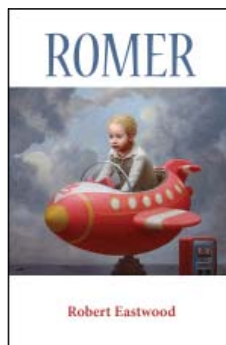
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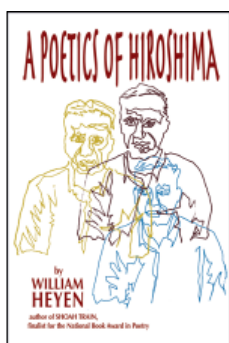
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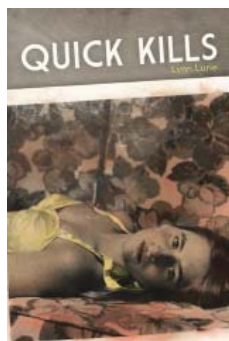
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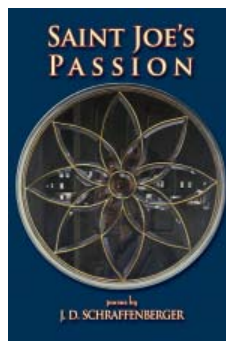
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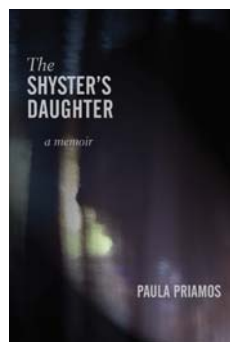
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Through the still-industrial Midwest, Dougherty offers us the stories he has lived and collected of men and women still going on, even if unsure.

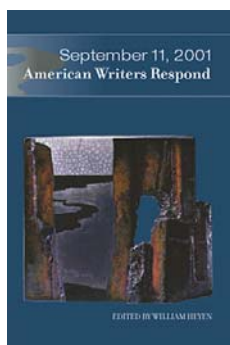
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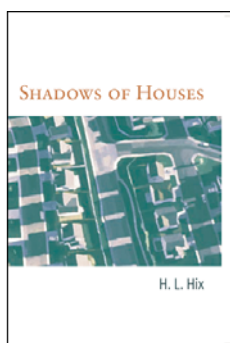
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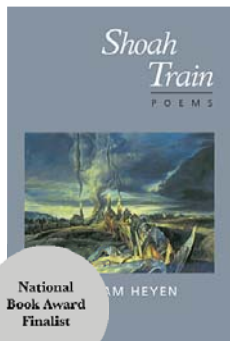
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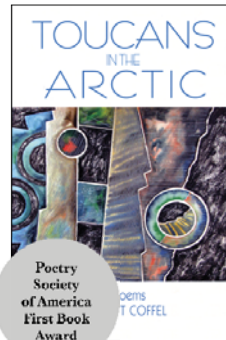
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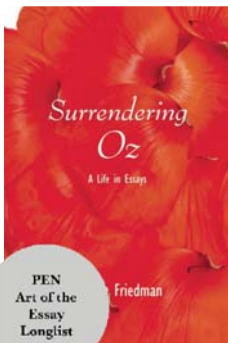
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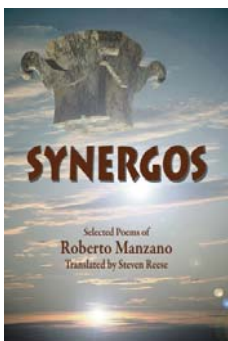
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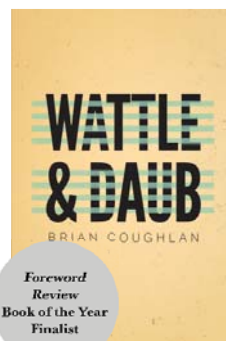
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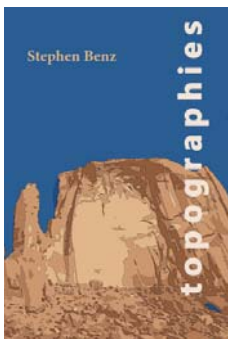
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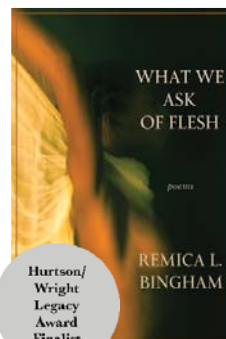
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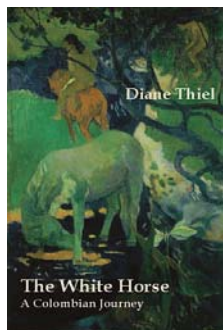


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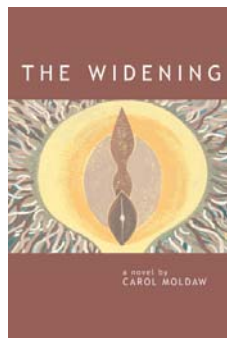
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Diane Thiel's writing beckons us deeper into the heart of nature, reawakens our consciousness of the South American forest, and evokes the spirit of adventure.

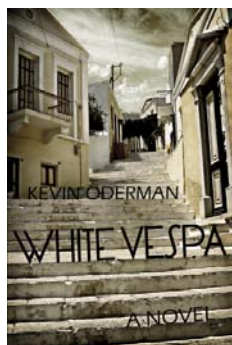
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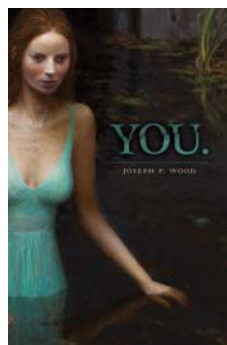
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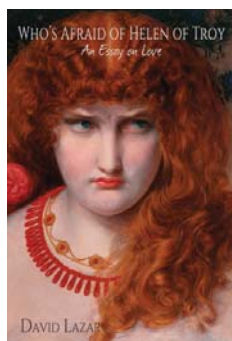
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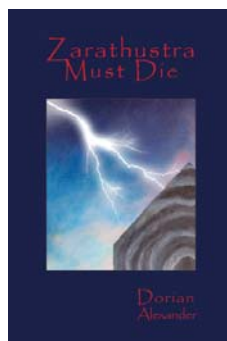
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David Lazar

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

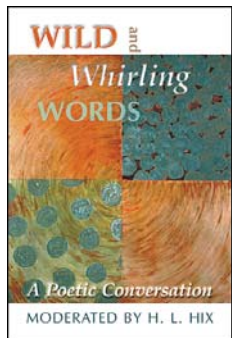
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Dorian Alexander

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Moderated by H. L. Hix

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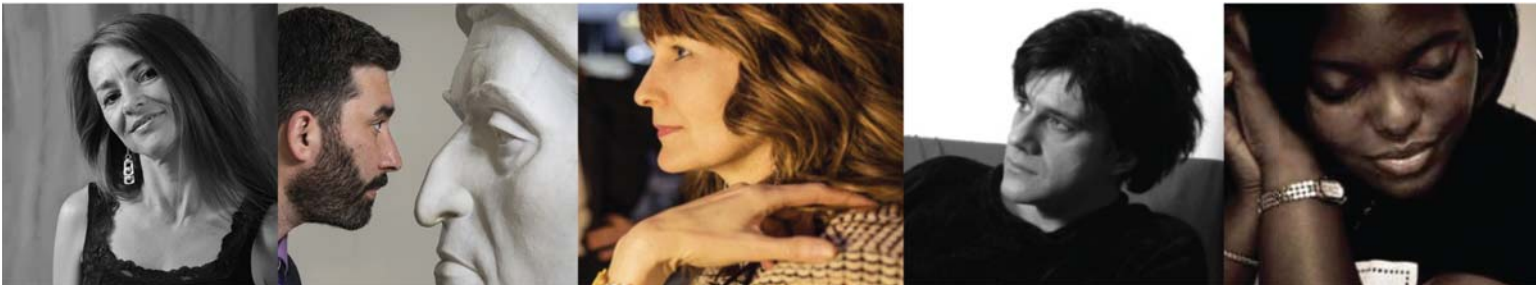


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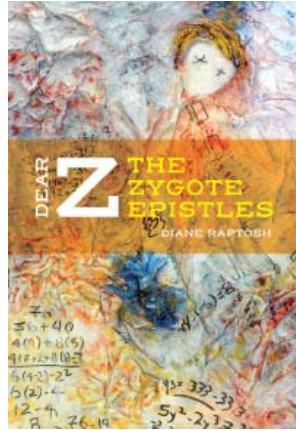
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Essay: Poetry is where the action is

by Diane Raptosh



Let me just say it: poetry is where the action is. Poetry as rhetoric, poetry as philosophy, poetry as art, poetry as cultural production. . . . But what is at stake in adopting one of these classifications to the exclusion of the others? The treatment of poetry as a branch of history or culture is based on the assumption that the poetry of a period is a good index to that period's overall intellectual and ideological currents. Still, as critics from Aristotle to Theodor Adorno have understood, the idea that imaginative writing is an index to its time has the potential to ignore the work's powers of invention, transfiguration, and resistance. Aristotle makes this point in the ninth chapter of the *Poetics*:

The difference between a historian and poet is not that one writes in prose and the other in verse. . . . The real difference is this, that one tells what happened and the other what might happen. For this reason poetry is something more philosophical and serious than history, because poetry tends to give general truths while history gives particular facts. . . . It is clear, then . . . that the poet must be a “maker” not of verses but of stories, since he is a poet in virtue of his “representation,” and *what he represents is action* [emphasis mine].

Etruscan Press has as mainstay of its mission to produce works that “reshape the literary and cultural histories of which we are a part.” As a three-time Etruscan-published writer, I know my books have found precisely the right home. The above notions built into poetics—of invention and action, transformation and resistance—are what propel all my work.

I've long been having presentiments about where this country's been headed, and it looked bleak even when many (myself included) were exulting over the historic election of Barack Obama. An armchair sociologist, I'd tracked for decades the statistics about increasing income inequality and racial divides, while training my eye on malignant cultural forces such as enforced forgetting and spectacle—brought to you by . . . that great, glowing separation machine: the TV. Based on facts and intuitions about what was likely to happen in a burgeoning new Gilded Age, I felt I had to leap into action. So I created what became the first work in my verse trilogy, *American Amnesiac* (Etruscan 2013), a book-length dramatic monologue “spoken” by a former Goldman Sachs exec. A straight, affluent white man in his sixties, he is discovered lying on a bench in Denver's Civic Center Park. Cuffed with the nametag “John Doe,” he is taken to a respite home, where I task him with the difficult work of rethinking self and nation-state—driven by what I hoped was an *everyman's* egalitarian impulse toward decency for all. You're right if you're thinking that was a lot to ask of one book of poems: to alter the psychic trajectory of a country such that it would more truly esteem the *we*.

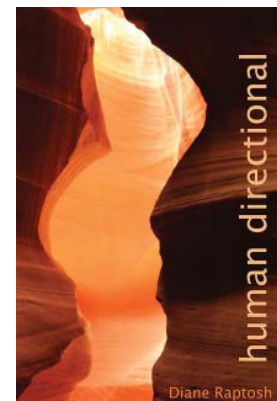
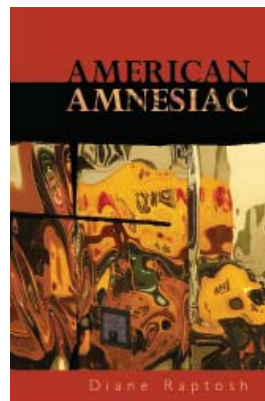
So when the power elite decided to pursue a path that snubbed this imperative, I did what I could. I wrote the trilogy's second book: *Human Directional* (2016). Here, the poems' speaker scours human consciousness “to find new tacks for striving to get by” in an age of what she dubs *pre-post hope*. To resist how a “given system for living / strong-arms its way into being / the only

possible one,” the human sign offers one sure means to begin to flourish in a compassionless landscape: to let singing *catch*. Or else to ballroom dance! Alternatively, she suggests that maybe the most we can do is to “leave the world little by little // in order to stay here at all, / waiting to put the goods in the hands of a new clan mother.” As with *Amnesiac*, I tried to make the words sing. In both books, I tried to “cop a feel of the globe / in mega-dimension.” In both, I tried to make the word *deed*. This second book in the trilogy ends with the poem “World Upside Down”—the speaker walking on her hands outdoors, sniffing clover laced in industrial bug spray. *Human Directional* ends by offering up a “splice of blue grass” in the form of the archaic noun *inwit*.

You likely already know its ancient meanings: inward knowledge or understanding. Middle English for *mind* | *reason* | *intellect* and *soul* | *spirit* | *feeling*, it is also another term for conscience and consciousness. As such, *inwit* suggests the inner senses and interior sensibility: that collection of inner faculties the poet sets store by. *Inwit* is, by my reckoning, the very womb in which the poet thrives. As I’ve watched the 21st century inch into its pupa phase, I’ve felt this womb-world—the very core of human selfhood—to be increasingly under siege, and by the usual suspects: neoliberal capitalism—its private tongues of money, its culture of cruelty and objectification; screens “growing noses” to groom us; the offshore of memory to the machine. It was thus, rooted in *inwit*, or what I call in *Dear Z* “mind’s endometrium,” that I began to wonder whether/why/whence new human beings should be brought into the world at all. It seems the central question of philosophy since the beginning of time should have been *Ought I bring a child into this everlastingly difficult sphere?* Nearly three decades ago, I answered this question in the affirmative. Twice. I would make this same choice again in an instant, for the ethos of mothering—available to all genders—taught me to love my children, yes, and to extend that level of care to all beings. That I chose motherhood (one daughter by birth, one by adoption) in no way diminishes my interest in sifting through questions around reproduction. So I opened these up as widely as possible for the triad’s finale, *Dear Z: The Zygote*

Epistles. In these verse-letters, I keep a newly fertilized zygote in a state of suspended animation and appoint a well-rounded, if a bit unconventional, clan mother (the zygote’s aunt) to introduce him/her/it to the zeitgeist. By such means, the aunt depicts for Z—“the great human *maybe*”—the wild ride of taking on and hanging onto selfhood. The cosmic clan mother/aunt, in turn, symbolizes the feminine principle trying to pierce and mend the wreckage generations of patriarchy have wrought. To this end, the aunt admits she feels “vaguely parental” toward everyone. She angles toward cultural transformation. Like John Doe, she knows *recite* and *resist* often sip coffee together. Hence, she means action: visioning worlds with the think/feeling fist that is *inwit*.

Diane Raptosh’s fourth book of poetry, *American Amnesiac*, (Etruscan Press) was longlisted for the 2013 National Book Award and was a finalist for the Housatonic Book Award. The recipient of three fellowships in literature from the Idaho Commission on the Arts, she served as the Boise Poet Laureate (2013) as well as the Idaho Writer-in-Residence (2013-2016), the highest literary honor in the state. In 2018 she received the Idaho Governor’s Arts Award in Excellence. A highly active ambassador for poetry, she has given poetry workshops everywhere from riverbanks to maximum security prisons. She teaches creative writing and runs the program in Criminal Justice/Prison Studies at The College of Idaho. Her most recent collection of poems, *Human Directional*, was released by Etruscan Press in 2016.



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 Camp are enrolled in Youngstown State University's 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.

During the winter of 2018-19, Etruscan author Jeff Talarigo visited Youngstown and discussed his work, *In the Cemetery of the Orange Trees*, with students and members of the general public. The Etruscan Press Outreach Program also brought writers and books to two area prisons, two public libraries, and the Youngstown YWCA.

In March and April 2019, the Outreach Program offered a similar program featuring *50 Miles* author Sheryl St. Germain and playwright Kelly Bancroft.

Etruscan Press continues a mentorship program that provides Etruscan authors to mentor individual incarcerated citizens in Ohio.



OUTREACH PROGRAM



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.



2019 Etruscan Press Highlights

Museum of Stones by Lynn Lurie was featured in *Mid-American Review*, Volume XXXIX, Number 2. *Museum of Stones* reveals a possessive/obsessive world of a love that must be released. An exceptional child collects too many rocks, invents a garbage recycler that runs amok, does not “play well.”

The Adroit Journal featured a conversation between Executive Director Philip Brady and Etruscan author Dante Di Stefano entitled “Forever to Drown and Fly in the Interrogative.”

Areas of Fog by Will Dowd, a collection of essays published by Etruscan Press in 2017 was awarded the Mass Book Award by the Massachusetts Center for the Book. 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.

On May 15, 2019, *Foreword Reviews* chose *Museum of Stones* as the Book of the Day remarking “this book asks much of the reader, but rewards in its complexity.”

Etruscan Press added two more titles to its growing audiobook collection with *Museum of Stones* and *Areas of Fog*. Five Etruscan titles are now available through audible.com.

In the Cemetery of the Orange Trees and *Wattle & daub* were each named *Foreword Review's* Book of the Year finalists.

Partnership with Etruscan Press, Wilkes University and United Airlines to provide donated Etruscan books to “Books on the Fly” program continued during 2019.

Eleven Etruscan authors attended AWP19 in Portland, Oregon, participated on 14 panels and five author signings at the Wilkes/Etruscan booth.

The 2019 Etruscan Prize was awarded to Wilkes University M.F.A. student Iris Ouellette for her fiction piece entitled “Into the Acadian Sea” on June 21, 2019. This was the fourth year in the prize’s ten year history it was awarded for fiction. This year’s judge was Etruscan Rene D’Aoust, author of *Body of a Dancer*.



The 2019 Etruscan Prize was awarded to Iris Ouellette on June 21, 2019. Left to Right: Executive Editor Bob Mooney; Executive Director Phil Brady; Iris Ouellette; and Managing Editor Bill Schneider.

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“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 93 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 can sing, not because of a bottom line.

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

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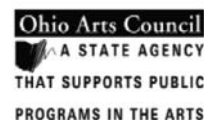
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