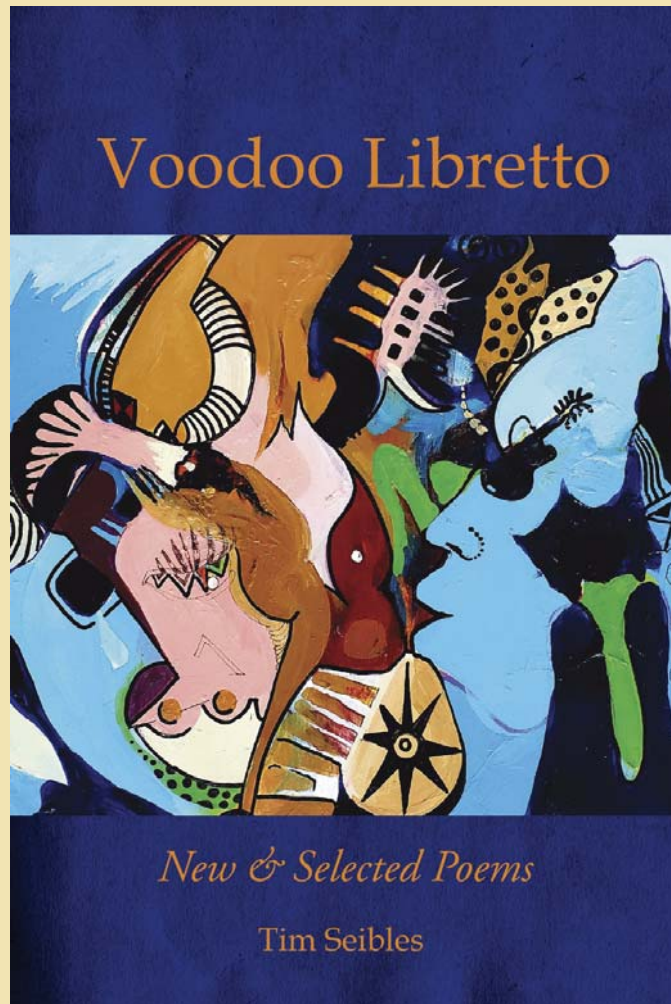


# 2021 RELEASES



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...**

When I am alone  
how close my friends are;  
When I am with them  
How distant they are!  
—Antonio Machado

Not in my lifetime has the world felt so close and so achingly far. While Etruscans have been working in disparate places for years—Youngstown, Chestertown, Wilkes-Barre, Binghamton and parts unknown—this year those distances have stretched to global scale and shrunk to the mind's radiant garret. In the pandemic, our 2021 titles take on new implications, attuned to intimate distances.

In *Wait for God to Notice*, Sari Fordham conjures an unreachable childhood in Uganda. Spoken word poet Angelique Palmer's *After Dark* charts ancient and post-modern paths between sign and utterance. And Tim Seibles' *magnus opus*, *Voodoo Libretto*, links forty years of verse by one of America's most beloved poets. Finally, *Trio*, our second offering under the Etruscan imprint, Tribus, joins three books, conceived independently, but somehow sparking intersections among themes as far-reaching as the signifiers of geology, a historically neglected suffragette, and generations of mother-daughter bonding.

Antonio Machado, we lean toward you to listen, eons off.

### **Founders**

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

### **Special Advisers**

Robert Carioscia, David Hicks

### **Staff**

Bill Schneider, Managing Editor; Pamela Turchin, Production Editor; Wayne Benson, Michael Hardin, Editorial Associates; Mary Poth, Wilkes University M.F.A. Intern; Kristina Darling, Publicist; Douglas Martin, Website Designer; Shawn Hatten, Videographer

### **Copy Editors**

Janine Dubik, Karen Krumpak, Karley Stasko

### **Designers**

Todd Espenshade, Jason Miller, Aaron Petrovich, Julianne Popovec, Lisa E. Reynolds, Logan Rock, Carey Schwartzburt

### **Technical Liaison**

Justin Bodnar

Cover image: Solomon Isekeije  
*Contemplation*, 2017

Catalog design: Jason Miller

poetry • fiction • creative nonfiction

# ASSOCIATION OF WRITERS AND WRITING PROGRAMS

## Small Press Publisher Award Finalist

Etruscan Press was named one of four finalists for the 2021 AWP Small Press Publisher Award by the Association of Writers and Writing Programs. The award recognizes a press or literary journal that has made a significant contribution to contemporary literature. This is Etruscan's second nomination; the press was previously nominated for the Small Press Award in 2017.

The Etruscan editorial team were in their own corners of the world when the news came in, working from home as is typical in these times. Yet, while separated by space, they were united in the singular joy of being recognized for, as Executive Director Phil Brady put it, "The work you hold in loving custody."

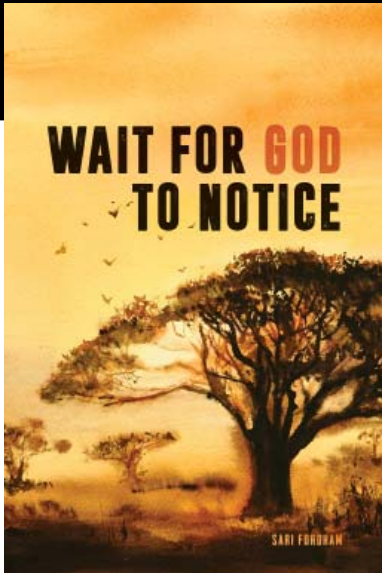
"In the sludge of daily emails—buy, sell, compare, submit—it appears: a message that doesn't query or remind or coax or palaver," Brady said. "An act of acceptance. Of gratitude. A thrill. 'I'm delighted to inform...' 'Warm Congratulations...' 'It is with great pleasure...' This one—the Small Press Award Nomination (our second time!) is especially rewarding because it links us to presses I admire—Noemi and Dzanc and of course the winner, Milkweed. In the small press world, Milkweed is venerable. They've been around since the seventies; they are in their second generation—a place Etruscan aspires to, one day. And so I daydream that one day in 2040, an e-mail will arrive at Etruscanpress.org. 'I'm delighted to inform' it will begin."

Pamela Turchin, Etruscan's Production Editor, noted the same sentiment of the forgettable mundane broken with momentous news of the award. "When I heard we had been nominated, I was probably either shoveling snow from the various blizzards we've had here in Pennsylvania or dealing with a broken water pump that flooded my basement," Turchin said. "I felt honored to be a part of this process and thrilled that our team effort was recognized for all the work we do every day."

Executive Editor Robert Mooney remarked, "I'd been writing (what else would an old scribe be doing on a snowy Wednesday afternoon?) and was taking a break, looking up out of the foxhole to see what was going on beyond my desk." The view beyond his foxhole was bright: "It was wonderful news to receive. It felt like applause. In fact, it felt like a curtain call. This is the second time we've been named a finalist for this recognition, so there is no doubt AWP truly does recognize Etruscan as a press that has, as the citation reads, 'made a significant contribution to contemporary literature.'"

For Managing Editor Bill Schneider, the announcement came amidst another sort of triumph. Proving all the possibilities that come from the strength of human will and spirit, Schneider was recovering from his COVID-19 vaccination. Feeling lethargic and sore, he finished up a Zoom meeting. "Then I walked my puppy, Max, through the snow-covered park adjacent to my apartment," Schneider said. "We returned home to find the email confirming Etruscan was named a finalist for the 2021 AWP Small Press Award. I immediately forwarded the email to the Etruscan editorial team. Then, Max and I celebrated with a martini for me, and a Kong filled with treats for him. It is beyond wonderful to be recognized by your peers! In an industry where Etruscan has achieved its mission to nurture the dialogue among genres, cultures, and voices, it is an honor to be named a Small Press Award finalist by AWP!"

*Mary Poth earned a B.A. in Professional Writing from Kutztown University and an M.A. in Fiction from the Maslow Graduate Creative Writing Program at Wilkes University. Poth is currently pursuing her M.F.A. in Creative Writing at Wilkes University where she serves as an intern for Etruscan Press.*



## Wait for God to Notice

*Memoir*

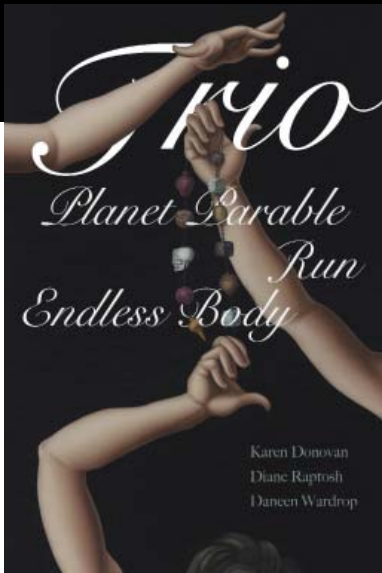
SARI FORDHAM

Available Spring 2021

In the midst of Idi Amin's dictatorship, Sari and her family moved to Uganda as Seventh-day Adventist missionaries. In lush and observant prose, Sari describes the country she loves, the dangers her family faces, her parents' conflict, and the insular, peculiar faith that shaped her.

Sari Fordham has lived in Uganda, Kenya, Thailand, South Korea, and Austria. She received an M.F.A. from the University of Minnesota, and now teaches at La Sierra University. She lives in California with her husband and daughter. This is her first book.

6x9 | 296 pp | \$19.00 | 978-1-7336741-5-7  
eBook | \$9.99 | 978-1-7364946-0-8



## Trio: Planet Parable, Run, and Endless Body

*Poetry*

KAREN DONOVAN, DIANE RAPTOSH, DANEEN WARDROP  
Available Spring 2021

The poems in *Planet Parable* discover unexpected meaning in the quotidian recorded against the revelatory background hum of the world. *Run*, Diane Raptosh's collection, brings to life one of America's most controversial suffragists, Victoria Woodhull, giving a voice to her immediate circle. Daneen Wardrop's *Endless Body* realizes a mother-daughter-mother lineage through music, quest, and a growing awareness of the body of the world.

Karen Donovan is the author of *Aard-vark to Axolotl*, a collection of illustrated short prose (Etruscan, 2018). Diane Raptosh's fourth book of poetry, *American Amnesiac* (Etruscan Press, 2013), was longlisted for the 2013 National Book Award. Daneen Wardrop passed away in April of 2021 and is the author of *Silk Road* (Etruscan, 2018).

7x10 | 320 pp | \$20.00 | 978-1-7336741-7-1

# Also Dark

*Poetry*

ANGELIQUE PALMER

Available Fall 2021

*Also Dark* is fresh from the pen of Angelique Palmer. A Black Woman Queer Mama forced to forge her own armor and create her own path. Bigotry, ageism, sexism, colorism, homophobia, and ableism are given voice and a voracious opponent in her poems.

Angelique Palmer is a performance poet, a finalist in the 2015 Women of the World Poetry Slam, and a member of the 2017 Busboys and Poets/Beltway Poetry Slam Team. Author of *The Chambermaid's Style Guide*, she's a Florida State University Creative Writing graduate who calls northern Virginia home.



6x9 | 88 pp | \$17.00 | 978-0-9897532-7-2

# Voodoo Libretto

New & Selected Poems

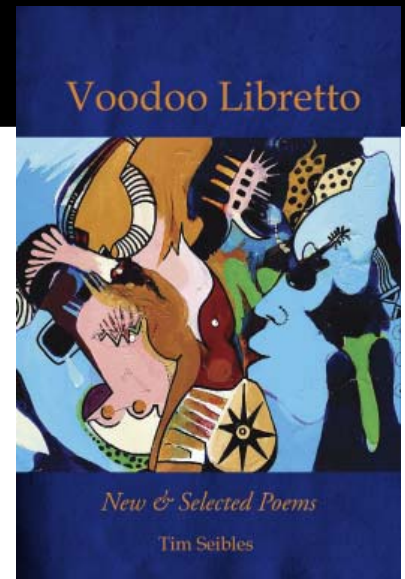
*Poetry*

TIM SEIBLES

Available Fall 2021

**“When the world grows nostalgic,” Cornelius Eady says, “Seibles swings real. When the world turns bitter, he stretches out his arms in verse. When the world tries to deny, he stares it in the face and tells the truth. Then asks it for a dance.”**

In his introduction, Seibles writes, “For me, poetry is the place where—if I am not intimidated—I can say the most dangerous, most tender, most mysterious things I know, where I may find the same in the work of other poets. It is a place where clarity subverts the half-said, the never said, so that wakefulness might be magnified, emboldened.” Kwame Dawes says, “These are profoundly vulnerable poems that are distinguished by the risk and daring that we expect from our best poets.”



6x9 | 408 pp | \$21.00 | 978-1-7336741-8-8

## 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 but troubled young man.

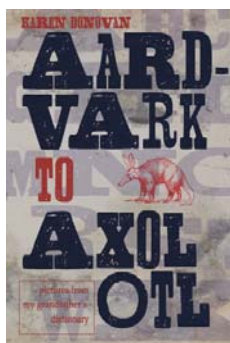
Essays, 200 pages, trade paper  
\$17.00 (978-0-9997534-4-6)  
**eBook** \$9.99 (978-0-9997534-9-1)



*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.

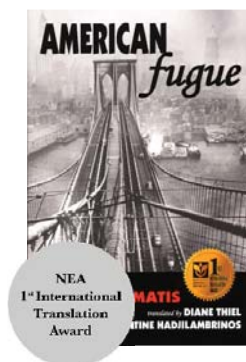
Poetry, 215 pages, trade paper  
\$19.00 (978-0-9897532-4-1)



*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.

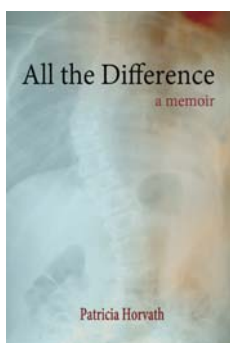
Essays, 107 pages, trade paper  
\$15.00 (978-0-9977455-6-6)



*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.

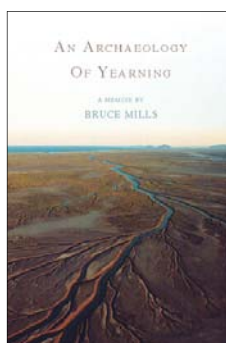
Fiction, 353 pages, trade paper  
\$16.95 (978-0-9797450-2-7)



*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.

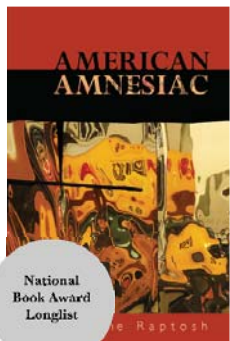
Memoir, 188 pages, trade paper  
\$16.95 (978-0-9903221-9-1)  
**eBook** \$15.99 (978-0-9977455-7-3)



*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.

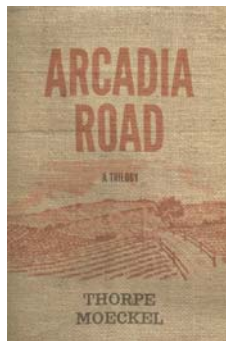
Memoir, 232 pages, trade paper  
\$15.00 (978-0-9839346-9-1)  
**eBook** \$14.99 (978-0-9886922-2-0)



*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)

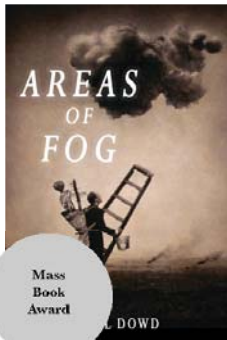


*Arcadia Road: A Trilogy*  
Thorpe Moeckel

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 (978-0-9897532-5-8)

## 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.

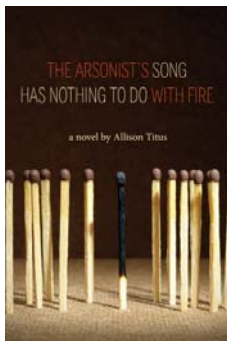
Essays, 160 pages, trade paper  
\$15.00 (978-0-9977455-3-5)  
**eBook** \$15.00 (978-0-9977455-9-7)



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

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

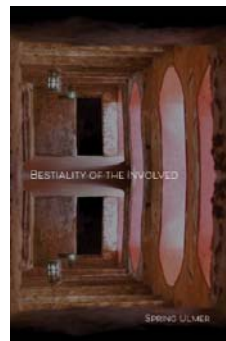
Poetry, 184 pages, trade paper  
\$17.00 (978-0-9886922-1-3)



*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.

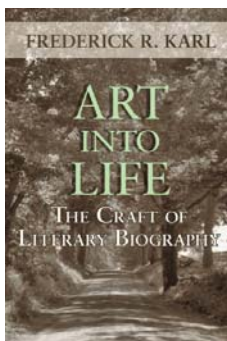
Fiction, 244 pages, trade paper  
\$15.00 (978-0-9886922-5-1)  
**eBook** \$9.99 (978-0-9886922-7-5)



*Bestiality of the Involved*  
Spring Ulmer

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.

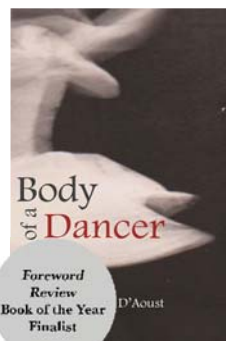
Essays, 208 pages, trade paper  
\$19.00 (978-1-7336741-2-6)  
**eBook** \$19.95 (978-1-7336741-3-3)



*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.

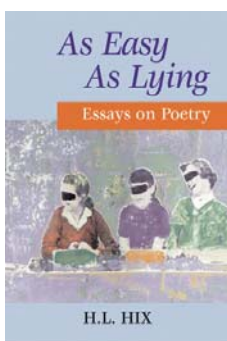
Literary Criticism, 295 pages, hardcover  
\$29.95 (978-0-9745995-3-3)



*Body of a Dancer*  
Renée D'Aoust

*Body of a Dancer* provides a powerful, acutely 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 (978-0-9832944-1-5)



*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)

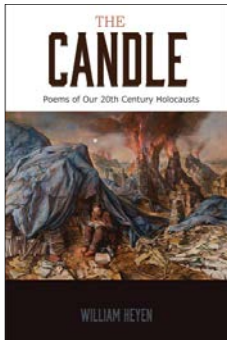


*The Burning House*  
Paul Lisicky

*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)

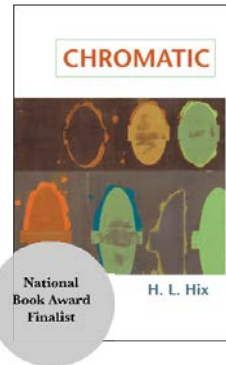
## COMPLETE BACKLIST



*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.

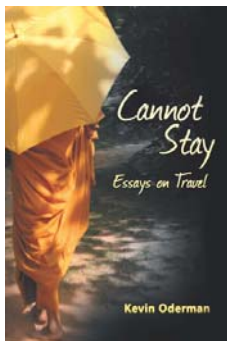
Poetry, 352 pages, trade paper  
\$18.00 (978-0-9903221-7-7)



*Chromatic*  
H. L. Hix

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

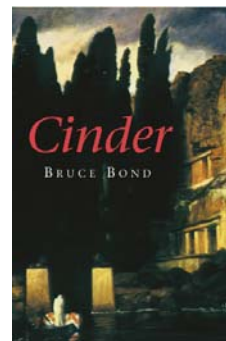
Poetry, 69 pages, trade paper  
\$15.95 (978-0-9745995-6-4)



*Cannot Stay: Essays on Travel*  
Kevin Oderman

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

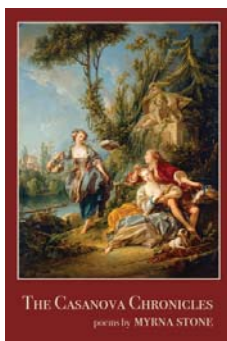
Essays, 238 pages, trade paper  
\$15.00 (978-0-09897532-8-9)  
**eBook** \$15.99 (978-0-9903221-0-8)



*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.

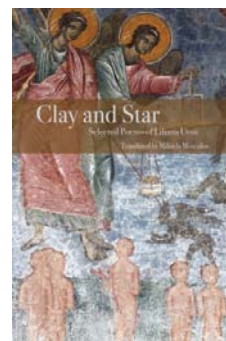
Poetry, 66 pages, trade paper  
\$14.95 (978-0-9718228-5-6)



*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 Liliana Ursu*  
Translated by Mihaela Moscaliuc

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

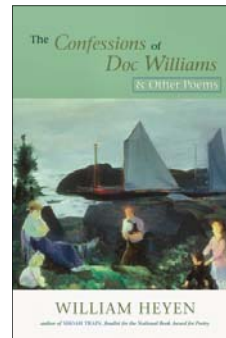
Poetry, 96 pages, trade paper  
\$17.00 (978-0-9997534-3-9)



*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)

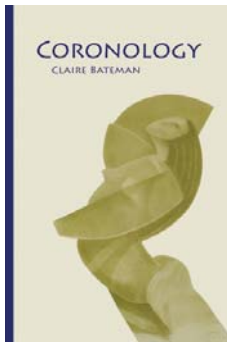


*The Confessions of Doc Williams and Other Poems*  
William Heyen

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)

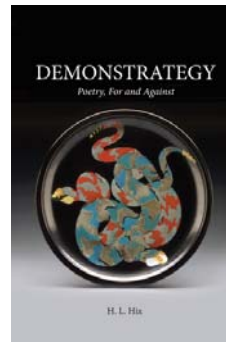
## COMPLETE BACKLIST



*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.

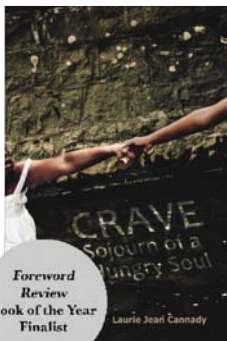
Poetry, 71 pages, trade paper  
\$17.95 (978-0-9819687-5-9)



*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.

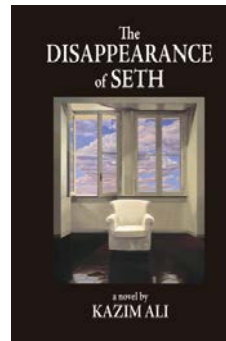
Essays, 200 pages, trade paper  
\$18.00 (978-0-9997534-1-5)  
**eBook** \$18.95 (978-1-7336741-0-2)



*Crave: Sojourn of a Hungry Soul*  
Laurie Jean Cannady

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

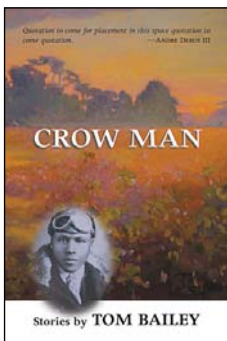
Memoir, 384 pages, trade paper  
\$19.00 (978-0-9897532-9-6)  
**eBook** \$18.99 (978-0-9903221-4-6)



*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.

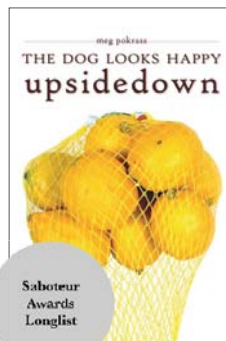
Fiction, 197 pages, trade paper  
\$16.95 (978-0-9797450-8-9)



*Crow Man*  
Tom Bailey

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

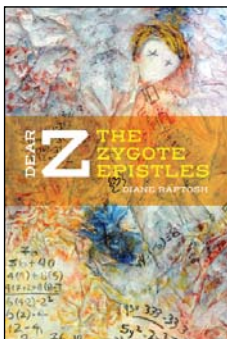
Fiction, 179 pages, hardcover  
\$22.95 (978-0-9718228-8-7)



*The 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.

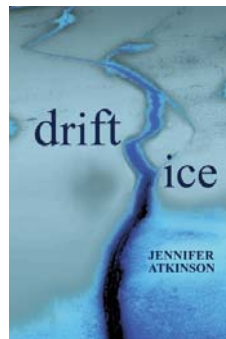
Flash Fiction, 124 pages, trade paper  
\$15.00 (978-0-9903221-2-2)



*Dear Z: The Zygote Epistles*  
Diane Raptosh

*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.

Poetry, 112 pages, trade paper  
\$17.00 (978-0-9997534-5-3)

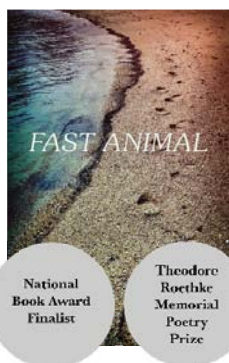


*Drift Ice*  
Jennifer Atkinson

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)

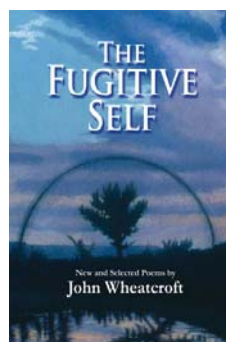
## COMPLETE BACKLIST



*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.

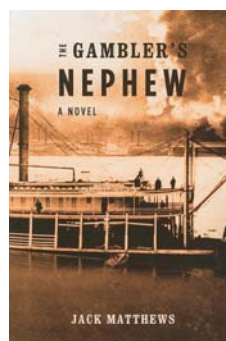
Poetry, 218 pages, trade paper  
\$18.95 (978-0-979745-9-6)



*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.

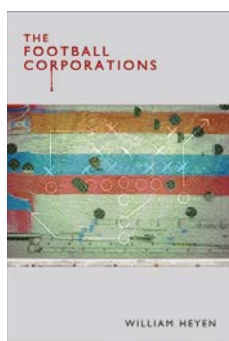
Poetry, 240 pages, hardcover  
\$27.95 (978-0-9819687-4-2)



*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.

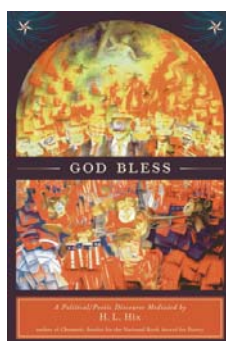
Fiction, 270 pages, trade paper  
\$15.95 (978-0-9819687-7-3)



*The Football Corporation*  
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.

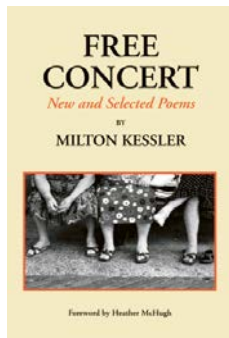
Poetry, 80 pages, trade paper  
\$14.00 (978-0-9832944-5-0)



*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)

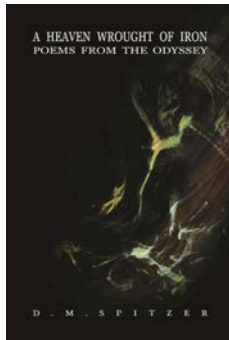


*The Greatest Jewish-American  
Lover in Hungarian History*  
Michael Blumenthal

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)

## COMPLETE BACKLIST



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

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

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



*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.

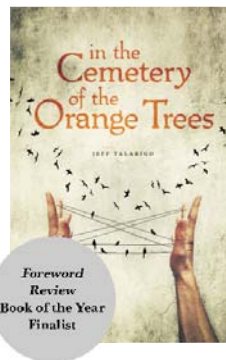
Poetry, 103 pages, trade paper  
\$17.00 (978-0-9897532-0-3)



*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.

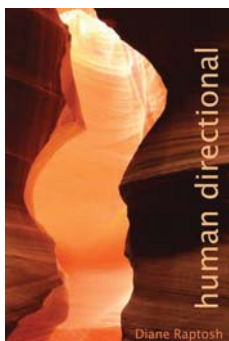
Fiction, 188 pages, hardcover  
\$15.00 (978-0-9832944-8-1)  
eBook \$14.99 (978-0-9839346-7-7)  
Audiobook | ASIN: B00GWND2TU



*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 stranger as he witnesses the beauty and horror of the ancient land.

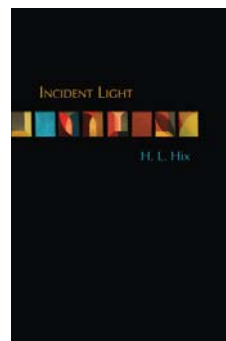
Fiction, 196 pages, trade paper  
\$16.00 (978-0-9977455-4-2)  
eBook \$16.00 (978-0-9987507-1-1)



*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  
\$16.00 (978-0-9903221-6-0)



*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.

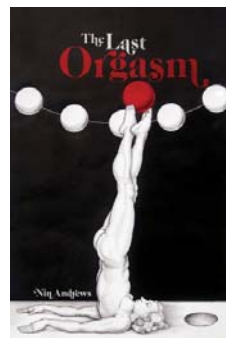
Poetry, 73 pages, trade paper  
\$17.95 (978-0-9745995-1-9)



*Ill Angels*  
Dante Di Stefano

*Ill Angels* offers up the endless sacred consolations available to us through the restorative power of written and spoken words.

Poetry, 122 pages, trade paper  
\$16.00 (978-0-9987508-8-0)

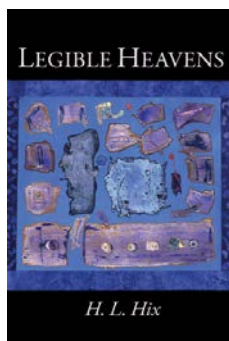


*The Last Orgasm*  
Nin Andrews

*The Last Orgasm* continues the journey of Nin Andrews'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.

Poetry, 128 pages, trade paper  
\$19.00 (978-1-7336741-1-9)

## COMPLETE BACKLIST

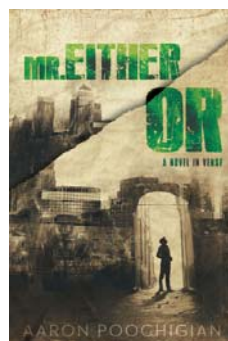


### *Legible Heavens*

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.

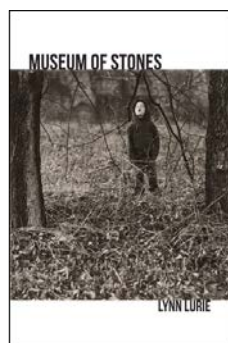
Fiction, 192 pages, trade paper  
\$15.00 (978-0-9977455-2-0)  
Audiobook ASIN: B07DP7RP8C



### *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.

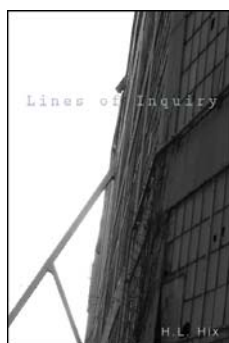
Fiction, 387 pages, trade paper  
\$15.95 (978-0-9797450-6-5)



### *Museum of Stones* Lynn Lurie

*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, and does not "play well."

Fiction, 112 pages, trade paper  
\$16.00 (978-0-9987508-7-3)  
**eBook** \$16.95 (978-0-9997534-6-0)  
Audiobook ASIN:

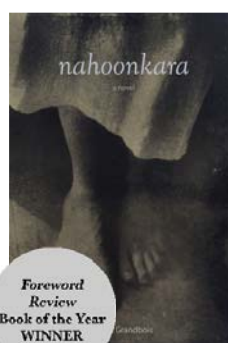


### *Lines of Inquiry*

H. L. Hix

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

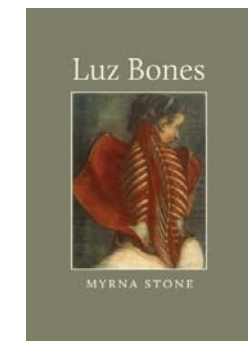
Literary Criticism, 131 pages, trade paper  
\$17.00 (978-0-9832944-0-5)



### *Naboonkara* Peter Grandbois

*Naboonkara* opens on an eerie 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.

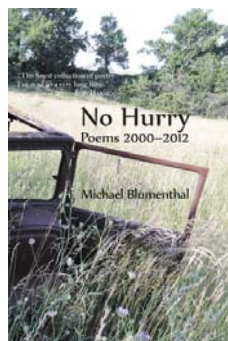
Fiction, 161 pages, trade paper  
\$16.95 (978-0-9819687-6-6)  
**eBook** \$16.99 (978-0-9839346-8-4)



### *Luz Bones* Myrna Stone

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

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



### *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)

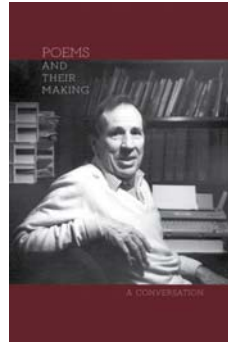
## COMPLETE BACKLIST



*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)



*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.

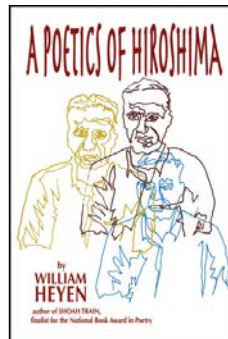
Poems and Essays, 240 pages, trade paper  
\$23.95 (978-0-9903221-5-3)



*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.

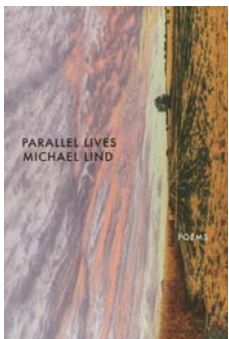
Poetry, 104 pages, trade paper  
\$30.00 (978-0-9897532-6-5)



*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.

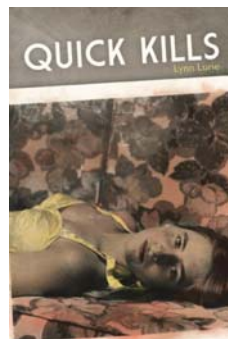
Poetry, 77 pages, trade paper  
\$17.95 (978-0-9797450-5-8)



*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.

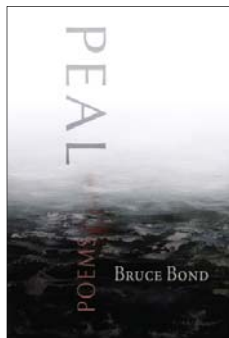
Poetry, 95 pages, trade paper  
\$16.95 (978-0-9745995-8-8)



*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  
\$14.00 (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 morality 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)

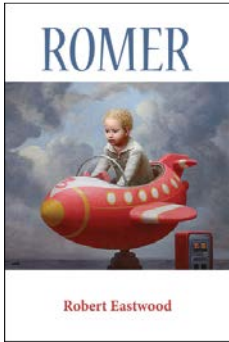


*Rain Inscription*  
H. L. Hix

*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)

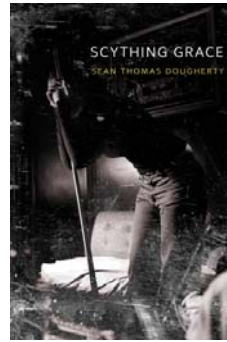
## COMPLETE BACKLIST



*Romer*  
Robert Eastwood

Illuminating the experience of modern life, *Romer* follows the journey of one man who needs to know who he is, where he is, and what he is trying to do.

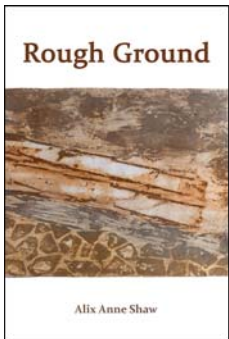
Poetry, 124 pages, trade paper  
\$15.00 (978-0-9977455-8-0)



*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.

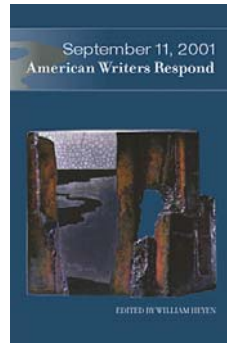
Poetry, 88 pages, trade paper  
\$16.00 (978-0-9886922-0-6)



*Rough Ground*  
Alix Anne Shaw

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.

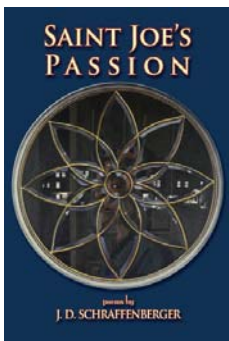
Poetry, 138 pages, trade paper  
\$15.00 (978-0-9977455-5-9)



*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.

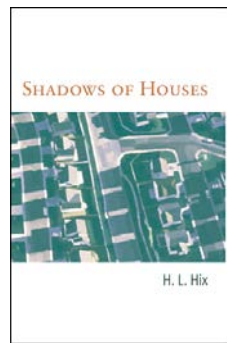
Literary Criticism, 419 pages, trade paper  
\$19.00 (978-0-9718228-0-1)



*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)



*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.

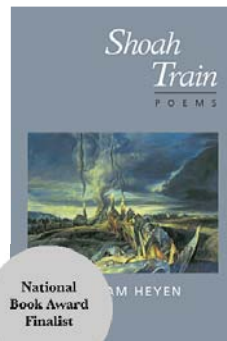
Poetry, 80 pages, trade paper  
\$15.95 (978-0-9745995-4-0)



*Scar*  
Bruce Bond

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.

Poetry, 144 pages, trade paper  
\$18.00 (978-1-7336741-4-0)

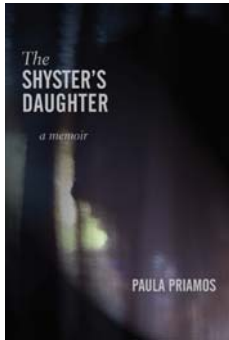


*Shoah Train*  
William Heyen

*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)

## COMPLETE BACKLIST

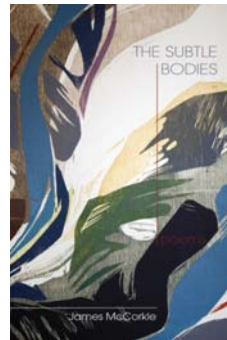


### *The Shyster's Daughter*

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)

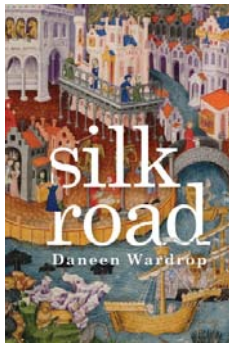


### *The Subtle Bodies*

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  
\$16.00 (978-0-9886922-3-7)

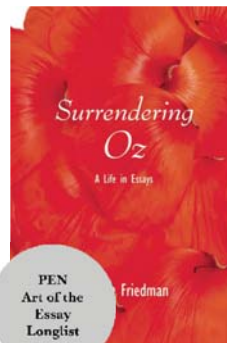


### *Silk Road*

Daneen Wardrop

Marco Polo's wife goes about everyday activities as her reveries form in the breach between her home in Venice, Italy, and Polo's stay in Suzhou, China.

Poetry, 88 pages, trade paper  
\$16.00 (978-0-9987508-2-8)



### *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  
\$14.00 (978-0-9897532-2-7)  
**eBook** \$9.99 (978-0-9897532-1-0)

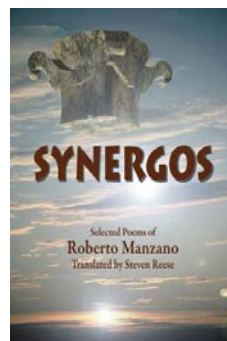


### *Sixteen*

Auguste Croteau

A Soviet composer kills himself upon the announcement of Stalin's death, leaving behind a symphony that provokes mass defections. But can music on its own bring about revolution?

Fiction, 292 pages, trade paper  
\$16.95 (978-0-9987508-4-2)  
**eBook** \$16.99 (978-0-9987508-6-6)

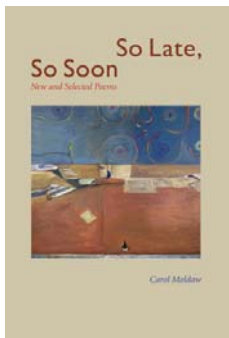


### *Synergos: Selected Poems*

Roberto Manzano

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

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

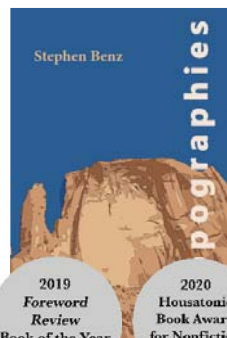


### *So Late, So Soon: New and Selected Poems*

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)



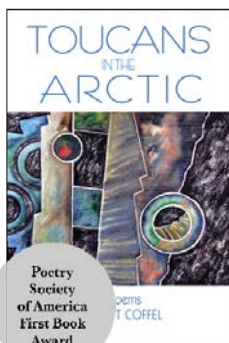
### *Topographies*

Stephen Benz

*Topographies* explores landscapes of historical and cultural significance. Locations visited include the American West, Eastern Europe, Florida, Cuba, and Central America.

Essays, 340 pages, trade paper  
\$16.00 (978-0-9987508-9-7)  
**eBook** \$16.99 (978-0-9997534-8-4)

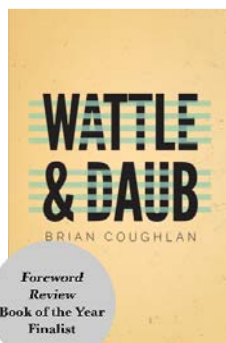
## COMPLETE BACKLIST



*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.

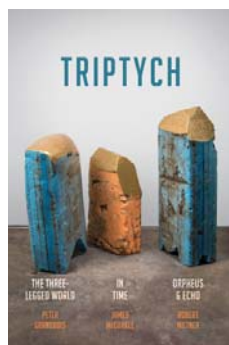
Poetry, 64 pages, trade paper  
\$17.95 (978-0-9797450-7-2)



*Wattle & daub*  
Brian Coughlan

Dragged forward by ear-twisting narrative force, *Wattle & daub* is mined with humor, sympathy, and blistering language that mark Brian Coughlan as a unique fabricator of short tales.

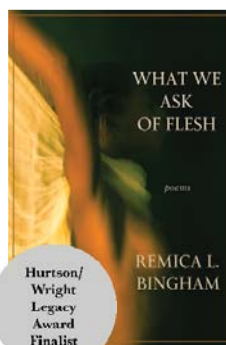
Fiction, 236 pages, trade paper  
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*Triptych: The Three-Legged World, In Time, and Orpheus & Echo*  
Peter Grandbois, James McCorkle, and Robert Miltner

Between two covers are three books bound together by no prior agreement but the communal aspect of poetry.

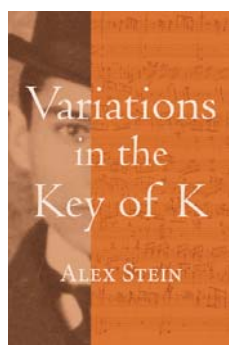
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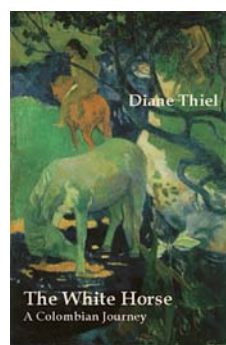
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Alex Stein

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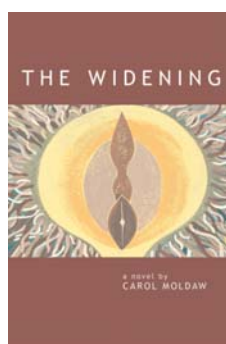
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Thorpe Moeckel

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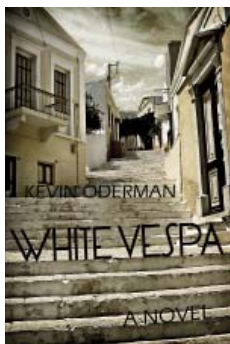


*The Widening*  
Carol Moldaw

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.

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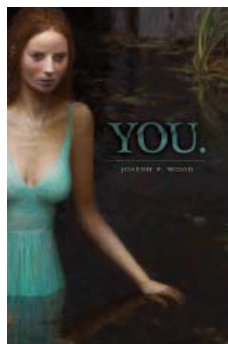
## COMPLETE BACKLIST



*White Vespa*  
Kevin Oderman

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

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*YOU.*  
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*YOU.* is the ultimate relationship  
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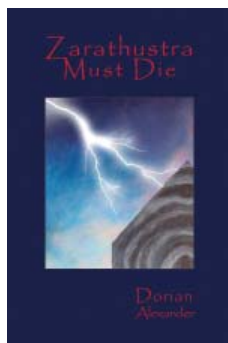
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*Who's Afraid of Helen of Troy:*  
*An Essay on Love*  
David Lazar

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poetry, finding nothing is as far apart  
as we think, except for chaos and  
order, innocence and experience.

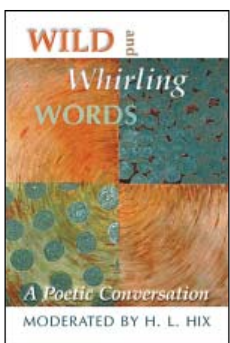
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Dorian Alexander

In *Zarathustra Must Die*, sex, drugs,  
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concept of eternal recurrence in a wild  
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relationship to our existence.

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*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  
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# Essay: Eight-Week Book Tour Collides with the COVID-19 Pandemic

by Sheryl St Germain



I started planning an eight-week book tour for *Fifty Miles* in early 2019. With the help and generosity of friends and colleagues, I'd managed to put together a tour for 2020 that would span nine cities and seven states. *Fifty Miles* is a memoir about addiction, grief and healing that focuses on my son Gray, who died in 2014 of a heroin overdose, and my own struggles with substance abuse and recovery. I knew it was going to be difficult to read from it, night after night, but it felt important to spread some compassionate and what I hoped would be read as thoughtful lyricism about those we love who fall into the river of addiction. In conversation with a fellow poet, Ed Hirsch, who lost his own young son to drugs and wrote a poetry book inspired by him, Ed said to me that we can't market books like these, rather we have to hope that they will fall into the hands of those that need them. I hoped this book tour might help find those hands.

The tour started with a book launch in early spring in Pittsburgh, my current home, and a reading at nearby Wilkes-Barre, home of Etruscan. I then flew to New York City for another reading. A close friend of my son, the artist, Morgan Everhart, came to this reading, which made it especially meaningful. We had used a painting she did inspired by Gray on the cover of a book of my poems that had come

out in 2018, *The Small Door of Your Death* (Autumn House).

On March 1 we left for the first (driving) leg of the tour, with my generous husband Teake driving. We knew about the virus, but none of my events had been cancelled yet, and we hadn't yet realized how bad it was going to get. The Association of Writers and Writing Programs was still planning to hold its conference in San Antonio, where I was scheduled to do a signing with Etruscan for *Fifty Miles*, so I figured it couldn't be that bad. Two days later we were in Dallas, and things had quickly worsened. I had a reading at a bookstore there, and spent a few days with old friends and former students. I lived for 13 years in Dallas and spent my first teaching years there. I was moved to see some of the very first students I taught in the audience at the reading. Meanwhile, more disturbing information was coming forward about COVID-19 and its danger to the elderly. We were headed to San Antonio to do the signing, then our plan was to drive to New Orleans where we had just placed my mother in an assisted living facility. We planned to spend a couple weeks in New Orleans helping my mother, selling her house and hosting an estate sale before I participated in the annual Tennessee Williams Festival.

But as we readied to leave Dallas for San Antonio, I began to have second thoughts. What if I picked something up at the conference and brought it to my mother? I decided the risk was too great, and with sadness informed Etruscan that I was going to skip AWP. Instead, we headed straight to Louisiana.

We had lots of time in the car, while driving, to listen to NPR and catch up on what was happening with the virus. Although there weren't many cases in New Orleans yet, I began to think about how

quickly it might spread there. Having been born and raised in New Orleans, I knew how important huge festivals like Mardi Gras were, but also that there were lots of spring festivals where there would be large gatherings of people. And I knew how my community there loved to drink and party and be in large crowds. As of this date Louisiana is one of the three hot spots for the virus in the U.S. with 9,150 cases and 310 deaths as of this writing, the majority of which are in the New Orleans area.

We arrived in New Orleans March 8. We sold my mother's house on March 11, and the family went out to eat lunch—raw oysters, gumbo and po-boys—with my mother at our favorite restaurant. Meanwhile, emails from Georgia, Illinois, Iowa and Maryland slowly trickled in saying that all of my events had been cancelled.

A couple of days after we closed on the house, my mother's assisted living facility went on lock down. We were not going to be able to see her for the foreseeable future. We would learn later that a resident and staff member both tested positive for the virus, and the former would die. We hosted a two-day estate sale that weekend for my mother's possessions, which included thousands of books and old records. I wore gloves and tried to be as careful as possible during the sale, but there were times when 40 or so people seemed crammed into my mother's tiny house. I gave away a few copies of *Fifty Miles* to a few special people who took books and were interested in learning about my mother because her book collection was so vast and rich.

During the estate sale I received a communication from the organizers of the Tennessee Williams Festival that they were cancelling the festival. Meanwhile the number of confirmed cases in New Orleans was increasing drastically, and I was

worried about our getting sick and being stuck in New Orleans, unable to see my mother, and in an old, tiny house with almost no furniture, still lots of books, but also heaps of rat and roach poison sprinkled everywhere. We packed up what we could, including all the copies of *Fifty Miles* I had hoped to sell, and started the two-day drive home. The first night on the road my husband developed a cough and 101 fever. We pushed through the next day, sharing driving. We both fell ill with flu-like symptoms for two weeks, but tested negative for COVID-19, and are feeling better now.

What started as a journey to spread the word about the epidemic of drug overdoses, inspired by personal experience and my son's death, morphed into a journey dominated by the fear of the growing epidemic of a new virus strain. For now, my words of grief, healing and recovery are muted by a currently more aggressive disease. I'm grateful to Etruscan, and all the friends and colleagues who were willing to help try to get this book into the hands of those that need it, and hopeful that in the future this virus will lessen its grip on us and the book will fall into more hands of those that need it.

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*Sheryl St. Germain is a poet and essayist whose work has received numerous awards. Her most recent books include Fifty Miles (Etruscan Press, 2020), and a poetry collection, The Small Door of Your Death (Autumn House Press, 2018). Sheryl directed the M.F.A. program in Creative Writing at Chatham University in Pittsburgh for 14 years, and is co-founder of the Words Without Walls program.*

# OUTREACH PROGRAM

When the COVID-19 pandemic turned the world upside down, our outreach program made a crucial pivot to a virtual platform. The Etruscan Press Virtual Outreach Program was created to continue our efforts to enhance the educational experience of the literary and academic communities by connecting students and educators with professionals in the national contemporary world of film and literature.

Having recorded over 50 new interviews and readings by authors, filmmakers, scholars, publishers, editors, and literary agents, we are developing a virtual platform to feature and promote these videos. We are also generating ancillary educational material including annotations, bios, playlists, closed captions, and study guides, to integrate the interviews into school curricula, as well as student and community organizations. Instructors, administrators, and student groups may contact us to request interactive sessions with any of the professionals interviewed. By offering access to nationally renowned professionals in the arts, the Etruscan Press Virtual Outreach Program will prepare students to consider and evaluate educational, vocational, and career opportunities, while deepening their appreciation for the literary arts, filmmaking, and the publishing world.

The program builds on the readings and interviews displayed on our website. The readings fulfill the need for performative art, the visceral experience of hearing writers read their work that the community has been missing because of the pandemic. The interviews delve into conversations about the specifics of the individual's career, how they got to where they are, day-to-day work, advice, and other valuable information for those learning about, just starting out, or looking to further their literary interest and career.

While the Etruscan Press Virtual Outreach Program was established to continue crucial connections in a safe and effective way during the pandemic, converting to online outreach expands our scope worldwide to any person in the literary arts and education community that has an internet connection.



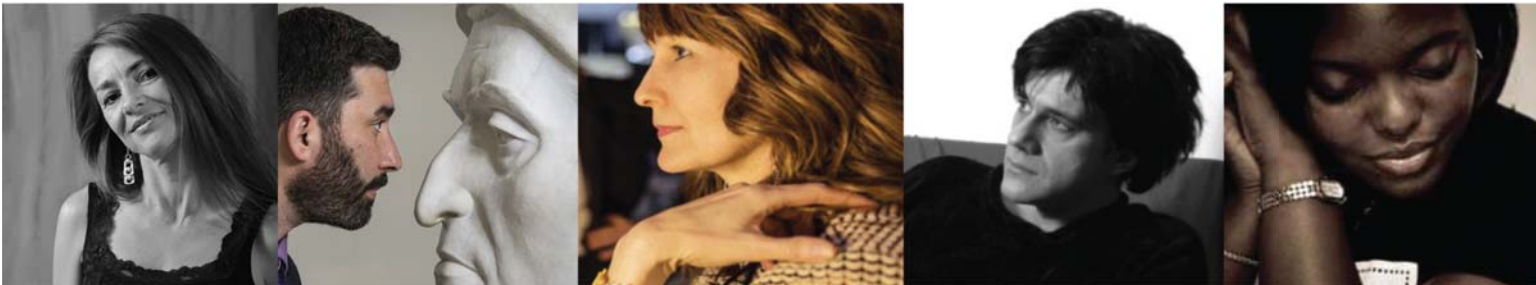


## Small press. Big opportunity.

Interested in publishing? Want to experience working for a small press? 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.

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.



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### **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 virtual presence.

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



# 2020 Etruscan Press Highlights

Etruscan Press named one of four finalists for the 2021 AWP Small Press Publisher award

*Topographies* by Stephen Benz named 2020 Housatonic Books Awards for Nonfiction finalist and 2019 *Foreword Reviews* INDIES Book of the Year finalist

The Academy of Poets, Community of Literary Magazines and Presses, and the National Book Foundation awarded an operating grant to Etruscan through the Literary Arts Emergency Fund

*50 Miles* author Sheryl St. Germain received the Louisiana Writer Award

Etruscan authors Tim Seibles and Sheryl St. Germain featured at Maslow Family Graduate Program at Wilkes University during January 2020 residency

Received grant from The Thendara Family Foundation in support of Etruscan Outreach Program

In partnership with Hampton University, Etruscan facilitated an outreach internship project completed during the Fall 2020

Jason Miller won the 2020 Etruscan Prize

Etruscan joined Wilkes University's Maslow Family Graduate Program in Creative Writing at AWP20 in San Antonio where four Etruscan authors hosted book signings; Etruscan co-sponsored the annual Old School Slam and Open Mic

Etruscan authors H. L. Hix and D.M. Spitzer attended the 2019 annual conference of the American Literary Translators Association and participated in the panel, "On Non-translation and Translation."



Left to right: 2020 Etruscan Prize winner Jason Miller, Grad Assistant Fran Reilly, author Sheryl St. Germain, author Tim Seibles, Managing Editor Bill Schneider, Executive Editor Robert Mooney, Production Editor Pamela Turchin, and Executive Director Phil Brady.

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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 98 titles have been finalists for the National Book Award. Etruscan books have won honors from the Poetry Society of America and *Foreword Reviews*. 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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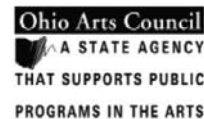
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