

# **THE PROSE POEM: AN INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL**

Volume 8 | 1999

## **Contributors**

© Providence College

The author(s) permits users to copy, distribute, display, and perform this work under the following conditions: (1) the original author(s) must be given proper attribution; (2) this work may not be used for commercial purposes; (3) the users may not alter, transform, or build upon this work; (4) users must make the license terms of this work clearly known for any reuse or distribution of this work. Upon request, as holder of this work's copyright, the author(s) may waive any or all of these conditions.

*The Prose Poem: An International Journal* is produced by  
The Berkeley Electronic Press (bepress)  
for the Providence College Digital Commons.  
<http://digitalcommons.providence.edu/prosepoems/>

## CONTRIBUTORS

**Zed Ander** lives in Iowa City and does not have an M.F. A. in Creating Writing.

**Jack Anderson** has won the Marie Alexander Award for Prose Poetry and New Rivers Press will publish his *Traffic: New and Selected Prose Poems* later this year. Last year, the University of Iowa Press published his international history of modern dance, *Art Without Boundaries: The World of Modern Dance*.

**Nin Andrews** has been published in many reviews including *The Paris Review*, *Ploughshares*, and *Denver Quarterly*. Her *The Book of Orgasms* is available from Asylum Arts. *Spontaneous Breasts* won *Pearl's* chapbook contest.

**Rane Arroyo** is the author of three books of poems, the latest being *Pale Ramón* (Zoland Books). Last year's *The Singing Shark* (Bilingual Press) won the Carl Sandburg Poetry Prize and his chapbook, *The Naked Thief* won the Stonewall Books Competition.

**Dennis Barone** newest book is *Separate Object: Selected Poems* (Left Hand Books, 1998). His most recent work of fiction, *Echoes* (Potes & Poets Press, 1997), received the America Award for 1998.

**Michael Benedikt's** books of prose poems are *Mole Notes* (1971) and *Night Cries* (1976), both issued by Wesleyan University Press. His most recent collection is *The Badminton at Great Barrington* (U. Of Pittsburgh Press, 1980) He is the editor of *The Prose Poem: An International Anthology*, and is working on a new collection titled *Universe*.

**Douglas Blazek's** work has appeared in *Review*, *The Nation*, *New Directions*, *TriQuarterly*, *Agni*, *Ploughshares*, *Epoch*, and other journals.

**Robert Bly's** prose poems have been collected in *What Have I Ever Lost by Dying?*

**Shane Book** divides his time between Ottawa, Canada, and Manhattan, where he's in the MFA program at New York University and has been awarded a New York Times Fellowship in Poetry for 1998-2000.

**Michael Bowden** was recently awarded a second Creative Writing Fellowship in Poetry from the Arizona Commission on the Arts. His prose poems are forthcoming in *Barnabe Mountain Review* and *Amaranth*.

**Greg Boyd** is founder and editor of the deceased Asylum Arts Press and journal. His book of prose poems, *Carnival Aptitude*, is available from Asylum Arts.

**John Bradley** has had prose poems published in *The Barnabe Mountain Review*, *College English*, *Key Satch(el)*, and other journals. He teaches writing at Northern Illinois University.

**Elizabeth Brennan's** chapbook *Sewing Her Hand to the Face of the Fleeting* is available from Quale Press.

**Joel Brouwer's** manuscript, *Exactly What Happened*, was picked for the Verna Emery prize at Purdue University Press, and it should be published this year. He is a recipient of an NEA Creative Writing Fellowship for 1999.

**Christopher Buckley's** ninth book of poetry, *Fall From Grace*, was recently published by Bk Mk Press/Univ. of Missouri, Kansas City. With Gary Young, he has just edited *The Geography of Home: California and the Poetry of Place* (Hey Day Books, 1999). He is Chair of the Creative Writing Dept. at the Univ. of California-Riverside.

**Maxine Chernoff's** recent prose poems have appeared in *Key Satchel* and in an on-line Australian journal, *Jacket*. She has also completed a novel, *Thaw*; the entire first section of it, eighty-three pages, is composed of prose poems written as a "journal" by one of the characters.

**David Citino** teaches at Ohio State University. He is the author of ten books of poetry, including *The Book of Appassionato: Collected Poems* (Ohio State U. Press); also *Broken Symmetry* (Ohio State, which was named a Notable Book of 1997 by the National Book Critics Circle; *The Weight of the Heart* (*Quarterly Review of Literature Poetry Series*), *The Discipline: New and Selected Poems, 1980-1992* (Ohio State); *The Gift of Fire* (U. Of Arkansas Press); and *The Appassionato Doctrines* (Cleveland State U. Poetry Center).

**Michel Delville's** book *The American Prose Poem: Poetic Form and the Boundaries of Genre* has just been published by the University of Florida Press. It is reviewed in this volume. Delville teaches at the University of Liège, Belgium.

**Chard deNiord** is the author of *Asleep in the Fire*, published in 1990 by the University of Alabama Press. His poems have appeared recently in *The Pushcart Prize XXII 1998*, *Best American Poetry 1999*, *Ploughshares*, *The New England Review*, and *Agni*. He teaches English and Creative Writing at Providence College.

**Ray DiPalma's** poems and translations have recently appeared in *The Germ*, *The American Poetry Review*, *The Iowa Review*, *Rhizome*, and *The Chicago Review*. Among his books are *Numbers & Tempers*, *Provocations*, and *Motion of the Cypher*. His book *Letters* was published by Littoral Press 1998. *Two Works by Emmanuel Hocquard* (translated with Juliette Valery) is forth-

coming from The Post-Apollo Press in 1999. He lives in New York City and teaches at the School of Visual Arts.

**Russell Edson's** most recent book is *The Tunnel: Selected Poems* from Oberlin College Press.

**Amy Gerstler's** new book of poems is *Crown of Weeds* (Penguin Poets, 1998). Many of her prose poems appear in two previous books: *Bitter Angel* and *The True Bride*.

**Ray Gonzalez** is the author of five books of poetry, including *Cabato Seniora* and *The Heat of Arrivals*, both from BOA Editions. In 2000, the University of Arizona Press will publish *Turtle Pictures*, a poetic/prose cultural memoir, which contains a number of prose poems. He is the editor of twelve anthologies, has served as a Poetry Editor of *The Bloomsbury Review* for eighteen years, and recently founded a new poetry journal, *LUNA*. He was recently appointed McKnight Land Grant Professor at the University of Minnesota in Minnesota.

**Elizabeth Gordon** writes and teaches in Providence, Rhode Island.

**Cecil G. Helman** was born in 1944 in Cape Town, South Africa, but now resides in London. He previously published in journals and anthologies, including: *The Prose Poem: An International Anthology* (ed. Michael Benedikt, Dell, 1976), and *Imperial Messages: One Hundred Modern Parables* (ed. Howard Schwartz, Avon, 1976). Books include: *The Body of Frankenstein's Monster: Essays in Myth and Medicine* (W. W. Norton, 1992).

**Brian Henry's** poems have appeared in many magazines recently, including *American Poetry Review*, *The Massachusetts Review*, *Boston Review*, *Harvard Review*, and various Australian magazines; new poems are forthcoming in *The Paris Review*, *The Yale Review*, *TriQuarterly*, and other places.

**Jennifer L. Holley** received her MFA in Writing from The School of the Art Institute of Chicago. She returned to her home state of Connecticut to work at the *Yale Alumni Magazine*.

**Brooke Horvath's** most recent book is *Consolation at Ground Zero* (Eastern Washington University Press, 1995).

**Gabriel Hudson** is currently in the MFA program at Brown University. His work has appeared in or will be appearing in *Denver Quarterly*, *Quarterly West*, and *The Quarterly*. He is also fiction editor for Brown's on-line journal *Impossible Object*.

**Holly Iglesias's** poems and translations have appeared in *Spoon River Poetry Review*, *The Prose Poem: An International Journal*, *Massachusetts Review*, *Cream City Review*, *IQ*, *Tampa Review*, and *Puetro del Sol*. She is co-editor with Catherine Reid, of *Every Woman I've Ever Loved: Lesbian Writers on Their Mothers* (Cleis Press, 1997); she is nonfiction editor of *International Quarterly*.

**Louis Jenkins'** most recent book of prose poems is *Just Above Water* (Holy Cow! Press, 1997).

**Brian Johnson** has new work published or forthcoming in *Quarter After Eight*, *key satch(el)*, *Connecticut Review*, and *Barnabe Mountain Review*.

**Mary A. Koncel** lives in Worthington, MA, and was a recipient of a poetry grant from the Massachusetts Cultural Council in 1996. Her chapbook of prose poems, *Closer to Day*, was just published by Quale Press.

**Sydney Lea**, founding editor of *New England Review*, has held fellowships from the Guggenheim, Rockefeller and Fulbright Foundations. He is author of six books of poetry, the latest of which, *To The Bone*, won the 1998 Poets' Prize. His new collection, *Pursuit of a Wound*, will appear next year. He has also published a novel and a collection of naturalist essays. The translations in this issue are forthcoming in an anthology of Henri Michaux's work edited by the poet Nin Andrews.

**David Lehman** translated some of the prose poems of Henri Michaux when he (Lehman) divided a graduate year between Cambridge University and Paris in the early 1970s. He has recently returned to the task. His latest book of nonfiction is *The Last Avant-Garde: The Making of the New York School of Poets* (1998), which will appear as a Doubleday Anchor paperback in fall 1999. His new book of poems, *The Daily Mirror*, will be published by Scribner in January 2000.

**Larry Levis:** At the time of his death in May 1996, Larry Levis was Professor of English at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, VA. He published five collections of poetry during his life, and his posthumous book *Elegy* was published by the Univ. of Pittsburgh Press in 1997. A *Selected Poems* is forthcoming, also from the Univ. of Pittsburgh Press. His honors included the U.S. Award of the International Poetry Forum, a Lamont Prize, a selection for the National Poetry Series, grants from the Guggenheim, an NEA, and a Virginia Commission for the Arts and a Fulbright award. Levis was one of the most unique and significant poetic talents of the last fifty years.

**P.H. Liotta** recently received a Pushcart Prize, the Daniel Varoujan Prize, and the Robert H. Winner Memorial Award from the Poetry Society of America. He returned to former Yugoslavia for the twenty-first time in the summer of 1998.

**Alexander Long** was born and raised in Philadelphia. He lives, writes, and teaches in Kalamazoo, MI. His poems and book reviews have appeared in or are forthcoming from *The Cream City Review*, *Troubadour*, *The Madison Review*, *Solo*, and numerous other smaller magazines.

**Robert Lunday** was born in South Carolina in 1958, raised on Army Posts, went to college at Sarah Lawrence in New York and the University of Houston in Texas; fellowships at Stanford (Stegner), FAWC in Provincetown, and St. Albans in Washington, D.C. Most recently he won an Academy of American Poets award for a long poem, "The Nursing-Home Poem," about the late poet Vassar Miller.

**Morton Marcus'** book of prose poems, *When People Could Fly*, came out from Hanging Loose in 1997. New prose poems can be found in *Barnabe Mt. Review* #4, *Hanging Loose* #74, the anthologies *What Have You Lost* and *The Geography of Home: California's Poetry of Place*, and a recent issue of *Ploughshares*.

**Jay Meek** is the author of a book of prose poems, *Windows* ( 1994), and *Headlands: New and Selected Poems* (1997), his most recent book from Carnegie Mellon University Press. He teaches at the University of North Dakota.

**Christopher Merrill's** books include *Watch Fire* (poetry) and *The Old Bridge: The Third Balkan War and the Age of the Refugee* (nonfiction). He holds the William H. Jenks Chair with Contemporary Letters at the College of the Holy Cross.

**Henri Michaux** (1899-1984). One of the early geniuses of the prose poem, whose intellectual and playful sensibility continues to inspire a new generation of prose poets.

**Augusto (Tito) Monterroso** is a justly famous and celebrated author, born in Guatemala (1921) but living in Mexico City since 1944. He has received international awards such as the Saker Ti National Tale Award (1952) and the Order of the Aquila Azteca granted from the Mexican government (1988). As a diplomat he served as vice-consul of Guatemala in Mexico.

**Nina Nyhart** has two collections of poems from Alice James Press, *Openers* and *French for Soldiers*.

**Robert Perchan's** book is *Perchan's Chorea*. He is currently at work on a long prose poem sequence called *Essence & Senescence & Miss Kim*.

**Jane Lunin Perel** is Professor of English and Women's Studies at Providence College. She has published four collections of verse poetry. She has just discovered prose poetry.

**Marjorie Perloff's** most recent book is *Poetry on & Off the Page: Essays for Emergent Occasions*. Other books of criticism include *The Poetics of Indeterminacy: Rimbaud to Cage*, *Poetic License: Essays on Modernist and Postmodernist Lyric*, and *Wittgenstein's Ladder: Poetic Language and the Strangeness of the Ordinary*.

**Constance Pultz** grew up in New York State and lives in Charleston, South Carolina. The Nobel Prize committee has never heard of her two chapbooks.

**Pierre Reverdy** (1889-1960) is a major representative of the French surrealist prose poem. "Chance and the Lot of Time," "Combat Area," and "Behind the Eyelids" are from *La balle au bond*, a collection first published in 1928 and still unavailable in English translation.

**Vern Rutsala** has published many books of poetry, including a book of prose poems, titled *Little-Known Sports*, which won the Juniper Prize in 1994.

**Bruce Smith's** books include *Mercy Seat*, *Silver and Information* (National Poetry Series Winner), and *The Common Wages*. A new book, *The Other Lover*, is forthcoming from the University of Chicago Press. Smith is also world-renowned tango dancer.

**J. David Stevens** recently received his M.F.A. in creative writing from Penn State University. His most recent poetry and fiction have appeared in *The Paris Review*, *The Iowa Review*, *Tampa Review*, and *Gulf Coast*.

**James Tate's** most recent book is *Shroud of the Gnome*, Ecco Press, 1997.

**Bill Tremblay** spent two months in Mexico last fall doing research for his new book of poems, *Shooting Script*, about the murder of Leon Trotsky. Tremblay used a supposedly lost film treatment by Sergei Eisenstein as an analog. While there he bought a copy of Augusto Monterroso's *La Oveja Negra y demás fabulas*.

**Liz Waldner's** collection, *Homing Devices*, was published this Spring (O Books); a chapbook, winner of the Green Lake prize, comes out this fall. Other poems soon or recent in *The Mass. Review*, *The Denver Quarterly*, *The Colorado Review*, *The Indiana Review*, *The Prose Poem*, *Five Fingers Review*, and *Rhizome*.

**Charles Webb** has prose poems forthcoming in *Epoch*, *Amaranth*, and *Quarterly West*. His book *Reading the Water* (Northeastern University Press) was the 1997 S.F. Morse Poetry Prize, and the 1998 Kate Tufts Discovery Award. He also received a Whiting Writer's Award in 1998.

**Tom Whalen's** latest books are *Roithamer's Universe* (a novel), *A Newcomer's Guide to the Afterlife*, co-written with Daniel Quinn (a comic fiction), and *Winter Coat* (poetry).

**Elizabeth Willis's** first publication, *Alo* (oblek editions, 1991) was followed by *Second Law* (Avenue B, 1993). Her manuscript *The Human Abstract* won the National Poetry Series open competition for 1994 and was published by Viking Penguin.

**David Young** has published eight books of poetry, one of them, *Work Lights*, made up entirely of prose poems. His interest in the prose poem is also reflected in the anthology he edited with Stuart Frieber, *Models of the Universe* (Oberlin College Press).