THE BEST OF THE PROSE POEM:

AN INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL

Contributors

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CONTRIBUTORS

Kim Addonizio is the author of three books of poetry, the most recent of which is *Tell Me* (BOA Editions); her book of stories, *In the Box Called Pleasure,* was recently published by Fiction Collective 2.

Robert Alexander is the author of a book of prose poems, *White Pine Sucker River: Poems 1970-1990,* and he has co-edited two anthologies, *The Party Train: A Collection of North American Prose Poetry* and *The Talking Hands: A Thirtieth Anniversary Celebration.* All three books are available from New Rivers Press. He is currently working on a narrative prose poem about the Civil War battle of Five Forks.

Agha Shahid Ali is Director of the M.F.A. Creative Writing Program at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst. His latest collections are *A Nostalgisfs Map of America* and *The Country Without a Post Office.*

Jack Anderson, a poet and dance critic, received the Marie Alexander Award for his *Traffic: New and Selected Prose Poems* (New Rivers Press).

Nin Andrews is the author of *The Book of Orgasms* and *Spontaneous Breasts.*

Rane Arroyo is a Puerto Rican poet and playwright who is widely published and performed. He is the son of Jean Genet and Emily Dickinson-with Pablo Neruda as the Holy Ghost.

Rose Auslander was born in what is now Romania and wrote in German. Of Jewish origin, she survived WWII and immigrated to the United States in 1946, where she worked for the next seventeen years as a secretary, correspondent and translator. She returned to Europe in 1963, and died in Diisseldorf, Germany in 1988. Her first volume of poetry was published in 1939; her second in 1965. These translations are reprinted by permission of S. Fischer Verlag and Gary Sea. Copyright © 1984 S. Fischer Verlag GmbHm Frankfurt an Main.

Ruth Behar's poems are included in three new anthologies: *Sephardic American Voices: Two Hundred Years of a Literary Legacy* (Brandeis University Press, 1996); *Little Havana Blues: A Cuban-American Literature Anthology* (Arte Publico Press, 1996); and *The Prairie Schooner Anthology of Jewish-American Writers,* edited by Hilda Raz (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1998). The poem included in this volume forms part of a manuscript entitled *Nameless Poems/Poemas sin nombre,* which explores the themes of love, loss, and regret, as well as Behar's search for bonds to Cuba, her place of birth.

Michael Benedikt has published five books of poetry, including *Mole Notes, Night Cries,* and *The Badminton at Great Barrington.* He also edited the *Poetry of Surrealism* and *The Prose Poem: An International Anthology.* His new manuscript of prose poems is called *Universe.*

Aloysius Bertrand (1807-1841) has sometimes been called "The Father of the Modern Prose Poem," though he never used the term to describe his own work. The poem in this volume is from *The Fantasies of Gaspard de la Nuit,* a book Baudelaire cited as the precursor to his *Paris Spleen.*

Robert Bly's latest books of poetry include *Eating the Honey of Words: New and Selected Poems* (Harper Collins) and *The Lightning Should Have Fallen on Ghalib: Selected Poems of Ghalib,* Ecco Press, translated with Sunil Dutta. He also edited *The Best American Poetry* 1999 (Scribner).

Michael Bowden lives in Sierra Vista, Arizona. His prose poems have appeared sporadically in various journals over the years, and have been included in two anthologies: *Fever Dreams: Contemporary Arizona Poetry* and *The Party Train: A Collection of North American Prose Poetry.*

John Bradley lives with his wife, Jana, in DeKalb, where he teaches writing at Northern Illinois University. An essay of his on the prose poem appeared in *Quarter After Eight.*

Joel Brouwer, a 1999-2000 NEA fellow, is the author of *Exactly What Happened* (Purdue, 1999). "Tumor" and "Marked" are from a manuscript of 100-word prose poems, *Centuries,* which is currently seeking a publisher.

Christopher Buckley's ninth book of poetry, *Fall From Grace,* was recently published by BkMk Press/University 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 University of California/Riverside.

Lynne Burris Butler won the 1999 Blue Lynx Poetry Prize for her collection of poems *Sunday Afternoons with Tolstoy.* She teaches at the University of North Alabama.

George Chambers, novelist and poet, teaches at Bradley University. He is the author of *The Bonnyclabber* (novel), *Null Set* (short stories), and *The Last Man Standing* (novel). According to Ray Federman, he and Chambers "have been writing together—sending the stuff back and forth, until we feel it's in place. I think we are on to something—a series of sorts."

Maxine Chernoff has published five books of poems and five collections of fiction, most recently her novel, *A Boy in Winter* (Crown).

Michael Chitwood is the author of three collections of poetry: *Salt Works, Whet* and *The Weave Room.* He also has a book of essays titled *Hitting Below the Bible Belt.*

David Citino is Professor of English and Creative Writing at Ohio State University. He is the author of ten books of poetry, including *The Book of Appassionata: Collected Poems* (Ohio State University Press); also *Broken Symmetry* (Ohio State), named a Notable Book of 1997 by the National Book Critics Circle; *The Weight of the Heart* (Quarterly Review of Literature Poetry Series, 1996); *The Discipline: New and Selected Poems,* 1980-1992 (Ohio State); *The Appassionata Doctrines* (Cleveland State University Poetry Center); and *The Gift of Fire* (University of Arkansas Press).

Killarney Clary is the author of two collections of poetry: *Who Whispered Near Me* (Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 1989) and *By Common Salt* (Oberlin College Press, 1993). She was a 1992 Lannan Foundation Fellowship recipient.

Mark Cunningham received an MFA in creative writing from the University of Virginia a few years ago. He's stayed in the area because it's close to Washington D.C., where most museums don't charge to get in.

Craig Czury's most recent books are *Unreconciled Faces* (Foot Hills Publishing, 1999) and *Parallel Rivertime* (bilingual Russian/English edition Petropol Press, St. Petersburg, Russia, 1999). He lives in Reading, Pennsylvania where he conducts his ongoing Berks Poetry Project with the African-American, Hispanic, Asian and Anglo communities.

Philip Dacey's latest books are *The Deathbed Playboy* (Eastern Washington University Press, 1999) and *The Paramour of the Moving Air* (Quarterly Review of Literature, 1999).

Jon Davis's latest book is *Scrimmage of Appetite* (University of Akron Press, 1995).

Aleš Debeljak's recent books in English include *Reluctant Modernity: Institution of Art and its Historical Forms* and *The City and the Child.* He lives in Ljubljana, Slovenia.

Michel Delville teaches twentieth-century British and American literature at the University of Liege, Belgium. His published works include a study of J. G. Ballard (Northcote House, 1998) and articles on contemporary poetry and fiction. His book, *The American Prose Poem: Poetic Form and the Boundaries of Genre* (University Press of Florida, 1998), won the 1998 SAMLA Studies Award.

Miriam Goodman's *Expense Report* won the 1995 Warm Springs Press Chap-book competition and appeared in summer 1995. Her newest collection, *Commercial Traveller,* was published in 1996 by Garden Street Press. She teaches a class in word and image at the Radcliffe Seminars and makes her living as a digital instructional designer.

David Greenslade lives in Wales where he publishes in Welsh and English. English language books include *Welsh Fever,* a look at Welsh immigrant life in the U.S.A. Prose poetry collections include *Cambrian Country,* a study of Welsh Emblems, and *Creosote,* an investigation of the vegetable soul.

Richard Gwyn's most recent book is a collection of forty-two prose poems, *Walking on Bones* (Parthian Books). After several years living in Greece and Spain he now lives in Cardiff where he works as a lecturer and researcher in health communication.

Leo Haber, adjunct professor of Hebrew at Union College, N.Y., and consulting editor at *Midstream,* has published poetry and fiction in a wide variety of journals including *Commentary, Midstream, The Literary Review, River City, Southern Poetry Review, Snake Nation Review, Voices West,* and *The Prose Poem: An International Journal.* Mr. Haber has won awards in poetry from Embers, Poetpourri, Rome Art and Community Center, and the Poetry Society of Dallas, Texas. Two of his poems appeared in an international anthology of Holocaust poetry, *Beyond Lament,* edited by Marguerite M. Striar and published by Northwestern University Press in 1998.

S.C. Hahn lives on a farm near Falköping in southern Sweden, where he is milking cows, translating Swedish and German poetry, and writing a novel about the Nebraska Territory.

Cecil 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).

Bob Heman has spent the last twenty years working in libraries and archives. His prose poems have appeared in numerous journals including *Caliban, Artful Dodge, First Intensity, Yefief* and *key satch(el).*

Brian Henry's first book of poetry, *Astronaut,* appeared in 1999 from Arc in the U.K.

Jennifer L. Holley received her M.F. A. from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. She lives in Old Saybrook, Connecticut, and works for the *Yale Alumni Magazine.*

Brooke Horvath is the author of two collections of poetry: *In a Neighborhood of Dying Light* and *Consolation at Ground Zero.* A Professor of English at Kent State University and editor with the *Review of Contemporary Fiction,* his recent work includes co-edited books on William Goyen, George Garrett, Thomas Pynchon, and Henry James.

Holly Iglesias' work has appeared in journals including *The Massachusetts Review, Cream City Review, Puerto del Sol, Kalliope* and *The Women's Review of Books.* In 1999, she completed a dissertation, *Boxing Inside the Box: Women's Prose Poetry,* and her chapbook, *All That Echoes Her Large,* was published by Permafrost. She is co-editor, with Catherine Reid, of *Every Woman I've Ever Loved: Lesbian Writers on Their Mothers* (Cleis Press, 1997).

David Ignatow's *Against the Evidence: Selected Poems 1934-94* © Wesleyan University Press. His recent death was a great loss to the poetry community and to *The Prose Poem: An International Journal.* As a contributing editor, his kindness and good humor were a continual source of encouragement.

Maria Jacketti's first collection of poetry, *Black Diamond Madonna,* is forthcoming from Cross Cultural Communications. She is currently translating Neruda's *Cantos Ceremoniales* and *Maremoto.*

Gray Jacobik is the 1998 winner of the X. J. Kennedy Poetry Prize; her book, *The Surface of Last Scattering* is out from Texas Review Press. *The Double Task,* published by University of Massachusetts Press, received the Juniper Prize for 1997. Recent poems appear in *The Kenyon Review, Poetry, Alaska Quarterly Review,* and *Best American Poetry 1999.*

Sibyl James' books include *The Adventures of Stout Mama* and *In China with Harpo and Karl.* She has taught in the U.S., China, Mexico, and as Fulbright professor in Tunisia and Côte d'Ivoire.

Louis Jenkins lives in Duluth, Minnesota. His most recent book of prose poems is *Just Above Water* (Holy Cow! Press, 1997). Two of his prose poems were published in *The Best American Poetry 1999.* He is currently working with visual artist Richard C. Johnson on a project tided *The Third Image: Words and Pictures.*

Brian Johnson's poems have appeared in *American Letters and Commentary, Connecticut Review, North Dakota Quarterly, Quarter after Eight* and other journals. His chapbook,

Jim Johnson lives in Duluth, Minnesota. His most recent book is *Dovetailed Corners* (Holy Cow! Press).

Peter Johnson is founder and editor of *The Prose Poem: An International Journal.* His latest books of prose poetry are *Pretty Happy!* (White Pine Press, 1997) and *Love Poems for the Millennium* (Quale Press, 1998). He received an NEA for Creative Writing in 1999.

George Kalamaras' poems and prose poems appear in many places, including *Best American Poetry 1997, Epoch, The Iowa Review, TriQuarterly,* and elsewhere. His collection of poetry, *The Theory and Function of Mangoes,* won the Four Way Books Intro Series in Poetry Award (Published March 2000).

Paol Keineg is a Breton poet who lives in the U.S. Recent books are *Tohu* (Wigman, 1994) and *Silva rerum* (Guernica/Nadeau, 1989). He is currently working on a play.

Bill Knott's latest books are *Other Strangers Than Our Own: Selected Love Poems, 1963-1999; Homages; The Season on our Sleeve: Short Poems, Selected Poems, Volume One, 1968-88;* and *Plaza de Loco: New Poems 1999.*

Mary A. Koncel's chapbook, *Closer to Day,* was published by Quale Press.

Stephen Kuusisto is the author of a memoir, *Planet of the Blind.* His first collection of poems, *Night Seasons,* will soon be available from Copper Canyon Press. He is a graduate of the "Writers' Workshop" at the University of Iowa.

David Lazar's work has appeared in *The Anchor Essay Annual: Best of1998, Chelsea, Southwest Review, Denver Quarterly* and other journals and magazines. He has four citations for "Notable Essays of the Year" from *Best American Essays.* He edited *Conversations for M.F.K. Fisher* and *Michael Powell: Interviews* for University Press of Mississippi, and he is a member of the creative writing faculty at Ohio University.

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 University of Pittsburgh Press in 1997. A *Selected Poems* is forthcoming, also from the University 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, NEA, Virginia Commission for the Arts, and a Fulbright award. Levis was one of the most unique and significant poetic talents of the past fifty years.

P. H. Liotta's most recent books include *The Nightingale Is Among Us Again: Selected Poems from the Macedonian of Bogomil Gjuzel; The Ruins of Athens: A Balkan Memoir;* and *Dismembering the State: The Logic and Ill-Logic of Yugoslav Disintegration.* His manuscript of prose poems, currently circulating, is called *The Blue Whale.*

Rachel Loden's collection *Hotel Imperium* won the Contemporary Poetry Series competition of the University of Georgia Press and was published in fall 1999. Her chapbook, *The Last Campaign,* won the Hudson Valley Writers' Center competition, and her poems have appeared in the *Paris Review, Antioch Review, New American Writing, Best American Poetry 1995,* and elsewhere.

Gian Lombardo's most recent prose poetry collections are *Who Lets Go First* (Swamp Press, 1999) and *Sky Open Again* (Dolphin-Moon, 1997).

Robert Hill Long is a Carolinian who endures a mild western Oregon exile. He has been a fellow of the NEA, the North Carolina Arts Council, and the Oregon Arts Commission. His books include *The Power to Die, The Work of the Bow,* and *The Effigies.* His work has appeared in *Best American Poetry, Flash Fiction* and journals in every direction: from *Poetry East* to *Poetry Northwest, New England Review* to *Southern Poetry Review,* and lots of points in between.

Dennis Maloney is a poet, translator, and landscape architect. In addition, he is the editor of the widely respected White Pine Press. His books of translation include *The Stones of Chile* by Pablo Neruda; *The Landscape Of Soria* by Antonio Machado; *Dusk Lingers,* Haiku of Issa; and *Tangled Hair, Love Poems of Yosano Akiko* (with Hide Oshiro). Several volumes of his own poems have been published, including *The Map Is Not the Territory* (Unicorn Press, 1990).

Morton Marcus' latest book of prose poems, *When People Could Fly,* was published by Hanging Loose in 1997. His new and selected prose poems, *Moments Without Names,* has been selected to be part of the Marie Alexander Series of New Rivers Press and will be out next year.

Peter Markus has published prose poems and short-short fictions in *Black Warrior Review, Quarterly West, Quarter After Eight, Barnabe Mountain Review,* and *Third Coast,* as well as in the anthology *The Party Train: A Collection of North American Prose Poetry,* published by New Rivers Press.

Dionislo D. Martinez was born in Cuba and is the author of *Climbing Back* (forthcoming from Norton, 2000), selected for the National Poetry Series by Jorie Graham; *Bad Alchemy* (Norton, 1995); and *History as a Second Language* (Ohio State, 1993). He has received fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the Whiting Foundation. He lives in Tampa, Florida.

Michael Martone has written five books of short prose. The most recent is *Seeing Eye,* published by Zoland Books in 1995. He lives in Tuscaloosa, Alabama.

William Matthews died on November 12, 1997. He published ten collections of poetry, including *Blues If You Want* (1989), *Selected Poems & Translations, 1969-1991* (1992), and *Time andMoney* (1995). He received the 1997 Ruth Lilly Poetry Prize. His prose poems in this volume are from his second collection, *Sleek for the Long Flight,* which was reprinted by White Pine Press and is still available.

Kathleen McGookey has poems published recently in *Epoch, Bellingham Review, Seneca Review, Salt Hill, Boston Review,* and *Verse.* Her first collection, *Whatever Shines,* will be published by New Rivers Press in the spring of 2001.

Martin McKinsey has published his own poetry in such journals as *Ploughshares* and *Webster Review,* and his translations of Greek poets have appeared widely. He is the translator of *Late Into the Night: The Last Poems of Yannis Ritsos* (Oberlin, 1995), and he is also the author of *Point Taenaron* (Tapir, 1997), a book of poems.

Jay Meek has published seven books with Carnegie Mellon, including *Windows,* a collection of prose poems, and *The Memphis Letters,* a sequence of fictional letters, available this year. Last spring, on leave from the University of North Dakota, he completed a new collection of prose poems in Norway.

Christopher Merrill's recent books include *Only the Nails Remain: Scenes from the Balkan Wars* (nonfiction) and the translation of Aleš Debeljak's *The City and the Child.*

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

Gabriela Mistral was the only Latin American woman to receive the Nobel Prize for literature. After receiving the prize, she suggested she had won because she was the "candidate of the women and children." She died in New York City in 1957. Her prose poems are from *Gabriela Mistral: A Reader,* available from White Pine Press.

Fred Muratori's two poetry collections are *Despite Repeated Warnings* (BASFAL Books, 1994) and *The Possible* (State Street Press, 1988). His poems have appeared in *The Best American Poetry 1994, New American Writing, Poetry International,* and many other journals. He lives just outside Ithaca, New York.

Pablo Neruda was born in the frontier lands of southern Chile in 1904. At an early age, he began a life of charged political and poetic activity. In 1971, Neruda, often referred to as "the poet of enslaved humanity," was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature. Neruda died in Santiago, Chile in 1973. "The Key" is from *The House in the Sand* (Milkweed, 1990).

Kristy Nielsen has published work in *Mid-American Review, The Madison Review, Kalliope,* and *Spoon River Poetry Review,* among others. Her work was included in *The Party Train: A Collection of North American Prose Poetry* (New Rivers) and a chapbook of prose poems, *Two Girls,* is available from Thorngate Road.

Naomi Shihab Nye's recent books include *Fuel* (poems), *Habibi* (a novel for teens), and *Lullaby Raft* (a picture book).

Nina Nyhart has two collections of poems from Alice James Books, *Openers* and *French for Soldiers.* Her prose poems have appeared in *Amaranth, Fine Madness, Green Fuse, Sing Heavenly Muse!, The Snail's Pace Review, Sojourner, Tampa Review, Whole Notes,* and in *The Party Train: An Anthology of North American Prose Poetry,* New Rivers Press, 1996.

Tommy Olofsson is a Swedish poet and a translator; he is also a critic for the Swedish Daily newspaper *Svenska Dagbladet.* "Chicago" is from *Elemental Poems* (White Pine Press, 1989).

Imre Oravecz has published five books of poetry, most recently, *September 1972,* a book which sold out overnight in Hungary. Translations of his work appeared in Volume 1 of this journal.

Jean Pearson is a poet and writer from Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. Her most recent book of poems is *On Speaking Terms With the Earth.*

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.

Francis (Martinez de) Picabia (1879-1953), an avant-garde Parisian artist of Cuban extraction, was a champion of the various 20th-century "isms," and helped to introduce Dadaism into the USA in 1915. As a writer, his linguistic nihilism is exemplified in several collections, especially *Jesus-Christ rastaquouére* (1920), in which the present "entr'acte" appears, with little apparent relation to the rest of the work.

Cristian Popescu (1959-95) published three books, almost entirely prose poetry, including the chapbook *The Popescu Family* (1987) and *The Popescu Art* (1994). His works have appeared in English in the U.S. in Adam Sorkin's co-translations in *Green Mountains Review, Poetry Daily, Brevity* and in Romania in *Apostrof* and in the anthology, *Romanian Poets of the 80s and 90s (Paralela 45,*1999).

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.

Jacques Reda was born in Luneville in 1929. In 1940 he moved to within striking distance of Paris, and thirteen years later he found himself there for good. His many works include *Les Ruines de Paris* (1977), *Retour au calme* (1989), and *Lettre sur l'univers* (1991). The selections here are from *The Ruins of Paris* (Reaktion Books: London).

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

Yannis Ritsos (1909-1990) was one of the foremost poets of modern Greece. A collection of his prose writing, *Iconostasis of Anonymous Saints,* is available from Kedros Editions.

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.

Gary Sea is a member of the American Literary Translator Association. He has published translations from German and Modern Greek in various journals, most recently in *Asylum, Confluence, Graham House Review, Nimrod,* and *Webster Review.*

Norman Shapiro has published *Selected Poems from Baudelaire's "Les Fleurs du mal"* and *A Hundred and One Poems of Paul Verlaine* (both at the University of Chicago Press); poems in *Partisan Review* and *The Formalist;* a couple of short pieces in both *Beacons* (the ATA literary journal) and *Two Voices.*

John Shoemaker is a writer, editor and musician who lives in Seattle, Washington.

Barry Silesky is the author of *One Thing That Can Save Us,* prose poems (called short-short fiction by Coffee House Press); a collection of verse; and poems in many magazines and anthologies. He has also authored the biography of Lawrence Ferlinghetti, edits the magazine *ACM,* and is at work on the biography of John Gardner, for Algonquin Books.

Charles Simic is a poet, essayist and translator. He has published fourteen collections of his own poetry, five books of essays and memoirs, and numerous books of translations. His new book of poems, *Jackstraws,* was published in spring of 1999 by Harcourt Brace.

Goran Simić is the author of *Sprinting from the Graveyard,* translated by David Harsent. He lives in Toronto.

William Slaughter is a professor of English at the University of North Florida. He has been a senior Fulbright Lecturer in China (1987-88) and Egypt (1980-81). He is the author of *The Politics of My Heart* (1996), a book of poems and essays, and *Untold Stories* (1990), a book of poems. He edits and publishes *Mudlark,* an electronic journal of poetry and poetics. His poems and essays have appeared in magazines ranging from *Poetry* (Chicago) to *Exquisite Corpse.*

Bruce Smith teaches in the writing program at the University of Alabama. His previous collections of poetry are *The Common Wages, Silver and Information* (National Poetry Series Selection), *Mercy Seat* and, most recently, *The Other Lover* (University of Chicago).

Ellen McGrath Smith is a Ph.D. candidate in literature at Duquesne University, where she is completing a doctoral dissertation that deals with the American prose poem. She received the M.F.A. in poetry degree from the University of Pittsburgh and continues to teach community and academic poetry workshops in the Pittsburgh area.

Thomas R. Smith's third book of poems, *The Dark Indigo Current,* was published this year by Holy Cow! Press. His work is included in *The Best American Poetry 1999* (Scribner).

Linda Smukler, winner of the 1997 Firecracker Alternative Book Award in Poetry, is the author of two collections of poetry: *Normal Sex* and *Home in Three Days. Don't Wash.,* a multi-media project with accompanying cd-rom. Smukler has received fellowships in poetry from the New York Foundation for the Arts and the Astraea Foundation.

Adam J. Sorkin published three single-author volumes of Romanian poetry during the past year: Daniela Crăsnaru's *Sea-Level Zero* from BOA, selected poems largely translated with the poet; Ioana Ieronnim's *The Triumph of the Water Witch,* from Bloodaxe, a volume of prose poems translated with the poet; and Mircea Cărtărescu's *Bebop Baby* in the *Poetry New York* pamphlet series.

Maura Stanton's fourth book of poetry, *Life Among the Trolls,* was published by Carnegie Mellon in 1998. She teaches at Indiana University in Bloomington.

Borgan Stefanescu is on the faculty of the University of Bucharest; in 1996-97, he was Fulbright lecturer at Penn State. A translator and essayist, his co-translations with Adam Sorkin of Cristian Popescu, Marin Sorescu, and others have appeared in half a dozen magazines and anthologies.

J. David Stevens has published poems and stories in *The Paris Review, The Iowa Review, The North American Review,* and *The Virginia Quarterly Review,* among others. He currently teaches creative writing at Seton Hall University.

Brian Swann has published many books. He teaches at the Cooper Union.

Jean Tardieu is one of the leading voices in France today. Since 1933 his plays, poems, essays and other texts have been published by Gallimard. His most recent works are *On vient chercher monsieur Jean* and *La Comedie de la comedie,* both with Gallimard, 1990.

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

Carine Topal lives, writes, and teaches in Los Angeles. She is the recipient of several poetry awards and the author of *God As Thief,* her first collection of poems, published by The Amagansett Press.

Helen Tzagoloff has recently been published in *Riverrun, The MacGuffin, Anthology of Magazine Verse & Yearbook of American Poetry,* and other journals. She has completed a poetry manuscript, *Eye Contact.*

Mark Vinz is the author of several collections, including a book of prose poems, *Late Night Calls.* He is also co-editor of *The Party Train: A Collection of North American Prose Poetry,* published by New Rivers Press.

Chris Volpe teaches a poetry workshop at the University of New Hampshire. His recent work has appeared in *New American Writing, The New Republic* and *The Antioch Review.*

Diane Wald's new book, *Lucid Suitcase,* is available from Red Hen Press. Her electronic chapbook, *Improvisations on Titles of Works by Jean Dubuffet,* can be seen on the *Mudlark* website.

Liz Waldner's first book is *Homing Devices* (O Books, 1998); her second, which won a 1999 Iowa Prize for Poetry, is *A Point Is That Which Has No Part* (University of Iowa Press, 2000). *With the Tongues of Angels* (Green Lake Chapbook Prize) is also due in 2000.

Rosmarie Waldrop's recent books of poems are *Reluctant Gravities* (New Directions, 1999), *Split Infinites* (Singing Horse Press, 1998), and *Another Language: Selected Poems* (Talisman House, 1997).

Charles Harper Webb has won the Morse Poetry Prize, the Kate Tufts Discovery Award, and a Whiting Writer's Award. His latest book, *Liver,* won the 1999 Felix Pollak Prize and was published by the University of Wisconsin Press.

Tom Whalen teaches creative writing, literature, and film, and divides his time between New Orleans and Germany. His latest books are *Roithamer's Universe* (a novel), *Winter Coat* (poetry), and, with Daniel Quinn, the comic fiction A *Newcomer's Guide to the Afterlife.*

M. L. Williams' work has appeared in numerous magazines and anthologies, including *The Geography of Home, Verse and Universe: Poems about Mathematics and Science, What There Is: The Crossroads Anthology, Solo, The Prose Poem,* and *Quarterly West.* He is currently at work on two anthologies, *The Obsessive Refrain: French Forms in Contemporary American Verse* with co-editor Chryss Yost, and a new anthology of Fresno poets with David Oliveira. He currently lives in Santa Barbara, California.

Peter Wortsman is the author of a short collection of prose, *A Modern Way To Die* (Fromm International, 1991, paperback 1993) and translator of, among other works, *Posthumous Papers of a Living Author,* by Robert Musil (reissued by Penguin Twentieth Century Classics in 1996).

CD. Wright's latest books are *Tremble* and *Deepstep Come Shining.*

John Yau has a book of essays forthcoming from the University of Michigan Press. His most recent books include *Forbidden Entries* (1996) and *My Symptoms* (1998).

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 co-edited, with Stuart Friebert, *Models of the Universe* (Oberlin College Press).

Gary Young's most recent books are *Days* and *Braver Deeds,* which won the Peregrine Smith Poetry Prize. He edits the Greenhouse Review Press and his print work is represented in many collections including the Museum of Modern Art and the Getty Center for the Arts.

Andrew Zawacki is co-editor of *Verse* and he reviews for the *TLS.* His poems have appeared in *New American Writing, The New Republic, Boston Review, Denver Quarterly, Colorado Review* and elsewhere.

Gene Zeiger lives in western Massachusetts and is the author of two collections of poetry, *Sudden Dancing* (Amherst Writers and Artists Press) and *Leaving Egypt* (White Pine Press). Her memoir, *How I Find Her,* is forthcoming.

Clark M. Zlotchew, a professor of Spanish at the SUNY College at Fredonia, is a writer and translator. He is the author of *Libido into Literature: The "Primera Epoca" ofGaldos,* published by Borgo in 1990, and of *Voices of the River Plate: Interviews with Writers of Argentina and Uruguay,* from Borgo in 1991.

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