

The Year of the Poet V

May 2018

Featured Poets

Zaldy Carreon de Leon Jr.

Sylvia K. Malinowska

Lindita Ahmeti

Ofelia Prodan

The Sumerians



The Poetry Posse 2018

Gail Weston Shazor * Nizar Sartaoui * Hülya N. Yılmaz

Jackie Davis Allen * Caroline 'Ceri' Nazareno

Alicja Maria Kuberska * Teresa E. Gallion

Kimberly Burnham * Shareef Abdur – Rasheed

Faleeha Hassan * Elizabeth Castillo * Swapna Behera

Tezmin Ition Tsai * William S. Peters, Sr.

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inner child press, ltd.

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General Information

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The Poetry Posse

1st Edition : 2018

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WHAT WOULD
LIFE
BE WITHOUT
A LITTLE
POETRY?

Dedication

This Book is dedicated to

Poetry . . .

The Poetry Posse

past, present & future

our Patrons and Readers

the Spirit of our Everlasting Muse

&

the Power of the Pen

to effectuate change!



*In the darkness of my life
I heard the music
I danced . . .
and the Light appeared
and I dance*

Janet P. Caldwell

Janet Perkins Caldwell

Rest In Peace

February 14, 1959 ~ September 20, 2016



Rest In Peace Dear Brother

Alan W. Jankowski

16 March 1961 ~ 10 March 2017



*Poets . . .
sowing seeds in the
Conscious Garden of Life,
that those who have yet to come
may enjoy the Flowers.*

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Foreword

*To overturn the appointed times,
to obliterate the divine plans,
the storms gather to strike like a flood.*

(“The lament for Sumer
and Urim”)

For the last four months, we, Poetry Posse members, have written poetry about ancient cultures. We have penned poems about Axum, Saba’, Middle America and the Caribbean, and Nez Perce. This month, The Year Of The Poet journey across the world has arrived in Mesopotamia, to explore its most ancient culture, Sumer. As we move from one culture to another, three questions come to mind: The first is about theme-driven poetry: Is it alright to ask poets to write about a predefined theme. The second is related to ancient cultures: Why should we write poetry about them? The third question is specific to Sumer. What is it that is worth learning about this culture, and how relevant is it to poetry?

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Asking poets to write about a specific theme, or topic, is not uncommon among poetry groups or organizations that publish national or international anthologies. Inner Child Press, for instance, invites poets from all over the world to contribute to its

biennial anthology, *World Healing World Peace*. Similar anthologies are published by many cultural and literary organizations in the U.S. and other countries.

In fact, writing theme poetry has probably been practiced even by individual poets – past and present. Leigh Hunt, the 19th century poet, who also was the editor of the *Examiner* magazine, organized contests between poets from time to time. He once asked Percy Bysshe Shelly and Horace Smith to write a sonnet each about Ozymandias. On another occasion, Hunt himself competed with Shelly and John Keats to write a sonnet about the Nile.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

With regards to the second question, poets have often been intrigued by ancient civilizations – their legacy and the different aspects of their life. Poets of course may not have the opportunity to travel to countries where the remains of these cultures still exist. They mostly depend on sources, such as books, articles, documentaries, photos, written or produced by scholars, historians, archeologists, anthropologists, geographers, travelers, tourists, and photographers, to learn about these cultures. Inspired by their readings, poets also resort to their imagination and poetic sensibility in creating their poems. For example, to write “Ozymandias” Shelly and Smith relied on a passage from a book by the Sicilian-Greek historian, Diodorus Siculus,

which described a gigantic Egyptian statue of Ramesses II, or Ozymandias. Shelly, however, referred to Siculus, not as a historian, but “a traveler from an antique land.”

Taking liberty in selecting, interpreting and versifying texts is not an unusual practice among poets. John Keats’s “Ode on a Grecian Urn” was based on his reading of two articles and other contemporary sources about Greek art. In writing the urn poem, however, Keats did not refer to any specific urn. He rather presented his own concept of Greek virtues in describing the paintings engraved on an urn of his own creation. The same thing can be said of William Butler Yeats, in whose poem “Solomon to Sheba,” the Jewish king falls in love with the Sabaeen queen. The poem ends with these lines:

Said Solomon to Sheba,
And kissed her Arab eyes,
"There's not a man or woman
Born under the skies
Dare match in learning with us two,
And all day long we have found
There's not a thing but love can make
The world a narrow pound.'

Anne Brontë, too, in “Alexander And Zenobia” created a love adventure between the great Greek emperor and the Arab queen of Palmyra (located in modern Syria). Taken historically, the poem can be cited as an example of scandalous anachronism

since the two protagonists were separated by almost six centuries. But who can question the fanciful minds of poets?

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

What about Sumer? What kind of culture was it? And what would we want to learn about it?

The Sumerian culture emerged around 4,000 B.C.E. The Sumerians lived in Mesopotamia, in the south of modern Iraq, the land lying between the Tigris and the Euphrates. Actually the Greek word “Mesopotamia” literally means “a country between two rivers.”

For many researchers, Sumer is one of the first ancient civilizations in the world. Whether that is true or not, the Sumerians are known to have invented cuneiform script – the oldest known writing system. In fact Sumerian literature – all those Sumerian tablets, which were unknown to the world before the 19th century, were written in that language. Also, the Sumerians had an impressive religious tradition. Furthermore, they built more than ten city states. The major cities included Ur, Uruk, Eridu, Kish, Nippur, and Lagash. Each city was surrounded by a wall, dominated by pyramid-like temples. Canals were dug to bring water from the Tigris and Euphrates for irrigation. Unfortunately, these cities were at war with each other.

The Sumerians are also credited for introducing the sexagesimal structure. The 60-minute hour and 60-second minute that we use today were based on this system, which the Babylonians adopted in the second millennium B.C.E for their astronomical calculations.

Poets might be interested in such overwhelming achievements; for them, however, it is usually the Sumerian literary heritage that takes precedence. Many people are familiar with *The Epic of Gilgamesh*, the first epic in human history. But few people are aware of other Sumerian poetry works, such as *The Epic of Lagalbanda*, *The Legend of Sargon*, the Sumerian hymns, love poems, laments, songs, prayers, and other works, which were all written by Sumerian scribes. Therefore, I invite readers who are interested to know more about Sumerian poetry to explore these two websites:

– Sumer, Writing and artifacts:

http://realhistoryww.com/world_history/ancient/Misc/Sumer/Sumer_menu.htm

– Sumerian Shakespeare:

<http://sumerianshakespeare.com/>

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Finally, I would like to emphasize that writing poetry about the various cultures of the world has forged a path that makes it possible for us to educate ourselves, to expand our knowledge, and

also to be inspired. But more significantly, by delving into these cultures, we have the opportunity to look inside ourselves and rediscover the human beings we are. For, in one way or another, each culture provides a mirror that reflects back one side or more of our personality and/or culture, no matter how technologically advanced we think we are. And that might encourage us to see the world from a different perspective – to see all the possibilities waiting to be explored by us, thus giving us the opportunity to grow and become better human beings, and to seek to live in peace and harmony with each other.

May we all be gifted with peace, love and creativity – Amen!

Nizar Sartawi

Director, Inner Child Press International

nizarsartawi@gmail.com

Preface

Dear Family and Friends,

Yes I am excited? Once again, this is an understatement! As we are hitting another milestone, the 5th month of our fifth year of publication . . . I am elated. Our initial vision was to just perform at this level for the year of 2014. Since that time we have had the blessed opportunity to include many other wonderful word artists and storytellers in the Poetry Posse from lands, cultures and persuasions all over the world. We have featured hundreds of additional poets, thereby introducing their poetic offerings to our vast global readership.

In keeping with our effort and vision to expand the awareness of poets from all walks by making this offerings accessible, we at Inner Child Press will continue to make every volume a FREE Download. The books are also available for purchase at the affordable cost of \$7.00 per volume.

In the previous years, our monthly themes were Flowers, Birds, Gemstones and Trees. This year we have elected to take a different direction by theming our offerings after *Cultures* of past and

present. In each month's volume you will have the opportunity to not only read at least one poem themed by our Poetry Posse members about such culture, but we have included a few words about the culture in our prologue. The reasoning behind this is that now our poetry has the opportunity to be educational for not only the reader, but we poets as well. We hope you find the poetic offerings insightful as we use our poetic form to relay to you what we too have learned through our research in making our offering available to you, our readership.

In closing, we would like to thank you for being an integral part of our amazing journey.

Enjoy our amazing featured poets . . . they are amazing!

Building Cultural Bridges

Bless Up

From our house to yours

Bill

The Poetry Posse
Inner Child Press

DS

Do Not forget about the World Healing, World Peace Poetry effort.

Available here

www.worldhealingworldpeacepoetry.com

or

Janet . . . gone too soon.

<http://www.innerchildpress.com/janet-p-caldwell.php>

**For Free Downloads of Previous Issues of
The Year of the Poet**

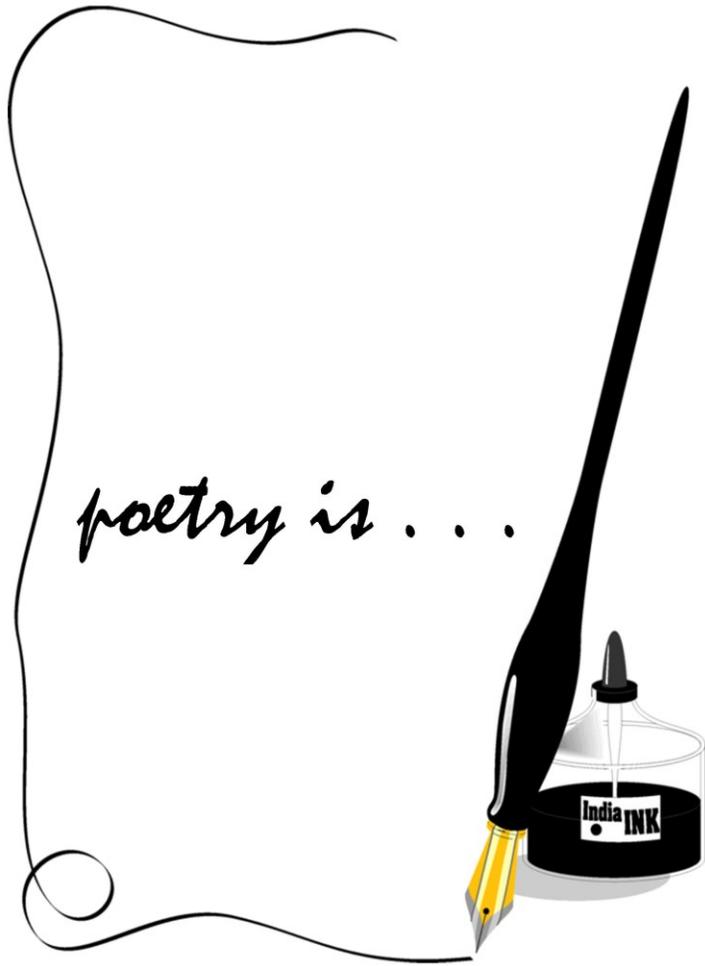
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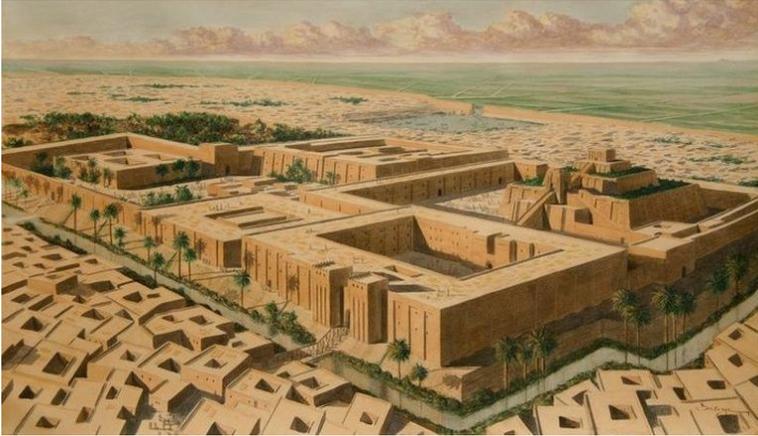
Poets, Writers . . . know that we are the enchanting magicians that nourishes the seeds of dreams and thoughts . . . it is our words that entice the hearts and minds of others to believe there is something grand about the possibilities that life has to offer and our words tease it forth into action . . . for you are the Poet, the Writer to whom the Gift of Words has been entrusted . . .

~ wsp





The Sumerians



Many of us have heard to the Sumerians. *Sumer* was an ancient land in the Mesopotamia area of the Fertile Crescent situated between the Euphrates and Tigris rivers. The Sumerians were an advanced culture and civilization who were known for their creativity and innovations in language, governance, architecture and more. The *Sumerian people* are considered the creators of civilization and occupy a significant role in our modern-day expression.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sumer>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sumerian_language



The
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of the
Poet V

May 2018

The Poetry Posse

Poetry succeeds where instruction fails.

~ wsp

Gail
Weston
Shazor

The Year of the Poet V ~ May 2018



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This is a creative promise ~ my pen will speak to and for the world. Enamored with letters and respectful of their power, I have been writing for most of my life. A mother, daughter, sister and grandmother I give what I have been given, greatfilledly.

Author of . . .

"An Overstanding of an Imperfect Love"
&
Notes from the Blue Roof

Lies My Grandfathers Told Me

available at Inner Child Press.

www.facebook.com/gailwestonshazor

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Warrior

I got that red woman
Hid on the inside of me
We take turns hanging out
In the streets
And she balances out my navy well

When I wake after a long nite
Of perfecting your movements
She lingers across the pillow
In a preening manner
Shining the Teflon coated places

She has this repetitive way
Of telling testosterone lies
And some find her offensive
Though my sweet smile
Softens the marks cut in backs

We are much better sheathed
And while bone and sinew
Are often visible
It is only the soft kiss of lips
That you will remember

Long after you realize
You didn't get a name

Untitled Blitz...

Drum sound
Drum beat
Beat true
Beat slowly
Slowly listen
Slowly rise
Rise heavenwards
Rise hellwards
Hellwards to grave
Hellwards epiphany
Epiphany knows
Epiphany ludicrously
Ludicrously ignorant
Ludicrously privileged
Privileged plague
Privileged clothes
Clothes exposed
Clothes no more
More than instinct
More than birth
Birth collective
Birth mistake
Mistake of truth
Truth forsaken
Truth mirrored
Mirrored fun house
Mirrored distortion
Fun house distortions

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WIP-Tetractys

because to be [#writteninpain](#) is authentic

Pain

Covers

Multitudes

Of the what ifs

That we always plague ourselves with, questions

And there ain't no easy answers for us

Things just won't go

Into night

As we

Wake

Alicja
Maria
Kuberska

The Year of the Poet V ~ May 2018



The Year of the Poet V ~ May 2018

Alicja Maria Kuberska – awarded Polish poetess, novelist, journalist, editor. She was born in 1960, in Świebodzin, Poland. She now lives in Inowrocław, Poland.

In 2011 she published her first volume of poems entitled: “The Glass Reality”. Her second volume “Analysis of Feelings”, was published in 2012. The third collection “Moments” was published in English in 2014, both in Poland and in the USA. In 2014, she also published the novel - “Virtual roses” and volume of poems “On the border of dream”. Next year her volume entitled “Girl in the Mirror” was published in the UK and “Love me” , “ (Not)my poem” in the USA. In 2015 she also edited anthology entitled “The Other Side of the Screen”.

In 2016 she edited two volumes: “Taste of Love” (USA), “Thief of Dreams” (Poland) and international anthology entitled “ Love is like Air” (USA). In 2017 she published volume entitled “View from the window” (Poland). She also edits series of anthologies entitled “Metaphor of Contemporary” (Poland)

Her poems have been published in numerous anthologies and magazines in Poland, the USA, the UK, Albania, Belgium, Chile, Spain, Israel, Canada, India, Italy, Uzbekistan, Czech Republic, South Korea and Australia. She was a featured poet of New Mirage Journal (USA) in the summer of 2011.

Alicja Kuberska is a member of the Polish Writers Associations in Warsaw, Poland and IWA Bogdani, Albania. She is also a member of directors’ board of Soflay Literature Foundation.

A child with autism

We are in the same room,
but we inhabit different worlds.
An invisible border divides us
- the eyes do not get through it
and words turn into silence.

Your look penetrates objects,
goes far beyond the room.
Every image is blurred in your thoughts.
I disappear and become as transparent as air
I hope you might sense that I'm sitting next to you.

You look intensely at the whirling bug
and wave nervously with your hands.
You would like to fly over a rainbow bridge of fantasy.
There to try to find shelter on your lonely island
where all your mind's entrusted secrets are guarded.

I smile again and give you a colourful toy,
You avoid my touch and with a cry retract your hand
quickly
I want to penetrate the barrier of our mutual pain,
To free you from a dimension filled with loneliness,
Where there is no space for another human.

Surge - Outflow

Sensitivity sentences one to loneliness,
empathy brings one closer to people.
Subsequent influx and efflux of feelings
teach the physics of existence.

I know,
I will not build the bridge between heaven and earth,
I will not catch up the waning moon,
I will not find the end of the rainbow.

I'm so close,
you can almost touch my hand
and yet I'm far distant from your thoughts.

Life disappoints,
dreams give hope.

The Islands of Happiness

dreams come true in the Bahamas

let's go there where the wind brushes the green hair of
palm trees

the huge ocean murmurs sleepily

the golden sand remembers footprints

and the sun disappears in blue water in the evening

before the black butterfly appears

we have time to write a few lines of a poem

and to share our thoughts like a slice of bread

only there we can entrust our secrets to the stars

It's just the wind

Wind flows as a long melody among the trees
and rustles resonantly with the accords of leaves,
scatters the shadows of flying birds,
arranges moving collages in the sky
and chases a herd of clouds.

It rippled the surface of the lake with a gust
and stole the smooth face from the water.
Later it painted wide circles in grayness,
shook off a few dry twigs
and played tune with a willow pipe.

Somewhere in the distance echoes
sings in the canon with rain drops
- repeats the chorus of the song.
Come back, I miss you.
Where are you my darling?

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Jackie
Davis
Allen

The Year of the Poet V ~ May 2018



The Year of the Poet V ~ May 2018

Jackie Davis Allen, otherwise known as Jacqueline D. Allen or Jackie Allen, grew up in the Cumberland Mountains of Appalachia. As the next eldest daughter of a coal miner father and a stay at home mother, she was the first in her family to attend and graduate from college. Her siblings, in their own right, are accomplished, though she is the only one, to date, that has discovered the gift of writing.

Graduating from Radford University, with a Bachelors of Science degree in Early Education, she taught in both public and private schools. For over a decade she taught private art classes to children both in her home and at a local Art and Framing Shop where she also sold her original soft sculptured Victorian dolls and original christening gowns.

She resides in northern Virginia with her husband, taking much needed get-aways to their mountain home near the Blue Ridge Mountains, a place that evokes memories of days spent growing up in the Appalachian Mountains.

A lover of hats, she has worn many. Following marriage to her college sweetheart, and as wife, mother, grandmother, teacher, tutor, artist, writer, poet and crafter, she is a lover of art and antiques, surrounding herself, always, with books, seeking to learn more.

In 2015 she authored *Looking for Rainbows, Poetry, Prose and Art*, and in 2017, *Dark Side of the Moon*. Both books of mostly narrative poetry were published by Inner Child Press and were edited by hulya n. yilmaz.

<http://www.innerchildpress.com/jackie-davis-allen.php>
jackiedavisallen.com

Of the Sumerian Culture: What Mysteries Still Await?

Their ancient history
Their wealth, what we now know comes
From clay tablets, their gods
Numbered in the hundreds.

They worshiped in pyramid-like
Structures, shaped
By hand and sweat of brow
Ziggurats, their temples.

And of city-states (mud bricked walls)
One by name of Uruk
The largest city, at one time
In the world, Uruk was populated

By many thousands.
Who knows the number thereof?
Evidence reveals, as from clay
Tablets, they were to the world

Astounding contributors with a legacy
Gifted to history. Few aware: for example
Sixty seconds, sixty minutes, first vehicles, too
With wheels, the potter's wheel, also.

And with city-states. Sumer, the oldest known
Civilization, was ruled by kings.
See the *List of Kings*. Surprisingly
One was a female, documented, inscribed

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As from cuneiforms. The Sumerian civilization
Is acknowledged to be the first known.
Also the first to develop, govern with lawful codes.
In an acrid land (once flooded, it they tamed)

Efficiently building irrigation canals so as to farm.
They who built structures with marsh reeds, mud bricks
Constructed buildings, homes, walls: no stone
No trees along the Tigris and Euphrates. Its people

Religious, literate. Keepers of records, the world
Recipient of its technological and cultural gifts
Poets, artists, creators extrardinaire, theirs was a legacy
Of kings with a written language of cuneiform,

Deciphered as from clay tablets.
The oldest writing system form known to history.
Imagine those earliest clay tablets, those
Yet to be deciphered. What they contain.

Sources: Wikipedia, various web sites

The Angular Distance

The fog lying low over the mountains
enshronds me.

Invisible branches embrace
the gray morning ethereal.

And misty tears break through
though I attempt to hold them back.

My world is shattered,
my vision obscured.

How shall I find my way?

Ah, the Sun rises, my day reconstructed
but vaporous musings still dwell within.

Sobbing and heaving, I greet the dawn,
Even as joyful memories evoke a smile: a dichotomy.

I strive to revisit the fog,
a world of my mind's own making.

Yet the heavenly light sublime
reveals a different path.

The All Consuming Heat of First Love

His presence caused the essence of romance

To color my day, it seemed it was his intent
Any fears of mine to allay
As a suitor he was quite smart, showering on me

His utmost attention, though, in truth, on my part

Some apprehension I did discern
Yet it I ignored for the sake of my heart
Then, he went away. He left me high and dry

He who had once set my heart a'pitter-patter

And caused the songbirds to scatter and to sigh
For when first we did meet my heart skipped
A couple of beats and wings, mysteriously

Appeared upon my feet

Emanating from our emotions, bursting
With youthful buds of desire and with sparks
Of love igniting, the stage was set for romance

Ours was a world aflame, passion all consuming

Then came the day, bereaved, filled with the ashes
Of ecstasy's extinguished delight
He went away. He left me high and dry
And the beat of my heart threatened to stop

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The clouds formed dark and bold
With a thunderous voice, so frighteningly
Cold, inside, my heart knew it was over

I began to wilt and to sigh

The weeks and months, colliding
Conspired, for my affections had been stolen
Not by a lover but by a thief

I wanted to cry

But suddenly I realized
I no longer needed him. That
Was the moment when my life really began

Tzømin
Ition
Tsai

The Year of the Poet V ~ May 2018



The Year of the Poet V ~ May 2018

Dr. Tzemin Ition Tsai (蔡澤民博士) was born in Tzemin Ition Tsai Taiwan, Republic of China, in 1957. He holds a Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering and two Masters of Science in Applied Mathematics and Chemical Engineering. He is an associate professor at the Asia University (Taiwan), editor of “Reading, Writing and Teaching” academic text. He also writes the long-term columns for Chinese Language Monthly in Taiwan.

He is a scholar with a wide range of expertise, while maintaining a common and positive interest in science, engineering and literature member.

He has won many national literary awards. His literary works have been anthologized and published in books, journals, and newspapers in more than 40 countries and have been translated into more than a dozen languages.

Cuneiform Soul

In that moment of concentration, I would like
Put my mind
on that extremely hard rock
With that unbreakable sharp reed pen
wrote down my perseverant imaginations
penetratingly
Gods, countries, cities, vessels, birds, and trees
Pure "symbols"
The survival record is no longer fragmented
Writing becomes more and more phonological

In that moment of concentration, I would like
Put my mind
above the surfaces of various pottery vases
As everyone knows
Sealed with oil tank and clay
Knives, drills, wedges, bows, arrows, and daggers
Clay vases
The survival record is no longer fragmented
Let me know about using it in wars and huntings

That four quarters of the universe
To the north, periodically raided for slaves
To the west, give an account of sheep and goats belong to
ancient Semitic-speaking peoples
To the south, created the place of creation with the land of
the dead
To the east, must bravely face the Elamites whom were
frequently at war with us
In that moment of concentration, I would like

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Put my mind
to the ruler of the freshwater depths beneath the earth,
Eridu
A healer and friend of humanity
The creator of the arts and sciences, the industries and
manners of civilization

Who Am I?

The long embankment took me all the way
South wind was blowing
The dandelion floating in the front shut her mouth tightly
I didn't reach out to intercept the last one
Let her go
With a little reluctance

Stepped forward silently like a black sheep
That cocoons on my feet
Sharp small stones on the road
Caused a burst of pain
Together with those in heart
Fully brought into my arms with slight pain

Fish in the lake
Swung tails far more blatantly
I greedily want to get the colored clothing worn on her
waist
No longer eat tonight
Bridge lamp secretly laughing at me
Light up some words that are hidden deep in the bottom of
the heart

Maybe
With some regret
Forgot to dumb dandelion
Forgot big-eyed fish
Forgot cocoons on feet
Even forgot who I am?

The Sea

The rainy day
Cobblestone scouring by the sea
Tempt me
Go to pick up
I want to live there
Dancing
Shouting
Until write down a poetry
The Cobblestone
As far as I know
I can't stop my desire
Throw
The poetry into the sea
But it would accompany me
I want to know
It will or will not become more blue

The Year of the Poet V ~ May 2018

Sharḩef
Abdur
Rashḩed

The Year of the Poet V ~ May 2018



The Year of the Poet V ~ May 2018

Shareef Abdur-Rasheed, AKA Zakir Flo was born and raised in Brooklyn, New York. His education includes Brooklyn College, Suffolk County Community College and Makkah, Saudi Arabia. He is a Veteran of the Viet Nam era, where in 1969 he reverted to his now reverently embraced Islamic Faith. He is very active in the Islamic community and beyond with his teachings, activism and his humanity.

Shareef's spiritual expression comes through the persona of "Zakir Flo". Zakir is Arabic for "To remind". Never silent, Shareef Abdur-Rasheed is always dropping science, love, consciousness and signs of the time in rhyme.

Shareef is the Patriarch of the Abdur-Rasheed Family with 9 Children (6 Sons and 3 Daughters) and 41 Grandchildren (24 Boys and 17 Girls).

For more information about Shareef, visit his personal FaceBook Page at :

<https://www.facebook.com/shareef.abdurrasheed1>
<https://zakirflo.wordpress.com>

where do i begin?

(Revised)

around the time eating from
forbidden tree was the original sin?
Cain killing his brother Abel?
Noah's (aws)* arch became one big stable?
point being mankind has evolved over time
but the process of time is not without rhyme
or reason
many groups be it tribes/nations had their season
the reality of their tenure not always pleasing
let us take a look at one such people
"The Sumerians " in their land of Sumer
along the Euphrates region
now known as Iraq, Kuwait, but wait
realize these people known as the
" Blackhead people "
were the custodians of known original civilization
they believed god gave them the trust
to establish peace, rid the earth of chaos
these were the beginnings of mighty nations
they really did invent the wheel, writing, sailboats,
irrigation, first schools, love songs, aquariums,
counting time with the ' sixty system
60 seconds in a minute,60 minutes in a hour
that's the rhythm, straight up taking care
of business, for real power
dem who invented the wheel also really knew
what time it was, the real deal beginning around
5000 or so BC Sumerians were the roots
of civilizations tree even invented cities,
organized trade with other nations,

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school systems, ya like Rakim said
The Sumerians really did let the Rhythm hit 'em
and you thought modern technology was the bomb
maybe you'll take time to check out history
from now on

food4thought = education

*(aws) peace be with him

Where's the tears...

for mother of country dear?
does this corrupt, vile world care
Queen Winnie was here
that's right that one, no fear
that's right that one laid bare
soul, gave her whole to enhance
people's role in her land, her home
so big props dropped for Nelson
but props stopped when it was
realized the Queen was on top
in the struggle to make apartheid
take flight, release strangle hold
tight. right wins over might,
freedom's light always replace,
tyranny's darkness night
it was Queen Winnie, unwavering,
steady, dug in like a redwood,
standing firm for the good fight
till her last breath ushered in
angel of death Mother Winnie
never stepped away "i'm here to stay "
until we as a people really see the
end of tunnel, light of day, people sound
proud, Amanda, Amanda, Amanda rise into
sky but who is there to cry
for their mother died, heart and soul of
revolution to dismantle apartheid institution
without her ' rude intrusion ' merely illusion.

food4thought = education

caught in..,

a rainstorm trying not to get wet
but upon inspection it's not rain
but toxic stain revealed, sustained
trying blot out the burn of hate,
ignorance, arrogance
effect of intolerance relevant
i ducked in out of the storm
i refused to allow evil to be
my norm
but the wind blew the poison rain
in torrents again ' n ' again
upon my being sustained
but again i refused to receive
instead i resist, instead i believe
what is the reward of soul lost
so what benefit thee to pacify in
retreat accept defeat at their hands
i must spiritually fortify
must struggle against
their toxic onslaught
must not live a lie
i must try to live in truth until i die

food4thought = education

The Year of the Poet V ~ May 2018

Kimberly
Burnham

The Year of the Poet V ~ May 2018



The Year of the Poet V ~ May 2018

See yourself in the pattern. As a 28-year-old photographer, Kimberly Burnham appreciated beauty. Then an ophthalmologist diagnosed her with a genetic eye condition saying, "Consider life, if you become blind." She discovered a healing path with insight, magnificence, and vision. Today, a poet and neurosciences expert with a PhD in Integrative Medicine, Kimberly's life mission is to change the global face of brain health. Using health coaching, Reiki, Matrix Energetics, craniosacral therapy, acupressure, and energy medicine, she supports people in their healing from nervous system and chronic pain issues. A current project is taking pages from medical literature and turning them into visual poetry by circling the words of the poem and coloring in the rest—recycling words into color and drawing out the poem.

<http://www.NerveWhisperer.Solutions>
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/kimberlyburnham>

Sumerian Words

Shi - the breath of life
breathing life into writing and poetry
thousands of years ago

Utukagaba - Water and the light
established at the gates of the waters
in the fertile crescent of modern day Iraq

Melammu - Bright
awe-inspiring luminosity creating
knowledge and wisdom

Adannu - Time meeting at the appointed time
sixty minutes in an hour
360 degrees in a circle

Rabu - To compensate or make great
civilization but also wars
leading to the end forgotten until recently

Inu - Eye
what beauty did you see
in the world around you

Akalu - Eat
did you eat that which brought
satisfaction and gratitude

Nahu - Calm down
what did you dream of at night
in peace and darkness

Sinnisnartu - Woman Singer
singing out loud
the earliest written poetry

Cosmopolitan Babylonian Peace

In the land of Babylonia
and Mesopotamia lived great
nations supplanting each other
one merging into another
wars brought change and adoption
borrowing knowledge words
and ways of living in war and peace

Summerians wrote early words
"nahu" to calm down and feel the peace
in the quiet moments "suharruru"
experiencing safety "salamu"
in a language now extinct
with no relatives

Supplanted by the Akkadians
naming peace and amity
"salimu" for the male face of peace
"silimu" for the female side
in an Afro-Asiatic language similar to Arabic
saying "salaam" and Aramaic

A language spoken in liturgy
and in modern day Iraq
"shlamaa" or "shlam" or "silha"
in Aramaic which once dominated
the more formal Akkadian

Only to be pushed aside by a Persian
migration of Indo-Iranian peoples
who call to peace by the names
"solh" "sulh" and "ashtee"
in the language of Rumi

The Year of the Poet V ~ May 2018

One poet supplanting another
sharing words and thoughts
before war pushed them aside
always hoping their words would last
forever

Time Enough

How much time
do we need
if we only had 60 seconds
in every moment
each breath brings life
to 60 minutes in an hour
courtesy of the Sumerians
with their sexigesimal system
seeping out in time and space
while 500,000 clay tablets
hold more secrets
buried in the sands of Iraq
over thousands of years

.

The Year of the Poet V ~ May 2018

Elizabeth
E.
Castillo

The Year of the Poet V ~ May 2018



The Year of the Poet V ~ May 2018

Elizabeth Esguerra Castillo is a multi-awarded and an Internationally-Published Contemporary Author/Poet and a Professional Writer / Creative Writer / Feature Writer / Journalist / Travel Writer from the Philippines. She has 2 published books, "Seasons of Emotions" (UK) and "Inner Reflections of the Muse", (USA). Elizabeth is also a co-author to more than 60 international anthologies in the USA, Canada, UK, Romania, India. She is a Contributing Editor of Inner Child Magazine, USA and an Advisory Board Member of Reflection Magazine, an international literary magazine. She is a member of the American Authors Association (AAA) and PEN International.

Web links:

Facebook Fan Page

<https://free.facebook.com/ElizabethEsguerraCastillo>

Google Plus

<https://plus.google.com/u/0/+ElizabethCastillo>

Sumerian Secrets

Mesopotamia-
nestled between the bosoms
Of great twin rivers that runs through
Euphrates and Tigris
Ancient civilization advanced than the others
who built big temples, ziggurats
Uanna-Adapa, Sumerian version of the biblical Adam
first of the seven half-gods and wise men
Helped their place arise
from the Great Flood.

Sumerian pantheon depicts
An, god of the heavens,
Enlil, god of wind and storm,
Enki, the god of water,
Nanna, god of the moon.
Nature gods metamorphosed
Into city gods.

Sacred Ones

The sands of time gently pulls me in your direction,
We are swirling among the infinite stars above
An invisible thread connects my soul to yours,
We often meet at the crossroads of our many lifetimes
Beyond time and space, serendipity weaves magic
Crafts a miraculous story to let our hearts unite again
A hidden connection which is more powerful than an
obvious one
We may be strangers centuries ago, star-crossed lovers in a
forgotten era
Reunited by the angels singing hymns of pure love and
peace
Sacred ones with souls meant to be one, etched in the hands
of the Universe
I see your shadow in my dreams created by fragments of
memories
The Mystic Knight enveloped in white aura illuminating
the night sky
A legion of cherubims and seraphims guides your every
step
As you enter the frontier of an oasis prepared for us by
Eternity
Sacred ones destined to be together to be joined as one
spark in our mystic flight
Pure Divine Love transcends time and space and even
defies death
To fulfill the Divine Reunion weaved by Destiny itself.

Nebulous

Circles swirling the vast Milky Way
An ocean of dots dancing around the Universe
Meeting at the crossroads of this maze-like fortress
At the predestined Divine Time, they touch each other
Igniting a spark, a flame like when lost stars collide
One dot connected to one dot to the other, ad infinitum
With lives intertwining in ways we could not imagine
Incarnated, old souls finding each other again and again
Centuries upon centuries beyond time and space
Cosmic dots reuniting, stardust appear casting a magical
spell
Mythical gods and goddesses of the heavens sending angels
Divine Messages ebbed in the sands of time.

Nizar
Sartawi

The Year of the Poet V ~ May 2018



The Year of the Poet V ~ May 2018

Nizar Sartawi is a poet, translator, essayist, and columnist. He was born in Sarta, Palestine, in 1951. He is a member of literary and cultural organizations, including the Jordanian Writers Association (Jordan), General Union of Arab Writers (Cairo), Poetry Posse (U.S.), Inner Child Press International (U.S.), Bodgani (Belgium), and Axlepin Publishing (the Philippines). He has participated in poetry readings and international forums and festivals in numerous countries, including Jordan, Lebanon, Kosovo, Palestine, Morocco, Egypt, and India. Sartawi's poems have been translated into several languages. His poetry has been anthologized and published in many anthologies, journals, and newspapers in Arab countries, the U.S., Australia, Indonesia, Bosnia, Italy, India, the Philippines, and Taiwan.

Sartawi has published more than 20 books of poetry and poetry translation. His last poetry collection, *My Shadow*, was published in June, 2017 by Inner Child Press in the U.S.

For the last seven years, Sartawi has been working on poetry translation from English to Arabic and Arabic to English. This includes his Arabic poetry translation project, "Arab Contemporary Poets Series" in which 13 bilingual books have been published so far. He also has translated poems for a number of contemporary international poets such as, Veronica Golos, Elaine Equi; William S. Peters; Kalpna Singh-Chitnis; Nathalie Handal, Naomi Shihab Nye; Candice James; Ashok Bhargava; Santiago Villafania, Virginia Jasmin Pasalo; Rosa Jamali; Taro Aizu; Fahredin Shehu, and many others.

The Alewife-Queen

It was quiet at noon
But now –
As Mesopotamia's sun
Began to descend down
To the Western Sea
Beyond the Cedar Forest –
Kish Downtown
Was bustled with crowds
And yet more people
Poured out of
The marsh-reed houses
Into the sun-scorched roads
And joined the masses

“Kubaba... Kubaba... Kubaba...,”
They yelled
And up the hill they climbed
Towards the mud-brick
Royal palace
“long live Kubaba,“
A sonorous voice cried
“long live Kubaba,“
Echoed the crowds

In the front balcony of
Mud-brick palace
Kubaba stood in all her glory
An ornate wreath of golden leaves
Coupled with blue lapis lazuli flowers
On her head.
A big happy smile adorned her face
As she waved at the crowd.
“Long live Kubaba,” they all chanted.

“Long live the alewife!” a voice shrieked amidst the crowd

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The mob fell silent
“Alewife!”
The word resounded in the air
Kubaba looked away, a frown upon her face
But only for a while,
Then faced the crowd:
“Great nation of Kish
You all know well I was a tavern-maid
It was the will of holy Ninkasi,
the goddess of beer,
that I be one
Of that I’m not ashamed
You all did walk into my tavern
You all dis taste my luscious beer
You all sat upon my silky cushions
And often napped
Your girls reclining in your arms
A tavern maid I was
A pious one
Who never cheated you
It was the will of him
Great King Puzur-Nirah of Akshak
That your bar-maid your queen should be.
And with blessings of Great Enlil,
A good queen I will be
For I am one of you...
Yet, people of Kish
If it’s your will
I will renounce this thrown right
Go back to the tavern
To fill your mugs with beer.”

“Long live Queen Kubaba,”
The sonorous voice cried
And all Kish shouted
“Long live Queen Kubaba.”

Would I were!

Would I were but a cloud
and you a field
that I may quench your thirst
with showers of rain!

Would I were but a creek
and you a sea
where I could pour my passion
again and again

Would I were but a grapevine
in your lips
that I may squeeze a wine
whose taste is craved by the drinking lover

Would I were but a duvet
that when you laid your head
upon the pillow and fall asleep
I'd be your cover

Translated from Arabic by Nizar Sartawi

dreams in black and white

a jet black garment
wraps my body
from top
to bottom
as though
i were born
just a few hours ago

in a cellar i lie
narrower than the tummy
of a little fish
no windows
for the light to come

and all my dreams
are black and white

The Heavy March

O March dear March
why is your heart
becoming so hard?

Oh, how you've always
traversed this land
with softer steps!
How boughs
and stalks
and leaves
and grass
have waltzed
with your west wind!
How your mist
sprinkled the air around
with fragrant dew
How drops of rain
Kissed blossoms' lips

But now you come in a new attire
your clouds pass by
with eyelids closed
and your sun scorches
all my dreams.

hülya
n.
yılmaz

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Born in Turkey, hülya n. yılmaz presently serves as full-time faculty at Penn State and as the Director of Editing Services at Inner Child Press. Her academic publications dwell on literary relations between the West and the Islamic East and on gender conceptualizations within the context of Islam. Dr. yılmaz had her formal initiation as a creative writer in the U.S. Her published works include *Trance* –a tri-lingual book of poetry, *Aflame* –memoirs in verse and *An Aegean Breeze of Peace* –a poem collection she has co-authored with Demetrius Trifiatis. Poetry by hülya appeared in excess of fifty international anthologies.

hülya n. yılmaz, Ph.D.

Links

Personal Web Site

<https://hulyasfreelancing.com>

Personal Blog Site

<https://dolunaylaben.wordpress.com/>

inventions, discoveries and donations

inventions

too many of us are offended
become demoralized and uneasy
when we are reminded of “the other”
of “its” masteries, in particular
while we keep on indulging
in “its” stellar gifts to “the self”

dissatisfaction
impatience
dejection

blame the aware few . . .

why stir up history
as it was written
as it is taught
for “the self”
by “the self”

why pull the brakes ever
of our speeding time-shuttle
to acknowledge “the other” at last
with “its” long-overdue recognition
contemplating thus our own human blood

God forbid!

if we so did . . .

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we then might realize
for a passing moment at least
how abundantly the “self” benefited
for centuries not for a mere several years
from “the other” and “its” still-shedding labor-tears . . .

discoveries

our lives would not have been the same
had the “other” not invented or discovered
nor had left intact for the misuse by “the self”
“its” surname bleeding still
taken from “its” sweat and blood
together with all else that to this day does remain

donations

un-written . . .

yes
the subject is Sumerians
of Ancient Mesopotamia
“the cradle of civilization”

how often do we come across
the oft-cited term to belong
to a lobbying cultural entity
as if it were for it to own

no surprises there!
another always seems to bear
the highest octave to raise
so it gets the praise
our history books bear witness

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yet those writes
suffer from a mono-lithic lens
thus we reserve the honor
for one or the other
as long as it is not
by no means!
“the other”

furthermore
we cheer from the sidelines
turning into a music buff of some sort

though we know
deep down we know

blame the aware few . . .

why alter a make-belief
a working bed-time story
with all its esteemed fake glory

the invention of
Agriculture
intact with its Plow
and System of Irrigation
the Wheel
the Chariot
the Sailboat
the System of Time
the Concept of Astrology
as well as that of Astronomy
the Map
Mathematics
Urbanization
the Cuneiform
the First Form of Writing

The Year of the Poet V ~ May 2018

yes
the First Form of Writing

but . . .
our history books
continue to claim
Nay! Oh, nay!
The Sumerians?
Of Ancient Mesopotamia?
The Cradle of Civilization?
Nay!
No way!

. . .

feel free to fill in the blanks
with names that are yet to make the ranks
out of the abyss of intentional omission
for their past and present donation
after all should that not be our mission

unless of course we seek our due commission

blame the aware few . . .

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Teresa
E.
Gallion

The Year of the Poet V ~ May 2018



The Year of the Poet V ~ May 2018

Teresa E. Gallion was born in Shreveport, Louisiana and moved to Illinois at the age of 15. She completed her undergraduate training at the University of Illinois Chicago and received her master's degree in Psychology from Bowling Green State University in Ohio. She retired from New Mexico state government in 2012.

She moved to New Mexico in 1987. While writing sporadically for many years, in 1998 she started reading her work in the local Albuquerque poetry community. She has been a featured reader at local coffee houses, bookstores, art galleries, museums, libraries, Outpost Performance Space, the Route 66 Festival in 2001 and the State of Oklahoma's Poetry Festival in Cheyenne, Oklahoma in 2004. She occasionally hosts an open mic.

Teresa's work is published in numerous Journals and anthologies. She has two CDs: *On the Wings of the Wind* and *Poems from Chasing Light*. She has published three books: *Walking Sacred Ground*, *Contemplation in the High Desert* and *Chasing Light*.

Chasing Light was a finalist in the 2013 New Mexico/Arizona Book Awards.

The surreal high desert landscape and her personal spiritual journey influence the writing of this Albuquerque poet. When she is not writing, she is committed to hiking the enchanted landscapes of New Mexico. You may preview her work at

<http://bit.ly/1aIVPNq> or <http://bit.ly/13IMLGh>

Original Brewers

Imagine the songs the Sumerians sang
as that special brew released
inhibitions and they dared to

invoke the good graces of the goddess
of beer, Ninkasi.

You the first brewers of beer

with a goddess to serenade.

One wonders if your brew
was as powerful and pervasive

on your citizens as the brew
of the 21st century.

And was Ninkasi pleased?

Your goddess watered the barley
planted in fourth millennium B.C. soil.

Does that soil still hold the scent

of ancient barley in its soul
as Iraqi ground is bombed
to death in the present day?

Gathering the Silence

I enter the forest unarmed
surrender to the trail,
arms raised to honor the trees.

A slow stride presses boots
against crackling pine
and the pop of twigs.

An unannounced squirrel
running up the ponderosa,
jaws bloated, gives me pause

to gather the silence
surrounding me
with a love embrace.

A subtle wind whispers,
this is your day
to speak to solitude.

Life Well Lived

I cannot take any material
possessions to the far country,
only my experiences

with the beach on Oregon coast,
hikes in the Redwood forest,
boating across a lake in Glacier,

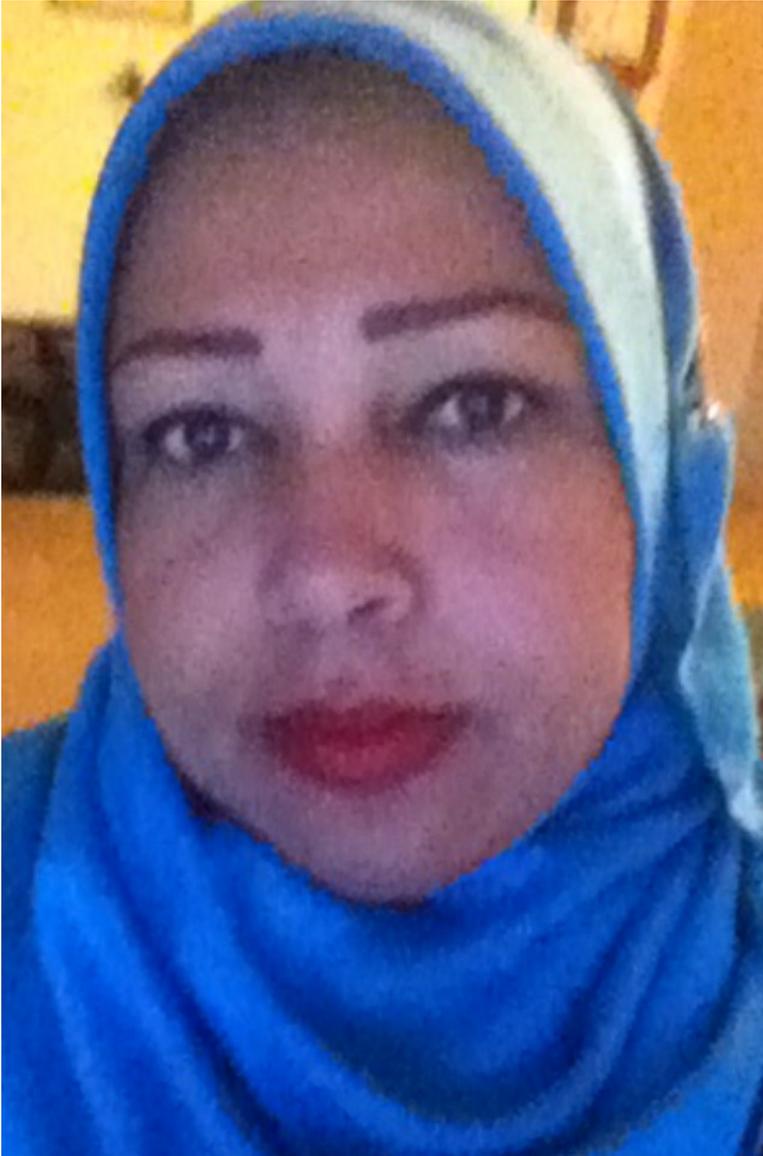
floating down the Arkansas River,
sitting by river in Jemez mountains.
All images stored in memory banks.

I am so rich and so full.
When the earth takes my physical body,
my spirit will soar toward the heavenly planes

with a single yellow rose in my hand
to say thank you to the universe
for the honor of a life well lived.

Falqha
Hassan

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She is a poet, teacher, editor, writer, playwright born in Najaf, Iraq, in 1967, who now lives in the United States.

Faleeha is the first woman to write poetry for children in Iraq. She received her master's degree in Arabic literature, and has now published 20 books. Her poems have been translated into English, Turkmen, Bosevih, Indian, French, Italian, German, Kurdish, Spain, Korean, Greek and Albanian. Ms. Hassan has received many awards in Iraq and throughout the Middle East for her poetry and short stories.

Faleeha Hassan has also had her poems and short stories published in a variety of American magazines such as: Philadelphia poets 22, Harbinger Asylum, Brooklyn Rail April 2016, Screaming mamas, The Galway Review, Words Without Borders, TXTOBJX, Intranslation, SJ Magazine, Nondoc, Wordgathering , SCARLET LEAF REVIEW, Courier-Post, I am not a Silent Poet, Taos Journal, Inner Child Press, Atlantic City Press, SJ Magazine, Intranslation Magazine, The Guardian, Words Without Borders, Courier-Post, Life and Legends, Wordgathering, SCARLET LEAF REVIEW, Indiana Voice Journal, The Bees Are Dead, IWA, Poetry Soup, Poetry Adelaide Literary Magazine, Philly, The Fountain Magazine, DRYLAND, The Blue Mountain Review, Otoliths, Taos Journal of Poetry and Art, TXTOBJX, DODGING THE RAIN, Poetry Adelaide Literary Magazine, NonDoc Philly, DRYLAND, American Poetry Review, The Fountain Magazine, Uljana Wolf, Arcs, Tiferet and Ice Cream Poetry Anthology , Dryland Los Angeles underground art & writing Magazine , Opa Anthology of contemporary , BACOPA Literary Review , Better than Starbucks Magazine , Tweymatikh ZQH Magazine , TUCK Magazine and Street Light Press

Email : d.fh88@yahoo.com

The Word Love

Let me not explain it to you
In order to stay as we are now
You are standing on the hill of your dreams
And I sit on the edge of the sea of my reality
Smiling
And you hear the echo of my smile
Let's pretend it is just a word
And the pen does not burn
like our hearts
When we are trying to write the word **love** to each other,
Even if we write it in unclear handwriting
Did you know
That since you sent it to me
I accidently placed it under my pillow
And all my life has been stuck on the letter "O"

unreachable

Oh, my god
This poem !
Whenever I try to make her stand on the reality line
She flutters like Marilyn Monroe's dress in the
imaginations of men
I tell her to keep herself on one meaning
But she defies me
While wearing the interpretation mask
And when she tries to describe the battlefield
She is looking for the effects of kisses
On the collars of the soldiers who are tied down in their
trenches
With fear and hopelessness
But if they were to be blown up
And their bodies were every where
Her words would be meaningless
For she hiding behind symbolism
She can't sense the children's horror from the bombs
And their attempts to huddle against the remnants of
destroyed walls
Her cheeks do not hurt
Like mothers' cheeks dried of their hot tears poured while
waiting for deferred letters from their absent sons
She does not take the risk of thinking
So, she can't believe any truth
She does not pay attention to my damaged life
Which has been crushed by the harsh machine of days
She is trying to make her words beautiful
So, she sprinkles rose water on an erupting volcano
She is too comfortable with death and even praises him
She is summarizing all this loss, darkness, combustion,

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destruction, chemical weapons. black banners, coffins,
skinning , deprivation, orphanages, curfews, warning,
sirens, barbed wire, tanks, thrumming of planes,
explosions. Murder. blood shed on the side walk, death,
ashes, displacement, emptiness, charred bodies, mass
graves, coffins, body traps, yelling, sadness, anger, hunger,
thirst, vigilance, slapping. Etc..

She summarizes all of this in one ward

War

While I am, the poet stand in the middle

Watching my body jump from death to death

For nothing

Just to let the poem come

But after all this trouble

She only comes imperfectly

Tonight

When I entered my apartment
The stairs were lying like tired men after a hard day's work
The door a yawning mouth
My TV was listening intently to the sports newscast
And
Like a huge fat woman, the couch was sitting on the floor
Hardly breathing the used air
The curtain tickled the cheek of the window
Swaying gracefully above
My books slept like babies on the hands of the bookshelves
The dining table was listening to the whispers of her chairs
The lamps were winking at to each other
The fan was busy flailing her arms indifferent
In my apartment
The life looks the same as I left it
Everything is normal
No,
It is more than normal
Strang
No one missed me?

By Faleeha Hassan

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Caroline
Nazareno

The Year of the Poet V ~ May 2018



The Year of the Poet V ~ May 2018

Caroline Nazareno-Gabis a.k.a. Ceri Naz, born in Anda, Pangasinan known as a ‘poet of peace and friendship’, is a multi-awarded poet, journalist, editor, publicist, linguist, educator, and women’s advocate.

Graduated cum laude with the degree of Bachelor of Elementary Education, specialized in General Science at Pangasinan State University. Ceri have been a voracious researcher in various arts, science and literature. She volunteered in Richmond Multicultural Concerns Society, TELUS World Science, Vancouver Art Gallery, and Vancouver Aquarium.

She was privileged to be chosen as one of the Directors of Writers Capital International Foundation (WCIF), Member of the Poetry Posse, one of the Board of Directors of Galaktika ATUNIS Magazine based in Albania; the World Poetry Canada and International Director to Philippines; Global Citizen’s Initiatives Member, Association for Women’s rights in Development (AWID) and Anacbanua. She has been a 4th Placer in World Union of Poets Poetry Prize 2016, Writers International Network-Canada ‘‘Amazing Poet 2015’’, The Frang Bardhi Literary Prize 2014 (Albania), the sair-gazeteci or Poet-Journalist Award 2014 (Tuzla, Istanbul, Turkey) and World Poetry Empowered Poet 2013 (Vancouver, Canada).

amaranthine reign

unforgotten reign
of life beyond life,
souls defined, refined and engraved
in dynasty of eternity;
wellspring of life-stories exist
from deaths of the moon and the sun
like tabernacle of ancient hieroglyphics
become immortal songs of time;
as the power spans from Gilgamesh,
as the summit weaves endless dreams,
as limestone creates wonders;
reimagine the breathing surprise!

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Sumerian Psalms

If Enki had bequeathed me,

His waters flooding the cities

I might had built arks of victories for the poor

The calls for the extant kings and successors

changed the world, saved by the engraved cuneiforms

I would have lived the Hellenistic myths

And for my time, today

will recreate mirrors of survival,

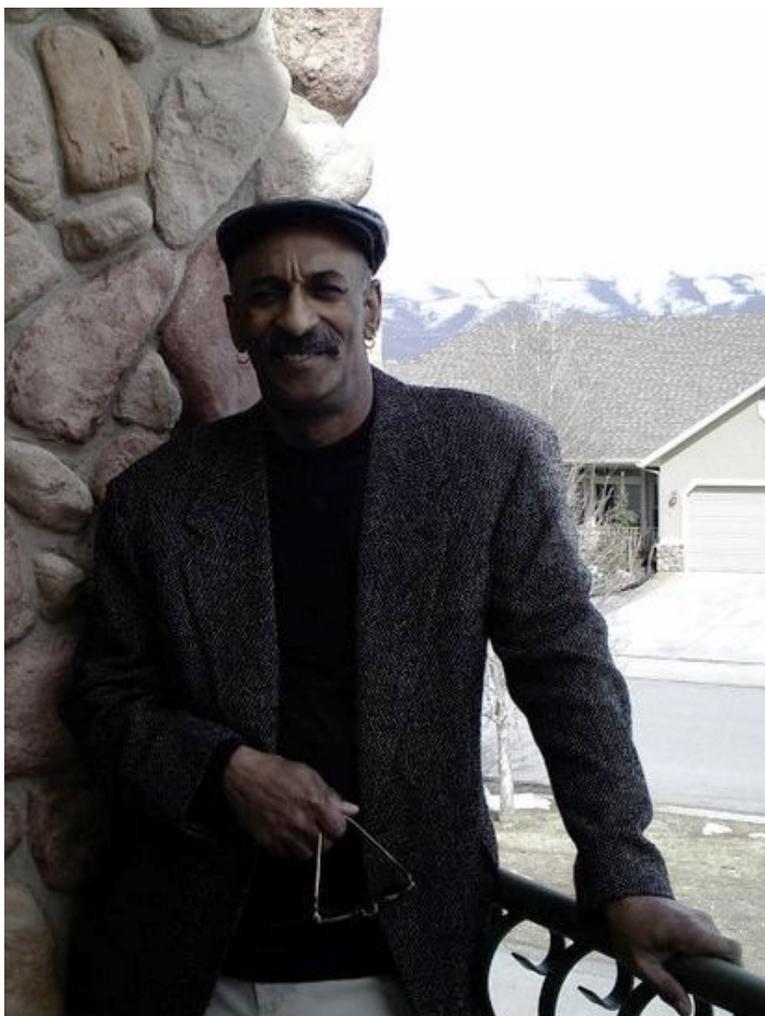
For the humanity.

Calms of the Atlantis

i envision all humans
unchained from Stygian crypts
unburdened from Lemuria's phantom waters,
just breathing f r e e l y
every nanosecond of the eleventh hour,
the sound of afterlife.

William
S.
Peters Sr.

The Year of the Poet V ~ May 2018



The Year of the Poet V ~ May 2018

Bill's writing career spans a period of over 50 years. Being first Published in 1972, Bill has since went on to Author in excess of 40 additional Volumes of Poetry, Short Stories, etc., expressing his thoughts on matters of the Heart, Spirit, Consciousness and Humanity. His primary focus is that of Love, Peace and Understanding!

Bill says . . .

I have always likened Life to that of a Garden. So, for me, Life is simply about the Seeds we Sow and Nourish. All things we "Think and Do", will "Be" Cause and eventually manifest itself to being an "Effect" within our own personal "Existences" and "Experiences" . . . whether it be Fruit, Flowers, Weeds or Barren Landscapes! Bill highly regards the Fruits of his Labor and wishes that everyone would thus go on to plant "Lovely" Seeds on "Good Ground" in their own Gardens of Life!

to connect with Bill, he is all things Inner Child

www.iaminnerchild.com

Personal Web Site

www.iamjustbill.com

Sumerian

I am the culture you now embrace
As your standard

I have given you insight
To the meaning of
Your guttural utterances
For I created
The written language

But . . .
Are you civilized . . .
Yet ?

We from Sumer
Invented
Created
Imagined
A progress
Of no end
And
Here you are
Trying your best
To do so . . .
End it . . .
All

Here our call
From the annals of time
Civilization
Is the last paradigm
That matters

The Year of the Poet V ~ May 2018

Strive for it,
Embrace your humanity,
End the insanity
Created by your inane . . .
Ways

A message from the Sumerians

The Blood

The Blood upon the pavement,
The streets,
And in the fields has dried

Its stains have faded away,
But the stench of death
Still prevailed
In the air

It was not that of the people
Who were martyred for the cause ...
FREEDOM,
But that of the soldiers
Whose souls had given leave
To their reason,
Conjured from the imaginings
By the deluded minds
Of megalomaniacs

Power is a nefarious thing
It is not all that
We think it is

It is not the bullets,
It is not the stones,
It is not the bombs,
It is not the angry words,
Nor can power be found
In the souls of those
Who would lead us
Into perdition,
Those with an insatiable greed

The Year of the Poet V ~ May 2018

Power is in Truth,
And Truth is an inventory
Found in our closed closets
In the House of Soul
And in the bedrooms
Of our now small sleeping troubled hearts

It would seem that
Since time immemorial
Man has always sought to define,
Categorize,
Cache,
Bring to life
And focus on
That which divides one from another

Is this the way
Of the children
Of the same Mother ?

Our genesis is a common one
In nature

Is this the path
That would deliver unto us
Our Utopic dreams
Of peace ?

I have questioned my ways
Many days
In my "Now-ness",
My "Being-ness",
And there are many days
Which I would

The Year of the Poet V ~ May 2018

Rather forget,
For I too can not escape . . .
Reality

How are you fairing
With your self induced delusions
Of grandeur ?

Do you sleep well
During your nights,
During your days ?

The blood will be spilled
That much is ever certain

Will it be your loved one ?
Will it be one you knew not ?
Will it be that of your own ?

*i often wonder, how is it, why is it that the children can still
smile.*

Such a place exists

In the land
Of far away
Where life knows not
Of it's potential
Nor the possibilities

There is a village
Where dreams are underfoot
And wishes are cast
To the waysides
Of life

No one aspires,
No one has desires
For these such things
Have long ago proven
To be fruitless pursuits

The skies were always overcast
And the woes of the people
Lasts . . .
To the point that there
Were no points to be made

A dismal maid
Walked the earthen street,
No smiles apparent,
Or within her
Anywhere
To be found . . .

The Year of the Poet V ~ May 2018

She, was but enduring,
Securing a place
Where she felt comfortable
To face
Death

But life here was but that
Death lording over the people
Like the Fat Man
At the circus

May mercy be upon us
That we never have to visit
Such a place

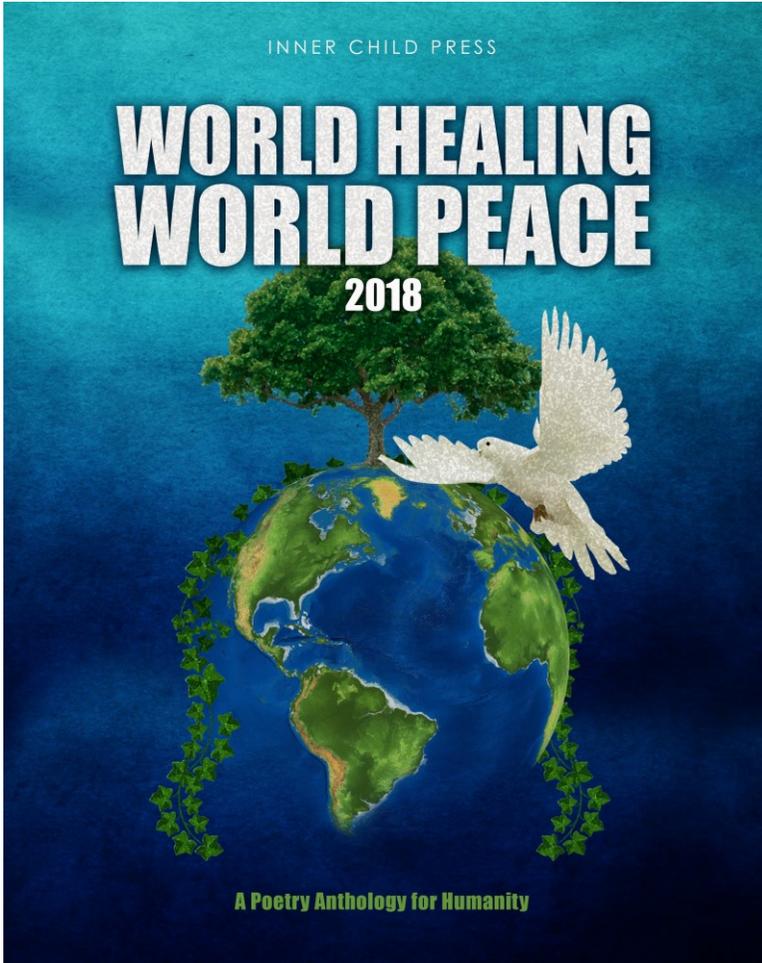
Such a place exists . . .
Does it not ?

Just look to the path we now walk
The things we talk
About

We shout,
We pray
The day,
The night
As we dwell with our blight
That we have allowed,
Or created

One can not be sated
With that which is hated
Can we ?

World Healing, World Peace
2018



Now Available

The Year of the Poet V ~ May 2018



May

2018

Features

~ * ~

Zaldy Carreon de Leon, Jr.

Sylwia K. Malinowska

Lidita Ahmeti

Ofelia Prodan

The Year of the Poet V ~ May 2018

Zaldy
Carreon
de Leon, Jr.

The Year of the Poet V ~ May 2018



The Year of the Poet V ~ May 2018

Zaldy Carreon de Leon Jr. is a graduate of both ecclesiastical and secular institutions. He received his degrees as the International School of Ministry and Leadership, Thy Word Bible College, University of Pasig City and Bataan Peninsula State University. He is a writer and poet to various local and international journals and poetry anthologies.

FREEDOM IN THREE MELODIES

1

While darkness spits stars in our palms,
Confined in the charlatan's august tongue,
There is but foolishness speaking wise,
Yet is not heard while ears are full of lies,
One day, the regrets are tomorrow's alms.

Look at the beggar who is free to roam
The world is an easy ground and salted foam,
The heights of the red mountain in dawn
Is measured by his footsteps, wake and yawn,
At least, he finds time working on his own.

And those who rests on pillowheads compare
Have found neither arms of clock's affair,
Not of days, not of nights, or feeble time
But of shortened hours for a cunning dime,
Not the life a beggar would manage to care.

FREEDOM IN THREE MELODIES

2

Some muds turn to dusting bones and blood,
The fruit of man's labor is a greedy god,
Within each camp, bravery is polished nice,
And every sentinel's a shrub in disguise,
Dried in the burning melodies of the sun!

A black hawk soars, and a poisoned flu,
Armadillo trenching the dust off the waterloo,
Each spirit has brought pure courage and hope,
Though the loud cry of death in every slope
Has brought the red satin to ease the few.

On the other camp, unwary of the pain,
Their greenstick crack bone should not kill the aim,
So instead of tears, and the minnow slain,
An oriole's voice might enthuse more maim,
Until there is silence, and kneeling saints.

FREEDOM IN THREE MELODIES

3

Few heads come to think of all men's good,
No, not at all, they ever understood,
The heads who should bring the comfort
Has not taken anything of its worth,
Power is a greedy termite's voluptuous food.

Those from the pillars, killed priceless seeds,
And ceased an egret from its usual deeds,
The eagles no longer flew, or lay their eggs,
And many others have bruises on their legs,
The song of tomorrow has become stupid.

One's joyful laughter is another man's dole,
To walk the mountain, and a courageous soul,
To fill one's pocket, or wait for fortune's call,
Man held himself right or wrong, sweet or gall,
It is not a decision one man should claim, after all.

Sylwia
K.
Malinowska

The Year of the Poet V ~ May 2018



The Year of the Poet V ~ May 2018

Sylvia K. Malinowska is a graduate of the faculty of Journalism and Education at the University of Warsaw. A lover of Sylvia Plath and Emily Dickinson's poetry, passionate and tireless in familiarizing oneself with literature and striving at becoming an expert in it. Her poems were printed in journals such as "Poezja Dzisiaj", as well as in numerous anthologies in Polish, English and Bulgarian. She also writes poetry for the photo album by Beata Cierzniewska "Cognition" presented at The Cooper House Gallery in Dublin. The author of the literary broadcast "Black Drawer" in Dublin. She also collaborates with HelloIrelandia, which promotes Polish literature abroad.

The Year of the Poet V ~ May 2018

1.

Rattling with a cocoon
Impudent
Huge
Bald
With a child's head
Her thumb
Skin
And an examiner in crimson
His bright eye
And a zoo of jeerers
Screwing their hands in
Soft paws
Well brought up
They multiply
Completely mute
In the crowd
In motion
In their empty blackness
They remembered
Without missing anything
The memories
And the hero in a dress
Art
Like a word ceremony
In a nest of furry hooks
Where are you going
We are now
Us two
Mute
Because crying became an affront
Two contemporaries

The Year of the Poet V ~ May 2018

In a full room of everything
Distant and bleary
They hide their visibility
Strenuous relatives
And one sound
They laugh next to him
Saying something to themselves
Morphine rises
In a white apron
Beyond the mind
And stairs outside of them
A white wall
And two open bags
They move their hands
Bird souls
On coruscant practices
They were daughters
Mothers
Sisters
Lovers
A brown long neck
A simplest structure
Reduced to a minimum

2.

White sky
It does not soar
In a muddle of roots
Incisive eyes
of Her absence
And the nomadic echo
The shadows are in us
And the lungs cannot be filled with them
Absence
Is his
Finger handmaid
And a scream in the bathhouse
Pivoting
Clunky one
Into a clunky absence
White saliva
Her head and his wall
Tenderness
And a scream from the belly
A bosom made of concrete
Too heavy to carry it
Bounty bounty of madmen
Demented
Beastly and fatuous
Within the weddings
The bell tone
A mirror full of paintings
Between her and her
Delicate
Closed
In a transparent jar

3.

Pushing off and rolling
Axes
Within the moist jewels
The aghast eyes
of the Great teddy bear
Her swollen belly button
And a dark gaze
of Ego
Various jottings
Various fingerprints
Life
The virtue of her existence
A Holy Duality
In one mind
Like poets in a partnership
An earpiece
And a pulled out plug
In a deformable lens
She listened
To an adorable vision
of Soft pieces
Shadows
6 heels and 6 knees
Silence in motion
Unusually delicate
Unusually valuable
The neck slips by
Through a hole in the body
Love and anger
Shadow and obsession
of an Incredible celebrity

The Year of the Poet V ~ May 2018

In the complex of Electra
A flat silhouette
In a stubborn heart
And sleep falsity
Did not let change happen
Replacing the arms and legs

Lindita
Ahmeti

The Year of the Poet V ~ May 2018



The Year of the Poet V ~ May 2018

Lindita Ahmeti was born in Prizren in 1973 and lives in Skopje. Her first poetry collection, *Mjedra dhe bluz* (Raspberries and the Blues), Skopje 1993, was well received. Ahmeti, among the best-known female poets of the Albanians in Macedonia, is the author of seven volumes of verse: *Ishulli Adular* (Adular Island), 1996; *Brezi i Zonjës* (Rainbow), 2000; *Vetë përballë Erosit* (Alone in front of Eros), 2004; *Nga Mështeknaja e babait* (From the birchwood of my father), 2015; *Dhoma pa derën dalëse* (A room without exit door), 2015

Memoirs

Before the small houses in Gazi Baba
The old men gather in the alley,
How white
In the muddy square.
There they disperse their memoirs
O'er the asphalt,
Never red, never black,
And marching, surging,
The Turks,
The first Serb,
The first Bulgarian,
The second Serb,
The second Bulgarian,
Greeks, Greeks, Greeks,
Byzantium, Asia,
And Europe locked
In Scanderbeg's grave,
All the while, the old men squat
Before the small houses in Gazi Baba.

Translated from the Albanian by Robert Elsie.

Letter to my Brother

Nothing new going on here, brother,
Everything is just as it was,
The new trees are infected by a fungus,
As always
The flaking whitewash falling off the wall,
As you know,
Joseph's mother has come back.
The same things are happening
In the bramble bushes.
I alone have changed,
I alone strain to hear your voice,
For example,
When you'll return.

Translated from the Albanian by Robert Elsie

Who Will Bring Word to Me

At the Balcans, the door open,
I am waiting,
A year, a century,
God, a grey year,
A terrible year,
A deaf year,
I am waiting,
Centuries spent waiting,
The year makes no move,
Wedged between the hands of the clock,
An ominous hour,
And I keep watch,
Nowhere the racing pigeons,
The postmen felled by smallpox,
I look through the gaping door,
A coat of dust on the grass,
Silt in the trees,
Who will bring word to me?

Translated from the Albanian by Robert Elsie.

Ofølia
Prodan

The Year of the Poet V ~ May 2018



The Year of the Poet V ~ May 2018

Ofelia Prodan had her editorial debut in 2007 and has published several poetry books, among which *The elephant in my bed*, 2007 (the Debut Award of the Bucharest Writers' Association, 2008; Nomination for the *Mihai Eminescu* National Poetry Award - Opera Prima, 2008); *Ulysses and the game of chess*, 2011 (Romanian – English bilingual edition; Nomination for the *Marin Mincu* National Award, 2011; Nomination for the *Città di Sassari* International Literary Award, 2016); *The Guide*, 2012 (*Ion Minulescu* National Award, 2013); *No Exit*, 2015 (*George Coșbuc* National Award, 2015; *Mircea Ivănescu* National Award, 2016); *The snake within my heart*, 2016 (the *Poetry book of 2016* award at the *Avantgarde XXII* National Festival, 2017). She has been included alongside Nina Cassian, Nichita Stănescu, Ana Blandiana, Nora Iuga, Ion Mureșan, Mircea Cărtărescu, in *Voor de prijs van mijn mond* (Jan H. Mysjkin, Ed. Poëziecentrum, Belgia, 2013), an anthology that encompasses 12 Romanian poets of the last 60 years. An author's anthology has come out in Spain (*High*, El Genio Maligno, 2017). She has held public readings in Spain, Italy and Germany and has published in several foreign prestigious magazines, such as *Nuovi Argomenti*; *Le Fram*; *Gierik & Nieuw Vlaams Tijdschrift*; *Asymptote* and *Tiszatáj*. She is a laureate of the *Napoli Cultural Classic* International Award for Poetry and Prose 2013, 8th edition, winning First Prize in the category „*POESIA in lingua straniera*”. She is a member of the Writers' Union of Romania and PEN Romania.

the moccasin

a pathfinder has a moccasin. he is
the pathfinder with one moccasin. two pathfinders have
two moccasins. another pathfinder also has
two moccasins. if we've got 3 pathfinders,
will consequently have 4 moccasins. but if
we've got 4 pathfinders, I fly in a rage
and steal all of their moccasins.
there! I've stolen the lot and I'm utterly sad.
what am I to do with all them moccasins?
I go to the shaman, and the shaman gives me
some mushrooms. I gulp the whole lot on the spot out of
hunger.
I start seeing all sorts of animals
and I experience creepy sensations.
the shaman tells me he is the pathfinder
with one moccasin and I am
the pathfinder with 5 moccasins and warns me not to forget
to return one moccasin to him
on my return from the world of our good ancestors.
after a while I do return hypnotized
and hypnotized I return the moccasin.
I leave feeling at piece with myself. on my way to the
saloon,
I recover completely and realize
I am the pathfinder with 5 moccasins,
Yet I only have 4. I am beside myself.
I gulp down one litre of firewater,
then I go beat the daylights out of the shaman.
only, the shaman has ascended to the sky and
pulls faces at me from up there. he's mocking me.
I'm shaking my fist at him. he's victoriously shaking the
moccasin back.

Translated from the Romanian by Florin Bican

Robespierre's dream

Last night I dreamt
I was a louse
I dwelt beneath the wig of a French aristocrat
subsequently guillotined
I was, so to say,
a luxury louse
I'd accompany the French nobleman
to his perverse aristocrat lovers
subsequently guillotined
I used to study closely and with due admiration his
seduction techniques
we'd be indulging in debauchery together
we'd be gorging ourselves on the most exquisite
fare together
and together we'd lose or we'd win
money gambling
my life was therefore carefree
true, from time to time,
my French aristocrat would scratch himself
with an ivory knitting needle
which bugged me no end
yet that wasn't the worst of it all
the worst of it all happened
once the Revolution began
and the poor fellow was caught
and subsequently guillotined in the public square
to the crowd's happy cheers
while I, overtaken with terror disgust desperation
and a variety of suchlike confused feelings,
took the plunge straight into the executioner's hair –

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the executioner was a perfect yokel with plenty of lice of
his own,
all of them dirt-poor and revolutionary
and thirsty for my blue blood
in their straightforward fury
they cornered me and without further ado
had me guillotined

Translated from the Romanian by Florin Bican

Kafka's shoes

Kafka is tenderly watching his shoes
the shoes start slowly pacing to and fro in Kafka's sight

Kafka stoops to pick up his shoes
and goes out in the park to look at the world

as he sits on a bench Kafka is swinging
his bare feet and talking all sorts of
intimate things with his shoes

a fat policeman in a seedy uniform walks up
to Kafka threateningly swinging his truncheon and asks
him
where he lives and whether he has documents for his shoes

Kafka produces the documents out of his pocket slightly
offended
the policeman is checking them carefully then takes the
shoes in custody
for further cross-examination

Translated from the Romanian by Florin Bican

The Year of the Poet V ~ May 2018

Inner Child Press

News

The Year of the Poet V ~ May 2018

We are so excited to announce the New and upcoming books of some of our Poetry Posse authors.

On the following pages we present to you ...

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Gail Weston Shazor

hülya n. yılmaz

Nizar Sartawi

Faleeha Hassan

Albert Carrasco

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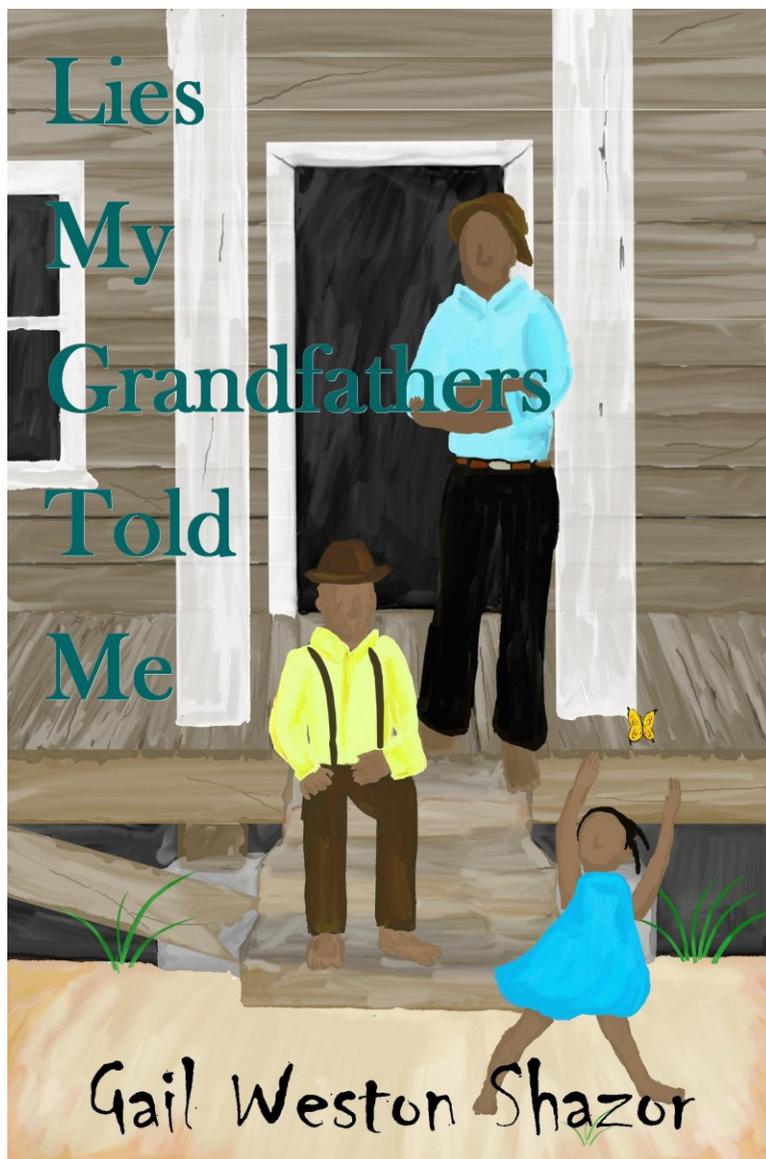
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Aflame



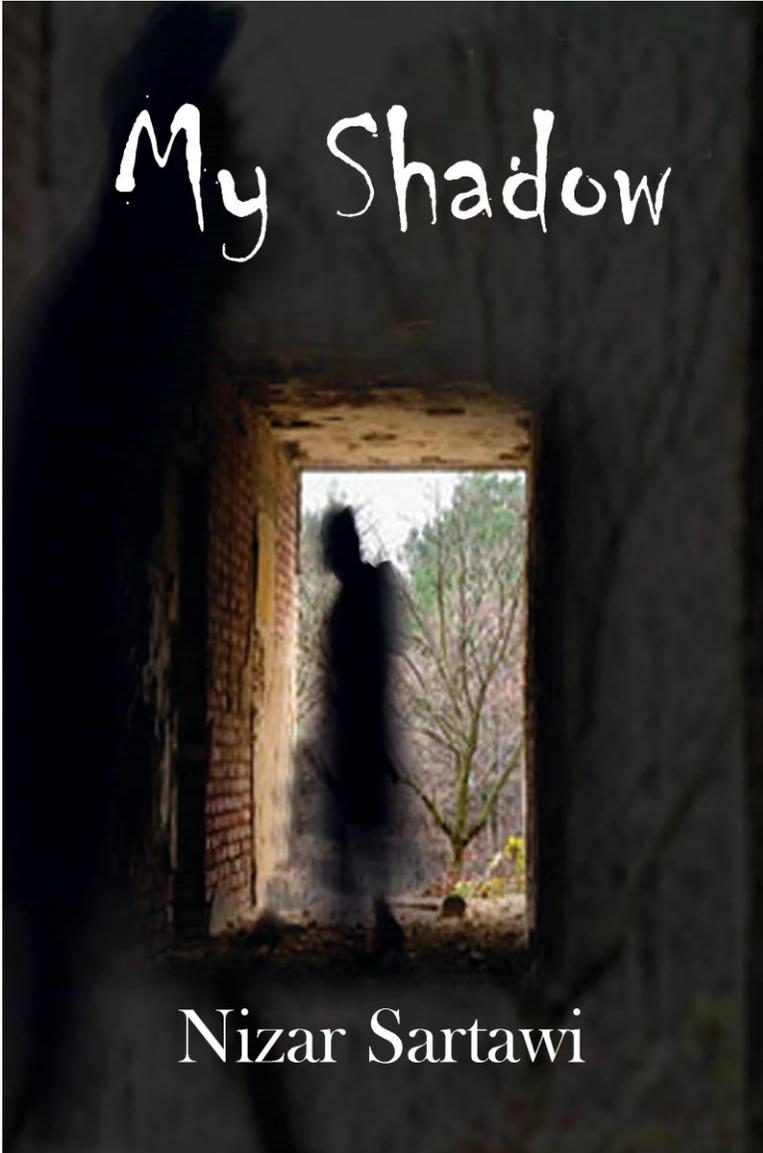
Memoirs in Verse

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My Shadow



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for

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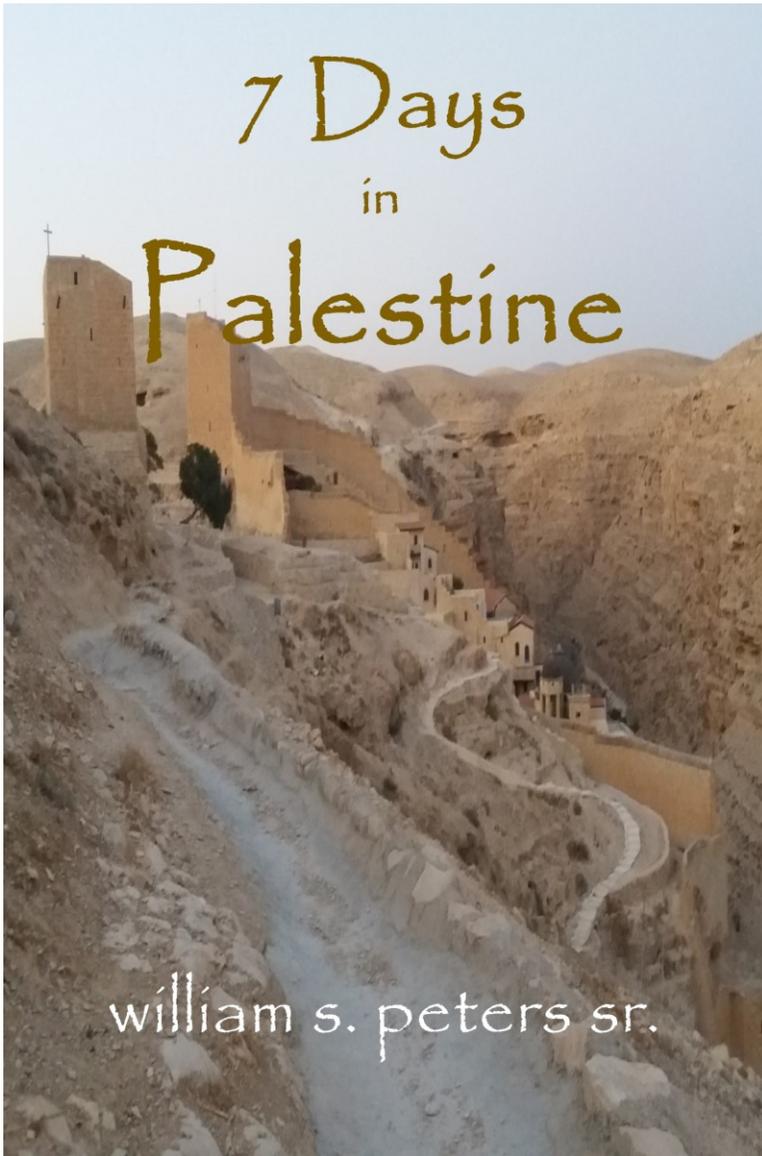


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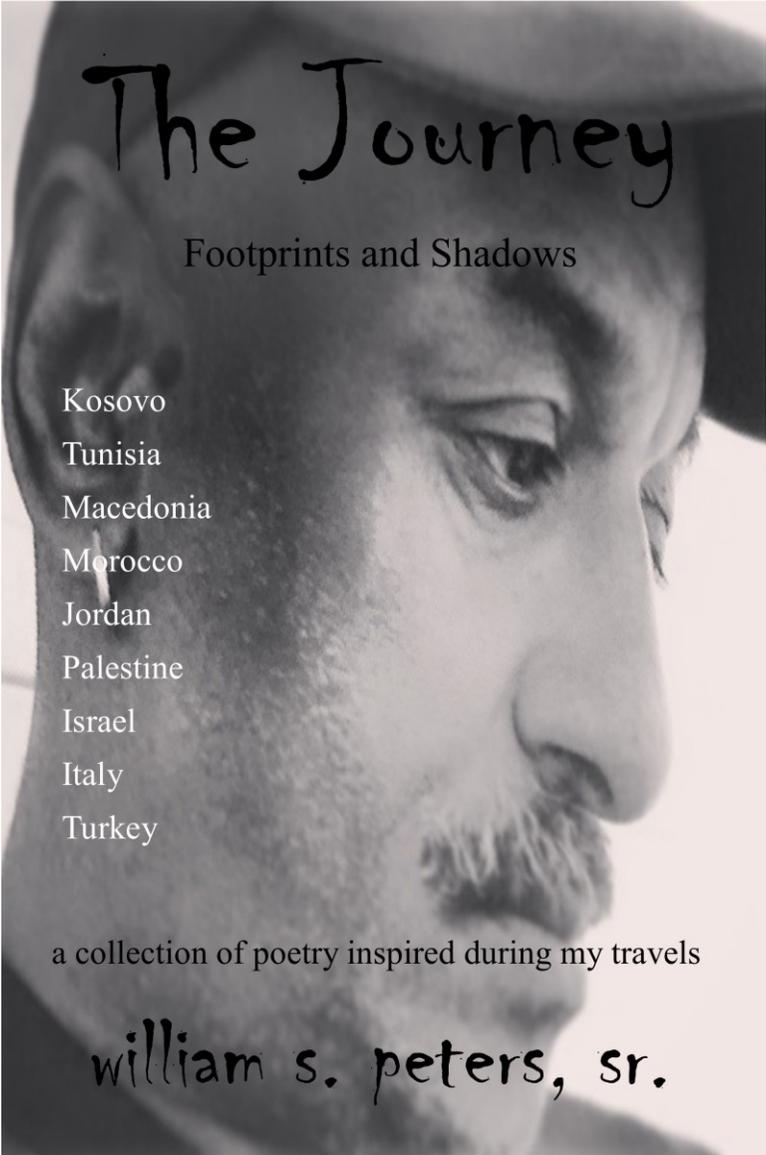
Tunisia My Love



william s. peters, sr.

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Coming in 2018



The Journey

Footprints and Shadows

Kosovo

Tunisia

Macedonia

Morocco

Jordan

Palestine

Israel

Italy

Turkey

a collection of poetry inspired during my travels

william s. peters, sr.

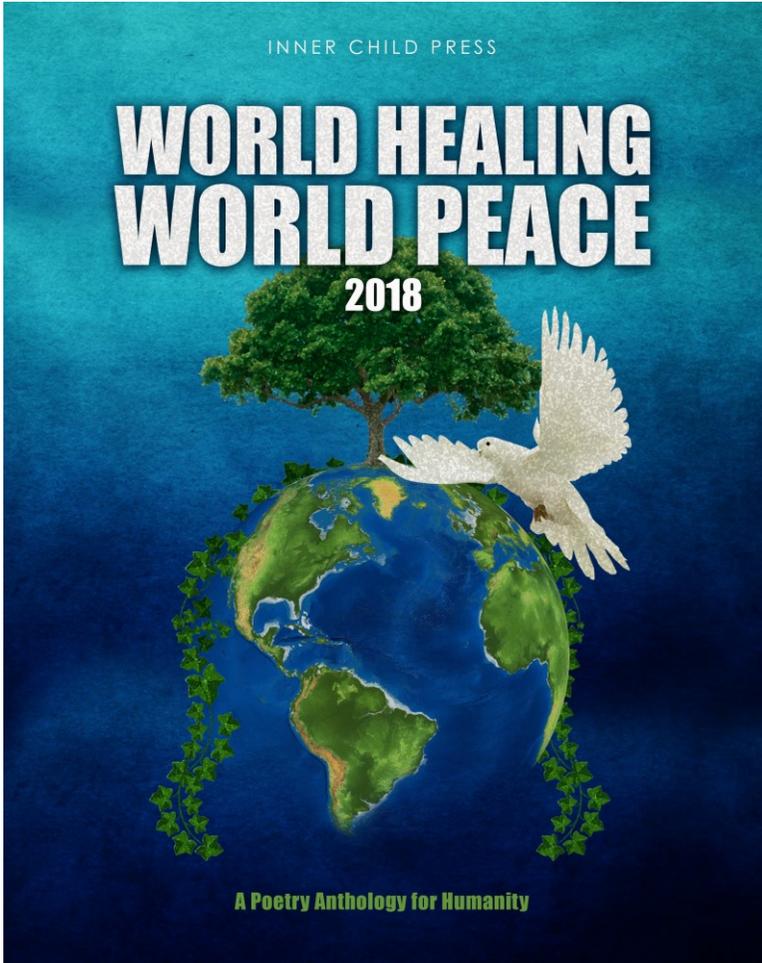
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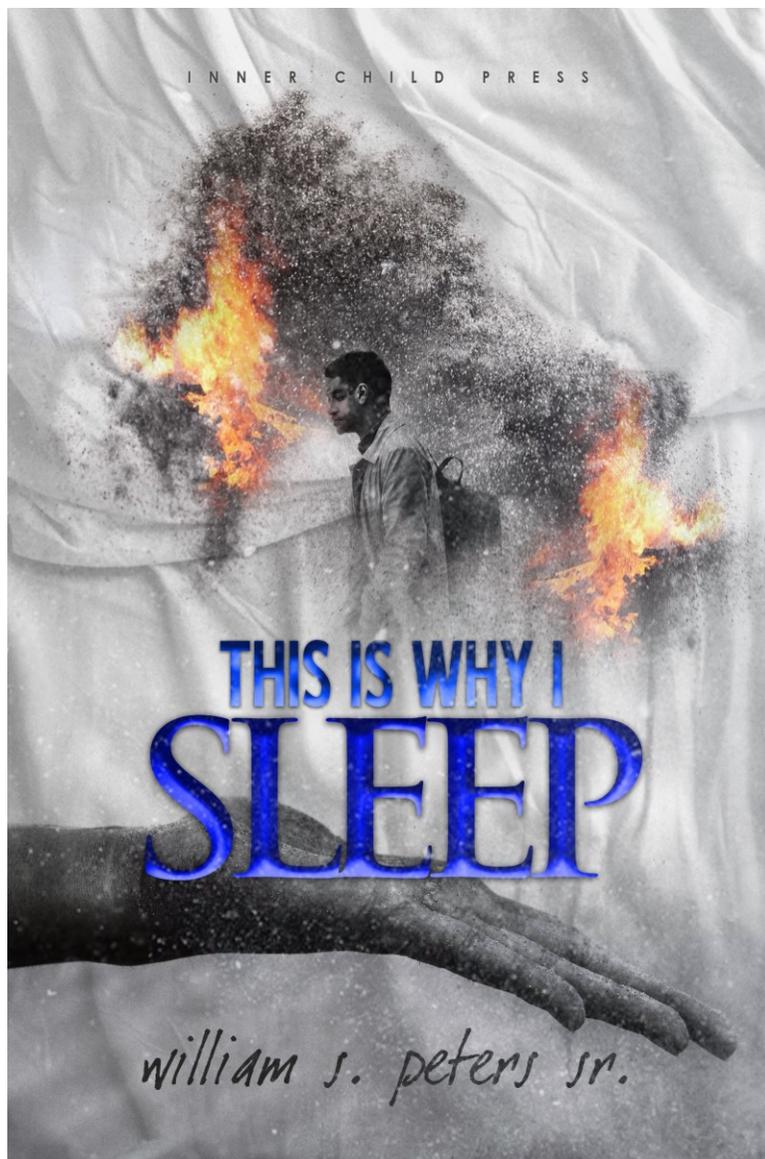
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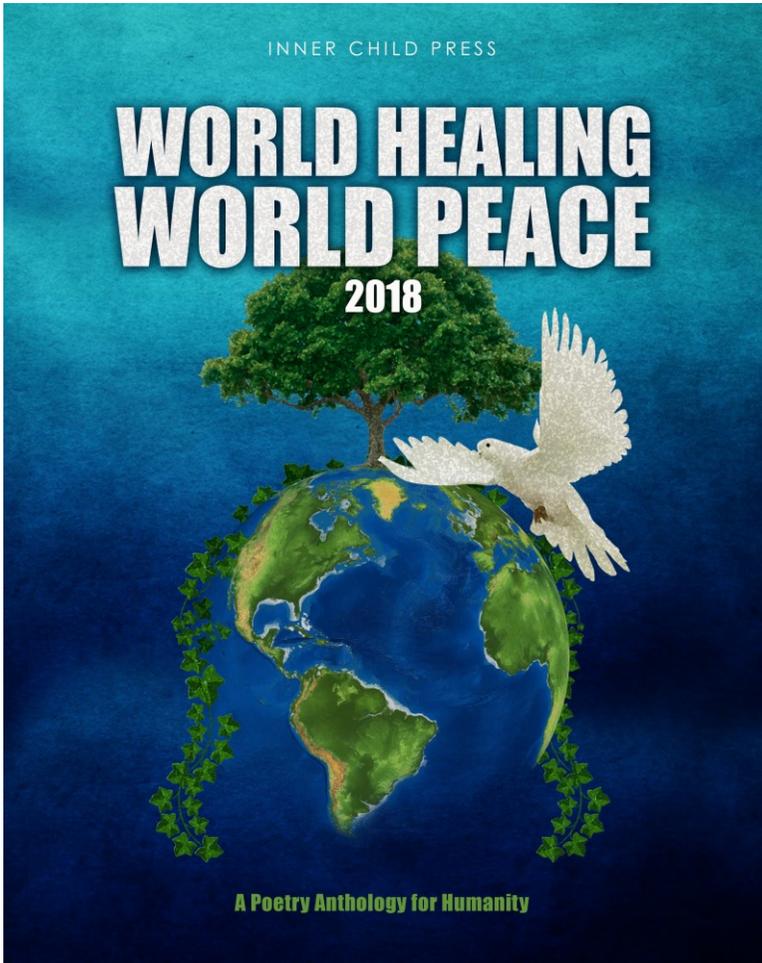
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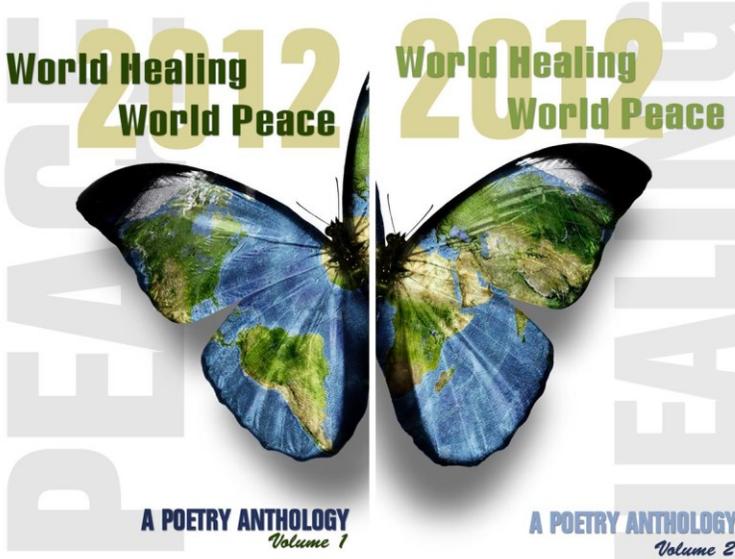
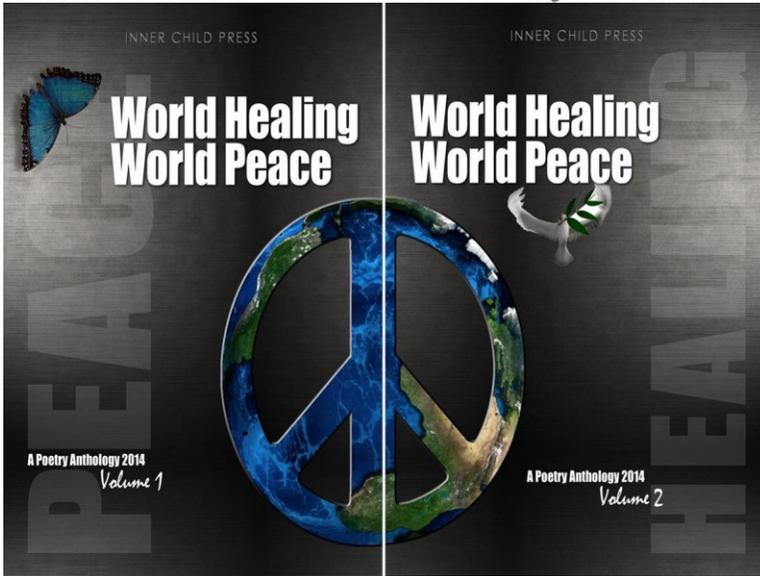
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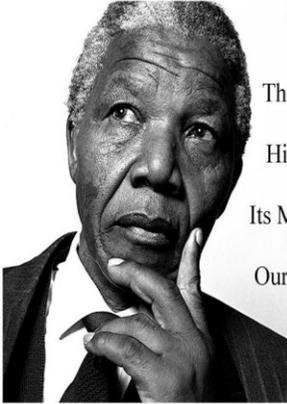
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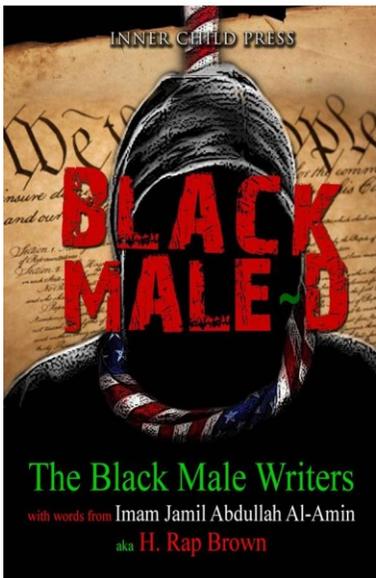
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POETRY & COMMENTARY
FOR

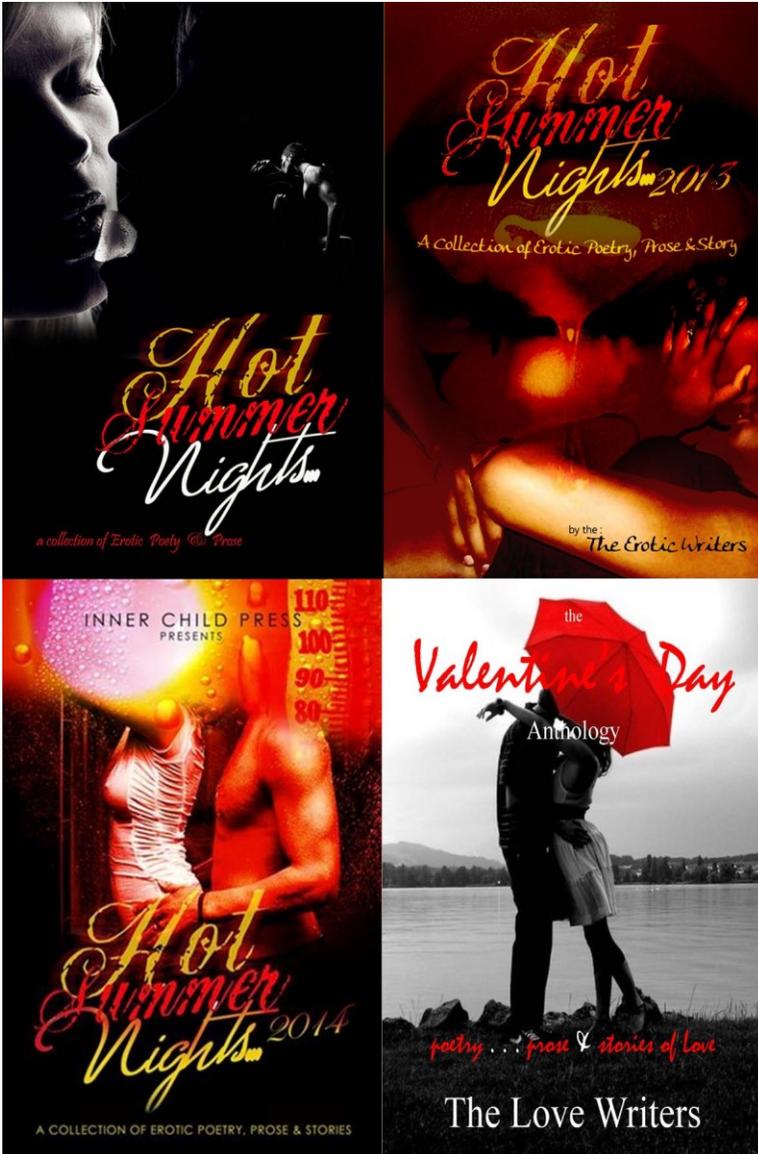
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a collection of the Voices of Many inspired by ...

Monte Smith

a collection of the Voices of Many inspired by ...



Monte Smith

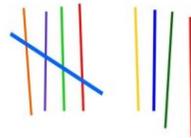
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11 Words



(9 lines ...)

for those who are challenged

an anthology of Poetry inspired by ...

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The Year of the Poet

January 2014



Carnation

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Our January Feature
Terri L. Johnson

the Year of the Poet

February 2014



violets

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Our February Features
Teresa E. Gallion & Robert Gibson

the Year of the Poet

March 2014



daffodil

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Tony Henninger
Joe DaVerbal Minddancer
Robert Gibbons
Neetu Wali
Shareef Abdur-Rasheed
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Our March Featured Poets
Alicia C. Cooper & Hülya Yılmaz

the Year of the Poet

April 2014



Sweet Pea

The Poetry Posse

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Robert Gibbons
Neetu Wali
Shareef Abdur-Rasheed
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Our April Featured Poets
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Martina Reisz Newberry
Justin Blackburn
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celebrating international poetry month

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The year of the poet
May 2014

May's Featured Poets
ReeCee
Joski the Poet
Shannon Stanton



Dedicated To our Children

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Siddantha Beth Pearce
Janet P. Caldwell
June Bugg Barefield
Debbie M. Allen
Tony Hanninger
Joe DalVerbal Minddancer
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Neevu Wali
Shareef Abdul-Rasheed
Kimberly Burnham
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Lily of the Valley

the Year of the Poet
June 2014



Love & Relationship

Rose

June's Featured Poets
Shamelle McLin
Jacqueline D. E. Kennedy
Abraham N. Benjamin

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Siddantha Beth Pearce
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The Year of the Poet
July 2014



July Feature Poets
Christiana A. V. Williams
Dr. John R. Strum
Kolajie Olanrewaju Freedom

The Poetry Posse
Jamie Bond
Gal Weston Shazor
Albert Infrink Carrasco
Siddantha Beth Pearce
Janet P. Caldwell
June Bugg Barefield
Debbie M. Allen
Tony Hanninger
Joe DalVerbal Minddancer
Robert Gibbons
Neevu Wali
Shareef Abdul-Rasheed
Kimberly Burnham
William S. Peters, Sr.

Lotus
Asian Flower of the Month

The Year of the Poet
August 2014



Gladiolus

August Feature Poets
Ann White * Rosalind Cherry * Sheila Jenkins

The Poetry Posse
Jamie Bond
Gal Weston Shazor
Albert Infrink Carrasco
Siddantha Beth Pearce
Janet P. Caldwell
June Bugg Barefield
Debbie M. Allen
Tony Hanninger
Joe DalVerbal Minddancer
Robert Gibbons
Neevu Wali
Shareef Abdul-Rasheed
Kimberly Burnham
William S. Peters, Sr.

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The Year of the Poet

September 2014

Aster Morning-Glory



Wild Garden of September Birthday Flower

September Feature Poets

Florence Malone • Keith Alan Hamilton

The Poetly Pass

Jamie Bond • Call Weston Shazor • Albert In'Writ' Carrasco • Siddhartha Beth Pierce
 Janet P. Caldwell • June Bugg Barefield • Debbie M. Allen • Tony Heninger
 Joe DuVerbal Winddancer • Robert Gibbons • Neetu Wolf • Shantel Akbar-Rasheed
 Kimberly Burkhon • William S. Peters, Sr.

THE YEAR OF THE POET

October 2014

Red Poppy



The Poetly Pass

Jamie Bond • Call Weston Shazor • Albert In'Writ' Carrasco • Siddhartha Beth Pierce
 Janet P. Caldwell • June Bugg Barefield • Debbie M. Allen • Tony Heninger
 Joe DuVerbal Winddancer • Robert Gibbons • Neetu Wolf • Shantel Akbar-Rasheed
 Kimberly Burkhon • William S. Peters, Sr.

October Feature Poets

Ceri Naz • RaJendra Padhi • Elizabeth Castillo

THE YEAR OF THE POET

November 2014

Chrysanthemum



The Poetly Pass

Jamie Bond • Call Weston Shazor • Albert In'Writ' Carrasco • Siddhartha Beth Pierce
 Janet P. Caldwell • June Bugg Barefield • Debbie M. Allen • Tony Heninger
 Joe DuVerbal Winddancer • Robert Gibbons • Neetu Wolf • Shantel Akbar-Rasheed
 Kimberly Burkhon • William S. Peters, Sr.

November Feature Poets

Jocelyn Roseman • Jackie Allen • James Moore • Neville Hiatt

THE YEAR OF THE POET

December 2014

Narcissus



The Poetly Pass

Jamie Bond
 Call Weston Shazor
 Albert In'Writ' Carrasco
 Siddhartha Beth Pierce
 Janet P. Caldwell
 June Bugg Barefield
 Debbie M. Allen
 Tony Heninger
 Joe DuVerbal Winddancer
 Robert Gibbons
 Neetu Wolf
 Shantel Akbar-Rasheed
 Kimberly Burkhon
 William S. Peters, Sr.

December Feature Poets

Katherine Wyatt • Whittier Papp • Sandoz Cairo • Justin Clarke

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THE YEAR OF THE POET III
January 2015



Garnet

The Poetry Pesse
Jamie Bond
Gail Weston Shazor
Albert 'Infinite' Carrasco
Siddhartha Beth Pierce
Janet P. Caldwell
Tony Heninger
Joe DaVerbal Minddancer
Robert Gibbons
Neetu Wali
Shareef Abdur - Rasheed
Kimberly Burnham
Ann White
Keith Alan Hamilton
Katherine Wyatt
Fahredin Shehu
Hilya N. Yilmaz
Teresa E. Gallion
Jackie Allen
William S. Peters, Sr.

January Feature Poets
Bismay Mohantri • Jen Walls • Eric Judah

THE YEAR OF THE POET II
February 2015



Amethyst

THE POETRY PESSE
Jamie Bond
Gail Weston Shazor
Albert 'Infinite' Carrasco
Siddhartha Beth Pierce
Janet P. Caldwell
Tony Heninger
Joe DaVerbal Minddancer
Robert Gibbons
Neetu Wali
Shareef Abdur - Rasheed
Kimberly Burnham
Ann White
Keith Alan Hamilton
Katherine Wyatt
Fahredin Shehu
Hilya N. Yilmaz
Teresa E. Gallion
Jackie Allen
William S. Peters, Sr.

FEBRUARY FEATURE POETS
Iram Fatima • Bob McNeil • Kerstin Centervall

The Year of the Poet II

March 2015

Our Featured Poets
Heung Sook • Anthony Arnold • Alicia Poland



The Poetry Pesse 2015
Jamie Bond • Gail Weston Shazor • Albert 'Infinite' Carrasco
Siddhartha Beth Pierce • Janet P. Caldwell • Tony Heninger
Joe DaVerbal Minddancer • Neetu Wali • Shareef Abdur - Rasheed
Kimberly Burnham • Ann White • Keith Alan Hamilton
Katherine Wyatt • Fahredin Shehu • Hilya N. Yilmaz
Teresa E. Gallion • Jackie Allen • William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet II

April 2015

Celebrating International Poetry Month

Our Featured Poets
Raja Williams • Dennis Ferado • Laure Charazac



The Poetry Pesse 2015
Jamie Bond • Gail Weston Shazor • Albert 'Infinite' Carrasco
Siddhartha Beth Pierce • Janet P. Caldwell • Tony Heninger
Joe DaVerbal Minddancer • Neetu Wali • Shareef Abdur - Rasheed
Kimberly Burnham • Ann White • Keith Alan Hamilton
Katherine Wyatt • Fahredin Shehu • Hilya N. Yilmaz
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The Year of the Poet II

May 2015

May's Featured Poets
Geri Algeri
Akin Mosi Chimney
Anna Jakubczak



Emeralds

The Poetry Pesse 2015
Jamie Bond * Gail Weston Shazor * Albert 'Infinite' Carrasco
Siddhartha Beth Pierce * Janet P. Caldwell * Tony Henninger
Joe DaVerbal Minddancer * Neetu Wali * Shareef Abdur - Rasheed
Kimberly Burnham * Ann White * Keith Alan Hamilton
Katherine Wyatt * Fahredin Shelu * Hilya N. Yilmaz
Teresa E. Gallion * Jackie Allen * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet II

June 2015

June's Featured Poets

Anahit Arustamyan * Yvette D. Murrell * Regina A. Walker



The Poetry Pesse 2015

Jamie Bond * Gail Weston Shazor * Albert 'Infinite' Carrasco
Siddhartha Beth Pierce * Janet P. Caldwell * Tony Henninger
Joe DaVerbal Minddancer * Neetu Wali * Shareef Abdur - Rasheed
Kimberly Burnham * Ann White * Keith Alan Hamilton
Katherine Wyatt * Fahredin Shelu * Hilya N. Yilmaz
Teresa E. Gallion * Jackie Allen * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet II

July 2015

The Featured Poets for July 2015

Abhik Shome * Christina Neal * Robert Neal



The Poetry Pesse 2015

Jamie Bond * Gail Weston Shazor * Albert 'Infinite' Carrasco
Siddhartha Beth Pierce * Janet P. Caldwell * Tony Henninger
Joe DaVerbal Minddancer * Neetu Wali * Shareef Abdur - Rasheed
Kimberly Burnham * Ann White * Keith Alan Hamilton
Katherine Wyatt * Fahredin Shelu * Hilya N. Yilmaz
Teresa E. Gallion * Jackie Allen * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet II

August 2015



Featured Poets

Gayle Howell
Ann Chalasiz
Christopher Schultz



The Poetry Pesse 2015

Jamie Bond * Gail Weston Shazor * Albert 'Infinite' Carrasco
Siddhartha Beth Pierce * Janet P. Caldwell * Tony Henninger
Joe DaVerbal Minddancer * Neetu Wali * Shareef Abdur - Rasheed
Kimberly Burnham * Ann White * Keith Alan Hamilton
Katherine Wyatt * Fahredin Shelu * Hilya N. Yilmaz
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The Year of the Poet II
 September 2015

Featured Poets
 Alfreda Ghee * Lonnice Weeks Badley * Demetrios Trifiatis



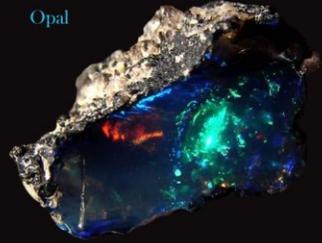
Sapphires

The Poetry Posse 2015
 Jamie Bond * Gail Weston Shazor * Albert 'Infinite' Carrasco
 Siddhartha Beth Pierce * Janet P. Caldwell * Tony Henninger
 Joe DaVerbal Minddancer * Neetu Wali * Shareef Abdur – Rasheed
 Kimberly Burnham * Ann White * Keith Alan Hamilton
 Katherine Wyatt * Fahredin Shehu * Hülya N. Yilmaz
 Teresa E. Gallion * Jackie Allen * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet II
 October 2015

Featured Poets
 Monte Smith * Laura J. Wolfe * William Washington

Opal



The Poetry Posse 2015
 Jamie Bond * Gail Weston Shazor * Albert 'Infinite' Carrasco
 Siddhartha Beth Pierce * Janet P. Caldwell * Tony Henninger
 Joe DaVerbal Minddancer * Neetu Wali * Shareef Abdur – Rasheed
 Kimberly Burnham * Ann White * Keith Alan Hamilton
 Katherine Wyatt * Fahredin Shehu * Hülya N. Yilmaz
 Teresa E. Gallion * Jackie Allen * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet II
 November 2015

Featured Poets
 Alan W. Jankowski
 Bismay Mohanty
 James Moore



Topaz

The Poetry Posse 2015
 Jamie Bond * Gail Weston Shazor * Albert 'Infinite' Carrasco
 Siddhartha Beth Pierce * Janet P. Caldwell * Tony Henninger
 Joe DaVerbal Minddancer * Neetu Wali * Shareef Abdur – Rasheed
 Kimberly Burnham * Ann White * Keith Alan Hamilton
 Katherine Wyatt * Fahredin Shehu * Hülya N. Yilmaz
 Teresa E. Gallion * Jackie Allen * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet II
 December 2015

Featured Poets
 Kerione Bryan * Michelle Joan Barulich * Neville Hiatt



Turquoise

The Poetry Posse 2015
 Jamie Bond * Gail Weston Shazor * Albert 'Infinite' Carrasco
 Siddhartha Beth Pierce * Janet P. Caldwell * Tony Henninger
 Joe DaVerbal Minddancer * Neetu Wali * Shareef Abdur – Rasheed
 Kimberly Burnham * Ann White * Keith Alan Hamilton
 Katherine Wyatt * Fahredin Shehu * Hülya N. Yilmaz
 Teresa E. Gallion * Jackie Allen * William S. Peters, Sr.

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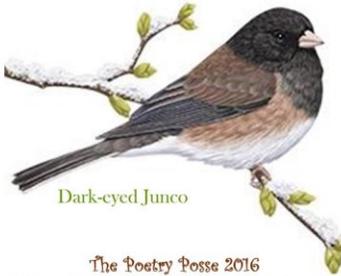
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The Year of the Poet III January 2016

Featured Poets

Lana Joseph * Atom Cyrus Rush * Christena Williams



Dark-eyed Junco

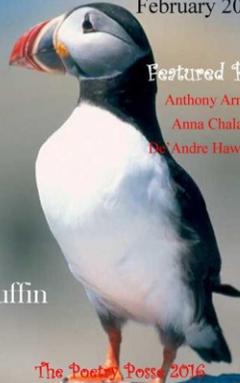
The Poetry Posse 2016

Gail Weston Shazor * Anna Jakubczak Vel Rattysyrdala * Anna J. White
Fahreddin Shehu * Hrishikesh Padhye * Janet P. Caldwell
Joe Daverfal * Mabdolmeyer * Shareef Abdur - Rasheed
Albert Carrasco * Kimberly Barnham * Keith Allen Jernillo
Hulya N. Yilmaz * Demetrios Fotinas * Alan W. Jankowski
Teresa E. Gallion * Jackie Davis Allen * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet III February 2016

Featured Poets

Anthony Arnold
Anna Chalas
Dr. Andre Hawthorne



Puffin

The Poetry Posse 2016

Gail Weston Shazor * Joe Daverfal * Mabdolmeyer * Alfredo Ghee
Fahreddin Shehu * Hrishikesh Padhye * Janet P. Caldwell
Anna Jakubczak Vel Rattysyrdala * Shareef Abdur - Rasheed
Albert Carrasco * Kimberly Barnham * Anna J. White
Hulya N. Yilmaz * Demetrios Fotinas * Alan W. Jankowski
Teresa E. Gallion * Jackie Davis Allen * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet III March 2016

Featured Poets

Jeton Kelmendi * Nizar Sartawi * Sami Muhanna

Robin

The Poetry Posse 2016

Gail Weston Shazor * Joe Daverfal * Mabdolmeyer * Alfredo Ghee
Fahreddin Shehu * Hrishikesh Padhye * Janet P. Caldwell
Anna Jakubczak Vel Rattysyrdala * Shareef Abdur - Rasheed
Albert Carrasco * Kimberly Barnham * Anna J. White
Hulya N. Yilmaz * Demetrios Fotinas * Alan W. Jankowski
Teresa E. Gallion * Jackie Davis Allen * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet III

Featured Poets

Ali Abdolrezaei
Anna Chalas
Agim Vinca
Ceri Naz

Black Capped Chickadee

The Poetry Posse 2016

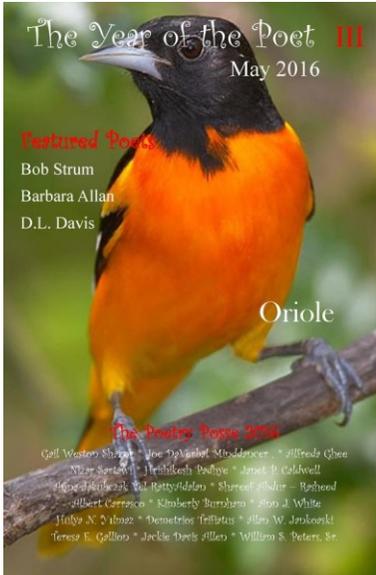
Gail Weston Shazor * Joe Daverfal * Mabdolmeyer * Alfredo Ghee
Fahreddin Shehu * Hrishikesh Padhye * Janet P. Caldwell
Anna Jakubczak Vel Rattysyrdala * Shareef Abdur - Rasheed
Albert Carrasco * Kimberly Barnham * Anna J. White
Hulya N. Yilmaz * Demetrios Fotinas * Alan W. Jankowski
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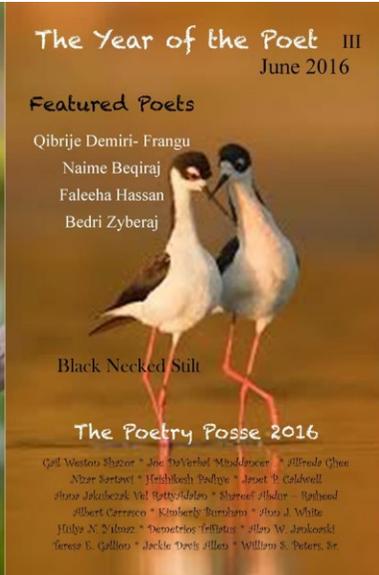


The Year of the Poet III
May 2016

Featured Poets
Bob Strum
Barbara Allan
D.L. Davis

Oriole

The Poetry Posse 2016
Gail Weston Shazor * Joe DeVierlo Misdanner * Allreda Ghoe
Nizar Sattari * Hrishikesh Padhye * Janet P. Caldwell
Alana Jakubczak Vel Betty Aldana * Shereef Abdur - Rashad
Albert Carrasco * Kimberly Burroughs * Alan J. White
Hilary N. D'Almeida * Demetrios Trifatis * Alan W. Jankowski
Teresa E. Gallon * Jackie Davis Allen * William S. Peters, Sr.

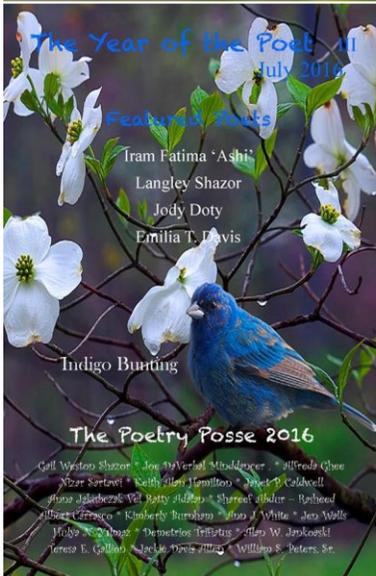


The Year of the Poet III
June 2016

Featured Poets
Qibrije Demiri- Frangu
Naime Beqiraj
Faleeha Hassan
Bedri Zyberaj

Black Necked Stilt

The Poetry Posse 2016
Gail Weston Shazor * Joe DeVierlo Misdanner * Allreda Ghoe
Nizar Sattari * Hrishikesh Padhye * Janet P. Caldwell
Alana Jakubczak Vel Betty Aldana * Shereef Abdur - Rashad
Albert Carrasco * Kimberly Burroughs * Alan J. White
Hilary N. D'Almeida * Demetrios Trifatis * Alan W. Jankowski
Teresa E. Gallon * Jackie Davis Allen * William S. Peters, Sr.

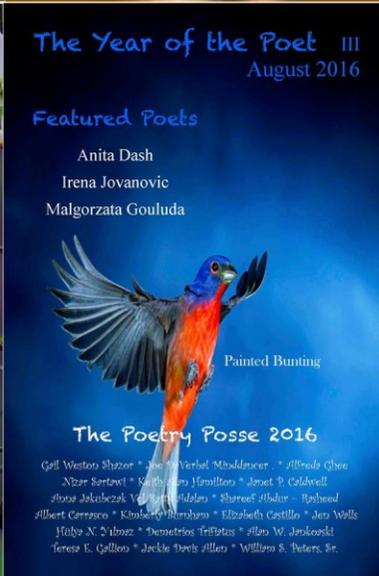


The Year of the Poet III
July 2016

Featured Poets
Iram Fatima 'Ashi'
Langley Shazor
Jody Doty
Emilia T. Davis

Indigo Bunting

The Poetry Posse 2016
Gail Weston Shazor * Joe DeVierlo Misdanner * Allreda Ghoe
Nizar Sattari * Keith Alan Hamilton * Janet P. Caldwell
Alana Jakubczak Vel Betty Aldana * Shereef Abdur - Rashad
Albert Carrasco * Kimberly Burroughs * Alan J. White * Jen Walls
Hilary N. D'Almeida * Demetrios Trifatis * Alan W. Jankowski
Teresa E. Gallon * Jackie Davis Allen * William S. Peters, Sr.



The Year of the Poet III
August 2016

Featured Poets
Anita Dash
Irena Jovanovic
Malgorzata Gouluda

Painted Bunting

The Poetry Posse 2016
Gail Weston Shazor * Joe DeVierlo Misdanner * Allreda Ghoe
Nizar Sattari * Keith Alan Hamilton * Janet P. Caldwell
Alana Jakubczak Vel Betty Aldana * Shereef Abdur - Rashad
Albert Carrasco * Kimberly Burroughs * Elizabeth Castillo * Jen Walls
Hilary N. D'Almeida * Demetrios Trifatis * Alan W. Jankowski
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September 2016

Featured Poets
Simone Weber
Abhijit Sen
Eunice Barbara C. Novio

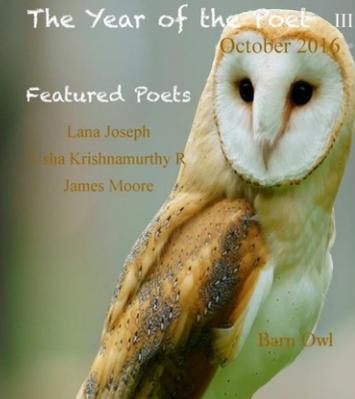


Long Billed Curlew

The Poetry Posse 2016
Gail Weston Shazor * Joe DeVerbol Muddancer * Jen Walls
Nizar Sattari * Janet P. Caldwell * Alfredo Ghaz
Jose DeVerbol Muddancer * Sharon Aldine * Richard
Albert Carrasco * Kimberly Burgham * Elizabeth Castillo
Hilary N. Albano * Demetrios Trifotis * Allan W. Jankowski
Teresa E. Gallon * Jackie Davis Allen * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet III
October 2016

Featured Poets
Lana Joseph
Visha Krishnamurthy R
James Moore

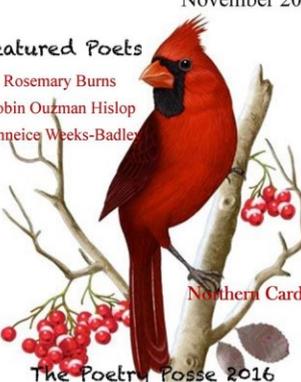


Barn Owl

The Poetry Posse 2016
Gail Weston Shazor * Caroline Nazzareno * Jen Walls
Nizar Sattari * Janet P. Caldwell * Alfredo Ghaz
Joe DeVerbol Muddancer * Sharon Aldine * Richard
Albert Carrasco * Kimberly Burgham * Elizabeth Castillo
Hilary N. Albano * Demetrios Trifotis * Allan W. Jankowski
Teresa E. Gallon * Jackie Davis Allen * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet III
November 2016

Featured Poets
Rosemary Burns
Robin Ouzman Hislop
Lonneice Weeks-Badler



Northern Cardinal

The Poetry Posse 2016
Gail Weston Shazor * Caroline Nazzareno * Jen Walls
Nizar Sattari * Janet P. Caldwell * Alfredo Ghaz
Joe DeVerbol Muddancer * Sharon Aldine * Richard
Albert Carrasco * Kimberly Burgham * Elizabeth Castillo
Hilary N. Albano * Demetrios Trifotis * Allan W. Jankowski
Teresa E. Gallon * Jackie Davis Allen * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet III
December 2016

Featured Poets
Samih Masoud
Mountassir Aziz Bien
Abdulkadir Musa



Rough Legged Hawk

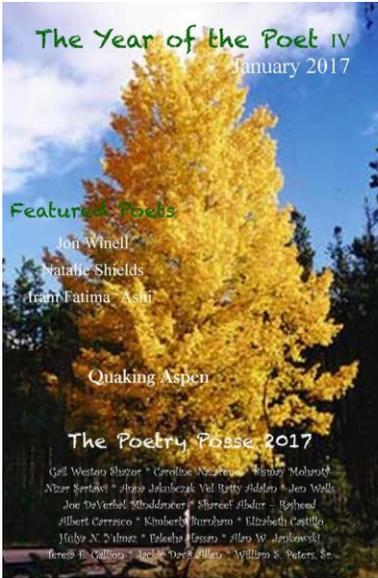
The Poetry Posse 2016
Gail Weston Shazor * Caroline Nazzareno * Jen Walls
Nizar Sattari * Janet P. Caldwell * Alfredo Ghaz
Jose DeVerbol Muddancer * Sharon Aldine * Richard
Albert Carrasco * Kimberly Burgham * Elizabeth Castillo
Hilary N. Albano * Demetrios Trifotis * Allan W. Jankowski
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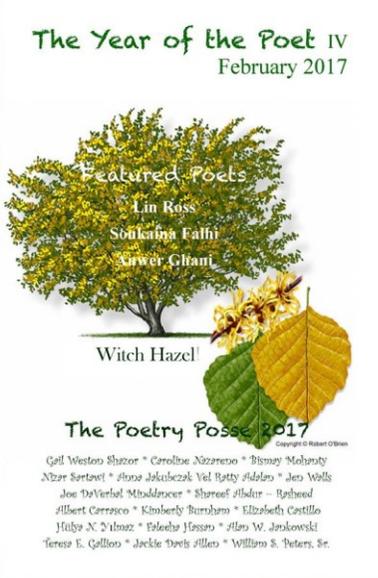


Featured Poets
Jon Winell
Natale Shields
Iram Fatima Ashi

Quaking Aspen

The Poetry Posse 2017
Gail Weston Shazor * Caroline Nazareno * Binmay Mohanty
Nizar Sertawi * Stone Jakubczak Val Betty Adelan * Jen Walls
Joe DeVerlato Miodonsen * Shereef Aladar - Rashad
Albert Carrasco * Kimberly Bursham * Elizabeth Castillo
Julya N. D'Almeida * Valocha Jasso * Jairo W. Jankowski
Teresa E. Gallon * Jackie Davis Allen * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet IV
February 2017

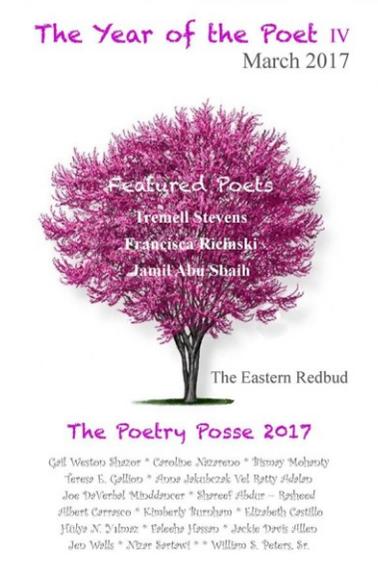


Featured Poets
Lin Ross
Sohkaina Falhi
Anwer Ghani

Witch Hazel

The Poetry Posse 2017
Gail Weston Shazor * Caroline Nazareno * Binmay Mohanty
Nizar Sertawi * Stone Jakubczak Val Betty Adelan * Jen Walls
Joe DeVerlato Miodonsen * Shereef Aladar - Rashad
Albert Carrasco * Kimberly Bursham * Elizabeth Castillo
Julya N. D'Almeida * Valocha Jasso * Jairo W. Jankowski
Teresa E. Gallon * Jackie Davis Allen * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet IV
March 2017

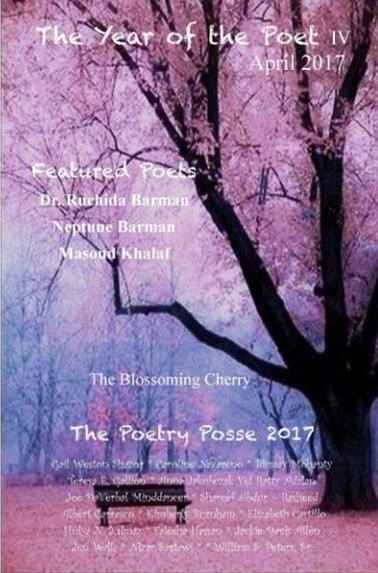


Featured Poets
Tremell Stevens
Francisca Ricinski
Jamil Abu Shaib

The Eastern Redbud

The Poetry Posse 2017
Gail Weston Shazor * Caroline Nazareno * Binmay Mohanty
Teresa E. Gallon * Stone Jakubczak Val Betty Adelan
Joe DeVerlato Miodonsen * Shereef Aladar - Rashad
Albert Carrasco * Kimberly Bursham * Elizabeth Castillo
Julya N. D'Almeida * Valocha Jasso * Jackie Davis Allen
Jen Walls * Nizar Sertawi * * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet IV
April 2017



Featured Poets
Dr. Ruchida Barman
Neptune Barman
Masoud Khalaf

The Blossoming Cherry

The Poetry Posse 2017
Gail Weston Shazor * Caroline Nazareno * Binmay Mohanty
Teresa E. Gallon * Stone Jakubczak Val Betty Adelan
Joe DeVerlato Miodonsen * Shereef Aladar - Rashad
Albert Carrasco * Kimberly Bursham * Elizabeth Castillo
Julya N. D'Almeida * Valocha Jasso * Jackie Davis Allen
Jen Walls * Nizar Sertawi * * William S. Peters, Sr.

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The Year of the Poet IV May 2017

The Flowering Dogwood Tree



Featured Poets
Kallisa Powell
Alicja Maria Kuberska
Fethi Sassi

The Poetry Posse 2017

Gail Westcott Shazoo * Caroline Nazareno * Bismay Mohanty
Teresa E. Gallion * Alana Jakubczak Val Ratty Aldana
Joe DeVirel Mbadumec * Shareef al-dur * Rashad
Albert Carrasco * Kimberly Burroughs * Elizabeth Castillo
Hilja N. Vilhoz * Falecha Hassan * Jackie Davis Allen
Jen Walls * Nizar Sertawi * * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet IV June 2017

Featured Poets

Eliza Seglet
Tze-Min Tsai
Abdulla Issa

The Linden Tree

The Poetry Posse 2017

Gail Westcott Shazoo * Caroline Nazareno * Bismay Mohanty
Teresa E. Gallion * Alana Jakubczak Val Ratty Aldana
Joe DeVirel Mbadumec * Shareef al-dur * Rashad
Albert Carrasco * Kimberly Burroughs * Elizabeth Castillo
Hilja N. Vilhoz * Falecha Hassan * Jackie Davis Allen
Jen Walls * Nizar Sertawi * * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet IV July 2017

Featured Poets

Anca Mihaela Bruma
Ibaa Ismail
Zvonko Taneski

The Oak Moon

The Poetry Posse 2017

Gail Westcott Shazoo * Caroline Nazareno * Bismay Mohanty
Teresa E. Gallion * Alana Jakubczak Val Ratty Aldana
Joe DeVirel Mbadumec * Shareef al-dur * Rashad
Albert Carrasco * Kimberly Burroughs * Elizabeth Castillo
Hilja N. Vilhoz * Falecha Hassan * Jackie Davis Allen
Jen Walls * Nizar Sertawi * * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet IV August 2017

Featured Poets

Jonathan Aquino
Kitty Hsu
Langley Shazoo

The Hazelnut Tree

The Poetry Posse 2017

Gail Westcott Shazoo * Caroline Nazareno * Bismay Mohanty
Teresa E. Gallion * Alana Jakubczak Val Ratty Aldana
Joe DeVirel Mbadumec * Shareef al-dur * Rashad
Albert Carrasco * Kimberly Burroughs * Elizabeth Castillo
Hilja N. Vilhoz * Falecha Hassan * Jackie Davis Allen
Jen Walls * Nizar Sertawi * * William S. Peters, Sr.

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Inner Child Press Anthologies

The Year of the Poet IV September 2017

Featured Poets

Martina Reisz Newberry

Ameer Nassir

Christine Fulco Neal

Robert Neal

The Elm Tree



The Poetry Posse 2017

Gail Weston Shazor * Caroline Nazareno * Bismay Mohanty
Teresa E. Gallion * Anna Jakubczak Vel Ratty Adalan
Joe DaVerbal Minddancer * Shareef Abdur – Rasheed
Albert Carrasco * Kimberly Burnham * Elizabeth Castillo
Hülya N. Yilmaz * Faleeha Hassan * Jackie Davis Allen
Jen Walls * Nizar Sartawi * William S. Peters, Sr.

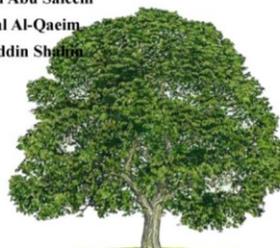
The Year of the Poet IV October 2017

Featured Poets

Ahmed Abu Saleem

Nedal Al-Qaeim

Sadeddin Shahrin



The Black Walnut Tree

The Poetry Posse 2017

Gail Weston Shazor * Caroline Nazareno * Bismay Mohanty
Teresa E. Gallion * Anna Jakubczak Vel Ratty Adalan
Joe DaVerbal Minddancer * Shareef Abdur – Rasheed
Albert Carrasco * Kimberly Burnham * Elizabeth Castillo
Hülya N. Yilmaz * Faleeha Hassan * Jackie Davis Allen
Jen Walls * Nizar Sartawi * William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet IV November 2017

Featured Poets

Kay Peters

Alfreda D. Ghee

Gabriella Garofalo

Rosemary Cappello

The Tree of Life



The Poetry Posse 2017

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Joe DaVerbal Minddancer * Shareef Abdur – Rasheed
Albert Carrasco * Kimberly Burnham * Elizabeth Castillo
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Featured Poets

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Mariel M. Pabroa

Kiley Brown



The Fig Tree

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February 2018

Sabeen



Featured Poets

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Anna Szawracka

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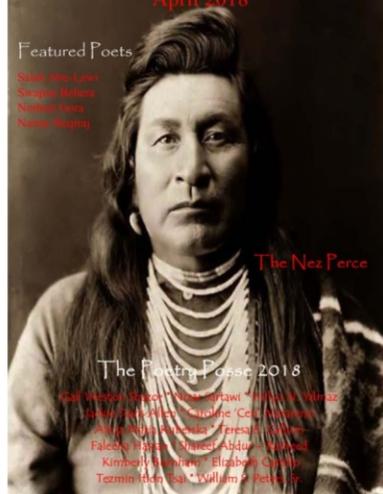
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The Poetry Posse ~ 2018



May 2018 ~ Featured Poets



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