

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

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WHAT WOULD
LI FE
BE WITHOUT
A LITTLE
PO ETRY?

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 19<sup>th</sup> 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](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](http://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**

[www.innerchildpress.com/the-year-of-the-poet](http://www.innerchildpress.com/the-year-of-the-poet)

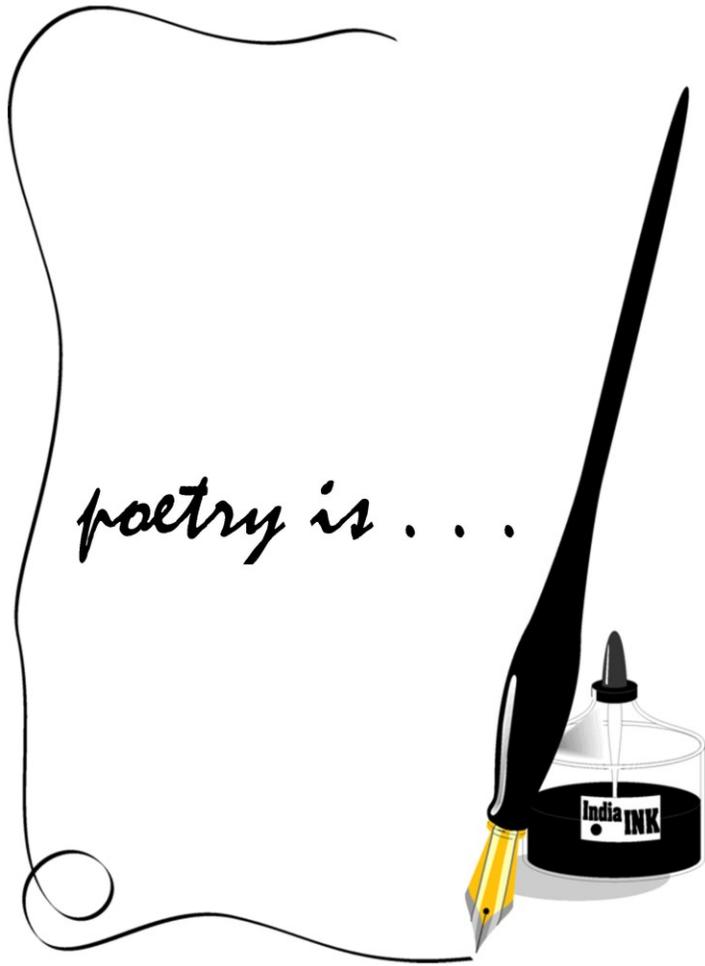




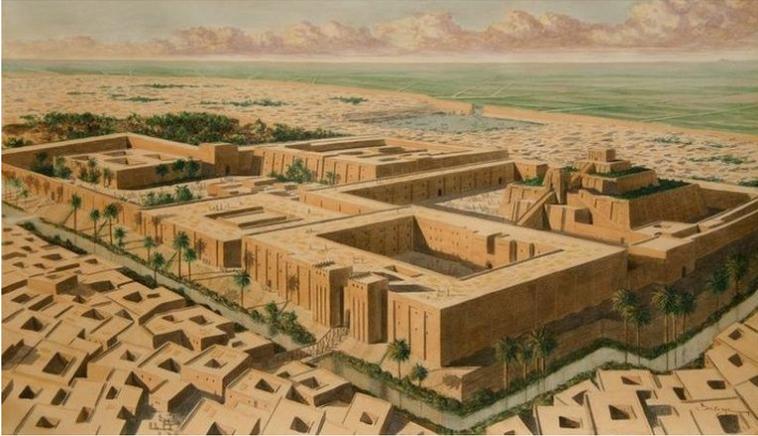
Poets, Writers . . . know that we are the enchanting magicians that nourishes the seeds of dreams and thoughts . . . it is our words that entice the hearts and minds of others to believe there is something grand about the possibilities that life has to offer and our words tease it forth into action . . . 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](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sumerian_language)



The  
Year  
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*



*The Year of the Poet V ~ May 2018*

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.

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[www.innerchildpress.com/gail-weston-shazor](http://www.innerchildpress.com/gail-weston-shazor)

[navypoet1@gmail.com](mailto:navypoet1@gmail.com)

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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](http://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

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Sharæf  
Abdur  
Rashæd

*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

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Kimberly  
Burnham

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## *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

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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

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Elizabeth  
E.  
Castillo

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## *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

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## *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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## *The Year of the Poet V ~ May 2018*

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

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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

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## *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 21<sup>st</sup> 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,

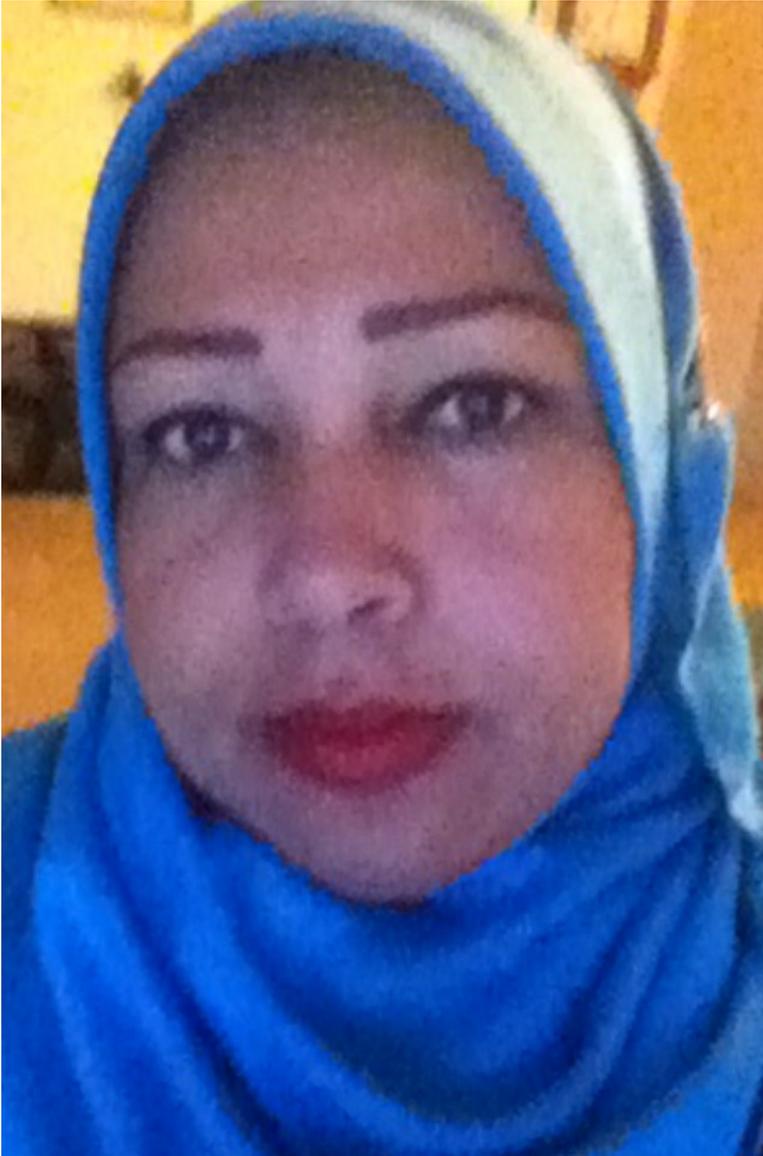
floating down the Arkansas River,  
sitting by river in Jemez mountains.  
All images stored in memory banks.

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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## *The Year of the Poet V ~ May 2018*

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](mailto: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

*The Year of the Poet V ~ May 2018*

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 4<sup>th</sup> 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

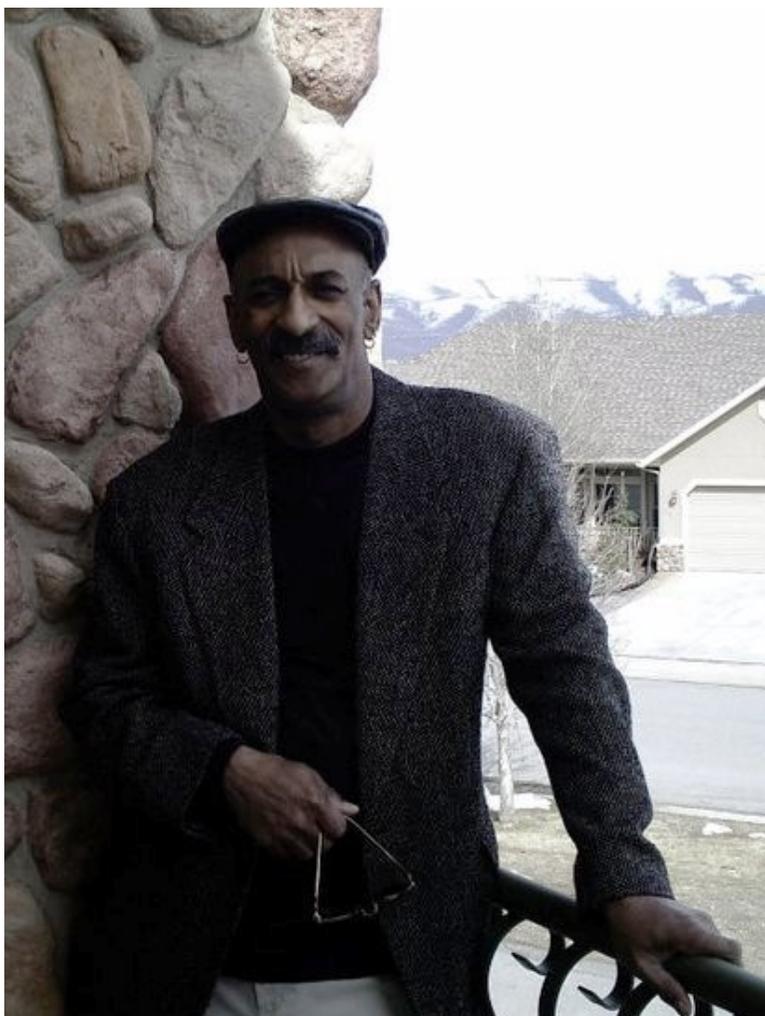
If Enki had bequeathed me,  
His waters flooding the cities  
I might had built arks of victories for the poor  
The calls for the extant kings and successors  
changed the world, saved by the engraved cuneiforms  
I would have lived the Hellenistic myths  
And for my time, today  
will recreate mirrors 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](http://www.iaminnerchild.com)

Personal Web Site

[www.iamjustbill.com](http://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

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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

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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 . . .

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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

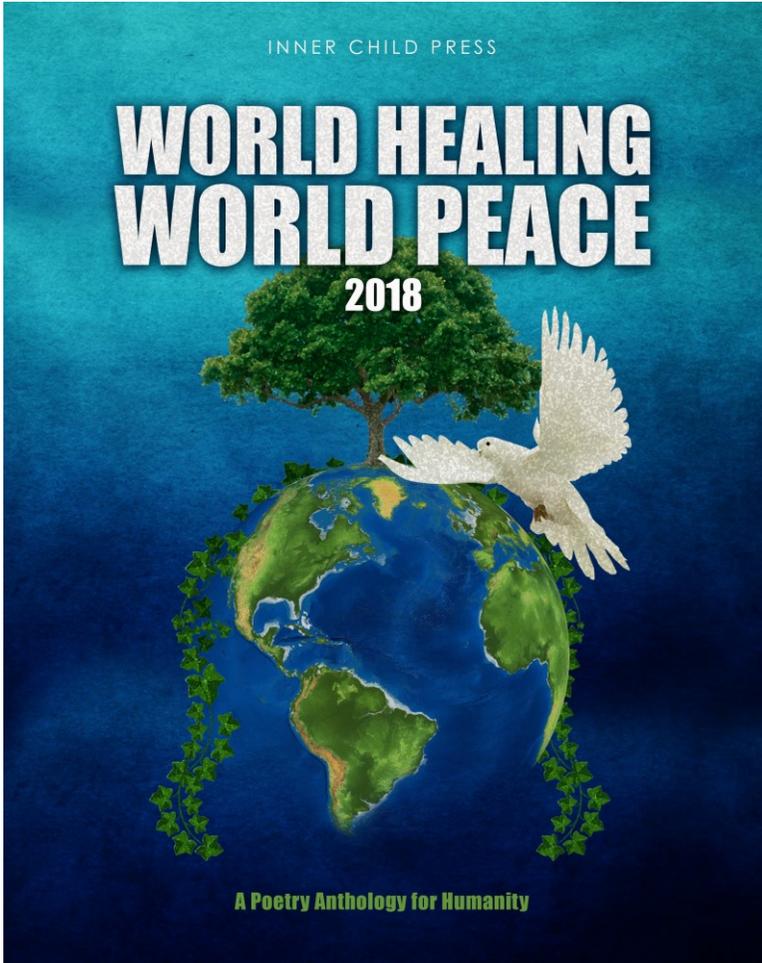
Such a place exists . . .  
Does it not ?

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.

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*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.

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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

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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

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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

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## *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 ...

*Jackie Davis Allen*

*Gail Weston Shazor*

*hülya n. yılmaz*

*Nizar Sartawi*

*Faleeha Hassan*

*Albert Carrasco*

*Caroline 'Ceri' Nazareno*

*William S. Peters, Sr.*

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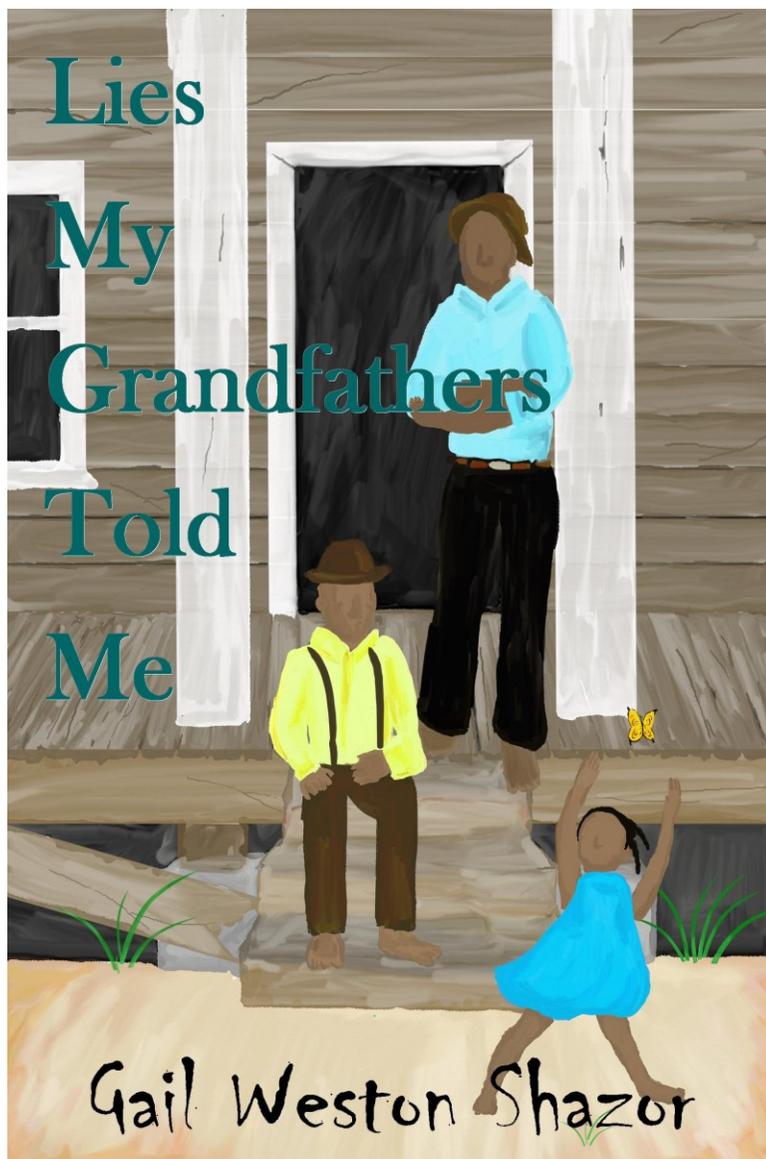
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# *Aflame*



*Memoirs in Verse*

**hülya n. yılmaz**

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# My Shadow

Nizar Sartawi

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# Mass Graves



Faleeha Hassan

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# Breakfast

for

# Butterflies

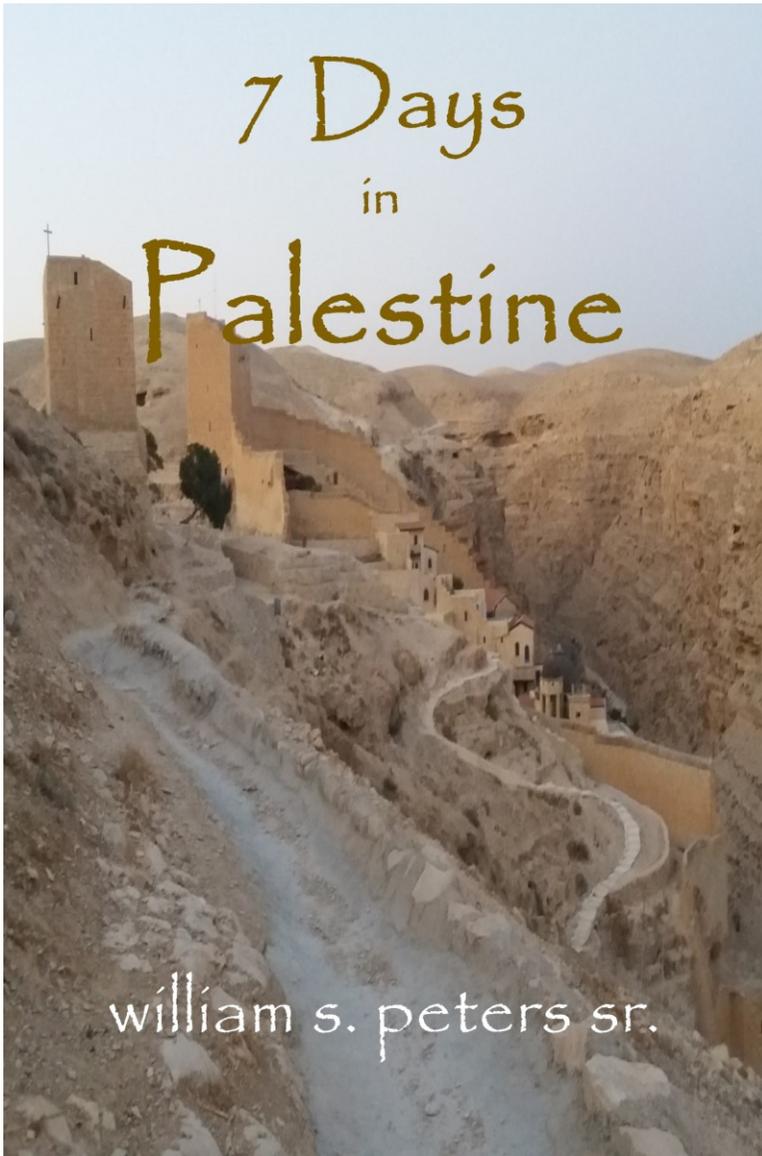


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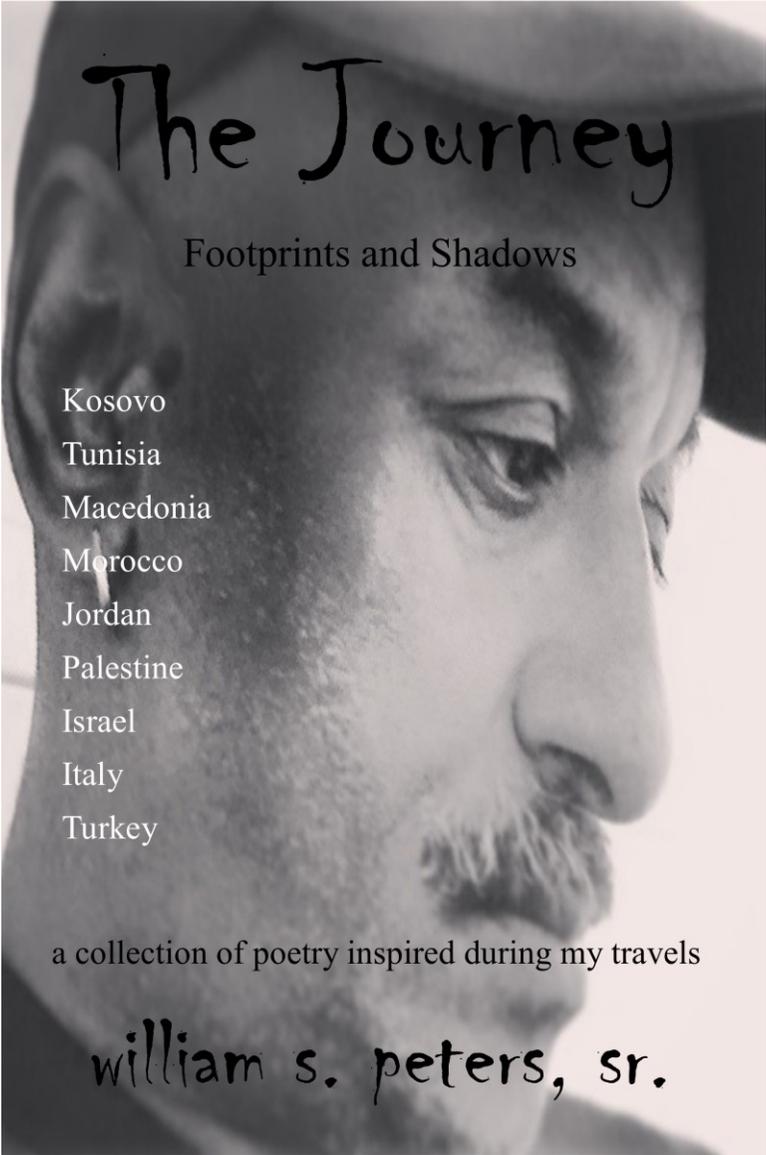
*Tunisia My Love*



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.

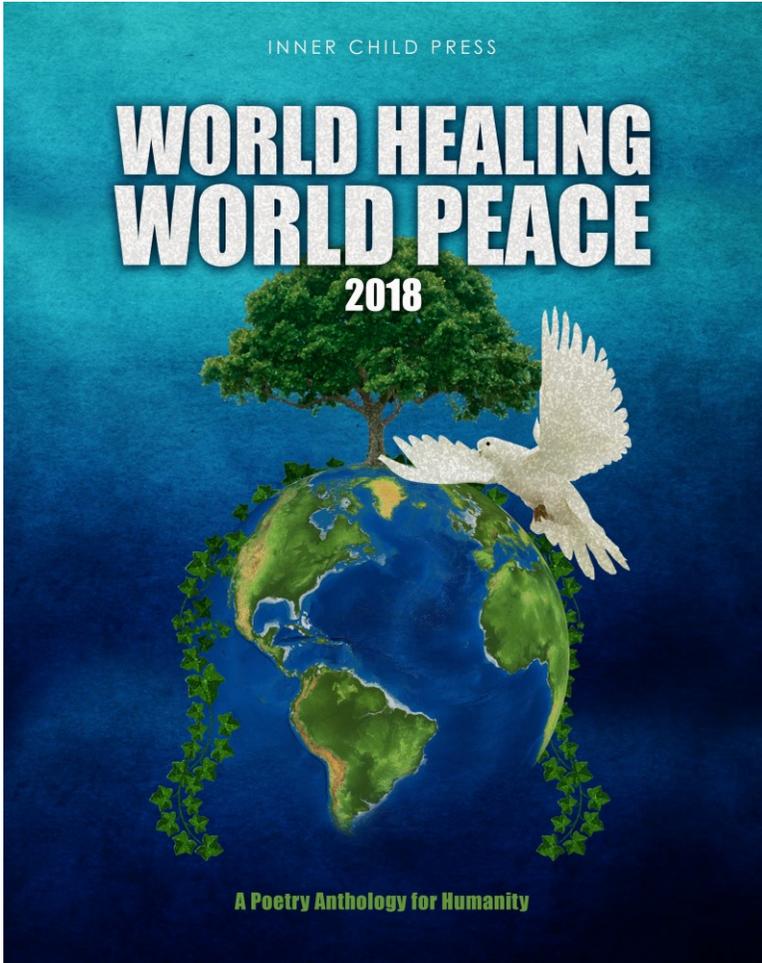
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*Coming Spring 2018*



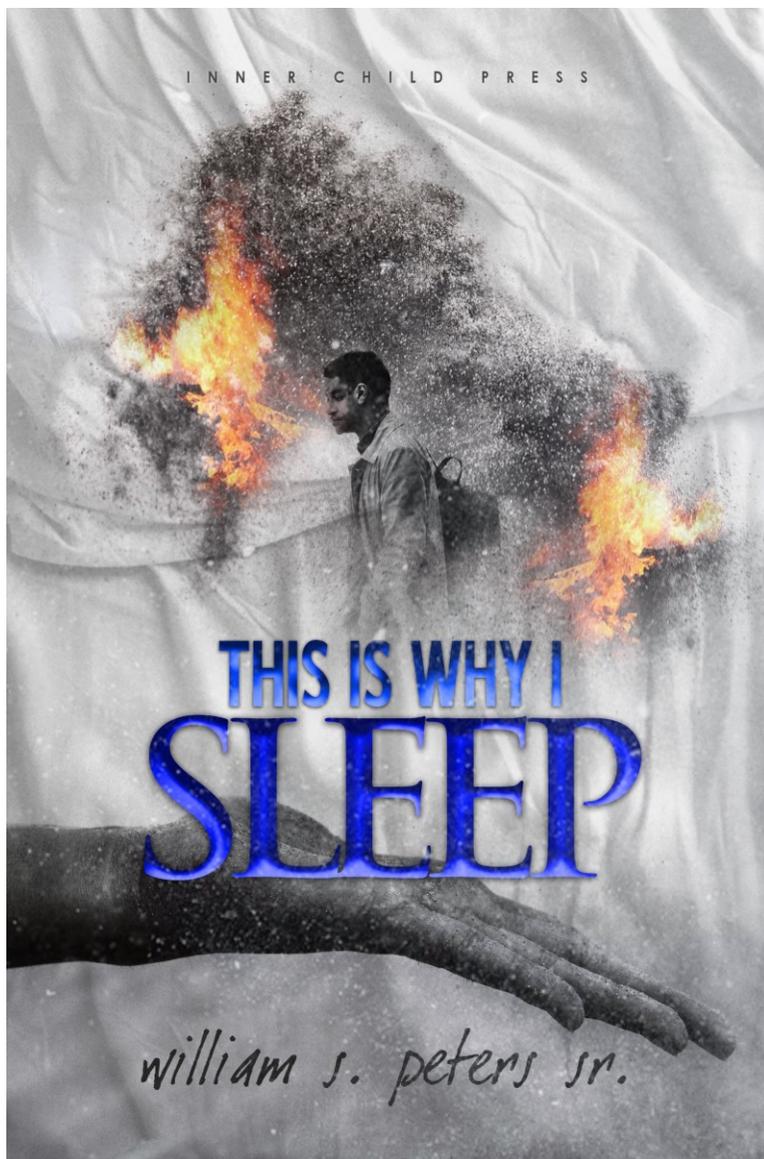
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*The Year of the Poet V ~ May 2018*

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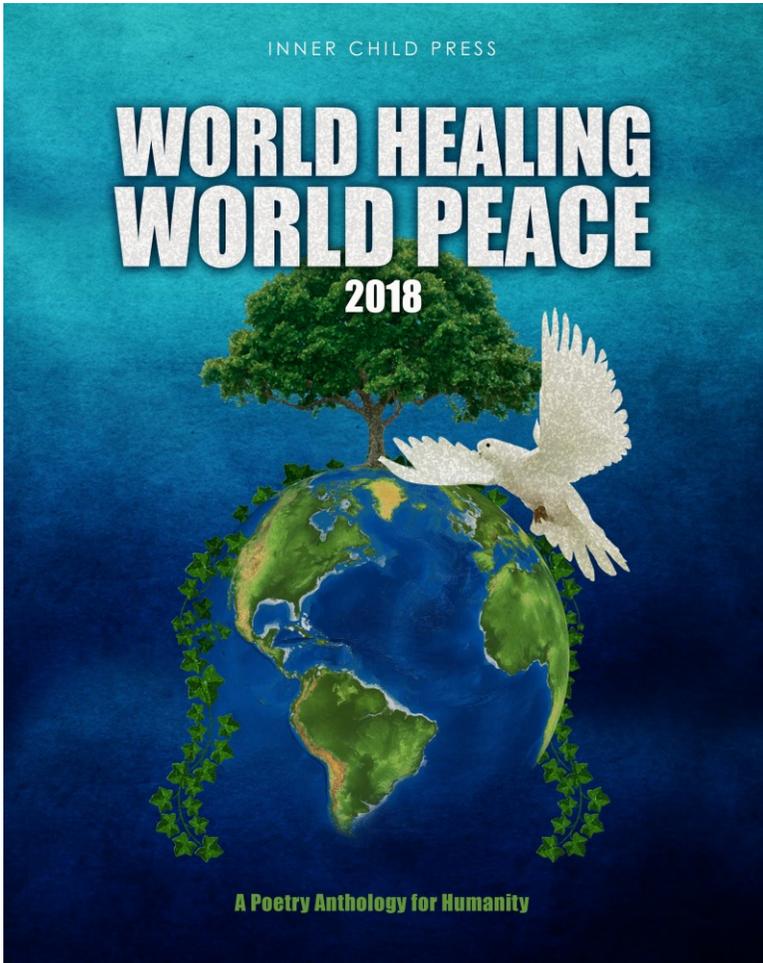
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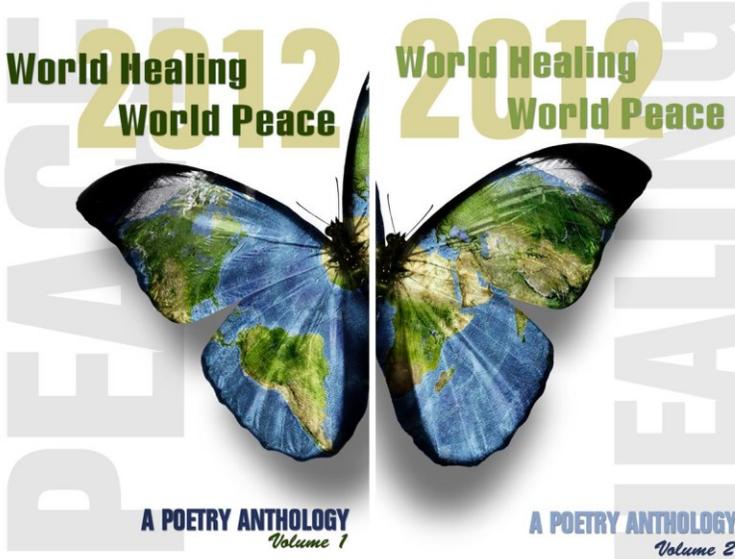
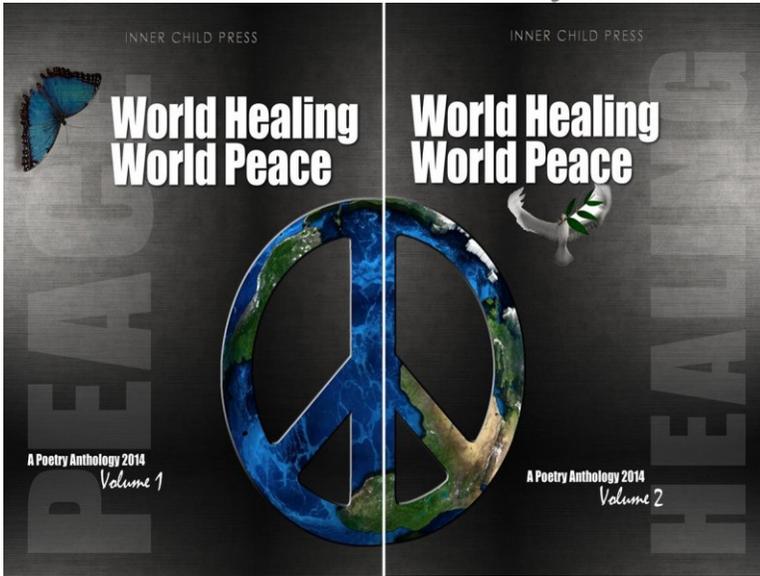
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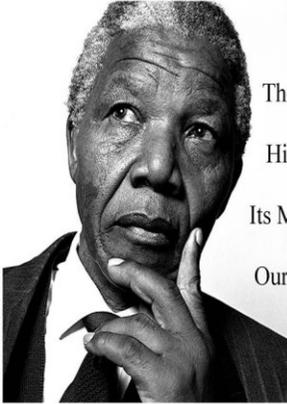
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# Mandela



The Man  
His Life  
Its Meaning  
Our Words

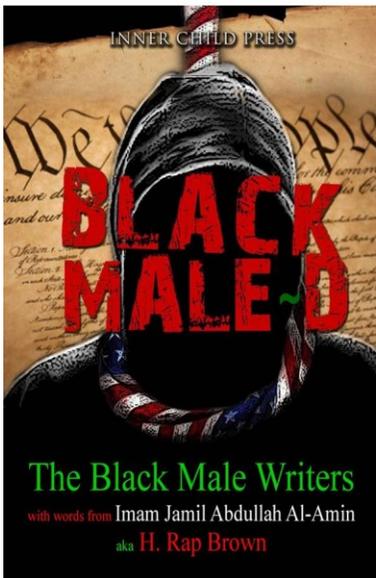
Poetry . . . Commentary & Stories  
*The Anthological Writers*

# A GATHERING OF WORDS



POETRY & COMMENTARY  
FOR

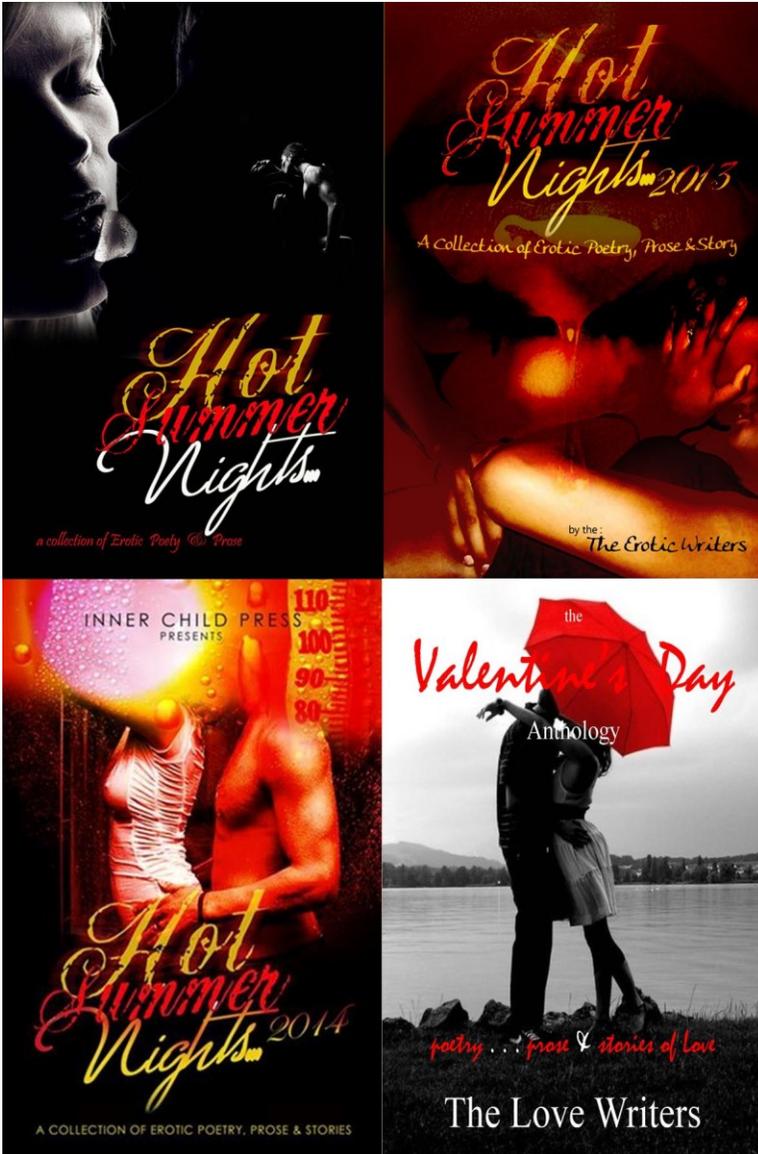
# TRAYVON MARTIN



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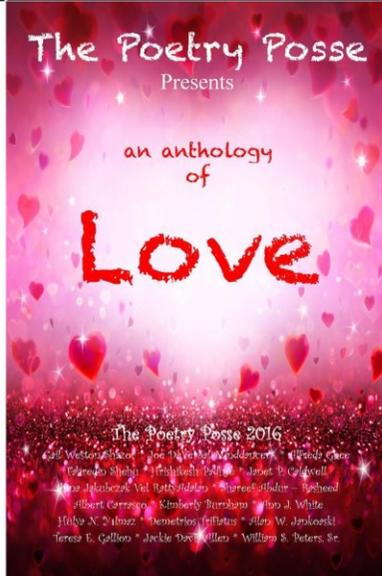
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Inner Child Press Anthologies



a  
Poetically  
Spoken  
Anthology  
volume I  
Collector's Edition



Now Available

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# Inner Child Press Anthologies



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

Monte Smith

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



Monte Smith

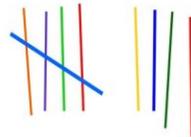
volume II



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

Monte Smith

## 11 Words



(9 lines ...)

for those who are challenged

an anthology of Poetry inspired by ...

Poetry Dancer

## Now Available

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# Inner Child Press Anthologies

## The Year of the Poet

January 2014



*Carnation*

**The Poetry Posse**

Jamie Bond  
Gail Weston Shazor  
Albert 'Infinite' Carrasco  
Siddhartha Beth Pierce  
Janet P. Caldwell  
June 'Bugg' Barefield  
Debbie M. Allen  
Tony Henninger  
Joe DaVerbal Minddancer  
Robert Gibbons  
Neetu Wali  
Shareef Abdur-Rasheed  
William S. Peters, Sr.

**Our January Feature**  
Terri L. Johnson

## the Year of the Poet

February 2014



*violets*

**The Poetry Posse**

Jamie Bond  
Gail Weston Shazor  
Albert 'Infinite' Carrasco  
Siddhartha Beth Pierce  
Janet P. Caldwell  
June 'Bugg' Barefield  
Debbie M. Allen  
Tony Henninger  
Joe DaVerbal Minddancer  
Robert Gibbons  
Neetu Wali  
Shareef Abdur-Rasheed  
William S. Peters, Sr.

**Our February Features**  
Teresa E. Gallion & Robert Gibson

## the Year of the Poet

March 2014



*daffodil*

**The Poetry Posse**

Jamie Bond  
Gail Weston Shazor  
Albert 'Infinite' Carrasco  
Siddhartha Beth Pierce  
Janet P. Caldwell  
June 'Bugg' Barefield  
Debbie M. Allen  
Tony Henninger  
Joe DaVerbal Minddancer  
Robert Gibbons  
Neetu Wali  
Shareef Abdur-Rasheed  
Kimberly Burnham  
William S. Peters, Sr.

**Our March Featured Poets**  
Alicia C. Cooper & Hülya Yılmaz

## the Year of the Poet

April 2014



*Sweet Pea*

**The Poetry Posse**

Jamie Bond  
Gail Weston Shazor  
Albert 'Infinite' Carrasco  
Siddhartha Beth Pierce  
Janet P. Caldwell  
June 'Bugg' Barefield  
Debbie M. Allen  
Tony Henninger  
Joe DaVerbal Minddancer  
Robert Gibbons  
Neetu Wali  
Shareef Abdur-Rasheed  
Kimberly Burnham  
William S. Peters, Sr.

**Our April Featured Poets**  
Fahredin Shehu  
Martina Reisz Newberry  
Justin Blackburn  
Monte Smith

*celebrating international poetry month*

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# Inner Child Press Anthologies

**The year of the poet**  
May 2014

*May's Featured Poets*  
ReeCee  
Joski the Poet  
Shannon Stanton



Dedicated To our Children

**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.

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

**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.

**The Year of the Poet**  
July 2014

*July Feature Poets*  
Christiana A. V. Williams  
Dr. John R. Strum  
Kolage 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  
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# Inner Child Press Anthologies

## 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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# Inner Child Press Anthologies

**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 Gibson  
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 Gibson  
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 III

March 2015

### Our Featured Poets

Heung Sook • Anthony Arnold • Alicia Poland

### Bloodstone



### 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

### Diamonds



### 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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# Inner Child Press Anthologies

## 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.

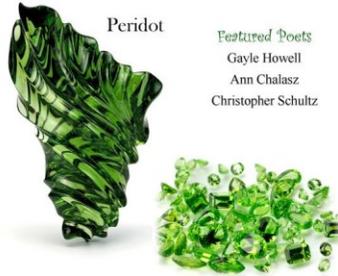
## The Year of the Poet II

August 2015

Peridot

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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# Inner Child Press Anthologies

**The Year of the Poet II**  
 September 2015

Featured Poets  
 Alfreda Ghee \* Lonnice Weeks Badley \* Demetrios Trifiatis



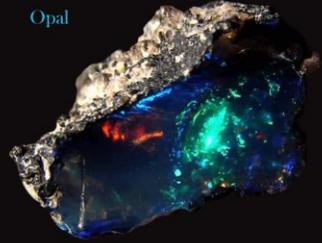
Sapphires

*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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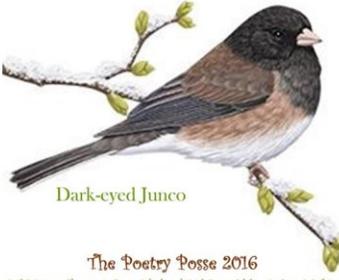
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# Inner Child Press Anthologies

## The Year of the Poet III January 2016

### Featured Poets

Lana Joseph \* Atom Cyrus Rush \* Christena Williams



Dark-eyed Junco

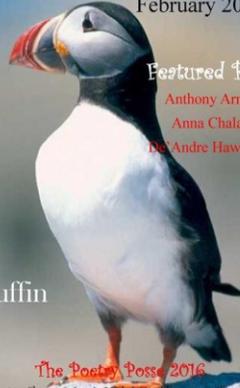
### The Poetry Posse 2016

Gail Weston Shazor \* Anna Jakubczak Vel Rattysydzala \* Anna J. White  
Fahreddin Shehu \* Hrishikesh Padhye \* Janet P. Caldwell  
Joe Daverfal \* Mbdolmeyer \* Shereef 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 \* Mbdolmeyer \* Alfredo Ghee  
Fahreddin Shehu \* Hrishikesh Padhye \* Janet P. Caldwell  
Anna Jakubczak Vel Rattysydzala \* Shereef 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 \* Mbdolmeyer \* Alfredo Ghee  
Fahreddin Shehu \* Hrishikesh Padhye \* Janet P. Caldwell  
Anna Jakubczak Vel Rattysydzala \* Shereef 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

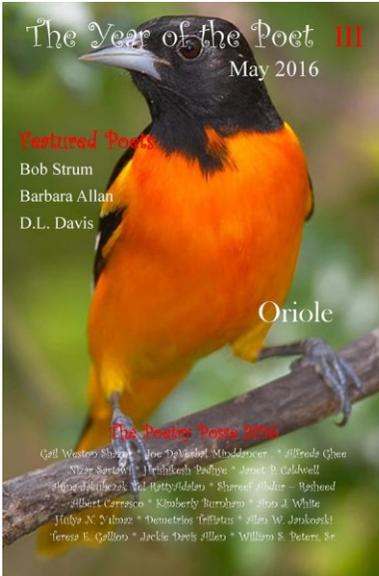
Gail Weston Shazor \* Joe Daverfal \* Mbdolmeyer \* Alfredo Ghee  
Fahreddin Shehu \* Hrishikesh Padhye \* Janet P. Caldwell  
Anna Jakubczak Vel Rattysydzala \* Shereef Abdur - Rasheed  
Albert Carrasco \* Kimberly Barnham \* Anna J. White  
Hulya N. Yilmaz \* Demetrios Fotinas \* Alan W. Jankowski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

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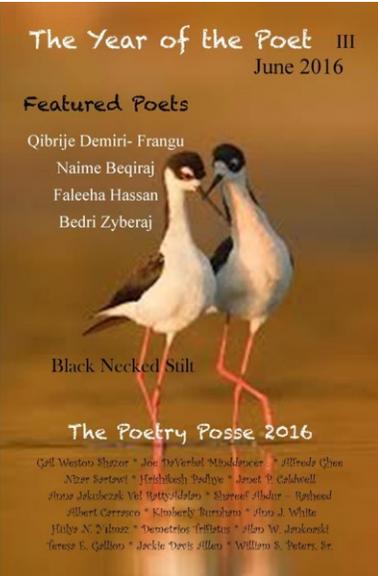


The Year of the Poet III  
May 2016

**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 Alidire \* Rashad  
Albert Carrasco \* Kimberly Burroughs \* Alan J. White  
Hilary N. D'Alonzo \* Demetrios Trifatis \* Alan W. Jankowski  
Teresa E. Gallon \* Jackie Davis Allen \* William S. Peters, Sr.

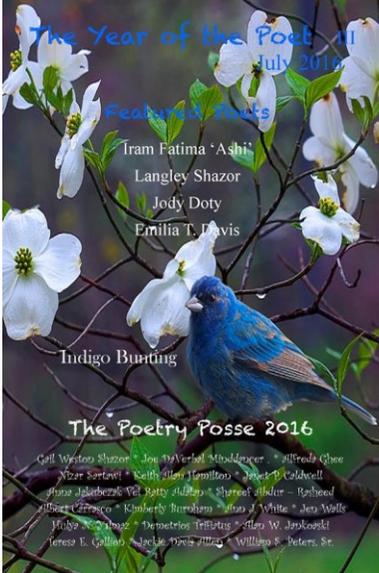


The Year of the Poet III  
June 2016

**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 Alidire \* Rashad  
Albert Carrasco \* Kimberly Burroughs \* Alan J. White  
Hilary N. D'Alonzo \* Demetrios Trifatis \* Alan W. Jankowski  
Teresa E. Gallon \* Jackie Davis Allen \* William S. Peters, Sr.

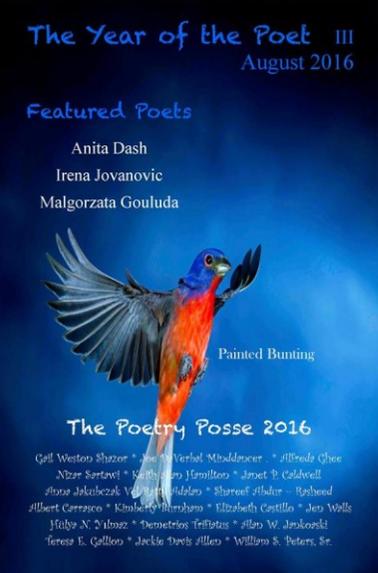


The Year of the Poet III  
July 2016

**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 Alidire \* Rashad  
Albert Carrasco \* Kimberly Burroughs \* Alan J. White \* Jen Walls  
Hilary N. D'Alonzo \* 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 Alidire \* Rashad  
Albert Carrasco \* Kimberly Burroughs \* Elizabeth Castillo \* Jen Walls  
Hilary N. D'Alonzo \* Demetrios Trifatis \* Alan W. Jankowski  
Teresa E. Gallon \* Jackie Davis Allen \* William S. Peters, Sr.

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# Inner Child Press Anthologies

**The Year of the Poet III**  
September 2016

**Featured Poets**  
Simone Weber  
Abhijit Sen  
Eunice Barbara C. Novio

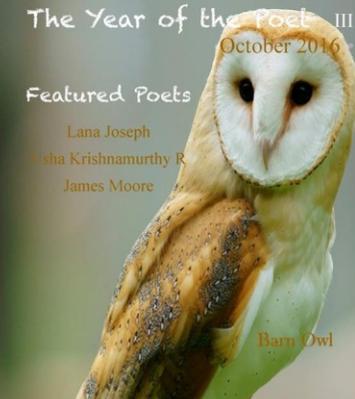


Long Billed Curlew

**The Poetry Posse 2016**  
Gail Weston Shazor \* Joe DeVerbal Muddancer \* Jen Walls  
Nizar Sattari \* Janet P. Caldwell \* Alfredo Ghaz  
Jose DeVerbal Muddancer \* Sharon Aldine \* Richard  
Albert Carrasco \* Kimberly Burgham \* Elizabeth Castillo  
Hilary N. Albano \* Demetrios Triantis \* Allan W. Janowski  
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

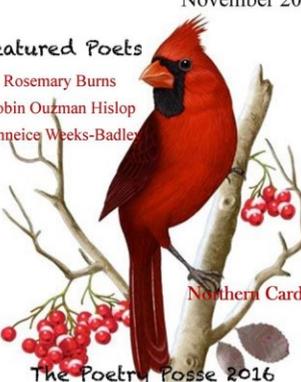


Barn Owl

**The Poetry Posse 2016**  
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Joe DeVerbal Muddancer \* Sharon Aldine \* Richard  
Albert Carrasco \* Kimberly Burgham \* Elizabeth Castillo  
Hilary N. Albano \* Demetrios Triantis \* Allan W. Janowski  
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 DeVerbal Muddancer \* Sharon Aldine \* Richard  
Albert Carrasco \* Kimberly Burgham \* Elizabeth Castillo  
Hilary N. Albano \* Demetrios Triantis \* Allan W. Janowski  
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

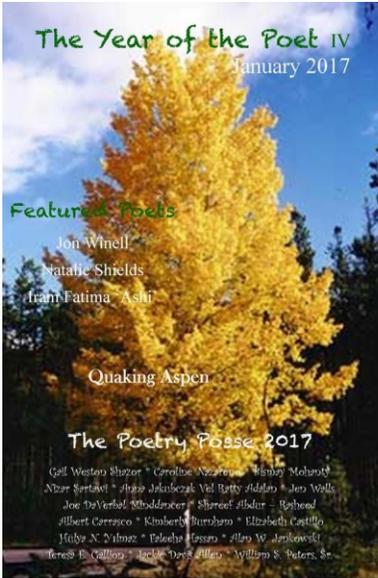
**The Poetry Posse 2016**  
Gail Weston Shazor \* Caroline Nazzareno \* Jen Walls  
Nizar Sattari \* Janet P. Caldwell \* Alfredo Ghaz  
Jose DeVerbal Muddancer \* Sharon Aldine \* Richard  
Albert Carrasco \* Kimberly Burgham \* Elizabeth Castillo  
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**The Year of the Poet IV**  
January 2017

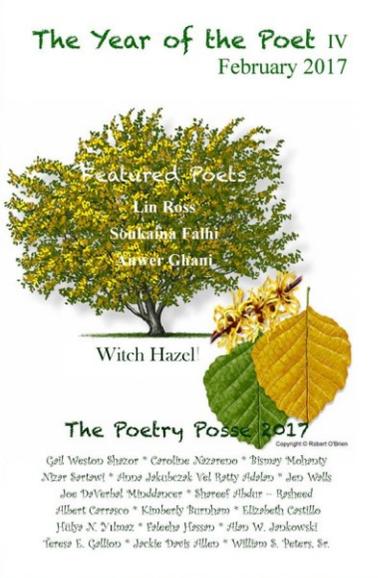


**Featured Poets**  
Jon Winell  
Natale Shields  
Iram Fatima Ashi

**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 \* Shareef Alidar - 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

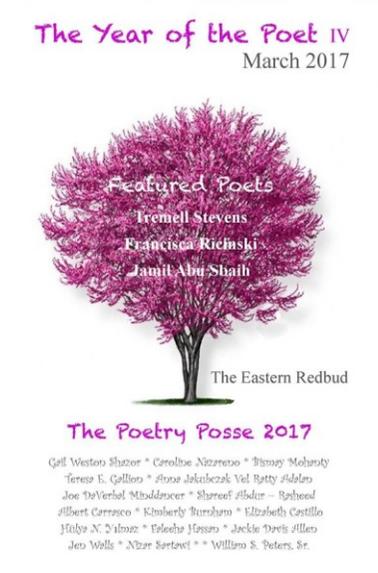


**Featured Poets**  
Lin Ross  
Sohaina Falhi  
Anwer Ghani

**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 \* Shareef Alidar - 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

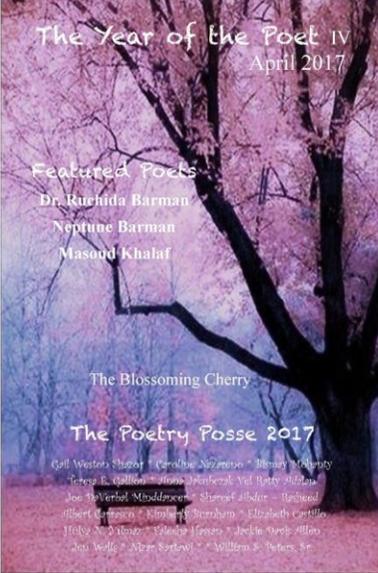


**Featured Poets**  
Tremell Stevens  
Francisca Ricinski  
Jamil Abu Shaib

**The Eastern Redbud**

**The Poetry Posse 2017**  
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Teresa E. Gallon \* Stone Jakubczak Val Betty Adelan  
Joe DeVerlato Miodonsen \* Shareef Alidar - 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 \* Shareef Alidar - Rashad  
Albert Carrasco \* Kimberly Bursham \* Elizabeth Castillo  
Julya N. D'Almeida \* Valocha Jasso \* Jackie Davis Allen  
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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 M'Badameer \* 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 M'Badameer \* 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 M'Badameer \* 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 M'Badameer \* Shareef al-Dur \* Rashad  
Albert Carrasco \* Kimberly Burroughs \* Elizabeth Castillo  
Hilja N. Vilhoz \* Falecha Hassan \* Jackie Davis Allen  
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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

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 December 2017

### Featured Poets

Justice Clarke  
Mariel M. Pabroa  
Kiley Brown



The Fig 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  
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# Inner Child Press Anthologies

## The Year of the Poet V

January 2018

### Featured Poets

Iyad Shamasnah

Yasmeen Hamzeh

Ali Abdolrezaei



Aksum

### The Poetry Posse 2018

Gail Weston Shazor \* Caroline Nazareno \* Tezmin Ition Tsai  
Hülya N. Yilmaz \* Faleeha Hassan \* Jackie Davis Allen  
Teresa E. Gallion \* Anna Jakubczak Vel Ratty Adalan  
Alicja Maria Kuberska \* Shareef Abdur - Rasheed  
Kimberly Burnham \* Elizabeth Castillo  
Nizar Sartawi \* William S. Peters, Sr.

## The Year of the Poet V

February 2018

### Sabeen



### Featured Poets

Muhammad Azram

Anna Szawracka

Abhilipsa Kuanar

Aanika Acry

### The Poetry Posse 2018

Gail Weston Shazor \* Caroline Nazareno \* Tezmin Ition Tsai  
Hülya N. Yilmaz \* Faleeha Hassan \* Jackie Davis Allen  
Teresa E. Gallion \* Anna Jakubczak Vel Ratty Adalan  
Alicja Maria Kuberska \* Shareef Abdur - Rasheed  
Kimberly Burnham \* Elizabeth Castillo  
Nizar Sartawi \* William S. Peters, Sr.

## The Year of the Poet V

March 2018



### Featured Poets

Iram Fatima 'Ashi'

Cassandra Swan

Jaleel Khazaal

Shazia Zaman

Dominican Republic

Haiti

Puerto Rico

### The Poetry Posse 2018

Gail Weston Shazor \* Nizar Sartawi \* Hülya N. Yilmaz  
Jackie Davis Allen \* Caroline 'Ceri' Nazareno  
Alicja Maria Kuberska \* Teresa E. Gallion  
Faleeha Hassan \* Shareef Abdur - Rasheed  
Kimberly Burnham \* Elizabeth Castillo  
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## The Year of the Poet V

April 2018

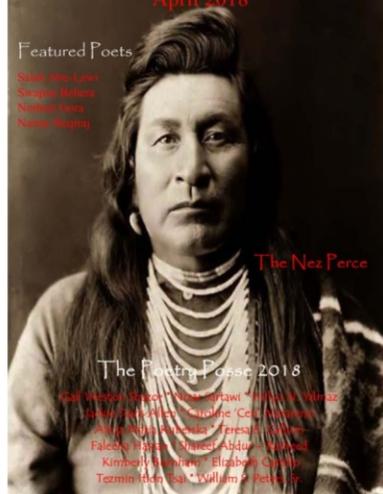
### Featured Poets

Susan Abu-Lawi

Suzanne Belcher

Naureen Durr

Suzanne Hojari



The Nez Perce

### The Poetry Posse 2018

Gail Weston Shazor \* Nizar Sartawi \* Hülya N. Yilmaz  
Jackie Davis Allen \* Caroline 'Ceri' Nazareno  
Anna Szawracka \* Teresa E. Gallion  
Faleeha Hassan \* Shareef Abdur - Rasheed  
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# The Poetry Posse ~ 2018



## May 2018 ~ Featured Poets



**Zaldy  
Carreon  
De Leon Jr.**



**Sylwia  
K.  
Malinowska**



**Lindita  
Ahmeti**



**Ofelia  
Prodan**



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