# THE YEAR OF THE POET

# October 2014



### The Poetry Posse

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

**October Feature Poets** 

Ceri Naz \* Rajendra Padhi \* Elizabeth Castillo



# October 2014



inner child press, ltd.

## THE POETRY POSSE

Jamie Bond Gail Weston Shazor Albert 'Infinite' Carrasco Siddartha 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.



### The Year of the Poet October Edition

### The Poetry Posse

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Edition : 2014

This Publishing is protected under Copyright Law as a "Collection". All rights for all submissions are retained by the Individual Author and or Artist. No part of this Publishing may be Reproduced, Transferred in any manner without the prior *WRITTEN CONSENT* of the "Material Owners" or its Representative Inner Child Press. Any such violation infringes upon the Creative and Intellectual Property of the Owner pursuant to International and Federal Copyright Laws. Any queries pertaining to this "Collection" should be addressed to Publisher of Record.

#### **Publisher Information**

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Edition : Inner Child Press : intouch@innerchildpress.com www.innerchildpress.com

This Collection is protected under U.S. and International Copyright Laws

Copyright © 2014 : The Poetry Posse

ISBN-13 : 978-0692265987 (Inner Child Press, Ltd.) ISBN-10 : 0692265988

\$12.99



# This Book is dedicated to

# Poetry

R

# the Spirit

## of our Everlasting Muse.





#### Friends, Family and Readers

Here we are now in the Harvest time of the year. Over this year of 2014 there has been much progress in the area of relationships amongst humanity due to the connectivity aspects of the internet and other technologies. Sad to say, in many ways civilization has regressed. I note such things as Racism, Famine, War, Greed and all the other dastardly lower expressions of our species. As Poets and Writers, much of the Hopes of the Hearts of Humanity are expressed here within these pages, as is the raw commentary, that hopefully evokes a consciousness of how things are, and how they could be. We hope you enjoy our offerings.

Bless Up

### Bill



The year of the poet is a collectable collaboration of distinguished artists personally selected to write and publish every month affection ally donned as the poetry posse.

We are honored to have such an elite spectrum of "Pen Mates" along with spotlights of monthly features that you may not have otherwise been introduced to.

The books are all free downloads at inner child press for only 5 dollars for the physical copy. We have made these books affordable to the public, struggling artists, friends, fans and family.

We are proud to present this for your reading pleasure.

Enjoy,

Jamie Bond

# Thank God for Poetry otherwise we would have a problem !

 $\sim wsp$ 

Pable of Contents	
Dedication	v
Foreword	vii
Preface	ix
Phe Poetry Posse	
Jamie Bond	1
Gail Weston Shazor	9
Albert 'Infinite' Carrasco	17
Siddartha Beth Pierce	25
Janet P. Caldwell	33
June 'Bugg' Barefield	43
Debbie M. Allen	49
Tony Henninger	59
Joe DaVerbal Minddancer	67
Robert Gibbons	75
Shareef Abdur – Rasheed	83
Kimberly Burnham	91
William S. Peters, Sr.	97



Ctober	eatures	109
--------	---------	-----

Ceri Naz	111

- Rajendra Padhi 119
- Elizabeth Castillo 131

Other Anthological Works	141
Tee Shirts & Hats	169

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 ...

 $\sim wsp$ 





# October 2014



inner child press, ltd.

# Poetry succeeds where instruction fails.

 $\sim wsp$ 



### Jamie Bond



Jamie Bond aka UnMuted Ink is an authoress, radio show hostess, poetess and spoken word maven.

She is; as she says "google-able" if you type in itsbondjamiebond or unmuted ink; you'll find her on various social networks. Born and raised in Brick City aka Newark, NJ. Jamie Bond has been recognized publicly by her peers in various genres for her poetic influences. Her Poetic resume is extensive and her spoken word performances go far beyond 1,000 stage appearances globally. Best known for her networking and marketing skills; her future goals are to become more grounded as a liaison for a variety of fundraisers, activism, volunteering as an advocate as she uses her pen and voice to empower and raise the consciousness of those around her.

### Her Motto

Help me to help you to help us... BUT if helping you hurts me, then I can't help you!

http://www.facebook.com/IBJB.BrickCity

#### Jamie Bond

### Halloween

the kids play dress up and parade around town on this eerie evening after sun down where whirlwinds whip leaves in tiny tornado's and mist can be seen creeping under the doors houses are decorated to celebrate this occasion once more with cats, bats, brooms, spider webs, pumpkins and scarecrows

with hero's and professions both good and bad as they race door to door with candy filled bags trick or treat they all scream with glee as I dig into the bucket filling their bags with candy and who are you may I ask? I'm a power ranger says one I'm a fireman says another be careful I tell em don't eat the candy till you ask your mother we wont says the little princess in her glittery dress thank you – you're welcome, I said ...

oh the joy, I reminisce as I think back to being a kid and into my teens while I smile and wave and say be safe little ones and happy Halloween

#### Jamie Bond

### Arachnophobia

he tried to flex on me and I wasn't having it see mad cuz I was scared but he isn't going to punk me so I sprayed his ass like a drive by in the bathroom stabbed and stomped em like it was a crime of passion I was like dammn that BS I done conquered bigger I had to act like Suge Knight and handle this nucca veah... I was like take that ~ take that~ take that smooth wit it I free styled a eulogy in sonnet form for it tissue casket gave em a moment of silence then flushed da toilet yeah.... I killed that dammn spider all by myself yall wut?!?!?!

### Quitclaim

Her abandoned mind lost in lucid shadows racing thoughts that day dreams in the night she can't see herself in the distance vet shes inches away from her own reflection where shes sitting gazing blankly into the mirror trembling fingertips that can't hold her lipstick upper lip jerks like an earthquake that hurts as her chest heaves her tears cause an avalanche of make believe episodes of lost reality shows just to show her that her orphaned emotions often are as scattered leaves off trees in a forest shredded balled up papers she chokes back failure again her screams trapped inside of a maze in the back of her throat she pounds the surface of the dresser she tears her dress off inaction's creating discontinued possibilities of ever being something more than she is ...

### Jamie Bond

clarity become evasive and vague successful plights elude her pages the paper doesn't like the pressure she pens her emotions in and dreams are scarce now more illusive she concludes that her words are destined to be homeless scavenging for ears and eyes to seek shelter every now and then so she pimps her pen till she can find the write ink again to save her from herself..... a discontinued unwritten book upon a shelf that doesn't exist....



## Gail Weston Shazor



This is a creative promise  $\sim$  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" available at Inner Child Press.

www.facebook.com/gailwestonshazor www.innerchildpress.com/gail-weston-shazor navypoet1@gmail.com Gail Weston Shazor

### Changes

It would seem that winter Is blanketing the island Sleepiness falls unawares As if we need the rest At an earlier sunset

I feel the changes Resting between shoulder blades The sobriety of a kiss Causes electrical jumps In what can only be restlessness

I lay still Head resting on crossed arms Waiting on the first cool touch To make me feel summer again Or at least a new spring

#### Seasons

I will leave you in the summertime When the grapes hang low on the vine Before they are made into sweet wine And I still love you as mine I will leave you in the summertime

I will leave you in the fall Before the leaves cover all And the questions start out small We pass each other in the hall So I will leave you in the fall

I will leave you in the winter Even though the snow may hinder I would have saved a bit of tender For trips I will never remember I will leave you in the winter

I will leave you in the spring When the robins begin to sing And you won't miss my leaving For this is the sure thing I will leave you in the spring

I will leave you in the summertime I will always believe you are mine And the memories I leave behind Will ever be thought of as kind I will leave you in the summertime

### Gail Weston Shazor

### A Wreck-less Life

Even I and I Will rise from these tears you shed To continue on my journey It is said that when you become real When you finally become someone's treasure That's when your corners become ragged And your seams begin to unravel from living It is here in this place It is here under this sun It is here Under you, my sons and daughters That I have completed this circle And this body has served its purpose In becoming the most precious treasure of your life And with so much life moving I move to abundancy, as I always have You and you have need of me You and you have want of me and For you and you I and I give with a cheerful heart With a faithful soul So in this life and the next You will smile when you hear my name spoken

So that you may find faith and inspiration Within your selves Within your true self And within you And thus my legacy continues Be good and pure to one another My life continues in grace When you honor me by Living to build and not to tear down Living to succeed and not to fall down Living to be free and Live a life less wreck-ful Gail Weston Shazor



Albert 'Infinite' Carrasco


Albert Carrasco writes hieroglyphics encrypted in poetic form. His linguistics are not the norm. When it comes to wisdom, sleet ,rain snow and hail its a lyrical storm. He's pure like Fiji, he got the power to hear the dead with no auji. For living a life so tabu, He learnt a die-a-lect , his mouth moves... But at times it's the voice of the crossovers coming through. When he's on stage he has a body temp of 98 degrees... When He recites you feel this chilling breeze, hair stands on skin when he's in the avatar state of his kin. He's non traditional, an unorthodox outspoken urban individual that lived through the subliminal, now he's back to give guidance to his people.

Infinite the poet 2014

Infinite poetry @lulu.com Alcarrasco2 on YouTube Infinite the poet on reverbnation

The Poems this month are from my Book Infinite Poetry available at http://www.lulu.com/us/en/shop/al-infinitecarrasco/infinite-poetry/paperback/product-21040240.html

#### Time

I wish I could turn back time, if I could I would change history, I would place myself at the point before my homies got shot or stabbed to death, restart time and help them evade that fatality. But before I do that I'll go back to when my father was alive, wrestle him and dig in his pocket to take the heroin, then I'll slap the can of slow murder out his hand or the bottle of tango or jack, ya know the fifths of liquid that gave him liver cancer, he died first so after him I'll get to all my soldiers. I would of been letting off while Ralphy ran for cover, then he would've did the same till we hit the corner, we both would've made it home to our mother, he wouldn't of been the first to be murdered. I would do the same for Edgar since i owed him, he was my life savor, when I was getting shot he dove on me and took one to his neck, so me saving him would be returning the favor. After his would be killer is dealt with i would've stopped the bleeding from his stab wound, or at least put pressure so it could bleed less before he bled to death. Them faggots wouldn't of been able to touch my manito orlandito, the toolies would been echoing on full auto while i screamed out bellaco. I would make sure blue don't deal with that crew that left him sprawled out on the floor, he was hardheaded but no matter what he was my man, if I was at the right place at that wrong time there definitely

would've been wholes in all for doors and windows of that sedan before we both ran. I would make sure that eddies cylinder was empty of any rounds so when he put the gun to his head and pulled that trigger playing around there wouldn't of been a loud sound before he hit the ground. I would let bunca know that we didn't need that spot, convince him to leave that block and save him from getting shot. Whatever it takes i would go back in time and change the outcome of the would be deceased so we can all live in peace instead of them resting in peace. The only thing I could do if I go back in time to save the last to die Abdul aka skipper would be to watch him in his sleep then wake him up before his dream gets infiltrated by the reaper. PS. Many more died that I haven't mentioned, I just use a few at one time to keep names on rotation

# Society

After decades of hustling, I woke up one day retired from the game, it's been sometime now but I still feel the hurt from the already inflicted pain because I lost so much and so many trying to gain, the dee's still jump out on me and search me and my whip for guns and hard cause they know I was bout that life...cocaine. My first impression to society wasn't pretty, just like society was ugly to me, we had a mutual feeling, that's why I started dealing, the same reason my neighbors started dealing, we was tryn to get out of poverty, society didn't do a thing to help that, but they did color us minorities bad when they caught us with loose rock 12 12's or 58 58 slabs. I'm back to correct my first impression with my vocabulary, my ghetto grammar, my experience of mixn eina with soda as a motivational speaker. I use my knowledge of living in the projects and earnn off the Pyrex as an urban spoken word artist. Society can't repay me... No one can replace what was taken from me, unless I can take them to st Raymond's and resuscitate my kin. I know that can't happen... but I'm not selfish, I'll still save those lost boys before they're missed or swim with fish, although I mourn and Still get stopped and frisked. Life's a bitch, it's ok I'm used to it, there's nothing can stop my lips from yippitty yapping on the life of those trapping, until society glues them and I go through preservation with embalming fluid.

#### He's in heaven

Mommy...do I have a daddy? Yes you do son. Why don't I ever get to see him? Baby boy just close your eyes and you'll see him, He'll guide you and speak to all the way from heaven.

Those are questions ask by children who lost their father. In my area it's usually because of drugs and guns due to the violence created by street pestilence. I strived hard to became an author, a ghetto narrator, an enlightener to open the eyes of the mentally blind so they can see the dangers of the life of wanting to be being connections and bosses after being corner store, lobby or bodega pitchers. By saving my brothers I'll be saving fathers. Kids will be coming home from school at three to run into the arms of daddy, instead of coming home to stare at an urn because pops got shot trying to illegally earn. I'm tired of seeing crying mothers feed, change pampers and rock cradles, they're not crying because they have to raise kids, it's just when it comes to help they know their deceased husbands would've been ready willing and able but they never got to feel that joy because death came before due dates for chasing a fable. Guns are made to kill, they don't kill alone, its a killer with thoughts that are ill, triggers have to be pulled in order for deadly projectile to take flight like murderous drones

Albert 'Infinite' Carrasco



Siddartha Beth Pierce



Siddartha Beth Pierce is a Mother, Poet, Artist and African and Contemporary Art Historian. Her art, poetry and teaching were featured on PBS in April 2001 while she was the Artist-in-Residence Associate Professor at Virginia State and University in Petersburg, Virginia. She received her BA in Studio Art from George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia and her M.A.E. from Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, Virginia. She continued into PhD. Studies in African and Contemporary Art studies at Virginia Commonwealth University where she is now All but Dissertation. Her works of poetry and art have been featured in numerous newspaper articles, journals, magazines and chapbooks.

#### http://www.innerchildpress.com/siddartha-bethpierce.php

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OQ87NrLt\_to

http://www.writerscafe.org/Siddartha

# Siddartha Beth Pierce

#### From Your Grave

A true story... in Loving Memory of Granddaddy Charles Gibson Mahaffey

From your grave you spoke to me in a most loving dream-

I felt you near while I slept as a teenager even wept-

I missed you so but the words you said while I was safe in my bed had a lesson to be sure-

You said, 'My dear granddaughter, do not worry about me, I just have some things to work out with my father.'

Even then I knew not that man's name as he was dead before I came-

but what you spoke held true as afterwards I found out that he had beaten your mother all her adult life-

I suppose he must have been forgiven somehow if you found him there with you-

in heaven.

#### Death

for Garth Foster

I have been around death more than the living-

Once, I was pushing a corpse, which suddenly awoke for one last breath-

An infant died upon my chest.

I have buried friends and familymany more times than necessary.

Yet, i survive with spirit-

Intact.

A soul seeking answers, and perhaps, a perfect mate.

A match I light, in Remembrance.

Smoking tobacco, Which may ultimately be, the end of me.

Still, this is a slow death while I recollect, contemplate, those long gone now-

# Siddartha Beth Pierce

Beginning with teenage days.

Where I began as a firefighter, Guardsman and EMT.

Oh dear, Lord, please Let me be free.

For my true calling now is my endearing One and only son.

#### The Dream

The dream came to me late in the evening as I slumbered in Fairfax, Virginia at the tender age of 19.

In my dream, I was granted one wish.

I immediately responded with the word 'Happiness'.

As soon as I spoke that word to the right of my bed came forward three human-like figures with no distinguishing facial features.

I knew instinctively they had come to take me away from our beloved Earth, to death. Siddartha Beth Pierce

I was so frightened, I awoke with a start and to this day I can not speak or use that word in a sentence

I, however, am thankful to still be alive and kicking.

I am glad to be here.



Janet Perkins Caldwell



Janet wrote her first poems and short stories in an old diary where she noted her daily thoughts. She wrote whether suffering, joyful or hoping for peace in the world. She started this process at the tender age of Eight. This was long before journaling was in vogue.

Along with her thoughts, poetry and stories, she drew what she refers to as Hippie flowers. Janet still to this day embraces the Sixties and Seventies flower power symbol, of peace and love, which are a very important part of her consciousness.

Janet wrote her first book, in those unassuming diaries, never to be seen by the light of day due to an unfortunate house fire. This did not deter her drive. She then opted for a new batch of composition journals and filled everyone. In the early nineteen-eighties, Janet held a byline in a small newspaper in Denton, Texas while working full time, being a Mother and attending Night School.

Since the early days Janet has been published in newspapers, magazines and books globally. She also has enjoyed being the feature on numerous occasions, both in Magazines, Radio and on a plethora of Sites. She has gone on to publish three books. 5 degrees to separation 2003, Passages 2012 and her latest book Dancing Toward the Light . . . the journey continues 2013. All of her Books are available through Inner Child Press along with Fine Book Stores Globally. Janet P. Caldwell is also the Chief Operating Officer of Inner Child Itd.

http://www.janetcaldwell.com/

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

https://www.facebook.com/JanetPCaldwell

## Janet Perkins Caldwell

#### Rumour Has It

If the salt has lost its savour as *rumour has it* there can be no sapor.

Its once tasty full fluted sprinkled kisses upon your brow upon your lips.

Then concocting a witch's brew innocently ingested . . . this 'rancourous' and poisonous flavor.

I stand alone . . .

no longer able to arouse *His* taste buds no more favored in the face of the sun.

Due to misuse and the abuse of seasonings spilled from the hearts of some.

O' the dangers of the rumour mill.

How did this happen my Love ?

Tell me how is it possible to no longer preserve the once refined the reserved ?

Was it misplaced rearranged ? Someone vying to take my place ?

And now I prostrate myself fully before thee naked tearfully estranged ?

Then tell me how . . .

Please tell me how is it that I should now prepare this *meal* meant for a King ?

Unless, We believe.

## Janet Perkins Caldwell

Call for my Handmaidens and Ladies in Waiting and they will testify of my Love and Honor.

Sacred only to my Beloved My treasured Hope my one and only.

I kept myself Pure O' my King for thy intimate pleasure for thine own delight.

Let thine eyes feast upon me once again.

I am perplexed on how my salt has lost it's savour.

As rumour has it . . .

#### Karma in Tow

It had to come to this.

I know . . .

I know the hate expressed the weight of it all and fate answering with karma in tow.

We are not blind. Yes, we can see however the bloodshed is affecting you and me.

I for one do want peace a stroll with our families through a lush forest or on a peaceful beach.

I think that I will move.

Remove myself from hate to another plane to soothe the sorrows to stop the pain.

I just cannot take it anymore.

## Janet Perkins Caldwell

I have faked it sorely aching while smiling brightly as I secretly cried and rolled on the floor.

Just go away and leave me alone. I have said it before that I did not do it. I was not there.

Though, Karma is in tow.

#### I am not a Performer

I am not a performer or even a guest at your masquerade ball.

And I refuse to wear a mask with snakish, snappish tubes choking me, in my nose and throat much like Medusa's head – dress.

I have said it before though you have not heard me Mr. Pharmacy man Dr. John or whoever the hell you are.

And some are not sure what it will take to strip and shake you from that *fake* – *ass play spilling drugs disguised as love*.

Though it tried to take away the essence of me. And it did for awhile now I am on my way don't you see, can you ? Yeah, I *have* arrived . . . really.

*Play*, did you say when and where ? I do love the arts, you know. Not the *sick games*.

# Janet Perkins Caldwell

I am not a hustler got no game you see and don't want any either.

The inane street talk and whisperings trying to block my lane of possibilities shame, shame get away from me.

I wanna be me I wanna be free and let go of man's *lying dis-ease* and some of the now that does not feed or produce good seeds for even a Grass – Hopper to eat.

So, they have been tossed into a river of challenges, drowned and yes won, by you and me. And we have *allowed us* to pick and choose from the garden of Ease to be naturally dis – ease free.

Simply BE–ing. I AM, Love, Joy and Faith. There is so much to do and see ! And that *Is* doing it for me. Shine – On my children shine – on and BE Happy.



# June 'Bugg' Barefield



June Barefield ~ Poet-Activist-Teacher-Author

Born and raised in the Midwest, currently residing in East St Louis, IL. June's interests include long walks, sunrises, cheesecake, and words. He considers the NRA, and it's supporters 2B a 21st century Nazi-ism! The author of two collections of poetry which include B4 the Dawn, and The Journeyman

I B. Self educated, and proud to be humbled. An avid reader, and teacher, counselor in his community at what we as a society have termed "at risk children". June refers to them as Gang members, and dope dealers. A brilliant speaker, and motivator; fluent in at least three religions! June's favorite quote: "FUCK THE SYSTEM!"

for booking call : 720 404 8563

http://authorsdb.com/authors-directory/2292-june-barefield

you can get more of June here . . .

https://www.facebook.com/JuneBugg900

https://www.facebook.com/june.barefield.7

http://www.innerchildpress.com/june-barefield.php

June 'Bugg' Barefield

# Hiatus3

The simplest purification's inside heart strings

silent strings

the pure stream

a holy incorruptible ring

a heavenly journey taken by earthbound beings

instinct &

intuition

the wilderness & her wisdom

Simple things

silent strings...

#### Her Eyes

Please excuse me when I no longer answer your eyes

Mine, a slight reprove with very few denials

Another friendship we chide

Hearts never quite one, but remain full of life

You I let teach, while I learn the us in we

Let you rule what concerns you have for this world as patiently as I can B

I have this dreamers dream about life, but wishes do not define ones destiny

Silly me...

I find nothing pious or profane about the sham of this thing; frivolous as it

may be

I must soon find meaning; or again I flee to be free

So please...

Excuse me when I no longer answer your eyes.

"With so many admirers, why never a true friend?"

June 'Bugg' Barefield

# A longing

Not yet in love, but always in love with love Forever falling... In, and then out of love For the mere wanting the longing to love A pure UN-fade-able Faithful Sincere unfailing Grateful love INSTEAD misled, bonded momentarily for insignificant moments of lustful loves Talking High-sounding oh so temporary nonsense

pretending, and attempting to convince myself into something else... That is not love Trapped Ensnared

In fragmented snares prepared unawares

playing truth or dare with a lie

in the blind eye of my mind, unwilling to intuit what's felt so deep down inside REASONABLE CANNOT LOVE FIND! Trifling down roads dallying dalliance upon dalliance, discovering & rediscovering Uncovering the truest truth denied Not yet in love I re-enter my depths Intense I reflect Intent to find this love.



Debbie M. Allen



Debbie M. Allen is a Pennsylvania native that has remained true to her passion for the love of poetry. She has always had a passion for poetry. In 2010 she took that passion and made it her cause, always maintaining the truth of her experiences and the beliefs she holds dear.

Debbie is the Author of "A Poet Never Dies," her first book of poetry which was published in 2012. Since then she has published her second book of poems, "The Spiral of a Pisces: In Manic Flow," which encompasses her ever spiraling transition of expression. She can be found participating in various avenues of spoken word and poetry under the pseudonym D. Flo'essence including The Truth Commission Movement, Penology Ink Productions, Jersey Radical Productions and What's The News.

### Debbie M. Allen

# The Tocking Knot

Clocking her sabbatical flocked in hours Destroying the ploys of joy Crowning her with suggestions That she is nothing more that the Queen of royal messes Timing life in bouts of outs Howling death at moonshine for blurring her lessons The aggression in losing hope Tock, tock, tock... Mind awoke in ticks smashing against The block...hammering shock into mental streets Cerebral creeps...around lost corners Stone wall borders dead end her in close quarters... Evoking the stroke of the minute hand Like a memory band circling moments in dark Warm waters... Swimming with the heartbeat That reaped a prodigal daughter... Tock, tock, tock...

Owls can't cope with the incessant tick Tricks into insomnia slips Tock, tick, tock, tick... Grips her into insane shit... Doubled over and over until guts are sick Of the mood eclipse... Tattooing a crescent in the slick of her thighs Why does she crave the waves of regret so much? It hurts...cramped into a curtsy to insane blurts... How high can totes of smoke take her? Before she chokes.... Tock, tock, tock... Time piece broke in the watch... Of peace's decease... Tick, tick, tick... Released....

#### Every Piece Unwritten

"I wanted to say...everything you bid my way Became pieces unwritten In the voices of my heart"

I was blank in devotion... Headache stroking temples Trying to erase heartbroken rape... I was violated beyond replacement of smiles Unable to write a mile long poem Confessing I was a fool in denial... Shame...that lil black dress in the style of love Didn't fit me in the Fitting hand strokes that molded me like a glove See He cherish body like broke winged doves Pretty and easy to handle Under dimmed candles... Line one...disposed in the fuckin scandal... Invisible ink Sinking into the trinkets he stole like a thief So I wouldn't remember how fake Words can roll tongues in the taking of me... Pillory... S on my chest...scarlet in the bruise of its branding A crimson tattoo stained to amuse The thinking of claim... As a mutual standing....

#### Debbie M. Allen

*Line two...disgraced liable in its handling* Fanning heat strokes in the flash of his eyes I was all his with the lies... And secretly *No matter what...he was mines* We held palmed timelines of life together Shit Like they say... Any type of fucked up weather Even the weathering of my heart No bolt split the skies that could Split us asunder... My own personal blunder... That's the revoke breathed in love At home in the thunder... The wishing me well in the storms The pushing me in the dwell of weak arms... I was renamed destiny's charm Line three...met fate in the harm... No verses wrote because no verses could keep warm... Left alone in the scorn He adores me so But that will always be the only damned line That I quote... Because every day he loved me In the shadow of his bidding... The pierce of his teeth in speech hidden Became every piece unwritten...
#### In a Palate of Cries

I can't breathe through the flames Flash fire once... Brings my fame higher Click a feature frame And everything becomes radically dire Video empires...as my conscious leaves Twice the hype But that's not bringing back life I need you to inhale for me Gather sympathy, empathy... Some multi-unity... Hands up is not enough... I need you waving off the treachery That my pigment signifies... No significance...in their eyes... Just justified lies Where is my palate of cries? I gave up my ghost to host more diligent lives Not to meet media in the valley of hives Skin crawling against the divide... I need you to survive... Stop looking for me in the crook Of a faceless book Drowning awareness...so we miss the hook...that "Lifelines never die in one passing" They surface beyond grassroots Of propaganda's handling Social white walls can never tell All my story... I could be infamous glory watering millions of eyes If I could gather strength in a palate of cries? "Lord carry my spirit by and by"

#### Debbie M. Allen

Past countless posts boasting my signature In community drive byes Remember my words "I can't breathe" Echoed high... Louder than a tweet, or a like or an Instagrammed scribe In my name Louder than a two minute segment demoralizing my end It's peripheral suicide if you refuse to see The transcendence of movement... Smoothing the hellish road that I died I need the walking of pavements shattering hatreds vibe Giving action to voice In a palate of cries? Stop pledging a flag giving lapses of mental jet lag That's shaken too late When death is our future fate Searching graveyards of newsfeeds Only leading to debate Erasing the time that could lead a race To the ultimate finish line Hands locked in a palate of cries... Breaking stride, breaking grind, breaking The border of stone blocked minds Believing racism is a fabled fallacy flunked into decline Instead of the boldest outline we face A case of the fairytale beast Having us imagine justice was reached At the period of Martin Luther King's last line In the "I Have a Dream Speech" But I need you to power ahead Keep moving mountains Instead of laying cheek against pillows In an unmade bed...

Bullet holes in the chest always leading to unrest Even the dead can't sleep We speak...we speak, we speak, we speak Until one day what we seek Will be fed... No relying on, denying of, replying to Or trying through the pains of pleas of "I can't breathe" "Gasp" no newsflashes...."gasp" no bulletins..."gasp" no broadcasts... Can lift us in the dying of lives I need everlasting peace... An increased wisdom, Growing greenery on the fresh grave that I bled For you... Knowing sacrifice despite the circumstance Can lead to finally doing just fine If color lines are blended into justice

In a palate of cries...

Debbie M. Allen



Tony Henninger



Tony has been writing for about 20 years. He has published one book titled " A Journey of Love." He has also contributed to several Anthologies. His book is available at Innnerchild Press and Amazon.com.

You can find him at Facebook.com/Tony Henninger Linkdin.com/Tony Henninger or tonyhenninger@yahoo.com



#### Lovers In Heaven

Let me flow through your veins. Take away all of your pains. Deep in your heart I will tend the spark and keep it out of the rain.

Let my essence embrace your soul in warmth and serenity. Safe in my love and light, your beauty shining bright, for all eternity and all to see.

You are the star gleaming in my eyes making my life complete. Hearts beating as one, never to be undone.

Let us fly beyond the sky to a paradise of our own. Riding comets over rainbows in ecstasy and afterglows of neverending desire burning in eachothers fire.

> My love. My destiny. My certainty. My everything. My love....



#### Angel Of Mercy

I cannot comprehend this feeling of discontent. Every time I cry each tear I swallow filling myself up and drowning in my sorrow.

Discover me, recover me, bring me out of my sorrow, this loneliness is killing me and I see no tomorrow.

I search every garden for that special rose. The one to find me. The one to hold me close.

Does she exist and could she be real when all else is illusion? Maybe my dream of love is just another cunning drug to feed my hallucination?

I need you. I need you to find me. To lift me up and out of my pain and misery.

Hold my heart. Hold my heart tightly. Keep it from falling again. Blind my soul with your beauty. Make me believe in love again.

Be my Angel of Mercy.

Tony Henninger

#### If We Were One

Just imagine if we were one, how different the world would be. No borders, no wars, no hunger, no fighting to be free. Working to inspire and aspire to the utmost of love and kindness. To make this world a paradise instead of this ungodly mess.

We must live up to our potential. We are not stupid, we just deny. We must reach out to eachother. We are not too late to try.

Would it not be grand to reach across the land and take another's hand? We are all equal here. Don't let God's vision down!

Let's wake up and pay attention! We cannot sustain this fable. We must realize, if we are to survive, we must stop living in this endless story of Cain and Abel.



# Joe Da Verbal Minddancer



Joseph L Paire' aka Joe DaVerbal Minddancer . . . is a quiet man, born in a time where civil liberties were a walk on thin ice. He's been a victim of his own shyness often sidelined in his own quest for love. He became the observer, charting life's path. Taking note of the why, people do what they do. His writings oft times strike a cord with the dormant strings of the reader. His pen the rosined bow drawn across the mind. He comes full-frontal or in the subtlest way, always expressing in a way that stimulate the senses.

https://www.facebook.com/joe.minddancer

Joe Da Verbal Minddancer

#### No Material

I do not want to write about another senseless killing I prefer a cornucopia table setting God willing The blood spilling along racial divides is not poetry A descriptive documentary feels cold to me My shoulders feel tense With this immense amount of yellow tape Life is very real; I am not looking for escape

I am still searching my soul, this hurting getting old Another story in rhyme about pain is being told Lord knows it has its place, every concrete landscape The meal is served from a conscience plate Every corner of the globe a life has been taken Every Man, Woman and Child, poor hearts breaking

Am I compelled to tell of such horrors? Shall I write of death today and flowers tomorrow? Uplifting is the poet, shifting is the poet Splitting is the poets mind, venting is the poets rhyme Will there ever be a time for a poet to shine Without having to write about horrific crimes No material this time, no material this time.

# The Rains Came

Clouds formed, graying my skies It was a time when the atmosphere muted all signals Back to where the voice was drum, smoke was word A dance fed the fields, a chant and wounds would heal One kill could feed many, in a land of plenty There was no need to hoard; our food was replicated Our diet varied from nuts and berries to the dairy From the grains that we carried in woven sacks The feast of the beast scaled flesh we, were sacred

We were an Eden to the heathens that stumbled upon us They rumbled among us, gunpowder and hung us Trussed us up like the roasted boar, and swore They were here before us, Claiming our land and ignore us, We were here when the dinosaur was Weapons formed did prosper, but the land suffered. It crumbles beneath their feet No trees to stifle the heat, their sustenance Manufactured meat, so we dance for Noah Take flight with eagle's talon The smoke rises and the drum speaks The first drop falls at our feet.

# The Panhandlers

They speak of making 15 cents, never taking it personal. I was offered lunch by a man who gets by with offers of help

His half tooth smile as we reminisced about how music used to be

There were three, who see me every day.

I've passed by on many occasion, this rest stop for the weary

These past few days I've stopped to listen.

Worldly views based on life, comical comments about passersby.

I'm sure I've made them laugh a time or two.

Never in judgment as I sat and absorbed their lives Grey like me, aged like me there was no wonder as to why. "It will be cold soon I hate the winter" I heard one say A young man walked by, pants down style.. with a level of respect rarely portrayed.. "How are y'all doing today, I see you chill'n do you need anything?" I shed a silent smile

My news knows not of these things I don't even know their names My view if only for today gives hope I'll sit again tomorrow, for yesterday it was my spot Shaded from the sun, exposed to the rain There were no brown bags of empty libations Just laughter and conversation

One seemed new at the life Darting out to help with bags "It's slow today" a chorus of Yep It be's like that sometime. The leaves are turning as fall approaches Who will sit with me then?

Who will know of the Four Tops, and the Iceman? Who will know of the Lowe's Palace, and Moms Mabley? Who will know that the change from an ashtray Can make a man's day, and 15 cents is not personal Joe Da Verbal Minddancer



# Robert Gibbons



Robert Gibbons moved to New York City in the summer of 2007 in search of his muse-Langston Hughes. Robert has performed all over New York City.

His first collection of Poetry, Close to the Tree was published by Threes Rooms Press and can be purchased at :

#### www.threeroomspress.com

You may contact Robert via his FaceBook presences :

www.facebook.com/anthonyrobertgibbons

www.facebook.com/jamesmercerlangstonhughes

# Robert Gibbons

# when I deteriorate

watch me as my friends get older and my hair withers to stubble will bloom in autumn the orange October

watch me as the names drop from the list and parents become grand and boys become men

I knew watch them and then me the dim of the faintest need, the bleed to say this time is undone the feeling that come with this burn, this middle of the age, a page turner to learn again, to seek

and see and hope and what it is and not yet, and yet it is

as I deteriorate before your eyes the blight of orange trees that held my mother's tongue the lone walk back to where I am from

it is the goodness that will come the shoulder of the road and the shoals of my background

as I deteriorate in spirt to the lift become gifts and the minor names frame the way

they become voice and other further the journey

as we transmogrify transcend lend a piece of the story moreover it

will be the end push the resend button.

#### October's October

I am not going fight but I would lay down my sword would offer my words if I could I'd just whisper in your ear, if I could make it clear how much, this feeling only comes up in October's October the entire world of color wants Cleopatra her make-up of berries and juice, coercing me to confess my secrets before the court the entire world of color want a Queen wants a woman to stand out as a matriarch bearing her ankh her bosom losing me in fantasy the entire world of color want a Queen to reign to guise us in spell to tell us to lead us by her dress tale hope I am not too late

# the third of October

there is only one road one traffic light in October it is not cold yet just a bite of frost a sanctified corn field the incense from the sugar mill women wearing pants beneath their skirts so if they bend the men could not see if they bend it was all hidden in the cryptic voice of the gospel it was as rigid as Sunday morning

she take me on a visit to Bean City a few clapboard houses dressed in white dressed in spit shine shoes dressed because of church is all we knew it was the drive from Belle Glade to South Bay praying for a breeze Robert Gibbons

it was Shirley Caesar it was a holy believer it was a stop a sign of the cross a stop at grandma 's house it was stop to remember the swelling of the pound cake the telling of the burial mound it was a stop then a baptism it was a cesarean of fire the color of tamarind the holy mandarin there is only one road to the third of October



Shareef Abdur ~ Rasheed



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 42 Grandchildren (24 Boys and 18 Girls).

For more information about Shareef, contact or follow him at :

http://www.facebook.com/shareef.abdurrasheed1

http://zakirflo.wordpress.com/

http://www.innerchildpress.com/shareef-abdur-rasheed.php

https://www.facebook.com/pages/Muslim-Writers-Forum/370511683056503 Shareef Abdur ~ Rasheed

#### miracles..,

abound all around heaven to earth. above and below ground growth, cycles coming full circle from beginning to final destination, fullfill destiny without diviation purpose of creation reaching maturation whithers and dies but next season returns to life from death that which died resurrect sprout,come forth in splendor did you take a moment to ponder. in awe of the wonder? so you ask who can bring dry bones back to life again after death descends? says the verse(Sura Yasin) say he who made you from nothing in the first is there anything he can(Allah) can't reverse? such are the signs rehearsed so eyes that see appreciate accordingly thus avoid being among the cursed unfortunately.

food 4 thought!

# flood..,

not water there's a shortage but not blood, flowing freely as violence! as the forlorn suffer in silence those amongst us scorned even before they was born like Marvin asked "What's going on?" answer, prophecy going on! as it should from city to hamlet soon coming if not already there to your hood Marvin asked "Who really cares?" as the years, blood, sweat and tears appear we bury, mommy , daddy, little baby jane willie,harry,johnny,larry lived hardly gunned down at a party or in a alley how much pain, again 'n' again! Chicago, New York , St, Louie, Detroit the all familiar story explained with all the gory details

# Shareef Abdur ~ Rasheed

as others who call themselves sisters and brothers in blue bask in the glory a different story as their ship sails lines are blurred, stories change, memory fails as once again our youth and men rot in some forgotten jail system da hammer people da nail voices raised slowly fade once again we all fail to really comprehend "what's going on" is a means to an end! when all things will make sense again in the mean time keep the faith my friend

food 4 thought!

# Inspired by..,

words of truth penertrating hearts minds become enlightened humans rise, life revived inspiratation rejuvenates dead to alive inspired by the dynamics of life taken the whole package be it tranquility or strife growing not owed to indulging but sacrifice! one must except the whole to experience the art of living overstand the big picture, scheme master plan supreme there's beauty in the beast if you look beyond the look for what we probably mistook not opening the entire book examining every granny, nook the difference between existence and living is the measure one get's pleasure

Shareef Abdur ~ Rasheed

not so much in getting but given appreciate life with all it's twists 'n' turns adversity teachs,be prepared to learn from that which takes you beyond the comfort zone rich with substance to the bone promotes awareness that disspells fear can't be fearless without being aware. can't be aware without conquering fear!

food 4 thought!


## Kimberly Burnham



An Integrative Medicine practitioner, Kimberly Burnham uses poetry, words, coaching and hands-on therapies to help you heal. A published poet in several Inner Child Press anthologies, including Healing Through Words and I Want My Poetry To, Kimberly is winner of SageUSA's story contest with a poem about her 2013 Hazon CrossUSA bicycle ride. She is writing The Journey Home about that 3000 mile expedition.

Now, you get to be her muse with a list of seven experiences you yearn for. She writes a poem as if already, you are feeling the exhilaration of living your dreams.

You can find Kimberly ...

http://www.KimberlyBurnhamPhD.com http://www.linkedin.com/in/KimberlyBurnham http://www.amazon.com/Kimberly-Burnham/e/B0054RZ4A0

## Kimberly Burnham

## Flames of Fall

Before me a flaming red tree that last burst of life near a full fast stream at the bottom of a bluff early fall cools the air as I breathe in the day

I am in a museum so is it life? still life a real moment snatched preserved for all to see

The dreams of endings of how things were a new beginning here on the wall of life waiting for us to see what rises from the ashes

## Seeing With Closed Eyes

Why does it gets blurry when I move farther away

My eyes are closed imagining my mother's painting yellow flowers burst into the upper right corner a red and green flowering cactus subdued below the functionality occupying that lower left corner a toothbrush a cup on the counter

Why when I imagine myself standing farther from the painting do the colors blend, the edges blur what story am I telling myself?

Taking charge of my vision of life, of my world perspective, I look again eyes firmly shut conjuring up the image life in all its brightly colored details I am up close to rich details of love Kimberly Burnham

## A Race To Perspective

If a rainbow of colors lined up to race red would win not black or white but a rich ruby dazzling July a fire engine on its way to a conflagration a Japanese maple in autumn

Can you see the colors racing for a share of your vision as you look out the apartment window or zipping by on a bicycle you feel the wind on your face as you scrutinize the fields or the view from the red brick library around the corner

What are the colors that win in a colorful life? some days are red then there are the blue days mellow as a cool lake on a hot summer day nourishing the dreams helping them flow as life spirals still



William S. Peters, Sr.



Bill's writing career spans a period quickly approaching 50 years. Being first Published in 1972, Bill has since went on to Author 28 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 is the Founding Director of Inner Child Enterprises as well as the Past Director of Publicity for Society Hill Music.

Bill says . . .

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

to connect with Bill, he is all things Inner Child : www.iaminnerchild.com

> Personal Web Site www.iamjustbill.com

William S. Peters, Sr.

#### to make a change

i am a Pissed Off Black Man !

i am not pissed off because i am Black nor is it because i am a Man . . . No, No . . it is because i am a "Black" Man that i am, largely Disrespected Judged and Treated as less than Human

we are persecuted and repressed by the Courts by Politics by Education by Medical Treatments by Medical Research & Development by the Food Industry by Employers by Public Services & Servants and any other institution you can name even those we control (which ain't many, if any)

you name it, we have dealt with it

just look at the news these days we the people including you are consciously raped daily in so many ways

it is time for the Bullshit to stop

getting pulled over by Cops because i was Black while driving like i had a choice

the voices of our Warrior ancestors are screaming "Blood for Blood" but should it come to this who wins, surely not humanity

the insanity based upon the inanity that we are deserving of what we get that anyone is better than another has no foundation worthwhile whatsoever !!!!

let us learn how to work together !

if anything, we and the Red man still stand and have stood Nobly, Valiantly to face the ill winds of "America" far too long

it is time to sing another song called Respect called Love called Acceptance for you sure are not singing that tune that your Jesus taught you no, no, no

## William S. Peters, Sr.

you reap what you sow . . .

we have been hung from tress as entertainment at your "Picnics" (Pic-a-niggah) sold as Indentured Servants and Slaves, corralled behind fences, and the other side of the tracks, in bricked up prisons called projects, and what a project, huh ?

even unto this day, you just wrap the package differently with your news media campaigns, education systems, employment bias, public assistance systems and every other type of institutional construct you construct in the name of ... ? What ?

the irony is that most people of any color do not get it that we are all in the same boat attempting to navigate through life hoping for more sunshine

is not the Seas of Life rough enough tough enough ?

yeah, i am pissed off tremendously, but to whom should i address my queries and my pleas

yes it is time for me, you, us all to get up off our knees and stop praying to that illusion you call God, for God is within you waiting for you to awaken and use the power you have through him, in you, to make a change

 $\sim$  \*  $\sim$ 

With the pressing of too many current and pass events which evidence the inequities of life in all aspects of our humanity as an African American / Black, i find myself compelled to utilize my voice through poetry to speak on these things. Hopefully it will evoke some sort of awakening in all demographics of Culture and Ethnicity. We need to make a change .... Now ... Somehow !

and to all those who adhere and practice any form of Racial Bias at any level, whether the objective be Asian, Black, White, Red or Blue . . . FUCK YOU !!!!

i told you i was pissed off !!!

## i think

i guess it is natural to reminisce . . . the days gone by asking ourselves why; the times when we were bolder come far and few between as we become older

those days past, that did not last, when we were apt and able and we were in a rush and could not wait to get up from that dinner table

i look at my children and now i know what people meant so many years ago after i have spent most of my time "doing" and not taking serious notice to the life passing us by far too quickly

they said . . . "He looks just like you" . . .

look at me now finding my joys wishing on stars or in vicarious jars

stored on pantry shelves collecting a dust while anxiously waiting to be opened and consumed once again

friends have moved on to some place or another. it doesn't matter for when i encounter them i can not recall their names but i do faintly recognize their wrinkled faces . . .

others will never show up again for they crossed over to explore another realm we all must indulge, will i be prepared ?

the running, the jumping the humping, the bumping has been laid to rest and i now, every day try to resuscitate my wonder, just to have something interesting to do how about you ?

i now wear my clothes a little looser because i do not want to be bothered

## William S. Peters, Sr.

with anything restraining me containing me for i have detained my own glory far too long

songs i remember for they remind me of a 'when' from my past that did not last where there were incessant smiles that seemed to go on forever even unto now, now that i think about it

too much thinking these days, i think, perhaps i should do more doing but i have to ask my self when will i have time then to sit and reminisce ?

vapors are likened to life they always melts into the atmosphere i think !

#### now what

it never dawned on me that i was 3/5's of a man that is something my parents never taught

i never learned that i was less than human for that is another thing my parents never bought into

you see, we are a product of many things but mostly how we are raised so when i look at the bias abound i wonder about the game other parents played

manipulating the minds of their own very young to believe what is not true about such things as equality between the me, the you

hate just does not sit well with my soul though i lament where we are the road we have traveled is very long yet there is so far to go

#### William S. Peters, Sr.

humanity can not move forward if we hold on to the past there is much that we each do have to give. when we embrace who we are in a Soulful truth only then will we begin to live

the Heaven we create is ours to do so so why do we choose this hell if we but listen to the rhythms of our hearts it has so much to tell about love

the things we have elected to separate us from one another are but ghosts. illusions endured and delusions of mind and the audacity we have to boast of it

no one man or other is better than his brother and this applies to Sisters too. A love is waiting for us to arrive now what are we going to do?





# Ceri Naz Rajendra Padhi Elizabeth Castillo

## October Features



## Ceri Naz



Caroline Nazareno a.k.a. Ceri Naz is a multi-awarded poet, editor, publisher and journalist. She was a featured poet at Vancouver Word On The Street and World Poetry Canada and International in 2012.

World Poetry Canada and International honoured Ceri Naz with the "Certificate of Appreciation" for the International Peace Festival 2011. In the same year, Poetry Around The Globe, presented Ceri Naz with the "Certificate of Outstanding Achievement in Poetry" as a World Poet.

World Poetry Canada and International Peace Festival 2013, adjudged her "World Poetry Empowered Poet 2013".

A co-founder of Doc PenPen B. Takipsilim's "i" Inspire The World Friendship Poetry Contest 2011" and cofounder of PENTASI B WORLD FRIENDSHIP POETRY CELEBRATION 2013 held at Marble Hall, National Museum of the Philippines..

THE INTERNATIONAL POETRY TRANSLATION AND RESEARCH CENTRE (IPTRC) published her four powerful poetry, entitled: metanoia, fusion, s.t.i.t.c.h.e.d and i am peace speaking in the WORLD POETRY YEARBOOK 2013. The said book had starred 211 world poets of 93 countries.

Among others, she writes for the Philippine Canadian Inquirer, Manila Bulletin and Philippine Star.

#### Ceri Naz

## you're the color in the blindness of light

i have rehearsed reading through the spectrum wrapping the circle of fire i can feel your deep breaths pushing upon the depths of my bare skin

each jiffy reminds me the spotlight before my very eyes the enigmatic touch of your smiles each drop of endless droplets of unchanged royal sun igniting the love of my life

i have stolen the wavelengths rushing, flashing , blinding me bedazzled with the unfading distant stars from the remnants of dark mist that we both kissed until forever unveiling the mirrors of the day the rebirth of our yesterday

#### recuerdo mi amor

i remember you every time i open my window as i hum your untitled song the first refreshing shower in the morning you're in the granules i sieve and taste the shimmering mauve on my pouting lips the embroidered graphics on my daily kits the buckles that keep me safe the untold scent that i really miss the last bite i polish from my plate you're just near me where you are meant to be

i wasn't gone for you're in my heart i always take your smile, your tap, your giggles are my simple happiness you are sealed in my shadows i am life when you are with me i am your unborn dream never lost to be with you.



## NICHE OF LOVE

we go forth from south to north seeking different shapes from east to west delineating the rudiments of life anguish have probed excrement of our rhymes the sole inspiration and unfathomable gifts our badges to search the freeman's niche living for the truth and love in our hearts be the truest defending lance and samurai that is the world friendship we can't deny.

*deja vu* of friendship blazes and oozes a rogue can't dictate and ruin the mazes where all goodwill and serenity breached freedom of expression is here to prove even a moribund is now alive molding its humane move illuminates the labyrinth of dark mist those faltered, bewildered and blindfolded.

the Armageddon will play harmony standing still amidst the armament years and more years to celebrate life where all the tiniest and huge be one the epitome of love and life be existing all throughout the universe the open book of mankind.

## From the Optimates

I am a naïve plebeian Unrefined from the shores Of innocence I have flexible arms To embrace the wholeness Of written and unwritten sentience Empty, emptied and emptying Beyond the eyes of primeval Beyond the doors of states States of gullible mindset Selfless whispering windmills of nostalgia Whenever days are like masquerading dominoes I will break the shells of imperfection The host of history's trapping downfall Catch me in the lost aperture To serve the harvest of neutrality The foundation of an inner child

#### Ceri Naz

## The Modern Caves of Hayflick

The right hemisphere answers Split the images into thirds Three columns, three rows, and nine sections Add the consistency of thinking big To capture the undefined to defined elements From the DSLR of difference.

Ego reflects for ten minutes And gives a try: Do not worry For how long the opening of The doors of amygdala And hammer a life Of inspirations, of healings, of awakenings No threats. No war of wars.

If all players' chess clocks Tick one hundred days or yore No concentrated moves Extended increments Of mortal's healthy valves Longer unpaid oxygen Flush the hidden ghosts In the body of anonymous sapiens Start to open the closet of a hoping.



## Rajendra Padhi



Rajendra K. Padhi at present working as lecturer in the of English, B.B.College, Department chandikhole. Bhubaneswar, Odisha has already published four volumes of poetry- THE LIVING TOUCH, O EARTH! by Alpha publications, New Delhi, SONGS OF VOID and SUNYATARA PRIYATAMA in Odiya in bilingual edition. THE DARK HOURS is his first English novel published by Paragon International, New Delhi. His poems have been published in many international anthologies and magazines on poetry. He has also edited international poetry anthology. He has also received honour and award for his literary contributions. His articles on education and literature in English and Oriya have been widely appreciated.

#### Rajendra Padhi

#### Mother

She never told her love in words But linked us together when broken, Fly to and fro from morn till evening star Like berries of our garden in sweet smile, How we live in clusters swaying in wind Like grass on the lea in green spirit, Guide of our untraveled world A book in her head, in her inward self The teacher in her never I found in schools!

How often I remember her voice As evening shadow in my foggy window, How death is a word for alive I understand Feel unsure of her response though I call! The whisper is but an illusion Plucking flowers in our garden The sorrow remains without answer.

Resurrected in my mind when I call Unsure of a response in my solitude, No more I support her like my child Walking into the backyard for flowers, No more I work draining out my blood In sweat to grow the trees in orchard, The sky is lined up with my memory With delusions and illusions of thoughts A story in delirium from cradle to grave.

There is nothing so worthy When we learn her own shattering, The spring turning into a winter landscape I know she can't stay long here Contained in us an end from beginning.

## I Am Your Mirror

#### Mother,

I am your mirror of silvery look Your reflection speaks of me, Though you grow old as winter I grow as the kindling spring. If I grow as a flower So bright in your garden you are the colours of my petals your image so true in me!

You are my river Boundless in love flowing with my feet Wherever I move.

So many oceans you are! It is an ocean in your eyes yet another in your heart Flooded with rain of love.

Unchanging like the sun Unveil light of love in every turn, Smiles are waves on your lips Though pained like tree in snow.

## Rajendra Padhi

Tangle my hair in your soft palm like breeze of spring, you are thoughtful like the bird sitting alone in your garden of love Craft a song in undying words Reach to us quickly fading grief.

You are indeed my worlds Round off to all loveliness I dream, You are the unforgotten letters Of all my startling secrets.

#### Little Toy

I am a little toy slipping into your arms A garland basking with petals of love, Ever gliding like river when put on floor I am a song made up of all sweet tones.

The breeze of spring in hearts to flow If you are gipsy cloud I am your rain We two shall wander with hand in hand, When I am little away from your eyes The pleasant is your call in ache of love.

Unanswered like moon to my sky Plunge my little head in your breast, Lulled to sleep I travel in dreams So far, so near to the land of singers.

Mother, your eyes gaze into my future Unrevealed colours of days and nights, I shall fly like a bird with streaking of light In the crafty twist of wings way to sky.

I am a toy never to be broken in love I conquer all being so little in world what I need is gentle touch and smile.

I chase nothing but love deep within Gently twinkling in words real for me, I am an experience of life within life The creator's joy I find in your eyes.

## Rajendra Padhi

## Spring

It has come from fields of my village Awakening me in a dust-lit town, Obliterate winter's icy touch on feet Branching out heart for green hills, I am drifted apart from blood of a city Feel differently from bulging crowd.

It is now I ride quickly in horses of mind Spatter out my heart for aching love, I shimmer with thoughts echoing me In desires prowling among swarming bees.

Here people blot out peace in flames Burn life for a half-inch love they spare, No time to mark the change in the breeze The last touch of old winter on wet grass.

I close my eyes in my lawn when I think Scamper the heart for moments of past, Spring gilded my tainted eyes on flowers Blushes like a bride in our village orchard.
## The Year of the Poet ~ October 2014

The lolling lips embalmed for love around Effortlessly affluent in desires in a sport, When our love is bounded for a living But here it was for life afterwards stored.

A gift for trees to wear clothes of leaves Entice passion-free for girls singing sweet, In the longings of birds in love on river bank I stood there to sink into their leafy lips.

Sojourned at life's sweetest halts Spring strolls in my heart's bower, Reminds me of those birds in nest Locked in pure embrace without fear.

#### Rajendra Padhi

#### Sweet Sleep

Sweet sleep, come to me Like the hidden breeze Creeping into my mind Singing softly, Come to me for dreams Laced with hope, so little In my world subtle to break Keep me live long, My eyes retreat from you I gap in unending sighs Helpless like a tree in storm, Fallen into depth unknown Like a sailor in a sinking boat, Tortured like a bird in drought I can't fly for rain anywhere, It is so worthy in its touch Like a gem in arms of a poor.

It is the last pain I wait for Like lonely soldier for bullets In war field, Tell me, why you eat me Little by little like a tiger to a deer? I can't speak out my heart The Year of the Poet ~ October 2014

Like a moth in the cobweb, But can only cry like a widow Whose dear one is lost forever I want to sleep like a stone Uncared of the flood in the river, My nest has begun to tremble A storm was built for me I knew not well, My mind like a spiral conch Shouts when wind of pain blows.

Sweet sleep, come to me I want to keep on going in strife, I know your bliss Too large to keep all safe, But my life changes like dates In the calendar on my wall.

#### Rajendra Padhi

### I Trembled In A Dew Drop

I trembled in a dew drop Beaming from a leaf, The wintry moon In deeper blue Gleams in its womb, The shadowy petals Luminously swell, I saw me in it in soulful joy The moon, the flowers and me Slide so faster on the icy floor, Reflected for a gentle move In a bed ensuring fall, A limpid image never seen Swaying in my eyes, Tossing on each other's head Caress softly our souls.

Alas! it could not hold me The winds willful error Fevered us in a storm, We were apart in our place The lavish of joy soon undone The charm quickly goes far, I walked deeper in to dark Smiling back at emptiness Dispersing me in solitude.



### Elizabeth Castillo



#### The Year of the Poet ~ October 2014

Elizabeth Esguerra Castillo is a Professional Feature Writer / Creative Writer / Journalist / Blogger / Published International Poet and Author / Online English Instructor for Koreans.

Her first international poetry book "Seasons of Emotions" by Destiny to Write Publications, UK was released last January 7<sup>th</sup> 2013. Her latest international awards include emerging as the Overall Winner of the "Winning Strategies Magazine International Awards" (WISMIWA), USA recognizing her positive influence to her community as well as to people around the world through her works and another glass trophy award as an "Inspirational Poet" given by the PENTASI B Historical Forum/World Poetry Celebration held at the National Museum of the Philippines, November 15, 2013.

Her second book "Inner Reflections of the Muse" was released April 1, 2014, a collection of Elizabeth's articles on life and love, her poetry which includes international poetry collaborations with fellow poets from across the globe and her own composed quotes. Elizabeth is also a Contributing Editor for the Inner Child Magazine's "All About the Love" section and an Advisory Board Member of Reflection Magazine, an international literary magazine.

#### Contact

Amazon Author Page http://www.amazon.com/Elizabeth-E.-Castillo/e/B00D94Y8KW

Face Book https://www.facebook.com/lizzyecastillo

#### Blog site

http://seasons-reflections-of-the-muse.blogspot.com/

#### Elizabeth Castillo

## The Deafening Silence

With only the ticking of the clock on the wall The tapping raindrops on the roof The splashing sounds as they hit the ground, As gray clouds hover over the gloomy sky above Mind drifts to wander with thoughts of the distant past A perturbed soul searching for answers, The questions no one can even decipher.

The deafening silence puts me in a trance, Makes me sail away to a different dimension Trying to untangle confusing dreams, That makes me lie awake in the wee hours of the night Where am I? Who am I? Why am I here? It is in silence that answers come rushing through, When you can listen to what your heart is trying to tell you.

My mind is in a labyrinth-like maze,

Blinding lights chasing my shadow to illuminate my dark path

As I await for the Perfect Time when all these would make sense,

The deafening silence whispers his thoughts to me Bringing me back to this chaotic reality,

My home is not here but in the heavens one fine day When the Master up above calls me, then I can't make myself stay... The Year of the Poet ~ October 2014

#### The Girl from Faraway

the silence surrounding her deafens her aching soul as she ponders on some distant thoughts that continue to haunt her down, a faraway look can be traced down from her mystic eyes the look of a yearning heart dying to escape from this wilderness she's in, she looked upon the stunning stars from the heavens as she lamented if she could just fly there to a castle up above the sky.

Every morning, when there's a thick haze outside Her mind wanders to a sanctuary Only in her dreams she can see, As she dreams on, tears come rolling down her eyes Like dew drops falling in an autumn day, The mind can't conceive sometimes What the heart is secretly screaming out loud inside.

As she traverses hidden valleys and crossed The high seas in every nightmare she weaves, She dare not step in to a forbidden place in her past A voice somewhere warns her not to go through that tunnel once more,

And continue to move forward towards the light at the end And so she walks on with bare feet touching the warm ground

With robins and seagulls following her trail While singing her a joyful melody together with the Rhythmic sound of the splashing waves.

#### Elizabeth Castillo

Alas! She finally arrived at her final destination As a blinding light came flashing in, Towards her countenance Illuminating her whole being, Giving her a calming grace Touching her inner core Soothing her aching soul.

"I have seen the light!" she uttered in deep amazement And that was just the start of a wondrous life She created again for herself To be a living example of one who Faced her own ghosts of yesterday, Of one who have overcome The dark moments triumphantly. The Year of the Poet ~ October 2014

#### Immortal Love

a love that transcends time and place, a soul meeting her twin flame in her recurrent abstract dreams a love that defies laws immortal love. one that is extra-ordinary a love that takes her far into the heavens. changing faces. in every century, every decade that passes but it's still YOU my heart beats for mystic love, through fragments in space illuminated by a strange force I keep on seeing you in every place that I go to. centuries passed, memories elapsed still this heart aches dying to be with you once more, serendipity playing a game on us for this love always leads me to just YOU. immortal love, my soul intertwined to just ONE I have been reincarnated a thousand times. but through all the changing seasons and lives my spirit keeps on searching for only YOU.

#### Elizabeth Castillo

#### Loving In Silence

At times, I'd like to utter "I Love You" to you But I know they're the three most important words that's hardest to say when it's true, Words become empty, senseless, emotionless When you gather the courage to speak them up, But you can't prove it otherwise.

I chose to love you in silence For I know in doing this, I will feel no pain, It's only me who knows the raging feelings I kept inside There's no rejection loving you from afar You'll never understand that when our eyes meet, it's already heaven for me.

#### "I Love You"

People tend to overuse these precious words time and again But as years pass by, is the love still the same? Will saying these repeatedly bring back memories, When love was new and hearts can't bid adieu?

#### Loving you in silence

Is my way of holding back the love I can give when I am made whole again,

When the scars have all been healed and have broken free from the chains

If you are the Right One for me then destiny would open its doors

And when that perfect moment comes, we would both say "I have loved you for the longest time".

The Year of the Poet ~ October 2014

#### Written In the Stars

They say for each person There is a certain Miracle from within And you are meant to be just for one person As time draws to a close to meeting the One, The Universe and your Spirit Guides are on your side To help you fulfill your One True Destiny.

It's written in the stars

And before you know it, I am coming to hold your hand You may not know now but soon you'll get it somehow I may have bumped into you along life's journey, But you were too preoccupied with your own story That you didn't notice me passing you by.

If in this life, we have to say goodbye As my soul reincarnates, I'll meet you again in the next, When our eyes lock as we cross our paths once more You will know in your heart that it was me – your Destiny, Just look at the stars on a beautiful night such as this And know that the time is near to feel eternal bliss.

It's written in the stars For even when True Love is lost, Your soul will bleed for a meaning in your life But though the inevitable happens, searching for your One True Destiny remains If we are yet to discover our One True Miracle, Even time may defeat itself in order for you to see me in another lifetime.

#### Elizabeth Castillo

Ather

Anthological

works from

Inner Child Press. Itd.

www.innerchildpress.com









Ann White \* Rosalind Cherry \* Sheila Jenkins





September Feature Poets Florence Malone \* Keith Alan Hamilton

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

#### The Year of the Poet July 2014 The Poetry Posse July Feature Poets Jamie Bond Christena A. V. Williams Gail Weston Shazor Dr. John R. Strum Albert Infinite Carrasco Kolade Olanrewasu Freedom Siddartha 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. Lotus Asian Flower of the Month

the Year of the Poet June 2014



## the year of the poet



May's Featured Poets

Lily of the Valley

ReeCee Joski the Poet Shannon Stanton

#### Dedicated to our Children

#### The Poetry Posse

Jamie Bond Gall Weston Shazor Albert Infinite Carrasco Siddartha 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.

# the Year of the Poet

## April 2014

#### The Poetry Posse

Jamie Bond Gail Weston Shazor Albert Infinite Carrasco Siddartha 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.

State Charles

Our April Featured Poets

Fahredin Shehu Martina Reisz Newberry Justin Blackburn Monte Smith

celebrating international poetry month









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

# The Year of the Poet January 2014



#### The Poetry Posse

Jamie Bond Gail Weston Shazor Albert 'Infinite' Carrasco Siddartha 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





Poetry ... Commentary & Stories The Anthological Writers



## A GATHERING OF WORDS



























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

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





11 Words

## (9 lines . . . )

 $\frac{1}{1}$ 

for those who are challenged

an anthology of Poetry inspired by . . .

Poetry Dancer



a Poetically Spoken Anthology volume I Collector's Edition

and there is much, much more !

visit . . .

http://www.innerchildpress.com /anthologies-sales-special.php

Also check out our Authors and all the wonderful Books Available at :

http://www.innerchildpress.com /the-book-store.php





www.worldhealingworldpeacepoetry.com









#### WORLD HEALING - WORLD PEACE



# \$ 20,00

#### SMALL \* MED. \* LARGE \* XL \* XXL

www.worldhealingworldpeacepoetry.com

#### Anthologies for Sale









#### SMALL \* MED. \* LARGE \* XL \* XXL

#### FOR INTERNATIONAL POETRY MONTH ONLY

www.worldhealingworldpeacepoetry.com







### \$ 40,00 SMALL \* MED. \* LARGE \* XL \* XXL





## \$ 50,00 SMALL \* MED. \* LARGE \* XL \* XXL



### THE YEAR OF THE POET



# \$ 20,00

#### SMALL \* MED. \* LARGE \* XL \* XXL

This Anthological Publication is underwritten solely by

Inner Child Press

Inner Child Press is a Publishing Company Founded and Operated by Writers. Our personal publishing experiences provides us an intimate understanding of the sometimes daunting challenges Writers, New and Seasoned may face in the Business of Publishing and Marketing their Creative "Written Work".

For more Information

Inner Child Press

www.innerchildpress.com









### **October Feature Poets**



#### **Ceri** Naz



Rajendra Padhi



**Elizabeth** Castillo



www.innerchildpress.com