

# The Year of the Poet V

December 2018

## Featured Poets

Rose Terranova Cirigliano

Joanna Kalinowska

Sokolović Emir

Dr. T. Ashok Chakravarthy

The  
Maori

## The Poetry Posse 2018

Gail Weston Shazor \* Nizar Sattawi \* Hülya N. Yılmaz

Jackie Davis Allen \* Caroline 'Ceri' Nazareno

Alicja Maria Kuberska \* Teresa E. Gallion

Kimberly Burnham \* Shareef Abdur – Rasheed

Ashok K. Bhargava \* Elizabeth Castillo \* Swapna Behera

Tezmin Ition Tsai \* William S. Peters, Sr.

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**The Poetry Posse**

*inner child press, ltd.*

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Shareef Abdur Rasheed

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# **General Information**

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December 2018 Edition  
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**The Poetry Posse**

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WHAT WOULD  
**L**I FE  
BE WITHOUT  
A LITTLE  
**P**OETRY?

# 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

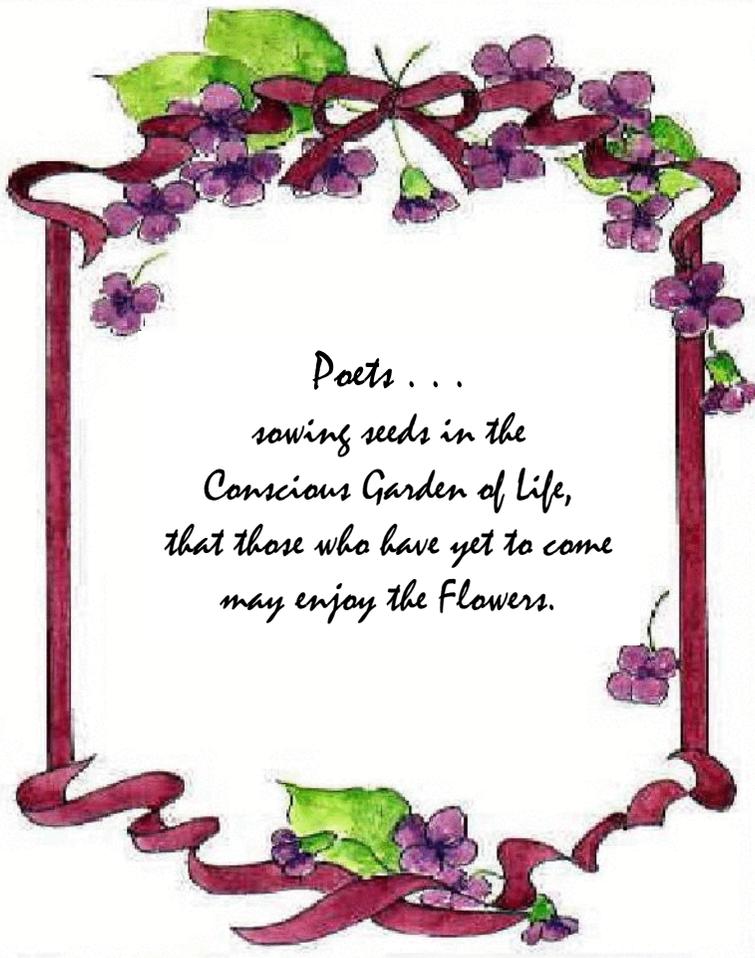
February 14, 1959 ~ September 20, 2016



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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# F oreword

The Māori are the indigenous Polynesian people of New Zealand. Māori originated with settlers from eastern Polynesia, who arrived in New Zealand in several waves of canoe voyages between 1250 and 1300. Most archaeologists and historians believe that the Maori people came from the Cook Islands and the Polynesian region. Some scholars believe that the origin of the Maori people and all the South Island languages can be traced back to Taiwan in the western Pacific. The language, culture and traditional architecture of the Maori people are very similar to the Ami people in Taiwan. This provides very clear evidence

Over several centuries in isolation, the Polynesian settlers developed a unique culture, with their own language, a rich mythology, and distinctive crafts and performing arts. Early Māori formed tribal groups based on eastern Polynesian social customs and organisation.

Before the arrival of British immigrants at the end of the 18th century, Maori were mainly engaged in agriculture, fishing, hunting and gathering. Now Maori culture is the national culture of New Zealand. It is reflected in tattoos, war dance and

folk art. They are good at carving and weaving. Among them, carvings include wood carvings and stone carvings. They are the essence of Maori art.

Researchers often label the time from about 1280 to about 1450 the "Moa-hunter period" - after the moa, the large flightless bird that formed a large part of the diet of the early settlers. In the early days, only some islanders went to Otto Rova to find and hunt for Moa birds. They ignited the forest while hunting, so when the Moa birds discovered New Zealand a few hundred years later, the Moa birds have long since disappeared.

In 1280, seven canoes came to Otto Rova from the island countries of the South Pacific. This is the first planned islander immigration. During the two hundred years, the Maori lived in the North Island of New Zealand and the South Island.

In the fourteenth century, the Maori people living in the South Pacific opened up the history of New Zealand civilization. For centuries they have developed a rigorous tribal system, class system, and highly accomplished artistic representation. Before the arrival of Western civilization, Maori people have always lived in their traditional social form.

In addition to the ethnic minorities that have been oppressed or assimilated in many other countries, Maori have more say in New Zealand and their culture is more well preserved. The language of the country is recognized by the laws of New Zealand. Even so, Maori is still at risk of being marginalized by New Zealand's white mainstream society, as less than half of Maori use Maori in their daily lives, and many Maori can do not fluently speak Maori nowadays.

**Tzemin Ition Tsai**



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



# Preface

Dear Family and Friends,

Congratulations to all the Poetry Posse Members  
... past and present!

**Yes** I am excited? Once again, this is an understatement! As we are hitting another milestone, the final issue of our fifth year of publication . . . I am elated.

**O**ur 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.

**I**n 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.

Going into the year 2019 we will again theme our efforts to encompass various world cultures as defined by their language and geography. We are following the model of UNESCO and their mission of educational inclusiveness.

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!

Inner Child Press International

*'building cultural bridges of understanding'*

Bless Up

From our house to yours

*Bill*

The Poetry Posse  
Inner Child Press

PS

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

Available here

[www.worldhealingworldpeacepoetry.com](http://www.worldhealingworldpeacepoetry.com)

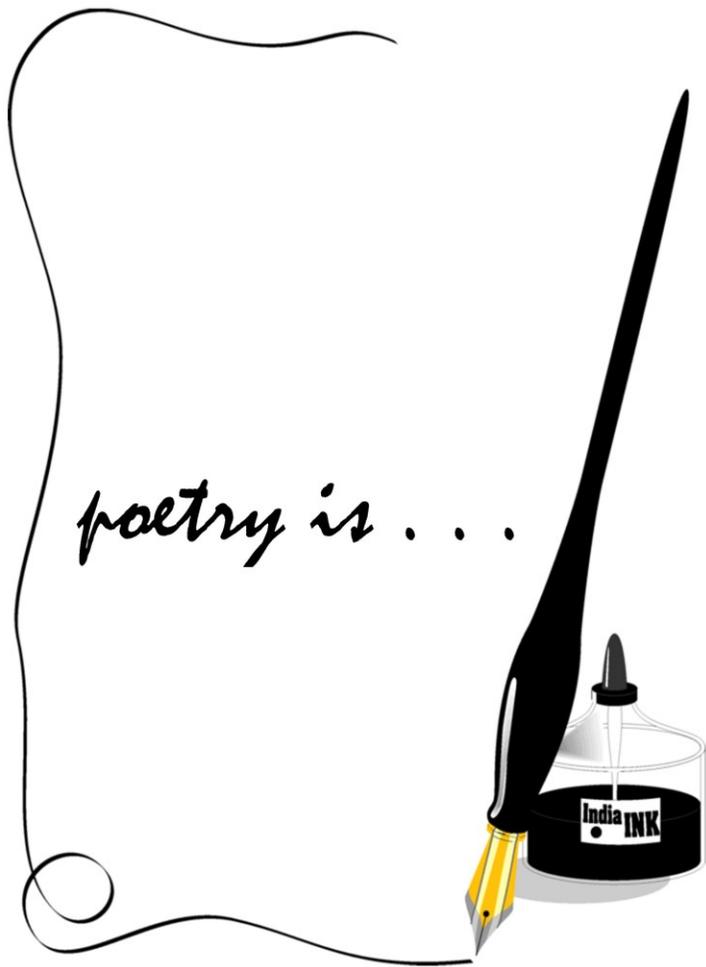
or

Janet . . . gone too soon.

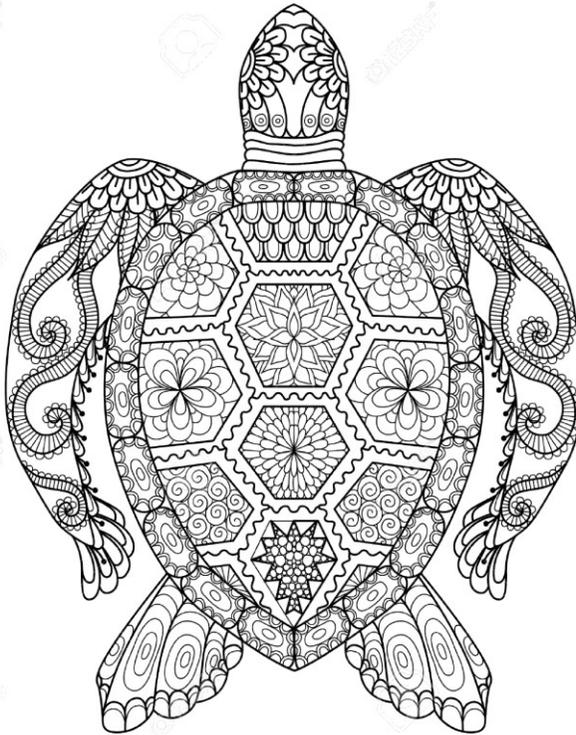
<http://www.innerchildpress.com/janet-p-caldwell.php>

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The Year of the Poet**

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# The Maori



The Maori are a people who hail originally from New Zealand. They are the indigenous Polynesians. The Maori people spent several centuries in isolation. With the arrival of the European people some time in the 17<sup>th</sup> century, the people were colonized and soon began adoption the “Western” ways. The European having invaded their lands began to want more. The Maori entered the Treaty of Waitangi February 6, 1840 in good faith hoping to bring peace to the lands and their people. As treaties go throughout the days of European global colonization, it was broken, and the people suffered even more under the

oppressive hand. For the most part, the Maori people were able to hold on to their unique culture as many migrated away from their indigenous homelands to various islands throughout the South Pacific.

**For more information visit :**

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/M%C4%81ori\\_people](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/M%C4%81ori_people)

<https://intercontinentalcry.org/indigenous-peoples/maori/>

<https://www.newzealand.com/us/maori-culture/>



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*Poetry succeeds where instruction fails.*

~ wsp



Gail  
Weston  
Shazor

*The Year of the Poet V ~ December 2018*



*The Year of the Poet V ~ December 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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[navypoet1@gmail.com](mailto:navypoet1@gmail.com)

## Ka Mate Haka

*Ka mate, ka mate! ka ora! ka ora!*  
*Ka mate! ka mate! ka ora! ka ora!*  
*Tēnei te tangata pūhuru*  
*Nāna nei i tiki mai whakawhiti te rā*  
*Ā, upane! ka upane!*  
*Ā, upane, ka upane, whiti te ra!*

Te Rauparaha faced the black walls  
Of an even blacker pit  
And his soul sang  
*Ka mate, ka mate!*  
I hide myself in here  
This is my cleft of refuge  
Though the enemy chases me  
I am safe

*ka ora! ka ora!*

I will live til the rising of the sun  
I will meet the warmth  
Of friendly kinsmen

*Ā, upane! ka upane!*

Upward from the darkness  
I will rise the same

*whiti te ra!*

And I live to see the day again  
For this Man has said so...

## Tapes

I want to measure  
The strength of you  
The height, breadth and weight of you  
To know you as i wake  
After you have breathed the breath  
That I find so difficult to hold  
Place the palm of your hand  
In my chest  
Thread your fingers across my ribs  
So that I can exhale  
Against your will for me  
Whisper my name  
And pull the breeze close  
For when I forget to draw  
It for myself  
You are here to remind me  
Why I must  
Though sometimes it hurts to do so  
The simpleness of this one thing  
Is echoed in comfort  
Ease yourself you say  
And your thumbs meditate  
The healing in my lungs  
It is when you tend to me  
That I feel whole

## Koinonia

To receive goodness  
We must first pour out  
All that we have  
All that we are  
All that they have given us  
To make room for the grace  
This is the secret  
Of living goodness  
That the world never shares with us  
This is the secret that only family  
Can teach us  
And even then  
Sometimes  
Our only heart breaks  
In times such as these  
It is a hard thing  
This living broken

But this, my loves,  
Is when the newly formed spaces  
Shine brighter than the  
Lived through ones

The simple connection  
Becomes the necessary  
And we have to keep seeking  
The strength of each other  
And in the broken places  
We make room for more  
More love  
More people

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More community  
And love is always a sacrifice  
And love is always intentional  
And living is the love we share  
Through all our numbered days  
Selah

*The Year of the Poet V ~ December 2018*

Alicja  
Maria  
Kuberska

*The Year of the Poet V ~ December 2018*



## *The Year of the Poet V ~ December 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.

## Ta moko

Seven boats from Polynesia sailed to the land of a long,  
white cloud and moored on a sandy,  
sorrunded by rocks, beach.

Finding their paradise on earth, in which they ate kiwi fruit  
instead of an apple, they learned the truth about  
fertile soil overgrown with majestic jungle.

They saw that the springs of geysers created the island's  
bloodstream

A cascade of ice-cold water filled with blue runs down  
from the heart of the mountains, too

Echo raised their cries of admiration to the hazy summits:  
"Taumatawhakatangihangakoauauotamateaturipukakapiki  
maungahoronukupokaiwhenuakitanatahu"

Centuries passed and ancient traditions were stored by  
legends and tattoos

Black drawings carved permanent visiting cards on the  
faces of the Maori people

The sharp bones of the albatross and dyes wrote a story  
about a man on his skin

The winding lines invited the spirits of predecessors and  
family sagas on the forehead

They also talked about the wealth and the privileges of his  
family, social status and work

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The flexible drawings of the right side of the body  
were devoted to the mother and the left ones to the father

There are not two identical tattoos, just like there are no  
identical fates.

It's amazing how much a man can say without a word

## Sometime in Autumn

We walked in the park, hidden under an umbrella  
Thick fog imbued us with melancholy,  
and cold touched our hands.  
Clouds supporting the weight of the rain, hung low over the  
trees.  
Puddles mirrored the reflections of lanterns,  
tired by the night vigil.

Suddenly the sun glimmered, and autumn smiled.  
Trees discarded grayness, in favor of color.  
Droplets of dew sparkled,  
and rusty chestnuts danced across the paths.  
Yellow leaves, fragrant with moisture, twirled in the  
breeze.

You spoke quietly of love.  
You spun words like threads of Indian Summer.  
I committed to memory vibrations of voice  
And embrace of clasped fingers.  
You held me,  
And then you wove an engagement ring out of the grass  
-With a white daisy for the diamond

## The Next Chance

Carmine roses bloom in the midst of winter,  
Drowsy violets peak from under leaves  
And daisies stand white in the grass.  
The sun heats the earth  
And brightens short days with a warm glow.

I notice a tenderly embraced couple in a park.  
Gracious fate gives them one more chance  
For an unexpected meeting.  
Eyes, surrounded by rays of wrinkles, laugh.  
Wind ruffles hair, tosses delicate  
Silver threads of gossamer.

And so, unannounced, tardy love arrived  
They have a choice of a new path,  
Maybe the last chance for happiness.  
Life took away their naïve faith  
And burned away old feelings.  
It left them some dreams  
And much hope for a better tomorrow

They are lost in thoughts  
Doubts and fears spring up  
From the shadows like ghouls  
The head says: no... it's not worth it... think it over...  
The heart says-yes... go forwards... fall in love

Nature stopped the hands of the clocks.  
Red flowers bloom

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Jackie  
Davis  
Allen

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## *The Year of the Poet V ~ December 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 Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary 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*; in 2017, *Dark Side of the Moon*, and in 2018, *No Illusions-through the looking glass*. Mostly narrative poetry, some prose, memoir and tall tales, published by Inner Child Press, edited by hulya n. yilmaz.

<http://www.innerchildpress.com/jackie-davis-allen.php>  
[jackiedavisallen.com](http://jackiedavisallen.com)

## An Introspection

An appreciator of art, sculpture, as in modern, or the New Zealand Maori's, *Whakairo*, wood carvings, a pleasure it would be, to see in person, the art by which a master craftsman handed down their stories and legends; some remaining from over 500 years ago.

Wood was revered. Scraps saved. Not used for cooking. Reminds me of my soft sculpting days: no scrap of fabric, or lace discarded. A use found for it, some day. As always.

A proud possessor, I am, of several rugs: one a Sarouk, and another, a tribal rug. Perhaps a rare Bukhara from Central Asia or Turkey. To stand before a *Ranga*, or to own one, what an experience! Such a weaving, the tapestry upon which the Maori further illustrated their stories and legends, tactilely and visually. Creatively.

The history of the Maori people, they orally improvised as myth-narratives, stories to meet their needs. Laid out before my eyes, to see such a weaving, unforgettable.

A speech maker I am not, but oh, if what I am sharing is near and dear to my heart, then dare I say, *I could go on and on*. Of the *Whaikorero*, the oratory of the Maori, their speeches, narratives, songs, chants, they becoming one with body and soul. Guided by music, poetry, stories.

Often religious in nature, concept. Sacred, these, talents, gifts, the Maori gave in honor of their gods: the highest honor, themselves. By all means of expression available.

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Modern technology allows me my own version of *Kapa haka*: group communication, chant. Uniting the culture of the Maori to an audience, with hand gestures, war dance foot stomping, intimidating foes. Witness the Maori *Kapa haka*, as performed by New Zealand's rugby players.

My gifts, enjoyed by a wide audience on poetry sites are found within the pages of my books of poetry. (Any foot stomping I do comes whenever I am too near a deadline.)

Any poetic semblance to the Maori, *Ta moko, tattoos*, of mine to theirs, comes, again, only, in the appreciation of art and my humble efforts at painting portraits. The Maori illustrated their artistic interpretations upon the canvas of the human body. Most proudly displayed.

Face carving/tattooing was mainly the sole right of men of rank, (and some women), revealing lineage. My rank, my name, credits me as an artist. And, author of three books.

## Wings

When the windy breeze  
Howls and moans, day and night  
And the trees sway  
And acorns drop

It is as if, in a movie  
I see my past tap dancing  
Across the tin roof top  
Of my mountain home

And, just the very thought  
Of those long ago days  
Returns me to my teens  
And back into a place and time

Where, never could I have envisioned  
That the answer to the question  
Of whether or not I could fly  
Would come on the wings of poetry

## The Succession

Disappointed, frustrated, I whined  
Complained, Momma explaining  
I had long had my turn  
You are a big girl now

There is no need to cry. But, why  
Oh, why must big girls not cry

And, why, oh why, did I not recall  
As a baby, sitting in my papa's lap  
It was as if I had lost my place  
In line and never, ever

Would I find it  
Or my babyhood again

At the tender age of four or five  
I was told, the day I lost my place  
In line, that I had once been Papa's  
Baby girl, his darling little princess

But, alas. It was time  
For baby brother to shine

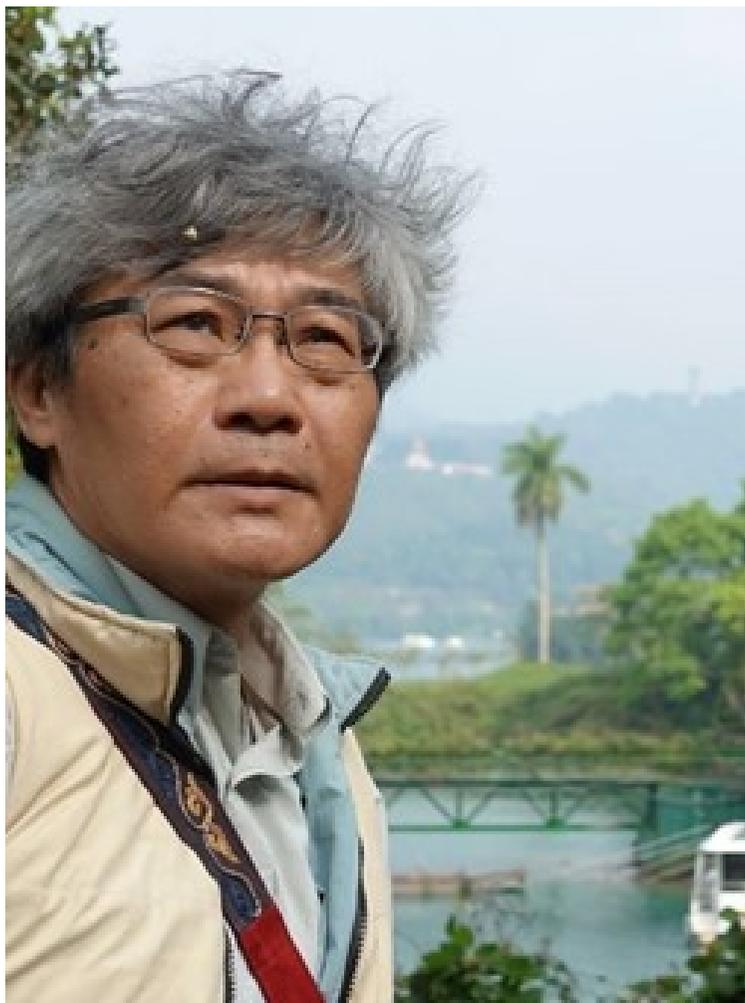
Like a garden where blooms are enjoyed  
For their fragrance, for their beauty  
So too, I suppose I was their darling  
In my baby hood's prime

Sadly, I yielded, unhappily  
My coveted place in line

*The Year of the Poet V ~ December 2018*

Tzemin  
Ition  
Tsai

*The Year of the Poet V ~ December 2018*



## *The Year of the Poet V ~ December 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.

## The Scenery of Small town

The grass is warm in the spring sunshine  
Spread on the surrounding hillside boundlessly  
Until the front endlessly and incomparably  
The wind not only shakes the leaves of the old tree  
Also slowly moving the clouds  
Inviting that white like birds' feathers  
Dyeing the clear sky

Colored flowers scattered everywhere  
Give a subtle smell  
The birds' quarrels are heard everywhere.  
Like the sound of a bamboo flute resounding through in the  
air  
It's all like telling  
How beautiful is the scenery in this village?  
Around the town  
Bird's dance and floral fragrance  
Wind unfolding hands  
Trying to surround you in its embrace

Small temple at the end of the street  
Unsealed fences and murals  
Can't find any gemstones and brilliant bronze statues  
And when you calm down  
Sitting in front of the plate you can find  
The sediment that belongs to your mind is actually mixed  
between the grass

The streetlight that just turned on is not so bright  
The beggar sitting against all the wrinkles on face  
Arms that are obviously thin and dry  
Try to support his determined eyes  
Look at your heart every day at the corner of the street

## No longer eternal

this moment  
When the sun is far from the stars  
that moment  
The drama that greets the moon is followed.

The beginning of the day at the end of the day  
The sky usually won't  
insomnia  
Just forgot to count the promise that eternal

Twilight covered the sky  
Black veil slowly spread  
Countless stars  
Full coverage of the sky  
Cool night invasion  
The song of birds and insects is coming to an end  
Wake up silent bat  
The frog and the cockroach opened the first ensemble  
Belong to the night that is no longer eternal

This is a terrible transformation  
When the light turns dark  
Day also turned into night  
Sparkling eyes burning by alcohol  
Extinguish glimpse of eternity  
Quietly lying aside  
Waiting to wake up again every other day

## The egret's sigh: the old plow is really old

Pond-Water Road, which is in front of my face  
Old plowing bull with a pair of blurred eyes  
Who is exempting the plow on its neck?  
Lamenting heart  
If it's just the temporary mood of the old plowing bull  
Not the sigh that no longer has to be enslaved  
You surely clear in mind  
I really shouldn't ask  
Is this your heaven-born destiny?  
When you also have the same gray-haired as I have?  
More sadness will not help, we are not together until today  
Come on  
Let's sing together a song that celebrates the white head  
Why don't you invite the old plow to rest?  
Just for sit on a porch swing with but never need say a  
word

Sharæf  
Abdur  
Rashæd

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## *The Year of the Poet V ~ December 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>

## triangle

going way back  
thousands of years  
southeast Asia the place  
Polynesian peoples traced  
migrated to other places  
in time became Polynesian  
triangle where Maori peoples  
reside  
Maori peoples blessed  
scored high in intellect  
especially in respect to  
navigation, astronomy, artful  
ability  
carving, weaving their specialty  
as were long sea journeys like  
the one to Aotearoa  
Known today as New Zealand  
New Zealand where they settled  
coming from triangle of islands  
Hawai'i, Easter to Aotearoa,  
New Zealand  
the indigenous people cut from  
the earth in harmony with love,  
in love with harmony  
respecting the bounties on  
land and sea  
gave praise continuously  
gratitude framed attitude of  
responsibility to treat mother  
earth's treasures seriously,  
respectfully  
as indigenous be generally  
caretakers of the abode of  
humanity

## the me

feeding all fleshly sensations  
yourself being the only relation  
wrapped up in yourself  
to you there is no one else  
every word you say begins  
and ends with me  
beyond that you can't see  
narcissistic obsession  
dictates your direction  
defines who you be  
the selfish manifestation of  
me, me, me  
this is todays sad commentary  
there is traces of it in everybody  
but we must fight to do what's  
right, and care and be aware of  
somebody else besides yourself  
put selfishness on the shelf  
replacing me with we  
exhibit mercy for the forlorn  
wretched, miserable without hope  
for they had no control to whom  
and where they were born  
into stark poverty ignored, scorned  
compassion for them who see no  
light at tunnel's end,  
tunnel just goes on 'n ' on  
as lives end never to see an end  
put yourself there my friend  
it could have been you  
but for the grace of god  
there i go

*The Year of the Poet V ~ December 2018*

but you were spared  
so that perhaps you can care  
for those in despair  
givers cup always run over  
drinking from overflow  
cup stays full  
not so the taker  
greedy fool  
who chose to take from those  
who needed to be given  
await a telling fate after their  
death replace their living  
for in the end it's all weighed  
on the scale  
to determine if  
one's short stay on earth  
succeeded or failed

## Dem.,

trifling, making something  
out of nothing  
ignoring things important  
dem doing what dem ought  
not  
true dem not Johnny  
on spot  
caring for the have nots  
dem who don't have a pot  
to piss  
never mind window to throw it  
when you living on sidewalks  
no one wants to know it  
walk pass you right there  
what the hell they care  
this is Amerikkka my dear  
capitalism, thee schism of is'ms  
don't see them  
dem exist not  
dem don't got none what make  
machine run ===\$\$\$\$==>  
richest nation on dear mother earth  
can care less for homeless  
that often their system set the table  
that rendered them disabled  
to put roof over head, food on table  
while wall st. play for high stakes  
as for poverty stricken dem taking  
not giving  
dem exist not who have no chips  
in the pot  
says dem greedy none stop

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"So the F what..  
all we give a \$#!+ about is what  
we got "  
say it again..  
"So the F what..,"  
all we give a \$#!+ about is what  
we got "  
f dem have nots  
another day in the land of the free  
home of the brave  
the one they killed for and took  
and kidnapped millions of human beings  
to work and cultivate for free  
dem not free dem slaves  
to the devil who got them chained  
to their flesh craves  
but won't go well for them in the  
grave  
god won't bless the land of  
' just-me '  
this is not the land you call liberty  
until justice rings true, fulfilled  
justice is what makes one free  
Ceee ???

Kimberly  
Burnham

*The Year of the Poet V ~ December 2018*



## *The Year of the Poet V ~ December 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, acupuncture, 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>

## Richly Textured Peace

"Whakaturi" a richly textured Maori word  
one meaning is obstinate  
to be unyielding or stubborn  
turn a deaf ear  
or pay no attention

Giving the impression of a spoiled child  
or arrogant man  
a busy woman too harried to listen

A second meaning is to mollify  
make peace with  
or appease  
as if we can make peace without paying attention  
or perhaps find peace by clinging stubbornly to life

The third meaning wrapped into this word  
"whakaturi" is a love token or a keepsake  
something we hold to unyieldingly  
or would give anything  
to hold onto the love and peace it represents

"Whakaturi" we have a choice  
how we see the world  
through the eyes of a stubborn child  
peacemaker  
or a giver of gifts

## Finding Self Surrounded In Peace

In Niuean spoken on Niue Island  
the Rock of Polynesia  
coral land in the midst of the South Pacific  
"Loto" means inside  
within  
between

"Lotoloto" amongst or in the middle of  
in the heart of desire  
is "fakalotomafola"  
"mafola" peace  
to be at peace in one's heart or mind

"Fakalotomafola" also to appease  
"to fakalotoma fola e au a ia ke he mena fakaalofa"  
"I will appease him with a present"  
or give myself the gift of peace

"Kia fakalotomafola a koe"  
to be at peace with yourself  
as if to give yourself a peace gift  
surrounding yourself with peace  
finding yourself within

## #2 New Zealand Just Behind Iceland in Peace

10 years

New Zealand never slipping below

4th almost perfect marks

Global Peace Index

top marks in health status

above average education jobs and earnings

yet the gap between rich and poor

distressing 20% of New Zealand's 4.7 million citizens

Peace "rangimārie" in Maori

some people say starts with a smile

but ask anyone who lives

in peaceful countries

it is the other way around

Peaceful nations enjoy

lower interest rates

stronger currency

higher foreign investment

better political stability

greater perceived happiness

The economic impact of violence

quantifiable \$14.76 trillion in 2017

12.4% of total global gross domestic product

about \$1,988 per person on this spinning planet

almost 20 percent of the average world citizen's yearly

income

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Says the Institute for Economics and Peace  
of 163 independent states and territories  
99.7% of the world's population  
23 indicators  
societal safety and security  
a peek at ongoing domestic and international conflicts  
degree of militarization

Global peace is declining  
making the world less peaceful  
compared to any time in the last decade  
refugee numbers skyrocketing  
1% of the world population  
highest level in modern history  
and the United States drops seven spots to 121st  
well behind Iceland (1) where peace is call "friður"  
New Zealand (2)  
Cuba (81) and China (114)  
a little too close to the least peaceful country in the world  
Syria (163) seriously lacking in "salām"

*The Year of the Poet V ~ December 2018*

Elizabeth  
E.  
Castillo

*The Year of the Poet V ~ December 2018*



## *The Year of the Poet V ~ December 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>

## Let's Do the Haka

Tengata Whenua-

The mythical Polynesian island

Let's visit the marae-

Dance the haka all day.

Enjoy the hangi feast

With food cooked in earthly ovens

Let's do the haka dance

Sweep the night away.

## Beauty in Diversity

I dreamed of a world where there is no disparity  
One, where there is unity among nations  
Though of different beliefs, or of varied skin colors  
There would be equality among all races.  
You may be white, I may be brown, and he may be yellow  
Outer appearance may seem to make us different from each  
other  
But this doesn't mean that racial discrimination we must  
allow  
For we shall traverse the same destination one fine day.

## Ancient Arabia

Hegra, built by the Nabeteans of Petra Jordan-  
In the 1st Century, B.C, resting place for caravans and  
defense

Mada-in Saleh in Saudi Arabia  
Half as old as time.

The magical pitch dark crept through the night-  
And I saw the vivid ancient carvings on the wall  
Once one visits this ancient ruins of Dedan,  
Grotesque images flow on your mind, of antlers and beasts  
lurking.

The narrow valley amidst bare red sandstones will stun you  
To the west lies the Red Sea and the east is the ancient gold  
mine of Midian  
Dedan mentioned in the Old Testament tells of the  
descendants of Abraham  
From his wife Ketura and the Tablet of the People.

Mineans traded with the Egyptians  
Sphinx-like monsters guard the tombstones  
And in an inscription on a sarcophagus in the Ptolemaic  
Period  
An Egyptian priest was depicted who happens to be a  
Minean.

Nizar  
Sartawi

*The Year of the Poet V ~ December 2018*



## *The Year of the Poet V ~ December 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.

## Tattoo

When his turn came  
he stepped forward  
and kneeled  
his eyes wide open  
gazing at the maori face

Rawiri,  
please... a nice tattoo!

What kind of *moko*?  
Where do you want to wear it?

His right hand quivered  
frantically flew up  
and cupped his left breast  
I want a heart  
here, he said,  
a heart above my heart

a *manawa*!  
mattered the tattoo guru

~~~~

Since then  
he's been obsessed  
with his *manawa*  
the second heart  
chiseled  
upon his breast.

For there  
– behind each shape

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each curve  
each circle  
line  
and dot –  
his life  
his journey  
days on earth  
the faces that he loved  
were all  
inscribed

## a rendezvous on the plage de versoix

around 10:45 she arrived  
her little poodle  
proudly prancing ahead of her  
she climbed down the iron stairs  
moved close to the waters of Lake Geneva  
unfolded her striped mat  
spread it on the silver pebbles  
sat down  
and waited

11 sharp  
quack quack quack  
a choir of four ducks  
out of the lake  
marching in a queue  
her fluffy poodle jumped  
on his hind legs  
laughing and dancing  
and she was up on her feet too

bonjour  
yap yap  
quack quack

and all six went for the usual walk  
on the Plage de Vesoix

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**haiku**

they all stopped weeping  
when the gentle west wind blew  
the weeping willows

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hülya  
n.  
yılmaz

*The Year of the Poet V ~ December 2018*



## *The Year of the Poet V ~ December 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/>

## The Maori

members of New Zealand's Polynesian population  
with their unique history of instrumental musicality  
succumbed to the insatiable European taste for  
acculturation

under Abel Tasman's schools of indoctrination  
and were forced to lose their voices' authenticity

they belonged to the 14<sup>th</sup> century Hawaikian migration

while some of their chants and dance steps are said to be  
still alive

their poetry's audible and visual soul-filled domination  
which had unequivocally been enchanting before  
were quite suddenly not there anymore

the year was 1642 – an era of turmoil  
nothing less nothing more

The King Movement their courageous and heroic initiative  
was conceived to put an end to the occupiers' selling of  
their land

but the occupying government of the colonial White  
insisted on its free land-for all-chanting left and right  
thus arrived at everyone's doorstep in 1859 all upright  
the first of the worst The First Taranaki War

successful sieges by British troops and militia  
and equally successful Maorian victories ensued  
then came the Second Taranaki War and the Waikato War  
eventually unfolding the region's final kill-all conflict

*The Year of the Poet V ~ December 2018*

coined by the Europeans as “the fire in the fern”  
it also had for the Maori reached a point of no return  
as *te riri pakeha* – “the white man’s anger” they branded  
that assault  
knowing now too well to take these matters more seriously  
than afore

what happened then is nothing new you see  
The King Movement and its aftermath ceased to be  
hence goes the story of a people named The Maori

## the babies' Blues

we grew up amid the chants  
and the dance of our elderly

before we learned how to walk  
we had already acquired the talk  
of The White that pierced our land  
and then sold it piece by piece by hand

our parents were charged with a dire task  
to embark on many a wars for us was their call

we needed protection from *te riri pakeha*  
at first we thought it came from mayhaw  
it was however nothing at which we could gnaw  
“the white man’s anger” grew like mountains with snow

our elderlies speak no more so we no longer know  
if we will ever have a safe shelter a safe place to go

1987

was a memorable year my child  
a glorious time in our lives  
when we chanted above and beyond  
in our very own genuine Maori tongue

our *hongi* was no longer outlawed as taboo  
nor was our *haangi* seen as a place to voodoo

our long-ago-ancestors had a different destiny  
their own land was under The White custody  
as was everything else that once was of The Maori  
so there were many a wars to defend our dignity

you now belong to a generation that will steadily prosper  
don't ever yield your home to anything that claims to be a  
foster

*The Year of the Poet V ~ December 2018*

Teresa  
E.  
Gallion

*The Year of the Poet V ~ December 2018*



## *The Year of the Poet V ~ December 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>

## Maori Culture

You imprinted the landscape centuries  
before the Europeans arrived.  
Since the 1960s, you have been in a cultural  
revival and activists for social justice.

Like other indigenous people,  
you hold your identity,  
fight for pieces of the land you lost  
struggle with economic development  
and a place in the political landscape.

Your rich culture with songs, art,  
dance, and deep spiritual beliefs  
sustained you through the centuries  
as you made New Zealand home.

## Glorious Memories

Rain slaps my window today.  
Gray New Mexico skies  
are an occasional treat.

My muse gets cozy  
in my favorite chair  
and wants to play.  
I open my arms.

It is raining just hard enough  
to feel like a gentle massage.  
I feel the delight  
of memories pulled from my bank.  
No one sees the glow on my cheeks.

Do I want to share this moment?  
I'd rather watch the rain  
wipe my windows clean  
and cleanse my spirit.

Last night I dreamed about  
Mount St. Michel, Machu Piccu,  
Godafoss Waterfall, Sahara Desert,  
the Matterhorn. The imagery  
followed me into the morning rain.

I take leave here to embrace  
joy and wonder. Perhaps I will see you  
on the other side of bliss dancing  
in your own glorious memories.

## Word Offering

It is the end of Fall.  
My seeds lay down to sleep  
and the color fest is done.

Everything prepares for  
deep slumber nestled  
in winter's white blanket.

The dream weaver prepares  
to plant stories  
in the hearts of heavy sleepers.

I am ready to rest  
and watch my word colony  
cultivate its spring offering.

Ashok  
K.  
Bhargava

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

Ashok Bhargava is a poet, writer, community activist, public speaker, management consultant and a keen photographer. Based in Vancouver, he has published several collections of his poems: *Riding the Tide*, *Mirror of Dreams*, *A Kernel of Truth*, *Skipping Stones*, *Half Open Door* and *Lost in the Morning Calm*. His poetry has been published in various literary magazines and anthologies.

Ashok is a Poet Laureate and poet ambassador to Japan, Korea and India. He is founder of WIN: Writers International Network Canada. Its main objective is to inspire, encourage, promote and recognize writers of diverse genres, artists and community leaders. He has received many accolades including Nehru Humanitarian Award for his leadership of Writers International Network Canada, Poets without Borders Peace Award for his journeys across the globe to celebrate peace and to create alliances with poets, and Kalidasa Award for creative writings.

## Mists of Time

I know  
what I do not know about  
the wonder that lies  
behind mythical chants and dances.

Is it to  
reach the beginning of eternity  
with tender whispers and  
rhythmic stamping of the feet?

Is it to celebrate  
the ocean-waves  
that advance, recede, shimmer  
and break like tears?

I know over your isolated shores  
echoing songs are like  
reading words with mouth and  
writing history with dancing feet.

Maori you have created  
your own universe  
your own self  
in the endless mists of time.

## Fragile Stones

I love stones  
revere them  
admire them  
talk to them.  
My poems arise out of stones  
in the morning silence  
strong and  
poignant.  
I worship stones  
bathe them  
cloth them  
deities reside in them  
Behind the stone temple door  
I utter prayers  
to invoke them  
to receive stone blessings.  
Stones are my friends  
they shift and lean over  
to speak to me  
in perfect stillness.  
In my dreams  
they open up  
bloom like flowers  
sweet and fragrant.

## Can't You Feel The Spirits Moving?

Why do you look at me  
as if you were the moon  
distant  
smiling over the ocean  
as impatient waves break  
in your amber light?  
Why do you look at me  
as if you were the sun  
sovereign  
laughing on a zealous day  
that burns the dust  
and boils my thirsty blood?  
Why do you look at me  
as if  
the earth loves you  
the planets pursue you  
the angels have blessed you  
with solitude?  
Why do you look at me  
in the cold air that blows  
over the morning's damp skin  
as she wraps herself in her solar poncho?

If from the blue Sky you look down again  
be careful how you look at me.

## The Return

Our plans to drive through  
the wind-swept valley  
giant boulders  
crumbling rocks  
prickly pears and  
Joshua trees  
did not include  
you at the doorway of a sushi place  
in a red blouse  
with a tempura smile  
sake-warm hands  
waiting to come out  
from hiding.  
You must have  
wished for such a moment  
otherwise how  
would that be possible.

*The Year of the Poet V ~ December 2018*

Caroline  
'Ceri Naz'  
Nazareno

*The Year of the Poet V ~ December 2018*



## *The Year of the Poet V ~ December 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).

## Hongi

Breath to breath  
A shield, a canopy  
Maori's verdant garden  
Like paintings of smiles  
keeping silver moons,  
Strokes of kiwi  
Stamped with freedom.

Echoes of life,  
Interfacing desires  
From North's face,  
From South's tongue,  
From East's forehead,  
From West's lips,  
From all life's direction,  
Of body and spirit,  
Reshaping hopes.

## Flowers and Rainbow

It was early morning  
when I heard a different sound  
from the neighbourhood,  
blended in hostility and vexation,

It was like a fall of  
the red hibiscus,  
vincas and plumbago  
that I once knew,  
the source of strength and happiness,  
I've missed the dragonflies wandering  
I used to catch  
even in the afternoon,  
waiting for the reassuring crepuscular rays,  
though sometimes, life is so unkind.  
I could still see the redolence  
of a blooming rainbow  
in love.

## Sculptures of Time

I am an unwritten poem.  
Inked in the farmer's land,  
Soulfully sketched in the chambers  
Of distance,  
Of illusions  
From the midnight oils  
Burning,  
Constant change.

I am the Waiata  
The carvings and knots  
Between miracle and mystery,  
Between spring and autumn,  
Between lands and oceans,  
Between the earth and sky,  
Of my ancestor's breath

Swapna  
Behera

*The Year of the Poet V ~ December 2018*



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

Swapna Behera is a bilingual contemporary poet, author, translator and editor from Odisha, India .She was a teacher from 1984 to 2015 . Her stories, poems and articles are widely published in National and International journals, and ezines, and are translated into different national and International languages. She has penned four books. She was conferred upon the Prestigious International Poesis Award of Honor at the 2nd Bharat Award for Literature as Jury in 2015, The Enchanting Muse Award in India World Poetree Festival 2017, World Icon of Peace Award in 2017, and the Pentasi B World Fellow Poet in 2017.. She is the recipient of Gold Cross Of Wisdom Award ,the medal for The Best Teachers of the World from World Union of Poets in 2018,and The Life time Achievement Award ,The Best Planner Award and The Sahitya Shiromani Award from the Literati Cosmos Society 2018 .She is the Ambassador of Humanity by Hafrikan Prince Art World Africa 2018 and an official member of World Nation's Writers Union ,Kazakhstan2018. At present she is the manager at Large, Planner and Columnist of The Literati,the administrator of several poetic groups ,the member of the Special Council of Five of World Union of Poets and the Cultural Ambassador of Inner Child Press U.S.

## Transforming a Window

In the Maori village  
Sovereign hunting of love  
Pulsating odour of Hangi  
Vibrates the wind  
In transit of a new portrait  
The disciplined endorsement  
The gushing streams near the Marae  
Collaborative jingles  
Lush green pastures  
Infinite earth catering a collective life  
Where every I merges with WE  
The flora and fauna,  
the green ravines  
food on charcoal  
rejuvenating symphony  
Where the protocol of community life exists  
The leader stimulates the group  
Each one greets with Hongi  
Emancipating the vivacity  
grandeur of solidarity  
yes ,the window is transformed  
into a door to sky .....

[N.B- Marae is the meeting ground  
Hongi is greeting by pressing the nose and forehead  
Hangi is food cooked in underground smelting]

## That Morning.....

That morning the Sun rose in the sky  
My verses reflected the rays  
My pen was ready to bleed  
My paper spread its chest to take the bullets or ballots

That morning my fingers were playing  
Marbles to decode the passions  
The anecdotes of past with a fusion to present  
I had an action plan ready  
My alphabets were data based

That morning I feel detoxifying my cells  
My anger ,my pain, my insult, my sorrow volatilised  
My eyes desperate to see the green crop field  
The melody of the tribal women  
The kids opening the yellow cells of the jackfruit  
My thirst was quenched

That morning I was pregnant with an eternal wave  
I smiled; gleamed with joy  
Perhaps I became the queen  
Of the Universe  
Picking my pen  
I sat on the pertinent throne

I was tenacious to be the radical rhythm  
Of a dynamic rhyme  
Not with the synthetic juice or robotic salads  
But with the fresh water of the oasis  
Not with drooping eyes  
but with my pen to culminate

*The Year of the Poet V ~ December 2018*

I sat in between  
The kids with dyslexia or visually challenged  
Girls with Rett syndrome;  
The rape victims; child or women  
I was rotating in my axiom  
Yes that morning I was audacious  
To scribble a melody for them  
The Anthem of victory.....

## As A Dot

Me !!! Me !!!

A timid versatility

On the sea shore

Or

The prelude

of the horizon

Have the trust

Strong enough

To see your scribble

On the palms of

the trembling shadow

A string of a violin

A grass blade

smilies of dew drops

Where all emotions merge

To one emptiness

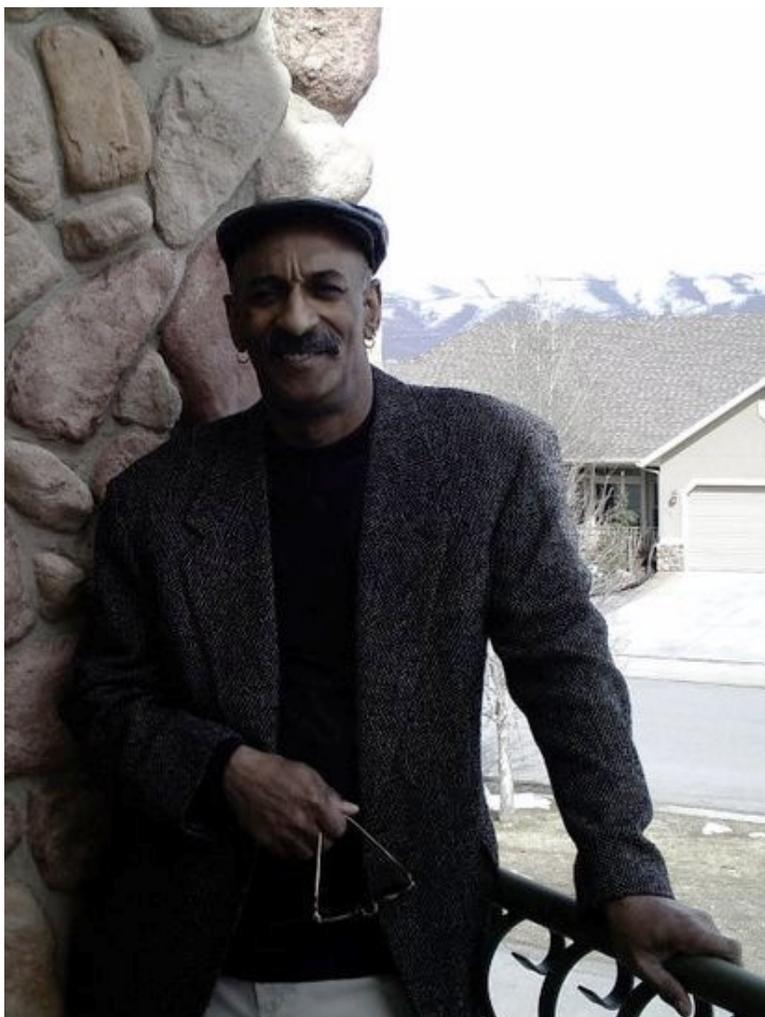
As a dot I swim

As a dot I swim - - - -

*The Year of the Poet V ~ December 2018*

William  
S.  
Peters Sr.

*The Year of the Poet V ~ December 2018*



*The Year of the Poet V ~ December 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)

## Maori

We know of the oceans  
And how they speak  
A language  
Calling for us  
To venture its waves  
And currents

We look to horizons  
And the distant lands  
Waiting to be discovered

We know of the civil tones  
That gives cause  
For the embrace  
Of man  
And his humanity

We know of love,  
That of our people  
And those we have yet  
To meet

We have an identity  
That belongs to  
Us alone

We mark our flesh  
With our pride  
And ink  
As we dance  
Worshipping the Gods  
Of Creation

We are Maori

## A tribute to love

There is a spirit that prevails  
That carries my warmth  
And all that I deem worthwhile  
Within her breast

She is my smiles,  
My laughter,  
My tears  
And my  
Happily ever after

She is the wind  
That makes my wings  
Feel integral,  
The soft breeze  
That carries the fragrance  
Of the blossoming  
Of my dreams  
Of the future  
And that of my  
Now-ness

She gives me purpose!

My prowess  
Is enhanced  
By her presence  
And I dance  
Because of her  
Essence

Her embrace,  
The light upon her face  
That leaks from her eyes  
Staves off

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Any demise  
That dare approach me  
For she alone  
Is my reproach  
For the shade or shadows  
Made in the meadows  
That lie  
At the feet  
Of the mountains  
I have come to climb

I think my self  
To be a poet,  
But she is my rhyme  
And my ability  
To envision  
And conjure  
The things of  
Magnificence  
. . . .  
Does that make any sense ? . . .

Well it doesn't have to,  
For I have her... love  
And in these lines  
I hope you too can find  
A reason  
To . . .  
Pay your own  
Tribute  
To Love

## The Anatomy of a poem

*Disclaimer : this is not a Sonnet*

What is a poem ?

Many would say that it is  
About the rhyme scheme . .  
You know such things as  
Shoe  
And do  
And you  
On cue  
And what you know,  
And what you once knew

Others would say  
It is about  
Your iambic pentameter  
You know,  
The footsteps of the beat  
And your syllabic execution  
The feet man, the feet

Many would say  
Does the poem  
Move me,  
Take me away,  
Allow me to play  
In the poet's visions  
And dreams  
Their hopes  
Their fears . .  
Will I laugh, smile  
Or shed some tears

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Some look for messages,  
And many of us poets  
Have none  
Worthwhile sharing . . .  
What happened to the poet's . . .  
And the readers . . .  
Caring ?

Was the poem  
A throw-away  
Or stow-away  
To read some other time,  
One which we never quite seem  
To get around to

Was the offered poem  
Endearing . . .  
Did you find a line  
Or verse  
That gave cause  
For your swearing  
Tearing  
Or fearing  
Today,  
Tomorrow  
And what may come  
Or did the poem leave you hanging  
Looking for that  
Sum-mation  
About its position,  
Stance  
Or station

Was the poem  
Informative  
Or just another  
\*expletive

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You depleted  
When you almost  
Completed  
Reading  
The humble words  
Of we  
The struggling poets  
Who search for words  
To touch you  
In a place of understanding . . .

After all,  
We poets  
Like so many others  
Mainly just wish to be . .  
Heard

There are many aspects and  
Endless possibilities  
To what a poem may be,  
And quite frankly  
There is not enough paper  
In the entire world  
To describe  
Its poet-ential,

So I will leave you with this . . .  
My simple anatomy is  
That a poem should kiss you  
In a place  
That the Sun  
Does not shine . . .  
No, not in the accepted respect,  
But it should help you  
To uncover  
And detect  
A piece of

*The Year of the Poet V ~ December 2018*

Your missing self  
That you have put  
On that now  
Dusty shelf  
Of  
Spirit,  
Consciousness,  
Compassion,  
Humanity . . .

It should help you see clearly  
The insanity  
We endure  
While taking you pleasantly  
Or tersely away  
To explore  
The possibilities  
Of the beauty abound  
Within you  
Or without

*From the darkness comes the light,  
Our courage is spawned  
In the womb of our fright  
And wrongs are reconciled  
By the 'right'  
And each day  
Is birthed from  
A night*

May this humble anatomy  
Serve my own plight  
In seeking to write  
something meaningful

Poetic offerings  
My verse is FREE !

December

2018

Features

~ \* ~

Rose Terranova Cirigliano

Joanna Kalinowska

Emir Sokolovic

Ashokchakravarthy Tholana

*The Year of the Poet V ~ December 2018*



Rosè  
Terranova  
Cirigliano

*The Year of the Poet V ~ December 2018*



*The Year of the Poet V ~ December 2018*

I am a retired teacher; 17 years in the classroom, (Junior High), and then 8 years on TV. I wrote, hosted, and produced educational programs for the Catholic Diocese of Brooklyn and Queens. On the side I was the director of a parish theater group mounting two productions each year, one a musical play, and the other a Cabaret. I am a classically trained singer, and did recitals from 1983 through 2000. I met Lewis Crystal in 1979 when I worked at HBJ Bookstore with him and Brigitte. I've always written poetry, from when I was in my teens. Lewis enabled me to make some of my private writing public. And I have been grateful ever since. I currently edit a seasonal anthology for and online group FM, and other works from an international group of authors through a small publishing company, ROSE BOOKS, an affiliate of AVENUE U PUBLISHERS, [Lewis Crystal (owner)].

## Look back to look ahead

Excavation underway...  
dining room corner...  
unearthing a 1924 Crosley record player and radio  
belonged to my aunt, a gift from her father on her 17th  
birthday.

The debris of at least 20 years...  
when it was placed in that corner...  
after her death...  
the last major transition point in my life...  
On the way to the next...

photographs and memories...  
jewelry that has been missing for years...  
hahaha... lots of old paperwork...  
finally tossed...

what to keep, what to sell, what to give away or toss...  
lots of dust irritating my nose and throat...  
and my hands...itchy...

Found an old letter that I never sent...  
the preamble to an attempt to process my life that  
was...unfinished...  
I was high and hopeful...for 8 months...  
Then reflective...

At my peak...

been a slow descent...

*The Year of the Poet V ~ December 2018*

Time for a change...  
time for casting off the debris of this life  
that will ultimately land in a dumpster....  
So I'll toss it myself....  
Don't want to leave a mess in my wake...

My life has been a mess and a jumble  
and an honest attempt to find happiness  
and stay away from pain....  
I did not succeed....

But I hope I leave something of worth behind  
to justify it all.

## In a World Gone Mad

*“Money makes the world go around the world  
go around the world go around, t  
hat clinking clanking sound,  
it makes the world go round...” [Cabaret].*

People want power,  
control,  
ease,  
toys, amusements,  
things...many things,  
sound systems, electronics, computers,  
lavish homes, cars, yachts, planes,  
etc etc etc....

But they need people to take care of all these things,  
for them;  
they are too lazy to care for everything themselves.  
But they have to pay them to do it.  
Wouldn't slaves be better?

Well, you still have to clothe and feed them,  
and supply them with some kind of housing....  
So....hmmm...  
what about letting them have the illusion of  
control and some power,  
little bits and pieces of what we have,  
(after all, we know from history that if we  
make things uncomfortable for them  
they might just revolt...lol),

and in exchange,  
they give us everything we want?  
Sounds good to me... so, how we gonna do that?

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Hmmmm.... Well, it won't be easy to fool them....  
Or maybe it would be....  
PT Barnum did say, "There's a sucker born every minute!"  
Or did he?  
Who cares... Let the games begin...

What we end up with are two classes....  
The very rich and powerful, and the minions.

Of course there is always going to be the idiot fringe,  
the weak, the crippled, the stupid,  
the defeated, the depressed, the mentally ill....

They make great scapegoats for our plan....  
After all we need someone to blame when things go wrong.  
...

.... Are we there yet???

## Fact or Fakery

We sign virtual petitions  
Expressing our rage  
We go on marches wearing hats  
Or in support of our children  
And nothing changes

We read that we are hacked  
And manipulated by pros  
We question what is FAKE and what is FACT  
And nothing changes

We post memes in support of our position  
Engage in arguments with total strangers  
Arguing in poli-meme-speak  
And nothing changes

We are stuck hoping for November  
Hoping there will be a miraculous turnout  
That will somehow miraculously  
Stem the course of disaster  
And ???? what if nothing changes?

Joanna  
Kalinowska

*The Year of the Poet V ~ December 2018*



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

Joanna Kalinowska, says about herself, that she was born under a wandering star. She, as a child (a daughter of an officer), often moved from one place to another. These constant changes taught her the openness and the willingness to meet new people and places.

She spent many years in Poland. Fifteen years ago she moved to Italy.

She has always been writing but she publishes now. Her book “Ascoltando Azzurro –Wysłuchana w błękit” was written so that people who speak different languages can express the same feelings. Three volumes of her poetry were edited and her poems were printed in various anthologies and magazines.

She writes and publishes in two languages, both Polish and Italian. She loves these two countries. They are her homelands.

She arranged “The Amici Italia-Polonia Association”. Its headquarters there is in Taranto — the city where she lives and works.

She is a teacher, but she actually works as a translator and an activist of the Polish community.

She is a member of the Warsaw Association of Literature’s Translators. Joanna works for the Italian literary-cultural group “La Vallisa”, too. She also cooperates with magazine of this group.

She is the initiator and organizer of many cultural and social events.

## Carrier of mystery

carrier of mystery  
smiles to herself  
she sees the universe enclosed in a droplet  
she is a priestess  
guarding the gates between the worlds  
and she is the gate herself  
chosen by a soul  
what's going to come back to her?  
it is in her but it is not her  
it feeds on her blood  
but it gives her pure light  
from which love will flow  
the purest in the world

## Living ...

I live with what is left of the spirit of my childhood  
I wake up and see the sun again  
the morning greets me  
allowing for new discoveries during the trip  
I have grown little bit  
but I am always this cloud of dreams  
I move forward because the world is spinning  
and if I remain motionless  
I will be on the dark side of the moon  
where a man cannot see anything  
I go because I do not want to be late  
for to go forward means to read and write  
study life and understand the world  
I go to meet the upcoming dreams  
and when I wander enough  
to be able to stop I will turn around and see  
that I am that girl  
I explored the meaning of cognition  
explored the things that faced me  
and that's why I know those who are like me, like us,  
have wings  
that lift them above the clouds of reality  
rising into this area of heaven  
where all dreams are beautiful  
and it is possible to touch them

## Wall

the wall is just ... just ...  
facing you and it has a closed window  
on the right there is photo of your mother as a young girl  
with a look and smile of a startled doe  
which resembles our daughter's smile so much

on the windowsill there are flowers and a statuette of elf  
bought in Ireland  
it was our honeymoon and you woke me up with kisses  
it seemed that we were beginning a journey of life holding  
hands

it's clear that the wall is there, it exists like me  
sometimes you will stop with a blind sight  
but I have a heart that has never stopped to loving you

do not pretend that nothing has happened,  
do not ignore me in this way  
kill this silence before it finishes us  
it is a silence that has a magnetically destructive power  
and a beam of radiation suppressing every sound

get angry ... raise your voice...cry ... cry  
I am here, in front of you,  
How can you not hear me?  
Look into my eyes, you do not see me,  
honey, you do not see me anymore?  
show passion ... anger ... jealousy ...  
any reaction but show it to me  
I'm screaming and you're silent  
with unseeing eyes and closed mouth

*The Year of the Poet V ~ December 2018*

silence...

outside the window, the rain stuns the grass  
heads of flowers rise ... and only one tear

I close my eyes ... silence ... I disappear ...  
only the white wall remains

*Translation- Alicja Maria Kuberska*

*Language consultation- Maureen Clifford*

*The Year of the Poet V ~ December 2018*

Emir  
Sokolovic

*The Year of the Poet V ~ December 2018*



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

Sokolović Emir was born in 1961. His works have been translated into Italian, Polish, English, French... He has been published in many anthologies and collections. He is the creator and director of the prestigious international literary festival "Pero Živodraga Živković". So far he published:

- „Dove e perche/ Gdje i zašto“ – Edizione Foreman, Bergamo 1983.
- „Apokalipsa“ – intermedijalni projekat TV Zetel, 1994.
- „Una era canna allora/ Bio je tada trska“ – autorsko izdanje 1998.
- „Paris – ili zalud je razapinjati Krista“ – autorsko izdanje 1999.
- „Oslobađanje“ – autorsko izdanje 2003.
- „Lako je jurišati na nebo koje ćuti...“ – autorsko izdanje 2011.
- „Una era canna allora“ – Casa Editrice „Rocco Carabba“ 2013.
- „Poetica demonica“ – „Kultura snova“ 2014.
- „Ples među podsjenama“ – autorsko izdanje 2015.
- “Paris – ili zalud je razapinjati Krista/ Paride - È inutile crocifiggere Cristo” - „Providenca“ 2015 i
- „Ogledi“ – „Providenca“ 2016,
- “Banka” – “Narodno pozorište RS” – 2017 i
- “Vjetrovi/ I Venti” – “Providenca” – 2017.

## Babylonian Strumpet

Your Grail  
was built upon your  
avidity and  
wantonness  
You who are willing to  
suffer the chastisement  
due to the feebleness  
of others  
trusting in the righteous' shroud  
speak:  
“Drink, your blood  
and wine  
my shame is  
peerless  
without my ignominy.  
I am an outcast  
for I wanted it to be;  
I wore  
crowns duly.  
My Grail has been  
made.”

## Upon Looking In The Mirror

The shame shrouded with  
A tear on  
The jester's  
Face  
Awakens holiness  
On the trail and  
Deadlock  
Which alters  
The tremor  
Into laughter  
Although the overshadow  
Withstands  
The rays  
Seeking one another  
And the hint of which  
Was dreamy  
Under the gown  
To which they  
Bowed  
In vain...

## The Healing

For the well  
In his dreams  
While it strides down  
The score  
In the form of  
The drunken  
Ink which  
Is an excuse  
To the Maestro through its  
Thoughtfulness  
Shows the way  
Even though at  
The horizon  
In this hourglass  
There is no grain  
Nor rudder  
Nor stern  
Only the anchor  
A knot around the neck...

T. Ashok  
Chakravarthy

*The Year of the Poet V ~ December 2018*



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

Dr. Ashok Chakravarthy, Poet, India, is composing poetry for over 25 years and of the 2000 poems composed, nearly 1600 poems appeared in various magazines, journals, anthologies, newspapers etc. in over 90 countries. His 6 volumes of poetry viz., *Charismata of Poesie, Chariot of Musings, Serene Thoughts, Twinkles, Reflections, Altitudes* received wide readership acclaim. His poetry is aimed to promote universal peace, environment awareness, Children rights protection etc. He was adjudged with several international awards, viz., Universal Peace Ambassador, Love Ambassador, Asian Who's Who & conferred with 4 doctorates and received 'First Laureate of the World of Literature 2017' on the Independence of KAZAKHSTAN.

[http://peacefromharmony.org/?cat=en\\_c&key=286](http://peacefromharmony.org/?cat=en_c&key=286)

[www.upli-wcp.org/poet-and-poems-for-the-month-of-may-2017/](http://www.upli-wcp.org/poet-and-poems-for-the-month-of-may-2017/)

## Unfading Memories

Like a welcome shower  
Dousing the heat of a sultry summer,  
Like a bright shining sun  
Piercing the clouds of a mid-monsoon,  
Like the crescent moon in the sly  
Peeping through the star-lit cloudy sky,  
Unfading memories of childhood  
Traverse all through life's varied mood.

Grown from the cozy lap of mother  
Through the secured hands of father,  
The whirl-pools of advancing age,  
Leave foot-prints at every life's stage.  
Those colorful and naughty chosen ranks  
Those ever playful and childish pranks,  
Become more treasured, as age advances  
Till fag end, they remain top memories.  
While innocence reigns the days  
Future, looming large in many a way,  
Yes, whatever be the outcome  
Facing any type of storm that comes;  
One should not ignore basic morals  
To experience and tame life's hassles  
For leading a content-filled life  
Bearing and sharing, pain and grief.

## Survival And Revival

Entangled in the snares of materialistic world  
Passing the day-to-day life under 'desires sword';  
The consequences of passions often entangle us  
Reminding, life is not a mere destination for bliss.

Outwardly, we are not what we really are  
But inwardly we possess some invisible power;  
Betwixt these indistinguishable dualities,  
There exists God, with inconceivable realities.

How mighty His Hand is, How Graceful His eyes  
Crowning the day with light, He mesmerizes;  
Adorning the night sky with moon and stars,  
It's He, Who wields control over universe and skies.

Most mysterious are ways of God, The Creator  
Most Benevolent are the Eyes of God, The Savior;  
Under whose merciful eyes we act on life's stage  
Unaware, we are caught in a pre-destined cage.

Yes, moment after moment of our very survival  
Depend on the "Ocean of Mercy's" bestowal;  
God! The Invisible but Supremely Powerful  
Runs the show of "Every Survival and Revival".

## Till The Last Breathe

Thoughts, pave a way for new desires  
Desires in turn transform into dreams;  
Childhood, as it pierced through years  
Dreamed of youth, to dispel life's fears.

Days were delightful with ever-new cheer  
Youthful days soared like a brimming river,  
Day and night, the thirst for love surged  
Boundless dreams one after another budged.

The relentless and unquenched love-thirst  
At last pierced deep into the heart of heart;  
The phase of a new transformation began  
The youthful phase tried to hold, but in vain.

Another spell of dream for riches and luxuries  
Unfolded with a new vigor and new worries;  
The eye of wisdom awakened to peep into life  
And realized, dreams often invite grief into life.

For God has bestowed us with a valuable 'life'  
It's better to feel content to keep at bay; grief.  
Short-lived and unfulfilled dreams are perilous  
For; till the last breathe they hunt and hurt us.

*The Year of the Poet V ~ December 2018*

Inner Child Press

News

*The Year of the Poet V ~ December 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*

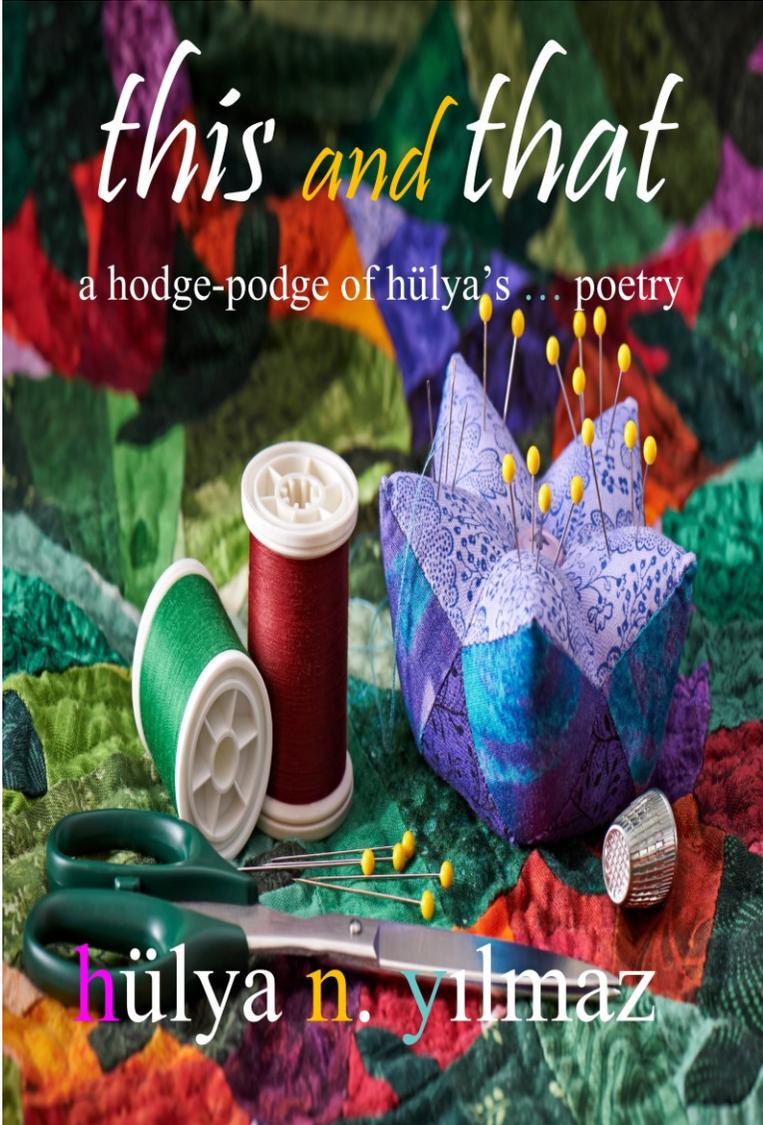
*Faleeha Hassan*

*Caroline 'Ceri' Nazareno*

*William S. Peters, Sr.*

*The Year of the Poet V ~ December 2018*

*Coming January of 2019*



*The Year of the Poet V ~ December 2018*

*Coming January of 2019*

# No Illusions

*Through the Looking Glass*



Jackie Davis Allen

*The Year of the Poet V ~ December 2018*

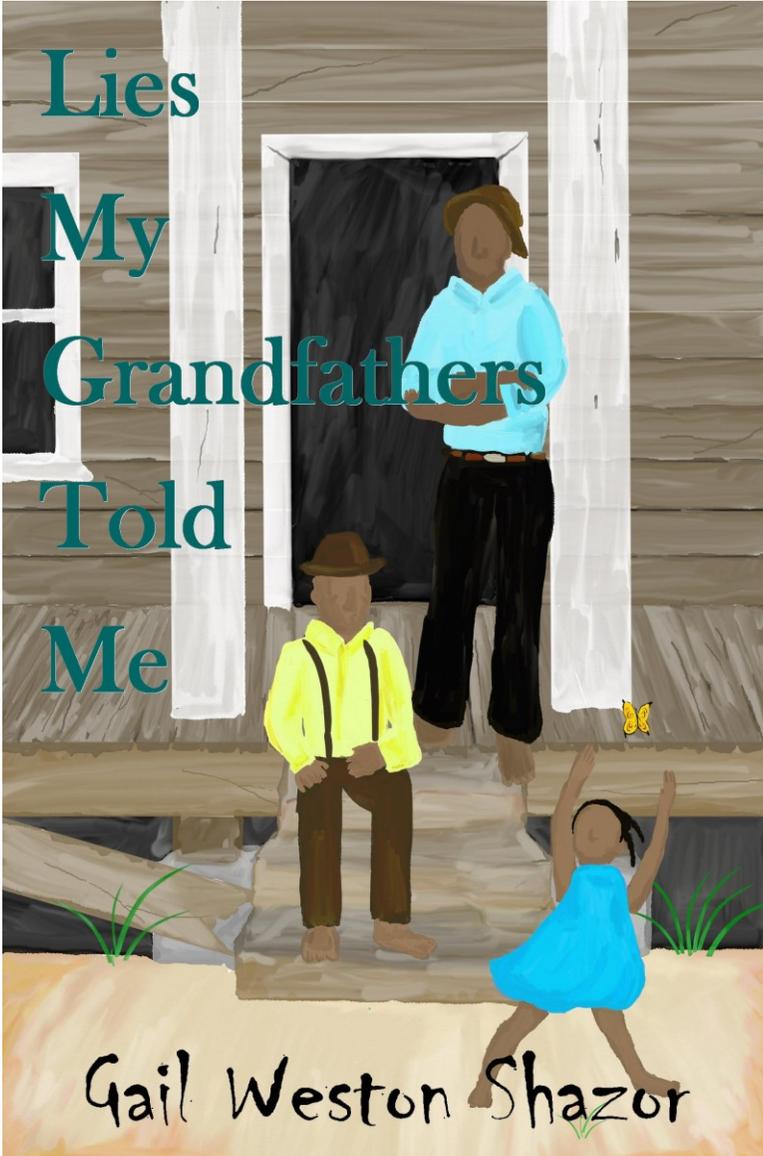
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# *Aflame*



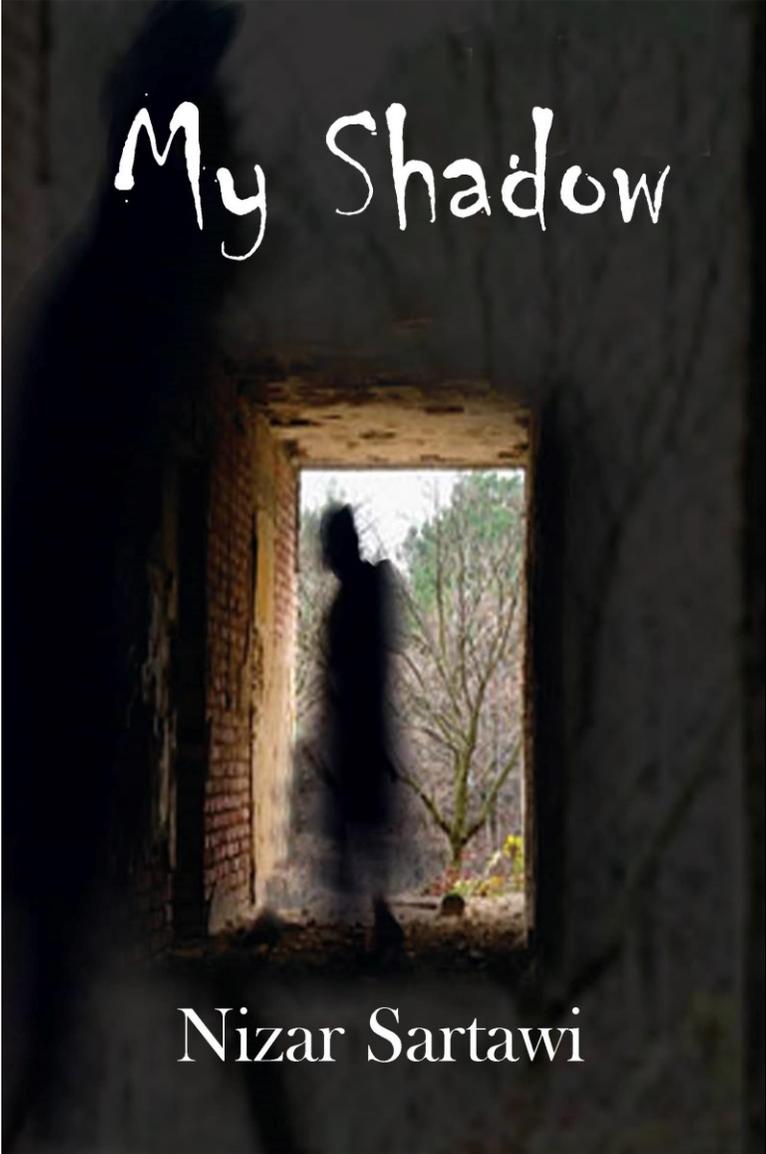
*Memoirs in Verse*

**hülya n. yılmaz**

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# My Shadow



Nizar Sartawi

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Faleeha Hassan

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Breakfast

for

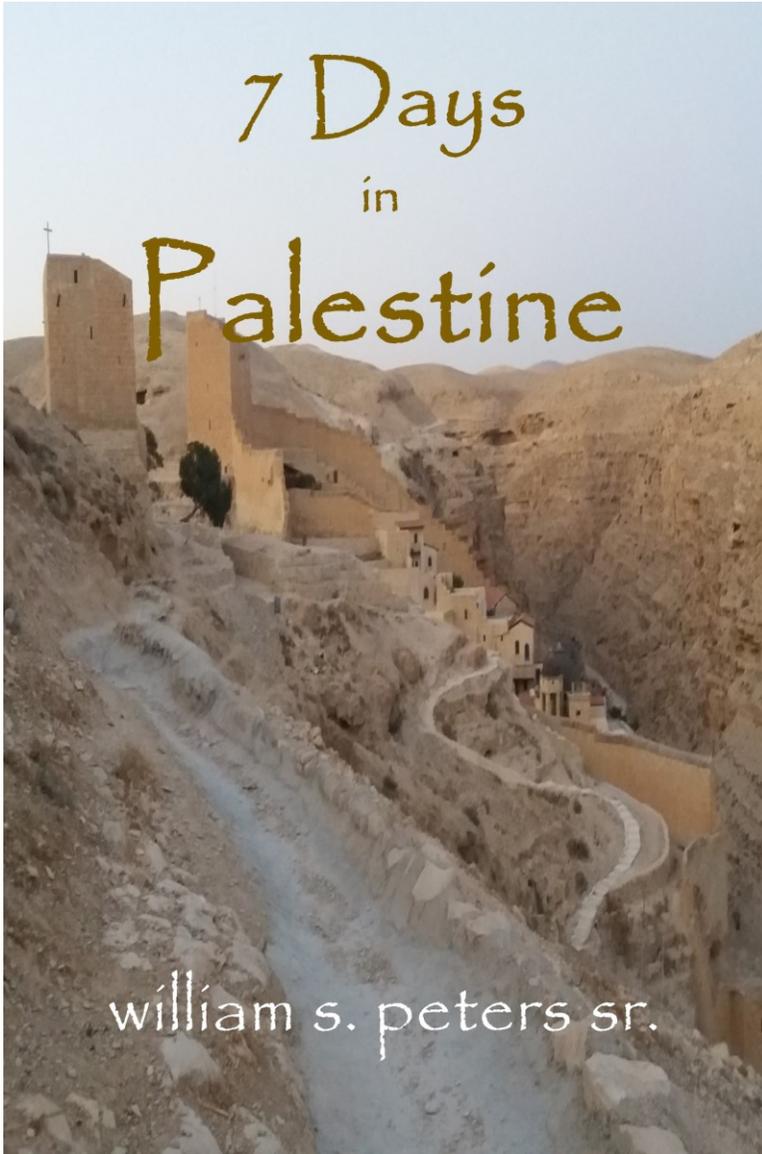
Butterflies



Faleeha Hassan

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presents

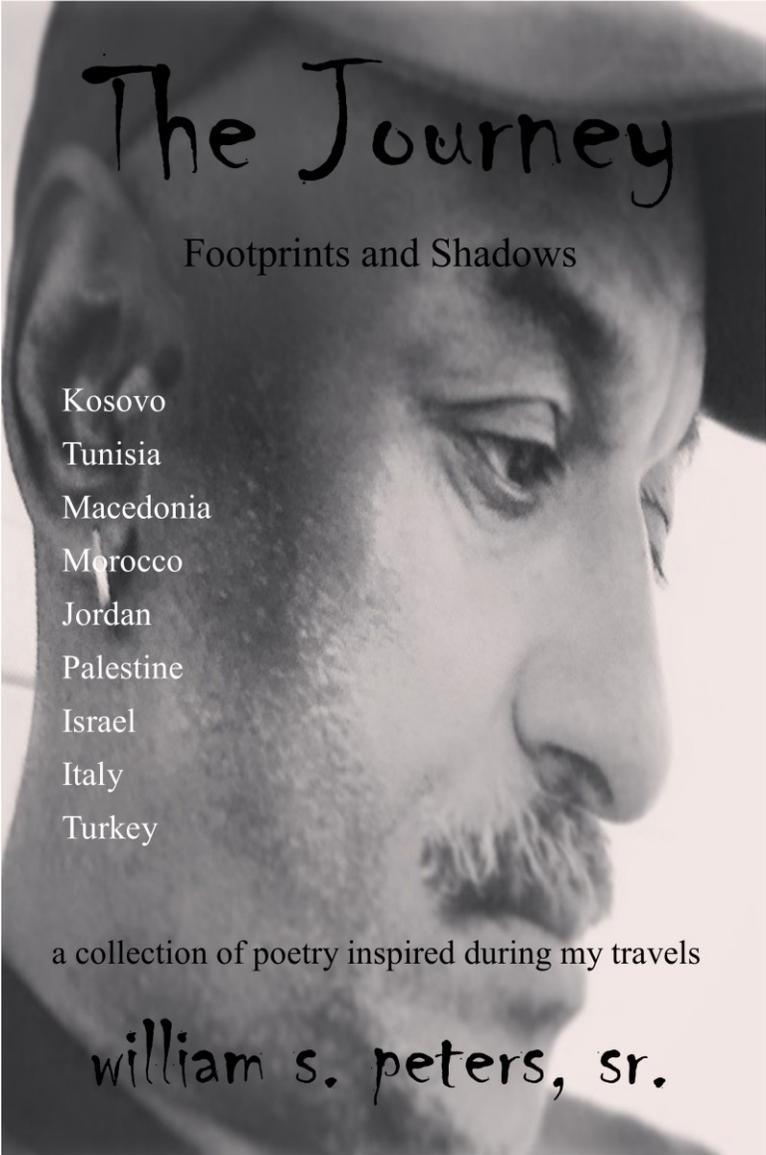
*Tunisia My Love*



william s. peters, sr.

*The Year of the Poet V ~ December 2018*

*Coming in December of 2018*



# The Journey

Footprints and Shadows

Kosovo

Tunisia

Macedonia

Morocco

Jordan

Palestine

Israel

Italy

Turkey

a collection of poetry inspired during my travels

william s. peters, sr.

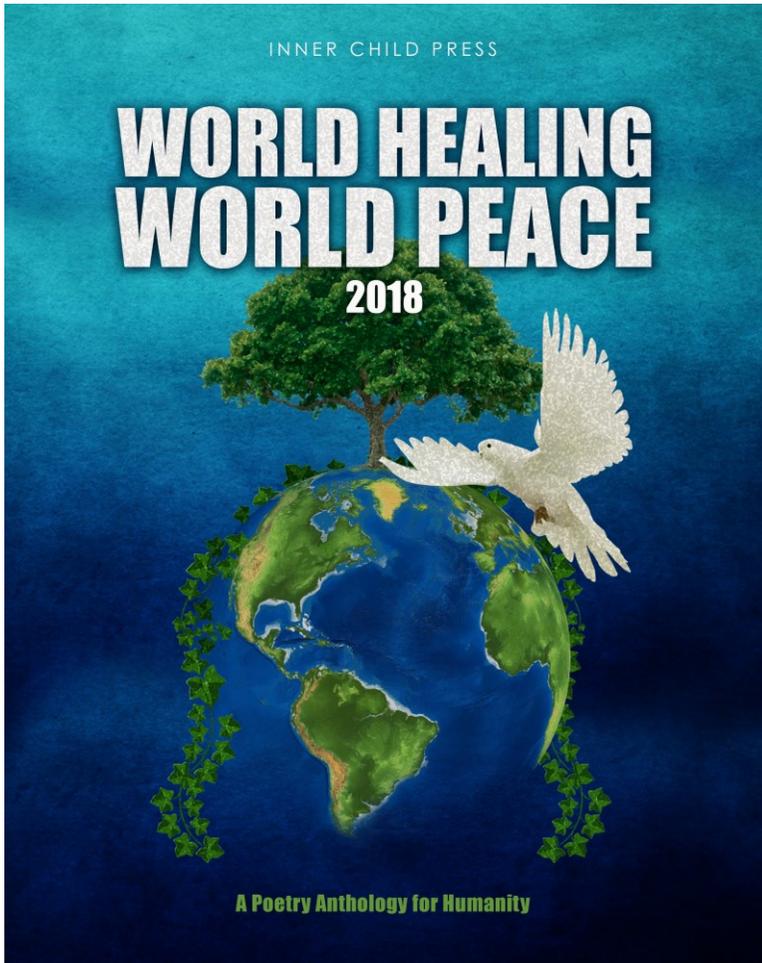
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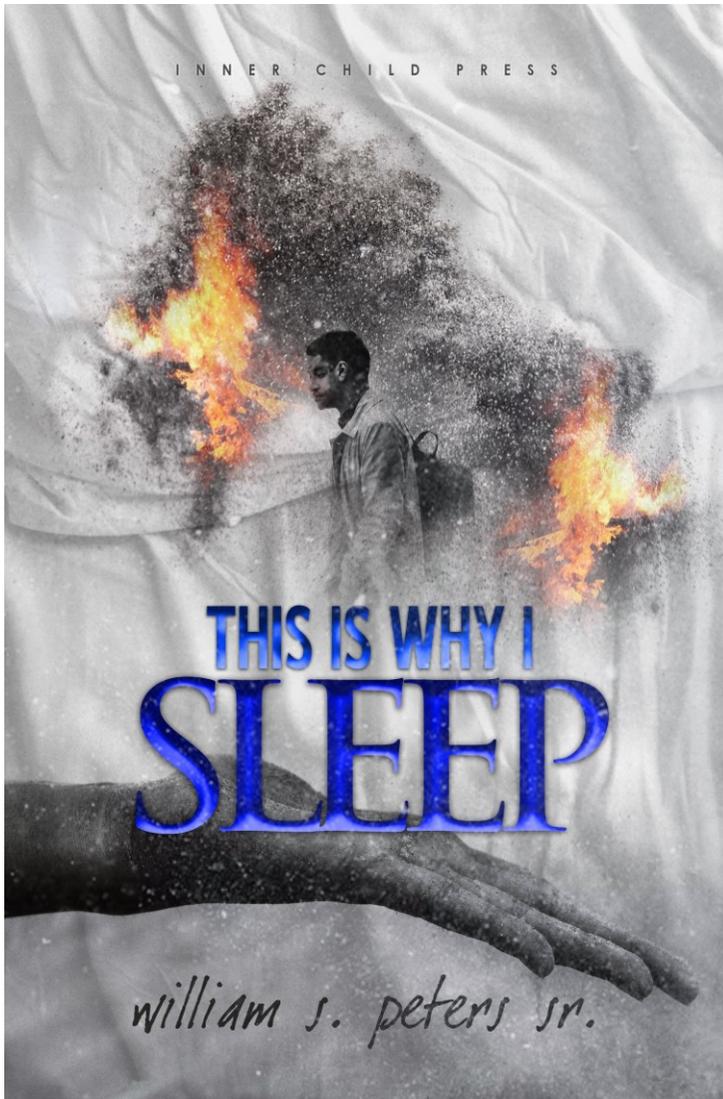
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# Inward Reflections

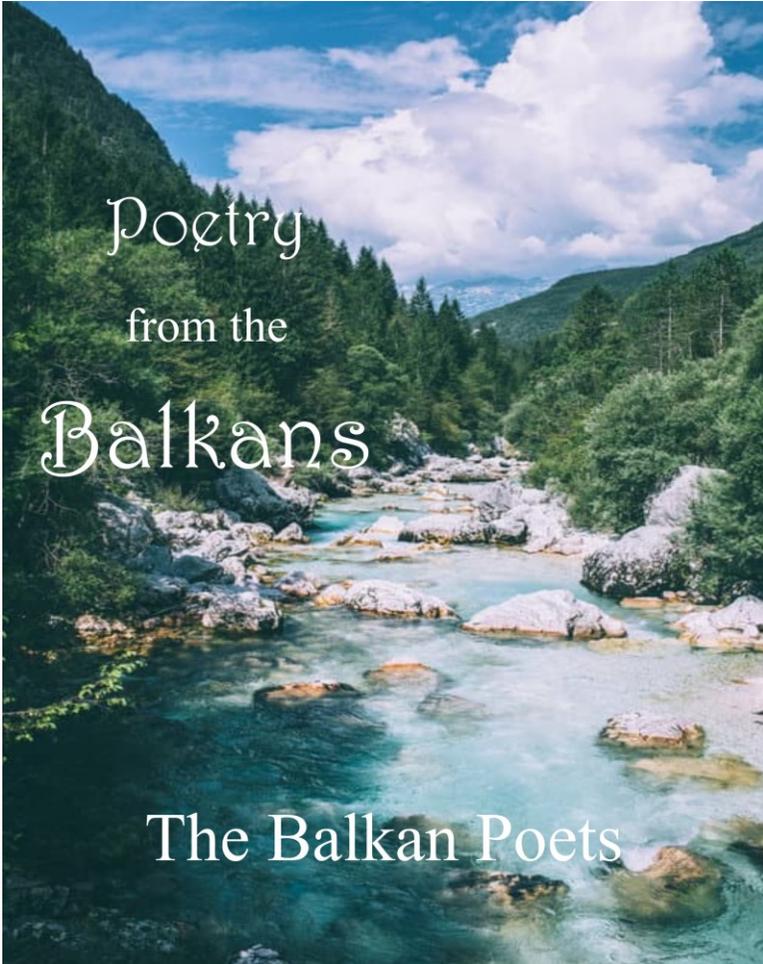


*Think on These Things  
Book II*

*william s. peters, sr.*

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*The Year of the Poet V ~ December 2018*

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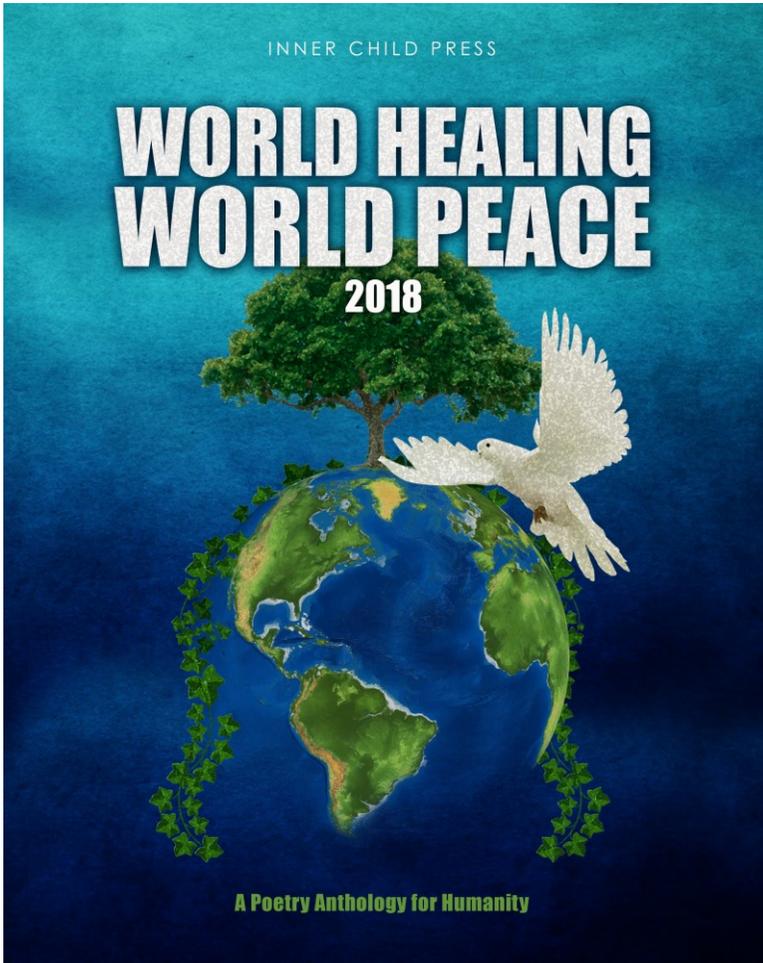
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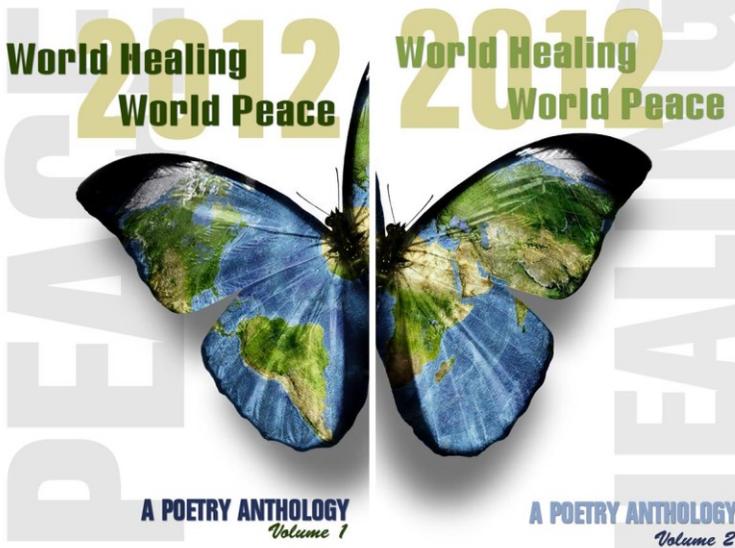
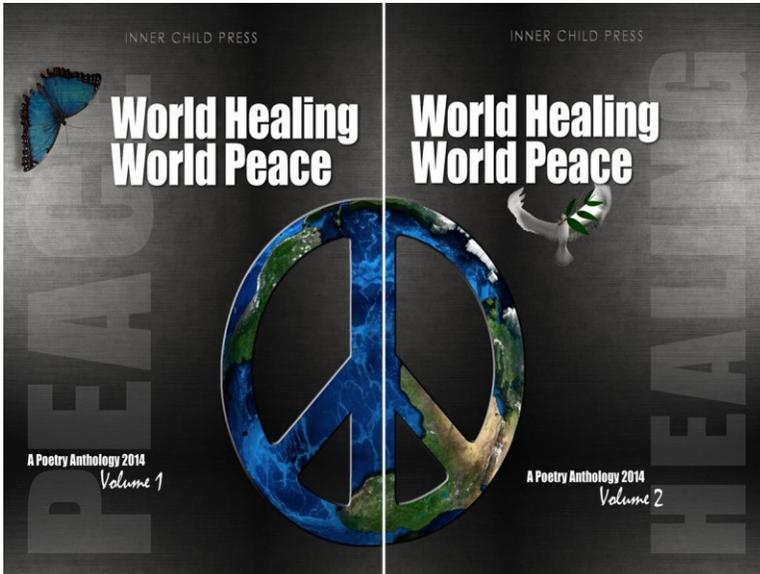
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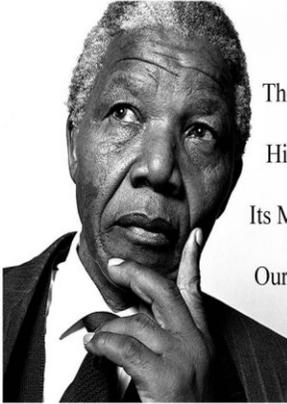
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# Mandela



The Man  
His Life  
Its Meaning  
Our Words

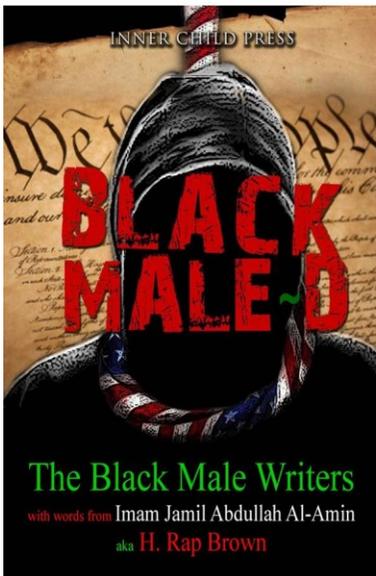
Poetry . . . Commentary & Stories  
*The Anthological Writers*

# A GATHERING OF WORDS



POETRY & COMMENTARY  
FOR

# TRAYVON MARTIN



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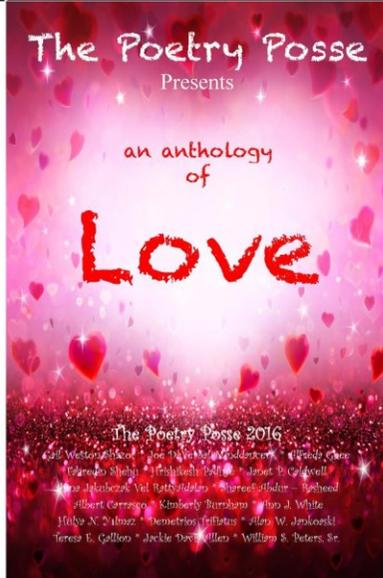
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Inner Child Press Anthologies



a  
Poetically  
Spoken  
Anthology  
volume I  
Collector's Edition



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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

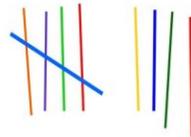
volume II



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  
Neeetu 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  
Neeetu 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  
Neeetu 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  
Neeetu 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 Inñique Carrasco  
Siddantha Beth Pearce  
Janet P. Caldwell  
June Bugg Barefield  
Debbie M. Allen  
Tony Hanninger  
Joe DalVerbal Minddancer  
Robert Gibbons  
Nesta Wolf  
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 Inñique Carrasco  
Siddantha Beth Pearce  
Janet P. Caldwell  
June Bugg Barefield  
Debbie M. Allen  
Tony Hanninger  
Joe DalVerbal Minddancer  
Robert Gibbons  
Nesta Wolf  
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 Inñique Carrasco  
Siddantha Beth Pearce  
Janet P. Caldwell  
June Bugg Barefield  
Debbie M. Allen  
Tony Hanninger  
Joe DalVerbal Minddancer  
Robert Gibbons  
Nesta Wolf  
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 Inñique Carrasco  
Siddantha Beth Pearce  
Janet P. Caldwell  
June Bugg Barefield  
Debbie M. Allen  
Tony Hanninger  
Joe DalVerbal Minddancer  
Robert Gibbons  
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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 Barretfield • 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 Barretfield • 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 Barretfield • 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 Barretfield • 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 Pappas • Santos Castro • 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 Gibbons  
Neetu Wali  
Shareef Abdur - Rasheed  
Kimberly Burnham  
Ann White  
Keith Alan Hamilton  
Katherine Wyatt  
Fahredin Shehu  
Hilya N. Yilmaz  
Teresa E. Gallion  
Jackie Allen  
William S. Peters, Sr.

**January Feature Poets**  
Bismay Mohantri • Jen Walls • Eric Judah

**THE YEAR OF THE POET II**  
February 2015



**Amethyst**

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

**FEBRUARY FEATURE POETS**  
Iram Fatima • Bob McNeil • Kerstin Centervall

## The Year of the Poet II

March 2015

**Our Featured Poets**  
Heung Sook • Anthony Arnold • Alicia Poland



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

## The Year of the Poet II

April 2015

Celebrating International Poetry Month

**Our Featured Poets**  
Raja Williams • Dennis Ferado • Laure Charazac



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

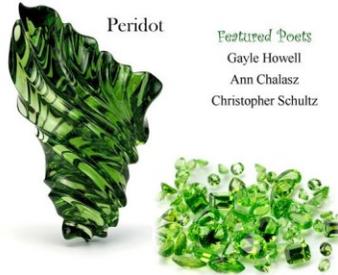
## The Year of the Poet II

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

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



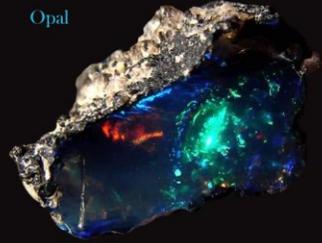
Sapphires

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

*The Year of the Poet II*  
 October 2015

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

Opal



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

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



Featured Poets  
 Alan W. Jankowski  
 Bismay Mohanty  
 James Moore

Topaz

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

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

Featured Poets  
 Kerione Bryan \* Michelle Joan Barulich \* Neville Hiatt



Turquoise

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

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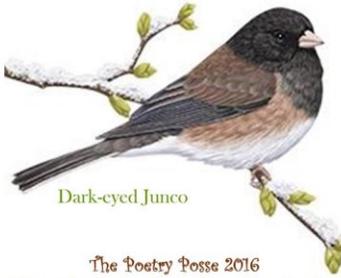
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## The Year of the Poet III January 2016

### Featured Poets

Lana Joseph \* Atom Cyrus Rush \* Christena Williams



Dark-eyed Junco

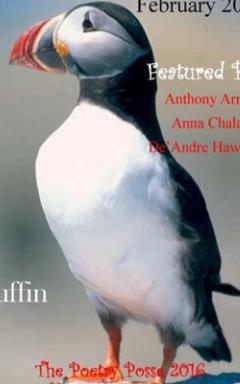
### The Poetry Posse 2016

Gail Weston Shazor \* Anna Jakubczak Vel Rattysyrdala \* Anna J. White  
Fahreddin Shehu \* Hirshikesh Padhye \* Janet P. Caldwell  
Anna Jakubczak Vel Rattysyrdala \* 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 Daverol Mbodloer \* Alfredo Ghee  
Fahreddin Shehu \* Hirshikesh Padhye \* Janet P. Caldwell  
Anna Jakubczak Vel Rattysyrdala \* 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 Daverol Mbodloer \* Alfredo Ghee  
Fahreddin Shehu \* Hirshikesh Padhye \* Janet P. Caldwell  
Anna Jakubczak Vel Rattysyrdala \* 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

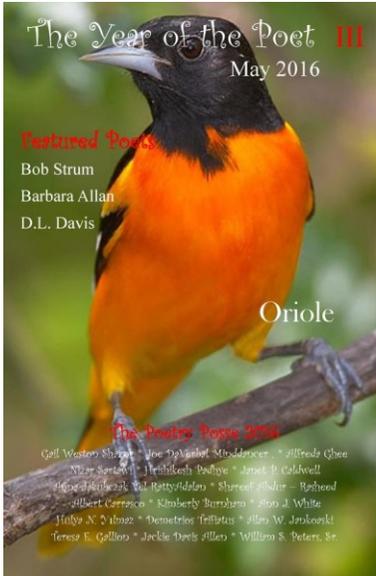
Gail Weston Shazor \* Joe Daverol Mbodloer \* Alfredo Ghee  
Fahreddin Shehu \* Hirshikesh Padhye \* Janet P. Caldwell  
Anna Jakubczak Vel Rattysyrdala \* Shereef Abdur - Rasheed  
Albert Carrasco \* Kimberly Barnham \* Anna J. White  
Hulya N. Yilmaz \* Demetrios Fotinas \* Alan W. Jankowski  
Teresa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

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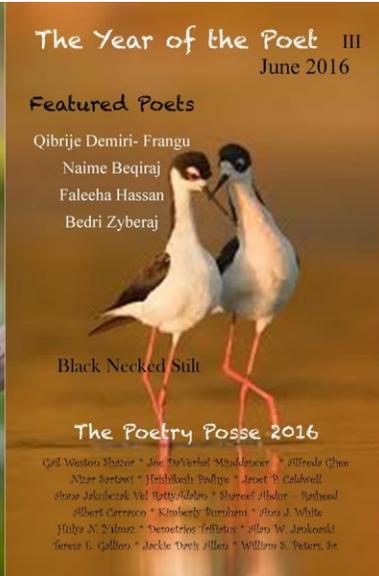


The Year of the Poet III  
May 2016

**Featured Poets**  
Bob Strum  
Barbara Allan  
D.L. Davis

Oriole

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

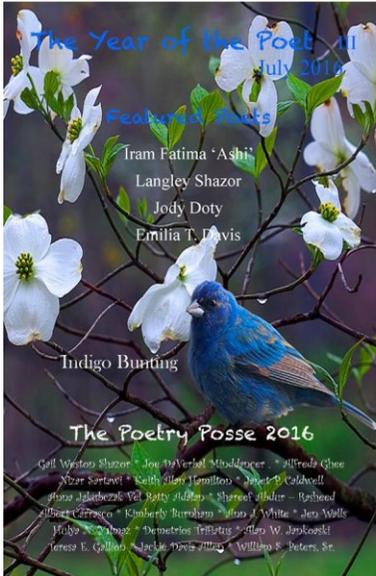


The Year of the Poet III  
June 2016

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

Black Necked Stilt

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

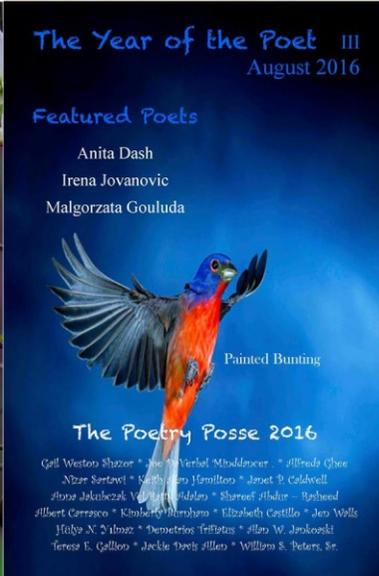


The Year of the Poet III  
July 2016

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

Indigo Bunting

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

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

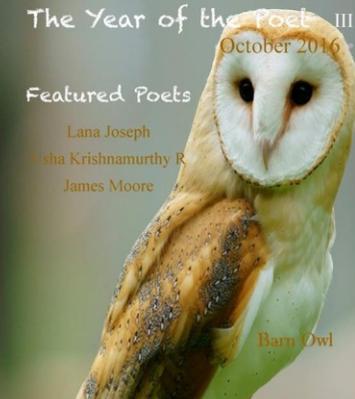


Long Billed Curlew

**The Poetry Posse 2016**  
Gail Weston Shazor \* Joe DeVerbal Muddancer \* Jen Walls  
Nizar Sattari \* Janet P. Caldwell \* Alfredo Ghese  
Jose DeVerbal Muddancer \* Sharon Adler \* Richard  
Albert Carrasco \* Kimberly Burgham \* Elizabeth Castillo  
Hilary N. Albano \* Demetrios Trifotis \* 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

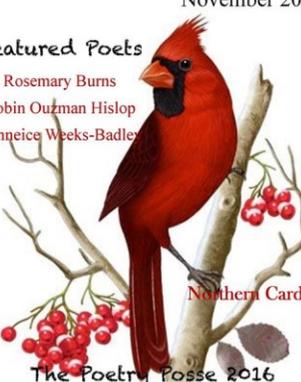


Barn Owl

**The Poetry Posse 2016**  
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Nizar Sattari \* Janet P. Caldwell \* Alfredo Ghese  
Joe DeVerbal Muddancer \* Sharon Adler \* Richard  
Albert Carrasco \* Kimberly Burgham \* Elizabeth Castillo  
Hilary N. Albano \* Demetrios Trifotis \* 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 Ghese  
Joe DeVerbal Muddancer \* Sharon Adler \* Richard  
Albert Carrasco \* Kimberly Burgham \* Elizabeth Castillo  
Hilary N. Albano \* Demetrios Trifotis \* 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

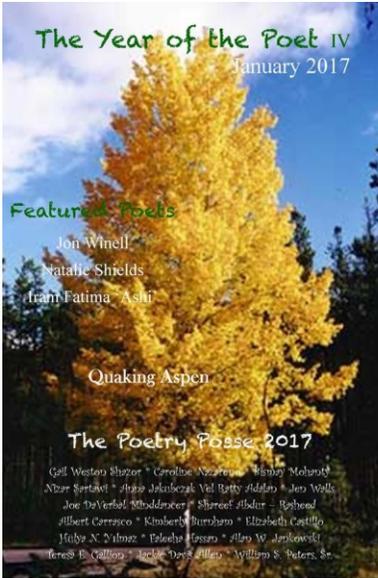
**The Poetry Posse 2016**  
Gail Weston Shazor \* Caroline Nazzareno \* Jen Walls  
Nizar Sattari \* Janet P. Caldwell \* Alfredo Ghese  
Jose DeVerbal Muddancer \* Sharon Adler \* Richard  
Albert Carrasco \* Kimberly Burgham \* Elizabeth Castillo  
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January 2017

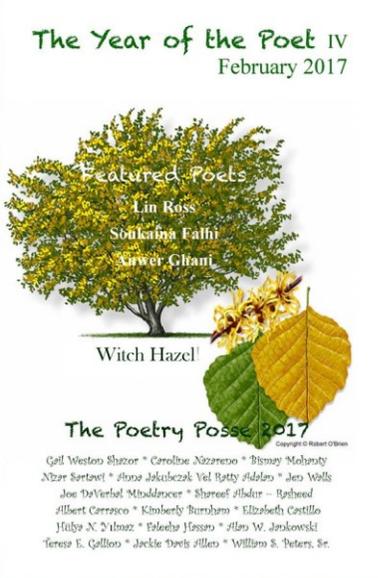


**Featured Poets**  
Jon Winell  
Natale Shields  
Iram Fatima Ashi

**Quaking Aspen**

**The Poetry Posse 2017**  
Gail Weston Shazor \* Caroline Nazareno \* Binmay Mohanty  
Nizar Sertawi \* Atosa Jakubczak Val Betty Adelan \* Jen Walls  
Joe DeVerlato Miodonsaw \* Shereef Albadir \* Rashad  
Albert Carrasco \* Kimberly Bursham \* Elizabeth Castillo  
Julie N. D'Amaz \* Felicia Jasso \* Jairo W. Jankowski  
Teresa E. Gallon \* Jackie Davis Allen \* William S. Peters, Sr.

**The Year of the Poet IV**  
February 2017

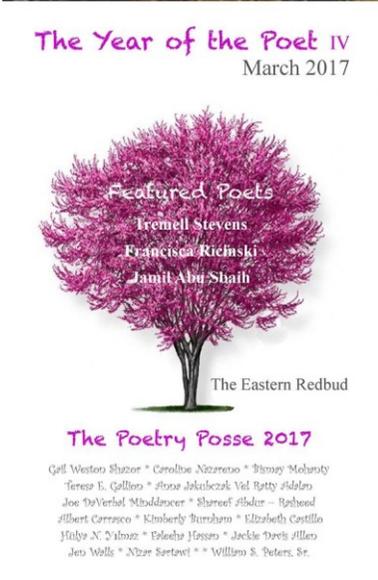


**Featured Poets**  
Lin Ross  
Sohaina Falhi  
Anwer Ghani

**Witch Hazel**

**The Poetry Posse 2017**  
Gail Weston Shazor \* Caroline Nazareno \* Binmay Mohanty  
Nizar Sertawi \* Atosa Jakubczak Val Betty Adelan \* Jen Walls  
Joe DeVerlato Miodonsaw \* Shereef Albadir \* Rashad  
Albert Carrasco \* Kimberly Bursham \* Elizabeth Castillo  
Julie N. D'Amaz \* Felicia Jasso \* Jairo W. Jankowski  
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**The Year of the Poet IV**  
March 2017

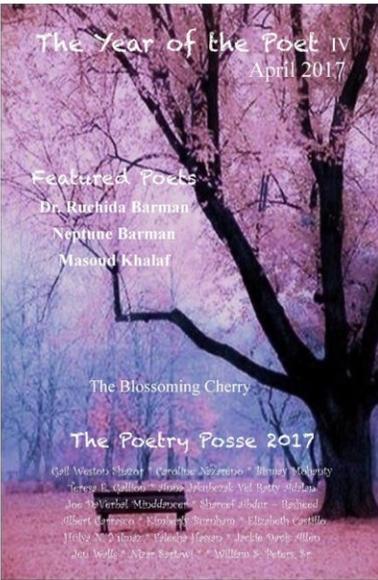


**Featured Poets**  
Tremell Stevens  
Francisca Ricinski  
Jamil Abu Shaib

**The Eastern Redbud**

**The Poetry Posse 2017**  
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Teresa E. Gallon \* Atosa Jakubczak Val Betty Adelan  
Joe DeVerlato Miodonsaw \* Shereef Albadir \* Rashad  
Albert Carrasco \* Kimberly Bursham \* Elizabeth Castillo  
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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 \* Atosa Jakubczak Val Betty Adelan  
Joe DeVerlato Miodonsaw \* Shereef Albadir \* Rashad  
Albert Carrasco \* Kimberly Bursham \* Elizabeth Castillo  
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# Inner Child Press Anthologies

## 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 Shazor \* Caroline Nazareno \* Bismay Mohanty  
Teresa E. Gallion \* Alana Jakubczak Val Ratty Aldana  
Joe DeVirel Mbadumene \* Shareef al-Dur \* Rashad  
Albert Carrasco \* Kimberly Burzham \* Elizabeth Castillo  
Hilja N. Vilhoj \* Falecha Hassen \* 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 Shazor \* Caroline Nazareno \* Bismay Mohanty  
Teresa E. Gallion \* Alana Jakubczak Val Ratty Aldana  
Joe DeVirel Mbadumene \* Shareef al-Dur \* Rashad  
Albert Carrasco \* Kimberly Burzham \* Elizabeth Castillo  
Hilja N. Vilhoj \* Falecha Hassen \* 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 Shazor \* Caroline Nazareno \* Bismay Mohanty  
Teresa E. Gallion \* Alana Jakubczak Val Ratty Aldana  
Joe DeVirel Mbadumene \* Shareef al-Dur \* Rashad  
Albert Carrasco \* Kimberly Burzham \* Elizabeth Castillo  
Hilja N. Vilhoj \* Falecha Hassen \* 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 Shazor

The Hazelnut Tree

### The Poetry Posse 2017

Gail Westcott Shazor \* Caroline Nazareno \* Bismay Mohanty  
Teresa E. Gallion \* Alana Jakubczak Val Ratty Aldana  
Joe DeVirel Mbadumene \* Shareef al-Dur \* Rashad  
Albert Carrasco \* Kimberly Burzham \* Elizabeth Castillo  
Hilja N. Vilhoj \* Falecha Hassen \* Jackie Davis Allen  
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## 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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## 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

Anika Aery

### 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

### The Poetry Posse 2018

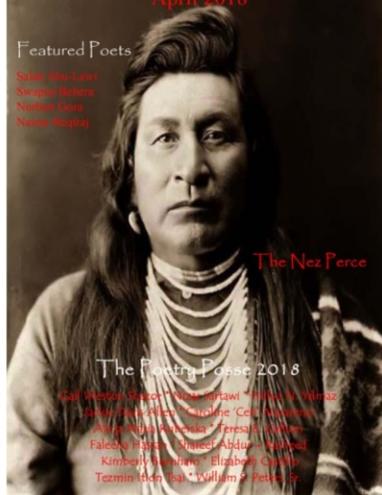
Gail Weston Shazor \* Nizar Sartawi \* Hülya N. Yilmaz  
Jackie Davis Allen \* Caroline 'Ceri' Nazareno  
Alicja Maria Kuberska \* Teresa E. Gallion  
Faleeha Hassan \* Shareef Abdur - Rasheed  
Kimberly Burnham \* Elizabeth Castillo  
Tezmin Ition Tsai \* William S. Peters, Sr.

## The Year of the Poet V

April 2018

### Featured Poets

Susan Abu-Lawi  
Swagata Bhowmik  
Nashim Doss  
Nasim Nazjari



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 Year of the Poet V  
May 2018

Featured Poets  
Zahly Carreon de Leon Jr.  
Sylvia K. Malinowska  
Lindita Ahmeti  
Ofelia Prodan

The Sumerians



The Poetry Posse 2018  
Gail Weston Shazor \* Nizar Sartawi \* Hülya N. Yilmaz  
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.

The Year of the Poet V  
June 2018

Featured Poets  
Bilal Maliqi \* Daim Miftari \* Gojko Božović \* Sofija Živković

The Paleo Indians

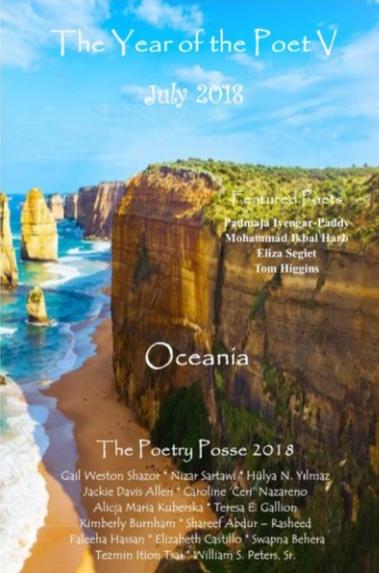


The Poetry Posse 2018  
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Jackie Davis Allen \* Caroline 'Ceri' Nazareno  
Alicja Maria Kuberska \* Teresa E. Gallion  
Kimberly Burnham \* Shareef Abdur – Rasheed  
Faleeha Hassan \* Elizabeth Castillo \* Swapna Behera  
Tezmin Ition Tsai \* William S. Peters, Sr.

The Year of the Poet V  
July 2018

Featured Poets  
Padmini Jyengar-Paddy  
Mohammad Akhal Harb  
Eliza Seget  
Tom Higgins

Oceania



The Poetry Posse 2018  
Gail Weston Shazor \* Nizar Sartawi \* Hülya N. Yilmaz  
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.

The Year of the Poet V  
August 2018

Featured Poets  
Hussein Habasch \* Mircea Dan Duta \* Naida Mujkić \* Swagat Das

The Lapita



The Poetry Posse 2018  
Gail Weston Shazor \* Nizar Sartawi \* Hülya N. Yilmaz  
Jackie Davis Allen \* Caroline 'Ceri' Nazareno  
Alicja Maria Kuberska \* Teresa E. Gallion  
Kimberly Burnham \* Shareef Abdur – Rasheed  
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## The Year of the Poet V

September 2018

### The Aztecs & Incas



#### Featured Poets

Kolade Olanrewaju Freedom  
Eliza Segiet  
Mazher Hussain Abdul Ghani  
Lily Swann

#### The Poetry Posse 2018

Gail Weston Shazor \* Nizar Sartaui \* Hülya N. Yilmaz  
Jackie Davis Allen \* Caroline 'Ceri' Nazareno  
Alicja Maria Kuberska \* Teresa E. Gallion  
Kimberly Burnham \* Shareef Abdur - Rasheed  
Ashok K. Bhargava \* Elizabeth Castillo \* Swapna Behara  
Tezmin Ition Tsai \* William S. Peters, Sr.

## The Year of the Poet V

October 2018

#### Featured Poets

Alicia Minjarez \* Lonnice Weeks-Badley  
Lopamudra Mishra \* Abdelwahed Souayah



#### The Poetry Posse 2018

Gail Weston Shazor \* Nizar Sartaui \* Hülya N. Yilmaz  
Jackie Davis Allen \* Caroline 'Ceri' Nazareno  
Alicja Maria Kuberska \* Teresa E. Gallion  
Kimberly Burnham \* Shareef Abdur - Rasheed  
Ashok K. Bhargava \* Elizabeth Castillo \* Swapna Behara  
Tezmin Ition Tsai \* William S. Peters, Sr.

## The Year of the Poet V

November 2018

#### Featured Poets

Michelle Joan Barulich \* Monsif Beroual  
Krystyna Konecka \* Nassira Nezzar

#### The Poetry Posse 2018

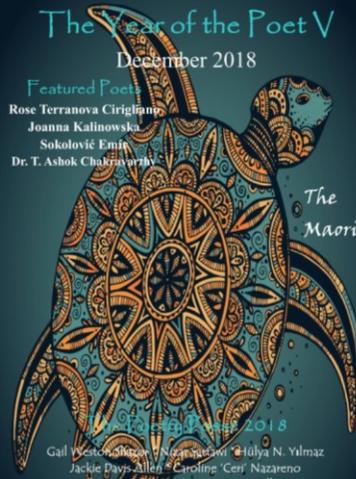
Gail Weston Shazor \* Nizar Sartaui \* Hülya N. Yilmaz  
Jackie Davis Allen \* Caroline 'Ceri' Nazareno  
Alicja Maria Kuberska \* Teresa E. Gallion  
Kimberly Burnham \* Shareef Abdur - Rasheed  
Ashok K. Bhargava \* Elizabeth Castillo \* Swapna Behara  
Tezmin Ition Tsai \* William S. Peters, Sr.

## The Year of the Poet V

December 2018

#### Featured Poets

Rose Terranova Cirigliano  
Joanna Kalinowska  
Sokolović Emina  
Dr. T. Ashok Chakravarti



#### The Poetry Posse 2018

Gail Weston Shazor \* Nizar Sartaui \* Hülya N. Yilmaz  
Jackie Davis Allen \* Caroline 'Ceri' Nazareno  
Alicja Maria Kuberska \* Teresa E. Gallion  
Kimberly Burnham \* Shareef Abdur - Rasheed  
Ashok K. Bhargava \* Elizabeth Castillo \* Swapna Behara  
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*'building cultural bridges of understanding'*

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Founder  
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Inner Child Press



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*'building bridges of cultural understanding'*

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Morocco  
Northern Africa



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**Alicia M. Ramirez**  
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**Christena AV Williams**  
Jamaica  
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**Aziz Mountassir**  
Morocco  
Northern Africa



**Shareef Abdur-Rasheed**  
Southeastern USA



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France  
Western Europe



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Lebanon  
Middle East



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Egypt  
Middle East

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*Inner Child Press International*



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~ fini ~

# The Poetry Posse ~ 2018



## December 2018 ~ Featured Poets



**Rose  
Terranova  
Cirigliano**



**Joanna  
Kalinowska**



**Sokolović  
Emir**



**Dr. T. Ashok  
Chakravarthy**



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