### Featured Poets

Jeton Kelmendi \* Nizar Sartawi \* Sami Muhanna

Jeton Kelmendi Nizar Sartawi Sami Muhanna

# Robin

### The Poetry Posse 2016

Gəil Weston Shazor \* Joe DəVerbəl Minddəncer . \* Alfredə Ghee Fəhredin Shehu \* Hrishikesh Pədhye \* Jənet P. Cəldwell Annə Jəkubczək Vel RəttyAdələn \* Shəreef Abdur — Rəsheed Albert Cərrəsco \* Kimberly Burnhəm \* Ann J. White Hülyə N. Yılməz \* Demetrios Trifiətus \* Alən W. Jənkoəski Teresə E. Gəllion \* Jəckie Dəvis Allen \* Williəm S. Peters, Sr. The

Year

of the

Poet III

March 2016

**The Poetry Posse** 

inner child press, ltd.

# The Poetry Posse 2016

Gail Weston Shazor

Shareef Abdur Rasheed

Albert Carrasco

Teresa E. Gallion

Hülya N. Yılmaz

Kimberly Burnham

Ann J. White

Jackie Davis Allen

Keith Alan Hamilton

Joe DaVerbal Minddancer

Janet P. Caldwell

Fahredin Shehu

**Demetrios Trifiatis** 

Alan W. Jankowski

Hrishikesh Padhye

Anna Jakubczak Vel RattyAdalan.

William S. Peters, Sr.

### **General Information**

# The Year of the Poet III March Edition

### The Poetry Posse

1st Edition: 2016

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# WHAT WOULD FE WITHOUT A LITTLE OF TRY?

# 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.



# Foreword

Listening to the variety of birds, communicating on a bright, sunny day. The sounds of life coupled with sun and cooling breeze. The colors of Earth, glorious on a backdrop canvas of blue and green. All these things are magnified in Spring's blossom coming to life. Life, life, sweet life in the air everywhere. Earth reborn, resurrected from Winter's death, a true miracle indeed.

The Creator of all life to which there is no equal. Who better to accentuate the wonder of Spring's rebirth other than gifted poets, creative artist who were blessed with the gift of word crafting. As a sculptor molds clay into shape bringing it to life.

The Year of The Poet / Poetry Posse is in its third year. We have been publishing of monthly since Jan. 2014. We do this for the readers and poets alike. We are a "Posse" of gifted artist with diverse styles. In this volume we are expressing our joys of Spring, renewal, rebirth.

I implore you to taste the flavor and be stimulated to appreciate the glory of life. Peace and love always from the Poetry Posse in the Year of the Poet, which is every year.

Peace and Blessings

### **Shareef Abdur-Rasheed**

Author

Poetic Snacks for the Conscious Munchies

# Preface

Greetings to the World,

Here we are in the month of March making our poetic offering to you, to the world. My excitement is becoming more intense for i can smell the promise of Spring in the air. It for me is the more wonderful time of the year, for it signifies the time of new growth, budding and blossoming of the hopes we have seeded earlier and that which we will seed in the near future. Now the time of work begins!

This month we are very proud to feature three wonderful Arabic Poets in the persons of Jeton Kelmendi, Nizar Sartawi, Sami Muhanna. There is a very special flavor of harmony and a mesmerizing voice that accompanies their expressions through their poetry which i am sure you will enjoy.

Going forward we will continue to bring to you voices off the beaten track so to speak who are dynamic in their own right. The vision of The Year of the Poet is one of "Inclusiveness", so expect to see more and more poets from all walks of life, with all types of voices, from all over our wonderful earth. Ultimately we all have something to say, and my hopes is that our own personal

consciousness's are expanded when we listen to the poetic whisperings within the verse offered.

Finally i would like to share with the Poetry Posse my personal gratitude for their continued diligence and contributions to this vision. You just have to love their beautiful poetic souls.

### For Free Downloads of Previous Iissues:

www.innerchildpress.com/the-year-of-the-poet

Stay Blessed

Bill

### PS

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

### Coming April 2016

For more Information go to:

www.worldhealingworldpeacepoetry.com

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

 $\sim$  wsp

# $T_{able of} C_{ontents}$

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

 $\sim$  wsp



The

Year

of the

Poet III

March 2016

**The Poetry Posse** 

inner child press, ltd.

Poetry succeeds where instruction fails.

 $\sim$  wsp

Gais
Weston
Shazor



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 available at Inner Child Press.

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

### Visitor Day

The church women walked to and fro speaking in tongues out loud and since that is not a gift i was given i was left out of that grace from my assigned "do not move from" seat i watched with a trepidation of trespassing beyond my spectator status to enter into a state of worship intent on their mission no one spoke to me the stranger in the midst of their sanctuary indeed i recognized a few knew a few but they were friends outside of their walls i grew more and more uncomfortable as they time pressed inward and realized that thisthis feeling of being out of place is a first for this place in a place of worship and so i want to feel the Holy Spirit in this house from my "do not move from" assigned seat and i long for the Unfettered serving in place of the service

i want my hands to be busy with changing my world so i know that my choice is the right choice for me for i would rather be a participant than stuck in my "do not move from " seat in a house of man with men moving about

### Float On

There is a little boat floating
In the center of the gutter
Held up stream by the loud voices
That clatter in disagreement
Over the size and whiches of the things
That have gotten through the dam
And the discordance ebbs and flows
With each coronation and each rewrite
The truth is held hostage on the tide
Or maybe is just turbulence
The little boat heeds not the changes
As little boats tend to not pay
Much attention to anything other than wind
And other vessels of any sort

There is a little boat floating Upstream from the flotsam and jetsam It defies the man made waves That attempt to push it into the compliance Of one book or another One edict or another that the noise Grows more and more excited about And the boat can only be moved By the breath of the creator That blows down through the gutter Like bumper guards for bumper cars Because the clatter has put up safeguards Against the truth that life is simple And all the rules and regulations Are not of the breath of life But obligations made to each other

There are little boats floating Upstream in a gutter And they may seem deceptively small Like little mustard seeds adrift Small refuges in a vast seas of waters One of kind to each other When the gutter is awash The boats simply drift, trusting That the breath will keep the course While the din raises alarm And more rules are passed awaiting them To become big boats with important sails That can make more laws to govern boats Separate themselves into classes And colors and even manufacturers Waiting for them to amiss their true purpose Of being guided for dream carrying There are little boats floating, waiting In the gutters, for you to be their dams

### Mizz Mam

I wish that I were a raving beauty
The kind of woman
That men strand straighter
To pass by
Suck in their stomachs
Adjust comb-overs
And wish for years that have passed
Them by

I wish that I were a raving beauty Platinum haired and stilletoed Chestnut brown with locks to my waist Wearing a dress that drapes across Curves that long to be touched Needily The invitation apparent to eyes that see With blinders

I wish that I were a raving beauty
With bad habits
Chain smoking and swearing and whiskey
That you must excuse
Because
I am me afterall
And these are things you expect
In a devil may care woman

I wish I were a raving beauty
And yet
I know you find comfort in the fact
That I am not that kind of woman
A beauty of legendary proportions
So instead
I will make changes in other's lives
By continuing to just rave...

Janet Perkins Caldwell



Janet P. Caldwell has been published in newspapers, magazines, and books globally. She has published 3 books, 5 degrees to separation 2003, Passages 2012, and her latest book Dancing Toward the Light . . . the journey continues 2013, and contributed to countless anthologies. She is currently editing her 4<sup>th</sup> book, written and to be published 2016 and a video project for the BBC. All of her Books are available through Inner Child Press, along with Fine Book Stores Globally.

To contact her: www.janetcaldwell.com

### **Burning Torch**

I cannot stop thing about world healing / world peace. I remember it driving me crazy to a point . . . seemingly, I made no difference and was panicked to breathe.

Being bombarded with social media, I left for awhile. Trying to find my own peace. If my world were small I may not inhale the suffering of it all.

Too late, too late, I already knew that the world was a f@@ked up and evil place, I could not escape. The ills of humanity that followed me, infected me

and subjected me to my loved ones suffering so terribly. I could not sit still and watch from the sidelines. So Mother, Father please,

please tell me what to do. Again, that still small voice whispered and gave me strength, "do it again my child

love them without abandon, as I love you and would never forsake you, be honored that *I chose you* to carry this torch, and remember

it will not burn you."

### I Remember Kosovo

The sun is warm on my face the smell of grapes are just outside my door a vineyard of goodness just like the people, strong and adoring.

The day trips, poetry readings dancing to rock and roll.
The land still calls to me and I want to be there.

My brothers and sisters await my arrival, it is my home. You're always in my prayers I remember you, I remember Kosovo.

There is a spiritual love among the family, a guiding force that I've never known at all. Take me back O' Universe just once more.

My Eden, my heaven on earth I'll never be the same. I remember you, Beloved Kosovo.

### I Want to Thank You

I want to thank you for including me into your family, for loving me hugging me through the nightmares and at times letting me see a darkness that needed light.

I want to thank you for pi\$\$ing me off and causing me to pause and see the damage that could occur when I did not need to shoot off my mouth.

I want to thank you for growth even kicking and screaming through it, I did learn many a lesson.

These sessions with you are finer than any so-called jewels that had been presented to me before.

I simply want to thank you for the nuggets of wisdom shared the beauty of real jewels given and for all that you are.

Jackie Davis Assen



Jackie Davis Allen, otherwise known as Jacqueline 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 college.

Graduating from what is now Radford University, with a Bachelor of Science degree in Education, she taught in both public and private schools.

Residing in northern Virginia, she revels in spending time with her husband in their get away home in the Blue Ridge Mountains, a place that evokes memories of days spent in Appalachia.

A lover of hats, she has worn many. Following her 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 with books, always seeking to learn more.

In 2015 she authored her first book, a collection of writings penned over the past decade. Well received by family and friends, both near and far, her book, "Looking for Rainbows, Poetry, Prose and Art is available from her website jackiedavisallen.com or from innerchildpress.com

### stiff and unbending

searching here and there searching everywhere searching the recesses of her mind

finding tumult, turmoil and agitation such a weariness such a heavy burden

weaving deeper the imprints, the ridges of revenge

holding onto perceived slights granting mercy neither here nor there always remaining

stiff and unbending unsettled, unresolved always in the back of her mind

she, never finding, never seeking never offering forgiveness

## Respect the Garden: Cultivate its Honor

Spring is here.

It breaks dances in semblance of smile. While, from the sun's face, its rays beam down

On the hearts of those who uphold The tenants of their nation's freedom.

And, yet, there are weeds thriving Amongst the flowers. Attention getting, They are rewarded without license or merit.

They strangle. They wound from aggressive And illicit actions.

No wall can keep them out if the dictates Of the head gardner grants them entrance Or scatters infectious seeds of addiction.

Lo, there is one who seeks his power Amongst, and from the weeds.

And still, there are those in the garden Who struggle; they labor day and night. They cultivate their gains by legitimate means.

Unlike victims of greed, they Earn their keep and persevere.

Be gone, all those who dishonor Or disrespect the flag that waves Its stripes in colors red, white and blue.

Inflict not the virus that would strip The garden of its inherent beauty.

#### Like Starched Lace

Anxieties placed time
Upon her aging face while amour
Contemplated her desirous decision
And arranged for her fears~
The final coup de grace.

Like a degreed bird of prey, Her youth in arrears, she requested, In exchange for various sums, both Gold and silver, ways to efface away Her excess years.

Hope arose as did the prospect Of her facade, perfected, so strangely smooth And odd, and yet something familiar. Despite it all, the green-eyed world Did look on with jealousy's awe.

Desirous of inspecting
The seamless stitching of the mask
Strangers and neighbors wistfully wondered,
"Who was she that was so daring?
Was it permissible, even to ask?"

A thong of gossipers relentlessly whispered, "How is it that she dares to wear her nose So newly designed that her cheeks Chin and neck now adorning her face Make it appear to look like starched lace?"

Ashert Carrasco



I'm a project life philanthropist, I speak about the non ethical treatment of poor ghetto people. Why? My family was their equal, my great grandmother and great grandfather was poor, my grandmother and grandfather, my mother and father, poverty to my family was a sequel, a traditional Inheritance of the subliminal. I paid attention to the decades of regression, i tried to make change, but when I came to the fork in the road and looked at the signs that read wrong <> right, I chose the left, the wrong direction, because of street life interactions a lot around me met death or incarceration. I failed myself and others. I regret my decisions, I can't reincarnate dead men, but I can give written visions in laymens. I'm back at that fork in the road, instead of it saying wrong or right, I changed it, now it says dead men <> life.

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

#### **Infinite Poetry**

http://www.lulu.com/us/en/shop/al-infinite-carrasco/infinite-poetry/paperback/product-21040240.html

## Spring

Birds chirping,

Kids playing,

The sun is shining.

Fun,

Laughter,

It's time for warmer weather.

Spring time is prep for summer as we say bye to winter. Coats turn to jackets and long johns get packed and put away till next year while we unpack lighter clothing, sunglasses and visors. Stoops will be the conversation place, parks will start getting filled with familia faces, sun roofs and convertibles will be opened cruising the city at slow paces, on your mark, get set, go...kid races, to the teens it's fashion season, the adults find somewhere to go,

lay back and unwind to do nothing... for a good reason.

#### New Growth

I remember being frightened to step up to a mic and recite in front of a crowd. I had a lot to say but nervousness made me stay away. I went through that many times, I would tell myself "Today is the day" but I was still scared. Going to venues and meeting people made it easier in the long run. I remember the first time I built up enough courage to recite, I knew my piece like the back of my hand, I went up and recited it, when I finished... The claps, snaps and standing ovation gave me such an accomplishment sensation. I wanted to feel that feeling again so I wrote and spoke more often. I was growing. From going to open mics I got featured shows, been on television and radio, I was growing. Digging deeper to write deeper I became an author. I'm no longer just a local poet, I'm an international griot... I've grown stronger.

## New Beginning

At the end, I wished that I could start it all over again. I needed a new beginning, a new start, another chance to live tomorrow without yesterday's sorrow. Never in a million years would I have imagined that my life would be harsh and painful because when I was little everything was wonderful. When the death of my father occurred my life from then on was horrible. Death mixed with poverty made me rebel something terrible, i got a hell view as if I was submerged in water looking around the Devils bayou. Death, prison and destruction halted the process of gentrification, if it wasn't for the bullets that went in me, bars and others blood baths, our housing would've fit the likings of the middle class, all that was earned was bodies in cells, bodies in caskets and urns with ash. I knew my worth was more than face value, I knew life was better than sitting on milk crates waiting to meet fate on dark avenues, I wanted more than just to be an emotionless mourner and I got that opportunity when poetry found me and gave me a new beginning.

# Loe Da Verbas Mind Dancer



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

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

#### THE DAY AFTER

A chance meeting became so much more A romance from a glancing blow My words flowed into a heart I've never known

I'd giving up on trying to fit in a mold I embraced the notion I would always be alone I often questioned why I even have a phone

She wasn't beautiful to shallow eyes I was certainly no prize But our hellos set off this temperature rise

Tomorrow became tomorrow Next week became next month We were married within two years

Now today she stays away from sweets She has swollen feet and something to tell me Now she wants a steak and cheese

She looks like her mother and acts like me Today we watch her from the heavens Some guy bumped into her today

Now he paces the floor After a year or more of day after's What shall come after a child's laughter

#### **CASTAWAY**

I pull back the oars and row to my solitude.
Catching my first fish I set it free
Maybe the thrill of the chase was enough for me
Drawn in by the lure I've tasted the hook
Thrown back into the sea of plenty
only to be caught again

I drift for hours the sun baking my brain
I come to a hanging branch full of leaves
My thoughts leave me now and I focus on the water
I lower my line slowly, no ripples no wake
Vibrations flow through my line
The tip dips and wham I reel her in.

The battle begins and just as I see her eyes Passion fades and I release again The fish are biting at my serenity I need my tranquility I stop to take a drink I stop to think.

I row my boat ashore, lay out a blanket.

I'm missing who should be here with me Here I lay castaway thrown back into loneliness Alone with just a vivid memory The visual imagery of a castaway soul carry them to places unknown And they wonder who can be told

The sun settles in my view only to rise in another's I don't want to go back to the sea Lured and baited, rated as a keeper I want something deeper than the ocean goes That way I'll know I'll be worthy of staying on the mantle of her soul.

#### **NEW LOVE**

When I think about the moment I first laid eyes on you I had to ask myself, what does she really see It occurred to me that I wasn't there, I was pixels on a screen

She was more than pixels to me, so what did she see? I dove deeper inside my mind, noticing there were tiny roadblocks

The path to my confidence was detoured, I explored new avenues

I was led to a road never traveled before, I saw me as she I saw she as me, I obscured my vision and came to the decision

Every cloud has a different face; we see what appeals to us So trust when one says you're beautiful, you're handsome You're gorgeous, the heavens sing the chorus, accept what's given

There is no true beauty, it's only what we see.

Shareef Abdur Rasheed



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

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

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

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

http://www.facebook.com/shareef.abdurrasheed https://zakirflo.worldpress.com

## good morning..,

earth, life, death, birth, seasons how are you this morning planet? heard things ain't so good ever since mankind ran it ran it into the ground that is talking about your ground, you know watsup amazing it's still around yet since mankind's abuse 'n 'neglect your precious ground filled, stocked with love, nourishment, all things humankind needs you feed but at last your suffering from present and past ingratitude, greed ironic dem fashioned from you mother sharing same elements you possess they depended on you and you have always came through even after death of winter you came back a winner in spring your creator replenished everything you who dies in winter comes back to life every time since time only he who made you gave you that and mankind made from a disposed fluid from the command of he, only he who just says 'be" and it is from nothing we can see came mother earth, you and me and that same man stands as an open adversary says, who can give life to dead dry bones with no life?

say to them says almighty Allah(swt) he who made you from nothing in the first place he who fashioned earth to live in spring die in winter, come back anew again, renewed after death replenished life resurrected but still man continues doubting you your signs disrespected still he asks 'who can give life to dead dry bones? " again say he alone who fashioned you from nothing can and does anything as he wills. you who are blind who refuse to see will you not take heed?

food4thought = education

## Continuity..,

time ticks away marching to judgement day myriads came and passed away do you remember their names? you too and i will answer the call mere mortals all want to be remembered say remember me, they pray remember my name but all call in vain they won't remember your name but for a temporary time frame the select few who knew and loved you but pass away they must also then who's left, who? their children, children's children children no, no, no that's not how it goes they say time heals time heals all wounds you know why? figure it out yet? because time makes past forget sorry but it's true that's why they say it heals you but it doesn't matter who remembers you

what would that really do for you concern must turn sooner better then latter from creation to creator worth our endeavor since the creator remembers you know, tomorrow, forever and is there a limit that benefits? never! many insecurities plague mankind hence the trail of lost souls left behind but true peace and security is there to find if you believe comes relief in whole not part to soul, body, mind, heart

food4thought = education

## swirling..,

around in my head flashing images dashing in, out vivid replays fill days lived years from yesterday year appear this, that way memories appear, disappear, reappear, disappear seems out of nowhere and all of a sudden your right back there, again think of human minds capacity there are more than one set of eyes that see completely, magically resides in the depths of minds, eyes, invisible, spiritual, unexplainable replay this, that, minute, second, day exactly the way and your there again heaven sent, unseen exist time machines for which to reflect, fully respect and you can't grasp, understand yet but you know it's there real clear comes, goes from, where? ya man dem masterplan reflect, respect, overstand, expand bigups all praise to he who simply says be and it is for eyes to see what is unseen.

ya man dem masterplan reflect, respect, overstand, expand ya man dem masterplan reflect, respect, overstand, expand! bigups all praise to he who simply says be and it is!

food4thought = education

Kimberly Burnham



Life spirals. As a 28-year-old photographer, Kimberly Burnham appreciated beauty. Then an ophthalmologist diagnosed her with a genetic eye condition saying, "Consider what your life will be like if you become blind." Devastating words trickling down into her soul, 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 face of global brain health. Using health coaching, poetry, Reiki, Matrix Energetics, craniosacral therapy, acupressure, and energy medicine, she supports people in their healing from brain, nervous system, chronic pain, and eyesight issues.

http://www.NerveWhisperer.Solutions/

http://www.InnerChildMagazine.com/The-Community-of-Humanity.php

#### Seeds Grow

Tiny bits of protein dreams hatched a puff of pollen crossing the field from grove to forest

Finds fertile soil a place in space grounded reality reaches skyward

Growing
the seed becomes
hardened by wind
nourished by earth
quenched by rain
blossoming in the sunlight

Soon the trunk thick and strong supports other branches nests with light blue eggs lend support to new ventures reaching for the sky

#### Peruvian Ground

In the late spring
I lay on the ground
at the grass bottom of a circle
circles within circles
terracing towards the sky

I can still feel moist warm earth gently cradles my back my shoulders resting on green my legs ready to leap back into the world

After I leave broken dreams goals whose time is past ruptured flaws sink into the earth dreams fatally damaged by storms all hold new seeds for me

In my heart and pelvis ferment again seeds watered today as I lay heart shaped green encircled this spring vision insights I plant along with carrots

#### The Second Year

The trees are stronger the second year bear fruit in the third

Get the fence in so the apple trees can start that first year protected from predators

Survive the snow piled high on thin branches thrive in late winter rain bend with hurricane force winds

Buds are eyeing a warm spring coming I see red and gold fruit the future in my mind's eye survives the second year Ann L. White



Amazed and inspired by her own life, Ann J White has lived the life of a grasshopper buffeted about by wild winds, yet always landing safely and creating a home wherever she finds herself.

Highlights include working with astronaut Frank Borman, sharing a hot dog with Ross Perot, enjoying a coffee with Florida Governor Chiles, and attending a ballet with Imelda Marcos. Ann has also survived childhood sexual abuse, one terrorist coup, two burglaries, one rape and countless misadventures making her grateful for each of life's unfolding moments.

An international management consultant, board certified family attorney, rabbi, grief counselor, trauma chaplain, radio host and author, Ann has worn many professional hats.

These days she spends her time in her enchanted cottage and chicken farm on the shores of Lake Michigan in Sheboygan, Wisconsin with four very weird dogs, ten quirky hens and two noisy ducks.

Ann's latest book, *Tails from the Enchanted Cottage* was just released in December of 2015. She is also the author of *The Sacred Art of Dog Walking, Living with Spirit Energy*, and several other non-fiction books. She has been featured in numerous anthologies. She is the co-owner of The Creating Calm Network Broadcasting and Publishing Group with Kimberly Burnham.

You can find her at: <u>www.ItsACluckingGood.Life</u> www.CreatingCalmNetwork.com

#### March Madness

March madness Winds blow ice from the sky Snow is crusty and gray Passing cars wear coats of salt and grime

I sit by the fire thumbing through seed catalogs
Thoughts of spring dimmed by dark days
Stormy nights
And yet
There is a readiness
The birds know it
The trees know it
Even the wild rabbits in my yard know it

And through the icy snow
the crocus peaks up and looks around
no, not yet
but soon
Soon says my heart
Soon echoes my soul
Soon gardens will bloom
seedlings will sprout

But today, I watch ice flakes blow past my window As I get ready to shovel once again

#### My Fickle Mistress

March is a fickle mistress
A tease
Taunting with enough warmth to birth hopes of sunny days
And then dashing those hopes with sleet and slippery grime

She plays with my fancy
A bud here, a bloom there, a ray of sun
Yes, my hopeful heart turns to thoughts of love
Only to get ripped out and frozen by her icy hands

I grow weary of the gray and gloom
The grit and dirty roadways
I no longer recognize my car in a parking lot
They all wear the dusty coats of late winter

Trudging, grudging through the sludge It's hard to remember the smell of spring The taste of the first warm rains sent to kiss the earth alive

Remember picnics in the grassy parks?

A distant glimmer of a frolicking on hot summer days

A bird calls out Oh look, a robin And another

My fickle mistress is gifting me with these treasures Will she follow through this time? Bringing me warm breezes to both soothe and excite

I hope the hope of an innocent Yes, this will be the year she gifts me early with her healing sun I know it I'm ready Warm me, dance me, wake me from my hibernation O mistress of mine

#### Oh to be a Cravat

The sock has it tough, always being trod upon Starting life with a friend and then tossed into the laundry only to return as a widower And to be trapped in a stinking boot, unable to breathe No, I shan't desire to be a sock

Trousers try to appear proud and fanciful But someone is always sitting upon them And on rainy days they wick up the dirty puddles Soggy for hours with the muck of the bog No, the life of trousers is not for me

And pity the poor pantaloons
Nestling in parts too private
Sat upon and shat upon
Breathing gaseous fumes without a beg your leave
Banish the thought of being one's underpants

The shirt looks mighty fine – all starched and crisp at the start of the day

And then the sweat of hurry and worry fills the pits So it is the pits to be a shirt

By evening, not only are telltale tattling shadows under the arms

But an array of spots and dots of lunch and dinner decorate the front

A nasty looking garment by the setting of the sun A shirt I shall not aspire to be

Gloves seem impressive at first
Of fine leather, maybe a coating of inner fur
But worse than the sock, they often become orphaned
Left on the seat of a taxi or dropped on the street in one's
haste

No, the life of gloves is not for me

Don't even think about being a hat A victim of weather on the outer And dander and sweat on the inner A gust of wind could send it tumbling down the street Squashed by a bus rumbling by A hat I shall not be

But the cravat – the proud and pompous cravat
Now that is a station in life to pursue
Always bright with the color du jour
Riding high for all to admire
Yet protected from the elements by the overcoat
And shielded by slop and spills by the wearer's chin
Yes, a cravat I hope to be.

Asfreda D.

Thee



I was born in Blackstone Virginia. Born one of seven brothers and sisters. Traveled to many different countries being my father was in the Army. I'm a single mother of two amazing boys. I own my own daycare center and I'm working on getting my Massage Therapy License very soon.

I started writing at the end of June in 2011. I had my first book of poetry published in 2012. I'm a firm believer that if you do good then good will consume you and all that you do within life. Throughout my life I must attribute GOD for everything in my life and I am truly grateful for all the HE has given me.....

http://www.innerchildpress.com/alfreda-ghee

https://www.facebook.com/alfreda.ghee

#### Kiss of Nature

Kiss the lips that leak of sweet nectar let the juice spill down your throat as it lingers upon your mouth taste the newness as it fills the air with a hint of flower blossoms laid in the open for days on end

while she stands upon her throne and serves your every desire with ease she will place your mind in dimensions of every season as you receive the pleasure she is willing to give freely lay your upon her flowers as she stands and watch parading around sending chills down your stem laid clearly in full bloom

waiting to blossom into her floor spreading your petals in all it's glory as a mist of fresh scents are spread around while the humming bird suckles of the pollen waiting to be distributed as she waits in the shadows to carry you home in full bloom.....

#### Earth....

Change is coming soon as long as we dig deep to find where our footsteps belong at in the ground the roots are strong soil is rich of my essence pure in it's growth not tainted but fertile

Love is proving to be vast far, wide and undecided never faltering but has some imperfections that are never seen when we are loving deeply cracks seem to come as time becomes ageless but it still wont divide the unity that's inside the walls

Pouring my soul out to earths core, searching for moisture to arise from it's uniqueness filling the power of loves desires that arouse the coming of newness and life light evoked from the timeless

warmth of the grounds fervent seeds of and eternity of the dust grains of muddy tear drops that stain the grounds lips leaving it broken, cracked and ageless for new life to arise from it's roots of purity Woman has been birthed from the earth......

#### Me

The time has come to embrace my beauty to embrace the me.
I once knew
Showing the essence of my soul
Bringing forth the uniqueness I see within

Appreciating who I have become as I sit here wondering where I will go and who I will see looking back at me when I rise and become the Queen I am meant to be

Do you see the she in me am I the woman you see in your dreams I can't pretend to be something I'm not because being real is all I've got

As I bring my all to my future while leaving the past behind and bringing forth my growth I Am Beauty Personified By just Being Me.....

# Hrishekesh Padhye



My name is Hrishikesh Padhye. I am the author of two poetry books, entitled ECHOES AND CONSEQUENCES and HYMNS OF ASCENSION. In my mind, I love to be a critical but free thinker. I think our minds are always in the stage of intellectual wear and tear as modifications always fit in the equations having variable desire and destiny. That's how, we are caught amidst the Continuous Evolution.

I consider Poetry to be a bridge that arches between Globetrotting and Self-discovery. It takes the spirit to higher levels of enlightenment. I think that art is like a nova which is dormant in many human beings, thus ascends someday in some form to enhance the strength of abated spirituality in an individual.

Academically, I am a student studying Civil Engineering, from Government Engineering College in the City of Jabalpur, India. I also love to spend time my in meditation, cooking, painting, analysing literary humour, learning different languages, as well as grasping scriptures, while learning more about spirituality. I prefer to be reserved for discovering my deep inside inner-self.

 $\sim$  Life is an endless tug of war between Strength of Purpose and Height of Ambition

- Hrishikesh

#### Orange of the Departing Sun

Picturing an evening along with the mild rainfall, Sun was illuminating the tiny drops hence, it rained some liquid gold .....

I saw you coming to me, my eyes were staring your glory beach sand was glistening, sea was singing a mesmerizing song ....

All of a sudden, as we came face to face, sea seemed to have become still, calm waves were giving a background melody of romanticism; shore birds were humming the chorus and our locked eyes started to perform a Divine Duet.......

Notes after notes in all rhythm, I opened up my arms to hide you in my confinement of affection, my tears of joy were dying to crumble down and write the tale of our love on your blank blushing face ......

My chest then became your eternal abode of solace, and my whispering voice, the pacifier of your intimidated heartbeats .....

Our feelings got their wings for a majestic flight over the heaven, sweetheart, what a soulful union it was !!!

Emotions blended with our co-existence, and Painted a riveting image of our evergreen concord, which was watered then, by the orange of the Departing sun..........

#### Necrosis of Mother Earth

In some stroke of time,
I used to be loaded with exotic greenery,
My blood was stark blue,
I was like the mystic abode of angels,
and a gigantic castle
of heavenly pulchritude.....

The sunlight used to give me the midas-touch, The moon used to wash me all in its scintillating silver, Seasons used to polish my natural jewels, I was the eternal mother of every solitary creature .....

But,
These days are not like the old ones,
My beauty is consumed
in the vortex of rancorous wisdoms,
My jewels are being used
for sinister selfishness:

Submerging in obscurity,
Vanishing in apocalypse,
Being a toy for use,
I am full of the dormant volcanoes of tears ...

They have excavated me and torn my heart,

They have decimated my green and sheared my skin,

They have vanished my blues, and filled me with red,

They have ridiculed my love and nailed it with greed and deceit......

Chaotic clouds of iniquity with lightning all over, Moving; Insane storms of desolation with peace nowhere, Blowing;

With unbearable Agony and fathomless pain, But still with the same motherhood for all my creations; I am waiting, I am waiting, I am waiting,

For my NECROSIS ......

#### The Inferno

With every perilous stroke of time, Life continues its run..

In the gloomy woods,
Deep down inside,
a mysterious nova beckons the spirit
and accelerates the motion .....

The nights go on bathing in the glistening twilight, Gazing the scintillating stars even many times jumbled in the dark ....

Days as well lost in the black, yet with hopes for the Golden serendipity; And thoughts take the wings to fly above the clouds of abomination ....

Instinct rolls turbulent with the blazing wheel of fortune, flaming saber in the eyes finds the way through the abandoned boulevard of courage .....

An unfathomable zeal but dormant, An invincible incandescence but hidden, A sparkling exhilaration but inside that ignites us and leads to the ultimate triumph...

It impels propels and stimulates the Adrenaline,

We all have that invulnerable AGNI We all have that indestructible INFERNO ....

# Fahredin Shehu



Born in Rahovec, South East of Kosova, in 1972. graduated at Prishtina University, Oriental Studies.

Actively works on Calligraphy discovering new mediums and techniques for this specific for of plastic art.

Certified expert in Andragogy/ Capacity Building, Training delivery, Coaching and Mentoring, Facilitating etc.

In last ten years he operated as Independent Scientific Researcher in the field of World Spiritual Heritage and Sacral Esthetics.

Fahredin Shehu is a highly *Noted* and *Acclaimed* World Renowned Poet, Author, Teacher and so much more. He graduated from Prishtina University with a Degree in Oriental Studies. In his continuing Education he received an M.A. in Literature. and a PhD in Sacral Esthetics.

Fahredin hails from Rahovec, South East of Kosova and has been embraced affectionately for his acutely gifted insightful poetic expressions by the Global Poetry Community. The depth and knowledge of many spiritual aspects that affect Humanity subtly shines through in his work. *Pleroma's Dew & Maelstrom* are very graceful works that serves to add to the accolades of this much celebrated Poet / Author / Philosopher.

http://www.innerchildpress.com/fahredin-shehu

#### Rotten desires

I see...

All stars assembled- once again they want to bang.
In veranda I drink what the father left behind.
His desires- my desires on the smoke of my cigarette evaporating shapes- the rotten desires miserable and poor as decayed Iris tuber split prior to moistening seven times seven.

We are the children of Love before we become the children of our desires. Thyme is twisting odor with hyacinth. Two lumps of hatred- the last remained thrown in an abyss of the miser merchant. The Soul declares enlightenment perpetually- in silence.

We are deaf to hear this tune.

...and the story unfolds
heavily as aquamarine brocade
when mistletoe releases its Gnostic essence.
Love has no other name- it rather
gives out of herself never losing even a particle
of her celestial being- we meet again in the Island
of honey-blood; once again we are immune
even from the most evil hexes cast by mischief

We shall now hail this lasting second folding us with the mildness of a liquid nacre in a dew transformed- Stand up oh Human You too have right to Love- And you Poet: "May the curse of all Mankind Fall upon and your writing hand be cleft- if You ever restrain or quit writing on Love..."

# On the day when heart gives the sweetest essence

It is again this moment... Repetitive hands united in a prayer When the soul asks nothing but serenity

Why I ought to outcry the avarice Of others destinies divided somewhere In the Cosmic Courts

Am I not the same manlike creature? Even when I realize that plants And animals fear me not

And rainbow of the manifestations Mock me for myriads of reasons

What they are unable to digest Nor do they possess capabilities To achieve is: My Love- is eternal Overwhelming and sparkling

But not blinding- is mild to the eyes As it is to the heart

Sour Souls may in vain parade The elegancy of the glamorous prides Dressed in heavy brocade, velvet and Spectral muslin

When you open the shell and you See not the pearl- why your heart Baths in quinine Spa

Yet your face shows the curved paths Where boiling tears went through And moistened the Mesh of your Soul

#### Listen!

The taste of Love may be a bitter morsel But its reward is sweeter than the birth Of the Newborn coming out of heart Of Mother- The Godling

#### MALICE OF HER

You play life- alive
Fat short catty old and immoral
Women-like creature curved
From my belly to the top of the neck
And the warm passionate hug
With the hell smell of inexhaustible
Bizarre desires

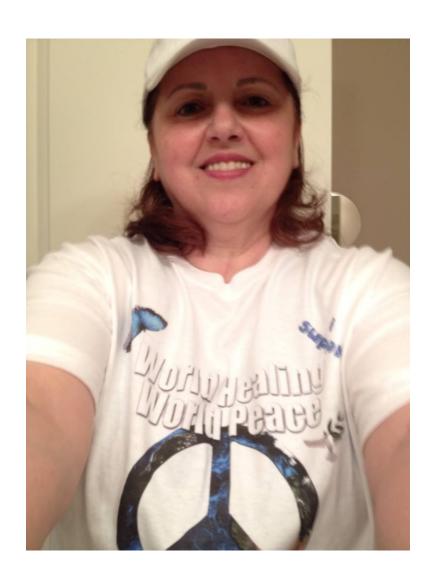
This scene in serial were seen Yet the cantankerous mouths never Cease teasing the attacked Some played differently with The tact of genuine and gentle Gazelle Showing the varieties of the unknown signs To be deciphered by Western rationalists But can the irrational plethora of the Eastern Secret codes be translated into Understandable language It is akin to the betrayed husband Left home with two children while She seen in the commencing scene Of this narration were harassing Whatever came from Men? Starting from the capital "M"- whatever smells? Masculine; even the layered smell of nicotine Between two right fingers of the amber color Of the senile

So intoxicating may the story become, yet The genitals of the both sides are ready To burst- whether young, mezzo or old aged

She is a kind of bitch with the spectrum
Of smiles – hiding the cursed thread
Of jealousy, passion and sick ambition
To embroider the literary Chrysanthemum
To charm, allure and perhaps aghast
With the odor of the mischief
Nor with the laugh she hides
As sin- otherwise upon laugh
She unconsciously unveils the true nature

Hülya N.

Mismaz



Born in Turkey, hülya settled in the U.S. where she earned a Ph.D. in German studies at The University of Michigan. Presently a Penn State liberal arts faculty, yılmaz finds it vital to nurture her passion for creative writing. She authored *Trance*, a collection of poems in English, German and Turkish—a platform that welcomed her fluency in literary translation, co-authored An Aegean Breeze of Peace (both by Inner Child Press, Ltd.), and contributed to several anthologies with her poems and prose. A licensed freelance writer, hülya has extensive experience as editorial consultant for book-length manuscripts. She currently works as one of the editors for Inner Child Press, Ltd.

#### Links:

www.writerandeditordryilmaz.com www.dolunaylaben.wordpress.com

#### excessive now?

did one of them hit you in the heart again do they already find you unnecessary your shaky voice won't let me be

with that beloved's passing last march had brought me my first regret

of having potted my roots here

my second followed today

when you almost apologized for having lived this long honoring your four siblings who died before you adding how your youngest the only sister still breathes together with her many grandchildren whose longevity you then wished upon me a faint hope for the women in our family

in all your ninety years
you grew up very little dad
loving but a self-centered man
high-maintenance
as the modern label goes
why did you have to catch up with it all
in one day
today
on the phone

i am not like them at all that you know is that why you reassured me over and over how well you are doing on your own all alone . . .

thirty years younger but i am unwell too many times i also grew very little dad loving but a self-centered one perhaps not as high-maintenance nonetheless a daughter of your essence

since the time our pillar collapsed then much more recently when you two fell apart you have shifted to a deepness

he won't come back he cannot she however may return soon it hasn't been that long yet

why though are you in such hurry with no fair warning in advance but plenty of subtle goodbyes to me

are you telling yourself what i used to hear you say "aloneness is reserved only for God" please don't you also rush while i'm so far away

i agonize over your loneliness how it befell upon you this late in life did you really not hear me well when i asked . . .

they are merely a few blocks from you yet choose not to be there and you already stopped forgiving yourself while you grant them forgiveness in abundance

i just wish so very desperately you wouldn't have to hurt this much that you could cease to grow up at once

and to forgive me for everything i couldn't be for you would you possibly throw in a sixty-year-long hug or two

## your great-grandfather

dropped in today out of the blue he was in my living room yes my precious little ones fairy tales can come true no he wasn't on a magic carpet he knows better these days

many, many, many things he didn't remember your full names were to him crystal clear however he sent you and me countless years to enjoy his wish list doggedly refused to forget to affix a long life to your mommy and daddy too

did i say fairy tales anneanne's pure delights i meant to say no lie to either one of you you both are living it to the max so you'd know how he could have come all the way here passing through the ocean or the thick high air

it's on the eternal rug of the best of the best human gift that he transpired with all his flaws and blessings adrift so that he could tell us while still alert and aware about one thing we must under all circumstances dare

and that is

to love even those who only know how to hate

## do you

fear death

i still do

that of my loved ones that is

when the heartbreak is too much to surpass my memory box takes me by surprise

and i realize . . .

how even death bows down before love

Teresa

£.

Gassion



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

#### Out of Sand

He rises from the sand. Desert sways like ocean waves. In the sun's mirage, all laments roll out to sea.

A monsoon shower redeems his spirit. His muscles flex as a double rainbow climbs out of the mist. Dips a hand in the pot of gold,

flips a coin of his life, watches it dive into the earth pool, awaits the resurrection of his next challenge.

He knows every gold coin is the price of a ticket to enter a new arena on his path. Confident of readiness,

he embraces responsibility, walks across the desert, burning with passion, ready to engage.

## Rebirth of Spring

My consciousness floats in Spring's release from winter's stiff bed. Joints crack jubilant lyrics as the white blanket recedes.

Wild dreams wash in the swift flow of snow melt rushing the river. The sacred ritual rebirth surrenders to nature's hand.

The never ending gurgle over stones invade the silent seductive woods. Awakening Spirits dance in the light, leave naked footprints on the trail.

A new dawn exposes its majesty. Everything that has life begins a slow rise from the soil seeking the skylight streaking the trees.

Words cannot express the joy that runs up the legs of those wearing the human uniform, privileged to witness the rebirth of Spring.

## Lady of the Light

She stands before a marble column

holds the emerald of knowledge in the palm of her left hand.

Blind light radiates from the stone, still her eyes connect unwavering. I raise my hand, blinded by the light

and she says, remove your hand.

This is the moment your training begins.

Step into the light where blindness disappears.

I step forward, the light encircles me. She smiles as my eyes flood with tears, unable to speak, only able to look out in awe

as the universe floats around me. What I want to say, but words do not come is thank you.

# Demetrics Trifiatis



Demetrios Triafitis was born in Greece, studied philosophy in Canada. Post-graduate studies, Universite de Montreal. In 1976 became Canadian citizen. Taught philosophy. Involved in humanitarian and peace organizations. Retired.

Poet and writer. Speaks: Greek, English, French and German. Candidate for the Greek and the European parliaments. Has traveled around the world.

## THE COMING OF SPRING

The chilling morning breeze, caressed

The yet asleep ground,

Whispering in its passage the joyous

Message of the coming Spring

That

Awakened earth's hibernated desires

Which, once liberated,

Sanctuary, in the blooming fields

Of a myriad hues found!

## **HOLY DUTY**

Spring,

Nature's perpetual resolve,

To incarnate divinity's conception

Of beauty

On the vast canvas of fertile earth

By

Executing faithfully eternity's

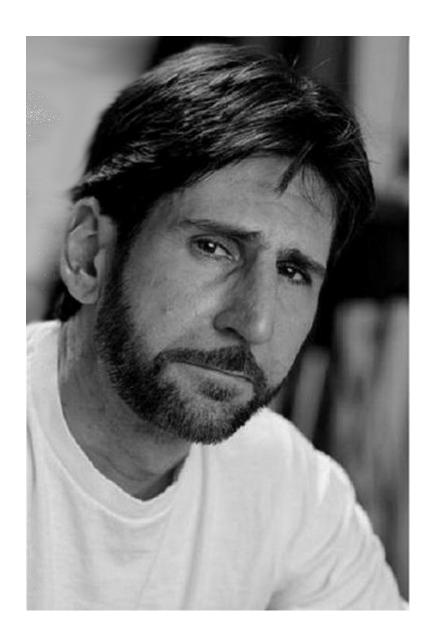
Holy duty!

#### HERALDS OF EUPHORIA

Heralds of euphoria, Your anxious trumpets make to Wait no more For The Olympians to hear the festive News yearn, Persephone is released from Pluto's Palaces to the upper world Where, Demetra- the mother earth- awaits Her daughter to embrace in Her mantle of Green Come, Oh you heralds, your trumpets To sound for all to hear: Apollo is back, Dionysus is gone, Spring has arrived, Thus Mortals and Gods rejoice!

Æsan W.

Jankowski



Alan W. Jankowski is the award winning author of well over one hundred short stories, plays and poems. His stories have been published online, and in various journals including Oysters & Chocolate, Muscadine Lines: A Southern Journal, eFiction Magazine, Zouch, The Rusty Nail, and a few others he can't remember at the moment. His poetry has more recently become popular, and his 9-11 Tribute poem was used extensively in ceremonies starting with the tenth anniversary of this tragic event...

http://www.storiesspace.com/forum/yaf postst538 My-911-Tribute-poem-has-been-in-print-at-least-fourteen-times-in-2011.aspx

He currently has one book out on Inner Child Press titled "I Often Wonder: a collection of poetry and prose." It is available directly from Inner Child at this link… <a href="http://www.innerchildpress.com/alan-w-jankowski.php">http://www.innerchildpress.com/alan-w-jankowski.php</a>

When he is not writing, which is not often, his hobbies include music and camera collecting. He currently resides in New Jersey. He always appreciates feedback of any kind on his work, and can be reached by e-mail at: Exakta66@gmail.com

#### Let Me Be The One

When life hands you so much sorrow and pain, And takes so much with little to gain, You're like a train that somehow left the track, Can we ever get the good times back?

Do you recall when the world was so new? And there seemed no limit to what we could do, Harking back to those simpler times, Of children's books and nursery rhymes.

Can you remember those simple joys? Childhood dreams and children's toys, How did we ever lose our way? Can we ever get back to that day?

Yet somehow those dreams all have faded, Have we really become that jaded? The only cure for lost love is a love that's new, The only love that matters is a love that's true.

And here we are, two souls destined to meet, Why should we ever accept defeat? For us our lives have just begun, We can do this together, let me be the one.

### Starting Anew

Flowers bloom, the Winter thaw, Outside the songbirds sing. With the arrival of the bluebirds, I know that it is Spring.

But listening to the bird's songs, And watching the flowers bloom. I can't but help myself, For feeling a certain gloom.

For I find myself a bit jealous, As the flowers start anew, So often I wish I could do the same, If I just knew what to do.

#### What A Difference A Year Can Make

Nothing in life is guaranteed, Of this lesson I should take heed, For what life gives it can surely take, What a difference a year can make.

A year ago I was standing tall, It seemed as though I had it all, Somehow though my luck had turned, I consider it a lesson learned.

Failure is hard, but so is success, Too many drown in their own excess, But no matter what, my spirit won't break, What a difference a year can make. Anna Jakubczak vel RattyHdalan



Anna Jakubczak vel RattyAdalan was born 18 April 1994 in Szczecin. She is young Polish poet and the main editor of E-Magazine "Horizon". She is a student on Journalism and Social Communication at the University in Szczecin. She collaborates with Association of Polish Writers and few Polish and international magazines.

Her poems were included in five American anthologies: "FM 7: Fall 2013", "FM 8: Winter", "FM 9: Spring 2014", "FM 12: Summer 2015" and "FM 13: Fall 2015" published by Lewis Crystal and Roseanne Terranova Cirigliano in cooperation with Publishing House, Avenue U Publications". Poem "Interlova" was printed in the magazine "The Indus Streams" published by Apeejay Stya University (School of Journalism & Mass Communication).

She's interested in philosophy, literature, psychology, music, mass media. Her hobbies are: cooking, reading books, learning foreign languages, translating and traveling.

In 2013 she published her debut volume: "Ars Poetica". At now she's working on next books: volume"Conversation at night", novel "Wind of hope", collection of stories "Gates of subconscious" and fairytales "The squirrel's stories from the old larch".

www.annajakubczak.wordpress.com

## Forgive me Santa Rita

I know, I haven't called for a long time. My phone is still unloaded of speed android's (un)mental shortcuts.

I could call for, you live in the neighborhood. But I have glass of sugar, milk isn't ending and salt is unhealthy.

Just to send an e-mail. I'am puzzling is there a Wi-Fi? I might ask you.

I order the courier, If I'll find an address someday.

## Modern prayer

No Wi-Fi...

...Santa Rita of impossible cases and hopeless

#### God...

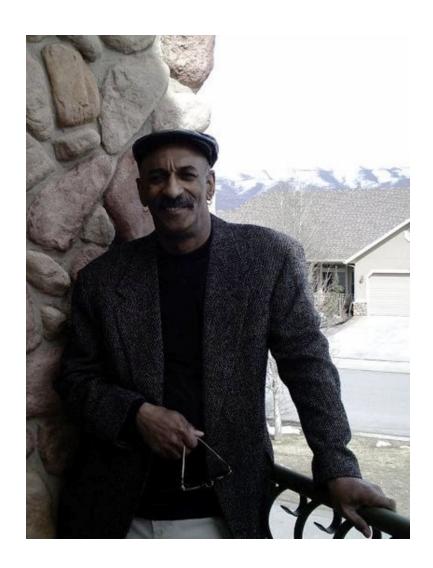
## ...somebody is calling You

in the Heaven from mechanical damages There isn't a guarantee.

You should have to pray.

Wissiam S.

Peters Sr.



Bill's writing career spans a period quickly approaching 50 years. Being first Published in 1972, Bill has since went on to Author 35 additional Volumes of Poetry, Short Stories, etc., expressing his thoughts on matters of the Heart, Spirit, Consciousness and Humanity. His primary focus is that of Love, Peace and Understanding!

Bill says . . .

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

to connect with Bill, he is all things Inner Child

www.iaminnerchild.com

Personal Web Site www.iamjustbill.com

## let us be Spring filled

i tire of Death and the regenerative energies that life affords us in this season winter

i do understand it's purpose and it is necessary i think

i am feeling full of expectation i am living this day in the Spring i am growing in a knowing that i can continue sowing seeds of hope regardless the time of year

i will dig a hole in the frozen soils of my consciousness and plant seeds anyway

i will nurture them with the warmth of my love and pour my re-intensified spirit upon them

they WILL sprout, bud and leaf and blossom and the fruit will be early and sweet for i have changed my own seasons unto my pleasing and the limits no longer exist upon the equator of my understanding

let us be Spring filled

## the coming of Spring

i hear the soft sweet whisperings of the Spring season to come as 'Old Man Winter' enters his slumber that the glory of Spring may come

come ye to me May Flowers bring forth ye buds through April Rains crest the furrows of my tilled garden that i may release all past pains

Soon come time of The Blossoming and the colors of Life so fair impart to all life Love's divine fragrance and let us dance upon it's breath of air

let us breathe and know of but goodness as i sit here embodied in my hope for it was the dreams of Thy Holy Coming that permits me through Life's Winter to cope

i anticipate the dancing of the Butterflies and the chirping of every bird as they exude the harmony of Mother and Life's life found in Father's Sacred Word

> so, here i sit in expectation and i hear your approaching Song as i conclude that we are the Music we have wanted for so long

as we witness . . . the coming of Spring

#### honeysuckle divine

the day is one of Spring and the Yoke of Mother's Winter is broken as the tokens of my memories are spoken about the possibilities to come

the warm Sun is kissing everything myself included and the musing April breeze gently cuts through our heavy laden consciousness liberating our dreams for the days to come

i think of the budding vines of Honeysuckle whose fluted offerings i shall smell and suckle upon without number

the sweetness of that brevity still lingers from many years past as i anticipate the taste of that divine natural nectar once again

they are easy to find just follow the fragrance of your joy and smiles into the wood

honeysuckle divine

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# March 2016 Features



Jeton Kelmendi Nizar Sartawi Sami Muhanna

Jeton Kelmendi



Jeton Kelmendi is a Kosovar poet, short story writer, and essayist. His poems have been translated into numerous languages and published in several international anthologies. Many literary critics, see Kelmendi as a genuine representative of modern Albanian poetry. He is a member of many international poetry clubs and is a contributor to many literary and cultural magazines, especially in English, French and Romanian Languages. Kelmendi has published more than 10 poetry collections, two plays, and three books in the field of poetical science, in addition to a number of books in foreign languages. Kelmendi lives and works in Belgium.

http://jetonkelmendi.page.tl/

https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jeton\_Kelmendi

#### Peja At Five In The Morning

For my father

The city was asleep;
People and the night were sleeping
Silence was taking a break
From the exhaustion of the previous day;
This way the morning unraveled in *Peja*The city was descending at five in the morning.

#### On April 12

Not every dream is easy to share. Someone dreams about spring, And someone else is closing everything All stories, desires for himself, To do his sleep from now on without dreams

I have also been asleep
Even dreaming,
I saw my dad going away
In the forests,
Even though it was early to go in the mountain;
My dad,
Has always been an early bird
But this time he was very early
He was awake,
To pass over the bridge that connects
This world with the other one.

In *Rugova*Men die with pride
Because nature has trained them,
My dad used to say this always,
When he spoke about his family members,
They did all the work

Of life, Then marched over the hearts And became eternal.

I remember dad, Every time he did his work That he had given himself, He was delighted And happy all day He was walking; It was Friday, And my dad Silent just like never before, Handed in all his dreams, Entered in the sleep without dreams, A free fatherland He left it behind. Although his country had many lingering challenges, His sons were close to him: This is how he closed his eyes, Without looking at the green spaces of spring Father;

Oh, Spring
This gorgeous season,
Always takes the meaning away from rhetoric,
But this time it took
My father,
From now on we will have
More longing,
More memories, stories
Everything will be even more,
Only suggestions will be less
Because our father is not here anymore

#### Come On My Side

To imagine means
To draw a daily rainbow on your daily routine
Ruth Mayer

Somehow
Very similar with you
Is my desire;
I can say all my thoughts
That I have for you
But it is still incomplete.
Tame this look
And measure the possibilities,
Otherwise
Only my breadth
Knows how to understand you
How similar all of you are.

You
Are imitating my desire
Becoming a heading soul among the souls
Of mine:

Or
Desire is identical to you
In my look for you,
There will grow even more thoughts.
We are far away, very far
My dear similarity;

To measure our Differences: Trust yourself I will be at the gate of soul.

Overcome the fence of silence Stay away On my side,

Who would not distinguish the similarities?

February 26, 2012, Brussels

#### i have walked on the road of others

Fall in love with thoughts that one day you will hate, And hate with thoughts that one day you will fall in love with ~ Bias De Priène

Don't be late!
The hours go forward
Just like soldiers,
Night has complicated
The streets,

Silence knocks at my door, I am not inside today I have gone outside And far away, Away from home Away from myself, Away than myself,

Distances.
Hours to overcome
And I am alone,
Everything goes in its own
way,

Only me on the way Of the others; Depart towards myself I don't see its roof, Night has lost my road. Many times I have said

To myself Don't be late! Night is horrible.

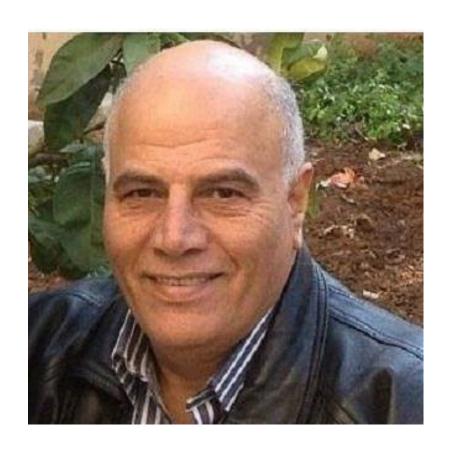
What have I loved? Who am I looking for? I share with myself The rhythms of thoughts Are similar to me, Somewhat:

HOOO....Its beginning early Silence And I understand, I have been a dream My love;

Nor in a dream will I not find you Where did you hide The traces, In what sky are you sleeping?

Tomorrow night
I will come to have
A few hours of vagabond's sleep with you,
Today I have walked alone
In the roads of others.

Nizar Sartawi



Nizar Sartawi is a poet and translator committed to building bridges between nations of the globe through poetry and poetry translation. He believes that poetry, like music and other arts, has the power of bringing people together.

Saratwi has published about 20 books. His poetry and translations in both Arabic and English have been anthologized and published in literary journals, magazines, newspapers, and literary websites.

Sartawi is a member of a number of literary and cultural associations, including General Union of Palestinian Writers, Jordanian Writers Society, and Arab Writers Union.

http://sartawipoesy.blogspot.com/ http://nizartranslations.blogspot.com/

#### The Execution

Here they come the frequent trespassers of this terrain in their tattered truck The heavy black boots step down

Their helmets on and safety glasses their ear muffs thick face shields and Kevlar chaps

Forward they march with calculated steps

There she stood – a lone giant Lizzab tree an old green fortress – as the gang approached

They sized her up
they measured and marked
and then
the keen chainsaw
whirring
whining
grinding
until the mountains
quivered with dread at
the cracking
the crashing
the crunchy bone breaking

#### a handful of haiku

in the afternoon his rendezvous with her and her shadow too

~ ~ ~

standing in the park behind a little cabin two shadows kissing

~ ~ ~

on your way windstorm bring dust and leaves and paper and letters for me

~ ~ ~

suddenly a whirlwind the poems i wrote outdoors delivered to heaven

~ ~ ~

the almond tree blossoms falling falling the child still swinging

~ ~ ~

in the olive grove singing aloud all night long with the cicadas

~ ~ ~

eyes and nose missing scarf and crochet at his feet poor little snowman

#### The Soldier

At snail's pace
he strolled towards the other kingdom
leaving behind
two hollow eyes
goggling
in dismay
at a gang of vicious beaks
banging and clanging
until they cracked
the curved bone
and went picking at the
wet
white
brain

# Sami Muhanna



Sami Muhanna, a Palestinian poet and media man, is the chairman of the General Union of Arab Palestinian Writers /1948. He is one of the leading activists in the national movement within the 1948 Palestinian territories. In 1212 he was selected as the Best Poet in Palestine-1948. In 2015 he was honored by both Morocco's Writers Union and the Arab Writers Union for his active cultural and nationalistic role in Palestine/1948. His published poetry collections include: "I Ascend And My Ladder Is Made Of Fire," "You are with Me," "I Ignite the World a Poem," and "The Recitation of the departing Bird."

http://samimhanaportry.blogspot.co.il/

#### **Lunar Contemplations**

I contemplate the traveling moon, and the one nesting on the bed of the night O wretched moon! Since the dawn of love you've been the refrain of poems and songs Whoever falls in love declares: my sweetheart is a moon and makes you his beautiful and genuine metaphor So lonely are you on the banks of the night... If you had your own female would you call her: My moon Or would you gaze at us and say: my sweetheart is a human.

~ \* ~

(Translated into English by Nizar Sartawi)

#### A Soliloquy Not Heard by Matthew

And he went a little further, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt. ~ Matthew 26:39

Won't you take the glass away from my lips? Not for my sake, but for my mother's You are a god and she's a mother O Father I see her tears falling on me And you're in your heaven and within me beyond the senses in your high and holy place You've perplexed my human half with your divine whole A human she was who gave birth to the son of god afraid I am for her O Lord Have mercy I see her in a fire of my own blood Won't you take the glass away from my lips

 $\sim$  \*  $\sim$ 

(Translated into English by Nizar Sartawi)

#### Adam's Exile

I declare the snake innocent For neither has Satan seduced me nor has Eve been unfair to my steps From the rib of love O Lord you created a possibility that raises paradise above his fancy and my vision And you have taught me the names and things but the dew sprinkled on the lips of my only female has taught the new heart what the flute says You created the river, the flowers and the moon, suspended above the evening dreams and said unto me: Love but I did not understand nor did the angles of Heaven hear the throbbing of passion I went searching for the ranks of love and my ego I followed the dream O Lord For the apple is a miracle and the chest of the beloved is her glamor kneaded from the moon and the charm of perfume is greater than my powers and into my body you've breathed love mixed with her smile that formed the sighs of the rib before I was formed

And you deported me
from your garden of Eden
That you'd created for me.
O God of love and peace
Do you hear my feelings
I followed my heart O God of the dew
and you denied me what you'd given, what you'd planted,
what you'd watered
But Eden O God of the hearts
hangs from a braid
and is painted around the burning waist,
drowning in the dew of my female

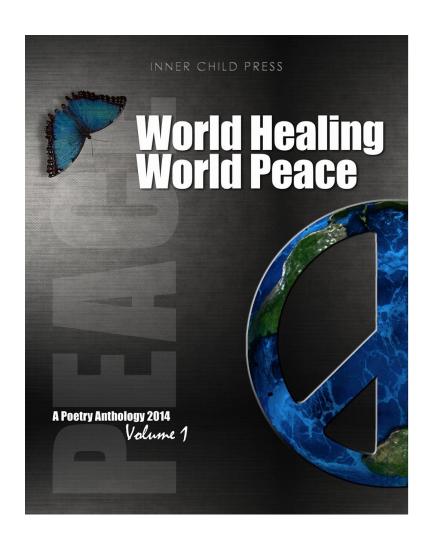
~ \* ~

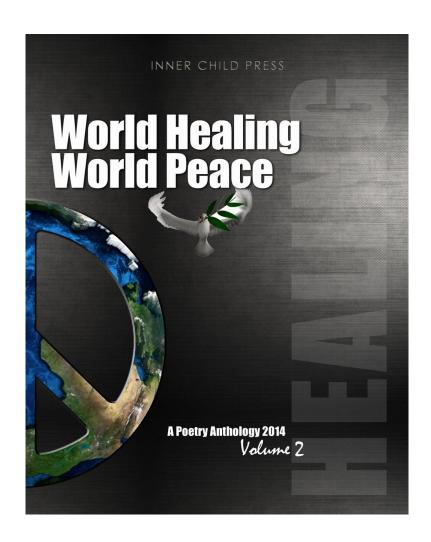
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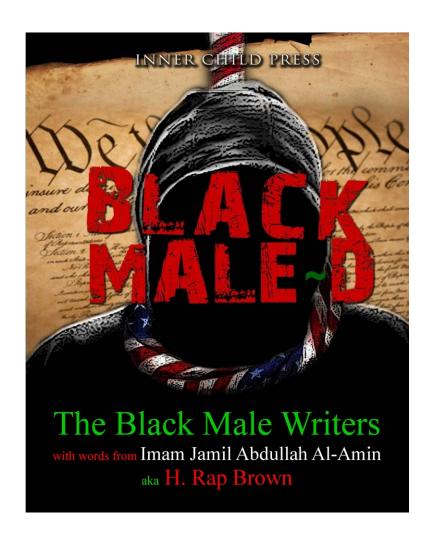
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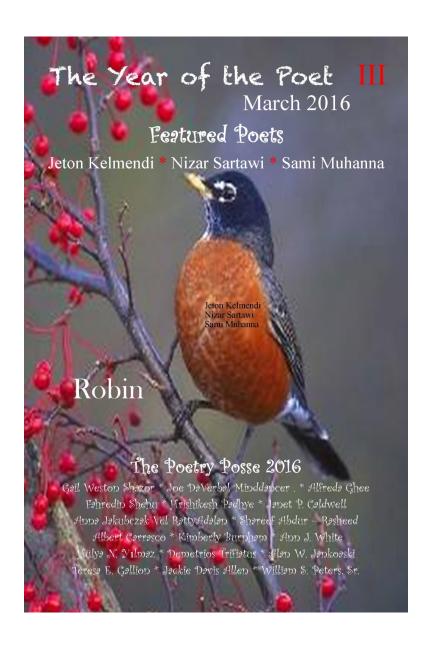
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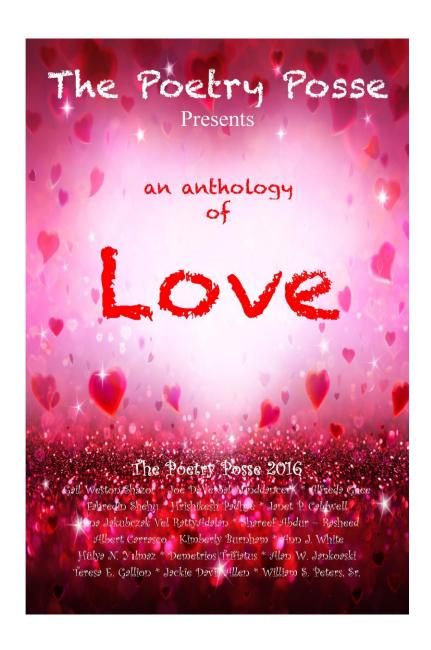
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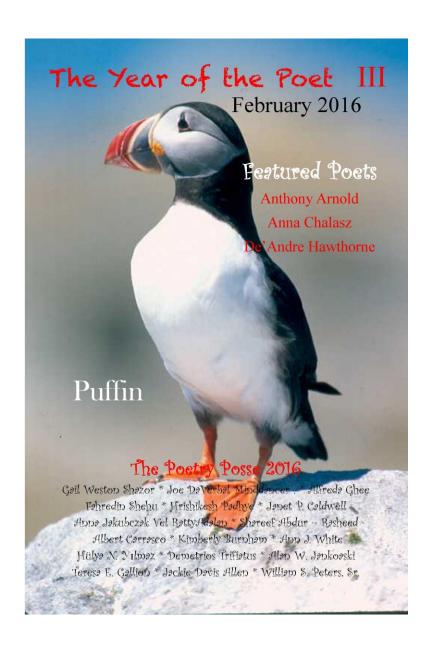








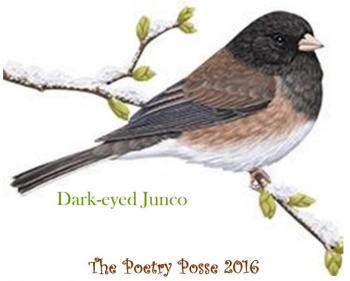




## The Year of the Poet III January 2016

#### Festured Poets

Lana Joseph \* Atom Cyrus Rush \* Christena Williams



Gəil Weston Shəzor \* Annə Jəkubczək Vel RəttyAdələn. \* Ann J. White
Eəhredin Shehu \* Hrishikesh Pədhye \* Jənet P. Cəldwell
Joe DəVerbəl Minddəncer \* Shəreef Abdur — Rəsheed
Albert Cərrəsco \* Kimberly Burnhəm \* Keith Alən Həmilton
Hülyə N. Yılməz \* Demetrios Trifiatus \* Alən W. Jənkowski
Teresə E. Çəllion \* Jəckie Dəvis Allen \* William S. Peters, Sr.

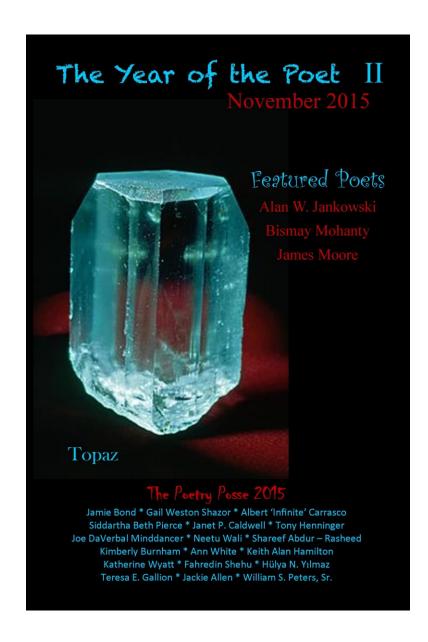
# The Year of the Poet II December 2015

#### Featured Poets

Kerione Bryan \* Michelle Joan Barulich \* Neville Hyatt



#### The Poetry Posse 2015



# 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 Siddartha 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. Yılmaz Teresa E. Gallion \* Jackie Allen \* William S. Peters, Sr.

# The Year of the Poet II

#### September 2015

Featured Poets

Alfreda Ghee \* Lonneice Weeks Badley \* Demetrios Trifiatis

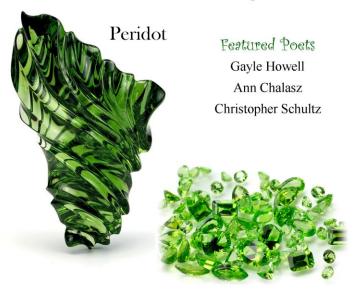


#### **Sapphires**

#### The Poetry Posse 2015

# The Year of the Poet II

August 2015



### The Poetry Posse 2015

# The Year of the Poet II July 2015

The Featured Poets for July 2015
Abhik Shome \* Christina Neal \* Robert Neal

Rubies

### The Poetry Posse 2015

# The Year of the Poet 11

June 2015

#### June's Featured Poets

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



#### The Poetry Posse 2015



# The Year of the Poet II

**April 2015** 

Celebrating International Poetry Month

Our Featured Poets

Raja Williams \* Dennis Ferado \* Laure Charazac



#### Diamonds

#### The Poetry Posse 2015

# The Year of the Poet II

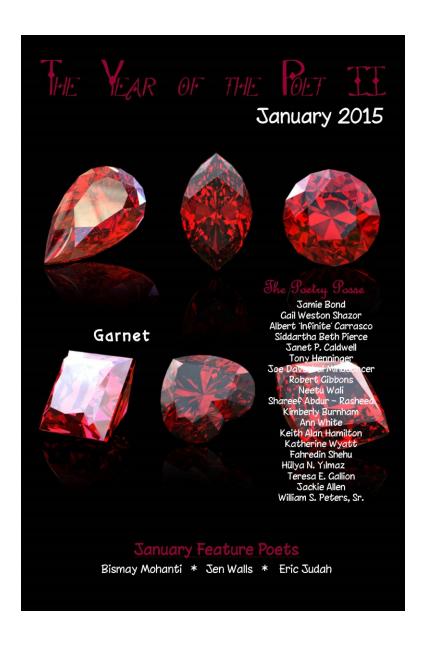
March 2015

#### Our Featured Poets

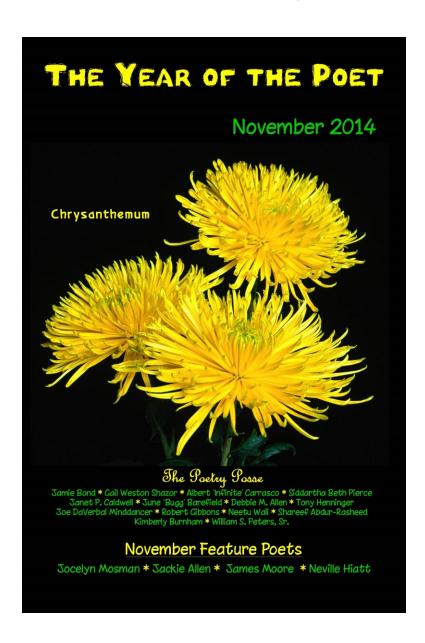
Heung Sook \* Anthony Arnold \* Alicia Poland



#### The Poetry Posse 2015

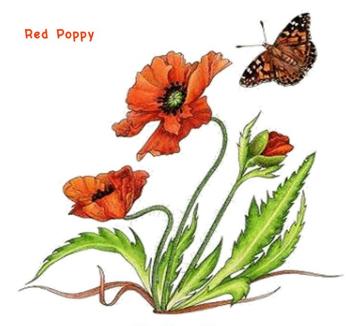






# THE YEAR OF THE POET

October 2014



The Poetry Posse

Samie Bond \* Cail Weston Shazor \* Albert 'Infinite' Carrasco \* Siddartha Beth Pierce

Sanet P. Caldwell \* Sune 'Bugg' Barefield \* Debbie M. Allen \* Tony Henninger

Soe DaVerbal Minddancer \* Robert Cibbons \* Neetu Wali \* Shareef Abdur-Rasheed

Kimberly Burnham \* William S. Peters, Sr.

#### October Feature Poets

Ceri Naz \* Rajendra Padhi \* Elizabeth Castillo

# The Year of the Poet

September 2014



#### September Feature Poets

Florence Malone \* Keith Alan Hamilton

The Poetry Pose

Samie Bond \* Gail Weston Shazor \* Albert 'Inffinite' Carrasco \* Siddartha Beth Pierce
Sanet P. Caldwell \* Sune Bugg' Barefield \* Debbie M. Allen \* Tony Henninger
Soe DaVerbal Minddancer \* Robert Gibbons \* Neetu Wali \* Shareef Abdur-Rasheed Kimberly Burnham \* William S. Peters, Sr.

# The Year of the Poet



August Feature Poets

Ann White \* Rosalind Cherry \* Sheila Jenkins



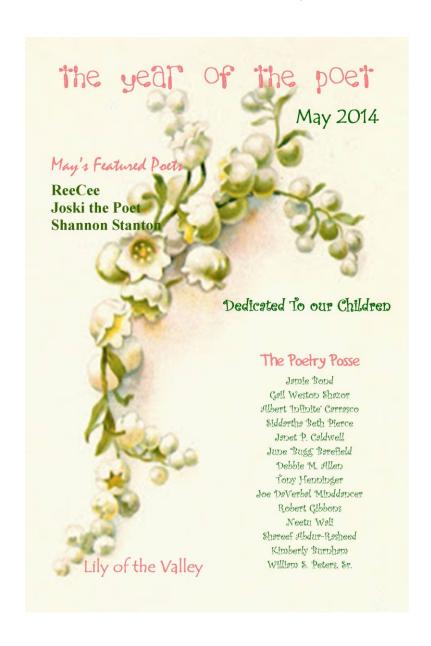
# the Year of the Poet

June 2014



#### June's Featured Poets

Shantelle McLin Jacqueline D. E. Kennedy Abraham N. Benjamin Jamie Bond
Gail Weston Shazor
Albert 'Infinite' Carrasco
Siddartha Beth Pierce
Janet P. Caldwell
June 'Bugg' Barefield
Debbie M. Allen
Tony Henninger
Joe DaVerbal Minddancer
Robert Gibbons
Neetu Wali
Shareef Abdur-Rasheed
Kimberty Burnham
William S. Peters, Sr.



# the Year of the Poet



### April 2014

#### The Poetry Posse

Jamie Bond
Gail Weston Shazor
Albert Infinite Carrasco
Siddartha Beth Pierce
Janet P. Caldwell
June Bugg Barefield
Debbie M. Allen
Tony Henninger
Joe Daverbal Minddancer
Robert Gibbons
Neetu Wal!
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





Our February Features
Teresa E. Gallion & Robert Gibson



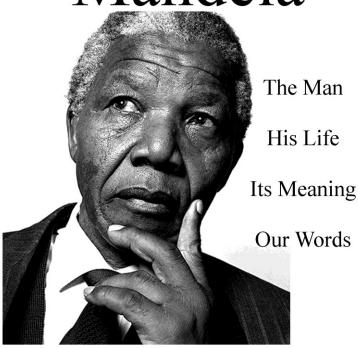


# The Poetry Posse

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

Our January Feature
Terri L. Johnson

# Mandela



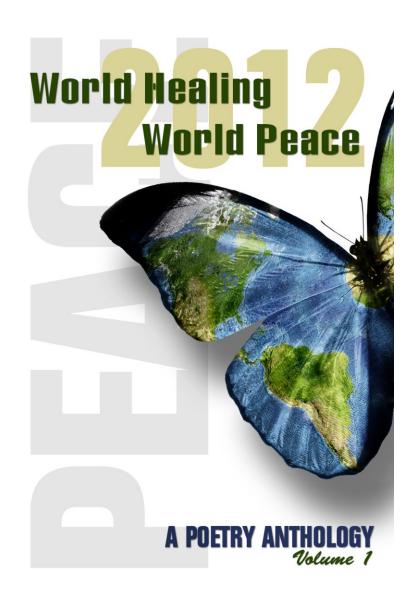
Poetry . . . Commentary & Stories
The Anthological Writers

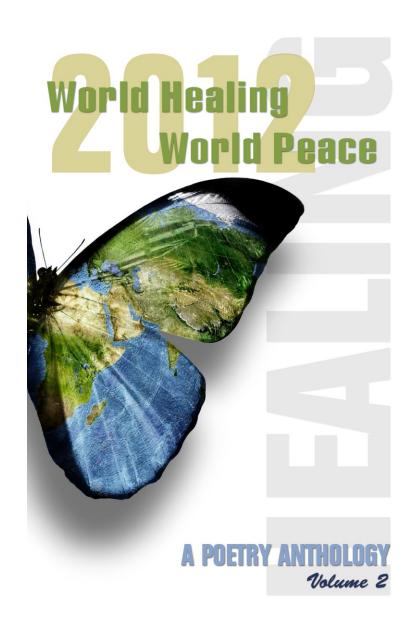
# A GATHERING OF WORDS

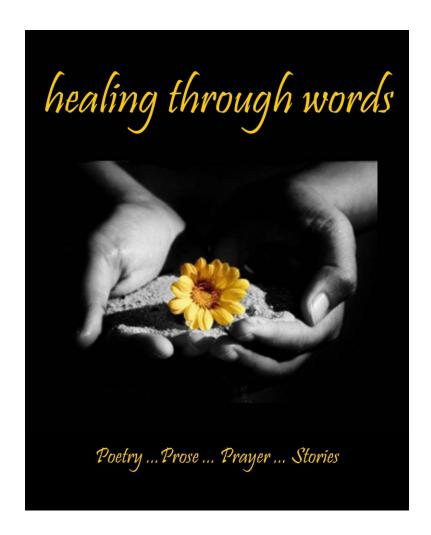


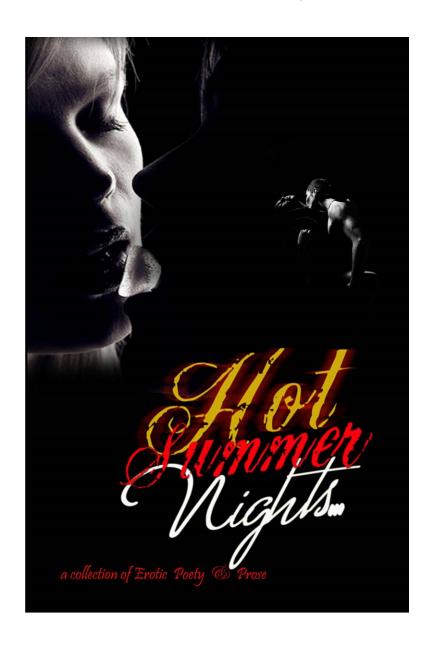
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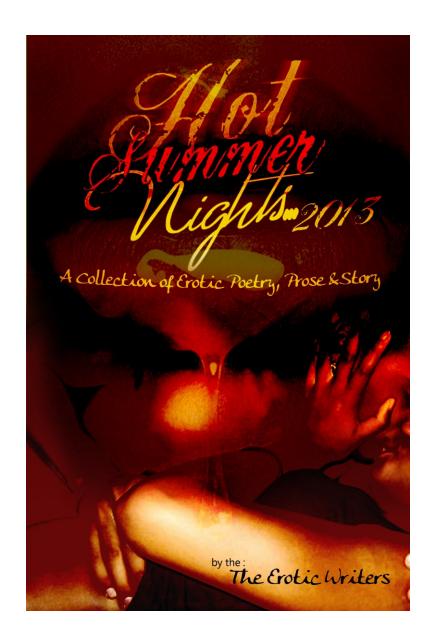
TRAYVON MARTIN

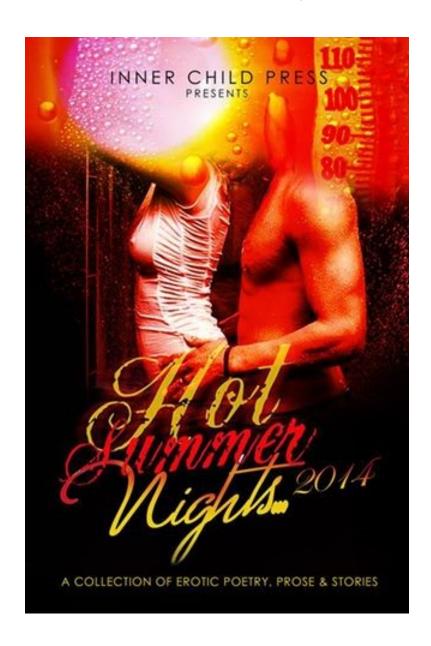


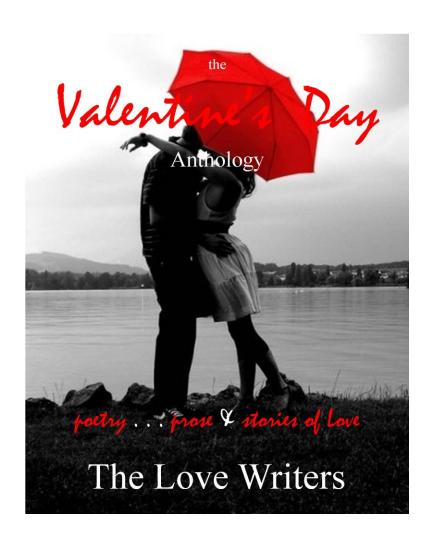














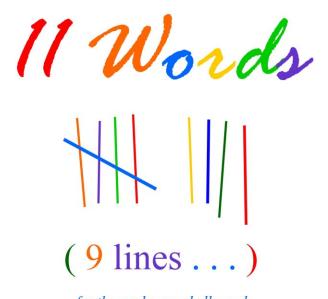
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Monte Smith

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



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- fini -

# The Poetry Posse 2016



# March 2016 ~ Featured Poets



Jeton Kelmendi



Nizar Sartawi



Sami Muhanna



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