



Four Way Books

Spring 2010

# WELCOME TO FOUR WAY BOOKS

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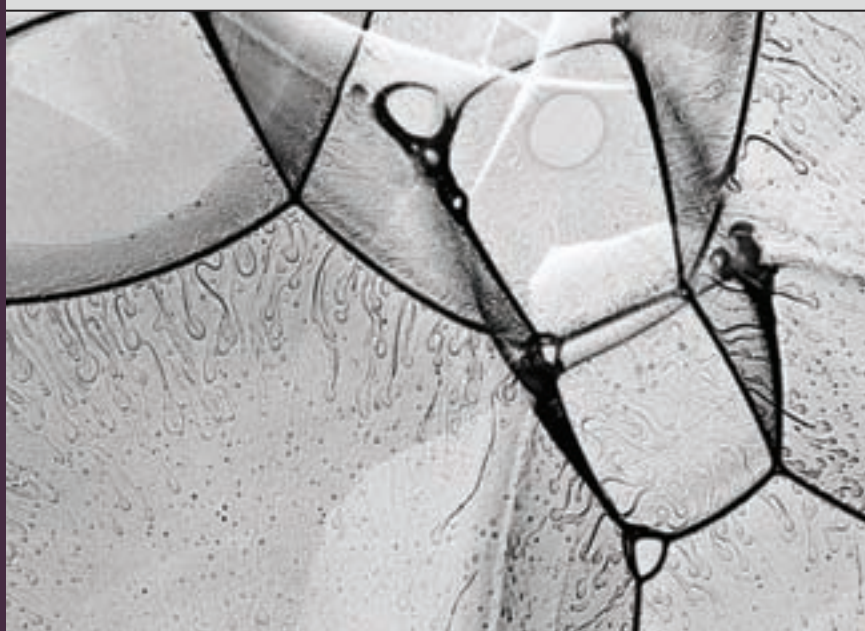


Spring 2010

DAVID DODD LEE



THE NERVOUS FILAMENTS



“. . . Once in a while, a book of poems is so unmemorable that I forget it's in my hands; once in a longer while, a book will stick in me like a spear. . . . *The Nervous Filaments* is most certainly of the latter class. There is no sleep so deep I would not hear it there.”

—Graham Foust

“Imagistic, passionate, and uncompromising, David Dodd Lee's poems are simultaneously in the here-and-now while being otherworldly. . . .”

—Christine Garren

“[This] new solo exhibition is as electric and unsettling as anything the art world has seen in years. Urgent, indifferent, his lines scatter in all directions as you read them, as if the page were a skull in a puddle that when you inspect it turns out to be full of eels. . . .”

—Jordan Davis

**THE NERVOUS FILAMENTS** David Dodd Lee  
Poetry, Spring 2010  
ISBN 978-1-884800-05-4  
\$15.95

David Dodd Lee is the author of four other books of poems: *Abrupt Rural* (New Issues, 2004), *Arrow Pointing North* (Four Way Books, 2002), *Wilderness* (March Street Press, 2000), and *Downsides of Fish Culture* (New Issues, 1997). Lee teaches at Indiana University South Bend.



Spring 2010

“... This debut achieves a clarity that is transcendent and humanizing and unforgettable.”

—Terrance Hayes

“... Here, odd subjects are adroitly turned in the light of the familiar, while the common and ordinary are rendered strange, their underbellies exposed. *The Tyranny of Milk* is a distinctive, compelling book.”

—Cleopatra Mathis

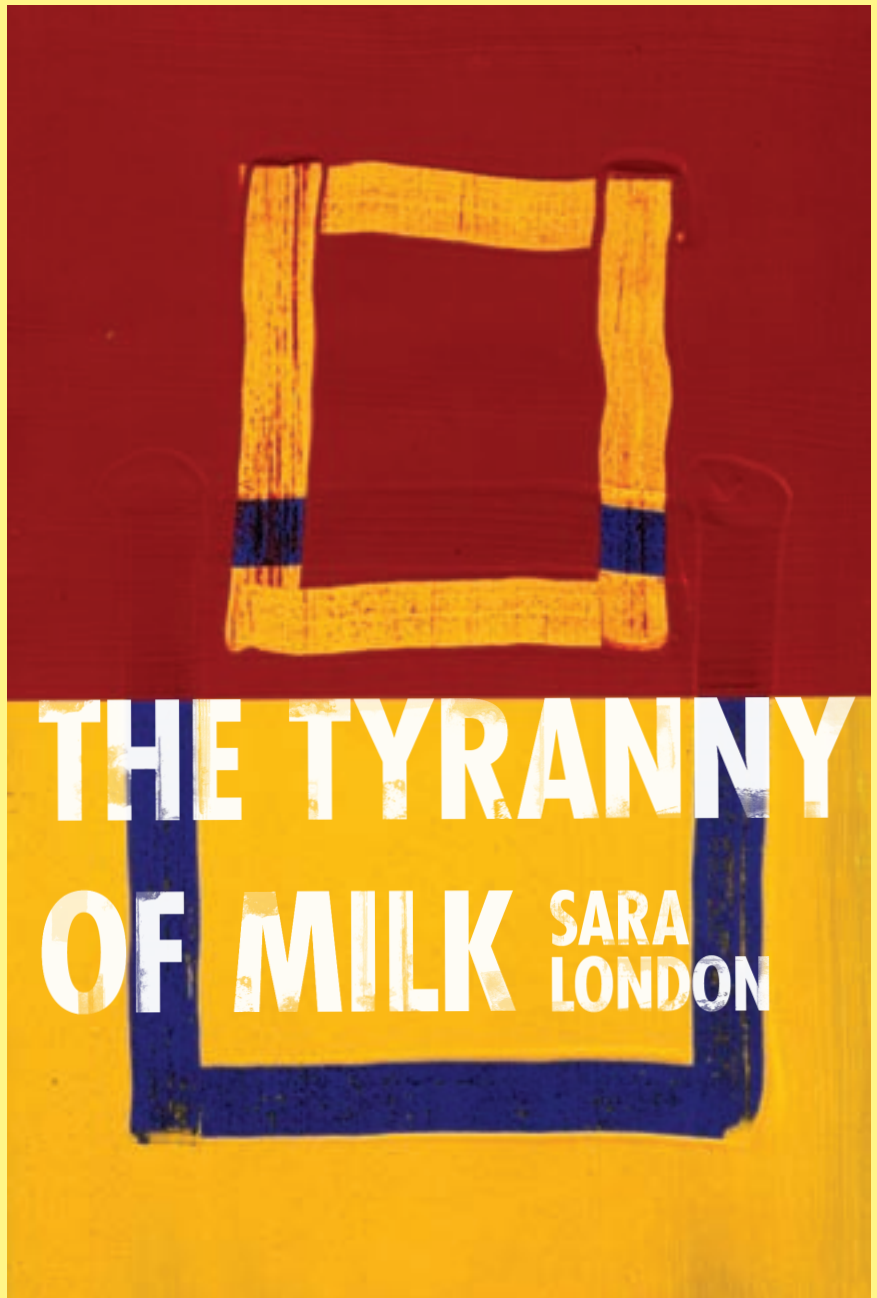


Photo by Dean Albarelli

**THE TYRANNY OF MILK** Sara London  
Poetry, Spring 2010  
A Stahlecker Series Selection  
ISBN: 978-1-935536-02-4  
\$15.95

Sara London has worked as an editor in New York, and as a journalist on Cape Cod. Currently she teaches creative writing and literature at Mount Holyoke College. She is also the author of two children's books. She lives with her husband, writer Dean Albarelli, in Northampton, Massachusetts.



“In *Ignatz*, Monica Youn takes Herriman’s characters—the lovelorn Krazy Kat, the inventively aggressive Ignatz Mouse—and colors in their silhouettes with love poems, myth, aubades, quotations, prose poems, and song. . . . Sometimes you completely forget the frames because of the spectacular view. Despite the deserved delight Youn takes in the playful side of the comic pairing she is exploring, these poems also brim with human difficulties and complexities. . . .”

—Matthea Harvey

“ . . . Youn dips what would otherwise be black comedy into the honey pot of untiring desire: *‘O pity us // Ignatz: O come to us by moonlight / O arch your speckled body over the earth.’ . . .*”

—Cal Bedient

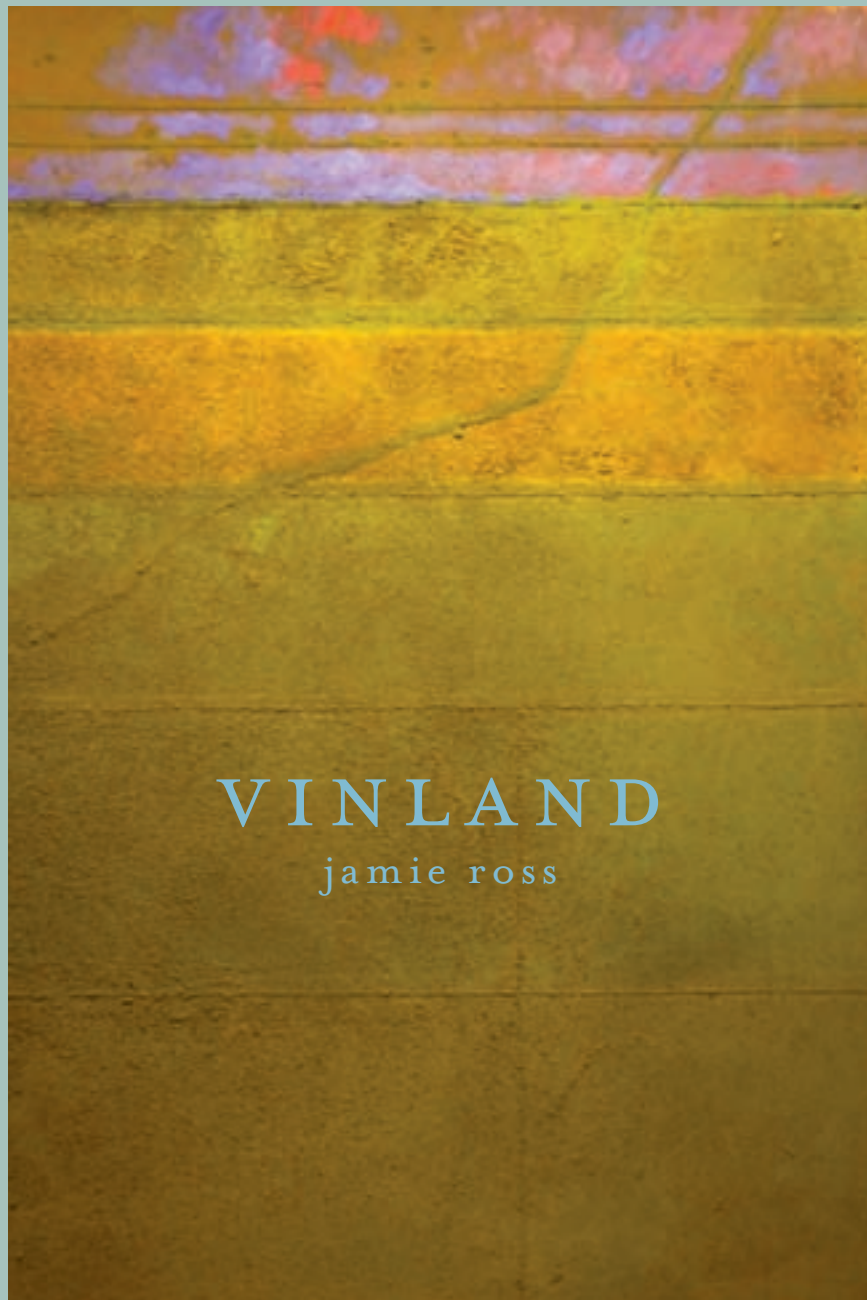
“ . . . No poet of Youn’s generation has made more demands on herself—and none has done more in her art. . . .”

—Stephen Burt



**IGNATZ** Monica Youn  
Poetry, Spring 2010  
A Stahlecker Series Selection  
ISBN: 978-1-935536-01-7  
\$15.95

Monica Youn is an attorney at the Brennan Center for Justice at NYU School of Law, where she is the director of the Money in Politics project. She has been awarded poetry fellowships from the Library of Congress, the Rockefeller Foundation, and Stanford University, and has taught creative writing at Pratt Institute and Columbia University.



*“Vinland* assembles itself around the reader from different directions and dimensions the way the world assembles itself around an individual, through time and the trickeries of time, through weather and through thought, through experiences of many kinds, those of one person and those common to all, large experiences, and those that seem small but hold, lambs crying, or the play of light and shadow on a wall, through the rhythms of the seasons, and the rhythms of the stars, and the character of the land, mountain or no mountain, cattails exploding, or the slow fall of snow, through the ebb and flow of memory, and the convolutions of history, through fast and feast, gearshift and tuning fork, flood and drought, through numbers and through dreams, dreams of the day and dreams of the night, through the night and through the day, through the griefs that harrow us, and the visions that silence us, and the bonds of desire that bind us, first and last, lover to lover, man to the land, father to son, son to his beloved father.”

—Brigit Pegeen Kelly, judge



Photo by Vickie Lindsay

**VINLAND** Jamie Ross

winner of the Four Way Books Intro Prize in Poetry

Poetry, Spring 2010

ISBN: 978-1-935536-99-4

\$15.95

Jamie Ross was born in Connecticut and grew up in Colorado. A member of the first National Geographic Yukon expedition, he's lived in Iran, Italy, and spends much time in Mexico. He currently resides on a mesa west of Taos.

Spring 2010

“Megan Staffel does rural and urban, adolescence and adulthood, tough and tender, story and novella, with equal felicity and grace. The range of this collection—emotional and formal—is as astonishing as her rich and tender evocation of what it is to be alive. This is a book with a vigilant spirit, built to linger and bloom.”

—Michael Parker

“Each of these vividly imagined, richly peopled stories invites the reader into a complete world, and each demonstrates how well Megan Staffel understands the degree to which our lives are defined by family, place and money. In prose both lyrical and colloquial she depicts the lives of characters hovering on the edge of mystery. *Lessons in Another Language* is a lovely and illuminating collection.”

—Margot Livesey



Lessons in Another Language  
a novella & stories

Megan Staffel



Photo by Brian Oglesbee

LESSONS IN ANOTHER LANGUAGE  
A NOVELLA & STORIES Megan Staffel  
Fiction, Spring 2010  
ISBN: 978-1-935536-00-0  
\$18.95

Megan Staffel is also the author of the novels *The Notebook of Lost Things* and *She Wanted Something Else* and the story collection *A Length of Wire*. She has received a Michigan Council of the Arts grant and teaches at the Warren Wilson MFA Program for Writers. She lives in rural New York.

Coming Soon: Fall 2010



Photo by Alissa Whelan

*The women with funeral smiles, their fingers brushing my shoulders like dark sunlight.*

from "In the Pines"

**FIMBUL-WINTER** Debra Allbery  
*A Stablecker Series Selection*

*He thought of it as a bird heart, a combination lock, a music box.*

from "Nightingale"

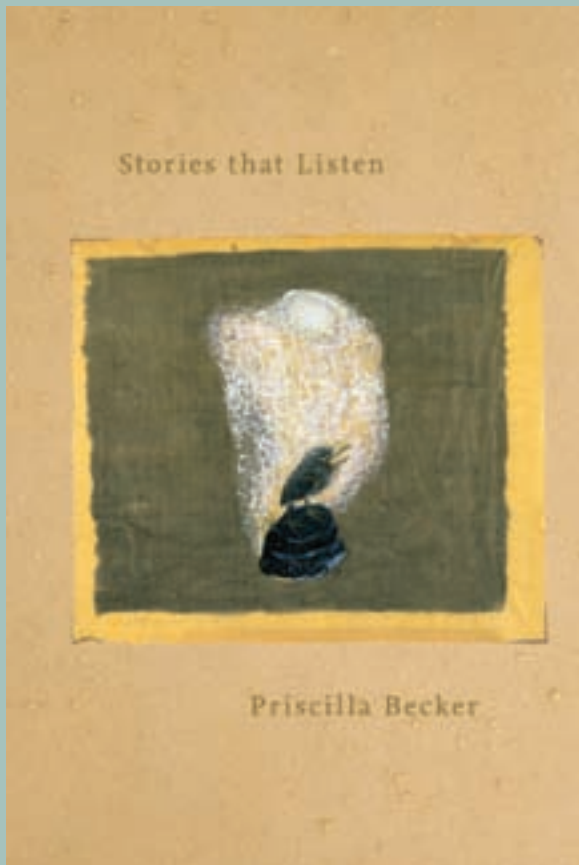


Photo by Brian Hoffman

*Oh but sometimes you see it in the suicide light of the moon*

from "Disambiguation"

**STORIES THAT LISTEN** Priscilla Becker  
*A Stablecker Series Selection*

*I have come to regard the wide arms of the chair as an only mother.*

from "The Sound of the Closing Door"

Coming Soon: Fall 2010



**BELATED HEAVENS Daniel Tobin**  
A Malcolm McDonald Series Selection



Photo © 2008 Star Black

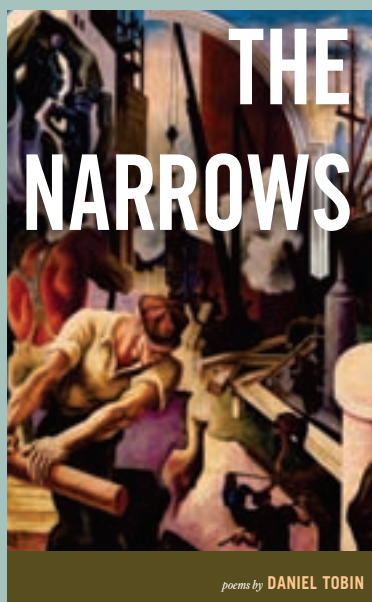
*The new earth's a ruin with sheen of gold,  
And soul's what's left in the brass spittoon.*

from "New Millennium Blues"

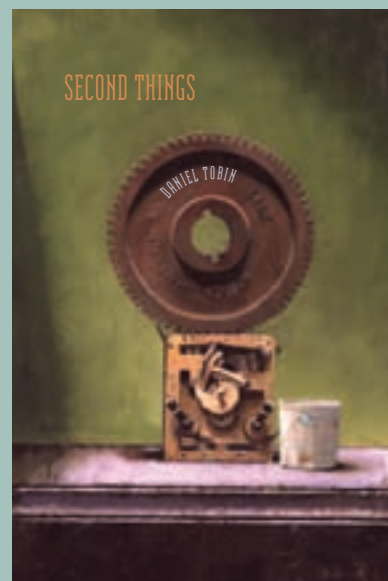
*The atmosphere of a life you might have lived  
Had the whim of occurrence been different.*

from "Gnomon"

Also from Four Way Books:



**THE NARROWS, Spring 2005**



**SECOND THINGS, Fall 2008**

# Recently Published, Fall 2009



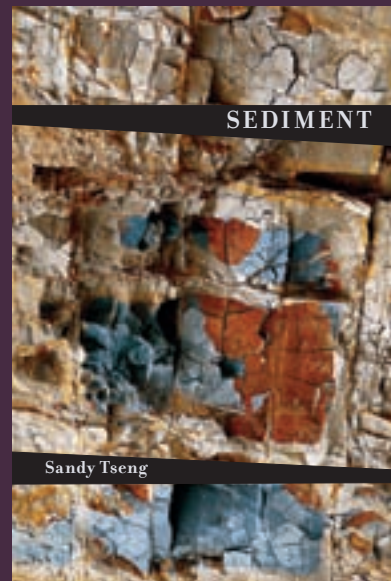
**WHAT THE RIGHT HAND KNOWS**  
Tom Healy



**HOME BY NOW**  
Meg Kearney



**THE ARRIVAL** Daniel Simko  
edited by Carolyn Forché & James Reidel



**SEDIMENT** Sandy Tseng

“A powerful sense of loss echoes through Czech-born poet/translator Simko’s first American collection. . . . Throughout, the lines and poems build upon one another, enveloping readers until they sense how ‘The mortality of things/ is so abrupt.’ The result is searing, lingering long after reading ‘like a fingerprint in the mind’s shadow.’”

LIBRARY JOURNAL

# Recently Published, Spring 2009



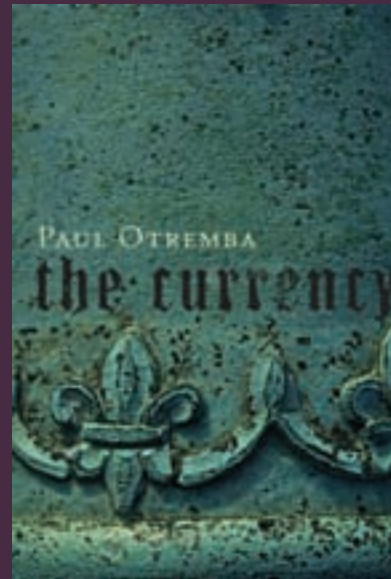
**THE PLATH CABINET**  
Catherine Bowman



**AND SO** Joel Brouwer



**RISING** Farrah Field



**THE CURRENCY**  
Paul Otremba

“While it might be possible, on first read, to assume that Field’s quirkily aphoristic poems are some kind of ode to a simple and innocent Southern aesthetic . . . her debut book is nothing of the kind, immediately assuring the reader that she ‘has already outlived her older sister/ and determines: *I am blessed but not by God.*’ At the core of these searing poems is the story of Field’s sister who was brutally murdered, which Field tells and retells in poem after poem, as if it could finally be got off her chest: ‘Only so much is let out/ of a face and I read in folk *Someone killed your someone too.*’”

PUBLISHERS WEEKLY, Starred Review

### THE PLATH CABINET Catherine Bowman

“It is difficult to express the tenderness evoked by spending time with this repository of feelings, this locked cabinet of things.’ By opening the ‘locked cabinet of things,’ Catherine Bowman provides essential reading. As a response to Sylvia Plath, her culture, and her work, there is nothing else like it.”

PLATH PROFILES, AN INTERDISCIPLINARY JOURNAL FOR SYLVIA PLATH STUDIES

### AND So Joel Brouwer

“Joel Brouwer’s new book *And So* furthers his reputation as careful craftsman and ensures his inclusion among the best of the younger generations of poets writing in America today. *And So* is a lyrical and erudite book in which the characters . . . live out their lives in a series of changing landscapes and relationships.”

ALABAMA WRITERS’ FORUM

### WHAT THE RIGHT HAND KNOWS Tom Healy

“Laconic yet passionate and sparely personal, the poems in this first book set urbanity and unfolding tragedy in common words and slow-moving, short lines. . . . Healy’s finest moments make him spare, elegiac and wry all at the same time . . .”

PUBLISHERS WEEKLY

### HOME BY NOW Meg Kearney

“In all of these poems, Kearney’s talent is refreshingly understated, her craft is subtle, her voice clear and empathetic. These are poems that draw you in with a highly skilled diction, but keep you there with human experience that matters.”

FOREWORD MAGAZINE

### THE CURRENCY Paul Otremba

“Through lyric meditations on language, visual art, and the particulars of memory, Otremba achieves an enthralling marriage of intellect and emotion in this accomplished debut.”

THE POTOMAC, A JOURNAL OF POETRY AND POLITICS

### SEDIMENT Sandy Tseng

“This vivid and clean-lined debut weaves strands of personal and family narrative into short poems with wider symbolic force . . . In Tseng’s strongest work, everything takes on a surprising, religious dimension as the book drives to a close: ‘The voice of the Lord is upon the water,’ she warns: ‘he intends to strip the forests bare.’”

PUBLISHERS WEEKLY

## Proud Publishers of:

Joan Aleshire, Ruth Anderson Barnett, Stephen Berg, Deborah Bernhardt, Laurel Blossom, Catherine Bowman, Lee Briccetti, Joel Brouwer, Kurt Brown, Susan Browne, C. S. Carrier, Anne Babson Carter, Tina Chang, Christopher Davis, Sharon Dolin, Lynn Domina, John Donoghue, Ellen Dudley, Gary Duehr, Gwen Ebert, Farrah Field, Elliot Figman, Terri Ford, Stuart Frieber, John Gallaher, Sarah Gorham, Forrest Hamer, Jeffrey Harrison, Tom Healy, Cynthia Huntington, Henry Israeli, Paul Jenkins, Claire Kageyama-Ramakrishnan, George Kalamaras, Meg Kearney, Pamela Kircher, Stephen Knauth, Ann Scott Knight, Noelle Kocot, David Lawrence, David Dodd Lee, Gary Copeland Lilley, Sara London, Pat Mangan, Sarah Manguso, Kathryn Maris, Valerie Martínez, Mary Ann McFadden, Molly McQuade, Pablo Medina, Nancy Mitchell, Mary Jane Nealon, D. Nurkse, April Ossmann, Paul Otremba, Eileen Pollack, Kevin Prufer, Frances Richard, Jamie Ross, Frazier Russell, Catherine Sasanov, Jason Schneiderman, Lisa Sewell, Daniel Simko, Beth Stahlecker, Megan Staffel, Sue Standing, Cammy Thomas, Daniel Tobin, Pimone Triplett, Sandy Tseng, Alissa Valles, Susan Wheeler, M. Wyrebek, Monica Youn, C. Dale Young

## Forthcoming:

Joan Aleshire, Debra Allbery, Priscilla Becker, Tina Chang, Cynthia Cruz, Jennifer Denrow, Patrick Donnelly, Rigoberto González, Sarah Gorham, Claire Kageyama-Ramakrishnan, Sydney Lea, Rose McLarney, Collier Nogue, Eileen Pollack, Kevin Prufer, Debra Spark, Daniel Tobin, Joni Wallace, Jonathan Wells, C. Dale Young

## How To Submit to Us:

Between January 1st and March 31st, Four Way Books accepts submissions for either the Intro Prize in Poetry (2010) or the Levis Poetry Prize (2011).

We read submissions in June annually (regardless of publication history), including poetry collections, short story collections and novellas. Submissions sent to us in June are selected by our editorial board, not by an outside judge.

On occasion, we read outside of these time frames. However, it is important that you query us first before sending your work to us. If we can accommodate you, we will. Our ability to read outside of the contest and our June Reading Period depends upon our workflow at any given time.

For complete guidelines please visit our website at: [WWW.FOURWAYBOOKS.COM](http://WWW.FOURWAYBOOKS.COM).

Thank you for your interest in Four Way Books.

# How to Order Four Way Books Titles

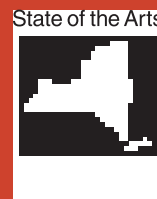
Our books are available to the trade through University Press of New England, [www.upne.com](http://www.upne.com), 1-800-421-1561.

INDIVIDUALS MAY DISCOUNT SHOP THROUGH FOUR WAY BOOKS AT [WWW.FOURWAYBOOKS.COM](http://WWW.FOURWAYBOOKS.COM).

## Course Adoption Information

If you would like to receive an instructor's copy, please email us at [editors@fourwaybooks.com](mailto:editors@fourwaybooks.com).

You may also purchase our titles through local booksellers and online.



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