

Acta Biographia - Author Bios

D. C. Andersson researches and teaches at the University of Oxford. He has published widely, if sporadically, in poetry magazines.

Glen Armstrong holds an MFA in English from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst and teaches writing at Oakland University in Rochester, Michigan. He also edits a poetry journal called *Cruel Garters*.

Eric Basso was born in Baltimore in 1947. His work has appeared in the *Chicago Review*, *Fiction International*, *Exquisite Corpse*, and many other publications. His most recent books are *Decompositions: Essays on Art & Literature 1973–1989* and *Revagations: A Book of Dreams 1966–1974* (Asylum Arts Press). Six Gallery Press published *Earthworks*, his seventh collection of poems, in 2008. Asylum Arts Press published his early collection of poems, *Umbra*, in 2010. His 1976 novella, "The Beak Doctor," was recently listed in *The Huffington Post* among the thirteen weirdest stories of the twentieth century.

Brittany Baldwin has cooked professionally for 20 years and runs a small catering company and farm near Portland, Oregon.

Morgan Bazilian, Ph.D. is a poet and short story writer. His poetry has appeared in numerous journals, including: Exercise Bowler, Pacific Poetry, Angle Poetry, Dead Flowers, Poetry Quarterly, Garbanzo Literary, and Innisfree. His short fiction has been published in: Eclectica, South Loop Review, Embodied Effigies, Shadowbox, Slab, Crack the Spine, and Glasschord. He lives with his family in Ireland and the United States. Currently he writes mostly on airplanes.

In addition to serving on the English faculty of Virginia Tech, **C.N. Bean** has published three novels, *A Soul to Take*, *Dust to Dust* and *With Evil Intent*, and poetry in various magazines, including *Blaze Vox* and, recently, *The Copperfield Review*. His short screenplay, "Smilin' Away the Dreams," was an official selection in the 2013 Richmond International Film Festival. Virginia Tech produced "The Dream Interpreter," based upon the script, as its first public film. "The Dream Interpreter" won a place at the 2014 Cannes Film Festival

Short Film Corner. The 2014 Charleston International Film Festival selected as a finalist his feature-length screenplay, *The World of Lonely*, and the Canadian Short Screenplay Competition listed as one of its top 50 scripts his screenplay, "How Can You Say I Love You?"

Jeremy Biles lives in Chicago, and is the author of *Ecce Monstrum: Georges Bataille and the Sacrifice of Form* (Fordham University Press, 2007).

Heath Brougher lives in York, PA. He is currently putting the finishing touches on two chapbooks and a full-length book of poetry. He feels very deeply that people should come to their own perceptions and conclusions about this world and stop letting other people tell them how to see it and what to think of it.

Christopher Brownsword is the author of two collections of poetry ('Icarus was Right!' Shearsman Books 2010) and 'Rise Like Leviathan and Rejoice!' (Oneiros Books 2014), a novella, 'Blind-Worm Cycle' (Oneiros Books 2013), and a novel, 'The Scorched Highway' (Oneiros Books 2013). The poems featured in this edition of BlazeVOX are taken from 'Rise Like Leviathan and Rejoice!'

sean burn's third and latest full volume of poetry is *is that a bruise or a tattoo?* available now from shearsman press. isbn 9781848612945 www.shearsman.com/pages/books/catalog/2013/burn.html

Patrick Chapman is the author of six poetry collections including *A Promiscuity of Spines: New & Selected Poems* (Salmon, 2012); and two books of fiction, including *The Negative Cutter* (Arlen House, 2014). He has written for children's TV shows *Garth & Bev*, *Wildernuts*, and *Bubble Bath Bay*. *Burning the Bed* (2003), his award-winning short film, starred Gina McKee and Aidan Gillen. For Big Finish Productions, he wrote the *Doctor Who* audio adventure *Fear of the Daleks* (2007). In 2014, he produced two dramas for BBC Radio 4: B7 Productions adaptations of Ray Bradbury's *The Martian Chronicles*, starring Derek Jacobi and Hayley Atwell; and Sumia Sukkar's *The Boy from Aleppo who Painted the War*. With Dimitra Xidou he founded and edits the online poetry magazine *The Pickled Body*. Twice a finalist in the Hennessy Awards, he is also a Pushcart nominee. He lives in Dublin, Ireland.

Michael Cooper is an inland empire poet, PoetriE member, MFA student, Veteran, and father of two great sons: Markus & Jonathan. You can find his work in Tin Cannon, The Pacific Review, The Chaffey Review, The Camel Saloon, The Los Angeles Review, Split Lip, BlazeVOX and other fine (but wild) publications. Michael would like to make you aware that the splash zone includes the first 11 rows.

Roger Craik, Associate Professor of English at Kent State University Ashtabula, has written three full-length poetry books – *I Simply Stared* (2002), *Rhinoceros in Clumber Park* (2003) and *The Darkening Green* (2004), and the chapbook *Those Years* (2007), (translated into Bulgarian in 2009), and, most recently, *Of England Still* (2009). His poetry has appeared in several national poetry journals, such as *The Formalist*, *Fulcrum*, *The Literary Review* and *The Atlanta Review*. English by birth and educated at the universities of Reading and Southampton, Craik has worked as a journalist, TV critic and chess columnist. Before coming to the USA in 1991, he worked in Turkish universities and was awarded a Beineke Fellowship to Yale in 1990. He is widely traveled, having visited North Yemen, Egypt, South Africa, Tibet, Nepal, Japan, Bulgaria (where he taught during spring 2007 on a Fulbright Scholarship to Sofia University), and, more recently, the United Arab Emirates, Austria, and Croatia. His poems have appeared in Romanian, and from 2013-14 he is a Fulbright Scholar at Oradea University in Romania. Poetry is his passion: he writes for at least an hour, over coffee, each morning before breakfast, and he enjoys watching the birds during all the seasons.

Other poems by **Matthew Dulany** can be read in the recent issues of *Confrontation*, *Grey Sparrow Journal*, and *Hiram Poetry Review*. He lives in Maryland.

Meg Flannery is an M.F.A. Candidate in Fiction at Southern Illinois University. She is a native of New Jersey and graduated from Marist College with a B.A. in English and minors in creative writing and photography. This is her first publication.

Katherine Forbes Riley is a computational linguist, a writer, a wife, and a mother of two. She lives in northern New England. Her writing draws on—and is essential to—her experience, and often takes its themes from linguistics, science, marriage, motherhood, and nature. As a linguist, she has published over 40 scholarly articles in peer-reviewed journals and conference proceedings (<http://www.cs.pitt.edu/~forbesk>). Her creative writing has been published by Akashic Books, The McNeese Review, and Buffalo Almanack, from whom she received an Inkslinger's Award for Creative Excellence. She has recently completed a novel.

Amanda Fuller is a native San Diegan who has circumnavigated the earth via ship. She is a poet, translator and currently teaches at San Diego State University. She is a Founding Editor of Locked Horn Press. Her work has been published or is forthcoming in *Poetry International*, *Serving House Journal*, *Fugue* and elsewhere.

M. Brett Gaffney, born in Houston, Texas, holds an MFA in poetry from Southern Illinois University and is an associate editor for *Gingerbread House* literary magazine. Her poems have appeared or are forthcoming in *Exit 7*, *REAL*, *Still: The Journal*, *Licking River Review*, *Sanitarium*, *Permafrost*, and *Zone 3* among others. She is currently enjoying her new job as haunter at The Dent Schoolhouse in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Josepha Gutelius is a widely published poet, short story writer, and playwright. Her work has appeared in the anthologies *Best New Writing 2013*, *A Slant of Light* (2013 USA Best Book Award, 2014 International Book Award finalist), TCR Story of the Month (best of the web 2013). A Pushcart Prize nominee, Eric Hoffer Award finalist. Her play "Vaseline" was short-listed for the prestigious Eugene O'Neill Center, 2014. Full-length stage-plays *Veronica Cory* and *Miracle Mile* published in stageplays.com and Professional Playscripts. Companions plays *RASP/Elektra* featured in The Modern Review. Her story "Lovers" appeared in BlazeVOX II. Website of selected published work: josephagutelius.com

Moriah Hampton teaches in the Writing and Critical Inquiry program at the University at Albany. She enjoys writing fiction in her spare time.

After earning her BA from The Ohio State University, **Lora Hilty** attended graduate school at Spalding University in Louisville, Kentucky, earning a Master of Fine Arts in writing. Currently, she is working toward final revision on her first short story collection, titled "How to Mend a Monster". The featured story, "Thirty Years in the Hole", is one of the stories included in this collection. Lora's work has been published in various print and online journals, including *Literal Translations*, *Litocracy*, *The Battered Suitcase*, *Precipitate Journal*, *Darkest Before Dawn*, and *94 Creations Literary Journal*. When she's not writing fiction, Lora serves as an adjunct professor at Ohio University and Zane State College in Zanesville, Ohio.

A.J. Huffman has published seven solo chapbooks and one joint chapbook through various small presses. Her eighth solo chapbook, *Drippings from a Painted Mind*, won the 2013 Two Wolves Chapbook Contest. She is a Pushcart Prize nominee, and her poetry, fiction, and haiku have appeared in hundreds of national and international journals, including *Labletter*, *The James Dickey Review*, *Bone Orchard*, *EgoPHobia*, *Kritya*, and *Offerta Speciale*, in which her work appeared in both English and Italian translation. She is also the founding editor of Kind of a Hurricane Press. www.kindofahurricanepress.com

Holly Hunt lives in Vancouver, Washington and writes poems, essays and fiction. Her poetry has appeared in *The Southern Review*, *Ploughshares*, *Poetry*, *Beloit Poetry Journal*, and other wilder journals. Her nonfiction essays have appeared in *The Georgia Review*, *Christian Science Monitor*, and newspapers large and local. She is from the foothills of the Ouachita Mountains, in Arkansas. She has worked wage jobs as a fabric cutter, a floral designer, a book editor, a copywriter, fashion writer, and a stuffed monkey maker.

Craig Kurtz lives at Twin Oaks Intentional Community where he writes poetry while simultaneously handcrafting hammocks. Recent work has appeared in *The Bitchin' Kitsch*, *The Blue Hour*, *Outburst*, *Regime*, *Indigo Rising*, *Harlequin Creature*, *Reckless Writing* and *The Tower Journal*. Music work featured at *Fishfood & Lavajuice*.

Nearly 150 of **Sandra Kolankiewicz's** poems and stories have appeared in journals over the past thirty-five years, featured in such places as *Mississippi Review*, *North American Review*, *Confrontation*, *Gargoyle*, *Rhino*, *Prick of the Spindle*, *Cortland Review*, *Fifth Wednesday*, *Louisville Review*, and in the anthologies *Sudden Fiction* and *Four Minute Fiction*. Her chapbook *Turning Inside Out* won the Black River Chapbook Competition at Black Lawrence Press. *Blue Eyes Don't Cry* won the Hackney Award for the Novel. She has a B.A. and a Ph.D. from Ohio University and attended the Writing Seminars at Johns Hopkins. She currently lives with her family in Marietta, Ohio, and teaches at a community college in West Virginia.

My name is **Blaine Leal**, and I was raised on a dairy-farm in the Central Valley of California. My parents and brothers operate the business today, and it has been in our family for generations. Due to the ongoing drought, my family's jobs are in jeopardy, but their spirit is indefatigable. That's what I try to articulate in my poetry – their spirit, and the spirit of the landscape. I also write to spread awareness for the Tulare LGBT Alliance, an organization I created to serve the needs of the queer community in my hometown. I am seeking to provide cohesion within the LGBT community via community outreach efforts and club activities like community service projects and mentoring programs. Please visit <http://www.gofundme.com/dbef24> for additional information. Lastly, I am currently living and working in Seattle, Washington. I am a Juvenile Rehabilitation Counselor at Echo Glen Children's Center, where I work with youth who have committed a range of offenses. I find my work very rewarding.

Peter van Lier (Eindhoven 1960) is a Dutch poet. He made his debut with *Minim gebaar* (Slight Gesture) in 1995, which was awarded the Vlaamse Gids Prize. This was followed in 1998 by *Gegroet o...* (Hail, Oh...), which was awarded the Jan Campert Prize and was nominated for de VSB Poetry Prize. His most recent collections of poetry are *Zes wenken voor muggen aan de deur* (Six Tips for Mosquitoes at the Door, 2007) and *Hoor* (Listen, 2010). In collaboration with visual artist Machteld van Buren, he published *Bodemsanering* (Soil Cleanup, 2008) and *Wisseling van de wacht* (Changing of the Guard, 2011), two chapbooks in which words and images form a unified whole. For further information and translations see: www.poetryinternationalweb.net

John Lowther co-founded the Atlanta Poets Group in 1997 and quit in 2012. The University of New Orleans Press published *The Lattice Inside: An Atlanta Poets Group Anthology* in 2012. Forthcoming from Lavender Ink is John and Dana Lisa Young's book *Held to the Letter*. He edits 3rdness Press. His poetry has been published in many little magazines since the late 90s, including *Antenym*, *Aufgabe*, *Gestalten*, *The Journal of Artists Books*, and *Otoliths*. He is writing his dissertation on the intersections of Lacanian psychoanalysis and queer theory with issues raised for these by transgender and intersex people. For the moment, he lives in North Carolina.

Cate McLaughlin graduated with an MFA from Syracuse University. Her chapbook, *The Year of Black Coffee*, was published by The National Federation of State Poetry Societies.. Her recent publications include *The Common* and *The Minnesota Review*. Currently, she is teaching at Syracuse University and Onondaga Community College.

Dilip Mohapatra, a Navy Veteran started writing poems since the seventies . Post his premature retirement from the Indian Navy in the rank of a one-star Commodore, he held senior leadership positions in the Tata and Suzlon groups if companies. Currently he is the Chief Mentor and Strategic Advisor to KIIT University, Bhubaneswar. His latest poems have been featured in many literary journals of repute like New English Review, Indian Review, Chiaroscuro Magazine, Helix Magazine, BlazeVox and Muse India. Some of his poems are included in the World Poetry Yearbook, 2013. His latest poetry collection titled 'A Pinch of Sun & other poems' has recently been published by the Authorspress India, New Delhi. He is currently working on his second collection of poems.

Eric Mohrman is a poet & freelance writer living in Orlando. His work has appeared in *Counterexample Poetics*, *Defenestration*, *Moria*, *Prick of the Spindle*, *Portland Review*, *Big Scream*, & other journals.

bruno neiva is a Portuguese text artist, poet and writer. He's recently published "averbalraftsone&otherstories" (Knives Forks and Spoons Press) and "dough" (erbacce press). More of his work can be found elsewhere in magazines and anthologies worldwide. He's currently working on Servant Drone, a cut-up poetry joint project with poet Paul Hawkins: <http://servantdrone.tumblr.com/> Blogs at: <http://umaestruturaassimsempudor.tumblr.com/>

Stephen Nelson is a vispo mystic, recently published in The Sunday Times and a contributor to The Last Vispo anthology, whose books include Lunar Poems for New Religions (KFS Press) and Thorn Corners (erbacce-press). He lives in a multi-dimensional universe, somewhere near Glasgow.

Helen Park received a B.A. in English from Wesleyan University, where she fell in love with creative non-fiction and poetry. She has published a poem in the Asian American female anthology, *Yellow as Turmeric; Fragrant as Cloves* (Deep Bowl Press, 2008). She is currently working on several creative non-fiction pieces and poems about family and gender and a memoir about her father's 1st generation immigrant childhood.

Simon Perchik is an attorney whose poems have appeared in *Partisan Review*, *The Nation*, *Poetry*, *The New Yorker*, and elsewhere. His most recent collection is *Almost Rain*, published by River Otter Press (2013). For more information, free e-books and his essay titled “Magic, Illusion and Other Realities” please visit his website at www.simonperchik.com.

Katherine Forbes Riley is a computational linguist, a writer, a wife, and a mother of two. She lives in northern New England. Her writing draws on—and is essential to—her experience, and often takes its themes from linguistics, science, marriage, motherhood, and nature. As a linguist, she has published over 40 scholarly articles in peer-reviewed journals and conference proceedings (<http://www.cs.pitt.edu/~forbesk>). Her creative writing has recently been published by Akashic Books (*Four and Thirty-Seven*), *The McNeese Review* (*Rebirth*), and *Buffalo Almanack* (*What the Sea Brings*), from whom she received an *Inkslinger’s Award for Creative Excellence*. She has recently completed a novel (*Private Language*).

Having travelled extensively, **Curtis Sabin** continues to develop a range of art forms including poetry, photography and other visual works, some of which include the use of recycled materials. Based in Nottingham, Curtis seeks to share his creative vision with both diverse audiences and peers.

Alan Semrow is a writer of transgressive fiction living in Sheboygan, Wisconsin. He is a graduate of English from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point and currently works as a proposal writer for an energy efficiency company. In his free time, Semrow loves to be with his boyfriend, best friends, family, and pet Shih Tzu, Remy. In 2014, his fiction and poetry were featured in the literary anthologies *Barney Street* and *Wordplay* and he won the *Essayist Award* from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point English Department for his nonfiction work. To read some of his other pieces, check out: www.alansemrow2.wordpress.com.

Willona M. Sloan is a Washingtonian. She released the free e-book *Come to Our Show: Punk Show Flyers from D.C. to Down Under* (available at <http://willonasloan.wordpress.com>) and she teaches writing workshops in bars, art galleries and alternative spaces. She just completed a novel manuscript and often daydreams about her next big adventure.

Vanessa Angelica Villarreal was born five miles from the US/Mexico border to a guitarist and a florist. She earned her MFA from the University of Colorado Boulder, where she teaches Creative Writing. Her work has appeared in *Western Humanities Review*, *NANO Fiction*, *The Colorado Review Online*, and elsewhere. She lives and works in Boulder, Colorado with her husband and two dogs.

Tim Willcutts is a teacher and doctoral candidate in the Literature program at the University of California at Santa Cruz. His work has appeared in *Poecology.org*, *Red Rock Review*, and *Gangsters in Concrete*.

Mark Young's most recent books are the e-book *Asemic Colon* from The Red Ceilings Press; *The Codicils*, a 600-page selection of poems written between 2009 & 2012, out from Otoliths; & *the eclectic world* from gradient books of Finland. He lives in North Queensland in Australia.