

## Acta Biographia — Author Biographies

### Anum Sattar

Anum Sattar is a recent graduate from the College of Wooster in Ohio, USA. Her poems have been published in the American Journal of Poetry (Margie,) Rat's Ass Review, Visitant, Social Alternatives Journal, Foxtrot Uniform, Harbinger Asylum, Voice of Eve, Notre Dame Review, GUSTS, Porter Gulch Review, Midway Journal, Willard & Maple, Meniscus Journal by Australian Association of Writing Programs, Indianapolis Review, Lullwater Review, North Dakota Quarterly, IDK Magazine, Door is a Jar, Ribbons, South Florida Poetry Journal, Typehouse Literary Magazine, The Charles Cater: a working anthology, 50 Haikus, Stuck in the Library, Broadkill Review, Poetry Life and Times, Triggerfish Critical Review, Packingtown Review, Blithe Spirit, The Mythic Circle, HOBART, SurVision Magazine, Literary Juice, Coal City Review, Crack the Spine, Lowestoft Chronicle, Taj Mahal Review, FIVE 2 ONE: An Art and Literary Journal, The Linnet's Wings, Ragazine, Better than Starbucks! The Florida Review, Grey Sparrow Press, Oddball Magazine, Artifact Nouveau, Off the Coast, Strange POETry, Between These Shores Literary & Arts Annual, Conceit Magazine, A New Ulster, The Cannon's Mouth, The Journal of Contemporary Anglo-Scandinavian Poetry, Wilderness House Literary Review, Poydras Review, The Cadaverine, Verbalart: A Global Journal Devoted to Poets & Poetry, The Wayne Literary Journal, The Ibis Head Review, Avocet: A Journal of Nature Poems, Poets Bridge, Deltona Howl and Tipton Poetry Journal. She won the first Grace Prize and third Vonna Hicks poetry awards at the college. She reads out her work at Brooklyn Poets, Spoonbill and Sugartown Bookstore, Forest Hills Library in New York City, Cuyahoga Valley Art Center at Cuyahoga Falls, OH, Bridgewater College in Shenandoah Valley, VA, Cabrillo College in Aptos, CA and was recently interviewed at Radio Free Brooklyn.

### Alexandra Kulik

Alexandra Kulik likes ideas, feelings, colors and show-tunes. She lives in Denver.

### Anne Babson

My latest collection of poetry, entitled Messiah, will be released this autumn. My current poetry collection Polite Occasions (Unsolicited Press, 2018) was discussed on National Public Radio's New Orleans affiliate and was featured at the Louisiana Book Festival. It, with my first poetry collection The White Trash

Pantheon (Vox Press, 2015) and my current chapbook, Dolly Shot (Dancing Girl Press, 2018) are currently available in independent bookstores and on Amazon. My first play, Reenactment, which tackles the subject of gun culture in America, was published last year. The opera for which I wrote the libretto, entitled Lotus Lives, has been performed in New York and Boston and Montreal. I have been anthologized in both the US and the UK multiple times, most recently in Nasty Women Poets: an Unapologetic Anthology of Subversive Verse (Lost Horse Press, 2017). I have been nominated for the Pushcart four times. I have been featured on Poetry Daily. My work has recently appeared in Iowa Review, Cider Press Review, Southampton Review, Bridges, Barrow Street, Connecticut Review, The Pikeville Review, Rio Grande Review, English Journal, New Song, The Penwood Review, Sow's Ear, The Madison Review, Atlanta Review, Grasslands Review, WSQ, Global City Review, Comstock Review, California Quarterly, Wisconsin Review, The Red Rock Review, and many other publications. In Europe, my work has appeared in Current Accounts, Iota, Poetry Salzburg, Nth Position, Adelaide and Crannóg. In Asia, I was published in Quarterly Literary Review Singapore and Yuan Yang, and Coldnoon. I have been anthologized multiple times in both the US and the UK. I have done residencies at Yaddo and Vermont Studio Center. I am reading at this year's Tennessee Williams Festival.

### Anne Gorrick

A writer and visual artist, Anne Gorrick is the author of eight books including most recently: **Beauty, Money, Luck, etc. for Beginners** (Spuyten Duyvil Press, 2019), **An Absence So Great and Spontaneous it is Evidence of Light** (the Operating System, 2018); and **The Olfactions: Poems on Perfume** (BlazeVOX Books, 2017). She also co-edited with Sam Truitt **In|Filtration: An Anthology of Innovative Writing from the Hudson River Valley** (Station Hill Press, 2016). Anne Gorrick lives in West Park, New York.

### Anushka Joshi

### Benjamin Joe

Benjamin Joe lives in Buffalo, New York where he works as the editor for The Niagara-Wheatfield/North Tonawanda Tribune and also writes regularly for [IPWatchdog.com](http://IPWatchdog.com). His first novel, Nirvana Dreams, was published by NFB Publishing in August and excerpts from it can be found in the March 2018 Ghost City Review and Issue 14 of Riggwelter Press. Short stories have been published by Burning House Press, Aspirant Co. and BlazeVOX, as well as poetry on Green Light Literary Journal and Ghost City Review.

### **Bijoyini Maya**

Dr. Bijoyini Mukherjee dedicates all her creative endeavours to her mother through her penname Bijoyini Maya. Her professional expertise includes public relations, teaching, content creation and editing. She aims to heal the needed and be voice of the thwarted by means of word magic.

### **Brooke Wilczewski**

Brooke Wilczewski is a sophomore at the University of Wisconsin-Madison studying Gender and Women's Studies and Sociology on the pre-medicine track. Coming from Omaha, Nebraska, poetry has become an outlet for her to share her story, advocate for what she believes in, and explore all that life has to offer. When not studying, Brooke enjoys spending time with friends, family, and listening to music on the Union Terrace. This is her first published work, and she is proud to share it.

### **Candice M. Kelsey**

CANDICE KELSEY's work has appeared in such journals as Poet Lore, The Cortland Review, and North Dakota Quarterly. She was a finalist for Poetry Quarterly's Rebecca Lard Award and has been nominated for a Pushcart Prize. Her first full-length manuscript, *Still I am Pushing*, is forthcoming with Finishing Line Press. An educator of 20 years' standing, she lives in Los Angeles with her husband and three children where she writes her blog "Don't Nachus 'Til You Try Us."

### **Charlene Pierce**

Charlene Pierce is working her way through writing a poem, or three, in every form. She published poetry and short stories in several anthologies and literary journals. Her next goal is to publish a chapbook in the upcoming year.

### **Charles Borkhuis**

**Charles Borkhuis**, poet and playwright. Finalist for a W.C. Williams Book Award. His 9 books of poems include *Dead Ringer* (BlazeVOX, 2017). He is the recipient of a Drama-log Award. His two radio plays aired over NPR (pennsound). *Foreign Bodies* presented in Paris Jan.-June, 2019.

### **Charles Holdefer**

Charles Holdefer is an American writer currently based in Brussels, Belgium. This story is from his collection-in-progress, AGITPROP FOR BEDTIME. More information about Charles' work is available at <http://www.charlesholdefer.com>

### **Christopher Brownsword**

Christopher Brownsword is the author of 'Icarus was Right!' (Shearsman Books 2010). It has been described as 'excruciatingly unreadable.'

### **Christina Strigas**

Christina Strigas is a trilingual poet, raised by Greek immigrants, and has written three poetry books. Her latest, *Love & Vodka*, has been featured by CBC Books in, "Your Ultimate Canadian Poetry List: 68 Poetry Collections Recommended by you." Her fourth upcoming poetry book, *Love & Metaxa*, will be published by Unsolicited Press in 2021. In her spare time, Christina enjoys foreign cinema, reading the classics, and cooking traditional Greek recipes that have been handed down from her grandmother.

### **Deborah Saltman**

### **Dustin Pickering**

Dustin Pickering is founder of Transcendent Zero Press and editor-in-chief of Harbinger Asylum. He is author of several poetry collections including *Salt and Sorrow* (Chitrangi Publishers, India) and *Knows No End* (Hawakal Publishers, India). His book on aesthetics *A Matter of Degrees* was released from Hawakal Publishers. His short novel *Be Not Afraid of What You May Find* was released from Alien Buddha Press. A self-published poetry collaboration with Dory Williams was released in January 2019. He is a former contributor to Huffington Post. He was a finalist in Adelaide Literary Journal's short story contest 2018. An essay on #metoo appears in *Journal of Liberty and International Affairs*. He has essays and interviews published with *The Statesman* (Kolkata, India). He is a reviewer, culture critic, musician, visual artist, and voracious reader.

### **Elliott Griffin**

Writer from CT. 27 years old.  
Instagram @elliottgriff

## **Eric Howard**

## **Ethan Goffman**

Ethan Goffman's poems have appeared in Ariel Chart, BlazeVOX, Burgeon, The Loch Raven Review, Mad Swirl, Madness Muse, Ramingo's Blog, and Setu. His first volume of poetry, *Out of Touch on a Crazy, Dying Planet*, is due in 2020 from Kelsay Books. Ethan is co-founder of It Takes a Community, a Montgomery College initiative that brings poetry to students and local residents. In addition, Ethan is founder and producer of the *Poetry & Planet* podcast on EarthTalk.org.

## **Glenn Ingersoll**

Glenn Ingersoll works for the public library in Berkeley, California where he hosts Clearly Meant, a reading & interview series. The multi-volume prose poem epic, *Thousand* (Mel C Thompson Publishing) is now available from Amazon.com, and as an ebook from Smashwords. He keeps two blogs, LoveSettlement and Dare I Read. Recent work has appeared in The Big Windows Review, Packingtown Review, Hawai'i Pacific Review, as well as in BlazeVOX #16.

## **Gregg Williard**

Gregg Williard's work has been published most recently in New England Review, Free State Review, Queen Mob's Tea House and X-Ray Literary Journal, among others. He lives in Madison, Wisconsin.

## **Gwen Dearing**

Gwen Dearing has spent her life disappointing people in NYC, Paris and LA.

## **Harlan Yarbrough**

Educated as a scientist, graduated as a mathematician, Harlan Yarbrough has been a full-time professional entertainer most of his life, including a stint as a regular performer on the prestigious Grand Ole Opry in Nashville, Tennessee. Harlan's repeated attempts to escape the entertainment industry have brought work as a librarian, physics teacher, syndicated newspaper columnist, and city (land use) planner, among other occupations. Harlan lives, writes, and continues to improve his dzonkha vocabulary and pronunciation in Bhutan but visits the US and Europe to perform and recharge his bank account. He has settled in Bhutan but in previous decades has lived, performed, and taught in the U.S., Australia, New Zealand, and Denmark.

Harlan has written four novels, three novellas, three novelettes (two published), and forty-some short stories, of which twenty-two have been published in six countries. His work has appeared in the *Galway Review*, *Indiana Voice Journal*, *Red Fez*, *Veronica*, *Scarlet Leaf Review*, *Green Hills Literary Lantern*, and many other literary journals.

#### **hiromi suzuki**

hiromi suzuki is a poet, fiction writer and artist living in Tokyo, Japan. She is the author of *Ms. cried - 77* poems by hiromi suzuki (Kisaragi Publishing, 2013), *logbook* (Hesterglock Press, 2018), *INVISIBLE SCENERY* (Low Frequency Press, 2018), *Andante* (AngelHousePress, 2019). Her works have been published internationally in poetry journals, literary journals and anthologies.

Web site: <https://hiromisuzukimicrojournal.tumblr.com>

Twitter: @HRMsuzuki

#### **Ian Ganassi**

Ian Ganassi's work has appeared or will appear in numerous literary magazines, including *New American Writing*; *The American Journal of Poetry*; *First Literary Review-East*; *Clockwise Cat*; and *The Yale Review*; among many others. His poetry collection *Mean Numbers* was published in 2016. His new collection, *True for the Moment*, is forthcoming from MadHat Press. Selections from an ongoing collaboration with a painter can be found at [www.thecorpses.com](http://www.thecorpses.com).

#### **J. D. Nelson**

J. D. Nelson (b. 1971) experiments with words in his subterranean laboratory. Visit [www.MadVerse.com](http://www.MadVerse.com) for more information and links to his published poems. Nelson lives in Colorado.

#### **Jared Pearce**

Jared Pearce's collection, *The Annotated Murder of One*, was released by Aubade last year ([www.aubadepublishing.com/annotated-murder-of-one](http://www.aubadepublishing.com/annotated-murder-of-one)). His poems have recently been or will soon be shared in *Breadcrumbs*, *Xavier Review*, *Blue Mountain Review*, *Thema*, and *The Cabinet of Heed*. Further: <https://jaredpearcepoetry.weebly.com>.

#### **Janis Butler Holm**

Janis Butler Holm has served as Associate Editor for *\_Wide Angle\_*, the film journal. Her prose, poems, and performance pieces have appeared in small-press, national, and international magazines. Her plays have been produced in the U.S., Canada, and the U.K.

### **Bett Butler**

Award-winning songwriter and jazz musician Bett Butler co-owns Mandala Music Production in San Antonio, Texas, where she and composer Joël Dilley produce spoken word, guided meditation, and music licensed for HBO, Discovery Channel, and more.



*This activity was supported in part by the California Arts Council, a state agency, and the National Arts and Disability Center at the University of California Los Angeles.*

### **Kelly Egan**

Kelly Egan's poems have appeared in *Colorado Review*, *Laurel Review*, *RHINO*, *Denver Quarterly*, *Luna Luna*, *White Stag*, and elsewhere. Her manuscript was recently a finalist in the Midwest Chapbook Contest. She lives in San Francisco and has an MFA in Poetry from Saint Mary's College in Moraga. She likes to think about outer space and visit small towns.

### **Ken W Simpson**

An Australian poet and essayist - educated at Scotch College and Swinburne Art School - taught - began writing short stories - switched to writing free verse poetry and essays - with a poetry collection - *Patterns of Perception* - published by Augur Press (UK) in January 2015,

### **Margaret Adams Birth**

Margaret Adams Birth has had her writing published extensively over the last thirty years. Some places her short fiction has previously appeared include *Reflect*, *Shawnee Silhouette*, *The New Voices* (Trinidad and Tobago), *The Caribbean Writer*, and *Potpourri*. A chapbook of her poetry, *Borderlands*, was released in 2016 by Finishing Line Press; *BlazeVOX* also published four of her poems in its Fall 2018 issue. She grew up in North Carolina, attended school in Virginia and upstate New York, spent some time in southern California and on the Caribbean island of Trinidad, and now lives with her husband and sons in New York City. She also writes romance and "sweet" fiction as Maggie Adams, and mystery fiction as Rhett Shepard, and you can find her author page at <https://www.facebook.com/MaggieAdamsRhettShepard/>.

## **Mark Young**

Mark Young lives in a small town in North Queensland in Australia, & has been publishing poetry since 1959. His 2019 poetry books are *The Perfume of The Abyss* from Moria Books; *A Vicarious Life — the backing tracks* from otata; *taxonomic drift* from Luna Bisonte Prods; & *Residual sonnets* from Ma Press of Finland.

## **Matthew Hanna**

Matthew Hanna is a student at Wayne State University who is studying journalism and Japanese, and also studied creative writing at Western Michigan University. He has been writing both literature and journalism pieces for seven years, and hopes to pursue a professional career in writing after college. Currently, he is working on a series of poems in which he comes to term with his identity and being apart of the LGBT+ community. Matthew lives in Sterling Heights, Michigan, which is apart of the metro Detroit area. He enjoys spending his free time with his dog, Axxal, reading a good book, or learning more about the Japanese culture and language.

## **Melissa A. Chappell**

Melissa Chappell lives in rural South Carolina among the forests and fields where her family has lived for six generations. She is versed in music and theology and enjoys the piano, guitar and lute. She is published in several journals, among them the Harbinger Asylum. A review of Claudine Nash's *The Wild Essential* was published in *Ethos Literary Review*. Her first chapbook, *Rivers and Relics and Other Poems* was published by Desert Willow Press in 2018. Her second chapbook, *Light, Refracted*, was published by Finishing Line Press in 2019. She was a Pushcart Prize nominee in 2019.

## **Michael T. Smith**

Michael T. Smith is an Assistant Professor of English who teaches both writing and film courses. He has published over 100 pieces (poetry and prose) in over 50 different journals. He loves to travel.

## **N Amara**

N. Amara is an artist living in New York. They sell books, dub cassettes, and print things as Forked Road Press, and they are an assistant editor at Augury Books.

## **Nadwa Naeem**



## **Natalie Jones**

Natalie Jones writes poems and prose. Her work has appeared online and in print at *Haiku Journal*, *Eunoia Review*, *Gambling the Aisle*, *Calamus Journal*, *The Rusty Nail Literary Magazine*, and elsewhere.

## **Nels Hanson**

Nels Hanson grew up on a small raisin and tree fruit farm in the San Joaquin Valley of California, earned degrees from U.C. Santa Cruz and the U of Montana, and has worked as a farmer, teacher and contract writer/editor. His fiction received the San Francisco Foundation's James D. Phelan Award and Pushcart nominations in 2010, 2012, 2014 and 2016. His poems received a 2014 Pushcart nomination, Sharkpack Review's 2014 Prospero Prize, and 2015 and 2016 Best of the Net nominations.

## **Nicole Agee**

Nicole Agee is a poet, painter, and sculptor currently residing in California. Her visual work has appeared internationally, online and in print, and has been the recipient of numerous awards. In the future, she plans to explore poetry through multimedia, utilizing sound and abstraction to widen the experience of her written work.

## **Nick LaRocca**

My stories and essays have recently been featured or are forthcoming in The Coachella Review, The MacGuffin, Flint Hills Review, Blue Lake Review, Canyon Voices, Euphony, Crack the Spine, Valley Voices, the 3288 Review, The Flagler Review, Outside In Magazine, the Steel Toe Review, South85, Per Contra, the Milo Review, and Mason's Road. Work from my early twenties appears in Rush Hour: Bad Boys (Delacorte Press) and the Beloit Fiction Journal. My short story "Gestures" (Lowestoft Chronicle) was nominated for a Pushcart Prize for Fiction. My short story "Understandings" was nominated for Best of the Net by Wraparound South. I have just finished the novel The Fighter. Interviews of me available online in the 3288 Review and Wraparound South. I am Professor I of English at Palm Beach State College, where I teach creative writing, essay writing, and literature.

## **Pascale Potvin**

Pascale Potvin is an emerging writer from Toronto, Canada. She has fiction featured in New Reader Magazine, The Writing Disorder, and Underwood, plus a film in distribution by the Canadian Filmmakers Distribution Centre. She has recently earned her BAH from Queen's University, and she is working on a book trilogy. She occasionally writes about writing and literature for One Lit Place, where she works as Assistant, English-French translator, and more. You can read more about her at [pascalepotvin.com](http://pascalepotvin.com).

## **Patrick Chapman**

Patrick Chapman's twelve books include *Open Season on the Moon* (Salmon, 2019) and *Anhedonia* (BlazeVOX, 2018). He has also written film and television; audio plays for *Doctor Who* and *Dan Dare*; and scripts for docudrama *The Space Race* (B7/Audible, 2019). He produced B7's NY-Festivals-winning dramatization of *The Martian Chronicles* for BBC Radio 4. With Dimitra Xidou he edits *The Pickled Body*.

## **Robert Lietz**

Robert Lietz's poems have appeared in numerous journals, including Agni Review, Antioch Review, Carolina Quarterly, Colorado Review, Georgia Review, Missouri Review, Poetry, and Shenandoah. Eight collections have been published, including *Running in Place*, *At Park and East Division*, *The Lindbergh Half-century* (L'Epervier Press), *Storm Service*, and *After Business in the West* (Basal Books.) His poems have appeared in several webzines. Additionally, Lietz spends a good deal of time taking, post-processing, and printing photographs, examining the relationship between the image-making and the poems he is exploring.

## **Robin Ray**

Robin Ray is the author of *Wetland and Other Stories* (All Things That Matter Press, 2013), *Obey the Darkness: Horror Stories*, the novel *Commoner the Vagabond*, the poetry collection *Welcome to Flowerville: Poetry from San Juan Commons*, and one book of non-fiction, *You Can't Sleep Here: A Clown's Guide to Surviving Homelessness*. His works have appeared at *Crossways*, *Tipton*, *Across the Margin*, *Rabid Oak*, *Delphinium*, *Bangalore*, *Squawk Back*, *Outsider*, *Jerry Jazz Musician*, *Underwood Press*, *Neologism*, *Spark*, *Big Pond Rumours*, *Aphelion*, *Vita Brevis*, and elsewhere.

## **Roland Kuhlmeier**

## **Roger Delgado**

Roger Delgado is associate professor of philology at Jordan College, Oxford.

## **Simon Perchik**

Simon Perchik's poetry has also appeared in *Partisan Review*, *The Nation*, *The New Yorker* and elsewhere.

### **Steve Gilmartin**

Steve Gilmartin is the author of a chapbook of mistranslations of Emily Dickinson from the German, *Comes Up to Face the Skies* (LRL Textile Series, 2013). His fiction and poetry have appeared in and/or, Big Bridge, Café Irreal, Concis, Eleven Eleven, Mad Hatters' Review, Otoliths, Rivet, and Unlikely Stories. He lives in Berkeley, California.

### **Sharon Curcio**

Educated in the Midwest, Carnegie-Mellon University, B.A. and Washington University, MBA. Spent time in corporate marketing and advertising for national corporations in New York City. Transitioned to Miami, FL (where I got a lot of writing done) and joined the USAR as a military intelligence professional and was a university adjunct. Then transitioned to California where I was a secondary school English teacher and retired from teaching and the Army.

### **S.W. Campbell**

S.W. Campbell was born in Eastern Oregon. He currently resides in Portland where he works as an economist and lives with a house plant named Morton. This is his 27th short story to be published and he recently self-published a novel called "Papaya". If you'd like to learn more about his writing, check out his website: [www.shawnwcampbell.com](http://www.shawnwcampbell.com).

### **Tiffany Flammger**

Tiffany Flammger, Born and raised in Buffalo New York as well as Macon Georgia. She has been writing poems and short stories for most of her life. She is aspiring to self-publish her first book of poetry next year. You can read more of her work on her Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/Tiffany-Flammger-317069942085725/>