

CONTRIBUTORS

Jonathan Ames is the author of *I Pass Like Night*, *The Extra Man*, *What's Not to Love?*, *My Less Than Secret Life*, *Wake Up, Sir!*, and *I Love You More Than You Know*. His graphic novel, *The Alcoholic*, will be published in September 2008 by DC Comics and a new collection of fiction and essays, *The Double Life is Twice as Good*, will be out in 2009. www.jonathanames.com

Ellen Bass's poetry includes *The Human Line* (Copper Canyon, 2007), named a Notable Book of 2007 by the *San Francisco Chronicle*, and *Mules of Love* (BOA, 2002) winner of the Lambda Literary Award. Her work has been published in *The Atlantic Monthly*, *The American Poetry Review*, *Ploughshares*, *Field*, and *The Kenyon Review*. She coedited, with Florence Howe, *No More Masks! An Anthology of Poems by Women* and her nonfiction books include *Free Your Mind* and *The Courage to Heal*. She teaches in the MFA program at Pacific University. www.ellenbass.com

Hugh Behm-Steinberg is the author of *Shy Green Fields* (No Tell Books) and *Sorcery* (Dusie). His poems can be found in such places as such places as *Crowd*, *VeRT*, *Volt*, *Spork*, *Cue*, *Slope*, *Aught*, *Swerve*, *Fence*, and *Zeek*, as well as other, more multisyllabic places. He teaches in the graduate writing program at California College of the Arts, where he is the faculty editor of *Eleven Eleven*.

Charles Bernstein has composed scores for over 100 motion pictures, Academy Award winning documentaries, made-for-television films, and mini-series. When not writing music, he is writing about music. His writings have won the ASCAP Deems Taylor Special Recognition Award. He is currently a Governor and serving as Vice President of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. He has taught on the graduate film scoring faculty at USC and holds an annual film scoring seminar in the summers at UCLA Extension. www.charlesbernstein.com

Boril Boshnakov was born 1971 in Sofia, Bulgaria, where he also attended the National Academy of Arts. He creates illustrations and visual concepts for the theatre. His work is inspired by the beauty and controversial truth of the paradox of communication. www.boshnakov.com

Ken Bullock is from the Bay Area, where he writes theater and performing arts reviews for the *Berkeley Daily Planet* and the *Commuter Times*. He's been affiliated with Theatre of Yugen since 1980. Some of his translations can be found at frankshome.com.

Sharon Charde, a retired psychotherapist and writing teacher, has won a number of poetry awards and is published in many journals and several anthologies of

poetry and prose. She has also edited and published *I Am not a Juvenile Delinquent*, containing the work of the adjudicated teenaged females she has volunteered with since 1999 at a residential treatment center in Litchfield, CT. She has two prize-winning chapbooks, *Bad Girl at the Altar Rail* and *Four Trees Down from Ponte Sisto*, and a full-length collection, *Branch in His Hand*, coming from Backwaters Press in fall 2008.

Jean-Noel Chazelle is a French artist currently residing in Paris. He left Senegal at the age of six and a half. Nourished by the complexity of the landscape, the animals, and the African myths, he now spends his time between the US, Paris, and Spain under moons of blood and honey and the echo trap. He works with multiple supports (paint, sculpture, photo, performance, and installation) and media (photo, film, and sound). The paintings from this latest series are on 10'6' acrylic sheets. www.jeannoelchazelle.blogspot.com

Massimo Conti was born in Italy in 1967 and lives in both Italy and the US. He finds beauty in the most elegant of subjects as well as the most common and draws deeply from nature for his inspiration. He has six books of photography, *The Silence of the Gods* (1990), *Sea* (1994), *Kenzo Tange 1946—1996: 50 years of Architecture and Urban Design* (1996), *5T — Cinque Terre* (1997), *Nudes* (2004), and *Anthropomorphic Sculptures* (2007). www.massimo-conti.com

Bruce Covey is Lecturer of Creative Writing at Emory University and the author of three books of poetry—most recently *Elapsing Speedway Organism* (No Tell Books, 2006) and *Ten Pins, Ten Frames* (Front Room, 2007). His recent poems also appear or are forthcoming in *Aufgabe*, *Columbia Poetry Review*, *Jacket*, *Sonora Review*, *Lungfull*, and other journals. He edits the web-based poetry magazine *Coconut* and curates the What's New in Poetry reading series in Atlanta.

Priscilla Ferguson is a fifth generation Floridian. A collection of her photography can be seen on display at Miami International Airport. She teaches at Florida International University.

Simon Friel is a Mancunian, living and working in El Raval, Barcelona. His work has appeared in numerous publications, including *Cherry Bleeds*, *Dogmatika*, and *Sage of Consciousness*.

Fergal Gaynor, from the city of Cork, Ireland, is a writer, independent scholar, and member of the art intervention group *art / not art*. His poetry has appeared in journals in Ireland, Britain, Australia, Belgium, and the US, and he is currently hawking around his first collection. He assists in the direction of the annual SoundEye Festival of the Arts of the Word.

James Graham has written five books of poems and three of short stories, and is also known as a translator (*Small Hours of the Night*, *Our Word is Our Weapon*, and *God's Spy*). He is headed to Spain, where he plans to sink his teeth into a great poet (Rafael Alberti) unjustly neglected in the US on account of an awful translator whose name no one remembers. The aim of a translator is to be invisible, so perhaps Graham does not exist, apart from his stupendous collection of dictionaries. Nevertheless, he is currently finishing his first novel, *The Apartment Thief*.

Seana Graham lives in Santa Cruz, California. She attended UCSC, and, like an astonishing number of her fellow alumni, never actually managed to leave town. She has published short stories in a variety of literary journals, including two other Central California efforts, *Red Wheelbarrow Literary Magazine* and *The Homestead Review*. Her fantasy story "The Pirate's True Love" was selected for inclusion in the anthology *The Best of Lady Churchill's Rosebud Wristlet*, and she was recently honored to receive the Zone 3 Fiction Award for her short story "Marina."

Judy Halebsky is from Halifax, Nova Scotia, and currently living in Tokyo on a research fellowship in Japanese literature. Her poems have been published in the *Five Fingers Review*, *New Delta Review*, and *Runes*. She wrote the work in this issue while in residency the MacDowell Colony.

Christine Hamm is a PhD candidate in English Literature and recently won the MiPoesias Chapbook Contest with her manuscript, *Children Having Trouble with Meat*. She has been published in many journals including *Rattle*, *Pebble Lake Review*, and *Exquisite Corpse*. Her poetry book, *The Transparent Dinner*, was published by Mayapple Press in 2006. www.christinehamm.org

Steve Heilig is a book critic for the *San Francisco Chronicle*, among other publications; Henry Miller's belatedly published *Crazy Cock* was one of the first works he was honored to review, in 1991.

Anthony Hawley is the author of two full-length collections of poetry, *Forget Reading* (2008) and *The Concerto Form* (2006), and four chapbooks, *Autobiography/Oughtobiography* (Counterpath Press, 2007), *Record-breakers* (Ori is the New Apple Press, 2007), *Afield* (Ugly Duckling Presse, 2004), and *Vocative* (Phylum Press, 2004). Recent poems have appeared or are forthcoming in *The Hat*, *The Tiny*, 26, 1913, and *Verse*. He currently teaches at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Justin Jainchill received his MFA from the University of Idaho, where he was the Senior Editor of *Fugue* from 2005–2007. His new stories are published or forthcoming in *Talking River Review*, *Clackamas Literary Review*, *Madison Review*,

and *Gulf Stream*. He is currently working as a reporter and shopping around his first collection of stories, *Anatomy of the Tribe*, which includes “Shift.” He will be a first-year PhD candidate in creative writing and literature at St. Andrews University in Scotland this coming fall.

Severo Joaquin Granados was sent to New York to cover politics for a respected Spanish newspaper; he ended up driving a taxi and writing fiction for the first time in his life. *Neo Yorkino*, to be published in France in 2009, is one result of those experiments. The three stories in *Ping•Pong* are taken from that book. He currently resides in Mumbai where he is writing a novel. He does not, in fact, exist.

Ken Jones is a writer and photographer who lives in Pacific Grove, California, with his wife, Anne, and deaf, one-eyed cat, Lucky.

Born in 1960, in San Mateo, CA, **Eric Joyner** studied illustration and liberal arts at the Academy of Art in San Francisco. His works have been exhibited at the Corey Helford Gallery in Los Angeles, the Shooting Gallery in San Francisco, and the American Museum of Illustration in New York, to name a few. Awards include the cover of *Spectrum 11: The Best in Contemporary Fantastic Art* and gold medal in *Spectrum 10: The Best in Contemporary Fantastic Art*. The book *Robots and Donuts: The Art of Eric Joyner* is due for release 7/15/08. www.ericjoyner.com

Vladimir Kush was born in Moscow in 1965 and lives and works in Maui. He refers to his work as “metaphorical realism.” Through the juxtaposition of unrelated forms, most of his pieces make reference to a deeper meaning or metaphor, while still maintaining their realistic approach to representation. His work can be viewed in galleries in New York, Las Vegas, Maui, and Laguna Beach and is collected in three books, most recently *Journey to the Edge of Time*. www.vladimirkush.com

Richard Lange is the author of the novel *Fox Run*. His stories have appeared in *Portland Review*, *William and Mary Review*, *Green Mountains Review*, *Georgetown Review*, *Mississippi Review*, and elsewhere. His story “Long Distance,” featured here, was a finalist in *Inkwell Magazine’s* 2007 fiction competition. He lives in Santa Cruz, California, and is co-owner of Capitola Book Cafe.

Joseph Lease’s critically acclaimed books of poetry include *Broken World* (Coffee House Press) and *Human Rights* (Zoland Books). His poem “Broken World’ (For James Assatly)” was selected for *The Best American Poetry 2002* (Scribner). His poems have also been featured on NPR and published in *The AGNI 30th Anniversary Poetry Anthology*, *VQR*, *Bay Poetics*, *Paris Review*, and elsewhere. Thomas Fink’s book *A Different Sense of Power: Problems of Community in Late-Twentieth*

Century U.S. Poetry includes extensive critical analysis of Lease's poetry. Lease is Associate Professor of Writing and Literature and Chair of the MFA Program in Writing at California College of the Arts in San Francisco.

Breda Lynch was born in Co. Kilkenny, Ireland, in 1970. She holds a BA Hons Degree from Crawford College of Art and Design 1992, an MA from Chelsea School of Art and Design 1993 and MPhil from the University of Wolverhampton 2005. She is currently course director of the Fine Art Printmaking department at Limerick School of Art and Design, member of the EV+A committee, and associate member of the Cork collective art / not art. Her solo shows include: *Dark Brides and Silent Twins*, Limerick City Gallery of Art; *Fleurs Fatales*, Context Gallery off-site at Prehen House, Derry; *Mary Toft's Children*, South Tipperary Arts Centre; and *The Place of Crows*, Context Gallery off-site at Orchard Gallery, Derry.

Mojdeh Marashi is a San Francisco Bay Area writer and visual artist. Her work is deeply influenced by the ancient and modern history of Iran where she grew up. She is currently working on a number of literary projects including co-translating a collection of poetry from her uncle, H. E. Sayeh, one of the most influential contemporary Iranian poets.

Tom Marshall has ping-ponged from Toledo to Phoenix to Tucson to La Mesa to San Diego to Toledo to Covina to San Diego to Berkeley to San Diego to La Jolla to San Diego to New Westminster to Bellingham to San Diego to Burnaby to Port Coquitlam to Vancouver to North San Juan to Vancouver to North San Juan to Vancouver to Boulder to Vancouver to Fairfax to Larkspur to San Diego to Palo Alto to San Diego to Santa Cruz to Aptos to Felton.

John Moir is an award-winning science journalist and author of two nonfiction books including *Return of the Condor: The Race to Save Our Largest Bird from Extinction*. He has contributed chapters to two other books, published more than 100 articles, and has won 16 awards for his writing. Moir is a member of the National Association of Science Writers, the Society of Environmental Journalists, the Author's Guild, and the Northern California Science Writers Association. www.returnofthecondor.com

Suzanne Ryan lives in Dublin, Ireland. Her work has been published by *The Hamilton Stone Review*, *Off-course Literary Journal*, and *The Irish Haiku Society*, with forthcoming poetry to be published in *Problem Child Literary Magazine*. She has a B.A. in Political Science and Art History and is trying to gather the energy and funds to transform one of those into an M.A. Her riveting concerns in life involve Kilty's Irish pub in Paris, an ever-burgeoning shoe collection, and acquiring a pack of wolves. Say 'hello' at www.myspace.com/nationalistskatha.

“The modern Hafiz,” **H. E. Sayeh** was born in 1927 in the city of Rasht in northern Iran and published his first collection of poetry, *First Songs*, at the age of 19. His many books exhibit a hybrid of political poetry and traditional Iranian verse in the lineage of Persian masters, Rumi, and Hafiz. Written in the numerous traditional forms of Farsi bardic poetry, Sayeh’s poetry rolls off the tongue with incantatory resonance, though in the style of modern innovator, Nima Yushij, his work emphasizes current issues of Iranian society, especially the uncertainty which followed the revolution of 1979.

Mark Statman’s writing has appeared in *Tin House*, *Subtropics*, *Hanging Loose*, *The Hat*, *The Duplications*, *conduit*, *Florida Review*, and *American Poetry Review* (APR). With Pablo Medina, he translated Federico Garcia Lorca’s *Poet in New York*. A recipient of awards from the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Writers Project, Statman is an Associate Professor of writing at Eugene Lang College of The New School.

Chad Sweeney is the author of two books of poetry, *An Architecture* (BlazeVOX, 2007) and *Arranging The Blaze* (Anhinga, 2009), and the chapbook, *A Mirror to Shatter the Hammer* (Tarpaulin Sky, 2006). He is coeditor of *Parthenon West Review*.

Sally Van Doren’s book, *Sex at Noon Taxes*, which won the Walt Whitman Award from the Academy of American Poets in 2007, was published in April 2008 by Louisiana State University Press. She lives in St. Louis, MO, and Cornwall, CT.

Brandi Walker resides in Washington, DC, where she teaches African refugees, volunteers with the DC Rape Crisis Center and Hospice, and prepares for a year in Bukavu, Eastern Congo, working with Panzi Hospital’s Program for Survivors of Sexual Assault, recently featured on the HBO documentary, *The Greatest Silence: Rape in the Congo*. To help her in her volunteer efforts go to www.adoptavolunteer.com.

Amethyst Ware is a poet who also dabbles in education. She recently moved back to Santa Cruz from San Francisco, and believes that the one big problem with this town is that poetry readings are never held in bars. “Just imagine the last open mike you’ve been to,” she says, “and think of how much more you would have appreciated some of the poets if you’d had a couple drinks in you.” Amethyst also enjoys ice cream, classical music, and fiction written by anyone under the age of twelve.