Notes on Contributors

Anderson, Carston
Carston's prior work on student publishing at UMass Boston and grassroots archival work has been published in *Esoterica Magazine*, as well as *The American Printing History Association*. He is, at the time of writing, pursuing a Masters of English Education from the University of Massachusetts Boston. He is a fan of literary magazines and maintains an extensive 400-volume private collection.

Anderson, Duane
Duane Anderson currently lives in Olathe, Kansas. He has had poems published in *Fine Lines*, *Cholla Needles*, and several other publications. He is the author of 'On the Corner of Walk and Don't Walk,' 'Conquer the Mountains,' 'Family Portraits,' 'The Life of an Ordinary Man,' and 'In the Eyes Of.'

Atha, Marisa
Marisa Gray Atha is a writer and teacher. With degrees in English, Music, and Psychology, Marisa continues to express her lifelong curiosity about inspiration, art, narrative, and the thread that connects people to one another. Her work can be found in the *Journal of Singing*, *NATS Inter Nos*, *OM Yoga & Lifestyle Magazine*, *Months to Years Literary Journal*, *Sad Girl Diaries Literary Magazine*, *Commuter Lit*, and *Speakeasy Cooperative*. Her novel *Written on the Wall* was published in 2025. Marisa lives with her family in Northern California.

Barnard, Christopher
Christopher Barnard worked for a good number of years in the field of English/Japanese linguistics and lexicography. Now he is an independent jewellery designer working in Tokyo. For the past two years he has been writing short stories, and has met with some small success.

Bird, Martha
Martha Bird is a 27 year old writer, filmmaker and political activist originally from the north of England, currently based in Rome, Italy. Her work addresses themes of gender and the body; place and borders; poverty and wealth. Her poetry has been published in *H0 Magazine*, *Indefinite Space*, *Poetry Salzburg*, *filling Station*, *Mnemotope* and the *Stony Thursday Book*. As well as poetry, she has written on film, culture and politics for a range of publications including *The Lead*, *Overdose*, *Flux*, *High on Films* and *FilmFest Report*.

Notes on Contributors

Chu, Jenny
Jenny Chu writes from Dallas, Texas. Her work is forthcoming from or appears in *Pithead Chapel*, *The Shore*, and *Gone Lawn*, and she is editor-in-chief of two literary magazines and reads poetry for *Okay Donkey*. She really loves Swedish Fish.

Conway, Trevor
Trevor Conway, from Ireland, writes poetry, fiction and songs. His short fiction has been published widely in the US, the UK, Ireland, India and Australia. He has published three collections of poetry: *Evidence of Freewheeling* (Salmon Poetry, 2015), *Breeding Monsters* (2018) and *No Small Thing* (2023). Also available from Amazon is his guide to writing poetry, aimed at child/young adult poets, *Nurturing the Creative Child: A Guide to Writing Poetry*. He is currently revising a collection of short fiction. Publishers, interested?

Crowell, Michelle
Originally from the United States, Michelle Crowell (she/her) is based in Nantes, France. Currently finishing a PhD in American literature, her work has appeared in *Anti-Heroin Chic*, *Discretionary Love*, and *New2theScene*. She is now seeking representation for a coming-of-age novel based on her experience of deconstructing evangelical teachings.

Dobson, Craig
Craig's had poetry and short fiction published in magazines in Canada, US, Europe and Asia. He's working towards his first collection of both. He lives in the UK.

Ebert, Clarence Allan
Allan has tried being something other than a writer (construction, bartending, even law practice, with the latter enabling him to continue writing – albeit tedious briefs, appeals, and motions). But he cannot be anything other; writing is an addiction, and getting published is a secondary pleasure. His poems have appeared in *Sonora Review*, *The Bluebird Word*, *Ariel Chart*, *Burgeon*, *samfiftyfour*, *Down In The Dirt*, and others, and he’s been selected as a runner-up in Poetry.com contests for March, June 2023, and May 2024. He was nominated for a 2023 Pushcart Prize by *Mid-Atlantic Review* for the poem ‘A Pretty Room For My Books’.

Notes on Contributors

Ebert, Benjamin
Benjamin Ebert is an American realist writer based in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. His published work can be found in *ANTAE*, *Barely South Review*, *Nonbinary Review*, *Vocivia Magazine* and others. Benjamin writes people, how they really live and talk and treat each other.

Eme, Anselm
Anselm Eme is a Nigerian writer, poet, banker, and independent financial consultant. He is the author of eleven books, including *Whiskers*, *Our Kids and Us*, *Awake Africa!*, *Sages in Pursuit*, and the *Shrieks and Giggles* series. Blending finance with creative storytelling, Anselm writes with heart, clarity, and purpose. His work explores identity, culture, social justice, and human resilience. Rooted in African experience but reaching global souls, Anselm's words invite readers into honest reflection and lasting inspiration.

Emmert, Christine
No bionote provided.

Ferriman, Rachel May
Rachel is an artist and writer from South Africa. She has a poem published in *Workers Write! Journal*: *Tales from the Cleaners* (Issue 21) and another in *The Fairytale Magazine*: *Briar and Thorn*, as well as a short story called 'Give and Take' in *Botsotso Literary Journal* (Volume 21) and another called 'Wishlist' in *In Other Stories 2025*, edited by Kerry Hammerton.

Fiorini, Karina
Karina Fiorini (b.1982 Malta) currently lives in France. She is a poet and an environmentalist. Her poems have appeared in several publications. In 2023, she won the London Independent Story Prize with the poem 'Sea major'. The poem, 'La Moselle', an editor's choice, was published in *Survival Anthology* by Hammond House Publishing (2021). 'Habiba' was highly commended by Joelle Taylor, a judge for the 2022 Ledbury Poetry Competition. Two years ago, her poetry collection was longlisted by *Cinnamon Press*. Karina holds a BA Geography, BA English and MSc Sustainable Development. karinafiorini.com

Notes on Contributors

Fisher, Martin
Martin Fisher's poems have appeared, or are forthcoming, in *The Astorian*, I*nk Sweat & Tears*, *JMWW*, *Red Ogre Review*, *Hobo Camp Review*, *Cosmic Daffodil Journal*, and elsewhere. His work moves between the everyday and the strange, often returning to memory and place. His working life carried him across Africa and Europe before he settled in Sussex, UK, where he works, semi-retired, as a gardener, and shares his home with his wife and two dogs. He writes for enjoyment, not ambition.

Heise, Christopher
Christopher Heise grew up near Philadelphia and received an MLA from the University of Pennsylvania. For the last several years he's been living and working abroad, where he's performed as a festival clown, taught English to refugees, and written advertisements. His poetry has appeared in *Sybil*, *Galway Review*, *Cacti Fur*, *The Journal of Undiscovered Poets*, and other publications.

Holtzman, Clark
Clark Watson is a poet, songwriter and musician in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, U.S. His book of street poems and songs, *The Shepherd's Calendar*, was privately published in 2022. *The Weather in Bluffton, Ind.*, his book of prose poems and lyric fictions, was published in 2024 by Slender Book Press. In 2021, he released a CD of poems set to music with his band, Program for Jazz. *Fifty Sent Songs*, poems set to music, was released weekly throughout 2022-23. All titles available at *http://www.clarkwatson.com*.

James, David
David James has published ten books; his most recent is *The Cup of Living*, Main Street Rag Press. In addition to writing poetry, James' one-act plays have been produced in the U.S., Ireland and England.

Madden, Phil
Phil Madden lives in Devon, England. His work has been published in many journals and anthologies. His main work is with the engraver Paul Kershaw. They have co-created seven limited edition fine art books, several prizewinning.

Notes on Contributors

Martin, John
John Martin is a retired barrister whose working life was mainly spent in law and community centres dealing with housing, welfare, and immigration problems. He has written poetry since his teens. He won the Cambridge University Chancellor's Medal for an English Poem in 1969. When he retired, he edited his poems and has so far printed 15 volumes. His plays have been performed on community radio and at amateur dramatic society readings.

McFarland, Ron
Ron McFarland is emeritus Professor of English at the University of Idaho. His most recent books are a critical study, *Gary Soto: A Career in Poetry and Prose* (2022) and his fifth full-length book of poems, *A Variable Sense of Things* (2023).

Murdoch, Jim
Jim Murdoch is a prolific Scottish poet. In 2025 alone, he published 140 poems and wrote a further 200 to replace them. Over the last fifty years pieces have been accepted by respected journals such as *Acumen*, *Stand*, and—much to his own surprise—*Analog*, though the greater amount by far have vanished without trace. For ten years he ran the literary blog *The Truth About Lies* but now lives quietly in Glasgow with his wife and, whenever the mood takes him, next door's cat. He has published two books of poetry, a short story collection, and four novels—Jim, not the cat.

Murphy, Rich
Rich Murphy's latest collections – *Elephant* by Bass Clef Books; *Storage Shed*, *Inside Stories*, *First Aid* by Resource Publications; and *Mind of Europe: A Genealogy to The Fat Man*, *Susan Constant*, *Footholds* by Cyberwit – were published 2023-2025. His poetry won The Poetry Prize at Press Americana twice for *Americana* (2013), *The Left Behind* (2021), and the Gival Press Poetry Prize for *Voyeur* (2008). His other book by Press Americana is *Asylum Seeker* (2018). His first book was *The Apple in the Monkey Tree* by Codhill Press (2007).

Notes on Contributors

Naden, Eve
Born in France, Yvette (Eve) Naden is a writer based in the UK. She graduated with a degree in English from the University of York. Her work has been featured in *The Roadrunner Review* and *The Elmbridge Literary Magazine*, and she won the Zealous Short Story Competition in 2021. In 2025, she won the Creative Future Award and was shortlisted for the New2theScene Novel Prize. Diagnosed with autism and ADHD in 2024, she works as a neurodiversity ambassador within the Civil Service. She is currently working towards becoming a published novelist. When she isn't writing, she spends her time baking inedible brownies and knitting scarves no one asked for.

Obregon, Freddie
No bionote provided.

Poyner, Ken
The latest of Ken's twelve collections of poetry and flash fiction is *Science Is Not Enough*, speculative poetry. He lives in the lower right-hand corner of Virginia, and is married to a world champion female power lifter. He spent 33 years herding computers. See him in *Analog*, *Asimov's*, *Café Irreal*, *Blue Unicorn* and another hundred or so places. www.kpoyner.com.

Reut, Rick K.
Rick K. Reut was born in 1984. Having struggled with different types of obsessive-compulsive disorder since secondary school, he studied philosophy at EHU in Minsk, Belarus, and Vilnius, Lithuania, and literature at SPSU in Saint Petersburg, Russia. For most of his life after graduation, he has worked as a translator and a tutor of English as a foreign language. His writing can be found in various online and print literary journals and magazines.

Notes on Contributors

Sami, Ibrar
Ibrar Sami is the pen name of an internationally published author. His poetry and reflective prose explore memory, silence, and human resilience through symbolic imagery and emotional depth. A cancer survivor, his work reflects vulnerability and quiet strength. His poems have appeared internationally in *Gabby & Min's Literary Review*, *The Wells Street Journal*, *Mosaic Lit*, *Ultramarine Literary Review*, *Navy Pen*, *Bipolar Poetry*, *Ink, Sweat & Tears*, and *AllPoets*. Big Thinking Press with forthcoming publication in *Levitate*, SHINE International Poetry Series, and *EgoPHobia #89*. Writing from Bangladesh, he continues to explore the fragile intersections of private grief and collective consciousness, giving voice to human resilience.

St Claire, Joshua
Joshua St. Claire is an accountant from a small town in Pennsylvania who works as a financial director for a non-profit. His haiku and related poetry have been published broadly including in *antae*, *Frogpond*, *Modern Haiku*, *The Heron's Nest*, and *Mayfly*. He has received recognition in the following international contests/awards for his work in these forms: the Gerald Brady Memorial Senryu Award, the Vancouver Cherry Blossom Festival Haiku Invitational, the San Francisco International Award for Senryu, the Robert Speiss Memorial Award, the Touchstone Award for Individual Haiku, the British Haiku Society Award for Haiku, and the Trailblazer Award.

Tustin, John
No bionote provided.

Witmer, Christian
Christian Witmer is a United States citizen. While his background at the Capital Area School for the arts was primarily in screenwriting, he developed a vested interest in both traditional and modernist poetry.

Notes on Contributors

Zheng, Huina
Huina Zheng holds an M.A. with Distinction in English Studies and works as a college essay coach. Her creative work has been published in *Baltimore Review*, *Variant Literature*, *Midway Journal*, and other literary journals. She has received multiple honors, including nominations for the Pushcart Prize, Best of the Net, Best Small Fictions, and Best Microfiction. She lives in Guangzhou, China, with her family.