

## NOTES ON CONTRIBUTORS

**ANSEL ADAMS** (1902-1984) was an American photographer, best known for his black and white photographs of California's Yosemite Valley.

**JOHN BALABAN** is the author of 12 books of poetry and prose, including *Path, Crooked Path* (Copper Canyon P, 2006), and he is a translator of Vietnamese poets, including *Spring Essence*, by the 18th-century poet Ho Xuan Huong. Balaban has received The Academy of American Poets' Lamont Prize, a National Poetry Series Selection, and a 2003 Guggenheim fellowship. He is poet-in-residence and professor of English in the creative writing program at North Carolina State University-Raleigh. (*A New Letters on the Air* author.)

**WALTER BARGEN** is the author of 11 books of poetry, most recently *The Feast* (BkMk P, 2004), and *The Body of Water* (Timberline P, 2003). *Remedies for Vertigo* (WordTech) is scheduled for publication in fall of 2006. His awards include an N.E.A. poetry fellowship in 1991 and the Chester H. Jones Foundation poetry prize in 1997. He lives in Ashland, Mo.

**JENE ERICK BEARDSLEY's** poems have appeared in magazines and journals around the country. He received an M.A. in English at the University of Illinois and has retired from teaching English literature at a suburban college in Philadelphia, where he resides.

**MARGO BERDESHEVSKY's** poetry book *But a Passage in Wilderness* will be published by Sheep Meadow Press in fall 2007. She has received the Poetry Society of America's Robert H. Winner Award, the 2004 *Chelsea Poetry Award*, *Kalliope's* 2005 Sue Sanieel Elkind Award, and the *Border's Books/Honolulu Magazine* grand prize for fiction. During spring 2005, she traveled to Sumatra to work in a survivors' clinic in Aceh. She lives in Paris.

**T. ALAN BROUGHTON's** books include his sixth collection of poems, *The Origin of Green* (Carnegie Mellon UP, 2001), and *Suicidal Tendencies* (Colorado State UP, 2003), a collection of short stories. He has received a Guggenheim fellowship and an N.E.A. award. He lives in Burlington, Vt.

**CATHERINE BROWDER** is a Kansas City-based fiction writer and playwright, and regular reviewer on these pages; her most recent collection

of stories is *Secret Lives* (Southern Methodist UP, 2003). She has received fellowships from the N.E.A. and the Missouri Arts Council.

**ALAN CHEUSE** is the author of the novels *The Grandmothers' Club* (Peregrine Smith, 1986) and *The Light Possessed* (1990), the story collections *Lost and Old Rivers* (Southern Methodist University P, 1998) and *The Tennessee Waltz* (Peregrine Smith, 1990), and a memoir, *Fall Out of Heaven* (G.M. Smith, 1987). His latest book is the essay collection *Listening to the Page* (Columbia UP, 2001). Cheuse lives in Washington, D.C., and serves as book commentator for National Public Radio's *All Things Considered*. (A *New Letters on the Air* author.)

**LORIN CUOCO**, a former National Public Radio reporter, founded the International Writers Center at Washington University, where she edited six books published by the center, including *The Writer in Politics* (U of Southern Illinois P, 1996) and *Literary St. Louis: A Guide* (MHS P, 2000) with William H. Gass. She recently produced the Dalkey Archive audio book of *The Tunnel*, read by William H. Gass.

**GREG DOWNS'** collection of short stories *Spit Baths* won the Flannery O'Connor Award and will be published in October 2006 by the University of Georgia Press. He won the James Michener-Copernicus Society of America Award for a novel under revision. He is a graduate of Yale University and the Iowa Writers' Workshop, and he is a doctoral candidate in American history at the University of Pennsylvania.

**GARY GILDNER'S** most recent collection of short stories is *Somewhere Geese are Flying* (Michigan State UP, 2004). His memoir *My Grandfather's Book* (Michigan State UP, 2002) was named a Top-Ten University Press Book of the Year by *ForeWord Magazine*. Two chapters of the book first appeared in *New Letters*—one of these, "Covering Ground," was a notable selection in *The Best American Essays* series. He lives on a ranch in Idaho's Clearwater Mountains. (A *New Letters on the Air* author.)

**ALBERT GOLDBARTH'S** recent books include *Budget Travel Through Time and Space: Poems* (Graywolf P, 2005), *Pieces of Payne: A Novel* (2003), and *Combinations of the Universe: Poems* (Ohio State UP, 2003). He has twice received the National Book Critics Circle Award in poetry. *The Kitchen Sink: New and Selected Poems 1972-2007* is forthcoming from Graywolf Press in spring 2007. (A *New Letters on the Air* author.)

**MEGAN GRUMLING** was awarded the 2004 Robert Frost Foundation Award for poetry. She is the author of *To and From Deepening*, a letterpress-printed chapbook. She received her master's degree in cultural reporting and criticism from New York University and is now a theater critic in Portland, Maine.

**ANNE GUZZARDI** won the *American Literary Review* 2005 Poetry Prize for her poem "Come Away." She also won the 2006 *Mississippi Review* Prize in Poetry. She was born in Rome, Italy.

**CHARLOTTE HOLMES** is the author of *Gifts and Other Stories* (Confluence P, 1993). The title story was included in *After O'Connor: Stories from Contemporary Georgia* (U of Georgia P, 2003). She is a Bread Loaf scholar in fiction and poetry and has received two individual artist fellowships in fiction from the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts. She is at work on a book of linking stories that contains "Taken," as well as two other stories first published in *New Letters*. A Georgia native, she is associate professor of English and women's studies at Penn State University.

**ALLISON EIR JENKS'** first book of poetry, *The Palace of Bones* (Ohio UP, 2002), won the Hollis Summers Prize. She is a doctoral candidate at Florida State University.

**W. TSUNG-YAN KWONG** is an M.F.A. candidate in fiction at the Iowa Writers' Workshop.

**ADRIAN C. LOUIS'** most recent books include *Evil Corn* (Ellis P, 2004), *Skins* (2002), and *Bone and Juice* (Northwestern UP, 2001). He teaches in the Minnesota State University system. (A *New Letters on the Air* author.)

**DAVID MADDEN** has been nominated twice for a Pulitzer Prize, for *Sharpshooter: A Novel of the Civil War* (U of Tennessee P, 1996) and for *The Suicide's Wife* (Macmillan, 1978), which also was produced as a television drama on CBS in 1979. Recent books include a book of essays, *Touching the Web of Southern Novelists*, (U of Tennessee P, 2006), and a book about his works, *David Madden: A Writer for all Genres*, eds. Randy J. Hendricks and James A. Perkins (2006). He teaches creative writing at Louisiana State University. (A *New Letters on the Air* author.)

**JAMES MCKINLEY** is the author of the novel, *The Woman in the River: A Case of Abortion* (Vineyard P, 2003). Other books include

*Assassination in America* (Harper & Row, 1977) and two collections of stories, *Acts of Love* and *The Fickleman Suite*. He is a former editor-in-chief of *New Letters* and BkMk Press. (A *New Letters on the Air* author.)

**MOLLY McNETT's** story "Catalogue Sales" appears in the 2005 edition of *The Best American Nonrequired Reading* (Houghton Mifflin). She is a graduate of the Iowa Writers' Workshop, where she received Maytag and Teaching-Writing fellowships. She has an M.A. in linguistics from Northern Illinois University, where she now teaches English as a second language.

**MIHAELA MOSCALIUC** is co-translator of *Death Searches for You a Second Time* by Romanian poet Carmelia Leonte (Red Dragonfly P, 2003). Her poems, essays, reviews, and co-translations have appeared in numerous journals.

**RICHARD NEWMAN's** newest collection of poems is *Borrowed Towns* (Word Press, 2005). Other books include *Monster Gallery: 19 Terrifying and Amazing Monster Sonnets!* (Snark Publishing, 2005) and *Tastes Like Chicken and Other Meditations* (2004). He lives in St. Louis, where he edits *River Styx*.

**OVID** (43 BCE - approx. 17 or 18 CE). Known in Latin as Publius Ovidius Naso, Ovid is one of the best known Latin poets from antiquity. He is best known for the *Metamorphoses*—a poem about mythological transformations—along with his elegiac and erotic poetry.

**ALICITA RODRIGUEZ's** work has been published in *Coloring Book* (Rattlecat Press, 2003), an anthology of creative work by multicultural authors. She lives in a Colorado ghost town and teaches creative writing and literature at Western State College.

**MARY JO SALTER** is the author of five poetry collections, including *Open Shutters* (Knopf, 2003), a *New York Times* Notable Book of the Year, and she has coedited, with Margaret Ferguson and Jon Stallworthy, the fourth (1996) and fifth (2005) editions of *The Norton Anthology of Poetry*. She is Emily Dickinson Senior Lecturer at Mount Holyoke College and lives in Amherst, Mass. For more details, see page 112. (A *New Letters on the Air* author.)

**FLOYD SKLOOT's** most recent books include *The End of Dreams: Poems* (Louisiana State UP, 2006) and *In the Shadow of Memory* (U of Nebraska P, 2005), winner of the 2004 PEN Center USA Literary

Award in creative nonfiction and the Independent Publishers Book Award in creative nonfiction. Born in Brooklyn, N.Y., he now lives in Portland, Ore.

**PAULA STREETER** has shown her art in Italy, Australia, England, and the United States, since receiving her M.A. in mixed-media from Iowa State University in 2000. She has taught in Italy and Honduras, and, in 2001, she helped establish an environmentally friendly, hand-made paper company in San Juancito, Honduras. She designed a 1930s-era home theater in Iowa with materials found in Kansas City, Chicago, and New York, and she has illustrated a children's book, *The Land of Letters*, by Gary Gildner. Since 2003, she has been living and working in the Clearwater Mountains of Idaho.

**BARRY TARGAN's** writing has been included in *Best American Short Stories*, the *O. Henry Prize Collection*, and the *Pushcart Anthology*. His fiction, poetry and essays are widely published in literary magazines. Before he retired, he taught at the State University of New York at Binghamton.

**LILIANA URSU's** books in English translation include *Goldsmith Market* (Zephyr, 2003), *Angel Riding a Beast* (Northwestern UP, 1998), and *The Sky Behind the Forest* (Bloodaxe, 1997). She lives in Bucharest.

**MICHAEL WATERS'** recent books include *Darling Vulgarity* (BOA Editions, 2006) and *Parthenopi: New and Selected Poems* (2001), and the eighth edition of *Contemporary American Poetry* (Houghton Mifflin, 2006). He has received three Pushcart prizes and an N.E.A. fellowship. He teaches at Salisbury University in Maryland and in the New England College M.F.A. program. (*A New Letters on the Air* author.)

**JOSH WEIL's** novel *River Horse* and short stories "Salt Lake" and "The Tree Thieves" won the 2005 Dana Award in portfolio. His film, *Wild Geese*, won Best Short at the Chicago Alternative Film Festival. He is a graduate of the creative writing M.F.A. program at Columbia University and lives in Brooklyn, N.Y.

**PETER WOLFE's** most recent book is *Like Hot Knives to the Brain: James Ellroy's Search for Himself* (Lexington Books, 2005). He is Curator's Professor of English at the University of Missouri-St. Louis and is a regular reviewer for *The St. Louis Post-Dispatch*.

**CECILIA WOLOCH** has written three collections of poetry: *Sacrifice* (Cahuenga P, 1997), *Tsigan: The Gypsy Poem* (2002), and most recently *Late* (BOA Editions, 2003). Her poems appear in *Best American Poetry 2005*, edited by Billy Collins, and *Good Poems for Hard Times*, edited by Garrison Keillor. She is the founding director of Summer Poetry in Idyllwild and the Paris Poetry Workshop and serves on the faculty of Western Connecticut State University. She lives in Los Angeles and Atlanta, Ga.

\* "New Letters on the Air authors" have featured readings and interviews on the half-hour radio series *New Letters on the Air*. For cassettes and CDs of those programs, contact us at (816) 235-1159, [radio@newletters.org](mailto:radio@newletters.org), or visit [www.newletters.org](http://www.newletters.org).



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 Catherine Browder, Fiction; Matthew Eck, Fiction; Frank Higgins,  
 Playwriting; Felicia Londre, Playwriting; Randall Mann (2005-2006),  
 Poetry; Steve Paul, Essay; Michael Pritchett, Fiction; Robert Stewart, Poetry,  
 Essay; Whitney Terrell, Fiction; William Trowbridge, Poetry; Sam Witt (2006-2007), Poetry

**Cockefair Chair Writers-in-Residence:**  
 Mary Gordon, 2004; B.H. Fairchild, 2005; Stuart Dybek, 2006; Eleanor Wilner, 2007

**Visiting Writers 2005-2006:**  
 Russell Banks\*, A.S. Byatt\*\*\*, Lan Samantha Chang\*, Cornelius Eady\*, Gerald Early,  
 Barry Lopez\*\*\*, Heather McHugh, Paul Muldoon\*, James Richardson, Christian Wiman\*\*

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 Photograph by Janet Conner, *Shuffiecocks at The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art*

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Featured in photo: two of four large-scale sculptures of badminton birdies by Claes Oldenburg and Coosje Bruggen, on the lawn of UMKC's neighbor, the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art.