

## NOTES ON CONTRIBUTORS

**JOHN BARTH's** fiction has won the National Book Award, the PEN/ Malamud Award for Short Fiction, and the Lannan Foundation Lifetime Achievement Award. For many years, he taught in the Writing Seminars at Johns Hopkins University. He and his wife live in Chestertown, Md., and Bonita Springs, Fla. "Progressive Dinner" is part of a story series in progress about life in a fictional, gated community on Maryland's Eastern shore.

**CONGER BEASLEY JR.'s** most recent photo/text collaboration is *Patagonia: Wild Land at the End of the Earth* (Tim Hauf Photography, 2004). He won the Western Writers of America Spur Awards for *We Are a People of This World: The Lakota Sioux and the Massacre at Wounded Knee* (U of Arkansas P, 1995). (A *New Letters on the Air* author.)

**ANDREA HOLLANDER BUDY** has published three books of poetry, including *House Without a Dreamer* (Story Line, 1993), which won the Nicholas Roerich Poetry Prize. Her other honors include a 2002 D.H. Lawrence Fellowship, a 2003 Pushcart Prize for memoir and two poetry fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts. She has worked as the writer-in-residence at Lyon College since 1991 and lives in the Ozark mountains near Mountain View, Ark. (A *New Letters on the Air* author.)

**WILLIAM CONESCU's** first novel, *Being Written*, will be published by Harper Perennial in 2008, and his short stories have appeared in several literary journals. He grew up in New Orleans and completed an M.F.A. in creative writing at North Carolina State University. He lives in Durham, N.C.

**ROBERT DAY** has received an N.E.A. fellowship, a Yaddo fellowship, and the Edgar Wolfe Award for distinguished fiction. His 1976 novel, *The Last Cattle Drive*, was a Book-of-the-Month-Club selection. He is also the author of two novellas, *In My Stead* and *The Four Wheel Drive Quartet*. He teaches at Washington College in Chestertown, Md., and lives in Kansas, Maryland, and France. (A *New Letters on the Air* author.)

**GREG FIELD's** book of poems *The Longest Breath* won the Mid-America Press Poetry Award for 1997. He is an artist, writer and musician, and lives in Independence, Mo.

**ELIJAH GOWIN** received a fellowship from the Silver Eye Center for Photography in 2000 and won the 2006 Charlotte Street Foundation Award. His work is included in collections at the Corcoran Museum of Art, Center for Creative Photography, Princeton University Museum of Art, and Houston Museum of Art, among others. He is represented by the Robert Mann Gallery in New York and the Dolphin Gallery in Kansas City. He holds an M.F.A. from the University of New Mexico and is director of photographic studies at the University of Missouri-Kansas City.

**MARK JARMAN** is the author of eight books of poetry, most recently *To the Green Man* (Sarabande, 2004), and two books of essays. His awards include a Joseph Henry Jackson Award and fellowships from the N.E.A. and the Guggenheim Foundation. He teaches at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tenn. (*A New Letters on the Air* author.)

**LAURA KASISCHKE** has published six books of poetry, most recently *Gardening in the Dark* (Ausable Press, 2006). She received the University of Massachusetts Press' Juniper Award in 2002 for her book of poems *Dance and Disappear*, and other awards include two NEA fellowships and Pushcart prizes. She teaches in the M.F.A. program at the University of Michigan. (*A New Letters on the Air* author.)

**LAURIE KLEIN's** chapbook *Bodies of Water, Bodies of Flesh* won the 2004 Predator Press competition. She is founding editor of *Rock & Sling*, and she sponsors the yearly Virginia Brendemuehl Poetry Prize. Klein earned her bachelor's degree in art from St. Olaf College in Minnesota and studied theater arts at Whitworth College in Washington, later teaching in the department. She lives in Deer Park, Wash.

**MAXINE KUMIN** has published 15 books of poetry, most recently *Jack and Other New Poems* (W.W. Norton, 2005). Her other poetry collections include *Up Country: Poems of New England* (Harper Collins, 1972), for which she received the Pulitzer Prize. She served as the 1981-1982 consultant in poetry to the Library of Congress before the position was renamed poet laureate of the United States. She and her husband live on a farm in New Hampshire. (*A New Letters on the Air* author.)

**ERIC LEIGH's** recent awards include the "Discovery"/The Nation Prize, the Robinson Jeffers Tor House Prize for Poetry, and the Rainmaker Award in Poetry from the journal *Zone* 3. He received his M.F.A. in poetry from the University of Michigan, where he was honored

with several Hopwood Awards, as well as a Cowden Fellowship. He lives in San Francisco. The brief quotation that begins section II of "The Dark-Light of Spring" is taken from Thomas Lynch's *The Undertaking: Life Studies from the Dismal Trade*, 1998.

**HELEN MARCUS** lives in New York City. Photographs by Helen Marcus in this issue are copyrighted © by Helen Marcus and made available to *New Letters* for this one-time use only. They are not to be reproduced or reused in any way without permission by Helen Marcus; see copyright notice at the end of biographical notes. (For more details, see page 114.)

**ROBERT SIMS REID** is best known for his crime novels, including *Wild Animals* (Carroll & Graf, 1996), *The Red Corvette: A Crime Novel* (Carroll & Graf, 1992), and *Cupid* (Crimeline, 1990).

**MISTY URBAN** is a past winner of *The Atlantic Monthly's* student writing prize and a Writers at Work fiction fellowship. She holds an M.F.A. from Cornell University, where she is finishing a Ph.D. in medieval literature. She lives in Ithaca, N.Y.

**DAVID WAGONER** has published 17 books of poems, most recently *Good Morning and Good Night*, (U of Illinois P, 2005) and 10 novels, one of which, *The Escape Artist*, was made into a movie by Francis Ford Coppola. He won the Lilly Prize in 1991 and has won six yearly prizes from *Poetry* (Chicago). He was a chancellor of the Academy of American Poets for 23 years, and has been nominated for the Pulitzer Prize and twice for the National Book Award. He edited *Poetry Northwest* from 1966 to its end in 2002.

**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*.

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