

NOTES ON CONTRIBUTORS

A.F. AGRUSA has written dispatches on several wars for European and U.S. publications and now teaches English to Italian and Hispanic immigrants in Chicago.

OLUFUNKE GRACE BANKOLE has received a Ludwig Vogelstein Foundation Grant for her novel-in-progress. A graduate of Harvard Law School, she left law in order to write. She is a first-generation American of Nigerian parentage and lives in Gainesville, Fla.

WALTER BARGEN was named Missouri's first poet laureate in 2007. His books include *Theban Traffic* (2008) and *Remedies for Vertigo* (2006), both from Word Tech Communications, and *The Feast: Prose Poem Sequences* (BkMk Press, 2004), winner of the 2005 William Rockhill Nelson Award for poetry. (*A New Letters on the Air* author.)

TONY BARNSTONE has received fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts and the California Arts Council; prizes include the Benjamin Saltman Award for his book of poetry *The Golem of Los Angeles* (Red Hen P, 2008). Other books include *Sad Jazz: Sonnets* (Sheep Meadow P, 2005) and *Impure: Poems by Tony Barnstone* (UP of Florida, 1998). He is a translator of Chinese poetry and teaches English at Whittier College.

CONGER BEASLEY JR.'s most recent book is *Messiah: The Life and Times of Francis Schlatter* (Sunstone P, 2008). He won the 1991 Thorpe Menn Award for Literary Excellence for *Sundancers and River Demons: Essays on Landscape and Ritual* (U of Arkansas P, 1990) and a Western Writers of America Spur Award for *We Are a People of This World: The Lakota Sioux and the Massacre at Wounded Knee* (U of Arkansas P 1995). In 2009, Sunstone plans to reprint his first novel, *Hidalgo's Beard: A California Fantasy*, originally published in 1979. (*A New Letters on the Air* author.)

JOHN BENSKO's books of poetry include *Green Soldiers* (Yale UP, 1981), *The Waterman's Children* (U of Massachusetts P, 1994) and *The Iron City* (U of Illinois P, 2000). Graywolf Press published *Sea Dogs*, a collection of short stories, in 2004. He teaches in the M.F.A. Program at the University of Memphis.

RYAN CLARY studies creative writing at Florida State University and lives in Tallahassee.

CHARLES DOBZYNSKI is the author of a dozen collections of poems, most recently *Corps à réinventer* (Éditions de la Différence, 2005). His translations include a 600-page *Anthologie de la poésie Yiddish* in the Poésie Gallimard series. He was born in Warsaw and has lived in France since childhood.

OKLA ELLIOTT is the author of nonfiction, poetry, short fiction, and translations, including *The Mutable Wheel*, illustrated by Brian Zegeer (2003), and a chapbook, *Lucid Bodies and Other Poems* (MSR P, 2006). He is a co-editor, with Kyle Minor, of *The Other Checkhov* (New American P, 2008). He lives in Columbus, Ohio, and teaches at Ohio Wesleyan University.

GEORGE FITZPATRICK lives in Minneapolis, Minn.

MARILYN HACKER's most recent published collection of translations is *Vénus Khoury-Ghata's Nettles* (Graywolf, 2008). She received The National Poetry Series' Robert Fagles Translation Prize for Marie Etienne's *King of a Hundred Horsemen* (Farrar Strauss and Giroux, 2008), and she lives in Paris, France, and New York City.

MARGIE HEMLEY is a graduate of Far Eastern University. She has worked as a pediatric nurse and in the food industry. She and her husband, Robin Hemley, are spending this year in the city of Manila in the Philippines, but they normally live with their two young daughters in Iowa City.

ROBIN HEMLEY is the author of seven books of fiction and nonfiction, and his stories and essays appear widely in newspapers, magazines and anthologies. His new memoir, *Do-Over!*, is forthcoming from Little, Brown in May 2009. His awards include a Guggenheim fellowship, two Pushcart Prizes, and The Nelson Algren Award for Fiction. A graduate of the Iowa Writers Workshop, he now directs the nonfiction writing program at The University of Iowa.

LAURA KASISCHKE has written seven collections of poetry, most recently *Lilies Without* (Ausable, 2007). Her novel *The Life Before Her Eyes* was made into a 2007 movie with Uma Thurman. She teaches at the University of Michigan.

THOMAS E. KENNEDY's essay "I Am Joe's Prostate" won the National Magazine Award for *New Letters* in 2008; he won an O. Henry prize in 1994 for a story in *New Letters*. He also has published a translation from Danish of Thomas Larsen's book, *The Meeting with Evil*:

Inge Genefke's Fight against Torture. He has lived in Copenhagen, Denmark, for over 30 years. See page 90 for more details. (A *New Letters on the Air* author.)

ELIZABETH KIRSCHNER has written four books of poetry, including *Slow Risen Among the Smoke* (2002), *Postal Routes* (1998), and *Twenty Colors* (1992), all published by Carnegie-Mellon University Press, and most recently *My Life as a Doll* (Autumn House P, 1998). Her fifth book, *Surrender to Light*, will appear in August 2009 from Cherry Grove Editions. She recently moved to Kittery Point, Maine, returning to the seacoast after 20 years.

STEVE PAUL is a writer and editor, critic and teacher. His poems have appeared in *The Kansas City Star* and *New Letters*. He lives in Kansas City, Mo.

ELI REICHMAN began shooting pictures as a senior in high school. Early in his career, he received awards from the Los Angeles Press Association and the Oklahoma Press Association, a Photography Intern Portfolio selection from *National Geographic* and a National Press Photographers Association Joseph J. Ehrenrich Scholarship, and he was selected College Photographer of the Year in 1978. His photographs of the 1981 Hyatt Regency Hotel disaster for *The Kansas City Star* and *Times* contributed to a 1982 Pulitzer Prize for staff reporting and photography. In 1999, he won a Kansas City Omni Gold award and the Communication Arts Photography Annual Award in 1996. He lives in Fairway, Kan.

DOUG SANDERS is the recipient of Columbia University's Academy of American Poets Prize and the George Edward Woodberry Poetry Prize, and his poetry has appeared in several journals. He lives in New York.

LISA SEWELL's chapbook *Long Corridor* won the 2008 Keystone Chapbook Award and will be published in December 2008. She is the author of two additional books of poetry, *Name Withheld* (Four Way Books, 2006) and *The Way Out* (Alice James Books, 1998), and co-editor with Claudia Rankine of *American Poets in the 21st Century: The New Poetics* (Wesleyan, 2007). She lives in Philadelphia and teaches at Villanova University.

MICHAEL SINCLAIR's photographs frequently appear in the architectural press and elsewhere, including the *New York Times*, *Metropolis*, *Architectural Record*, and *Interior Design*. His work

resides in several public and private collections, including those of the Museum of Fine Arts in Houston, The Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art in Kansas City, and the Midwest Photographers Project at the Museum of Contemporary Photography in Chicago.

STEPHANIE POWELL WATTS' stories appear in the 2008 edition of the Pushcart Prize anthology and in *New Stories from the South* (Algonquin 2007). She teaches English at Lehigh University and lives in Bethlehem, Pa.

PETER WOLFE's most recent book is *Havoc in the Hub: A Reading of George V. Higgins* (Lexington Books, 2007). He won the 1993 Armchair Detective Award for best scholarly book in the mystery genre for *Alarms and Epitaphs: The Art of Eric Ambler* (Bowling Green UP). He is a Curator's Professor of English at the University of Missouri-St. Louis.

PAUL ZIMMER's recent books include a book of poems *Crossing to Sunlight: Revisited* (U of Georgia P, 2007) and a memoir *After the Fire: A Writer Finds His Place* (U of Minnesota P, 2002). His essays have earned Pushcart Prizes in two of the last three years. He is retired from a long career in scholarly book publishing and lives on a farm in southwestern Wisconsin.

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