researcher-like field notes, the book shows how Baker made a compelling case for public health efforts.

Baker is best known for successfully catching Typhoid Mary (twice), but her storytelling offers detail and insight into her quieter, and ultimately long-lasting accomplishments. She made striking connections between poverty, sickness, and city life. Baker created a blueprint of still relevant health programs from her experiences working with poor and immigrant families on the lower east side of Manhattan.

The short list of her accomplishments includes promoting breastfeeding, educating mothers (and older siblings) on safe practices for babies, inventing a nutritious infant formula so that mothers could go to work, creating professional standards and licensure for midwives to decrease maternal mortality, educating about hygiene to prevent dysentery (which, at its peak, killed 1,500 infants per week), creating a sanitary method of administering silver nitrate drops to newborns to prevent gonorrhea-associated blindness, creating a school lunch program and public “milk stations” to address childhood malnutrition, placing nurses and doctors within schools to tame childhood scourges such as trachoma and tuberculosis. It is estimated that her public health efforts saved more than 90,000 lives.

Both the slums and the affluent neighborhoods of New York City began to emerge from the shadows of relentless death and disease during Baker’s tenure as the first director of New York’s Bureau of Child Hygiene. In her book, public health emerges as a profession uniquely suited to building and sustaining cities.

Baker was prolific, writing more than fifty journal articles, two hundred articles for public media, and six books. She writes with confidence; her analytical voice sure, yet balanced. She brushes off fears not with a focus on trailblazing, but on work that must be done. While this autobiography reads as her personal and professional diary, Sara Josephine Baker’s compassion and commitment are evident, as she doggedly surpasses the innumerable obstacles. This book is a testament of the power of public health, tenacity, and storytelling.

Katherine Ellington is a physician in training and an advocate for global health equity. She blogs at World House Medicine.

Contributors’ Notes

Mary Akers is the author of two short story collections: Women Up On Blocks (Press 53) and Bones of an Inland Sea. She co-authored a nonfiction book that has sold in seven countries, received a Pushcart 2012 Special Mention, and has been a Bread Loaf work-study scholar and a VCCA Fellow.

Pria Anand lives in California, where she is a fourth-year medical student and an amateur pie-maker. Her writing has appeared in Creative Nonfiction.

Mary Ellen Ballard grew up in Plymouth, Minnesota. She earned a BA in English and Political Science at Loyola University Chicago and now lives in Fort Collins, where she is an MFA candidate in poetry at Colorado State University. Her work appears in The Volta, Flyway and Hayden’s Ferry Review.

Prasad Bodas is a writer and a physician who practices in Northeast Ohio. He writes fiction and treats children with cancer and blood disorders. He is originally from New Jersey. “Mr. Abhyankar Learns to Drop Bombs” is his first piece of published fiction.

Janet Chalmers is a New York writer and photographer. She has just completed a chapbook about her 107-year-old mother called The Woman in the Photos. The subjects of her poem “The Missionary’s Wife (1824)” that appears in this issue—Calista Holman Vinton and her husband Justus—were the first of four generations of Baptist missionaries in her husband’s family.

Katherine Lien Chariott has published her writing in Post Road, The Literary Review and Sonora Review. She holds an MFA from Cornell University, and a PhD from UNLV, where she was a Schaeffer Fellow in fiction.

Merrill Cole is Associate Professor of English at Western Illinois University. He was recently a Fulbright Senior Research Fellow in Germany and a Guest Professor at the Art Institute of Braunschweig. He is the author of The Other Orpheus: A Poetics of Modern Homosexuality,
as well as numerous essays and poems. His translation from the German of Anita Berber and Sebastian Droste’s Dances of Vice, Horror, and Ecstasy was published last year by Side Real Press.

Anna Carson DeWitt is a birth doula and college writing professor based in Washington, DC.

Moira Egan’s fifth poetry collection, Strange Botany/Botanica Arcana, will be published by Edizioni l’Obliquo in 2013. Her poems have appeared in journals and anthologies in the U.S. and abroad. Her poem in this issue, “Weight Gain Sonnet,” is part of a series, Hot Flash Sonnets. Egan would like to acknowledge the staff and fellows at the Rockefeller Foundation Bellagio Center, where the series was conceived. She lives in Rome with her husband, Damiano Abeni, epidemiologist by day, literary translator by night.

Jackie Fox is a corporate media relations manager who writes poetry in her spare time. Her poems have appeared in several literary journals and two are in the forthcoming book The Untidy Season: An Anthology of Nebraska Women Poets. She is the author of From Zero to Mastectomy: What I Learned And You Need to Know About Stage 0 Breast Cancer, named a 2010 Best Consumer Health Book by Library Journal. Fox has completed her first semester toward an MFA from the University of Nebraska.

Jacob L. Freedman is a psychiatrist practicing outside of Boston. He has written and lectured on psychiatry, professional ethics, and Jewish history, and has also published creative fiction and poetry. He is the self-proclaimed World’s Expert on more than three things and is currently working on perfecting his character traits.

Vishwas R. Gaitonde spent his formative years in India, has lived in Britain and the United States, and has been published in those countries. His work has appeared in Mid-American Review, The Millions, The MacGuffin, Verbatim: The Language Quarterly, and the Tin House blog. He is a contributing writer at The Prague Revue. Last year he was awarded a writing residency by The Anderson Center, Minnesota. His Twitter handle is: @weareji.

Nancy Green is a clinical social worker practicing in East New York, Brooklyn. She studied fiction writing with Philip Schultz at the Writers Studio in New York City. Her work has appeared in Practice, a Journal of Politics, Psychology, and Culture. “Patrimony” is her first published short story.

Zhu Jian is a Chinese poet now based in Xi’an, particularly known for his vivid short poems. He has published two books of poetry: Spinning Top and Phosphorescence. In 2010, he launched the Chang’an Poetry Festival with fellow poets in Xi’an.

Hillary Kobernick holds a Master’s of Divinity degree from Emory University, meaning that she has, in fact, mastered the Divine. She divides her time between home and places like home. Her work has appeared in literary magazines in the U.S. and Canada, including Paper Nautilus, Third Wednesday, and The Mochila Review. She is also a three-time member of the Art Amok! Poetry Slam Team. Her work can be found at hillarykobernickpoetry.tumblr.com.

Amanda Lee Koe is the editor of the creative non-fiction magazine POSKOD, co-editor of Singaporean literary journal Cerip, and communications lead at the design and communications studio KALEIDO. She edited Eastern Heathens, an anthology subverting Asian folklore. Her debut collection of edgy transnational short stories, Ministry of Moral Panic, will be released in Fall 2013.

Susan Land has an MA from the Johns Hopkins Writing Seminars and was a Stegner Fellow at Stanford. Her fiction has received awards from the Maryland State Arts Council and Writers at Work, and been nominated for the Pushcart Prize. Recent stories have appeared in Niche Lit Mag, The Potomac Review, Roanoke Review and Bethesda Magazine. She teaches at SpiderSmart Learning Center and the Writer’s Center in Bethesda.

Robert J. Levy’s work has appeared in Poetry, Paris Review, Georgia Review, Kenyon Review, Southern Review and many other magazines. He has won an NEA Fellowship and has published two full-length collections—Whistle Maker (Anhinga) and In the Century of Small Gestures (Defined Providence)—as well as five chapbooks.
M. Miranda Maloney is a poet and editor. She is the founder of Mouthfeel Press, a small bilingual press. Her poems and essays have appeared in *MiPOesias*, *Smithsonian Latino Museum*, *National Catholic Reporter*, and *BorderSenses*. She holds an MFA in Bilingual Creative Writing from the University of Texas in El Paso. She resides in the desert outside of El Paso, with her three children, husband, and numerous cats and dogs.


Jill McDonough’s books of poems include *Habeas Corpus* (Salt, 2008), *Oh, James!* (Seven Kitchens, 2012), and *Where You Live* (Salt, 2012). The recipient of two Pushcart prizes and fellowships from the NEA, NYPL, FAWC, and Stanford, her work appears in *Slate*, *The Threepenny Review*, and *Best American Poetry*. She teaches poetry at UMass-Boston and directs 24PearlStreet, the online writing program at the Fine Arts Work Center.

David Milofsky is the author of four novels and many articles and short stories. A winner of fellowships from the NEA, Bread Loaf, the New Writing Conference and the Rockefeller Foundation, he was the founding editor of the Colorado Prize in Poetry and edited the *Denver Quarterly* and *Colorado Review*. He has won the Prairie Schooner Short Fiction Award and the Colorado Book Award. He is professor of English at Colorado State University.

Cristina Negrón is a freelance editor and writer living in Mystic, Connecticut. Her essay in this issue, “So Far,” is part of a memoir of the same name, to be published this year.

Dawn Potter directs the Frost Place Conference on Poetry and Teaching, held each summer at Robert Frost’s home in Franconia, New Hampshire. She is the author of five books, most recently *A Poet’s Sourcebook: Writings about Poetry, from the Ancient World to the Present* (Autumn House Press, 2013). She lives in Harmony, Maine.

Michael Powers was born in New Haven, Connecticut in 1981. He currently lives in Los Angeles, California. His fiction and nonfiction have appeared in *Barrelhouse*, *Hayden’s Ferry Review*, *Gulf Coast*, and *H.O.W. Journal*.


Sonia Sarkar is an Austinite currently working in Boston, Massachusetts as Chief of Staff to the CEO of Health Leads, a national nonprofit that envisions a healthcare system that addresses all patients’ basic resource needs as a standard part of quality care. Her work has been featured in *Urban Confustions*, *the Yale Journal of Humanities in Medicine*, 32Poems, *Broken Circles: A Gathering of Poems for Hunger*, *Pyria, Same Difference: An Anthology*, *Thymos Anthology*, and Lifelines.

Hal Sirowitz is the co-winner of the Noir Con 2012 Poetry Contest, judged by Robert Polito, Director of the Creative Writing Program at The New School. He has recently been interviewed on the Writer’s Almanac Bookshelf.

Pepper Trail has published poems in *Comstock Review*, *Atlanta Review*, *Ascent*, *Kyoto Journal*, *Spillway*, *Windfall*, and other publications, and his
essays appear regularly in *High Country News*. He lives in Ashland, Oregon, where he works as a biologist with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

**Tanaya Winder** is a poet, writer, artist, and educator from the Southern Ute, Duckwater Shoshone, and Pyramid Lake Paiute Nations. She has a BA in English from Stanford University and an MFA in creative writing from UNM. Tanaya is the Editor-in-Chief of *As/Us: A Space for Women of the World*, a literary magazine dedicated to publishing writing by Indigenous women and women of color. A winner of the 2010 A Room Of Her Own Foundation’s Orlando prize in poetry, her work appears in *Cutthroat, Superstition Review, Kveli*, and *Drunken Boat*.

**Amelia B. Winkler** is the author of the chapbook *Waking at Night* (Finishing Line Press, 2013). Her poems have been published in *Big City Lit, Jewish Currents, Westchester Review* and other presses and anthologies. She lives in Mamaroneck, New York and is the grandmother of five—two in Kenya, and three currently in Brooklyn, but soon to be in Michigan.

**Liang Yujing** writes in both English and Chinese, and is now a lecturer at Hunan University of Commerce in China. His work has recently appeared in *Epiphany, Willow Springs, Hampden-Sydney Poetry Review*, and *Los Angeles Review*.

**Acknowledgments**

We are deeply grateful to all who have helped support the *Bellevue Literary Review* in its efforts to bridge the worlds of literature and medicine.

This project is supported in part by awards from the National Endowment for the Arts and the New York State Council on the Arts.

Special thanks to the Goldenberg family, Marica and Jan Víšek, and the Burns Archive for their sponsorship of the *Bellevue Literary Review* Prizes, and to the Lillian Goldman Charitable Trust Fund for their support.

**Benefactors:** Sig-Linda Jacobson, Dorothy Segal, Dr. Michael Yeaman

**Muses:** Dr. David C. Ferris, Natalie Hirt, Stacy R. Nigliazzo, Dr. David Oshinsky

**Friends:** Dr. Elie M. Abemayor, Dr. Thomas W. Andrews, Dr. Louise Aronson, Dr. Richard J. Baron, Beverly S. Brahic, Dr. Julie Carpenter, Theresa L. Cicone, Dr. Charles Debrovner, Anne Elliott, Mary Elizabeth Frandsen, Dr. Robin S. Freedberg, Dr. Frances W. Ginsburg, Dr. Elizabeth Goldman, Edward Hamlin, Dr. William J. Houghton, Elizabeth Howard, Dr. Martin L. Kahn, Jay Kidd, Stacey Gill Jacobs, Dr. Arthur Lebowitz, Catherine Lewis, Deena Linett, Dr. George Lipkin, Dr. Joseph I. Mann, Dr. Eric R. Marcus, Natalie Mariano, Dr. Katherine Mathews, Etta Ginsberg McEwan, C. Gardner McFall, Dr. Sander H. Mendelson, Lynne Mijangos, Dr. Andrew Milano, Ben Miller & Anne P. Wiese, Dr. & Mrs. Franco Muggia, Drs. Anthony & Eilane Mustalish, Madeleine Mysko, Dr. Marion Nestle, Dr. Diana Nilsen, Marcia Ofri, Dr. Ronald Pies, Dr. Michael Pillinger, Richard E. Rust, Annita Sawyer, Nikki Schulak, Dr. Rhonda Soricelli, Dr. Sondra Zabar, Howard Zalkin

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