Contributors’ Notes

Lauren K. Alleyne is originally from Trinidad and Tobago. She is a recent graduate of the MFA program at Cornell University. Her work appears in *Gathering Ground, Growing Up Girl, McSweeney’s, the Banyan Review, Black Arts Quarterly, the Caribbean Writer, the Hampden-Sydney Review, and New Writing*. She is the 2003 winner of the *Atlantic Monthly’s* Student Writing Contest and a Cave Canem fellow.

Alex Bartel’s short stories have appeared in *Cimarron Review, Sundog*, and the *Southeast Review*, and a story is forthcoming in *Fiction International*. She received an MFA from Florida International University in Miami.

Ami Sands Brodoff is the author of *Bloodknots*, a collection of stories that was short-listed for the ReLit Awards, 2006, which honors the best independent Canadian literature. An excerpt from her novel *Can You See Me?* was nominated for a Pushcart Prize. Ami recently completed her third book, *The White Space Between*, in which a mother and daughter grapple with the impact of the Holocaust. She lives in Montreal with her husband, children, and Bernese Mountain dog.

Diane Cameron is the director of Community Caregivers, a nonprofit organization helping families in Albany, New York. Her essays appear in newspapers throughout the country. She has an MFA from Bennington College, and in 2004 was a resident at Millay Colony for the Arts where she wrote the first draft of the essay “My Mother’s Donald.”

r.g. cantalupo’s work has been published in over a hundred literary journals throughout the United States, Canada, and England. His book of poetry, *Say*, was a 2005 runner-up for the John Ciardi award in poetry. He currently lives in Grand Junction, Colorado, and teaches at Mesa State University.

Ralph Crawshaw was born in Brooklyn, New York, in 1921, and attended Middlebury College. His medical training was at NYU, Lenox Hill Hospital, and the Menninger Foundation. Before retiring, he practiced psychiatry in Portland, Oregon. He is a member of the National Academy of Science Institute of Medicine and the editorial board of *AOA’s The Pharos*. 
Kathleene Donahoo received a Ph.D. from Yale and worked as a senior economist at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York. She has published in the *Quarterly Review of Economics and Business*. She now lives in Illinois with her husband and three children. “World’s Fair” is her first published story.

Susan Donnelly is the author of *Transit, Eve Names the Animals*, and three chapbooks. She has new poetry in summer issues of *Prairie Schooner* and the *Sun*. She lives in Cambridge, Massachusetts, where she teaches private classes in poetry.

Elizabeth Downs is a recent graduate of the University of Alabama MFA program. Her work has appeared in *Antioch Review, Chattahoochee Review*, and *Event Literary Review*. She currently resides in Venice, CA, where she finds her inspiration in the chaos of everyday life.

Blas Falconer is an Assistant Professor of English at Austin Peay State University. His first book of poems, *A Question of Gravity and Light*, will be published by the University of Arizona Press in 2007. He lives in Nashville.


Dina Greenberg, a freelance journalist, writes about the intersection of spirituality and medicine, health care access for vulnerable populations, and complementary and alternative therapies. Dina is currently research assistant/writer on a grant to develop a “Directory of Spiritual Practices” for the U.S. Navy Chaplain Corps. Her poetry and essays have appeared in professional, literary, and popular journals.

Elizabeth Hazen studied English literature at Yale and poetry at Johns Hopkins. Her poems have appeared in literary magazines including *Smartish Pace, Antietam Review, Nimrod*, and *Gargoyle*.

Sarah Hong holds an MA from Regent College with an arts thesis project entitled *The Imagination, Tolu’wabobu, and Stories*. She lives with her husband in Vancouver, British Columbia, where she is working on a collection of short
stories. She is a member of The Writers’ Studio at Simon Fraser University, and her work has appeared in their *Emerge* anthology. “Nobody Walks” is her American debut.

**Itzhak Kronzon** has published over seventy short stories, both in his native Israel and in America. Two books—*Mother, Sunshine, Homeland* (1985) and *Who Will Get Belgium* (1991)—were published in Hebrew. A third, *A Long Day’s Journey into the Heart*, is in press. He is a cardiologist and professor of medicine at NYU School of Medicine, as well as a Senior Professor at Tel Aviv University, and Director and Consultant at Escorts Heart Institute in New Delhi, India.

**Colleen McKee** is a St. Louis poet and essayist whose work has appeared in many journals and anthologies. She is coediting an anthology of personal narratives called *Are We Feeling Better Yet?: Women’s Encounters with Health Care in America*.


**Kim Puckett** is a refugee from the advertising industry and lives with her daughter, Ella, and her partner, Eric, in San Francisco. She received an MFA from Bennington Writing Seminars. Aside from fiction, Kim also has written articles on skin care and currently is at work on a collection of stories.

**Midge Raymond**’s fiction appears in the *Los Angeles Times Magazine, the Ontario Review, Indiana Review, North American Review, Other Voices*, and *Witness*. She is winner of the 2004 Indiana Review Fiction Prize and the 2006 Georgia State University Review Fiction Prize. She taught communication writing at Boston University for six years and currently teaches creative writing in Southern California.

**Mark Rigney** is the author of *Deaf Side Story: Deaf Sharks, Hearing Jets and a Classic American Musical* (Gallaudet University Press) and several plays, including *Gaining Ground*, premiering at the Ark Theatre in Los Angeles this fall. He has
published twenty short stories in venues such as *Shadow Regions*, *THEMA*, *The Green Hills Literary Lantern*, *Andromeda Spaceways Inflight Magazine*, *Red Rock Review*, as well as the *Bellevue Literary Review*.


**Peter Selgin** is the author of the forthcoming *By Cunning & Craft: Ten Lessons for Fiction Writers*. His writing has appeared in *Poets & Writers*, Salon.com, the *Chicago Sun-Times*, *Newsday Sunday Magazine* and *Best American Essays 2006*. He has published a memoir, a short story collection, and a children’s book. He lives in New York City, where he teaches at Gotham Writers Workshop and is co-editor of *Alimentum: The Literature of Food*.

**Hasanthika Sirisena** was born in Sri Lanka and grew up in Rocky Mount, North Carolina. She currently lives in New York City and teaches writing and literature at City College of New York. Her work has appeared in *Best New American Voices 2005*, *Denver Quarterly*, *WSQ*, and *Night Train*. She is working on a novel set in North Carolina.

**Hal Sirowitz** is the former Poet Laureate of Queens, New York. *Mother Said*, his first book, has been translated into nine languages. It will be reprinted in Iceland for his appearance at a children’s literature festival. He is the most popular translated poet in Norway.

**Paula V. Smith** teaches at Grinnell College. She holds an MFA and Ph.D. from Cornell University. Her fiction and poetry have appeared in *North American Review*, *Flyway*, *Four Quarters*, and *Red Cedar Review*. “The Room of Small Gods” is based on *The Diary of Sigmund Freud 1929–1939* (trans. Michael Molnar), the poet H. D.’s *Tribute to Freud*, and Virginia Woolf’s account of a visit with Freud on 28 January 1939, published in Volume Five of her diaries. The closing image of the story comes from the Egyptian Book of the Dead.

**June Stein** is a director and actress best known for playing offbeat heroines in plays by John Patrick Shanley and Beth Henley in NYC. She has appeared in films directed by John Turturro, Tim Robbins, and Sidney Lumet, and most recently directed the U.S. premiere of *Cherish* by Ken Duncum. She holds an MFA in creative writing and teaches at Columbia University in the Graduate School of the Arts, Film Division.
Virginia Chase Sutton’s book is *Embellishments* (Chatoyant, 2003). She has been published in *Paris Review, Ploughshares, Antioch Review,* and *Witness.* She won the Allen Ginsberg Award, the Paumanock Visiting Writer’s Award, and was the Louis Untermeyer Scholar at Bread Loaf. Sutton has completed poetry manuscripts *What Brings You to Del Amo, Reading Electra to Sleep,* and *Madame X.* She is currently working on a memoir titled *Devoured.*

Anita Darcel Taylor has published accounts of her manic depression in the anthologies *Are You Feeling Better Yet?* (in press) and *Use of Personal Narratives in the Helping Professions.* Her work also has been published in *Lorraine and James: Global Urban Literature,* *Potomac Review,* and *Fourth Genre,* as well as the anthology *Under Her Skin: How Girls Experience Race in America.* *By My Own Hand* is an excerpt from a longer essay entitled “Seasons.”

Jim Tomlinson won the 2006 Iowa Short Fiction Award for his debut short story collection, *Things Kept, Things Left Behind,* in which his BLR short story, “Lake Charles,” will appear. His work has appeared recently in *Five Points* and *Potomac Review.* He has been awarded fellowships from the Sewanee Writers Conference, the Wesleyan Writers Conference, and the Kentucky Arts Council. Jim lives and writes in rural Kentucky.

Robert Treu could echo Flaubert’s insistence that he had no biography. Until recently he taught literature and creative writing at the University of Wisconsin, La Crosse. He now lives in a small cabin on Lytle Lake (almost impossible to find on a map), where he is finishing a novel, assembling a second collection of short stories, writing poems, and working as a freelance journalist. He has received the Council for Wisconsin Writers Award for short fiction.