**Contributor's Notes**

**Dannie Abse** is a Welsh-born physician and poet. His most recent books to appear in the U.S.A. are his novel, *The Strange Case of Dr. Simmonds and Dr. Glas* (2002, short-listed for the Booker Prize), and a collection of his later poems, *The Yellow Bird* (2004). His book *The Two Roads Taken* (2003) describes how he pursued the vocations of Medicine and Literature. Dr. Abse is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature and President of the Welsh Academy.

**Kelli Russell Agodon** is the author of *Small Knots* (Cherry Grove Collections) and *Geography*, winner of the 2003 Floating Bridge Press Chapbook Award. Her poems have appeared in numerous journals and on NPR’s “The Writer’s Almanac” with Garrison Keillor. She’s the recipient of two Washington State Artist Trust grants, the James Hearst Poetry Prize, and the Carlin Aden Award for formal verse. www.agodon.com

**Jacob M. Appel** received an M.F.A. in fiction from New York University and a J.D. from Harvard Law School. His short fiction has recently appeared in *Agni*, *StoryQuarterly* and *Southwest Review*. Jacob teaches medical ethics at Brown University and writing at the Gotham Writers Workshop.

**Priscilla Atkins** lives in Holland, Michigan. Her poems have appeared in *Epoch*, *Southern Humanities Review*, *The Southern Review*, *The Bellingham Review*, *Smartish Pace*, and an earlier issue of *Bellevue Literary Review*.

**Melisa (Misha) Cahnmann** is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Language and Literacy Education at the University of Georgia. She has published poems in *APR*, *Quarterly West*, *Barrow Street*, *River City*, *Laurel Review*, and *Red Rock Review*. She is currently pursuing an MFA at New England College. The Dorothy Sargent Rosenberg Foundation awarded her top prize for poems reflecting “the spirit of life.”

**Rafael Campo** teaches and practices internal medicine at Harvard Medical School. His recent books include *Divus*, a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award in poetry; *Landscape with Human Figure*, winner of the Gold Medal from *ForeWord* for the best book of poetry published by an independent press; and *The Healing Art: A Doctor’s Black Bag of Poetry*, essays on poetry and healing. New poems, essays, and reviews have appeared or are forthcoming in *The Boston Review*, *Commonweal*, *The Georgia Review*, *The Nation*, *Prairie Schooner*, *The Progressive*, and *River Styx*. www.rafaelcampo.com

**Katie Chaple’s** poems have appeared in *32 Poems*, *The Antioch Review*, *The Southern Poetry Review*, and *Rattle*. She currently works as an assistant editor on *Five Points* and as the managing editor of *Terminus*.

**Courtney Davis**, a nurse practitioner, is the author of *Leopold’s Maneuvers*, winner of the 2003 Prairie Schooner Book Prize in Poetry. *I Knew a Woman*, a memoir about her work in women’s health, was published by Random House in 2001 and won the Connecticut Center for the Book Non-Fiction Award. Her other poetry collections are *The Body Flute* and *Details of Flesh*. www.cortneydavis.com

**Matthew Davis** is a second-year graduate student at the University of Iowa’s Nonfiction Writing Program. His writings about Mongolia have appeared in several magazines, most recently in the Fall 2004 issue of *WorldView Magazine*. He is an Iowa Arts Tuition Scholarship recipient and a Stanley Fellow. Currently, he is at work on a book about Mongolia.

**Sariah Dorbin** received an MFA from the Bennington Writing Seminars. Her fiction has appeared in *The Antioch Review*. She lives in Los Angeles, where she is currently at work on a novel.

**Erika Dreifus’s** fiction has appeared or is forthcoming in *Lilith*, *MississippiReview.com*, *Solander: The Magazine of the Historical Novel Society*, *Southern Indiana Review*, and *Vermont Literary Review*. Her writing honors include first prize in the David Dornstein Memorial Creative Writing Contest, a Prague Summer Program scholarship, and residencies at the Vermont Studio Center and the Kimmel Harding Nelson Center for the Arts. An active freelance writer and teacher, Erika also publishes a free monthly newsletter, “The Practicing Writer.” www.practicing-writer.com

**Arlene Eager’s** poems have appeared in *The Hudson Review*, *Five Points*, *Atlanta Review*, *The Southern Review*, and the anthology *Essential Love*. She leads workshops in the study, discussion and writing of poetry in Stony Brook, Long Island. She and her husband Bill split their time between New York and Maine.

**Marcia Calhoun Forecki’s** first book, *Speak to Me*, which described the discovery of her son’s deafness, won a Book Award from the President’s Committee on Employment of the Handicapped. She has written short stories, articles, and a screenplay, and is currently at work on a novel. Forecki teaches English as a Second Language and Spanish at Iowa Western Community College. Her parents are from rural communities in southern Missouri and Kentucky, places that have formed Eulalia in her writing.
Vishwas R. Gaitonde received a medical degree from the University of Madras, India and an MA in journalism from the University of Iowa. His book, *A Thief in the Night: Understanding AIDS*, was published in 2001 by East-West Books, Chennai (Madras). His articles, essays, and fiction have appeared in India, Great Britain, and the US. He enjoys acting in the amateur theatre, and has appeared in three television plays in India. He runs Quill & Pill, a medical writing company in La Jolla, California, and has just completed a novel.

Andrea Lewis writes short fiction at her home on Vashon Island, Washington. She is a founding member of Richard Hugo House, a popular literary arts center in Seattle. Her thirty-year writing career began with technical writing in the microcomputer software industry. Andrea was raised in Albuquerque, New Mexico, and her fiction has appeared in *New Mexico Humanities Review*.

Karin Lin-Greenberg’s fiction has appeared in or is forthcoming in *Eclipse, Karamu,* and *Redivider.* In 2004, she won the *Pittsburgh City Paper’s* fiction contest. She is currently at the University of Pittsburgh where she is teaching and pursuing an MFA in fiction.

Lou Lipsitz is a psychotherapist and poet living in Chapel Hill, NC. He has published three books of poems, the latest of which, *Seeking the Hook*, can be obtained at www.loulipsitz.com. His psychotherapy work includes a special focus on men’s issues and midlife transitions.

Evan Lyon is a resident in internal medicine at Brigham and Women’s Hospital in Boston. He divides his clinical time equally between rural Haiti and the U.S. In Haiti, he works with Partners In Health—a community-based non-profit organization that provides comprehensive medical care to the poor of Haiti’s Central Plateau.

Susan Bloom Malus lives in Brooklyn and Red Rock, NY. In 2005, she won the Briar Cliff Review’s creative nonfiction competition, and was a semi-finalist for both the Writers-at-Work Creative Non-Fiction Competition and Portfolio’s Dana Award. Her fiction has appeared in *NDQ, Coming Out,* and *Junction magazine.* She has an MFA in fiction from Brooklyn College where she received the Mintz Memorial Award for writing excellence.

Shannon McNamara received an MFA from Sarah Lawrence College. She was the recipient of the Collected Works Bookstore Scholarship to participate in the Santa Fe Writers’ Conference in 2004. Her fiction has recently appeared in *Cimarron Review* and is forthcoming in *Confrontation.* She lives in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Carolyn Megan’s work has appeared in *The Massachusetts Review,* *The Kenyon Review,* *South Dakota Review* and *MS Magazine.* She lives in Maine.

Joan Michelson lives in Britain and teaches creative writing at Birkbeck College, the University of London. Her chapbook, *Letting in the Light,* was Editor’s Choice publication in a PoeticMatrix competition. She has published fiction and poems in both Britain and the United States. Her poem “Amen” won first prize in the 2005 Londonart International judged by poet laureate of England, Andrew Motion. She directs the UK poetry performance venue ‘Sounding the American Voice.’


Robert Oldshue is a primary care physician in Boston and received an MFA in creative writing from Warren Wilson College. His fiction has appeared twice previously in *Bellevue Literary Review.* His essay, “Code Blue,” is forthcoming in *The Gettysburg Review.*

William Orem’s first collection of stories, *Zombi, You My Love,* won the GLCA New Writers Award for 2000. His poetry and short fiction have appeared in over 45 publications and have twice been nominated for the Pushcart Prize. He works in Boston as an editor and science writer, and is currently seeking representation.

Leslie Patterson is working on a book of short stories about the Impressionist artists, Manet, Degas, and Morisot. Another part in this series was published in spring 2005 in *Ballyhoo Stories.*

Simon Perchik is an attorney whose poems have appeared in *Partisan Review,* *Bellevue Literary Review,* *The New Yorker,* and elsewhere. Readers who would like to learn more about him are invited to read “Magic, Illusion and Other Realities” at www.geocities.com/simonthepoet, which lists a complete bibliography.
Holly Posner, author of *Explorations in American Culture*, has taught at the New School, Hunter College, and New York University. She received an MFA from Sarah Lawrence, where she was the editor of the graduate literary journal. Currently, she is a mentor for the Hadar Foundation, which sponsors scholarships in the creative arts. She is the winner of the 2005 Greenburgh Poetry Competition; her work has appeared or is forthcoming in *Lamina, Rattapallax*, and *The Laurel Review*.

Sharon Pretti lives in San Francisco. Her work has appeared in *The Healing Muse, Santa Clara Review, Sonoma Mandala Literary Review*, and is forthcoming in *Marin Poetry Center Anthology* and *Margie: The American Journal of Poetry*. In addition to her practice as a medical social worker, she runs Age of Expression, which provides poetry writing workshops to senior citizens in long-term care and residential facilities.

Eve Rifkah is the co-founder and artistic director of Poetry Oasis, Inc., a non-profit poetry organization, and editor of *Diner*: a journal of poetry. Poems and essays have appeared in *The MacGuffin, 5 AM, Chaffin Journal, Porcupine Press, The Worcester Review, California Quarterly, ReDactions, Jabberwock Review, Southern New Hampshire Literary Journal*, and have been translated into Braille. Her chapbook *At the Leptosarium* won the 2003 Revelever chapbook contest. She received an MFA in Writing from Vermont College and lives with her husband, poet Michael Milligan.

Margaret A. Robinson has published novels, short stories, and poems. Her chapbook, *Sparks*, is available at Pudding House Publications. Robinson teaches in the Writing Center and Creative Writing Program at Widener University, and lives in Swarthmore, PA.

Laurie Rosenblatt teaches at Harvard Medical School and practices psychiatry at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and Brigham & Women's Hospital. In addition to medical publications, she has published poems in *JAMA, Medical Humanities, Borderlands: Texas Poetry Review*, and *Academic Medicine*. “Toledo, Ohio: 1967” is the first poem in a longer work entitled, “Arcas Inverse: A Biography,” which was inspired by her brother Tom’s life and death with AIDS.

Katherine Soniat’s *The Fire Setters* is available through Web Del Sol Online Chapbook Series. Her fourth collection, *Alluvial*, was published by Bucknell University Press, and *A Shared Life* won the Iowa Poetry Prize. Poems are in recent issues of the *Iowa Review, Virginia Quarterly, New Letters, Quarterly West*, and *Hotel Amerika*. She lives in Blacksburg, Virginia and teaches in the MFA Program at Virginia Tech.

Peter Sordillo has advanced degrees in medicine, philosophy and physics, and has published more than 130 scientific papers in cancer research and biophysics. He is an attending medical oncologist at Lenox Hill Hospital, and lives in New York City with his wife and three children. His poetry has most recently appeared in *The Iowa Review*.

John Stone’s latest book is *Music From Apartment 8: New and Selected Poems* (Louisiana State University Press, 2004). He co-edits *On Doctoring*, the anthology presented by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to all U.S. medical students since 1990. Stone is Professor of Medicine, Emeritus, at Emory University, where he has often taught in the English Department.

Pat Tompkins is an editor in the San Francisco Bay Area. Her essays, reviews, stories, and poems have appeared in the *Writer, Copperfield Review, Threads, Paumanok Review*, and the *San Francisco Chronicle*. She first heard about Carville when she moved to Louisiana at age seven.


Susan Varon is a poet and artist living in New York City. She began writing poetry in 1992, after suffering a severe stroke. Her work has appeared in over 30 publications, including *Green Mountains Review, The Midwestern Quarterly* and *Notre Dame Review*. In 1999 she won the New Voice Poetry Award of the Writer’s Voice, and was awarded a residency at The MacDowell Colony. She has since been granted fellowships at Hedgebrook, The Blue Mountain Center, and the Helene Wurlitzer Foundation. She was ordained an Interfaith Minister in June, 2005.