ORDERING INFORMATION

RETAIL

Most titles in this catalog can be ordered online from:

wingspress.com • ipgbook.com • Amazon.com
bn.com • and many others.

Limited editions, older or rare editions in limited supply, and chapbooks, if not found online, are often still available. Contact the publisher by email to inquire.

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Wings Press
627 E. Guenther
San Antonio, TX 78210
milligan@wingspress.com
210-271-7805

WHOLESALE & RETAIL

Wings Press is distributed globally by:

Independent Publishers Group
184 N. Franklin Street
Chicago, IL  60610
800-888-4741
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“Without publishers like Wings Press, Latino and Chicano literature would remain in a deep well in America.”
—Ramón Renteria, El Paso Times

Wings Press [is] the best little publishing house in Texas. Led by the indefatigable publisher Bryce Milligan, a true hero and literary wizard, Wings Press has ventured beyond its south-by-southwestern borders to launch a series of original publications and reprints that deserve as much national recognition and distribution as possible.
—Jeff Biggers, The Bloomsbury Review

Ironically, it is the smaller presses that can afford to bring out books by new voices, and at Wings, “diversity” is about the preservation and propagation of distinctive literature.
—Tom Mayo, Dallas Morning News

“The titles that Wings has published since 1995 represent the soul of Texas, and the essence of struggle, writ large.”
—James Courtney, San Antonio Current

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Cover art:
Front: “Un día azúl,” by poet, publisher, artist and activist Angel De Hoyos (1924-2009). This image was used for the cover of the last book produced by Joanie Whitebird before selling the press in 1995.

Back: “Poet Tree,” by surrealist painter, collage artist and image archivist, Jim Harter. The figure in the tree is William Morris, founder of the Kelmscott Press.

This catalog is dedicated to Jim Harter, 1941-2015.
“Her Texas is among the most important anthologies of Texas writers in a generation.”
—Mimi Swartz, Executive Editor at Texas Monthly, co-author of Power Failure: The Inside Story of the Collapse of Enron

“Her Texas is an important, intriguing, and long overdue collection of poetry, fiction, song, nonfiction and images from contemporary Texas women. Their varied lives and experiences in this vast, sometimes mythical state, are the voices of 21st century Texas.”
—Marcia Hatfield Daudistel, editor of Literary El Paso; author of Authentic Texas: People of the Big Bend

“Her Texas is a veritable roundup of sharp-shooting contemporary writers. This is a must-have in every Texas library—nay—in every American library.”
—Ana Castillo, editor of La Tolteca; author of So Far From God and I Ask the Impossible

“Her Texas is an extraordinary collection of fiction and nonfiction.”
—Robert F. Darden, in the Huffington Post

“A strong gathering in both its parts and its sum.”
—KIRKUS

“... shows the richness of human experience as seen through the wide-ranging eyes of women.”
—The McAllen Monitor

“Her Texas speaks to the soul of Texans.”
—Lone Star Literary Life

Wings Press was founded by Joanie Whitebird and Joe Lomax in 1975. They published 25 titles by 1995, when Bryce Milligan acquired the press, a transaction that involved split palms and a blood oath “to keep the press alive.” Since 1995, Wings Press has published some 200 books by over 150 authors, not including those in anthologies.

Of currently active Wings Press authors, 43 percent are Anglo and 57 percent are non-Anglo; 54 percent are women and 46 percent are men.
Rosengren’s Books was the absolute center of literary culture in Texas for decades. Indeed, Willie Morris, the respected author and editor of Harper’s Magazine, called it “one of the finest and most admirable bookstores in America.” To Robert Frost, it was simply “the best of bookstores.” Writers as diverse as Robert Frost, J. Frank Dobie, John Dos Passos, John Graves, and Larry McMurtry simply loved the place.

Rosengren’s Books is the story of a great American family of independent booksellers and the important literary institution they created. At the heart of the story is Florence Rosengren. Former mayor Phil Hardberger describes her as “the Sylvia Beach of South Texas.” Ronnie Dugger, the founding editor of the Texas Observer, once declared that Florence was “the chief guardian of civilization from here to Mexico City.”

“This book is a welcome treat for all who enjoy any part of the world of reading, book collecting, writing, or publishing.... Mary Carolyn George brings an era back to life with her deep knowledge of San Antonio and its cultural leaders who gathered regularly at Rosengren’s. Here is a beautiful tribute, not only to one of America’s great bookstores, but also to Florence Rosengren, whose sphere of influence in the book world extended throughout Texas and beyond.

—David Farmer, author of Stanley Marcus, A Life With Books and retired Director, DeGolyer Library at SMU

Image archivist and transportation historian Jim Harter follows his work, Early Farm Tractors, with an even larger collection of images, this time focused on early automobiles. These entrancing illustrations are gems of the art of commercial line art and wood engraving. Harter provides a substantial history of the development of the “horseless carriage” into the brands famous from the early 20th century—racers like Stutz, Duesenberg, and Stanley, as well as those that became household names like Oldsmobile, Pope, Ford, Cadillac, Packard, Pierce-Arrow, Winton, Rolls-Royce, Chrysler and others. Of special interest are the dozens of successful electric automobiles that flourished for 25 years. The history includes many colorful anecdotes about early long-distance races as well as interesting details of engineering breakthroughs.

“Jim Harter’s Early Automobiles is a fascinating and well-researched work that provides a wealth of information on the history of automotive illustration. The plates are of such high quality as to be suitable for framing.”

— Robert A. Lutz, former Vice-Chairman, General Motors, and author of Icons and Idiots

“I am indebted to Mr. Harter for writing this book. To see a book like this—where the cars are advertised exactly as they were back in the day—is fascinating to me. Imagine the hours it took to do just one of these drawings or wood engravings. Study the detail in the drawing of a chain or a sprocket or, better yet, try and draw one yourself! As fascinating as it is to see where we are going, it’s just as fascinating to see where we’ve been.”

— Jay Leno, former host of The Tonight Show
Over sixty years ago, poet, playwright, and critic John Igo stumbled upon a curious reference to a vanished local literary legend. A brilliant former student at a San Antonio community college, forgotten by none who met him, had gone on to the famed Black Mountain College in the 1930s, and achieved his dream of becoming a staff writer for The New Yorker. And then he vanished. Coincidence and curiosity morphed into an obsession for Igo: Who was Mendez Marks? Why did he die so young, at the height of his swift career? A strange history of family secrets, including madness and suicide, emerged along the way. Igo calls his memoir of his sixty-year pursuit of Marks “a verbal example of a contained-space sculpture.” It is a biography wrapped in a memoir wrapped in a psychological case study of a brilliant, original soul.

“If there is a more haunting tale about a San Antonian—or any gifted youth—I don’t know what it is. John Igo has researched and labored for decades to create a lively, generously thorough homage to the interrupted story of the luminous Mendez Marks. Here is a testament to creativity, and to the mysteries and delicacies of the human mind—a deeply caring tribute for an original soul.”

— Naomi Shihab Nye, author of The Turtle of Oman; Chancellor, Academy of American Poets

“This is a book of obsessions: those of the brilliant and troubled New Yorker writer, Mendez Marks, and those of John Igo as he spends years honing in on Mark’s difficult life. Much of that life remains unsolvable mystery, but the real obsessions Marks and Igo share, without ever having met, are crucial and make us human: language, reading, and writing. We are all enriched.”

— Rosemary Catacalos, author of Again for the First Time; 2013 Poet Laureate of Texas

Matthew Dickerson takes his readers from tiny mountain streams in the southern Rockies of New Mexico to the mighty Colorado River at the head of the Grand Canyon, to the Hill Country of Texas, exploring streams that manage to hold cold-loving trout in the midst of the hot desert landscapes of the American southwest. Though neither an historical nor a scientific text, the writing is informed by both. Readers will be fascinated by details of stream ecology, fishing tales, and the history of human habitation and consumption. The book is illustrated by original prints from Texas artist Barbara Whitehead.

“Matthew Dickerson, a fine and eloquent storyteller, leads us into a world of currents, tippets, and ties in search of, yes, a trout in the desert — but more, a river worthy of that magnificent, elusive fish. It’s an epic voyage in a slender volume; one that every angler and river rat will want to read.”

— Gregory McNamee, author of Gila: The Life and Death of an American River

“If Matthew Dickerson’s paean to the cold waters and elusive fish of the American southwest were not so beautifully rendered you might be tempted to put it down, get out your rod, and step into the nearest stream. But Trout In The Desert will stop you in your tracks. It is not only a splendid testament to one man’s passion, but an enchanting evocation of a landscape’s unfolding secrets.”

— Sue Halpern, regular contributor to The New Yorker, author of Four Wings and a Prayer: The Mystery of the Monarch Butterfly
Apology to a Whale:
Words to Mend a World

Cecile Pineda

Paperback • 222 pages
ISBN: 978-1-60940-440-6
October 2015 • $16.95

Human beings are killing the planet and themselves in the process. Cecile Pineda asks a simple question: Why? An urgent re-framing of current ecological thinking, Apology to a Whale addresses what the intersection of relative linguistics and archeology reveals about the present world’s power relations, and what the extraordinary communication of plants and animals can teach us. Apology to a Whale is a wild ride on the frontiers of archeo-linguistics in search of the greatest killer on Earth.

“If the first step toward cure is proper diagnosis, with her powerful Apology to a Whale, Cecile Pineda moves us much closer to finding the cure for a culture that is killing the planet.”

—Derrick Jensen, author of Earth at Risk: Building a Resistance Movement to Save the Planet

“Unfolding like an ancient book of days, Apology to a Whale contains the insight of a naturalist and the spellbinding stories of a sage, on a journey into the lost language of our times. Few writers have the ability to make us see the world in such a different way; to challenge readers to consider the still small possibility of restorative justice for our planet. Apology to a Whale is a literary treasure, a rare book to revisit again and again.”

—Jeff Biggers, author of Damnatio Memoriae and Reckoning at Eagle Creek

“Pineda has the rare capacity to address the big questions without falling into abstractions or sermonizing. It is the artist in her that I trust, that utters so potent a call to personal and collective liberation.”

—Joanna Macy, author Coming Back to Life

Transcendental Train Yard

Norma Elia Cantú and Marta Sánchez

Hardback • 48 pages • full color
ISBN: 978-0-916727-97-0 • October 2015 • $22.95

Transcendental Train Yard is a collection of color serigraphs accompanied by bilingual poems, in Spanish and English, inspired by the artwork. The art also incorporates the poetry, thus making the book a unique, reflexive form of ekphrastic creativity. Transcendental Train Yard provides the reader a glimpse of the role the railroad and the carpas (itinerant vaudeville troupes) played in the Mexican American community. Artist Marta Sánchez and poet Norma Elia Cantú collaboratively render images and words that poignantly reflect specific periods in that history. The scholarly essays by Constance Cortez and Peter Haney and the evocative preface by noted Chicano scholar Tomás Ybarra-Frausto bring an added depth.

“The visual and literary texts collectively produced by Marta Sánchez and Norma E. Cantú in their Transcendental Train Yard suite affirm the centrality of the railroad in Mexican and Mexican-American history and culture. Their expressionistic, dreamlike representations bring to consciousness reservoirs of feelings and primordial images from the Mexican collective unconscious.”

—from the Preface by Tomás Ybarra-Frausto, Ph.D.
Chip Dameron's latest collection of poems documents the evolution of a talented and original poet through his 40-year career. A seminal figure in the small press movement of the '60s and '70s in Texas, his work is well-known among Texas readers. Dameron explores the complexities of the inner and outer worlds, whether writing about love or death, a bird's wing or a painting's energy. He is both an introspective lyric poet and an environmentally sensitive observer, both globally and in his adopted Rio Grande Valley.

"Drinking From the River is a book of memory, imagery sharp as a January east wind, and voice as focused as an owlstare. Chip Dameron has learned how to balance memory and significance on a fulcrum of revelation in a re-imagined world where "clouds roll down the trees like/ some god's own urgent breath," where we witness through his eyes the sanctity of an eloquent life based on keen perception. These are poems worth the weight of reading and reflecting."

—David Lee, former Poet Laureate of Utah; author of Last Call

"In many ways, the tenor of the voice guiding us through Drinking From the River does so with an artistic sensibility akin to what Horton Foote did with characters. What's most remarkable, however, is a poetic level of alertness that keeps us on point as we maneuver our way through the promises and threats of ordinary experience. [Here is] a relentlessly present level of intensity and a sharp sense of pacing. Stepping back to get a wider view, we understand more sharply than we did before what a wealth of achievement there is here."

—James Hoggard, former Poet Laureate of Texas; author of Soon After Rain

Soon After Rain, is an elegant volume that takes its readers through a wealth of settings, times, and forms. Hoggard time and again turns his attention to forms like the pantoum and ghazal that heighten the reader's responses to the stories he tells in verse. In fact, one of the signal pieces in the volume shows Hoggard unearthing an old story about Odysseus' trying, through a wealth of trickery, to get out of going to the Trojan War. What the tale adds up to, however, is a deeply moving love story that seems genuinely contemporary. Perhaps the most powerful thing about Soon After Rain is its consistent use of environmental collapse as both theme and metaphor.

"This is a poet who knows the fine gradations of rain, of heat and drought, who can say without flinching, "I've watched tornadoes form," who knows how "terror fills the air." Despite the ... extreme weathers on display here, and particularly in the centerpiece of the book, the five poems about the painter Artemisia Gentileschi, the atmospherics of these closely observed poems are replete with blessings.

—Kurt Heinzelman, author of Intimacies & Other Devices; Professor of Poetry and Poetics, University of Texas at Austin

"If there is a better book of poetry based on weather—as subject, theme, motif—literal, symbolic, or metaphorical, I certainly haven't seen it. Beautifully crafted, thoughtful, and memorable poems display a breadth and depth of reading, travel, experience, acute observation, and wise rendition. There is an earned reason for the fact that James Hoggard is deemed 'brilliant' by his literary peers. It is on display within these pages."

—David Lee, former Poet Laureate of Utah; author of Last Call
Famous
Naomi Shihab Nye
Illustrated by Lisa Desimini

Hardback • 32 pages • full color
ISBN: 978-1-60940-449-9 • October 2015 • $15.95

Famous is a single poem by Naomi Shihab Nye, illustrated in full color by Lisa Desimini. Both text and illustrations have a charmingly ironic take on what it means to be “famous.” At once simple and profound, it “opens minds and hearts.” Ironically, it is this beloved poet’s most famous poem, with an established fan base who have used it for graduation cards and speeches, UIL competitions, creative writing exercises, even on standardized tests!

“Naomi Shihab Nye’s charmed and charming poem is about knowing and being known, a testament to the secret enchantment we carry inside ourselves.”

—Edward Hirsch, President, John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation; author of How to Read a Poem and Fall in Love with Poetry

“The word is famous to the poet as the image is famous to the artist. This poet and artist have created a thought-provoking gem of a book sure to inspire you to think deeply about the true meaning of fame.”

—Doris Gebel, Past President, U.S. Board on Books for Young People

Amalia Ortiz

Paperback • 128 pages
ISBN: 978-1-60940-444-4
September 2015 • $16

Rant. Chant. Chisme. is the debut collection of one of America’s finest performance poets. This is Tex-Mex life on the border from the perspective of a young Chicana struggling to write herself into existence. These poems introduce a unique transcultural feminist viewpoint. The award-winning poet known for her dynamic delivery style relinquishes control of her writing to the reader, but not without first imparting the theatrical directions stated in the book’s title—Rant. Chant. Chisme.—which invite readers to a spoken word celebration exploring culture, music, and place while encouraging the reader to embrace diversity and find their own storytelling voice. This work is a powerful call to social and political change along the borderlands.

“Rant, chant, and chisme (gossip): three types of expression that might seem mutually exclusive. In these poems by Amalia Ortiz, they are anything but. This brilliant performance poet weaves her second- and third-generation experience with a deep understanding of her parents’ first-generation struggles and the sharp edge her own adds. I will remember Ortiz’ cotton-picking hands, her lullaby for an immigrant ocelot, her dangerous love and girl-strolling-down-Nogalitos Street for years to come. This is a book worth having!”

—Margaret Randall, author of As If the Empty Chair: Poems for the disappeared / Como si la silla vacía: Poemas para los desaparecidos

“If it is possible to put performance poetry on a flat page and have it reincarnate itself the minute someone reads it—as a five-dimensional opera that struts and saunters and syncopates and sings, Amalia Ortiz has done it!”

—Carmen Tafolla, 2015 Poet Laureate of Texas
The Calculus of Falling Bodies

Geoff Rips

Paperback • 96 pages
April 2015 • $16

The Calculus of Falling Bodies is the first collection of poetry by a writer best known for his journalism. A former editor of the Texas Observer, Rips has been a Soros Open Society Institute Fellow and the PEN Freedom-to-Write Committee coordinator. His poems include the pantheon of subjects embraced by poets through the ages — life, death, love, family — but they also discuss TV reality shows, looking for work, traffic, the lives of window washers and hot dog vendors, wetlands and pelicans, plovers, and dolphins. This is the whole of life, seen by looking closely at its parts.

“Let’s say it up front: Geoff Rips has a big voice and with it a mastery of line and a precise sense of imagery. In poem after poem, the portions of the world he gives us are vividly presented in phrases and lines that connect us with Rips’s continuing concerns: “people on fire inside.” Having mastered his craft, he shows us how many things good story tellers juggle. Then consider who he is: prize-winning novelist, master journalist, and richly rewarding poet. This is a work that sings.”
— James Hoggard, author of Soon After Rain; past president, Texas Institute of Letters

“Blood Flower expands themes found in Uschuk’s American Book Award winner, Crazy Love. Braiding the startling, sometimes brutal stories of her Russian/Czech immigrant family during the McCarthy era in a conservative Michigan farming community with stories of veterans suffering from PTSD left by war’s devastation as well as stories of courageous individuals, especially women, who persevere to love, despite it all.

“Uschuk’s new collection of meditative, delectably powerful poems offers a steady and generous solace that serves as a platform for thought-provoking glimpses into spirit, family, and feeling. She has written of a tethered reality, commonplace secrets, and emotional rescue. And she is political. In the same vein as her contemporaries Patricia Smith and Joy Harjo, Uschuk is strong in metaphor, urgent in language, and powerful in vivisection.”
— Booklist

“Every syllable of Blood Flower’s warm and revelatory tapestry pulses with discovery—the unearthing of familial ties, the realization of strengths and frailties, the speaking of secrets out loud. The life story that springs from these lines is ultimately undaunted—but the real lessons lie in the journey.”
— Patricia Smith, author of Shoulda Been Jimi Savannah

“Like Lorca, Uschuk is a poet of the duende... Working a poetics rare for a North American writer, Uschuk has crafted a poetry equally steeped in nature and political resistance. This is an ecological poetics of engagement, a mythic poetry—part Lorca, part Rachel Carson.”
— Sean Thomas Dougherty, author of Nightshift Belonging to Lorca
Gracias
Alma Luz Villanueva
Paperback • 244 pages
April 2015 • $19.95

Gracias is a journey into the heart of Mexico, a coming home to the spirit-home of the poet’s beloved grandmother, Jesus Villanueva. These poems also travel from Costa Rica to Paris ... from the center of el corazón to those fellow humans in places of war and danger, and to places of joy and beauty. Her spiritual trajectory leads the poet into the Sixth World.

“Gracias is 2015’s most interesting poetry collection. Gracias is the kind of collection that deserves selection as National Poetry Month’s “one city one book” title, if there were such a thing.... Gracias shares provocative ideas, applies interesting poetic strategies, makes readers laugh, makes readers cry, breaks some rules along the way. Villanueva organizes her poems into four collections: Cozcacuautz, Buddha, Flower, Fragile Silk. The poet leads the reader through a biographical journey spanning years of her bi-national Chicana career.”

—Michael Sedano in La Bloga

Wise, compassionate, gritty, intimate, these are not poems to put on the top shelf of your library; they are meant for the kitchen table where they can have their say in the daily conversation of women and men who love, and lose, and celebrate all that is given as their world. Their insistent rhythms—so many of them reminiscent of enchanted spells—are rooted in the song of what it means to live and not turn away.”

— Peter Levitt, author of Within Within and One Hundred Butterflies

“Rich and wild, body and spirit intertwine in each word of this rich and celebratory book.”

—Annie Finch, author of Eve

2015 POETRY CHAPBOOKS

Bodies / Shields
Margaret Randall
Illustrated by Barbara Byers
Handbound chapbook, 32 pages
August 2015 • .5.25 x 7 inches
ISBN: 978-1-60940-493-2 • $15

Bodies/Shields is a powerful cry for both inner and external peace, a call to replace passive acceptance with “war’s gentle opposite.” Randall’s poem echoes in language what Byers’ art does by creating a womb of words where inner peace can grow and mature into a force more powerful than war. Humans have been creating “peace shields” for millennia—protective symbols of personal, tribal, and cultural significance drawn in sand, carved into stone, painted on leather. Poet and artist collaborate here to create what might be called un objet de la paix, a small, almost heart-sized shield against injustice and cruelty. As Randall writes, “the corrupt and deviant mind can always / go farther, invent something worse.” Joy Harjo once wrote that “the real revolution is love.” We raise this small ekphrastic pairing of art and poetry not only as a shield but as a call to raise the holy revolution of peace.

Bodies/Shields is the latest in a uniform series of single-poem, illustrated chapbooks by Margaret Randall.

From the Moon, Earth is Blue
Wendy Barker
Handbound chapbook
48 pages, 6.75 x 7.5 inches
ISBN: 978-1-60940-497-0
November 2015 • $18

“In Wendy Barker’s transcendent ekphrastic poetry, we sense the poet learning to see from the artist, as she brings into language what is etymologically ‘outside of language.’ We learn to see, re-see, revision in a dazzling array of new colors. By turns elegy and songs of praise, we feel the observing eye tenderly focusing and re-focusing on our souls’ ethereal mysteries, micro to macro: ‘Hard to see what’s closest. / From the moon, earth is blue.’”

—Ailiki Barnstone, author of Bright Body
Damnatio Memoriae (a play published here in both English and Italian versions) explores the role of the theatre amid the conflicts of immigration, human rights, citizenship, and legacy. From the clash of two theatre troupes on stage—one Italian, and the other composed of foreign actors—a new play emerges, revealing the history of Ancient Rome, its forgotten emperors and entangled cultural heritage, and today's unfolding stories on Mare Nostrum. It tells two versions of Shakespeare’s role of the “Moor” in Titus Andronicus; shows two visions of the lost history of Africans and Arabs in Ancient Rome. This new play on immigration in Italy and the Mediterranean Sea unites cultures from around the world on the stage.

“Damnatio Memoriae is a brilliant and provocative work that uses humor, parody, and a deep-seated sense of justice to remind us of the multi-ethnic nature of the Roman Empire and, through that, to alert us to the loss of memory and to the historical challenges of our time.”

Alessandro Portelli, author of The Order Has Been Carried Out: History, Memory and Meaning of a Nazi Massacre in Rome

“Provocative, witty and original, Damnatio Memoriae stages more than a struggle between pretenders for the throne of Ancient Rome. Two contemporary theatre troupes clash over the right to stage history itself.”

— Henry Louis Gates
Alphonse Fletcher Professor, Harvard University

San Antonio Express-News “Poetic Diversity” columnist Robert Bonazzi gathers forty years of reviews, profiles, essays, and articles in Outside the Margins. Known as the foremost authority on Black Like Me author John Howard Griffin, here Bonazzi focuses on poets and writers from Texas, the Southwest, Mexico and Latin America. His criticism finds threads of mutual interests, shared sources of inspiration, and stylistic confluences. Bonazzi also focuses on writers whose work has appeared in small and independent presses, providing the kind of insight only a former small press publisher/editor can provide. Bonazzi’s reviews are both anticipated and respected throughout the Southwest. This is a major collection of his most important critical work for the past four decades.

On Bonazzi’s essays included in OUTSIDE THE MARGINS

“Thanks to Robert Bonazzi for writing so enthusiastically about the poetry of Latin America, especially his insightful essay on César Vallejo.”

—Octavio Paz
1990 Nobel Prize Winner in Literature

“Bonazzi is not only a remarkable poet but an important critic. These are real essays that dig deeply in ways that most critics never do.”

—John Howard Griffin
author of Black Like Me
Generations of Texas Poets

Dave Oliphant

Paperback • 406 pages
October 2015 • $19.95

Dave Oliphant is widely considered to be one of the finest poetry critics ever produced by Texas. This volume brings together some forty years of essays, articles, and reviews on the topic of Texas poetry, covering its history as well as addressing individual poets and their books. Only one other book in the last two decades addressed the topic, and Generations of Texas Poets is larger and more comprehensive. In 1971, Larry McMurtry famously decried the lack of good Texas poetry; Oliphant has spent a lifetime nurturing it and publishing it—and has become its foremost critic.

“When it comes to Texas literature, there has never been a greater champion of the state’s poetry than Dave Oliphant.... [He] has established himself firmly as the most knowledgeable and vigorous cataloguer of Texas poets and their work.”

—Texas Books in Review

“Oliphant has contributed significantly to the development of poetry in Texas, and he is not slowing down. He has in some ways been a maverick, making his own way; but in other ways he has been valiantly communal — celebrating and supporting poets in a state that offers little support.”

—Lyman Grant, in The Texas Observer

“Resolutely committed to the practice of poetry, Dave Oliphant has for years edited anthologies of Texas verse as well as written ample quantities of his own. In numerous essays, he also has staked a claim to being a strong advocate for nativistic poetic voices and subject matter, which is another way of saying that in this time of shifting cosmopolitanism, he is a regionalist.”

—Don Graham, in Dallas Times Herald

Nine Sephardic Songs: Arranged for voice and harp

Arranged and introduced by Samuel Milligan

Hidden spiral binding
64 pages • ISBN: 978-1-60940-453-6
July 2015 • $19.99

Nine Sephardic folk songs, both religious and secular in nature, are offered in attractive arrangements for voice with pedal or lever harp accompaniments. The texts are in Ladino, with translations provided. Nine Sephardic Songs is perfect for voice and harp programs, and fills a specific niche in available harp music.

“Samuel Milligan’s new collection, Nine Sephardic Songs, is a wonderful addition to the harp and voice repertoire. This will be a treasured volume for musicians of all levels.”

—Sarah Bullen
Principal Harpist, Chicago Symphony Orchestra

“Nine Sephardic Songs is an unexpected, exquisite gift to harpists and singers. Hauntingly beautiful and soulful, the accompaniments can be played by both intermediate and advanced players. They offer the harpist expressive solo lines... In addition, the historical and musical commentaries are both helpful and useful.”

—Susan Jolles
Associate Harpist, Metropolitan Opera Orchestra

“Samuel Milligan again gives us a perfect collection of music filled with history and grace. These songs are passionate and descriptive of Sephardic life. Beautifully arranged and set... exceptional addition to our libraries.”

—Barbara Allen
Principal Harpist, American Ballet Theatre
BACKLIST TITLES FOR 1995-2014

Bryce Milligan, publisher & designer

Listings are alphabetical by author or primary editor.
All titles are available for purchase (some in limited quantities)
unless designated “Out of Print.”
ANTHOLOGIES

Cantos al Sexto Sol: An Anthology of Aztlanahuaac Writing
Edited by Cecilio Garcia-Camarillo, Patrisia Gonzales, & Roberto Rodriguez
ISBN: 0-930324-88-9
More than 100 writers, many from the Flor y Canto generation, plus artwork, maps, and notes.

In These Latitudes: Ten Contemporary Poets
Edited by Robert Bonazzi
Paperback, 196 pages (2008) $16
Ten Texas-based poets, “writing from the perspective of early to late middle age—that is, writing in these latitudes of mature experience.” Includes work by Nancy Kenney Connolly, Assef Al-Jundi, Del Marie Rogers, Tony Zurlo, Wong Siu-yung, H.C. Nash, Marian Haddad, Laura Quinn Guidry, Dillon McKinsey, and John Herndon.

“Compiling an anthology is an act of patience and love—so many small details—the concept, collection, general choreography. Robert Bonazzi has done a masterful job editing In These Latitudes, which presents ten wonderful voices in a series of nourishing poems.”
— Naomi Shihab Nye

‘In These Latitudes is a book of consolations after seven long years of war and turmoil.... The poets gathered here by Robert Bonazzi offer modest visions, moving stories about daily life that teach us how to cope with the stresses of a terrifying age.’
— Paul Christensen, author of West of the American Dream

Provide and Protect: Writers on Planned & Unplanned Parenthood
Edited by Jenny Browne
Pamphlet, 44 pages (2004) Out of Print
Includes work by Cary Clack, Catherine Kasper, Naomi Shihab Nye, Barbara Ras, and others.

Falling From Grace In Texas: A Literary Response to the Demise of Paradise
Edited by Rick Bass and Paul Christensen
Thirty-three Texas Writers respond to environmental degradation from the Panhandle to the Gulf, from the Piney Woods to Big Bend. Includes work by Mark Busby, Rosemary Catacalos, Betsy Colquitt, Laura Furman, A.C. Greene, Pete Gunter, Stephen Harrigan, Pat Littledog, Clay Reynolds, Bud Shrike, Carmen Tafolla, Marshall Terry, Bryan Woolley, others.

“If the wild beauty of the made and physical natural world is lost or further compromised, then how much longer can the echoes of that beauty and innocence remain kindled in our own hearts? I suspect we won’t know the answer until it’s all gone... which makes the art the voices and the minds of the writers gathered here all the more important.”
— Rick Bass, from the Afterword

Corazón del Norte: A Selection of North Texas Latino Writing
Edited by Bryce Milligan
A collection of 22 Latina/o writers and artists living in the metroplex.

“Stories are our defense, words are our bullets. Here is where we stand up for our future, where we find the beauty that can free us.”
— Barbara Renaud Gonzalez

This Promiscuous Light: Young Women Poets of San Antonio
Edited by Bryce Milligan
Poetry by Carissa Beachey, Victoria García-Galaviz, Celeste Guzmán, Gabrielle Anne Marcus, Courtenay Martin, Deborah Parédez, and Nicole Pollentier—all under the age of 25 when This Promiscuous Light was published. It was the first book from the press under Milligan’s editorship. Five of the poets went on to publish books of their own.
LITERARY CRITICISM

Inhabiting Memory: Essays on Memory and Human Rights in the Americas
Edited by Marjorie Agosín
Paperback, 220 pages (2011) $17.95
Contributors include Nancy Barra, Claudia Bernardi, Julio Cortázar, June Carolyn Erlick, Eduardo Galeano, Maria Rosa Lojo, Margaret Randall and Peter Winn.

“Inhabiting Memory compiles essential reflections about the understanding of memory, going beyond a mere discipline of objective reasoning and/or the explorations of fiction. Memory is portrayed here as bringing to life an endless process of reflection giving new meaning to the suffering of history’s victims.”
— Ricardo Brodsky, Director, Museum of Memory, Chile

Stunned Into Being: Essays on the Poetry of Lorna Dee Cervantes
Edited by Eliza Rodriguez y Gibson
ISBN: 978-0-916727-88-8
Paperback, 244 pages (2012) $17.95

Stunned Into Being is one of very few collections of criticism devoted to a single U.S. Latina poet. Editor Eliza Rodriguez y Gibson writes that Lorna Dee Cervantes’s phrase “the poetry of improbability” describes perfectly “the critical possibilities of poetry: it juxtaposes the horrors of nuclear weapons testing with images of beauty; it gives the ineffable mass and color; and ultimately, it presents the reader with a choice that is predicated on our agency as thinking and doing subjects in the world.... That sense of possibility is what drives Cervantes’s vision, and it is what draws so many readers to her work.”

“Cervantes taught us that poetry can change the world.”
— Sandra Cisneros

Man in the Mirror: John Howard Griffin and the Story of “Black Like Me”
Robert Bonazzi

“Robert Bonazzi’s important critical study of Griffin’s social experiment, Man in the Mirror fills in Griffin’s back-story and is an excellent contextual companion.”
—Bernadine Evaristo, in The Times of London

POETRY

The Angel of Memory / El Ángel de la Memoria
by Marjorie Agosín
Facing page, Spanish & English Translations by Brigid A. Milligan and Laura Rocha Nakazawa
ISBN: 0-930324-81-1 • $50
Signed & numbered edition available.

Among the Angels of Memory / Entre los Ángeles de la Memoria
by Marjorie Agosín
2006 Latino Book Awards: Best Poetry Book in Spanish
Facing page, Spanish & English Translations by Laura Rocha Nakazawa
Introduction by Robert Bonazzi

“Agosín’s muses have first names and last names and they inhabit with their brilliance the poetry of this Chilean-American writer.”
— Elena Poniatowska

Way of Whiteness
Wendy Barker
ISBN: 978-0-930324-55-1
Paperback, 86 pages (2004) $16

“Poems of exquisite sorrow—and naked hilarious truth, love, and ecstasy.”
—Ruth Stone

“Poignant and exact ... subtly nuanced and beautifully cadenced. A lovely achievement.” —Sandra M. Gilbert

Maestro of Solitude: Poems and Poetics
Robert Bonazzi
Paperback, 86 pages (2007) $16

“Bonazzi takes poetry to its limits of subtlety, where sense nearly gives out into silence and awe.” —Paul Christensen

“Cohesive intelligence and light.... This book is an amazing, elegant triumph.” —Naomi Shihab Nye
Burnt Water Suite
Darrel Bourque
Former Poet Laureate of Louisiana
Paperback, 88 pages (1999)
Out of Print

“Brave hymns to the world and the soul; jazzy spirituals for the terror and comfort of intellect and body.” — Sheryl St. Germain

Again For the First Time
30th anniversary edition
Texas Institute of Letters Poetry Prize
Rosemary Catacalos
2013 Poet Laureate of Texas
Paperback, 96 pages (1999) $16

“Her poetry sings with classical and folk influences, balancing what transpires today with timeless and enduring observation.” —Nota Bene citation in World Literature Today

DRIVE: The First Quartet
2006 Latino Book Awards: Best Poetry Book in English. Balcones Poetry Prize
Lorna Dee Cervantes
ISBN: 978-0-930324-54-4
Interior paintings by Dylan Morgan
Hardback, 303 pages (1999)
A limited number of first editions are available. $45

“As young writers we grew up alongside Lorna Dee Cervantes. When no one else was listening, she published us, encouraged us, guided us. Her work was the light we turned towards directing us towards a poetry of lyricism and social activism. She taught us that poetry can change the world.” — Sandra Cisneros

DRIVE restablishes Cervantes as a singular voice. —Publishers Weekly

This is a landmark work. —Martín Espada

Cervantes is a poetic force to be reckoned with. —Women in the Arts

Sueño
Lorna Dee Cervantes
Paperback, 128 pages (2013) $16

“Intelligently brilliant, linguistically playful, politically intense, sensually aflame, these poems engage the reader on half a dozen levels at once.

“These new poems, somehow fuller, stronger, simpler, deeper. Friendly. Dangerous. A Bruja at the keyboard, a Goddess with pulsing dictionary heart. She is truly La Reina de Poesía, and her poems are tears that make the desert bloom.” — Bob Holman

“A total force, a ground-rattling volume I am astounded beyond measure. This is one of the bravest, most timely and duende-diggin’ books I have encountered in decades. I was waiting for this but I didn’t know it until I read it.” — Juan Felipe Herrera

Ciento: 100 100-Word Love Poems
Lorna Dee Cervantes
ISBN: 978-0-916727-84-0
Paperback, 128 pages (2011) $16

“These are the world’s biggest, deepest, miniatures. You will dip into it again and again.” — Luis Alberto Urrea

The Human Condition
Paul Christensen
ISBN: 978-0-916727-86-4
Paperback, 106 pages (2011) $16

“... Hammer-on-nail power, meditative humility, and spiky humor [in] plainspoken, sturdily built, solar-plexus-striking poems.... Forthright and finely tooled lyrics.” —Booklist

Hook and Bloodline
Chip Dameron
ISBN: 978-0-930324-52-0
Paperback, 76 pages (2011) $14

“Chip Dameron has a talent for the memorable line, the brilliant image.... Hook & Bloodline is significant, perceptive, and deeply real.” — Steve Harrigan

“A priceless collection.” —Rudolfo Anaya
“Tropical Green navigates the borders of acute awareness, evoking the flora and fauna natural to the Texas coastal regions while simultaneously meditating upon a primal sense of place for humanity in nature.” — Robert Bonazzi, from the preface

“From the BP oil spill to the ‘hidden seeds’ of intimate memory, the poet reminds us that the earth’s uncertain passage is inextricable from our own as she deftly interweaves the political with the personal.”
— Claudia Emerson, author of Late Wife

“Keith Flynn is a direct heir of the Beats in that he questions surface realities, often harshly, yet also creates empathy within readers for human frailty.”
— Sharon Olinka, in The Cafe Review

“Fink’s best book yet, has the clarity of long experience, the surprise of coming to terms with life, a rare achieved maturity.”
— Ed Hirsch

“In Robert Fink’s wise, stunning new collection, language and feeling arrive like a sudden rain shower to relieve the parched places in our souls.... Luminous work.”
— Mark Sullivan, author of Slag

“Humane and compassionate, good-humored and celebratory, Fink’s new poems exemplify the spaciousness of our inner lives.”
— Reginald Gibbons

“Impressive... Colonel Collapse Disorder is an engaging, problematic and revelatory journey into the world of honey bees.”
— The Daily Beast

“A lyrical travelogue, a revolution of sound and story, celebrates the reader as witness.... Unerring narrative transforms each poem with a facet of light, an illuminative hallelujah. Scan the poetic landscape all you want, but you won't find anything like this.”
— Patricia Smith, author of Blood Dazzler

“Carta Marina is rare among books of poetry: at once a lyric triptych of bearing beauty and an absorbing novella that turns upon a disclosed secret from a woman’s life. The poet becomes a cartographer of the heart... lighting candles in her own darkness.”
— Carolyn Forché

“Tropical Green navigates the borders of acute awareness, evoking the flora and fauna natural to the Texas coastal regions while simultaneously meditating upon a primal sense of place for humanity in nature.” — Robert Bonazzi, from the preface
Casi Toda la Música / Almost All the Music
Ángel González

Facing page: Spanish & English
Translated by E. A. “Tony” Mares
ISBN: 0-916727-29-7
Paperback, 96 pages (2007) $16

“We are in the hands of a major contemporary Spanish poet; González has won everything from the Prince of Asturias Literary Prize to the Federico García Lorca International Prize for Poetry.” — Criticas

“Thanks to Wings Press and Tony Mares for placing before the North American public the words of one of the most important poets in the Spanish language.”

— Enrique Cortázár, Director, Mexican Cultural Institute

Strong Box Heart
Sheila Sánchez Hatch
ISBN: 0-930324-53-6
Very limited quantities $25

“The poems in this volume are by turns sensual, ironic, jesting and insistent: bold, honest work, delivered in packets of pure wordcraft.”

— Tom Mayo, Dallas Morning News

Guadalupe and the Kaleidoscopic Screamer
Sheila Sánchez Hatch
Paperback, 48 pages (1996)
Out of Print.

“If Sheila Sánchez Hatch did not exist, we would have to invent her—so necessary is she as a bonafide role model for the young Latina writer of today.”

— Angela de Hoyos

Rudiments of Flight
Frances Hatfield
ISBN: 978-1-60940-256-3
Paperback, 72 pages (2013) $16

Gradia Award for Poetry, Nat. Assoc. for the Advancement of Psychoanalysis

“In Hatfield’s poems, the lived life becomes fabulous, common words become luminous, and the luminous becomes words we live by.”

— Frank Kersnowski, author of The Early Poetry of Robert Graves

Indios
Linda Hogan
Hardback, 80 pages (2012) $12.95

“Hogan’s Indios sacks colonialism in the New World, giving it a black-eye and a bad headache. Mixing domestic violence and gamesmanship, Indios is a first person account of what happens when an indigenous woman recites her fate as North and South, East and West collide in a woeful song hundreds of years in the making. As Hogan writes, ‘but still you come to me, as if my words will change the clouds of history.’ Hogan changes history!” — LeAnne Howe, author of Miko Kings

Triangles of Light: The Edward Hopper Poems
James Hoggard
Former Poet Laureate, Texas
ISBN: 978-0-916727-55-0
Paperback, 96 pages (2009) $16

“The voice of this book is Hopper’s, the poetic craft is Hoggard’s. Reading this book is like encountering one possible version of Hopper’s “primary imagination”—that part of him that was compelled, by what he saw in the world, to respond passionately and deeply.” — Reginald Gibbons

Wearing the River
James Hoggard
Former Poet Laureate, Texas
ISBN: 0-916727-17-3
Paperback, 86 pages (2005) $16

PEN Southwest Poetry Award

“Voice is everything. Hoggard sings in a manly dark voice full of the knowledge of dandelions and hard, cold winds.”

— Paul Christensen

Moments of Delicate Balance
William Kloefkorn
Former Poet Laureate, Nebraska
& David Lee
Former Poet Laureate, Utah
ISBN: 978-0-916727-78-9
Paperback, 128 pages (2011) $16.95

Lee and Kloefkorn strike a “delicate balance” on numerous fronts, both within their own work and in a dialogue that finds lyric introspection and narrative wit addressing the same topics. Both poets bring their highly literate acumen to bear upon both the mundane and the magnificent.
Last Call
David Lee
Former Poet Laureate, Utah
ISBN: 978-1-60940-375-1
Paperback, 136 pages (2014) $16
“If we were a civilized nation, we would declare David Lee a national treasure.”
— Sam Hamill
“It’s the best poetry book anywhere, it won’t be on our planet.”
—Eleanor Wilner, MacArthur Fellow

With the Eyes of a Raptor
E.A. “Tony” Mares
“The intellectual and linguistic reversals of Charles Simic: ... the strength and vulnerability of Cesar Vallejo.”
—Leroy V. Quintana

Ismaelillo
José Martí
Facing page: Spanish & English
Edited, introduced and translated by Tyler Fisher
Criticas Magazine “Top Pick” for 2008
ISBN: 0-916727-42-4
Hardback, 126 pages (2007) $19.95
“Fisher renders the full tonal range of Martí’s verse, varying from the profound and exquisite to the playful and sensual. He achieves versions in English from which all traces of the translator’s labour have been effaced. In all respects of the poet’s craft: sense, sensibility, and rhythm, Fisher’s poems will be celebrated as pure copies of pure originals.”
—Dr. Robin Fiddian, Professor of Spanish, Wadham College, University of Oxford

Seven Cigarette Story
Courtenay Martin
ISBN: 0-930324-42-0
Paperback, 48 pages (1999)
Numbered & signed. Out of Print.
A cycle of poems and photographs focused on the classic femme fatale. Stark images, redolent of film noir.
“Martin has a mesmerizing voice.”
—Naomi Shihab Nye

Cande te estoy llamando
Celeste Guzmán (Mendoza)
ISBN: 0-930324-44-7
Paperback, 48 pages (1999)
Signed & numbered.
Very limited quantities $30
Recipient of the Premio Poesía Tejana
“A wonder-filled testimonio to the power of reaching beyond imagined limitations.” —Denise Chávez

Beneath the Halo
Celeste Guzmán Mendoza
ISBN: 978-1-60940-331-7
Paperback, 64 pages (2014) $14
“Mendoza digs deep into the bedrock of childhood, divinity, landscape, and marriage in hopes of unearthing what might truly save: language finely attuned to the actualities of this world. Such consolations are hard won.” —Timothy Liu

M’ija, Never Lend Your Mop
Brigid Milligan
ISBN: 978-0-930324-64-3
(M&A Editions, dist. by Wings)
Paperback, 48 pages (1999)
Very limited quantities. $25
Finalist, Tomás Rivera Award
The first collection of poetry by a recipient of the Hispanic Heritage Award Foundation’s literature/journalism prize.
“Astonishing truths that quietly rock us.” —Angela de Hoyos

Somewhere Between Houston and El Paso
Carolina Monsivais
Signed & numbered.
Very limited quantities $30
Recipient of the Premio Poesía Tejana
“Monsivais has a gift for telling stories that are provoking and moving through the most essential elements of poetry. Hard hitting but uplifting; tough as nails but soft as a kiss.”
—Tony Diaz, editor of Latino Heretics
Sublime Blue: Selected Early Odes by Pablo Neruda

Facing page: Spanish & English
Edited, introduced and translated by William Pitt Root

ISBN: 978-0-916727-87-1
Paperback, 104 pages (2013) $16

“Two great voices meet and dance in this stering new translation. Bill Pitt Root is the perfect partner for Neruda. Pure joy.” — Luís Alberto Urrea

“This is a true gift to poetry.” — Marjorie Agosín

On the Line

Kamala Platt

Paperback, 120 pages (2010)

“A wonderful book by a gifted writer with a global vision. Kamala Platt manages to get us past the check-points, whether in Palestine or in the borderlands of the United States, her lyrical voice guiding us to places we otherwise might not go.” — Demetria Martínez

Mama Yetta and Other Poems

Hermine Pinson

Paperback, 56 pages (1999)
Very limited quantities $20

“Pinson’s Mama Yetta emerges as a poetic tour de force as well as a balm for the aching spirit. In this sacred village, we can rest, listen to the music, and find the strength to go on.” — Joanne M. Braxton

This Side of Skin

Deborah Parédez

ISBN: 0-930324-68-4
Paperback, 72 pages (2002)
Very limited quantities $30

“Parédez’s voice is smart, full of surprises, a blending of old myths with new meanings, Latina rhythms and a USA American beat, Spanish and English—powerful mixtures. The thread of her song takes us safely through these turbulences and comminglings until we come to quote her to that ‘silence that follows full/of words’ and full of her brave and generous insights. I will be listening for her poems for years.” — Julia Alvarez

Ten Thousand Waves

Wang Ping

ISBN: 9781609403508
Paperback, 104 pages (2014) $16

“An extraordinary volume of poems.”
—Paterson Literary Review

“This is what the highest poetry is for, a bearing witness that translates, transforms and humanizes, an act of imaginative creation that is simultaneously one of accurate transcription.... Ten thousand voices that are our one voice. Their desires and despair ... become part of who I am.” — Fady Joudah, author of The Earth in the Attic

About Little Charlie Lindbergh

Margaret Randall

ISBN: 978-1-60940-403-1
Paperback, 128 pages (2014) $16

“Randall is an International Treasure, and About Little Charlie Lindbergh may be her very best book.... With wisdom and humor, with grace and pain and music and sanity, this is a poetry to live by.”
—Bob Holman, Founder, Bowery Poetry Club

“Randall writes, ‘Harmony enters / only where something stolen / is replaced by risk.’ Words that are as much a poetics as they are advice in these poems which make meaning of risk and tell the truth of the stolen.” —Lorna Dee Cervantes
**The Rhizome as a Field of Broken Bones**
Margaret Randall
Paperback, 120 pages (2013) $16

“Randall’s poems create a space where the orchestrated atrocities we repeatedly impose on one another and the planet become links in a running narrative of witness that is transformed into songs of gentle sadness and remorse.”
— Richard Vargas, *Mas Tequila Review*

**My Town: A Memoir of Albuquerque, New Mexico in Poems, Prose and Photographs**
Margaret Randall
ISBN: 978-0-916727-73-4
Paperback, 112 pages (2010) $16

“A rebel returns to her roots to ponder with subtle ambivalence the pangs of memory, aging, personal triumphs and failures. *My Town* will resonate with anyone who has lived in New Mexico, anyone who came up in the 1950s, and many who did neither.”
—Lucy R. Lippard, author of *The Lure of the Local*

**Their Backs to the Sea: Poems and Photographs**
Margaret Randall
ISBN: 978-0-916727-61-1
Paperback, 120 pages (2009) $16

“The ease with which one moves through this clean, clear music masks the depth at which it works to change us as we read, enlarging an inner life to make room for so much experience—an exploration of the rim of Rapa Nui, an aging mother’s death, the uprising in Mexico during the ‘68 Olympics. Margaret Randall writes poems of sympathy, intelligence, and witness.”
—Samuel R. Delany

**Strange Angels**
William Pitt Root
ISBN: 978-1-60940-319-5
Paperback, 130 pages (2013) $16

“Strange Angels is possibly Root’s very best collection. He is a consistently great poet, and one you want to give time to and listen to carefully. Root is a poet of witness, great memory, a go-between fusing language and the natural world. Few poets can reach such a stride to be so reliably good and awe-inspiring.”
— Virgil Suarez

**Between A and Z**
Mo H Saidi
ISBN: 978-1-60940-367-6
Paperback, 130 pages (2013) $16

“The talent to write well is fairly common, but the instinct to tell a story is rare. Mo, in poems and prose, shows the latter in spades.”
—Abraham Verghese

**Indio Trails: A Xicano Odyssey Through Indian Country**
Raúl R. Salinas
ISBN: 0-916727-18-1
Paperback, 84 pages (2007) $16
Ten signed copies available at $50

“Raúl Salinas is a troubadour of justice and makes his way through our generation’s history with his songs of truth. Some are elegies, some love songs, some are howling at the moon, some pure witness. Beautiful.”
— Joy Harjo

**Songs Older Than Any Known Singer**
John Phillip Santos
ISBN: 0-916727-35-1
Paperback, 130 pages (2007) $16

“A voice at once familiar and mythic is telling these stories, singing these songs. For fans of Santos’ prose, here is where the writer learned to speak with so much wisdom, so much grace.”
— Sandra Cisneros

*The first book of poems by the author of (National Book Award finalist) *Places Left Unfinished at the Time of Creation.*
Borderlines/Fronteras has an accuracy of eye and voice that probes the uncompromised elegance of street vendors, beggars, and the Angel who likes tacos. The poetry carries a grace and a toughness... and the drawings leave the reader entranced by the exquisite beauty of truth.” — Carmen Tafolla

“Garabato means scribble or doodle. In this first collection of poetry by novelist Virgil Suárez, these scribblings alternately yearn, cry, laugh, reminisce, and sparkle. Soft imprints of Aztec pottery designs decorate the text.” — REFORMA Newsletter

“The Light that Puts an End to Dreams is about the politics of body and text, desire and distraction, disease and health and the relationship between indoor and outdoor, island and mainland, center and periphery—and the textures that dictate topography and cartography.

“Sherman’s book invites us to hold together to a multifocal, international, feminist political practice as well as to a place of solitude. The Light as a book object is beautiful. Thick, glossy pages. French flaps on the cover. Pleasing and fanciful typography. While function overwhelmed genre for feminists in their urgent need to communicate, beauty and the creation of beautiful book objects always were highly prized. Perhaps the beauty of this book will help Sherman’s work find a wider audience and prevent her from being hidden, from being scattered on the seasons.”

— Julie R. Enszer in Lambda Literary Review
**Sonnets and Salsa**
Carmen Tafolla
2015 Poet Laureate, Texas
ISBN: 0-916727-10-6
Paperback, 96 pages (2001) $16

“These unconventional sonnets cross cultures ... into questions of human survival on this earth.” — Dr. Wolfgang Karrer

“Carmen Tafolla is a pioneer of Chicana literature and a unique Southwestern voice. Her poems and stories will teach you as much as touch your heart.” — Ana Castillo

“Tafolla’s poems have always exhibited a certain combativeness ... but her fight has now expanded to include male-dominated power structures of Chicano and Gringo alike.” — Pat Littledog

Visit the Carmen Tafolla performance and resource site at carmen.salsa.net

**Cayetana**
Frances Treviño
Paperback, 96 pages (2001) $16

An exploration of San Antonio and South Texas cultural landmarks, peppered with witty but mild feminist eroticism.

“Breathless, yet filled with light and mystery. Trevino’s poetry has the directness and simple sensuality of poetic truth.” — Carmen Tafolla

**The Laughter of Doves**
Frances Treviño
Paperback, 88 pages (2001)
Signed & numbered.
Out of print.
Recipient of the Premio Poesía Tejana

**Scattered Risks**
Pamela Uschuk
ISBN: 978-0-916727-12-3
Paperback, 106 pages (2005) $16
Nominated for the Zacharias Prize

“Salmon, hummingbirds, ospreys, robins, elk, beetles, and wolves rarely have had a better human friend than Uschuk. These poems are inhabited by nature and driven by a generous and passionate heart.” — Andrei Codrescu

**Crazy Love**
Pamela Uschuk
Paperback, 112 pages (2012) $16
American Book Award

“A radiant new collection by a poet writing at the peak of her powers. These poems are as vast as the universe, large-hearted, wise.” — Cynthia Hogue

“A lyricist of high order ... an essential new collection... It is the combination of Uschuk's accessibility, clarity, striking imagery (and surprising turns on many of those images), love of nature, regard for global contemporary matters (and how they impact our personal lives) that make her a poet with widespread appeal.” — Chad Prevost, in Rattle

**Wild in the Plaza of Memory**
Pamela Uschuk
Paperback, 104 pages (2014) $16

“Uschuck addresses the contemporary world, but, like Whitman, does not avoid the emotional, the dramatic, the rapturous, or the wide world. In the wild plaza of her poetry, students are murdered in Tehran and the poet responds with sincere anguish.... What Uschuk has done with this book is something that could bring poetry back into the hands of the non-poet.” — Daniel Nathan Terry

**Finding Peaches in the Desert**
Pamela Uschuk
Paperback, 106 pages (200014) $16
Tucson / Pima Arts Council Literary Award

“These poems are breathtaking, a triumph of language and spirit... This book is a call to contemplation and action, celebration and a righteous anger that can transform the world we inhabit.” — Demetria Martínez

**One-Legged Dancer**
Pamela Uschuk

Tucson / Pima Arts Council Literary Award
2001 International Poetry Prize

“This is a book that deserves cover-to-cover reading: the poems lean together so well, truy the work of a unified sensibility.” — Rain Taxi
The Secret Visitor’s Guide
Ken Waldman
Alaska’s fiddling poet.
ISBN: 978-0916727260
Paperback, 118 pages (2005)
Out of Print.

“To poems rich with lively imagery and characters, and deeply engaging in their immediacy.” —Naomi Shihab Nye

Cielitos: Selected Poems
Imelda Zapata-García
ISBN: 0-916727-09-2
Paperback, 152 pages (2005)
Imprint: Gutenberg’s Folly
Out of Print.

“In language that is unadorned but powerful and moving, Zapata-García sketches a memorable and poetic portrait of one family’s journey.” —Cary Clack

Joanie Whitebird, the founder of Wings Press, was an old-fashioned fence hater, a wire-cutter, a woman in love with the open road, with open relationships, with open futures fraught with possibilities. Like that line in Pat Garvey’s song, Joanie believed that “the treasure’s not the taking, it’s the lovin’ of the game.”

She understood hard traveling better than almost anyone I’ve ever known, and she knew that being an outlaw poet and publisher in America demanded not only heart and soul, but absolute honesty. She enjoyed being a legend, and she deeply regretted the tremendous inconvenience it was to be numbered among her friends. But that never stopped her from showing up in the middle of the night with her trailer and her wolf hound and her boyfriends and her stories. She was always on the way to somewhere else, and she was always surprised by what lay around the next bend in the road. Anyone with eyes could see that Joanie was in a vortex without any exit; yet I am certain that when Death arrived, she must have said, “What the hell? What are you doing here?” Fare forward, Joanie, fare forward.


FICTION

Milagro Lane
Jay Brandon
ISBN: 978-0-916727-57-4
Paperback, 254 pages (xxxx) $17.95

“In Milagro Lane Jay Brandon does for San Antonio, Texas, what Raymond Chandler did for Los Angeles; he makes the city the most compellingly authentic character in a book filled to bursting with compellingly authentic characters. Milagro Lane is a page-turner. We are seduced as much by Brandon’s affectionate and informed portrayal of San Antonio, as by Brandon’s abundant gifts as one of the country’s masters of the mystery.”

— Sarah Bird, author of Yokota Officer’s Club

Shadow Knight’s Mate
Jay Brandon
ISBN: 978-1-60940-391-1
Paperback, 320 pages (2014) $16.95

“In Shadow Knight’s Mate, Brandon creates an irresistible mix of vivid characters, a thrilling conspiracy, a broad (and clever) historical scope, and a great narrative voice. In short, this is an absorbing, exciting, and absolutely entertaining novel.”

— David Liss, author of The Twelfth Enchantment

“The Rood and the Torc: The Song of Kristinge, Son of Finn
Matthew Dickerson
ISBN: 978-1-60940-298-3
Paperback, 320 pages (2014) $16.95

“Rarely does a novel of history seem so contemporary and thoroughly imagined. The Rood and the Torc is an exemplary piece of writing, one that conjures with grace and poetic skill the twilight of the Merovingian Dynasty. Matthew Dickerson has managed to inhale the atmosphere of northern Europe in the seventh century.... A marvelous novel by a writer’s whose work I’ve long admired.”

— Jay Parini, author of The Last Station

“Dickerson weaves poetry into the narrative, sometimes in his own translations of classic Anglo-Saxon poems and sometimes in poems that he has himself composed. These scenes, in which Kristinge recites his verses at night in the mead hall, are spell-binding.”

—John Wilson, in Books & Culture
Dying Unfinished
Maria Espinosa
ISBN: 978-0-916727-45-1
Paperback, 192 pages (2010) $16.95
PEN Oakland’s Josephine Miles Award for Literary Excellence

“Dying Unfinished is not a novel. It is a poem of great lyrical beauty, a deftly-written tribute to the resilience of the human spirit... It will resonate in the heart of every daughter who seeks her self-realization ... and of every mother who fiercely protects her autonomy.” —Lucha Corpi, author, *Eulogy for a Brown Angel*

Longing
Maria Espinosa
American Book Award

“Longing is a work of exceptional courage, honesty, and originality which one finds seldom in the Western world ... a rare document on human relations in our society ... a kind of experimental writing of the Western samizdat type, which official literary bureaucracy will only recognize late.” —Nanos Valaoritis

Dark Plums
Maria Espinosa
ISBN: 978-0-916727-90-1
Paperback, 228 pages (1995, 2013) $16.95

“Espinosa explores abuse—physical, sexual, emotional—as metaphors for women’s subjugation and degradation....” —*Library Journal*

Incognito: Journey of a Secret Jew
Maria Espinosa
Paperback, 198 pages (2002) $16.95

“A richly detailed, vividly imagined page-turner exploring the dramatic consequences of religious persecution.” —Helen Fremont

Nuni
John Howard Griffin

“The two greatest novels of the past decade are William Faulkner’s *A Fable* and John Howard Griffin’s *Nuni*.” —Decherd Tumer, *Dallas Times-Herald*

Street of the Seven Angels
John Howard Griffin
Hardback, 184 pages (2003) $22.95

“Utterly engrossing... wonderful!” —Jonathan Kozol

“Griffin lives again in *The Street of Seven Angels*, a wise and witty tale of the battle between morality and immortality where morality seems more than good, immorality seems less than evil, and human beings are imperfect bumbler trying to feel good about themselves. Griffin’s insight into human nature and God’s laws lives on.”

—Robert Flynn, author of *North to Yesterday*

Dimitri Esterhaats
Russell Hardin
Paperback, 320 pages (2007) $17.95

“What Hardin is after is immigrant relationships forged in the competitive furnace of postwar American classical music performance. Dmitri serves nicely as a medium for Hardin’s passionate imaginings of a microculture in flux.” —*Publisher Weekly*

Patterns of Illusion
James Hoggard
ISBN: 978-0-930324-80-3
Paperback, 248 pages (2002) $17.95

“This collection of always-original stories and a novella is fascinating, deeply moving, often lyrical, and occasionally brilliantly bizarre.”

—John Nichols
Patterns of Illusion
James Hoggard
Paperback, 248 pages (1999)
Very limited quantity. $30

“Make no bones about it: Trotter Ross is far and away, the finest novel about masculine ‘coming of age’ in current American literature. . . . The author has given us the most fully-realized and interesting protagonist since — well, yes, since Holden Caulfield.”
—Leonard Randolph, former director NEA Literature Program

“Hoggard has a poet’s eye for detail and an ability to call on the language to crack and pop as he needs it to.” —Marshall Terry

The Purse Bearer: A Novel of Love, Lust and Texas Politics
Joe Holley
Paperback, 336 pages (2014) $16.95

“No one captures the magical and maddening swirl of Texas better than Holley. The Purse Bearer is a brilliant, rollicking and poignant romp through the Lone Star state of mind. With the wistfulness of Larry McMurtry and the wicked humor of Billy Lee Brammer, The Purse Bearer deserves a spot on the top shelf of Texas novels.” —Bill Minutaglio

The Witching Voice: A Novel from the Life of Robert Burns
Arnold Johnston
ISBN: 978-0-916727-44-4
Paperback, 332 pages (xxxx) $18.95

“Here is literary history served up in a surge of life, humor, poetry, and song. Johnston gives us a life of Burns that is at once unsentimental and yet deeply felt. He conveys Burns as a man of his time, while opening up the lyrical beauty and energy of his work in a way wholly accessible to a contemporary reader.” —Stuart Dybek

259 Leaps, The Last Immortal
Alicia Kozameh
Translated from the Spanish by Clare Sullivan
Paperback, 180 pages (2007) $17.95

“A surprising, engaging, exhilarating book from a gifted writer with a major tale to tell the contemporary experience of exile not only because of her prison experience in Argentina and her wandering years in many countries, but because exile is, in this book, the very condition of language.” —Julio Ortega

Ostrich Legs
Alicia Kozameh
Translated from the Spanish by David E. Davis
ISBN: 978-1-60940-248-8
Paperback, 200 pages (2013) $16.95

“During recent decades the body has become one of the central themes in feminine narratives. One of the best examples is Ostrich Legs, where the body not only plays the role of the central theme, but also plays an important role as a form of writing; the author/narrator seems to write not with ink, but with her own corporal liquids, about the ambivalent relationship between the child protagonist and her disabled sister.”
—Erna Pfeiffer, Institut für Romanistik der Universität Graz

Blessed Bastard: A Novel of Sir Galahad
Ruth P. M. Lehmann
ISBN: 0-930324-35-8
One of 50 signed copies. $35

“Bottom line: Blessed Bastard has some flashing steel, shattering lances, and one or two ladies who don’t wait. But it is all colorful backdrop to the introspection and internal torments of a most unusual hero.” —Si Dunn, Dallas Morning News

The Art of Reading: Stories and Poems
Julio Ortega
Paperback, 128 pages (2007) $16

“A playful and persuasive fictionalization of authors, writing, and the reader. As always, Ortega’s art is insightful.” —Carlos Fuentes

“Many writers will discover, as I have, diverse perspectives and unexpected aspects of their own work.” —Julio Cortázar

Contrary People
Carolyn Osborn
ISBN: 978-0-916727-96-3
Paperback, 174 pages (2012) $16.95

“Contrary People is a novel of lyrical sterility from a master storyteller. Her subject this time is no less than that last great human lesson which we all must learn: how to face death while, as her engaging hero, Theo Isaac discovers, still embracing life.”
—Sarah Bird, author of The Gap Year
Uncertain Ground
Carolyn Osborn
Paperback, 192 pages (2010) $16.95
“In clean, quiet and elegant prose, Osborn delves deeply into the mind of a confused 20-year-old who is seeking some deeper meaning and connection in this world of isolation and artifice. In the background the waves rumble and roar. ‘Galveston holds on and lets go, adapts and survives,’ Celia says. In this poetic novel, the author urges us to do the same.”
— Joe O’Connell, Austin American Statesman

Where We Are Now
Carolyn Osborn
ISBN: 978-1-60940-387-4
Paperback, 200 pages (2014) $16.95
“Carolyn Osborn’s thoroughly admirable new collection is all about those strangers we call family. Osborn’s collection is wise, funny, and moving, the mature work of a skilled writer. The characters are vivid—some are rascals, others are tyrants, and all of them grow on you. Wherever you read Where We Are Now, you’ll be transported to a front porch on a summer afternoon, where you’re delighting in the company of an old friend who is telling you at last the secrets you’ve wanted to know.”
— Laura Furman, Series Editor of The O. Henry Prize Stories

Bardo99: a mononovel
Cecile Pineda
ISBN: 0-930324-83-8
Paperback, 80 pages (2004) $14
“Written in a style that crosses Kafka’s paranoid paradoxes with the post-apocalyptic morality of Heironymus Bosch via William S. Burroughs, Bardo99 is a fast-paced hallucinogenic trip.... Bardo99 catalogues 20th-century human atrocities and employs the idea that souls of bodies never given proper burial and/or subject to wrongful death cannot rest in peace.”
—Tom Bowden, in Educational Digest

Redoubt: a mononovel
Cecile Pineda
Paperback, 82 pages (2004) $14
“In this spare novel, set in a desert observation redoubt, Pineda weaves a haunting parable of female identity—and more.... In deft strokes, Redoubt recreates the encounter of modern consciousness with the primal unconsciousness as a fascinating dialogue on the meaning and mystery of existence.”
—Robert Bonazzi

Face
Cecile Pineda
ISBN: 978-1-60940-345-4
Finalist: 2014 Neustadt Prize for International Literature
Winner of: Gold Medal, Commonwealth Club (CA), The Sue Kaufman Prize of the American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters
“When I read Face in 1985, it struck me as an extraordinary achievement. Re-reading it has not changed my estimate. I am deeply impressed by this book, as much by what is said as by what is not said.... Face continues to haunt me.”
— J.M. Coetzee, Nobel Prize for Literature, 2003
“There is an immediacy to her narrative, combined with images that startle our senses, that leave us haunted.”
—San Francisco Chronicle

The Love Queen of the Amazon
Cecile Pineda
Paperback, 284 pages (1991, 2001) $17.95
New York Times Notable Book of the Year
A feminist spoof of magical realism, a picaresque romp a la Macedonio Fernandez and Gabriel Garcia Marquez.
“Ana is one of the few great Latin heroines not created by the male imagination; her amorous history provides a unique vehicle for Pineda to look with a satirically feminine eye at the manners, mores, and literature of all the Americas.... Love Queen is a noteworthy addition.”
—Chicago Tribune

Writers, readers, teachers, and creative writing classes, take note: Cecile Pineda is an American original, a literary treasure, and her prodigiously inventive and important work, finally returning to print in a landmark and long-awaited reissue, deserves a place in the forefront of American literature.
—Jeff Biggers, “Pineda Unbound: An Interview with Cecile Pineda,” Bloomsbury Review, Sept. 2004
Gopal the carver tells of building the temple of Borobudur, the mighty monument to Buddha built in Java during the 10th century. A study in conceptual inspiration.

“A tour de force, a taut, highly compressed narrative of impressive power.” — Publishers Weekly

King of the Chicanos
Manuel Ramos
Paperback, 192 pages
(2010) $16

“Deftly written, King of the Chicanos follows the story of Chicano leader Ramón Hidalgo, El Rey, before, during and after the Chicano Movement of the 1960s and 70s.” — Lucha Corpi

“Fine, hard-hitting, and on target, Ramos’s prose sings and zings with no quarter for anyone.” — Rolando Hinojosa

Nirvana on Ninth Street
Susan Sherman
Paperback, 112 pages
(2014) $16

“A brilliant performance ... Sherman has evoked the untamed spirit of the Lower East Side and of the dreamers who live there. They love, make art, and protest as the Vietnam War rages and the sexual revolution takes root. Nirvana On Ninth Street is pure magic, a gripping exploration of the mysteries of the human heart.” — Demetria Martínez

Sometimes It’s New York
Claude Stanush
Paperback, 224 pages
(2007) $17.95

“Stanush is an enigma, someone from a ranching tradition who can write in plain language but with a scholar’s perception about almost anything.... He is a superb storyteller, an acute delineator of human character and human condition. I read and enjoy everything he writes.” — Holland McCombs, editor emeritus, Time and Life

Frieze
Cecile Pineda
ISBN: 0-930324-91-9
Paperback, 182 pages
(1987, 2007) $16

“A tour de force, a taut, highly compressed narrative of impressive power.” — Publishers Weekly

The Holy Tortilla and a Pot of Beans: A feast of short fiction
Carmen Tafolla
Paperback, 128 pages, includes glossary
(2008) $16

Tomás Rivera Book Award

“Adult/High School Readers will be rewarded by the wisdom, wit, and hope in these 16 short stories. From the mystical appearance of the Virgin of Guadalupe in “The Holy Tortilla” to the haunting yet empowering story of a victim in “The Stuff to Scream With,” stories stress the importance and power of cultural heritage ... and a strong sense of community. Strong characters and an eloquent voice in Chicana literature.” — School Library Journal

Weird Emptiness
Alex Stein
Paperback, 128 pages
(2007) $16

“Like the best of Pessoa, Stein proves that the poet philosopher is alive and well. Mr. Stein has drawn the sword of his wit, and it is razor sharp.” — Peter Grandbois

A Tuesday Like Today
Cecilia Urbina
Translated from the Spanish by Clare E. Sullivan
Paperback, 160 pages
(2008) $16

Recipient of the Premio Coatlicue

“A magical and sophisticated tale of three Mexican travelers who come together in Angkor, Cambodia, a place ‘between reality and story,’ where its visitors hunger to breathe new life into their own histories, memories and imaginations through the transformative power of storytelling. Inventive, highly-engaging and perceptive about the creative impulse.” — Rigoberto González

No One Said a Word
Paula Varsavsky
ISBN: 978-1-60940-269-3
Paperback, 132 pages (2012) $14.95

Trans. from Spanish by Anne McLean

“Varsavsky’s novel has been rightfully compared to Hemingway and Salinger, and fans of Holden Caulfield will find this Argentinean Catcher in the Rye to be an apt comparison.” — Booklist
Song of the Golden Scorpion
Alma Luz Villanueva
ISBN: 978-1-60940-346-1
Paperback, 464 pages
(2013) $17.95
“Villanueva has long been a national treasure, and her writing stands dead center at the beating heart of Chicano literature. She is a sensual mystic, and this luminous new work never fails to move us. In both ways—body and soul.”
— Luis Alberto Urrea

After Auschwitz: A Love Story
Brenda Webster
ISBN: 978-1-60940-359-1
Paperback, 160 pages
(2014) $16.95
“A Holocaust survivor depends on her Italian caretaker husband who has been diagnosed with Alzheimer’s disease. Memory and forgetting both play a crucial role in the experiences they share. Set in Rome in 2010, Webster’s novel narrates the suffering of Auschwitz mitigated by a couple’s loving relationship.”
—Nota Bene, World Literature Today

The Beheading Game
Brenda Webster
ISBN: 978-0-916727-24-6
Hardback, 256 pages (2006) $22.95
“Webster’s novel takes us on a tour of the labyrinths of desire and dread in which the games of love are played out. Her daring juxtaposition of the medieval romance Gawain and the Green Knight with thoroughly contemporary dramas of gender-bending gives her tale special resonance.”
— Sandra Gilbert

Vienna Triangle
Brenda Webster
Paperback, 240 pages (2009) $16.95
“A smart and charming literary mystery centered around an ambitious young woman’s unknown ancestry, the love life of Sigmund Freud and the death of Freud’s rival, Viktor Tausk.”
—Publisher’s Weekly

Pst . . . I Have Something To Tell You, Mi Amor
Ana Castillo
ISBN: 978-0-916727-20-8
Paperback, 98 pages (2005) $16
Sister Dianna Ortiz traveled as a missionary in the early 1980s to the highlands of Guatemala, where she taught Mayan children to read and write. On November 2, 1989, she was abducted and tortured by agents of the government of Guatemala, under the direction of a “North American.” Ana Castillo, moved beyond grief and anger, wrote these powerful plays to document Sister Dianna’s story.

“Castillo taps plentiful artistic and activist wells to give aesthetic and visceral dimension to the real psychic and bodily violence endured by Sister Ortiz.”
—World Literature Today

High Yello Rose and Other Texas Plays
Sterling Houston, edited by Sandra Mayo
ISBN: 978-0-916727-54-3
Paperback, 264 pages (2009) $17.95
“High Yello Rose brings new meaning to ‘Remember the Alamo’. Sterling Houston’s stories are the histories America forgets.”
— Sandra Cisneros

“High Yello Rose and Other Texas Plays is a panoramic knock-out. Sterling Houston covers such vast emotional and historical territory in this collection that I found myself repeatedly stunned. It’s a real pleasure to feel your heart stretched so deftly.... It is extremely rare to find a playwright who is both unflinching in his sociopolitical critique and, at the same time, so much fun to read. I am amazed that his work isn’t more widely known and produced.”
— Tim Seibles, author of Hammerlock

Jump-Start: Playworks
Edited by Sterling Houston
Paperback, 225 pages (2004) $16
Jump-Start PlayWorks is a unique anthology of plays and performance pieces that exemplify Jump-Start Performance Co.’s mission to “explore new directions in form and content” by giving voice to an array of under-represented communities and points of view. Introduction by Deborah Parédez, Ph.D. Includes “Rosita’s Day of the Dead” by Rodrigo Duarte Clark, “Big Bad and Beautiful” by Alicia Fernández, “Womandingo” by Sterling Houston, and several solo performance pieces.
MEMOIR

Maria, Daughter of Immigrants
Maria Antonietta Berriozábal
ISBN: 978-1-60940-244-0
Hardback, 350 pages (2012) $27.95
“Painfully and purposefully honest, this book carries the decisive mark of personal history, introspection, and whistle-blowing on the issues that count.”
—Carmen Tafolla, Texas Poet Laureate

“Maria’s book is a testimony to a moment in women’s history, in mestiza history, in the history of the borderlands. It is a document chronicling an American story, and as such, belongs to us all.”
—Sandra Cisneros

“What a rich exploration of the frontiers of a life of service. This autobiography is a treasured window into a bilingual, bicultural world. It is a story of political struggle, occasional triumph, and always commitment to the community.”
—Sr. Simone Campbell, SSS, executive director, NETWORK: The National Catholic Social Justice Lobby

El Paso Days
Elroy Bode
ISBN: 978-1-60940-341-6
Paperback, 160 pages (2014) $16
“The immensely original work of this modest man who once described himself as the ‘Poet Laureate of Unheralded Things’ places him firmly in the canon of great Texas literature alongside the likes of Dobie, Bedichek, Webb and Graves.”
—San Antonio Express-News

“Bode has concocted a perfect fusion of end-of-life wisdom and newborn wonder.” —Steve Harrigan

“It is impossible not to appreciate Bode’s sense of awe and clarifying images of the commonplace afloat in a mystery.”
—Roberto Bonazzi

Strangers in Paradise: A Memoir of Provence
Paul Christensen
ISBN: 978-0-916727-28-4
Paperback, 224 pages (2014) $17.95
“Christensen’s luminous prose celebrates his immersion in Provence—from the scents and sights of its voluputous open-air food markets to the spiritual fulfillment of living among still-visible remnants of a pagan and medieval past. Readers will be enchanted by a sensuous way of life that offers a gateway to the sacred.”
—Daniel Hoffman, former U.S. Poet Laureate

Available Light: Exile in Mexico
John Howard Griffin
ISBN: 978-0-916727-46-8
Paperback, 130 pages (2008) $18.95
“This is Griffin’s great gift: that he does not doubt our humanity. That he truly feels, as did so many of the great social documentary photographers, that this magic medium can and must soften in its little way ... the great callous that lies on the hearts of so many.”
—Kathy Vargas, internationally acclaimed photographer

“Griffin’s inner eye saw what was essential to our humanity and in Available Light his outer eye blazes forth.”
—Alan Pogue, photographer

Follow the Ecstasy:
The Hermitage Years of Thomas Merton
John Howard Griffin
Price varies with retailer.

“Follow the Ecstasy provides the best narrative account of Merton’s last four years. The creative, productive, and authentic spirit of these hermitage years emerges in Griffin’s amicable telling, giving meaning and life to Merton’s declaration that ‘I am in a state of ecstasy over the human race.’”
—Robert Daggy, Former Director, The Thomas Merton Center

Scattered Shadows:
A Memoir of Blindness and Vision
John Howard Griffin
Ebook only, 305 pages (2010)
Price varies with retailer.

“Griffin was a natural storyteller and profound thinker who possessed the rare gift of knowing how to make an ally of misfortune. It is as gift he passes on to the reader. You will reach for this book the way you reach for a flashlight in the dark.” —Phyllis Theroux, author of The Journal Keeper

Initiations in the Abyss:
A Surrealist Apocalypse
Jim Harter
ISBN: 978-0-930324-71-1
Large paperback, 140 pages (2002) $20
A collection of 72 collages with a 60-page autobiographical introduction by the artist, who writes, “One of the purposes of this book is to penetrate our collective darkness, and uncover deeper levels of truth. Essential to this process is a critical examination of our most deeply held beliefs and cultural assumptions.”
The Devil’s Fingers
and Other Personal Essays
James Hoggard
ISBN: 978-1-60940-290-7
Paperback, 192 pages (2013) $16.95
“A magnificent and mesmerizing collection that explores everything from cycling through Texas, to traveling to Iraq, Cuba, and England...I also appreciate the craft of Hoggard the essayist, how often he surprises me with his elegance on the page.” —Sergio Troncoso, author of Crossing Borders

Harbingers of Books to Come: A Texan’s Literary Life
Dave Oliphant
ISBN: 978-0-916727-60-4
Paperback, 548 pages (2009) $24.95
“Oliphant’s voice—as poet, critic, teacher, editor, publisher, historian of Texas jazz, and translator of Chilean poetry—has been a significant one in Texas letters for over forty years. With detail and clarity, this new memoir traces the young Fort Worth boy’s odyssey to Beaumont, Austin, Mexico City, Santiago and beyond—demonstrating the fullness of a literary life.” —Mark Busby, Past president, Texas Institute of Letters

Fishlight: A Dream of Childhood
Cecile Pineda
Paperback, 107 pages (2001) $16
“Pineda ably captures the fragmented, superintense perception of a precocious child, constructing this poignant fictional memoir in crystalline, poetic prose.” —Publishers Weekly

Tamales, Comadres, and the Meaning of Civilization
Ellen Riojas Clark & Carmen Tafolla
Illustrated by Thelma Ortiz-Muraida
ISBN: 978-0-916727-81-9
Paperback, 64 pages (2011) $10.95
“This culinary history unwraps the extensive culture surrounding the tamale. Humorous and colorful, this collection reveals the importance of community and good food.” —Pluma Fronteriza

Science Project Helper
Mike Dickinson
ISBN: 978-0-930324-77-3
“Dickinson’s Science Project Helper is an ideal guide for teachers, parents and students. It is crammed with keen anecdotes and scientific learning.... strongly recommended.” —Dr. Leon Lederman, 1988 Nobel Prize in Physics

Lawful Abuse: How the Century of the Child Became the Century of the Corporation
Robert Flynn
ISBN: 978-1-60940-277-8
“A powerful indictment of America’s abandonment of human beings, and children in particular, in favor of corporations, this account exposes the child labor, indentured servitude, and child slavery that are undeniable parts of American history.” —Amazon.com

Early Farm Tractors: A History in Advertising Line Art
Jim Harter
Large hardback, 142 pages (2013) $22.95
“Harter’s exhaustive collection of images can be appreciated on multiple levels, as the intersection of industrial design, advertising and art. A treat for both the historian and the tractor enthusiast, it sheds welcome light on an under-appreciated art form.” —Warren Stricker, Director, Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum

“Harter has assembled a remarkable collection of images ... that document this historically important development, and some of its most prominent companies.” —John H. White, Jr., Curator of Transportation 1958-1990, Smithsonian Institution
**Black Like Me**

John Howard Griffin

Foreword by Studs Terkel. Additional texts by the author. Historical photos by Don Rutledge. Afterword by Griffin biographer, Robert Bonazzi

ISBN: 978-0-916727-68-0

“Some actions are so absolutely simple and right that they amount to genius. Black Like Me was an act of genius.” —Cyril Connolly, Sunday Times of London

Winner of:
- Saturday Review Anisfield-Wolfe Award, 1962
- Pacem in terris Award (shared with John F. Kennedy), 1963
- Christian Culture Gold Medal (Canada), 1966
- Pan African Association Award for Humanism, 1980

**Praise from a Future Generation:**

*The Assassination of John F. Kennedy and the First Generation Critics of the Warren Report*

John Kelin

ISBN: 978-0-916727-32-1
Hardback, 608 pages (2007) $29.95

“Praise From a Future Generation fills a void in the literature on President Kennedy’s assassination. It is the first book-length study of the beginnings of the critical movement that eventually brought down the Warren Commission. Kelin shows us how a small band of average Americans, through relentless dedication, perseverance, and a tireless pursuit of truth, permanently altered the consciousness of a nation.” —James DiEugenio, author of *Destiny Betrayed*

“If Vincent Bugliosi thought his mammoth *Reclaiming History* would put an end to this debate, Kelin is determined to prove him wrong.” —*Publishers Weekly*

**Biblical Hebrew:**

*An Analytical Introduction*

Winfred P. Lehmann, Esther Raizen and Helen-Jo Jakusz Hewitt

Large paperback, 388 pages (1999) $35

“I am delighted with this excellent textbook for biblical Hebrew... It is a scholarly work, readable, and clearly presented. One of the strongest advantages of this work is the thorough attention paid to grammatical points likely to cause American students difficulty.” —Dr. Alan S. Kaye, Professor of Linguistics, California State University, Fullerton

**Devil’s Tango:**

*How I Learned the Fukushima Step by Step*

Cecile Pineda

ISBN: 978-1-60940-315-7

“One of the most important and required reads this year.” —*Huffington Post*

“Cecile Pineda’s astonishing anatomy of the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear disaster... echoes the best work of Rachel Carson, Marilyn Robinson, and Helen Caldicott. It is a work of a conscience truly in touch with, and deeply concerned with, humanity.” —John Nichols, author, *The Milagro Beanfield War*

“Pineda’s masterful framing of the urgency for readers to learn from the Japanese nuclear disaster and the machinations of its industry handlers makes *Devil’s Tango* one of the most important and required reads this year.” —Jeff Biggers, *Huffington Post*

“With *Devil’s Tango*, Cecile Pineda has created a new and necessary genre, one which reflects both the fission at the core of the nuclear process and its fragmenting effects on our minds and lives.... Pineda lets us glimpse how we too can bring a kind of wholeness, or healing, to our fractured world.” —Joanna Macy, author, *Pass It On: Five Stories that Can Change the World*

“Pineda’s cinematic memoir evokes layer on layer of what it means to be human as we face (and avoid) the magnitude of the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear crisis. We ride along, day by day, as her wide-ranging intellect struggles to come to grips with the planet-altering implications of worldwide nuclear technology.... Pineda’s inner dialogue paints a fractured panorama of history, art, ideas—the fragile, ecstatic, peculiar works of humans. This is a book to savor slowly and/or stay up all night reading, a book to quote, share with friends, and tuck into a time capsule for future beings who wonder whatever happened here.” —Barbara George, founder of Women’s Energy Matters

**A Bridge from Darkness to Light:**

*Thirteen Young Photographers Explore Their Afghanistan*

Bill Wright

Ebook only, 127 pages (2013)
Price varies with retailer.

“Who but Bill Wright would go to a war zone to teach kids photography based on an unofficial invitation? He arrived in Kabul with cameras, batteries, lesson plans and a deep belief in photography as a communications tool between people with vast differences. In one week, the students made perceptive pictures of their particular world. One can only wish to know where they will be in years to come.” —Anne Tucker, Curator of Photography at The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, Texas
In Praise of the Lowly Chapbook

As a regional publisher whose books range from handmade chapbooks to 600-page works of fiction and history, I have been wondering what will become of the physical book in this brave new digital world. Already my paper-and-ink sales are declining as my ebook sales increase—except for, of all things, the lowly chapbook. I began to wonder why this might be, and what it portends. I am an author, an editor, a publisher, a book designer. I'm married to a librarian. My century-old house doesn't have insulation, it has books. I'm a poster child for a little bibliophilic introspection.

The debate between handcraft and more modern means of production in the book world has been going on since medieval scribes threw up their quills in horror at Gutenberg's press. Over the past half millennium, the debate has resurfaced every single time there has been an improvement in the means of getting text before the eyes of a reader. Today, even the phrase “getting a book into a reader's hands” seems archaic.

The future is writ upon the wall for all to see, and it spells doom for lovers of the physical book. It's okay. We're human. We'll adapt. That much, at least, is in the DNA.

But I do not think that the average reader—no matter how happy he or she is with their voluminous digital libraries lurking at the edges of their diminutive screens—will be satisfied to never have access to a true literary artifact, something tangible that connects them to a favorite author. It makes perfect sense that larger printed works violate both our economic and our evolving green sensibilities, but small artifacts of the author may remain a necessity, if only a psychological one.

Which brings me back to the chapbook. Gutenberg's first production may have been a holy monster of a book, but it was less than a century before the most common form of literature available to the common man—aside from the broadside—was the cheap book, the chapbook. The latest poems, political tracts, learned monographs, often came out in this form. It never went away, but it did evolve into a plethora of forms that are still with us. The most enduring is the literary chapbook, often a limited edition signed by the author. In short, it is (generally) an inexpensive literary artifact.

The back pages of every issue of Poets & Writers Magazine are evidence of the enduring popularity of the chapbook as an entry vehicle for new authors. The Festival of the Chapbook, held in several locations...
across New York City, show the breadth of imaginative design concepts this small form continues to inspire. The literary potential is well known. The chapbook’s 20th century highlights ranged from The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock to Howl. The 21st century’s first stellar chapbook was Frank Bidart’s Music Like Dirt (Sarabande Books), which made it to the final round for the Pulitzer Prize in 2003.

Wings Press began in 1975 by publishing handmade chapbooks. Aside from amateur anti-war poetry pamphlets I produced in 1969-1971, my first real chapbook was And the Ground Spoke, produced in 1986 for the Guadalupe Cultural Arts Center. I have been designing, printing and sewing them regularly since I bought the Wings Press in 1995. Wings has published contest series, like the Premio Poesía Tejana (1998-2002) and the Whitebird Chapbook Series, 2007-2011. It continues to publish periodic chapbooks when the right material comes along—a single essay, such as Robert Flynn’s Burying the Farm; a collection of related poems like Donald Hall’s Winter Poems from Eagle Pond; a collection of flash fiction, like Ana Castillo’s Bocaditos; or single-poe chapbooks, such as Margaret Randall’s series.

The books themselves run the gamut of printing and binding techniques: letterpress, offset, even laser printing; commissioned handmade paper, high-end linen paper, best-available-at-the-local-paper-store-on-Friday-afternoon paper. Almost all have hand-sewn bindings—Coptic, Japanese, or plain saddle stitching. Most are signed and numbered, with runs no larger than 500 copies. Prices range from $14 to $75. What they have in common is that they almost always sell out within the first year or two and, being “collectibles,” the last few available copies inevitably escalate in value, sometimes precipitously.

In the near future, publishing a paper edition of a book, even of moderate size, may no longer be a viable economic option. At that point, the sole surviving physical publication of this press and many others may in fact be the lowly chapbook, consciously (and shamelessly, I might add) created to be a literary artifact, designed in consultation with the author, sometimes using materials associated with the author, often actually handled—signed and numbered—by the author. You just can’t appreciate (or own) an illegible signature on a screen the way you can one on paper. Not that it cannot be done—I’ve seen authors sign ebooks on iPads with a stylus. I did not see that coming, but as Fionn Mac Cumhaill said several centuries ago, “The best music in the world is the music of what happens.”

—Bryce Milligan

An earlier version of this essay appeared in Publishing Perspectives, Nov 6, 2009.

### CHAPBOOKS

**And the Ground Spoke...**

Poems and stories by

Cecilio García-Camarillo
Little Harjo, E.A. “Tony” Mares & Jim Sagel

Stapled chapbook, 54 pages (1986)

Very limited supply of copies signed by Joy Harjo and the editor. $50

Edited and produced by Bryce Milligan for the Guadalupe Cultural Arts Center. Milligan’s first chapbook.

**Fishing for Light**

Marian Aitches

*Whitebird Chapbook Series, No. 4*


Limited to 500 numbered & signed • $30

“Aitches fishes for light in rivers, and rivers run through these poems. A stunning collection.” —Margaret Randall

**Hidden Valley Breezes**

Margaret Amini


Limited to 25 copies, printed on linen paper. Out of Print.

**Forage**

JoAnn Balingit

Former Poet Laureate, Delaware

*Whitebird Chapbook Series, No. 5*


Limited to 500 numbered & signed • $30

“In leaflight, earthlight,” JoAnn Balingit composes poems that forge beautifully to find what will suffice.” —Arthur Sze

“In Forage, Balingit has a gift for metaphor and a keen eye for what is strange and arresting in everyday life. Forage is an accomplished debut.”

—Jeanne Murray Walker, author of New Tracks, Night Falling

**Bocaditos: Flash Fictions**

Ana Castillo


Limited to 300 numbered & signed • $40

A die-cut window in the cover reveals a self portrait painted by Castillo.
beautiful things happen in the times of cholera. Things that hold promise, which is the essence of the human spirit. One is that right now, when we are so bereft—left with a sense of helplessness, hopelessness, disappointment in government, science and any semblance of leadership—we are left with little choice other than to turn our trust to the arts. To that which lifts our spirits without explanation, warranty, or the endorsements of the experts. We trust ourselves. What a blessing.

—Ana Castillo, from the preface to Bocaditos
Winter Poems from Eagle Pond

Donald Hall
Former Poet Laureate of the United States
ISBN: 0-930324-41-2 • 32 pages

For nearly twenty years, Donald Hall and his late wife, poet Jane Kenyon, sent Christmas cards with one of Donald’s poems (one year with a poem by Jane). The cards were printed on a letterpress by New Hampshire printer Bill Ewert. These poems are gathered in Winter Poems from Eagle Pond, together with a short introduction by Hall and woodblock prints by artist Barry Moser. Winter Poems from Eagle Pond is printed in red and brown on linen paper, and bound in handmade paper incorporating maple leaves from Eagle Pond, gathered by Hall’s grandchildren.

Each year the season approached slowly, without surprises. The snow started often in October, always by November, and Christmas was white. As the air darkened, daylight diminishing, Advent began the season of waiting. Each day, Jane opened another window on the calendar. One Saturday afternoon, Bill and Mary Ewert arrived with this year’s boxes of cards, and I would sign some for their friends while we drank a cup of tea and the afternoon closed down.

—Donald Hall, from the Preface

As If The Empty Chair: Poems for the Disappeared / Como Si la Silla Vacia: poemas para los desaparecidos

Poems and photographs by Margaret Randall
Facing-page Spanish translations by Leandro Katz and Diego Guerra

Hand-sewn, Japanese stitch, 80 pages • Limited to 400 signed & numbered copies. A very limited quantity available at $45

“As If The Empty Chair is a beautiful object (the layout, the binding, the paper, everything about it) full of stunningly beautiful poems—so much pain and grief distilled into [Randall’s] verses, and so many small details and gestures that speak volumes of that experience, and of the compassion and deep sadness of the poet. I choked up all the way through.”

— Louise B. Popkin, Harvard University

Beneath a Trespass of Sorrow

Poem by Margaret Randall
Images by Barbara Byers

One in a series of small-format (5.35 x 7 inch) chapbooks by Randall. Hand-sewn spine • $14

Illustrated with nine works by Barbara Byers, from her “Personal Cartography” series, Randall’s 12-part poem focuses on the role that maps—both real and metaphorical—have played in human culture and in individual lives. From Part 2 of the poem:

When I was young I followed topographical maps across my desert, walked rises and hollows until civilization disappeared: no rusted cans or bottle caps defacing rock and sage and I was alone in a spiral of time.

Remembrance of Rain

Annie Parker
ISBN: 978-0-916727-66-6 • 36 pages
(2009) Hand-sewn spine • $12

“Attentive to the world around her, Parker somehow prays through her writing. She carries that Whitmanian sense of awe and gratitude for all things.” — Marian Haddad

we forget we are water

Poems and paintings by Trey Moore
Whitebird Chapbook Series, No. 1
ISBN: 978-0-916727-76-5 • 40 pages
(2006) Stapled chapbook • A few left at $30

“Trey is a carpenter-mystic, a wanderer, an artist who sees the magic in every day. For his ability to alchemize the ordinary into the spiritual, to be spirit, I am humbled and grateful.” — Sandra Cisneros

“Trey Moore writes in a purely organic, original, engaged voice of truth and savory linkage—I marvel at his fluency, navigating hypnotically among interior/exterior images, colliding nowhere, rising into light.” — Naomi Shihab Nye

When I was young I followed topographical maps across my desert, walked rises and hollows until civilization disappeared: no rusted cans or bottle caps defacing rock and sage and I was alone in a spiral of time.
Lady Jaguar Shark was one of the few women rulers at Tikal, the Mayan city in northern Guatemala. Randall imagines a daughter of Lady Jaguar Shark, and walks us through the jungle and its ruins in conversation with her. The imaginary but all-too-real figure has plenty to say about tourists and anthropologists, and indeed about all of us in our contemporary world of haphazard values and strange assumptions.

Randall considers the past within the present in Cambodia. From the “skull pagoda” of the Choeung Ek Killing Field to the “citadel of women” at Banteay Shrie, Randall seeks peace amid the ruins. A “Sound Reading” by Margaret Randall and Glenn Weyant is available (free) on the Wings website.

“Julia Ridgeway’s talent is like the purposeful flight of a mariposa, emerging from her dark cocoon (‘I become my other self / my other and I’) to taste and feed from the sometimes sweet, too often bitter nectar of the sensory world.”
—Judith Ortiz Cofer

“A lovely collection of twenty poems that speak of both Steinbeck’s and Taylor’s abilities with lyrical language and their sense of the beautiful connectedness among all things natural, psychological, and spiritual.... Like all good criticism, The Log from the Sea of Cortez: A Poem Series always points back to its literary subject, exploring and celebrating the original and its authors with an insightful, artful response.”
—Mary M. Brown, Steinbeck Review

“Trombatore’s language is a wave of wonder: a deft and blooming fusion of painter’s colors and a naturalist’s detail, surreally thick and witty.”
—R. T. Castleberry, co-editor/publisher, Curbside Review
**BROADSIDES**

¡Sí se puede!
Carmen Tafolla

“¡Sí se puede!" was first read on April 24, 2003, at El Mercado, San Antonio, TX, upon the unveiling of the U.S. postage stamp created in honor of César Chávez.

One thousand copies of this broadside were printed on 11 x 17 inch paper, each signed & numbered by the author.

Each broadside includes one original, 37-cent 2003 U.S. postage stamp.

Still available at the original price of $20.

La Pasionaria: para Emma Tenayuca
Carmen Tafolla

“La Pasionaria” was first read on July 27, 1999, at the funeral of Emma Tenayuca in San Fernando Cathedral, San Antonio, TX.

Two hundred copies of this broadside were printed on 11 x 17 inch paper, each signed & numbered by the author.

Out of Print.

**CHILDREN’S & MIDDLE GRADE BOOKS**

Baby Coyote and the Old Woman / El Coyotito y la viejita
Carmen Tafolla

Illustrated by Matt Novak
Hardback, 24 pages (2000)

Temporarily out of print.

In this bilingual story Baby Coyote teaches an old woman about recycling and the value of preserving the beauty of the desert.

“Baby Coyote is a wonderful, gentle, and very compassionate book about the most important struggle on earth today. This bilingual edition is charming, humorous, and directly to the point. We need simple and loving books like this to help us create a positive future.” —John Nichols, author, The Milagro Beanfield War

That's Not Fair: Emma Tenayuca's Struggle for Justice / No es justo: La lucha de Emma Tenayuca por la justicia
Carmen Tafolla and Sharyll Teneyuca

Illustrated by Terry Ybáñez
In Spanish & English.

“This inspirational story, illustrated with brightly colored, touching artwork, will teach readers that one determined person can make the world a better place. Highly recommended for all schools and public libraries.” —Criticas

“Grades 2-4. This handsome picture-book biography in English and Spanish relates the struggle of Mexican American farmworkers in the early twentieth century through the perspective of Emma Tenayuca, who became a labor activist.... This stirring, unfamiliar chapter in labor history and the humanitarian efforts of Tenayuca herself will intrigue children, who will also like the bold, mural-like illustrations, which show a child confronting suffering and growing up to make a difference.” —Booklist

Skin Deep
Angela Shelf Medearis

Illustrated by Scott Byers
ISBN: 978-1-60940-363-8
Paperback, 48 pages (2000)

“Medearis’ simple, candid first-person monologues speak in a number of contemporary teenage voices.... Recommended.” —Booklist

Occupation: None
Carmen Tafolla

This is perhaps Tafolla’s most well-known poem as it was the centerpiece of her performances for many years. The poet would enter (generally academic) performance spaces dressed as a charwoman, making her way to the stage and forcing the audience to recognize their own prejudices.

Two hundred copies of this broadside were printed on deckle-edged paper, each signed & numbered by the author. Out of Print.
PRE-1994 TITLES

Designed by Joanie Whitebird
Publisher & Editor, 1975-1994

Very limited copies of most of these titles are still available.
Unavailable titles are marked “Out of Print.”
Please inquire by email before ordering.
Any farewell messages of mine
you cannot tell
from fallen leaves.
—Vassar Miller, from *Small Change*

Robert Bonazzi
*Fictive Music:
Prose Poems 1975–1977*
Hand-sewn chapbook, 28 pages
500 copies, signed & numbered
A very few copies are available
at $35

Robert Cooper
*Likely Stories: Ten Short Stories*
0-930324-25-0 (1992)
“New Fiction Series, No. 1”
Hand-sewn chapbook, 50 pages
500 copies, signed & numbered
Out of Print.

Judson Crews
*nolo contendere*
Preface by Robert Creeley
Illustrations by Lori Felton
68 pages (1979)
ISBN 0-930324-08-0 • hardback.
Out of Print.
A very few copies are available at $35

Eleanor Earle Crockett
*’53 Ford*
Stapled chapbook, 20 pages
Available at $35

Gene Fowler
*Briefcase*
Stapled chapbook, 20 pages
Out of Print.

Robert Dante
*Silent Command:
Poems From The S&M Scene*
500 copies, signed & numbered
Hand-sewn chapbook, 28 pages
Out of Print.

James Joyce
*The Wild Canaries*
New Texas Poetry Series, No. 4
400 copies, signed & numbered
Hand-sewn chapbook, 24 pages
A very few copies are available at $35

André de Korvin
*The Four Hard Edges of War*
Paperback, 52 pages
Out of Print.

Texas River Song
(small letterpress broadside, 9.25 x 13 in)
1977
Lyrics to the folksong (“Words adapted
by John A. Lomax, Jr.) printed over an
blind impression outline map of Texas,
showing the primary rivers. Very limited
supply, but available at $50

Janet Lowery
*Thin Dimes*
“New Texas Poetry Series, No. 2”
Hand-sewn chapbook, 20 pages
300 copies, signed & numbered
Out of Print.
Second edition, not signed (1997)
Out of Print.
Milt McLeod
*Below the Surface*
"New Texas Poetry Series, No. 6"
Hand-sewn chapbook, 24 pages
500 copies, signed & numbered
Out of Print.

M.W. McGee
*Ambrosia Dancing at Mary’s*
Letterpress throughout, stapled chapbook with ornamental red cord and deckled edge.
650 numbered copies, 28 pages.
Very limited quantity available at $50

Vassar Miller
*Approaching Nada*
Letterpress throughout, stapled chapbook with ornamental cord.
1,000 numbered copies, 24 pages
Very limited quantity available at $50.

The first 50 copies were signed by the author on the flyleaf. One copy, no. 30, is available at $250. One copy, no. 980, signed on the flyleaf, is available at $150. One copy, no. 665, inscribed “Love” on the title page, at $200.

**FIRST BOOK PUBLISHED BY WINGS PRESS**

Vassar Miller
*Small Change*
No ISBN (1976) 24 pages
Letterpress throughout, stapled chapbook. 500 numbered copies, the first 25 signed by the author.

No. 352: Unique, signed on flyleaf and initialed on the title page: $350

Vassar Miller
*Small Change*
1,000 numbered, Second edition.

Copy initialed on flyleaf: $100
Copy signed on flyleaf: $150
Copy signed inside front cover: $150

Bryce Milligan
*Working the Stone*
Paperback. Letterpress throughout. Illustrated by Angela De Hoyos.
1,000 copies. Limited quantity at $35.

This was the last book produced by Joanie Whitebird before the press was sold to Milligan.
The first 100 copies were signed & numbered by the author and the artist, and the cover hand-tinted in watercolor. A very few available at $100.

Naomi Shihab Nye
*Travel Alarm*
Hand-sewn chapbook, 32 pages
500 copies, signed & numbered.
Limited quantity at $50

Raphael O’Loughlin
*Basilian Leaders in Texas*
Paperback, Illustrated with historical photos.
Out of Print.

Robert Phillips
*Face to Face*
Hand-sewn chapbook, 32 pages
500 copies, signed & numbered.
Limited quantity at $50

Hermine Pinson
*Ashe*
"New Texas Poetry Series, No. 5"
Hand-sewn chapbook, 28 pages
500 copies, signed & numbered.
Out of Print.

David Plumb
*The Music Stopped and Your Monkey’s On Fire*
Michael Sofranko  
*Homing Instincts*  
Hand-sewn chapbook, 24 pages  
“New Texas Poetry Sampler Series, No. 3”  
300 copies, signed & numbered.  
A very few copies are available at $35

Herman Sutter  
*The Wild Canaries*  
Hand-sewn chapbook, 24 pages  
“New Texas Poetry Sampler Series, No. 1”  
300 copies, signed & numbered.  
A very few copies are available at $35

Townes Van Zandt  
*For the Sake of the Song*  
Hardback and Paperback  
48 pages, 8.5 x 11 inches.  
1,000 hardback copies, 300 of them signed & numbered.  
4,000 saddle-stapled “paperback” copies were published, but some 1,000 were lost to water damage.  
Three copies of the paperback are available at $350.

Michael Ventura  
*The Mollyhawk Poems*  
Illustrated by Cyndy Webendorfer  
Stapled chapbook, 26 numbered & lettered.  
Out of Print.  
1,000 copies, unsigned.  
Limited quantity at $50

Michael Ventura  
*Sitting on Moving Steel*  
Hand-sewn chapbook, 32 pages  
500 copies, signed & numbered  
A very few copies are available at $35

Joanie Whitebird  
*the north beach papers*  
Albuquerque: Suck-Egg Mule Press  
Out of Print.  
Judson Crews published this somewhat infamous chapbook by Joanie, featuring a nude self portrait on the cover. Crews generally including a nude drawing in each of his books, but Joanie insisted that it was “time for the real deal.”

**COMMEMORATIVE PAMPHLETS**

*Poeta del Pueblo: Angela De Hoyos 1924-2009*  
Stapled pamphlet, 28 pages (2004)  
Angela was the editor/designer/publisher of M&A Editions in San Antonio. Her husband, Moises Sandoval, was the printer. She discovered and published many young Chicana/o writers, including Carmen Tafolla, Inés Hernández, and Evangelina Vigil Pinón. Angela was a great friend and compatriot.

*Passionately in Love with Music: A celebration of the lives and performances of El Curro and Teresa Champion*  
Text by Carmen Tafolla  
Stapled pamphlet, 28 pages (2004)
A History of
Wings Press
1975 – 2015
The original Wings Press logo, a drawing of an old Chandler & Price letterpress. However, it does not depict the 1894 Chandler & Price proof press (a much simpler machine) used to produce some early Wings titles. With wings attached—and perhaps because of the press's early association with Vassar Miller, who suffered from cerebral palsy—the logo was occasionally mistaken for a flying wheelchair.

ORIGINS

Wings Press evolved during the small press movement of the late 1960s and early 1970s. It was founded in 1975 by Joseph F. Lomax, editor, and Joanie Whitebird, managing editor. Whitebird had been active in the early years of COSMEP (Committee of Small Magazine Editors and Publishers). She had also been the driving force behind the first truly multicultural anthology of contemporary Texas poetry, Traveso, published in 1975 as a cooperative venture between the Houston Museum of Fine Arts and another small Texas publisher, Paul Foreman's Thorp Springs Press. Wings Press was founded that same year as "an informal association of artists and cultural mythologists dedicated to the preservation of the literature of Texas."

In a September 1977 interview in Houston Breakthrough, Whitebird elaborated:

I disagree with people who tell me I'm lucky. I never have been and I'm not now. I merely see what needs to be done and work towards it till it happens. Wings Press was a natural evolution for me as a native Texan and a poet, just as folklore and regional culture led my associate, Joseph F. Lomax, to the same conclusion: the need for a vehicle to express the myriad forms of art taking shape in Texas.

The first book from Wings appeared in 1976. Vassar Miller's Small Change was printed in an edition of 500 copies on a hand-fed 1894 Chandler & Price proof press. The next year, 1977, three more titles were produced using the letterpress, Vassar Miller's Approaching Nada, a second edition of Small Change, and M. W. McGee's Ambrosia Dancing at Mary's. Thereafter, letterpress was only used for covers, with the exception of the very last book produced by Whitebird, Bryce Milligan's Working the Stone (1993). This title, and the covers for other 1990-1993 titles were printed by Michael Wind on a Heidelberg "Windmill" letterpress in Houston.

Authors published from 1975 to 1993 included such notables as Judson Crews, Vassar Miller, Naomi Shihab Nye, Robert Phillips, Michael Ventura, and singer/songwriter Townes Van Zandt. During those years, Wings Press published 25 books and a few miscellaneous postcards, bookmarks and broadsides. Of the books, there were three hardback editions, five paperbacks with spines, and nineteen chapbooks. Most of the chapbook interiors were printed by offset press, using (generally) letterpress for the covers. Most were hand-sewn by Joanie, often while sitting at book fairs or signings. Editions ranged from 200 to 1,000 copies. One exception was Townes Van Zandt's songbook, For the Sake of the Song, which was published in 1977 in an edition of 1,000 hardbacks (500 were numbered and signed by Townes) and 4,000 saddle-stapled "paperback" copies. After Townes died on January 1, 1997, at his home in Smyrna, Tennessee, the value of the remaining copies of For the Sake of the Song rose precipitously. This fact helped the press survive into a new century.

After Joseph Lomax died in the late '80s, Joanie Whitebird took over as publisher/editor. In 1993, Joanie designed and published a particularly beautiful book, Working the Stone, a poetry collection by Bryce Milligan. The letterpress cover was deckled-edged and one hundred copies of the book had covers hand-tinted by the artist, Angela De Hoyos. But Joanie Whitebird's health was in decline and two years later (in 1995) she sold the press to Milligan, who shared Joanie's vision of the small press as an agent for social change through literature. The "sale" required $100 and a blood-oath (split palms, no less) that Milligan would "keep the press going." After one last desperate road trip that took her from Houston to Seattle to Chiapas, Mexico, to London and back to Houston, Joanie died in 2000. Her papers, and those of Wings Press from 1975 to 1993, are held at the Briscoe Center for American History, University of Texas at Austin.

NEW DIRECTIONS, 1995 - 2002

The first title to be published by Wings Press under Milligan's direction was This Promiscuous Light (1996), a 126-page anthology of young women poets (all under 25 at the time) from San Antonio. Like other small presses, Wings was known as a "discovery press" and it is interesting to note that of the six poets included in this collection, four went on to publish books on their own. Other early titles included Corazón del Norte: A Selection of North Texas Latino Writing (1996, 2nd. ed. revised, 1997); Guadalupe and the Kaleidoscopic Screamer, fiction and poetry by Sheila Sánchez-

A special moment for Wings came in 1999 with the publication of Donald Hall’s Winter Poems from Eagle Pond. Milligan had, with Sandra Cisneros, founded the Texas Small Press Book Fair in 1985. By 1987 that event had been re-envisioned and expanded by Rosemary Catacalos as the San Antonio Inter-American Book Fair. The 1987 fair featured Isabel Allende, Maya Angelou, and Donald Hall. For the next twenty years, Hall would be “first reader” for Milligan’s poetry. Hall and his wife, the poet Jane Kenyon, had for several years commissioned a letterpress broadside of one of Don’s poems to be given as Christmas gifts. Wings reprinted these poems in a limited edition chapbook, illustrated with woodcuts by Barry Moser, and hand bound in handmade paper covers that incorporated red maple leaves gathered by the Hall grandchildren from the farm at Eagle Pond, New Hampshire.

An interesting departure from pure literature came with the 1999 publication of Biblical Hebrew: An Analytical Introduction, by Winfred Lehman, Esther Raizin, and Helen J.J. Hewitt. The book’s authors (all professors of linguistics at the University of Texas) came from three different faiths; thus the book reflected a reverence for the roots of language but exhibited a non-denominational approach to these ancient religious texts.

Seven titles were published in the Premio Poesía Tejana series, 1999-2002. This award, dedicated to Latina poets under the age of 30 having Texas roots or residence, consisted of the publication of a substantial chapbook in a signed and numbered edition of 500 copies plus a modest cash prize. Each author received 100 copies of her book in lieu of royalties on the first printing. Statistically, at that time, young “minority” poets had more difficulty than any other category of writer in getting a first book published. Of the seven authors published in this series, five have continued to write and publish.

In 2000, Pamela Uschuk’s first book appeared, Finding Peaches in the Desert, which won the Literature Award from the Tucson/Pima Arts Council that year. It was followed soon thereafter by a CD recording of the same title, featuring the music of Joy Harjo along with Uschuk’s poetry. It was an auspicious beginning. Uschuk has gone on to publish five more titles with Wings, winning the New Millennium Poetry Prize, a Best of the Web prize, the Struga International Poetry Prize, the Dorothy Daniels Writing Award from the National League of American PEN Women, the King’s English Prize, as well as awards from the Chester H. Jones Foundation and Amnesty International. Over 30 individual poems have been nominated for Pushcart Prizes. Her 2012 book, Crazy Love, won the American Book Award.

In 2001, Wings published what would become its best selling poetry title, Carmen Tafolla’s Sonnets and Salsa. In 2004 this title was revised and expanded, having already sold some 4,000 copies. It is still in print. Tafolla is also the author of two of the press’s few illustrated children’s books, Baby Coyote and the Old Woman / El coyotito y la viejita (2000), and That’s Not Fair: Emma Tenayuca’s struggle for justice / No es Justo: La lucha de Emma Tenayuca por la justicia (2008), both of which went into multiple re-printings.

Another “star” writer to enter the Wings list was Cecile Pineda, the first Latina author to break into the major New York houses in the 1980s. In 2001, Wings began a project to republish Pineda’s well-known novels, Face, The Love Queen of the Amazon, and Frieze, as well as numerous new works. Six of the eight works by Pineda published by Wings have featured cover photographs by Kathy Vargas, herself a long-time fan of Pineda’s fiction. Pineda has gone on to become a major voice in environmental literature. As Jeff Biggers wrote in the Bloomsbury Review in September 2004:

Cecile Pineda is an American original, a literary treasure, and her prodigiously inventive and important work . . . deserves a place in the forefront of American literature.

BREAKTHROUGH YEARS, 2003-2004

The press gained national attention (including a full-page story in Publishers Weekly and significant reviews in newspapers around the country) with the publication of John Howard Griffin’s posthumous novel, Street of the Seven Angels. The next year, Wings brought out the definitive edition of Griffin’s classic work, Black Like Me, with a foreword by Studs Terkel and several previously unseen historical photographs. The book received starred reviews in trade and library journals. Black Like Me—in hardback and ebook—remains Wings Press’s best selling title.

In 2003, Robert Bonazzi, executor of the John Howard Griffin estate and the long-time publisher/editor of Latitudes Press, “retired” to San Antonio. Milligan and Bonazzi had published the literary journal, Vortex: A Critical Review, in the late ’80s. Having corresponded on paper for nearly 25 years, it was cinch that the two would work well together. Wings went on to re-publish Griffin’s entire canon (some as stand-alone ebooks), and to issue new collections of essays by the author, all edited by Bonazzi.

Two anthologies also came out in 2004. Falling from Grace in Texas: A Literary Response to the Demise of Paradise, edited by Rick Bass and Paul Christensen, was the press’s first entry into serious environmental literature. Jump-Start Playworks was a collection of multicultural, experimental performance pieces developed at San Antonio’s Jump-Start Performance Co. Playworks was edited by playwright Sterling Houston. Houston’s High Yello Rose and Other Texas Plays came out in 2009, shortly before the death of the playwright.
Later Highlights

The Fall of 2005 saw the publication of yet more drama, Ana Castillo's political play, Pst . . . I Have Something To Tell You, Mi Amor. It was also the year that two award-winning hardback poetry collections appeared by Marjorie Agosín and Lorna Dee Cervantes. Agosín's book, Among the Angels of Memory / Entre los Ángeles de la Memoria, was an expanded edition of her earlier Wings book The Angel of Memory. It was the basis of an operetta, which toured the country in 2006.

Lorna Dee Cervantes' first book in fourteen years was Drive: The First Quartet. Cervantes’ Drive debuted with a major performance/reading at the National Museum of Women in the Arts—a virtually unprecedented event for a “small press” from the hinterlands. Drive was also featured in a touring NEA-funded exhibit of “Latino artists and writers in dialogue,” mounted by the University of Notre Dame. The publication of Drive—highly anticipated among Latina readers and scholars for several years—was called “the Latino publishing event of the year” (Prof. Francisco Aragón, Univ. of Notre Dame). Wings Press has gone on to publish two more books and a chapbook by Cervantes.

Both Among the Angels of Memory and Drive won the International Latino Book Award.

The year 2008 was excellent for Wings. A new Wings Press logo was designed in 2008 by Honey Stowers, who also redesigned the Wings Press website and has done yeoman's work over the years as the press's web mistress/guru.

Carmen Tafolla’s The Holy Tortilla and a Pot of Beans and That’s Not Fair/No es justo both came out in 2008, gaining starred reviews in Booklist and School Library Journal. The Holy Tortilla won the Tomás Rivera Award for young adult literature, and That’s Not Fair/No es justo went into five printings!

In 2010, Wings began issuing all of its new titles as simultaneous ebooks, and the long job of producing ebook versions of the backlist began, a project still in process.

Ekphrastic Poetry

Full color, illustrated poetry books are not what most publishers would consider a good bet, but in 2010, Wings began a relationship with poet Steven Schneider and his wife, artist Reefka Schneider. Their bilingual collection, Borderlines: Drawing Border Lives / Fronteras: Dibujando las vidas fronterizas has also gone into multiple printings and is considered a model of ekphrastic poetry.

In 2013, Carmen Tafolla’s dream of doing a book of poems inspired by the paintings of Catalina Gárate García was realized with the publication of Rebozos—another full color illustrated poetry book. Rebozos was a critical success, gaining multiple starred reviews and winning first place in three different categories of the International Latino Book Award: Best Bilingual Poetry Book, Best Art Book, and Best Gift Book. Following the model of Rebozos, including artists’ statements and scholarly essays as well as poetry and art, is the press’s newest venture into this field: Norma E. Cantú and Marta Sánchez’s Transcendental Train Yard, soon to be followed by another Schneider collaboration, The Magic of Mariachi.

Banned in Arizona

Curandera, Carmen Tafolla’s 1983 classic, was republished in 2012 by Wings Press in a special anniversary edition with additional historical essays and photographs. That same year, Curandera was one of the titles banned in Arizona as a result of action by the state's right-wing legislature. The now-famous Librotraficante caravan “smuggled” hundreds of copies of Curandera into Tucson, where it was given away to students and teachers. Other Wings Press titles have been banned or challenged over the years (Black Like Me most often).

The Laureates

When Milligan first encountered Julian Castro in a high school creative writing class in 1990, he had no idea that the future mayor would—twenty-two years later—create the first poet laureate position for the city of San Antonio. In 2012, Mayor Castro named Carmen Tafolla to a two-year tenure in that position. The idea was infectious, and soon other Texas cities began naming laureates.

In 2013, Rosemary Catacalos was named the first-ever Latina Poet Laureate of the state of Texas. For years, Wings had offered to re-publish Catacalos’s exceptional first book, Again for the First Time. The new laureate agreed and the book went to press just as she began her tenure. Simultaneously, production began on a fine chapbook, Begin Here. In 2015, the new Poet Laureate named by the state was ... Carmen Tafolla.

Other state poet laureates published by Wings Press include JoAnn Balingit (Delaware), Darrel Bourque (Louisiana), Donald Hall (U.S.), William Kloefkorn (Nebraska), David Lee (Utah), and Sofia Starnes (Virginia).
Wings Press is a “for profit” press, meaning that is is not eligible to apply for public grants. Nevertheless, a few donations have been received over the years from private individuals, and a few titles have received support from the city of San Antonio and various universities. For such support the press is very grateful. For-profit businesses seldom have a “mission statement.” However, at the back of each Wings Press book, there is the following:

THE MISSION STATEMENT:

Wings Press was founded in 1975 by Joanie Whitebird and Joseph F. Lomax, both deceased, as “an informal association of artists and cultural mythologists dedicated to the preservation of the literature of the nation of Texas.” Publisher, editor and designer since 1995, Bryce Milligan is honored to carry on and expand that mission to include the finest in American writing—meaning all of the Americas, without commercial considerations clouding the decision to publish or not to publish.

Wings Press intends to produce multi-cultural books, chapbooks, ebooks, recordings and broadsides that enlighten the human spirit and enliven the mind. Everyone ever associated with Wings has been or is a writer. We believe that writing is a transformational art form capable of changing the world, primarily by allowing us to glimpse something of each other’s souls. We believe that good writing is innovative, insightful, and interesting. But most of all it is honest. As Bob Dylan put it, “To live outside the law, you must be honest.”

Likewise, Wings Press is committed to treating the planet itself as a partner. Thus the press uses environmentally friendly inks and as much recycled material as possible, from the paper on which the books are printed to the cartons in which they are shipped.

As Robert Dana wrote in Against the Grain, “Small press publishing is personal publishing. In essence, it’s a matter of personal vision, personal taste and courage, and personal friendships.” Welcome to our world.

Bryce Milligan, Publisher, editor & designer