

# Forever NIGHT

Siempre  
Noche

**The Alternative  
New Year's Day  
Spoken Word / Performance  
Extravaganza!**

**2017 Anthology**

Cover Side



FOREVER NIGHT (Siempre Noche):  
The Alternative New Year's Day Spoken Word / Performance Extravaganza  
- 2017 Anthology

- First Edition.
- Volume IV in a series.
- 140 pages.
- Trade Paperback.
- American contemporary poetry anthology.

Contact Information / Order Online:  
<http://www.alternativenyd.org/>

Rogue Scholars Press  
<http://www.roguescholars.com>

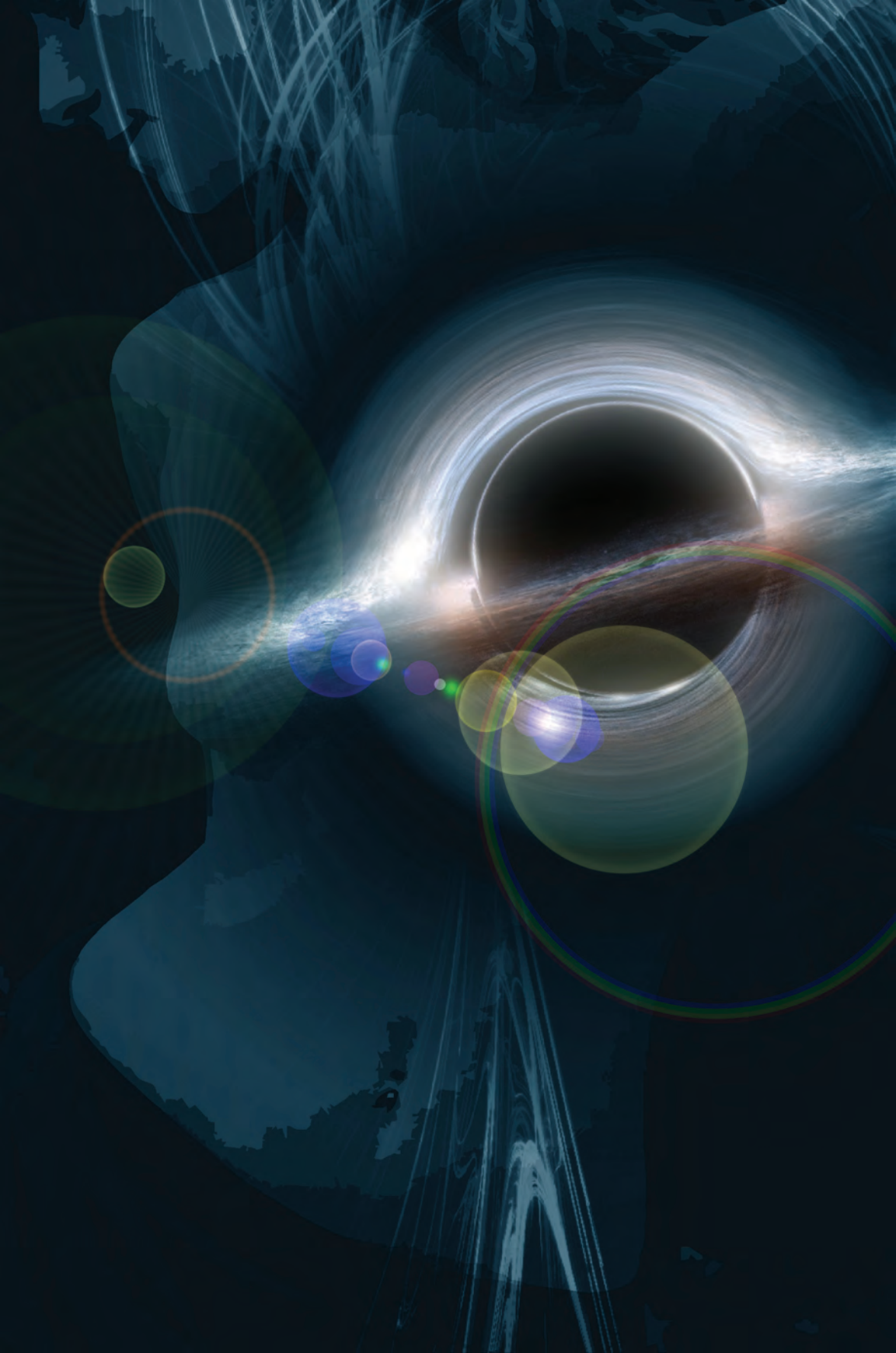
Design and Layout: C. D. Johnson  
Publishers: Rogue Scholars Press

ISBN-10: 0-9840982-4-0  
ISBN-13: 978-0-9840982-4-8

Copyright © 2017 by Rogue Scholars Press / ANYDSWPE Imprint

All rights reserved. Except for brief quotations for reviewing purposes, this book or parts thereof, may not be reproduced in any form or by any means, whether print or electronic, without permission in writing from the publisher and / or author(s).

Published by Rogue Scholars Press  
New York, NY - USA





**Forever NIGHT**

**Siempre  
Noche**

The Alternative  
New Year's Day  
Spoken Word / Performance  
Extravaganza!

2017 Anthology

<http://alternativenyd.org>







*CONTENTS***V Acknowledgments****VII Foreword**

- 1 Austin Alexis — **The Tale**
- 2 Joel Allegretti — **Cello**
- 3 Amber — **Mushroom**
- 5 Madeline Artenberg — **Apostle**
- 7 Ron Blum — **Quiet**
- 8 Peter Bushyeager — **Beautiful In The Glow Of A Spell**
- 9 Patricia Carragon — **The Divine Comedy**
- 10 Tina Chan — **Rich Or Poor?**
- 11 Lydia Cortes — **One Day**
- 13 John Reid Currie — **Hot Fall, Two Boys**
- 14 Steve Dalachinsky — **faces on the wall - reprise**
- 15 Terence Degnan — **Churchville**
- 17 Pete Dolack — **Big Bang**
- 18 Jim Feast — **Trish,**
- 19 Bryan Cornel Fox — **Untitled**
- 21 Daniela Gioseffi — **Billions Of Gallons Of Blood**
- 23 Bob Heman — **CODA**
- 24 David Huberman — **Uninvited Visitor**
- 25 Ngoma Osayemi Ifatunmise — **Politrickery**
- 26 Kate Irving — **Family Math**
- 27 Evie Ivy — **The Walk**
- 29 C. D. Johnson — **Tara Devi And Some Crêpes**
- 31 Icegayle Johnson — **Begin**
- 32 Larry Jones — **Megalomania**
- 33 Meg Kaizu — **In Sand**
- 34 Linda Kleinbub — **Carnage**
- 35 Ron Kolm — **Round The World Cruise, 1934**
- 37 Ptr Kozlowski — **Intercom**
- 39 Art Lasky — **A Zen Approach To City Driving**
- 41 Jane LeCroy — **A Little Death**

*CONTENTS Continued...*

- 42 Linda Lerner — **One Daylight Saving Hour**  
43 Phillip X Levine — **Who Is Language?**  
45 Tsaurah Litzky — **Full Lotus**  
46 Ana López-Betancourt — **reflections**  
47 Ellen 'Windy' Aug Lytle — **leaf — november, 2016**  
48 Stan Marcus — **Chrome Yellow**  
49 Peter Marra — **Room 26: A Deadly Organ And Controversial  
Toys**  
51 Jesús Papoleto Meléndez — **Affirmation Of Myself**  
53 Nancy Mercado — **Catcalls To My Brain**  
55 Dennis Moritz — **thank you**  
56 David Moscovich — **Undercover Island**  
57 K B Nemcosky — **Double Down**  
58 Valery Oisteanu — **Hedda Sterne**  
59 Jennifer-Leigh Oprihory — **Note To Self**  
60 Yuko Otomo — **our yearnings to decorate things & ourselves  
(alike)**  
61 Eve Packer — **thanksgiving**  
62 Mireya Perez-Bustillo — **Cumbia En La Plaza Bolivar**  
63 Puma Perl — **Waiting**  
64 A. Podracky — **Walt's Florida**  
65 Ron Price — **After Loss, The Going On**  
66 J D Rage — **Andy Warhol**  
67 Jill Rapaport — **The Rack And Ruin Of "Robust"**  
69 Robert Roth — **Untitled**  
70 Thaddeus Rutkowski — **Bad Monkey**  
71 Sarah Sarai — **Love Letter**  
72 Ilka Scobie — **What We Lost**  
73 Hugh Seidman — **Crossing Bryant Park**  
75 Brian Sheffield — **[and suddenly — it all makes sense now]**  
76 Susan Sherman — **The Death Of A Thousand Cuts**  
77 John L. Silver — **In Early November**  
78 Miriam Stanley — **Subway**  
79 Terese Svoboda — **The Glass Of Champagne**

*CONTENTS Continued...*

- 80** Lawrence Swan — **Waiting For X**  
**81** Alice B. Talkless — **Faith**  
**83** J M Theisen de González — **The Case Of The Grateful  
Granddaughter**  
**85** Jack Thomas — **The (Secret) History Of That (Infamous)  
Magazine (Wall) Revealed!**  
**86** Zev Torres — **Arrogance In The First Degree**  
**87** Anoek Van Praag — **Obscene Beauty**  
**88** Claire Van Winkle — **Next To A Man**  
**89** Phyllis Wat — **Tabulation**  
**90** Bruce Weber — **German Toothpaste**  
**91** Francine Witte — **Selfie At The End Of The World**  
**92** Jeffrey Cyphers Wright — **Boutonnière**  
**93** Anton Yakovlev — **Dance Of The Sugar Plum Fairy**
- 

APPENDIX

- a-I** Contributor Biographies  
**a-XXI** Alphabetical Index Of Poems  
**a-XXV** Colophon Rogue Scholars Press  
**a-XXVII** Addendum ANYDSWPE



*ACKNOWLEDGMENTS*

**I want to give a special shout out to our staff  
for their help in making all this possible:**

**Madeline Artenburg  
Pete Dolack  
C. D. Johnson  
Boni Joi  
Ptr Kozlowski  
Ellen Aug Lytle  
Su Polo  
Robert Roth  
Thad Rutkowski  
and Joanne Pagano Weber**

**I also want to thank the Nuyorican Poets Café  
for welcoming us so warmly and generously  
once more.**

- Bruce Weber



*FOREWORD***Our 23<sup>rd</sup> Event And Our 4<sup>th</sup> Anthology...  
Amazing!**

Every year I reconsider the broad strokes and possibilities, and the staff gathers in early winter to talk about new directions and bridges to cross. A major part of our planning is to reach out to new guest curators for assistance in keeping the channels open to new voices and sounds. We also hope to bring in artists we've missed, neglected, or not had back in a while. This year I am especially thrilled by the multitude of new performers that have been added to event.

When the ***Alternative New Year's Day Spoken Word / Performance Extravaganza*** began I fantasized about creating an anthology on the spot, with the help of an industrial strength photocopy machine nearby. Now in the age of the internet, and the publishing possibilities the internet has conjured up, plus the masterful hand and eye of C. D. Johnson, we have our fourth annual collection of a selection of works by participants in ***Forever Night: Siempre Noche***.

The theme ***Forever Night: Siempre Noche*** was chosen in the course of this past overheated summer of Trump and Clinton, and after the theme was selected by the vote of the staff, some staff members wondered if it was perhaps too dark in its insinuations. Now, following the autumn election, we *must* and we *shall* persist even harder in our artistry, clinging to art's ever present truth to get us through the forthcoming night ahead.

- Bruce Weber





Austin Alexis

## The Tale

Who am I to say  
she was crazy?--  
that woman from the neighborhood  
I didn't know well enough  
to predict she would say  
what she howled from her stoop.  
She told of an entity that appeared  
at the foot of her bed.  
Maybe he represented her dead husband.  
Maybe he or it was an angel,  
nearly invisible, but there,  
seeable as mist and water are intangible  
yet tangible.

Who am I to say  
she was hallucinating?  
In former times, people spoke of visitations,  
demons, glowing spirits.  
Perhaps in our modern era, we've lost  
the ability to perceive these beings,  
be they benign or wicked.  
Except, once in a long while, one of us  
like the lady from the neighborhood,  
breaks through to their dimension,  
then watches them with the wonder,  
the awe of an ancient tribe  
beholding a super moon.

---

Joel Allegretti

## Cello

### For Daniel Berrigan

Leviathan  
Of the orchestral  
Sea

Violin's  
Magnification  
Of itself

Cellar  
Of the string section's  
Architecture

\*

In his closing decade  
Pablo Casals  
Played it

For world harmony  
He bowed  
It lowed:

*Dona*  
*Nobis*  
*Pacem*

His weapon  
Of mass  
Redemption

---

Francine Witte

## Selfie At The End Of The World

Like everything else, the apocalypse  
will be photographed. Duckface crumble

of skyscrapers, or the twisty scowl of the ground  
giving way. Sudden, but not surprising.

You'll remember the temperature rising  
and the earth pulling off its sweater

of foliage and ice. How it all seemed  
so distant, but now shows up to photobomb

that last TV reporter, humanity trampling  
itself in the background. No selfie stick

long enough to fit seven billion,  
so instead, you gather a bouquet

of faces around you, strike a pose and shoot.

---

Jeffrey Cyphers Wright

## **Bouttonnière**

*for Miguel Algarin*

The gods of Vodka River declare,  
*Death shall have no sway here,*  
my little problem child. My boutonnière.  
At the Ding Dong Lounge on 105th.

Raised up on 6th Street and FDR Drive,  
you're always down for cooked peaches  
in Newport or San Juan. You regret  
that "Men can't say 'chicks' anymore."

Dirty looks—I too know them well.  
You must be a mold. "In the rear,"  
you quip. Our bar stools spin.  
Lit candles prick night's womb.

Let's go for a ride together on the Whip,  
onyx-spectrum panther driven.

---

Anton Yakovlev

## Dance Of The Sugar Plum Fairy

There was always a hint of that classic *Nutcracker* number  
 in my saunter down Tchaikovsky Street  
 from my job as a taste-tester at the candy factory Red October  
 to my second job at the candy factory Bolshevik.  
 I kept waiting for you to notice that hint.

When you received that genuine Wedgwood bowl  
 from all those Olympic teams you had led to gold,  
 did you think of my ballet school diploma,  
 or my triumphant reports on deluxe dark chocolate bars?

You see, you were never floored by the color  
 of my hair, you were never floored by the way  
 I checked my dress in the mirror. You were never floored  
 by my day-to-day choreography,  
 by the abandon with which I pounced on the lower octaves  
 of your candelabraed upright piano.

I knew we would miss our 50-year anniversary.  
 And I know we won't live to see our 75th.

Still, on that Leningrad white night,  
 hanging out with your track-and-field team, you tried  
 to hold on to the chestnut scarf I had dropped,  
 and though I snatched it from you,  
 I knew we'd end up together.

Now, after your third stroke,  
 I could dangle all the scarves I have ever owned  
 in front of you, and you wouldn't know they were mine.

I could ask you questions to make you figure it out,  
 make you Sherlock your way to the only reasonable conclusion,  
 but still it wouldn't click,  
 just like the description  
 of a chocolate bar's shape and taste  
 doesn't make someone blind from birth  
 understand the color brown.

Sometimes I rush to change your bed sheets,  
go down to the laundromat,  
come back to hug you,  
comb your beard.

Sometimes I go to the store.  
You smile: "Don't go!"  
I fear those words will be the last I hear,  
so I always hurry back home  
down Lenin Avenue  
with a loaf of bread.

---

## APPENDIX





## CONTRIBUTOR BIOGRAPHIES

## Austin Alexis //

---

Austin Alexis: author of *Privacy Issues*, two chaplets by **Poets Wear Prada** and work in *Rabbit Ears: TV Poems*, *Poets4Paris*, *The Journal*, *The Pedestal Magazine*.

## Joel Allegretti //

---

Joel Allegretti is the author of five collections of poetry. His second collection, *Father Silicon* (The Poet's Press, 2006), was selected by The Kansas City Star as one of 100 Noteworthy Books of 2006. He is the editor of *Rabbit Ears: TV Poems* (NYQ Books, 2015), the first anthology of poetry about the mass medium.

## Amber //

---

The cornucopia fruit and vegetable lady, from apple to zucchini. Poems published, performed, taped, translated. Hosted monthly office poetry events. Amber illuminates.

## Madeline Artenberg //

---

Madeline Artenberg's poetry has appeared in many print and online publications, such as *Vernacular and Rattle*. She won Lyric Recovery and Poetry Forum prizes and was semi-finalist in the 2005 contest of *Margie*, *The American Journal of Poetry*. Her work often touches on Jewish and New York City themes. *The Old In-and-Out*, a play based on her poetry and that of Karen Hildebrand, directed by Kat Georges, garnered raves in June, 2013.

Ron Blum //

---

Ron Blum is a writer. He lives in Boston, Massachusetts.

Peter Bushyeager //

---

Peter Bushyeager's poetry collections include *Citadel Luncheonette* and *In the Green Oval*. Recent poems in *Live Mag!* and *From Somewhere to Nowhere*, the forthcoming *Unbearables* anthology. Reviews and articles in *Talisman*, *Rain Taxi*, *The World in Time and Space* anthology, *Encyclopedia of American Poetry / Twentieth Century*, and Wave Book's forthcoming collection of interviews from the Poetry Project Newsletter.

Patricia Carragon //

---

Patricia Carragon has two forthcoming books: *Cupcake Chronicles* (Poets Wear Prada) and *Innocence* (Finishing Line Press). She hosts the Brooklyn-based Brownstone Poets and is the editor-in-chief of its annual anthology. She is one of the Executive Editors for *Home Planet News Online*.

Tina Chan //

---

Tina Chan is a lively poet whose writing style is a poetic puzzle. She believes words extracted from the heart are to be made memorable.

## Lydia Cortes //

---

Lydia Cortes is the author of two collections of poetry: *Lust for Lust* and *Whose Place*. She has also been published in various anthologies and in online zines. Recently her work has appeared in the literary journal, *Upstreet*. Currently she is working on a memoir in verse form. She's very pleased to be included again herein.

## John Reid Currie //

---

John Reid Currie was the founding editor of the journal, *Ozone Park* and writer in residence at the **Louis Armstrong Archives** and museum. His chapbook, *Others* was published by Ghostbird Press in 2015. [www.ghostbirdpress.org](http://www.ghostbirdpress.org). His poetry is featured in *Greenwich Village* published by St. Martins Griffin. Mr. Currie is a member of the writer's collective, **Oh, Bernice!**

## Steve Dalachinsky //

---

Poet/collagist Steve Dalachinsky was born in Brooklyn after the last big war. His poem "Particle Fever" was nominated for a 2015 Pushcart Prize. His most recent books include *Fool's Gold* (2014 feral press), *a superintendent's eyes* (revised and expanded 2013/14 - unbearable/autonomeia) and *flying home*, a collaboration with German visual artist Sig Bang Schmidt (Paris Lit Up Press 2015) and *The Invisible Ray* (Overpass Press 2016) with artwork by Shalom Neuman.

Terence Degnan //

---

Terence Degnan is a poet. His most recent book, *Still Something Rattles*, was published by Sock Monkey Press in September, 2016. Terence produces the storytelling series, HOW TO BUILD A FIRE, and the poetry series, **Poets Settlement**. Terence lives in Brooklyn with his wife and daughter.

Pete Dolack //

---

Pete Dolack is an activist, essayist, poet and photographer who tries to keep juggling all these balls but, alas, keeps dropping some of them. Pete's book *It's Not Over: Learning From the Socialist Experiment*, is available from Zero Books, and his essays are published in his **Systemic Disorder** blog, as well as in publications including *CounterPunch*, *Z Magazine* and the *Ecologist*.

Jim Feast //

---

Jim Feast's poetry book, published in 2016, is titled *Time Extends Life to Those Who Survive*.

Bryan Fox //

---

Bryan Cornel Fox is a New York poet who loves to box and has performed poetry around the city at places such as Nuyorican Poets' Café, GLBT Center, Word at 4F, and the Bowery Poetry Club.

Daniela Gioseffi //

---

Daniela Gioseffi won an **American Book Award**, two **NYS**CA grants and **The John Ciardi Award for Lifetime Achievement in Poetry**. Her first of sixteen books: *Eggs In The Lake*. Her latest: *Blood Autumn*. Portraying her work in civil, women's rights, and climate justice, a docu-drama: **www.AuthorAndActivist.com** screens throughout the country. She edits: **www.Eco-Poetry.org**: climate crisis literature, appearing widely. Info: **Gioseffi.com**.

Bob Heman //

---

Bob Heman has edited *CLWN WR* (formerly *Clown War*) since 1972. His words have been published on every continent except Antarctica.

David Huberman //

---

David Huberman is the Ranter and Raver of NYC. He now has been put on the endangered species list!

Ngoma Osayemi Ifatunmise //

---

Ngoma is a performance poet, multi-instrumentalist, singer / songwriter and paradigm shifter, who for over 40 years has used culture as a tool to raise socio-political and spiritual consciousness through work that encourages critical thought. Ngoma weaves poetry and song that raises contradictions and searches for a solution to a just and peaceful world.

Kate Irving //

---

Kate Irving's poems have appeared in, among others, **BigCityLit.com**, *qaartsiluni*, and *Press 1*. Her chapbook, *Raising the Arsonist's Daughter from the Dead* was published by Finishing Line Press. She grew up in NYC and is grateful for that unique education.

Evie Ivy //

---

Evie Ivy has 3 books out, *The First Woman Who Danced*, poems based on her experiences as a dancer and dance instructor, *Living in 12-Tone . . . and other poetic forms*, *No, Nonets . . . the Book of Nonets* (Ra Rays Press). Some of her work can be seen online in several poetry webzines, including *Levure Litteraire*, *Versewrights*. She is host to the **Green Pavilion Poetry Event**.

C. D. Johnson //

---

C. D. (Seedy) Johnson: Former web developer, webmaster, and I.T. Director for CEO Clubs International, Inc. Currently, a freelance web, software, graphic design, and digital publishing consultant. Holds an M.A. in analytic philosophy and logic theory and a B.S. in computer science. Has taught adult literacy classes, introduction to logic, religious instruction in Sanatana Dharma and Shaktism, as well as Advaita Vedanta philosophy. Current projects include three books on philosophy, research into Indian Nyaya logic, and a book on conlang (constructed language) theory. He's the editor-in-chief and publisher of the *ANYDSWPE* Annual Anthology series (Rogue Scholars Press).

## Icegayle Johnson //

---

Icegayle Johnson is a pushcart nominee “*True Blood*” *Rabbit Ears TV Poems Anthology*, 2015. “*the key*”, 2012. Forth coming *Eclectic*, full length, summer of 2017.

## Larry Jones //

---

Larry Jones was the co-producer along with Bruce Weber of the first five **ANYDSWPE** events at Café Nico, his loft apartment / performance venue one flight above the Pyramid Club on Avenue A. An Associate of the **Academy of American Poets**, his work has appeared in many literary magazines and anthologies. He teaches literature and creative writing to gifted and talented youth at Hofstra University.

## Meg Kaizu //

---

Meg Kaizu has lived in Tokyo, Moscow, and NYC, contributing articles for magazines such as *Tokyo Art Beat*, *PingMag*, *Whitehot Magazine*, *Being A Broad*, *Metropolis*, and *New York Art Beat*. Her paintings, prose and poetry have appeared in *KD-Magazine*, *Avenue*, *Off-Yellow*, and *Otter Magazine*. She studied art at the University of Oregon and the Art Students League of New York.

## Linda Kleinbub //

---

Linda Kleinbub is a volunteer at **Girls Write Now**. Her work has appeared in *The New York Observer*, *The Brooklyn Rail*, *Yahoo! Beauty*, *Grabbing the Apple: An Anthology of New York Woman Poets*, *First Literary Review East*, *The Nassau County Poet Laureate Society Anthology 2016* and *The Best American Poetry Blog*. She is also painter and organic gardener.

Ron Kolm //

---

Ron Kolm is a member of the **Unbearables** and a contributing editor of *Sensitive Skin* magazine. He is the author of *Divine Comedy*, *Suburban Ambush*, *Duke & Jill*, *Night Shift* and the novel *Neo Phobe*, with Jim Feast. Ron's papers were purchased by the New York University library, where they've been catalogued in the Fales Library.

Ptr Kozlowski //

---

Ptr Kozlowski once worked as a deliveryman. He's been a cab driver, too. This poem was previously published in *PPA Literary Review*, Vol. 20. North Bellmore, New York; Performance Poets Association, 2016

Art Latsky //

---

Art Latsky is a retired computer programmer. After forty years of writing in COBOL and Assembler he decided to try writing in English; it's much harder than it looks. He lives in New York City with his wife/muse and regularly visiting grandkids. Art's had stories published in *Drunken Boat*, *Danse Macabre*, *The Cohaba River Literary Review*, *Third Flat Iron* and **Decasp.com**

Jane LeCroy //

---

Jane LeCroy: (**Sister Spit**, **Vitapup**, **Nu Voices**, **Ohmslice**, **Transmitting**) fronts the avant-pop-post-punk band, **The Icebergs**, with Tom Abbs and David Rogers-Berry. Three Rooms Press published her multimedia book of lyrical poems, *Signature Play*.



## Linda Lerner //

---

Yes, *the Ducks Were Real*, was published by NYQ Books (Feb. 2015) as was my previous collection, *Takes Guts and Years Sometimes*. A chapbook of poems inspired by nursery rhymes, illustrated by Donna Kerness, *Ding Dong the Bell Pussy in the Well* was published by LummoX Press, Feb. 2014. I've been nominated three times for a Pushcart Prize.

## Phillip X Levine //

---

Phillip X Levine lives near Woostock, NY and is approximately an actor, poet, poetry editor for *Chronogram* magazine and president of the Woodstock Poetry Society.

## Tsaurah Litzky //

---

Tsaurah Litzky is a widely published poet, and writer of fiction, memoir, creative nonfiction, plays and commentary. Her poetry collections are *Baby On The Water* (Long Shot Press) and *Cleaning The Duck* (Bowery Books). Her sixteenth poetry chapbook, *Full Lotus* (NightBallet Press) is now in its third printing. Tsaurah is working on a new poetry collection, titled *We Shake It*.

## Ana Lopez Betancourt //

---

Ana Lopez Betancourt is a bilingual poet, theater worker and educator. Born in Loiza, PR, graduate of Boricua College, she has presented at **BACA Downtown**, **The Ear Inn**, **El Museo Del Barrio**, Boricua College, Rutgers University, Ramapo College, Hostos Community College, and **The Nuyorican Poet's Café**. Her work has been published in *And Then*, *Tripartita*, *Compass*, and *Breaking Ground*. The poem "reflections" was previously published by Robert Roth in VOLUME 7 of AND THEN 1996.

Ellen 'Windy' Aug Lytle //

---

Ellen Aug Lytle, or Elle, as she likes being called, is working on another poetry mss. which may pass the test with her publisher for 2018! she wants to definitely write a "travel with myself" novella or series of short stories and, do more to help animals everywhere. Lytle loves to read and binge watch special TV series! She is a wife, mom, grandmom and sister.

Stan Marcus //

---

Stan Marcus' poems have appeared in *The Virginia Quarterly Review*, *Stand* (Leeds, U.K.), *The Literary Review*, *Prairie Schooner*, *College English*, *Poetry East*, *The Journal of New Jersey Poets*, *North Dakota Quarterly*, *Denver Quarterly*, *The Minnesota Review*, *Permafrost*, *North Dakota Quarterly*, *Grasslimb*, the anthology *For a Living: The Poetry of Work* (University of Illinois Press), and other publications.

Peter Marra //

---

Peter Marra's writings explore pain, addiction, love and obsessions. He has had over 200 poems published either in print or online in over 25 journals. His published works include "*approximate lovers (downtown materialaktion)*" and an e-chapbook, "*peep-o-rama*". A new poetry collection, *Vanished Faces (a performance of occult infections)* will be published in 2017 by **Writing Knights Press**.

### Jesús Papoleto Meléndez //

---

Jesús Papoleto Meléndez's play, *The Junkies Stole The Clock* (1974), was the first Latino play produced by the **New York Shakespeare Festival/Public Theatre's Nuyorican Playwright's Unit**. One of the original founders of the Nuyorican Poets Movement, Meléndez's political, intellectual and linguistic approaches in his work remains relevant. *Hey Yo/Yo Soy 40 Years of Nuyorican Street Poetry* (2Leaf Press, 2012).

### Nancy Mercado //

---

Nancy Mercado is the editor of the *Nuyorican Women Writers Anthology* published in *Voices e/Magazine*, the Center for Puerto Rican Studies, Hunter College–CUNY; an online literary journal. She is a guest curator for the Museum of American Poetics and assistant editor for **Eco-poetry.org**; a web site dedicated to addressing the issue of climate crises. For more information: [www.nancymercado.com](http://www.nancymercado.com).

### Dennis Moritz //

---

Dennis Moritz writes poetry plays and poems. Over thirty plays have received professional production. Venues include: **Public Theater, BACA Downtwon, Freedom Theater, Theatre Double, Painted Bride, Here, Nuyorican, St. Marks, Bowery Poetry Club, Stickies**. His work appears in the *Nuyorican Theatre Anthology*. **United Artists Books**, the long time poetry press, will publish his second collection of plays in 2017.

David Moscovich //

---

David Moscovich is the Romanian-American author of *You Are Make Very Important Bathtime* (JEF Books, Chicago, IL) and *LIFE+70 [Redacted]*, a print version of the single most expensive literary e-book ever to be hacked (Lit Fest Press.) He edits **Louffa Press**, a micro-press dedicated to printing innovative fiction and artist books. He lives in New York City.

KB Nemcosky //

---

KB Nemcosky was a reading coordinator at **Chez LaRoe**, 1997-2001. He is the author of two books: *Drift* (Ten Pell Books, 2000) and *dear friend* (Straw Gate Books, 2012). His work has appeared in *Tamarind*, *The Unbearables Collection*, *Pagan Place*, *Chez Chez*, *Gathering of the Tribes*, *Press 1*, *Push New York*, among others. KB Nemcosky lives in New York City.

Valery Oisteanu //

---

Valery Oisteanu is a poet, writer, and artist of the avant-garde. Born in USSR (1943) and educated in Romania. He debuted with *PROSTHESIS* in 1970 (Litera Press, Bucharest). At the age of 20, he adopted Dada and Surrealism as a philosophy of art and life and a few years later, English as his primary language. Immigrating to New York City in 1972, he has been writing in English for the past 44 years. He is the author of 13 books of poetry, a book of short fiction, *The King of Penguins* (Linear Art Press, 2000) and a book of essays (in progress), *The AVANT-GODS*. A new book of VisPo (Visual Poetry) collages titled *Lighter than Air* in Spuyten Duyvil Press NYC (2017).

### Jennifer-Leigh Oprihory //

---

Jennifer-Leigh Oprihory is a connoisseur of carpe diem and light. A NJ-born, Washington, D.C.-based multimedia investigative journalist, editor, and page and performance poet, she holds an M.S. in Journalism from Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism, Media, Integrated Marketing Communications, and a B.A. in English Literature and Writing from New Jersey City University. Follow her on Twitter & Instagram @jenniferleigho.

### Yuko Otomo //

---

Yuko Otomo. Japanese origin. A bilingual (Japanese & English) poet & a visual artist. She also writes haiku, art criticism & essays. She has read in St. Mark's Poetry Project, Tribes, Bowery Poetry Club, ABC No Rio, La Mama, The Living Theatre, PS1, MoMA, The Queens Museum, etc & in Japan, France & Germany. Her publication includes "Garden: Selected Haiku" (**Beehive Press**), "A Sunday Afternoon on the Isle of Museum" (**Propaganda Press**), "PINK" (**Sisyphus Press**), "Small Poems" (**Ugly Duckling Presse**), "The Hand of The Poet" (**UDP**), "STUDY & Other Poems on Art" (**UDP**) & "Elements" (**the Feral Press**). She exhibited her artwork at Court House Gallery @ Anthology Film Archives, Tribes Gallery & Vision Festival, etc. She is a contributing writer for a collective art critical forum [www.Arteidolia.com](http://www.Arteidolia.com) currently. Yuko is a 2015 Pushcart Prize nominee.

### Mireya Perez //

---

Mireya Perez's poetry searches for that "other voice" breaking through entrapment and oppression, the fragile markers to unearth more hidden voices. Her work appears in *Revista del Hada*, *Caribbean Review*, *Americas Review*, *Diosas en Bronce: Anthology of Colombian Women Writers*, *IRP Voices*, among others.

Puma Perl //

---

Puma Perl is a performer, producer and published writer/poet. She's the author of two chapbooks, *Belinda and Her Friends*, and *Ruby True*, and two full-length collections, *knuckle tattoos*, and *Retrograde*. She performs spoken word with her band, **Puma Perl and Friends**, and is the creator/curator of the **Pandemonium**, which merges poetry and rock and roll. She was the recipient of a **New York City Press Award** for her journalistic work, and of the 2016 **Acker Award** in writing.

A. Podracky //

---

A. Podracky lives in Queens, New York. Her work has appeared in a variety of journals, including *Hanging Loose*, *WSQ*, *Newtown Literary*, the *Montauk Anthology*, *Siblings: A Wising Up Anthology*.

Ron Price //

---

Ron Price teaches at the Juilliard School. His most recent collection is *A True Account Of The Failure Of Bodies To Adequately Burn*.

J D Rage //

---

J D Rage writes poetry and novels, paints and takes photographs and often appears in strange places for no good reason. J D publishes *CURARE* magazine and runs **Venom Press**.

Jill Rapaport //

---

Jill Rapaport's collection of fiction, *Duchamp et Moi and Other Stories*, was published by Fly by Night Press / A Gathering of the Tribes in 2014.

### Thaddeus Rutkowski //

---

Thaddeus Rutkowski is the author of the books *Violent Outbursts*, *Haywire*, *Tetched*, and *Roughhouse*. *Haywire* won the **Members Choice Award**, given by the **Asian American Writers Workshop**. He teaches at Medgar Evers College and the Writer's Voice of the West Side YMCA. He received a fiction writing fellowship from the **New York Foundation for the Arts**.

### Sarah Sarai //

---

"A poet of sensitivity, Sarah Sarai filters through the vast junk of daily life." - Krystal Languell in *Pleiades Journal*. Sarai was born in New York State and lives in New York City. Find her on Facebook, at **My 3000 Loving Arms** (blogspot), or on a barstool. The poem "Love Letter" is From *Geographies of Soul and Taffeta*, Indolent Books, 2016.

### Ilka Scobie //

---

Ilka Scobie is a native New Yorker. Her recent poems appear in *Glitter Mob*, *Urban Graffiti* and here / there. She is a deputy editor of *Live Mag*. She writes about contemporary art for *London ArtLyst* and *White Hot*. She co-curated a group show Art Am 3 in Soncino, Italy with her husband, Luigi Cazzaniga.

### Hugh Seidman //

---

Hugh Seidman has published six books. His last, *Somebody Stand Up And Sing*, won the **Green Rose Prize** from **New Issues Press**. His first, *Collecting Evidence*, won the **Yale Younger Poets Prize**. He has received multiple NY State and NEA poetry grants and has taught writing at Wisconsin, Yale, William and Mary, the New School, and other institutions. Acknowledgements: 1. *Crossing Bryant Park: The Café Review and High Chair* ([www.highchair.com.ph](http://www.highchair.com.ph)). For Jayne: *The Laurel Review*.

Brian Sheffield //

---

Brian Sheffield is a poet from California living in Brooklyn and is pretty sure that he takes himself way too seriously. He is immature and talks about himself way too much. He has taught in various public school and university classrooms and has been published a few anthologies, journals, and zines. Oh yeah, he also has chapbooks.

Susan Sherman //

---

Susan Sherman: Most recent books are *Nirvana on Ninth Street*, short Fiction with photos by Colleen McKay and *An Afterward* by Rona L. Holub (Wings Press, Fall, 2014); *The Light that Puts an End to Dreams: New and Selected Poems* (Wings Press, 2012); *America's Child: A Woman's Journey through the Radical Sixties*, a memoir (Curbstone / Northwestern University Press, 2007). She has survived living and writing in the East Village / Lower East Side for over fifty years.

John Silver //

---

John Silver grew up Cold Spring Harbor, L.I. Did covers, poems for *Tamarind*. Hosted **Tamarind Collation** for 10 years. Moved to Westbeth, Published in *And Then*, and other anthologies. Hosted Westbeth readings. Curator of *The Image and The Word Exhibition* at the Westbeth Gallery. 2 Books (Underfield Press). Contributed covers and poems to *White Rabbit*.



### Miriam Stanley //

---

Miriam Stanley is published in several anthologies including *Grabbing the Apple*, *Occupy Wall Street*, and *Skyscrapers, Taxis, and Tampons*. She also has three books of poems published by Rogue Scholars Press: *Let's Fly To Trazodone*, *Get Over It!*, and *Not To Be Believed*. Miriam Stanley has performed in Israel and the United States.

### Terese Svoboda //

---

Terese Svoboda's *When The Next Big War Blows Down The Valley: Selected and New Poems* (Anhinga) was published last year, and *Professor Harriman's Steam Air-Ship* (Eyewear), her seventh book of poetry, this year.

### Lawrence Swan //

---

Lawrence Swan is a painter and poet who has lived in Brooklyn since 1998. He was born in Lexington, Kentucky in 1954 and grew up in Palm Beach County. He received his BFA in painting at the Cleveland Institute of Art in 1981 and earned an MA in philosophy at Cleveland State University in 1986. The idea is to make poetry with whatever spirit or matter is at hand.

### Alice B. Talkless //

---

Alice B. Talkless is Ronna Lebo, a poet, musician and painter who has performed in the NY scene for over twenty years. She is co-founder of Black Square Editions, a non-profit press for poetry and art. She is also co-founder of Reservoir Art Space in Ridgewood, Queens, which includes private studios and an experimental gallery for visual arts.

J M Theisen de González //

---

J M received her 1st rejection letter at 9 from *Readers Digest* (Gramps submitted an essay about Lucky the hamster). Previous: “E Village Eye”, “Waterfront Week” (columnist), “The Curse”, “Pink Pages”, “Juice”, “Curare”, Right Bank Charleston, Knitting Factory, Nuyorican, & McManus Cafes, Pussycat Lounge. Spain: La Llotja Hotel, Colón, Bar Babia. Also: NYCACC volunteer.

Jack Thomas //

---

Following a (major) retrospective @ PRINTED MATTER (this past spring), Jack Thomas is calculating his next move (taking it on the road: Canada, San Francisco, Mexico). Why I Persist!, an introduction to the memoir, AVAILABLE @ A WALL NEAR YOU!, which was read @ The Annual New Year’s Day Reading (@ Nuyorican) 2(-)years ago, appears (in print) for the first time (anywhere)!

Zev Torres //

---

Zev Torres’ poetry has appeared in numerous print and on-line publications including, *Literary Orphans*, **Five2One**’s online publication *#thesideshow*, the *Suisun Valley Review* and *Xanadu*. In 2010, Zev founded the **Skewered Syntax Poetry Crawls** and, since 2008, has hosted **Make Music New York**’s annual **Spoken Word Spectacular**.

### Anoek Van Praag //

---

Born in The Netherlands, Anoek van Praag earned degrees in Trauma Counseling and a Teachers degree in The Performing Arts. Presently she teaches at The College for Health Sciences, works at Equinox and has a private practice. Anoek began writing Poetry at a very early age. She writes and reads in Dutch, English, French and Italian. Her poems are published in various books and magazines such as *Maintenant 7, 8 and 9* (Three Rooms Press), *Marymark Broadshhets Series*, *Nomadic Choir* and can be found on YouTube and on-line magazines. She is performing monthly at **Monologues and Madnesher** at Cornelia Street café.

### Claire Van Winkle //

---

Claire Van Winkle is a poet, essayist, and literary translator. She currently teaches creative writing, composition, literature, and grammar at Queens College, Queensborough Community College, and the Fashion Institute of Technology. In addition to her creative and academic pursuits, Claire works as a Recreational Therapist (RT) at the New York State Psychiatric Institute. Her clinical work and research focus on the development and implementation of Pedagogical Therapy, which applies linguistic theory and creative writing workshop methods to one-on-one and group therapy sessions for inpatient psychiatric patients.

### Phyllis Wat //

---

Phyllis Wat's books are *Shadow Blue*, *The Fish Soup Bowl Expedition*, and from United Artists Books, *The Influence of Painings Hung in Bedrooms*, as well as *Wu Going There*.

Bruce Weber //

---

Bruce Weber is the founder and organizer of **The Alternative New Year's Day Spoken Word / Performance Extravaganza** (ANYDSWPE). He is the author of five books of poetry, including *The Breakup of My First Marriage* (Rogue Scholars Press). By day, Bruce is Curator of **Paintings & Sculpture** at the **Museum of the City of New York**.

Francine Witte //

---

Francine Witte is a poet, flash fiction writer, photographer, blogger, and reviewer. Her latest chapbook, *Not All Fires Burn the Same* won the **2016 Slipstream Chapbook Competition** and was recently published by them. She is a former high school English teacher. She lives in NYC. "Selfie at the End of the World" was originally published in *Crab Creek Review*. "My Dead Florida Mother Meets Gandhi" was originally published in *Slippery Elm*.

Jeffrey Cyphers Wright //

---

Jeffrey Cyphers Wright is a poet, artist, critic, eco-activist, and impresario. He also edits and publishes *Live Mag!* His 13th book is a manifesto titled *Party Everywhere*. Wright's poem "Staggering Love" originally appeared in *New Verse News*.

Anton Yakovlev //

---

Born in Moscow, Russia, Anton Yakovlev studied filmmaking and poetry at Harvard University. He is the author of chapbooks *Ordinary Impalers* (2017), *The Ghost of Grant Wood* (2015), and *Neptune Court* (2015). His poems have appeared in *The New Yorker*, *The Hopkins Review*, *Prelude*, and elsewhere. His book of translations of poetry by Sergei Esenin is forthcoming in 2017.

## ALPHABETICAL INDEX OF POEMS

<b>Affirmation Of Myself</b> — Jesús Papoleto Meléndez.....	51
<b>After Loss, The Going On</b> — Ron Price.....	65
<b>[and suddenly // it all makes sense now]</b> — Brian Sheffield....	75
<b>Andy Warhol</b> — J D Rage.....	66
<b>Apostle</b> — Madeline Artenberg.....	5
<b>Arrogance In The First Degree</b> — Zev Torres.....	86
<b>Bad Monkey</b> — Thaddeus Rutkowski.....	70
<b>Beautiful In The Glow Of A Spell</b> — Peter Bushyeager.....	8
<b>Begin</b> — Icegayle Johnson.....	31
<b>Big Bang</b> — Pete Dolack.....	17
<b>Billions Of Gallons Of Blood</b> — Daniela Gioseffi.....	21
<b>Boutonnière</b> — Jeffrey Cyphers Wright.....	92
<b>Carnage</b> — Linda Kleinbub.....	34
<b>The Case Of The Grateful Granddaughter</b> — J M Theisen de González.....	83
<b>Catcalls To My Brain</b> — Nancy Mercado.....	53
<b>Cello</b> — Joel Allegretti.....	2
<b>Chrome Yellow</b> — Stan Marcus.....	48
<b>Churchville</b> — Terence Degnan.....	15
<b>CODA</b> — Bob Heman.....	23
<b>Crossing Bryant Park</b> — Hugh Seidman.....	73
<b>Cumbia En La Plaza Bolivar</b> — Mireya Perez-Bustillo.....	62
<b>Dance Of The Sugar Plum Fairy</b> — Anton Yakovlev.....	93
<b>The Death Of A Thousand Cuts</b> — Susan Sherman.....	76
<b>The Divine Comedy</b> — Patricia Carragon.....	9
<b>Double Down</b> — K B Nemcosky.....	57
<b>faces on the wall - reprise</b> — Steve Dalachinsky.....	14
<b>Faith</b> — Alice B. Talkless.....	81
<b>Family Math</b> — Kate Irving.....	26
<b>Full Lotus</b> — Tsaurah Litzky.....	45
<b>German Toothpaste</b> — Bruce Weber.....	90
<b>The Glass Of Champagne</b> — Terese Svoboda.....	79
<b>Hedda Sterne</b> — Valery Oisteanu.....	58

<b>Hot Fall, Two Boys</b> — John Reid Currie.....	13
<b>In Early November</b> — John L. Silver.....	77
<b>In Sand</b> — Meg Kaizu.....	33
<b>Intercom</b> — Ptr Kozlowski.....	37
<b>leaf / november, 2016</b> — Ellen ‘Windy’ Aug Lytle.....	47
<b>A Little Death</b> — Jane LeCroy.....	41
<b>Love Letter</b> — Sarah Sarai.....	71
<b>Megalomania</b> — Larry Jones.....	32
<b>Mushroom</b> — Amber.....	3
<b>Next To A Man</b> — Claire Van Winkle.....	88
<b>Note To Self</b> — Jennifer-Leigh Oprihory.....	59
<b>Obscene Beauty</b> — Anoek Van Praag.....	87
<b>One Day</b> — Lydia Cortes.....	11
<b>One Daylight Saving Hour</b> — Linda Lerner.....	42
<b>our yearnings to decorate things &amp; ourselves (alike)</b> — YukoOtomo.....	60
<b>Politrickery</b> — Ngoma Osayemi Ifatunmise.....	25
<b>Quiet</b> — Ron Blum.....	7
<b>The Rack And Ruin Of “Robust”</b> — Jill Rapaport.....	67
<b>reflections</b> — Ana López-Betancourt.....	46
<b>Rich Or Poor?</b> — Tina Chan.....	10
<b>Room 26: A Deadly Organ And Controversial Toys</b> — Peter Marra.....	49
<b>Round The World Cruise, 1934</b> — Ron Kolm.....	35
<b>The (Secret) History Of That (Infamous) Magazine (Wall) Revealed!</b> — Jack Thomas.....	85
<b>Selfie At The End Of The World</b> — Francine Witte.....	91
<b>Subway</b> — Miriam Stanley.....	78
<b>Tabulation</b> — Phyllis Wat.....	89
<b>The Tale</b> — Austin Alexis.....	1
<b>Tara Devi And Some Crêpes</b> — C. D. Johnson.....	29
<b>thank you</b> — Dennis Moritz.....	55
<b>thanksgiving</b> — Eve Packer.....	61

<b>Trish</b> , — Jim Feast.....	<b>18</b>
<b>Undercover Island</b> — David Moscovich.....	<b>56</b>
<b>Uninvited Visitor</b> — David Huberman.....	<b>24</b>
<b>Untitled</b> — Bryan Cornel Fox.....	<b>19</b>
<b>Untitled</b> — Robert Roth.....	<b>69</b>
<b>Waiting</b> — Puma Perl.....	<b>63</b>
<b>Waiting For X</b> — Lawrence Swan.....	<b>80</b>
<b>The Walk</b> — Evie Ivy.....	<b>27</b>
<b>Walt's Florida</b> — A. Podracky.....	<b>64</b>
<b>What We Lost</b> — Ilka Scobie.....	<b>72</b>
<b>Who Is Language?</b> — Phillip X Levine.....	<b>43</b>
<b>A Zen Approach To City Driving</b> — Art Lasky.....	<b>39</b>





•  
ROGUE SCHOLARS  
Press

For General Information, go to:

<http://www.roguescholars.com>

For more information or a price quote for our  
book design and editing services, contact:

[editor@roguescholars.com](mailto:editor@roguescholars.com)

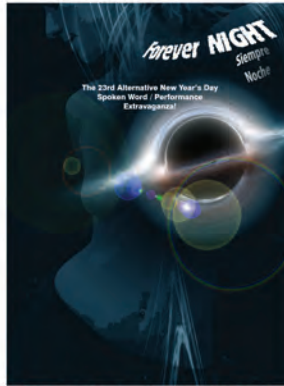
•  
Other ANYDSWPE Volumes:

Palabras Luminosas (Luminous Words) - 2016  
Rogue Scholars Press  
ISBN-13: 978-0-9840982-3-1

Shadow Of The Geode (Sombra Del Geode) - 2015  
Bonsai Publishers  
ISBN-13: 978-1-9424630-0-9 (1st Edition)

Estrellas En El Fuego (Stars In The Fire) - 2014  
Rogue Scholars Press  
ISBN-13: 978-0-9840982-9-3





23 Years! - The Alternative New Year's Day Spoken Word / Performance Extravaganza - <http://alternativeny.d.org>







Cover Side

Poetry  
\$13.95

www.alternativenyd.org

One of New York City's biggest literary events, featuring more than 170 scheduled performers, returned to the historic *Nuyorican Poets Café* on New Year's Day. The 23rd annual **Alternative New Year's Day Spoken Word / Performance Extravaganza** took place for ten hours on January 1st, 2017, from 2 p.m. to midnight. The event continues to be free to the public.

The **Alternative** began on New Year's Day in 1995, and quickly evolved into one of the most popular events on the city's poetry and literary scene. Founder **Bruce Weber** is ably assisted by a staff of writers, designers and curators. Each year a fresh group of performers are plucked from all corners of the Tri-State area to enliven and transform the **Alternative** in unexpected ways. Adding to the mix for the fourth consecutive year is this anthology composed of featured writers, published by **Rogue Scholars Press** under the guidance of **C. D. Johnson**.

Austin Alexis  
Joel Allegretti  
Amber  
Madeline Artenberg  
Ron Blum  
Peter Bushyeager  
Patricia Carragon  
Tina Chan  
Lydia Cortes  
John Reid Currie  
Steve Dalachinsky  
Terence Degnan  
Pete Dolack  
Jim Feast  
Bryan Cornel Fox  
Daniela Gioseffi  
Bob Heman  
David Huberman  
Ngoma Ifatunmise  
Kate Irving  
Evie Ivy  
C. D. Johnson  
Icegayle Johnson  
Larry Jones  
Meg Kaizu

Linda Kleinbub  
Ron Kolm  
Ptr Kozłowski  
Art Lasky  
Jane LeCroy  
Linda Lerner  
Phillip X Levine  
Tsaarah Litzky  
Ana López-Betancourt  
Ellen 'Windy' Aug Lytle  
Stan Marcus  
Peter Marra  
Jesús Papoleto Meléndez  
Nancy Mercado  
Dennis Moritz  
David Moscovich  
K B Nemcosky  
Valery Oisteanu  
Jennifer-Leigh Oprihory  
Yuko Otomo  
Eve Packer  
Mireya Perez-Bustillo  
Puma Perl  
A. Podracky

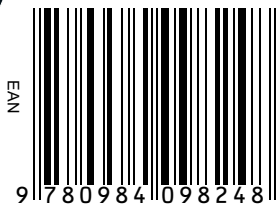
Ron Price  
J D Rage  
Jill Rapaport  
Robert Roth  
Thaddeus Rutkowski  
Sarah Sarai  
Ilka Scobie  
Hugh Seidman  
Brian Sheffield  
Susan Sherman  
John L. Silver  
Miriam Stanley  
Terese Svoboda  
Lawrence Swan  
Alice B. Talkless  
J M Theisen de González  
Jack Thomas  
Zev Torres  
Anoek Van Praag  
Claire Van Winkle  
Phyllis Wat  
Bruce Weber  
Francine Witte  
Jeffrey Cyphers Wright  
Anton Yakovlev

 **Rogue Scholars**  
Press

ANYDSWPE Imprint



ISBN 978-0-9840982-4-8



EAN

9 780984 098248