

# Notes on Contributors

**Robert Arellano** is the author of seven novels and a recipient of the Rockefeller Bellagio Residency and the Oregon Literary Fellowship. Robert Coover writes about this recently completed manuscript: “*Purge at Oregon* is a new American epic, a love story of sorts. Originally inspired by Dante and with the novelist and fellow Oregonian Ken Kesey as his Virgil, it is Bobby’s ambition (this writer is never short on ambition) to use epic verse and multimedia for the telling of his tale of an alcoholic’s rehabilitation. Kesey will serve as the hero’s guide through the seven circles of parole compliance, which involves the suffering of grisly imagery and a punch card for score keeping.”

**Rae Armantrout** is the author of fifteen books of poems, including *Conjure*, a finalist for the PEN/Voelcker award, (Wesleyan, 2020), *Wobble* (2018), a finalist for the National Book Award, and *Versed* (2009) which won the Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Critics Circle Award in 2010. She is the current judge of the Yale Younger Poet award. Her work has appeared in many magazines and anthologies including, *The London Review of Books*, *The New Yorker*, *Conjunctions*, *The Paris Review*, *Bomb*, *The Brooklyn Rail*,

*The New York Review of Books*, *Postmodern American Poetry: a Norton Anthology*, and several editions of *The Best American Poetry*. A new book, *Finalists*, is coming out from Wesleyan in March of 2022. Armantrout is professor emerita at UC San Diego. She currently lives in Everett, WA.

**Andrea Augé** is a photographer, artist, designer, art director (print & film), and activist for peace and justice.

**Tony Baker** comes from the suburbs of London, which he left – or vice versa – more than 40 years ago. He studied literature at Cambridge University and later completed a doctorate in American literature at Durham. Subsequently he worked as a musician and in parallel as an ecologist in the UK's oldest National Park. During the 80s he edited the magazine *Figs*, concerned with contemporary poetry, and published his own work in books, journals and anthologies. He collaborated extensively with dancers in making performance work that was presented most often in locations not originally intended for the purpose-- prisons, quarries, museums, retirement homes, galleries. In the mid-90s he moved to France where he continues to live in the Loire valley near Angers, working primarily as a musician and increasingly as a translator. Some idea of current activities can be found at <https://www.twoscompany.fr>.

**Ian Brinton's** most recent publications include a translation of Paul Valéry's *Selected Poems* (Preface by Michael Heller), Muscaliet Press, 2021, *Paris Scenes*, a translation of Baudelaire's 'Tableaux Parisiens', Two Rivers Press, 2021 and *Islands of Voices*, selected poems of Douglas Oliver (Shearsman Books, 2020). He reviews for *The London Magazine*, *PN Review*, *Litter*, *Long Poem Magazine* and *Golden Handcuffs Review*; he co-edits the magazine *SNOW*.

**Ken Edwards'** recent books include the novel *The Grey Area* (Grand Iota, 2020) and his *Collected Poems 1975-2020* (Shearsman Books, 2021). A new novel, *Secret Orbit*, will appear soon, but from where nobody knows yet. Together with Brian Marley he runs Grand Iota. He's still playing bass guitar and sometimes singing with the St Leonards-based band Afrit Nebula.

**Brian Evenson** is the author of over a dozen books of fiction, most recently *The Glassy Burning Floor of Hell*. His collection *Song for the Unraveling of the World* won the World Fantasy Award and the Shirley Jackson Award and was a finalist for the Ray Bradbury Prize. He has won The International Horror Guild Award, been a finalist for the Edgar Award, and is a recipient of three O. Henry Prizes and a Guggenheim Fellowship. He lives in Los Angeles and teaches at the California Institute of the Arts.

**Norman Fischer** is a poet, essayist, and Zen Buddhist priest. Recent poetry titles include *Nature, There was a clattering as...* and *The Museum of Capitalism*. His *Selected Poems, 1980-2013* is forthcoming from Chax. His latest Buddhist title is *When You Greet Me I Bow: Notes and Reflections from a Life in Zen*. He is a former abbot of San Francisco Zen Center and the founder of the Everyday Zen Foundation ([www.everydayzen.org](http://www.everydayzen.org)). For books see [www.normanfischer.org](http://www.normanfischer.org).

**Gloria Frym** lives in Berkeley. She is the author of fourteen books of poetry and prose. Her most recent book is *How Proust Ruined My Life & Other Essays* (BlazeVOX, 2020). She is professor in the MFA Writing Program and the Writing & Literature Program at California College of the Arts. These prose pieces are from a forthcoming book entitled, *Lies & More Lies*.

**John Gilmore** is an anglophone Quebec writer, translator, and jazz historian. His books include a hybrid novel *The Broken Notebooks* (2018), a poetic novel *Head of a Man* (2011), and *Swinging in Paradise: The Story of Jazz in Montreal*. Other work has appeared in *Tears in the Fence*, *Asymptote*, and *The Antigoinish Review*. He is currently working on an oral history of the birth of free improvised music in Montreal, where he lives.

**Alan Halsey** will soon resume his forty-year collaboration with Five Seasons Press with the publication of *Remarks of Uncertain Consequence*. His previous Five Seasons books include *The Text of Shelley's Death* (1995), *Marginalien* (2005) and *Liives of the Poets* (2009). His *Selected Poems 1988-2016* appeared from Shearsman and his edition of Bill Griffiths' collected poems 1966-1996 in three

volumes from Reality Street Editions. He is an affiliated poet at Sheffield University's Centre for Poetry & Poetics.

**Peter Hughes** lives on the northern margins of Snowdonia where he runs Oystercatcher Press. He also teaches, and has been Judith E. Wilson Visiting Fellow in Poetry at Cambridge University. Shearsman published Peter's *Selected Poems* alongside a volume entitled '*An intuition of the particular*': some essays on the poetry of Peter Hughes. His other poetry publications include distinctive versions of Petrarch, Cavalcanti and Leopardi. His most recent book is *A Berlin Entrainment* (Shearsman).

**Leslie Kaplan** was born in New York in 1943, and brought up in Paris, where she later studied philosophy and history at the Sorbonne. She was active in the May 68 movement, and worked two years in various factories. Her first book, *L'Excès-l'usine*, was published in 1982 and received great acclaim, including by Marguerite Duras and Maurice Blanchot. It has recently been translated by Julie Carr and Jennifer Pap and published by Commune Editions, (*Excess\_ The Factory*). Jennifer Pap has also translated a pamphlet published in 2020 by AK press, *Disorder, A Political Fable*. *L'Excès-l'usine* has been followed by over 20 books, poetry, novels, theater, published by POL. Most recently *L'Aplatissage de la Terre*, a collection of stories, includes *Le Monde et son contraire* (on Kafka) which is being put on now in the theatre. LK received the Prix Wepler in 2012 for her novel *Millefeuille*, and the Prix de la Société des Gens de Lettres (SDGL, founded by...Balzac) pour L'ensemble de son Oeuvre in 2017.

**Hank Lazer's** most recent book of poems is *field recordings of mind in morning* (BlazeVOX), which includes 15 tracks of musical improvisations with composer and banjo player Holland Hopson. Lazer has published thirty-one prior books of poetry. See [hanklazer.com](http://hanklazer.com).

**John Muckle** lives in London and has worked as a teacher. In the eighties he was an editor of *Paladin Poetry* and *The New British Poetry 1968-88* (with Allnutt, D'Aguiar, Edwards and Mottram). His most recent books are *Mirrorball* (poems) and *Late Driver* (stories), both from Shearsman.

**Alice Notley** has published over forty books of poetry, most recently *For the Ride* (Penguin Books) and *Eurynome's Sandals* (PURH). Notley has received many awards including the Academy of American Poets' Lenore Marshall Prize, the Poetry Society of America's Shelley Award, the Griffin International Prize, two NEA Grants, the *Los Angeles Times* Book Award for Poetry, and the Ruth Lilly Poetry Prize, a lifetime achievement award. She is also a visual artist and collagist, and a book of her poem/drawings, *Runes and Chords*, is forthcoming from Archway Editions. Since 1992 Notley has lived and worked in Paris France.

**Jerome Rothenberg** is an internationally celebrated poet, translator, anthologist, and performer with over ninety books of his own poetry and twelve large assemblages of traditional and avant-garde poetry such as *Technicians of the Sacred* and *Poems for the Millennium*; and he is currently assembling a transnational anthology of North and South American poetry "from origins to present," scheduled for publication by the University of California Press.

**Sadie Rothenberg** is a costume designer and visual artist currently based in San Diego, California. A selection of full-color illustrations for *The Shadow of a Mad King* was recently published hors commerce by a resuscitated Hawk's Well Press, and a full series with thirty poems by Jerome Rothenberg is now in progress.

**Susan M. Schultz** is author of many books of poetic prose, including most recently *I Want to Write an Honest Sentence* from Talisman; forthcoming are *Meditations: December 2019 - December 2020* from the same press. Her work focuses on memory and forgetting (two volumes of *Dementia Blog* centered on the latter). She lives in Hawai'i.

**Alan Singer** is the author of six novels, most recently *Play, A Novel* from Grandlota. He has also written five books on aesthetics and the visual arts. He is Professor Emeritus of English and Creative Writing at Temple University in Philadelphia.

**Scott Thurston** is a poet, dancer and educator. He has published sixteen books and chapbooks of poetry, most recently *Phrases*

*towards a Kinpoetics* (Contraband, 2020). Scott is founding co-editor of open access *Journal of British and Irish Innovative Poetry*. Since 2004, he has been developing a poetics integrating dance and poetry which has seen him studying with dancers in Berlin and New York and collaborating with three dancers in the UK. Scott is Reader in English and Creative Writing at the University of Salford, UK.

**Carol Watts'** most recent publications are *Kelptown* (Shearsman) and *A Time of Eels* (Oystercatcher). She works at the University of Sussex, UK.

**Anson Wright** is a novelist, poet, jazz guitarist, composer, and educator. A graduate of Princeton, he wrote his novel, *Jericho*, at the age of twenty six. Subsequent works include a book of poetry, *Sandstone Monastery*, and *Openings*, a book of selected writings published with a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts. The excerpt here is from *Sixteen Dreams*, an unpublished novel. Anson has recorded several jazz CDs featuring primarily original compositions as well as a spoken-word CD. His latest CD, *Only Love*, came out in December 2019. Anson has performed nationally and internationally, including India, and he has taught at numerous schools, including New York University, Pacific University, and Portland Community College. Anson lives in Portland, Oregon. [www.ansonwright.com](http://www.ansonwright.com)

**Steve Xerri** (<https://stevexerripoetry.co.uk>) was Canterbury Festival Poet of the Year 2017 and has appeared in numerous print and online magazines including *Acumen*, *Atrium*, *Brittle Star*, *The Clearing*, *Fortnightly Review*, *Ink Sweat and Tears*, *The Interpreter's House*, *One Hand Clapping*, *The Poetry Shed*, *Poetry Society Newsletter*, *Raceme*, *Sentinel Literary Quarterly* and *Stride Magazine*. His first pamphlet *Mutter/Land* was published in 2020 by Oystercatcher Press.