



GUERNICA EDITIONS

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People often ask: “Why Guernica?” On Monday, April 26th, 1937, the bells of Santa Maria tolled, warning of the inhumane aerial raid that would reduce the Spanish city of Guernica to ruins. Men, women, children, and animals were destroyed under the weight of the bombs. Picasso immortalized the victims with his painting *Guernica* and the image has become a plea for peace. This press was named Guernica with the hope that the books it publishes will make this world a better place in which to live and love.

Established in 1978 and with new ownership as of January 2010, Guernica has published over five hundred titles from authors worldwide. These titles include poetry, novels, short story collections, literary and cultural essays, and theatre. We are especially proud of our translations of French writers from Quebec.

Guernica Editions & the Literary Press Group of Canada gratefully acknowledge the support of:



NEW



The Tenants of the Hotel Biron

Laura Marello

Rodin. Matisse. Claudel. Nijinsky. Imagined conversations from the Hotel Biron.

In *The Tenants of the Hotel Biron*, Laura Marello takes the historical facts of a string of famous artists living in the Hotel Biron in Paris at the turn of the twentieth century to create a fictional universe, framed by the aftermath of the torrid love affair between Auguste Rodin and his mistress, Camille Claudel.

Written as a series of manuscripts by the tenants, this novel vividly recreates a world where the ferment of creativity bubbled to the surface and caused an artistic and social revolution.

Laura Marello is the recipient of a National Endowment for the Arts grant, a Stegner Fellowship at Stanford University, and a Fine Arts Work Center Provincetown Fellowship. She has enjoyed writer's residencies at MacDowell Colony, Yaddo, Millay Colony, Montalvo Center for the Arts, and the Djerassi Foundation. The author of *Claiming Kin* (Guernica, 2009), Laura Marello grew up in New York and Los Angeles, and has lived most of her adult life in Northern California.

Awards

- 2010 Paterson Poetry Award finalist
- 2010 PEN/Bingham Award nominee

Historical Fiction

ISBN-13: 978-1-55071-358-9

ISBN-10: 1-55071-358-2

\$20.00 / trade paperback

5" x 8" / 300pp

April



Leper Tango

David MacKinnon

Lawyers, whores, and johns: tales of a Parisian night.

Leper Tango is an end of millennium tale of an ambulance-chasing lawyer who uses his ill-gotten gains to whore and drink in Paris, where he falls for a dead-end, suicidal femme fatale named Sheba.

The first part of a trilogy of novels (*The Graveyard of the Innocents*), some set in Europe and others set in Quebec, *Leper Tango* recounts the lunar trajectory of Franck Robinson—a self-confessed member of "the despised and despicable sub-species of skirt-chaser known as the john". During one of Franck's regular free-falls into the Parisian night, he meets Sheba, who moves from being Franck's favourite hooker to being his obsession.

With this hilarious first novel, the Canadian MacKinnon showcases a talent for the absurd and a mastery of language reminiscent of Henry Miller.

A lawyer by training, David MacKinnon has worked in oil-fields, morgues, lumberyards, and even in the courtroom. He has brawled in Alberta and been kicked out of the Seychelles. He has authored eight novels, the latest being *The Eel*, the tale of a man who sets out to bring the ashes of writer Blaise Cendrars to the Sargasso Sea.

Literary Fiction

ISBN-13: 978-1-55071-362-6

ISBN-10: 1-55071-362-0

\$20.00 / trade paperback

5" x 8" / 340pp

May

NEW



Tracie's Revenge

WADE BELL

Opening up the characters' hearts for all to see.

A classic short fiction writer, Wade Bell lets his characters do the talking for him, electing to stay in the background. His style is simple but he's not afraid to pry open the heart of a character and expose it for all the world to see.

Bell's latest collection features a young wife who deliberately sets up her husband to kill or be killed; a struggling artist who is picked up by a mysterious six-foot woman at a bar; a girlfriend called Jupiter Moon; and a drill instructor who gets his kicks ordering a seven-year-old to march.

Praise for *A Destroyer of Compasses*:

"Wade Bell knows Spain as only a confirmed expatriate can . . . assured and sensual portrait of a culture. (He) offers precise and ironic examples of human idiosyncrasy.

Stories emerge as gems . . . sharply rendered."

—Jim Bartley, *Globe & Mail*

WADE BELL's fiction has appeared in magazines and anthologies in Canada, Japan, Spain, and the US, as well as on the radio and internet. *Tracie's Revenge* is his third collection to be published by Guernica, following *A Destroyer of Compasses* (2003) and *No Place Fit for a Child* (2009). He was born and raised in Edmonton and has lived in Ottawa, Barcelona, and Calgary.

Short Stories

ISBN-13: 978-1-55071-361-9

ISBN-10: 1-55071-361-2

\$15.00 / trade paperback

5" x 8" / 130pp

June



The Summer of the Dancing Bear

BIANCA LAKOSELJAC

Of gypsy clans and rites of passage.

The Summer of the Dancing Bear is Bianca Lakoseljac's first novel. Set in the former Yugoslavia, it is the story of the "rite of passage" of a fourteen-year-old girl befriended by a Gypsy clan.

The novel explores Kata's search for a viable identity, acceptance of death, and understanding of love, through the journey of solving the mystery of a missing two-year-old girl that occurred when Kata was eight.

The story is set in a village community polarized by racial intolerance between the villagers and the Gypsies, where she grows up under the tutelage of her grandmother.

BIANCA LAKOSELJAC is the author of a collection of poetry, *Memoirs of a Praying Mantis*, published in 2009. *Bridge in the Rain*, published by Guernica in the fall of 2010, is her first short story collection. She is the recipient of the 1995 Matthew Ahern Memorial Award in Literature from York University.

Fiction

ISBN-13: 978-1-55071-359-6

ISBN-10: 1-55071-359-0

\$20.00 / trade paperback

5" x 8" / 300pp

April

NEW



Rooms the Wind Makes

JAMES DEAHL

Evoking place as if envisioned for the first time.

James Deahl has been called “one of the ten or twenty finest poets writing in the English language.” His poetry has been described as “precise articulations of landscape . . .” producing “a highly charged evocation of place . . . that it is as if the reader were the first person to stand there.”

This collection continues Deahl’s exploration of the natural world around him in language that is precise and startling, tinged with nostalgia but bravely facing the realities, and always with an eye on the larger picture.

Born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, JAMES DEAHL moved to Canada in 1970. He is a founding member of the Canadian Poetry Association. A cycle of his poems was the focus of a one-hour television special, *Under the Watchful Eye* (1993). He has published (or translated) numerous books of poetry, including *Love Where Our Nights Are Long* and *If Ever Two Were One*. He lives in Sarnia.

Awards

- 2002 Ramada Plaza Hotel Award winner for *When Rivers Speak*
- 2001 Charles Olson Award for Achievements in Poetry
- 1995 Hamilton and Region Arts Council Award of Excellence for *Tasting the Winter Grapes*

Lyrical Poetry

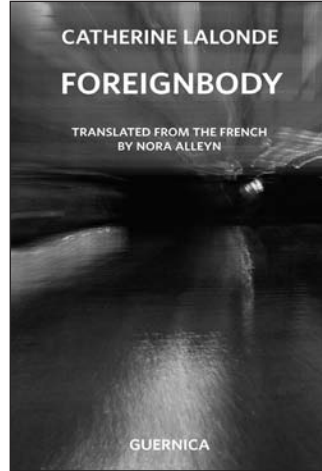
ISBN-13: 978-1-55071-360-2

ISBN-10: 1-55071-360-4

\$20.00 / trade paperback

5" x 8" / 125pp

April



Foreignbody

CATHERINE LALONDE
TRANSLATED BY
NORA ALLEYN

Speaking of love and hate through the body’s language.

The woman in these poems speaks of the body. Though she has a body with a head, she has a head that fails to understand her body. She is a woman whose head understands a language, but one not shared by the man she loves or wants to love.

Theirs is a love-hate story between two foreign tongues that share nothing but the flesh. A tale of bodily couplings outside language, outside the world, and out of time; linguistically, a tale of madness.

Sex has shattered her sentences. Hers is the story of a woman undone, who has willingly offered herself, abdicated utterly and been utterly defeated, as perhaps all women have dreamed of doing. A story as old as the world and yet brand-new.

Born in 1978, CATHERINE LALONDE published her first collection of poetry at the age of sixteen. She studied dance and, for a number of years, has worked as a journalist and critic for the Montreal daily *Le Devoir*. Her poetry collection *Corps Étranger*, from which this translation derives, won the prestigious prix Emile-Nelligan in 2009.

Contemporary Poetry

ISBN-13: 978-1-55071-353-4

ISBN-10: 1-55071-353-1

\$15.00 / trade paperback

5" x 8" / 108pp

April

NEW



The Bones of His Being

SUE CHENETTE

Spare, moving meditation on silence and death.

In unflinching lyrics, Sue Chenette confronts her father's depression and death. Probing memories, fingering mementos—a square nail, a sketch on a napkin, she examines them for what they may reveal of the father she was sure she knew, deepened, in death, into the mystery of his own being.

The poems are a journey through grief, both a search for the father she loved and a searching look into a father/daughter relationship. At the heart of the book, the sequence "A Transport of Grief" explores a weave of pain, need, and blame, of family grudges and love, moments of solace, and the sweeping sense of loss that attends a parent's death.

"*The Bones of His Being* is a tender and deeply moving memorial to the life and to the slow, partly self-willed dying, of a much-loved father and husband. These haunting poems deal with depression and joy, with the perception of beauty, and with the pain of loss; they are, profoundly, about love."

—M. Travis Lane

SUE CHENETTE's first full-length collection of poetry, *Slender Human Weight*, was published by Guernica in 2009. She is also the author of three chapbooks: *The Time Between Us*, *A Transport of Grief*, and *Solitude in Cloud and Sun*. She lives in Toronto.

Poetry

ISBN-13: 978-1-55071-363-3

ISBN-10: 1-55071-363-9

\$15.00 / trade paperback

5" x 8" / 60pp

May



For the Maintenance of Landscape Selected Poems

MIA LECOMTE

TRANSLATED BY

JOHANNA BISHOP &

BRENDA PORSTER

Blending cultures and art, the selfless poetry of the outsider.

Most contemporary poets wear their cultural and artistic influences on their sleeve. Picking up a book in an English language bookstore, it is easy to see where the poet is coming from, either geographically or culturally (ironic and formal; confessional and free etc). This may seem reductive until you read a book like this one.

Put simply, Mia Lecomte is a quietly dazzling poet on her own terms. She is fed by multiple cultures, she is widely read, but her writing is unique and absolutely genuine. You won't have read anything like this.

Mia Lecomte is a poet who must be read, for her counter-cultural self-effacement; her boldness; her succinctness; and the resulting beauty of her language. The publication of her work in the English language is something to be celebrated.

MIA LECOMTE is a poet, author of children's books as well as plays. Among her most recent publications are: the poetry collections *Autobiografie non vissute* (Manni, 2004) and *Terra di risulta* (La Vita Felice, 2009), and the children's books *Come un pesce nel diluvio* (Sinno, 2008) and *L'Altracittà* (Sinno, 2010). She lives in Rome.

Poetry

ISBN-13: 978-1-55071-364-0

ISBN-10: 1-55071-364-7

\$15.00 / trade paperback

5" x 8" / 90pp

May

NEW



Halifax The Other Door to America

PIETRO CORSI

Visions of a city through a new immigrant's fog.

Pietro Corsi's *Halifax* combines objective history with acute personal observations to create a vibrant portrait of the city that has witnessed the arrival of millions of immigrants from around the world.

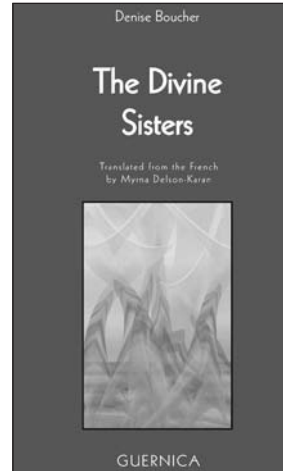
It is the story of one immigrant's feelings as he journeyed from old to new; and it is the story of all immigrants who embark, for one reason or another, on such a journey.

Born in Italy and currently a resident of California, Mexico, and Italy, PIETRO CORSI is the author of several novels, including the award-winning *Winter in Montreal*.

Awards

- 2002 Bressani Prize winner for *Winter in Montreal*

Creative Non-Fiction / Memoir
ISBN-13: 978-1-55071-357-2
ISBN-10: 1-55071-357-4
\$15.00 / massmarket paperback
4.25" x 7" / 90pp
March



The Divine Sisters

DENISE BOUCHER

TRANSLATED BY

MYRNA DELSON-KARAN

How to prepare for death while celebrating life.

Denise Boucher approaches theatrical writing like Prometheus. She steals the fire from the gods to give it to women. She invents a text made of tensions, of turns of events, that interlace. The creation of this writing style reveals the imaginary, deep thoughts, deep contrasts and dissidence, as a necessity.

In its portrait of seven daughters who reunite in a ritual wake for an idealized mother, *Les Divines*, produced in 1996, continues an exploration of feminism started in *Les Fées ont soif*, Boucher's controversial play from 1978.

Born in 1935 in Victoriaville, Quebec, feminist poet, playwright, and essayist DENISE BOUCHER moved to Montreal, where she pursued a career in broadcasting and journalism. In 1978, her play *Les Fées ont soif* caused a massive protest by the Catholic Church for its portrayal of the Virgin Mary as a symbol of women oppressed by the patriarchy. Boucher was president of the Union des Écrivains Québécois from 1998–2000, and continues to be an activist in the promotion of Quebec literature.

Drama
ISBN-13: 978-1-55071-356-5
ISBN-10: 1-55071-356-6
\$15.00 / trade paperback
5" x 8" / 115pp
May

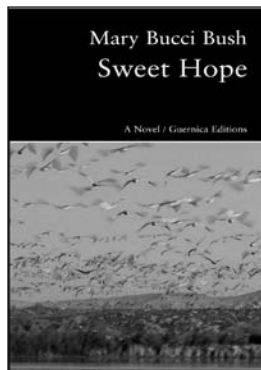
BACKLIST HIGHLIGHTS



A Hard Gold Thread CATHERINE BLACK

A Hard Gold Thread is an unconventional memoir inviting the reader into a meditation on the engulfing beauty of the world and the compulsion to turn away from it.

Fiction
ISBN-13: 978-1-55071-341-1
Fall 2011 / trade paperback / \$20.00



Sweet Hope MARY BUCCI BUSH

Sweet Hope unleashes the little known story of Italians who came looking for a better life in La Terra Nuova and found hardship, misery, and their own form of slavery instead.

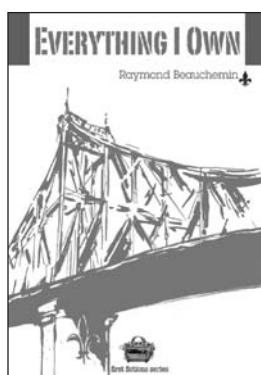
Historical Fiction
ISBN-13: 978-1-55071-342-8
Fall 2011 / trade paperback / \$25.00



Confetti for Gino LORENZO MADALENA

A realistic portrayal of the Sicilian fishing community in San Diego in the 1950s, *Confetti for Gino* shows how kinship and family proved more visceral than the notion of individuality emerging at the time.

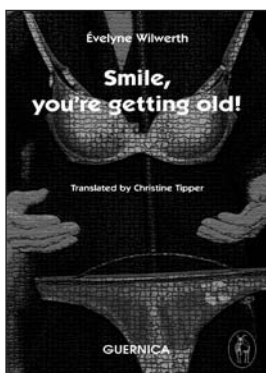
Fiction
ISBN-13: 978-1-55071-224-7
Fall 2011 / trade paperback / \$25.00



Everything I Own RAYMOND BEAUCHEMIN

Songwriter Michel Laflamme reflects on a thirty-year span of memory, through the emotional and political upheavals of his own life and that of his Belle Province.

Fiction
ISBN-13: 978-1-55071-346-6
Fall 2011 / trade paperback / \$20.00



Smile! You're Getting Old EVELYNE WILWERTH

TRANSLATED BY CHRISTINE TIPPER
Smile takes the reader on a one-woman journey through the terrors and vicissitudes of growing old. This is a treatise on appearance and reality, and the acceptance of the inevitable.

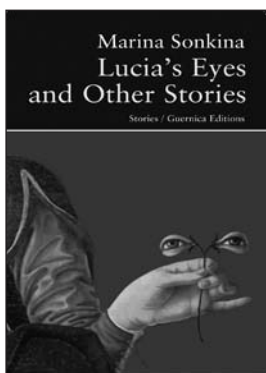
Fiction
ISBN-13: 978-1-55071-347-3
Fall 2011 / trade paperback / \$15.00



These Shadows Remain **A Fable** B. W. POWE

Powe's stunning fable erases the lines between illusion and reality with a war between simulations and humans. A mysterious knight shifts between worlds, holding the secret that could save all.

Fiction
ISBN-13: 978-1-55071-314-5
Spring 2011 / trade paperback / \$20.00



Lucia's Eyes **and other stories** MARINA SONKINA

Sonkina's collection of short stories give us unexpected characters in surreal situations who, despite living at widely distant points of the compass, are connected by their ability to imagine a better world.

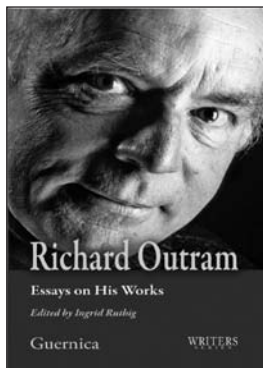
Fiction / Short Stories
ISBN-13: 978-1-55071-334-3
Spring 2011 / trade paperback / \$20.00



On the Birth of **Experimental Cinema** ENZO N. TERZANO

Terzano studies how experimental films at the beginning of the twentieth century fused painting and the new technology in fascinating ways, paving the way for the outburst of the 1920s avant-garde films.

BACKLIST HIGHLIGHTS

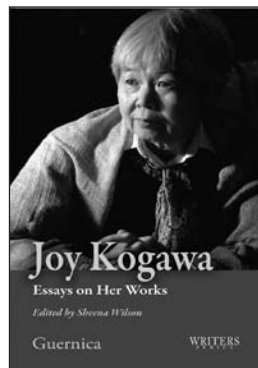


Richard Outram Essays on His Works

EDITED BY INGRID RUTHIG

This book represents a posthumous, introductory panorama of Richard Outram's work, written by those who continue to admire his achievements.

Non-Fiction / Literary Criticism
ISBN-13: 978-1-55071-280-3
Fall 2011 / trade paperback / \$20.00



Joy Kogawa Essays on Her Works

EDITED BY SHEENA WILSON

This collection explores Kogawa's work, both literary and activist and gives attention to her work beyond *Obasan*, with the intention to stimulate future scholarship on the author's multi-dimensional literary accomplishments.

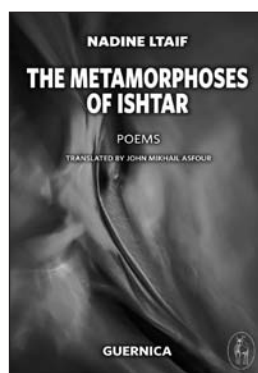
Non-Fiction / Literary Criticism
ISBN-13: 978-1-55071-311-4
Fall 2011 / trade paperback / \$20.00



Amphetamine Heart LIZ WORTH

Pulled together from old journal entries and pieces of dreams, Worth makes poetry that is a little bit punk rock, a little bit heavy metal, and a lot personal.

Poetry
ISBN-13: 978-1-55071-343-5
Fall 2011 / trade paperback / \$15.00

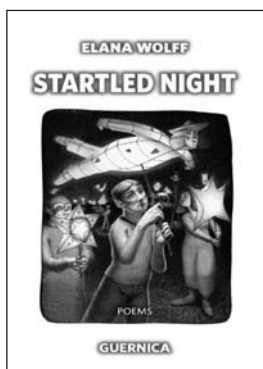


The Metamorphoses of Ishtar NADINE LTAIF

TRANSLATED BY JOHN ASFOUR

The imaginary world of Lebanese Canadian exiled poet Ltaif is rooted in the context of middle-eastern geography and mythology and reveals a quest leading to the feeling of liberation and plenitude.

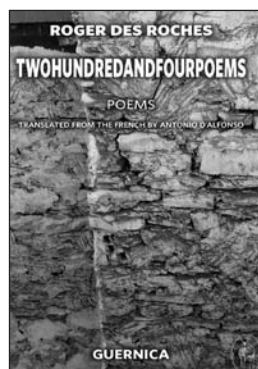
Poetry
ISBN-13: 978-1-55071-344-2
Fall 2011 / trade paperback / \$15.00



Startled Night ELANA WOLFF

Part distilled observation, part imaginative act, part spiritual expedition, the lyrically-idiosyncratic poems in *Startled Night* plumb the struggle of integrating the shadow, of coming into personhood and love.

Poetry
ISBN-13: 978-1-55071-348-0
Fall 2011 / trade paperback / \$15.00



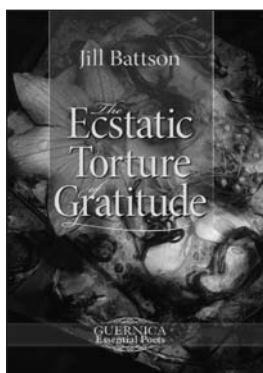
TWOHUNDREDANDFOURPOEMS

ROGER DES ROCHES

TRANSLATED BY ANTONIO D'ALFONSO

This collection features poetry selected from four publications by the prolific Roger Des Roches, whose writings have acted as a source of inspiration for an entire generation of Quebec writers.

Poetry
ISBN-13: 978-1-55071-350-3
Fall 2011 / trade paperback / \$20.00



The Ecstatic Torture of Gratitude

JILL BATTSON

Pushes deep into the heart of the human condition. In lush and visceral language, Battson explores loss, beauty, nature, Francis Bacon's ordered hoarding, and the meaning of Martha Stewart.

Poetry
ISBN-13: 978-1-55071-349-7
Fall 2011 / trade paperback / \$15.00



Bending the Continuum DANE SWAN

The poems in *Bending the Continuum* are slave to no genre. Swan's first book is equal parts Can-lit, Harlem Renaissance, the Caribbean oral tradition known as Griotism, Roddenberry, hip-hop, and dark humour.

Poetry
ISBN-13: 978-1-55071-339-8
Spring 2011 / trade paperback / \$15.00

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Taryn Boyd

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NOTES

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