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Contributors' Notes

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Colleen Baran is a Canadian artist, designer, and writer. Baran's artwork has exhibited in museums and galleries in eleven countries and been published in a few more. Her poems and visual poems have appeared or are forthcoming in *Berkeley Poetry Review*, *Always Crashing*, *New Delta Review*, *Prism*, *Mid-term*, *Room*, and the anthology *Best Canadian Poetry 2019*. She is the winner of *Prism* magazine's 2019 Pacific Spirit Poetry Prize.

Jan Beatty's new book, *The Body Wars*, will be published in Fall, 2020 by the University of Pittsburgh Press. She won the 2019 Red Hen Press Nonfiction Award for her book, *American Bastard*, which will be released in 2021. She directs the creative writing program at Carlow University, where she runs the Madwomen in the Attic writing workshops and is Distinguished Writer in Residence in the MFA program.

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Noah Bogdonoff is a social worker and writer based out of St. Louis, Missouri. His work has appeared in *New England Review*, *Passages North*, *Catapult*, and *Carve Magazine*.

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Anthony Borruso has an MFA in creative writing from Butler University and has been a reader for *Booth: A Journal*. Currently, he teaches composition at Tallahassee Community College. Next fall he will begin pursuing his Ph.D. in Creative Writing at Florida State University. His poems have been published or are forthcoming in *The American Journal of Poetry*, *Pleiades*, *Spillway*, *The Journal*, *THRUSH*, *Moon City Review*, *decomp*, *Frontier*, and elsewhere.

Bryan Byrdlong is a Haitian/African-American writer from Chicago, Illinois. He was co-recipient of the Merrill Moore Award for Poetry at Vanderbilt University, and his work has been published in the *Vanderbilt Review* and the *Nashville Review*. He is currently a Helen Zell Creative Writing Fellow and a 2019 recipient of The Meader Family Award from Hopwood Program at the University of Michigan.

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Rita Chang-Eppig received her MFA from NYU. Her stories have appeared in *McSweeney's Quarterly Concern*, *Kenyon Review Online*, *Clarkesworld*, *Santa Monica Review*, and *Conjunctions*. She has received fellowships from the Vermont Studio Center and the Writers Grotto.

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Helena Chung recently received her MFA in poetry from University of Virginia. Her poems have been previously published in *CutBank*, *The Journal*, *Booth*, and elsewhere.

Charlie Clark studied poetry at the University of Maryland. His work has appeared in *New England Review*, *Ploughshares*, *Threepenny Review*, and other journals. A 2019 NEA fellow, his book, *The Newest Employee of the Museum of Ruin*, will be published by Four Way Books in fall 2020. He lives in Austin, TX.

Maija Rhee Devine's (이매자's) autobiographical novel about Korea, *The Voices of Heaven*, won four awards. Her TEDx Talk on how the Korean-war-era stories told in the book relate to today's South Korean society is at: <http://youtu.be/GFD-6JFLF5A>. Her stories and poems have appeared in *The Kenyon Review*, *North American Review*, her chapbook, *Long Walks on Short Days*, and anthologies. Her short stories received Pushcart Prize nominations. Her nonfiction and fiction works-in-progress deal with 'comfort women' of WWII. Her full-volume poetry manuscript, *Comfort Women And Pockmarked Moon*, is being submitted for publication.

Jennifer Kwon Dobbs is the author of *Paper Pavilion* (2007), recipient of the White Pine Press Poetry Prize and the New England Poetry Club's Sheila Motton Book Award; *Interrogation Room* (White Pine Press 2018), mentioned in *The New York Times* and winner of the Association of Asian American Studies Book Award in Poetry; *Song of a Mirror* (Fo Books, Bulgarian edition, forthcoming 2020); and

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Barbara Edelman's poetry collections include *Dream of the Gone-From City* (Carnegie Mellon University Press 2017) and the chapbooks *Exposure* and *A Girl in Water*. Some journals in which her poems and short prose have appeared include *Prairie Schooner*, *Spillway*, *Cimarron*, and *Poet Lore*. She teaches writing at the University of Pittsburgh where she co-coordinates the Writers' Café.

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Gabrielle Frahm-Claffey's poems have appeared or are forthcoming in *Harvard Review Online*, *Ploughshares*, *Alaska Quarterly Review*, *New American Writing*, *Tupelo Quarterly*, and elsewhere. She earned an MFA from Columbia University and lives in the Hyde Park neighborhood of Chicago.

Rebecca Morgan Frank's fourth collection of poems, *Oh You Robot Saints!*, is forthcoming in 2021. She is the author of *Sometimes We're All Living in a Foreign Country*, *The Spokes of Venus*, and *Little Murders Everywhere*, finalist for the Kate Tufts Discovery Award. Her poems have recently appeared in



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John Gallaher's most recent book is *Brand New Spacesuit* (BOA 2020) He lives in Rural Missouri and co-edits *The Laurel Review*.

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Alyssa C. Greene's work has appeared or is forthcoming in *Fence*, *Hotel Amerika*, *North American Review*, and elsewhere. She has served as a prose editor for *Quarterly West* and as an editorial assistant for the *Lambda Literary Review*. She also created and runs Lambda's "Spotlight on New Queer Literature" interview series. She received an M.F.A. from the University of Utah and a Ph.D. from Columbia University. She currently lives and teaches in Boston.

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Rachel Han is a poet, singer-songwriter, and instrumentalist. She graduated from the University of Florida with a BA in Political Science and worked in juvenile justice policy as a research fellow. She is currently pursuing an MFA in poetry and jazz studies at Rutgers University-Newark where she also teaches English Composition.

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In a past century, **Heikki Huotari** attended a one-room school and spent summers on a forest-fire lookout tower. He's a retired math professor and has won two poetry chapbook prizes and published two collections. Another collection is in press.

Su Hwang is a poet, activist, and the author of *Bodega* (Milkweed Editions 2019). Born in Seoul, Korea, she was raised in New York, then called the Bay Area home before transplanting to the Midwest. A recipient of the inaugural Jerome Hill Fellowship in Literature, she teaches creative writing with the Minnesota Prison Writing Workshop and is the cofounder, with poet and educator Sun Yung Shin, of Poetry Asylum. She currently lives in Minneapolis.

Anna Maria Hong is the author of the novella *H & G* (Sidebrow Books), winner of the A Room of Her Own Foundation's Clarissa Dalloway Prize, and *Age of Glass*, winner of the Cleveland State University Poetry Center's First Book Poetry Competition and the Poetry Society of America's 2019 Norma Farber First Book Award. Her second poetry collection, *Fablesque*, won Tupelo Press's Berkshire Prize and is forthcoming in September 2020. A former Bunting Fellow at the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, she has published poetry and fiction in many journals and anthologies including *The Nation*, *The Iowa Review*, *Green Mountains Review*, *Ecotone*, *ENTROPY*, *Poetry Daily*, and *The Best American Poetry*. She is an Assistant Professor at Mount Holyoke College.

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Janine Joseph is a poet, librettist, and essayist born in the Philippines. She is the author of *Driving Without a License*, winner of the Kundiman Poetry Prize and da Vinci Eye award. Her writing has appeared in or is forthcoming from *The Atlantic*, *The Georgia Review*, *Orion Magazine*, *Copper Nickel*, *World Literature Today*, *The Poem's Country: Place & Poetic Practice*, the Academy of American Poets' Poem-a-Day series, and elsewhere. She is the recipient of fellowships and scholarships from the Paul and Daisy Soros Fellowships for New Americans, Kundiman, Sewanee Writers' Conference, Bethany Arts Community, Vermont Studio Center, and MacDowell Colony. A co-organizer for UndocuPoets, Janine is an assistant professor of poetry at Oklahoma State University.



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Caroline Kim was born in Busan, South Korea, but moved to America at a young age. Her collection of short stories, *The Prince of Mournful Thoughts and Other Stories*, won the 2020 Drue Heinz Literature Prize and will be published in October 2020. Her poetry and fiction has appeared or is forthcoming in *TriQuarterly*, *Porter House Review*, *MANOA*, *The Michigan Quarterly Review*, *Meridian*, *Jellyfish Review*, *Faultline*, and elsewhere. Find her at carolinekim.net and [@carolinewriting](https://twitter.com/carolinewriting).

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John McCarthy is the author of *Scared Violent Like Horses* (Milkweed Editions, 2019), which won the Jake Adam York Prize. His work has appeared or is forthcoming in *32 Poems*, *Alaska Quarterly Review*, *Best New Poets 2015*, *Copper Nickel*, *Hayden's Ferry Review*, *TriQuarterly*, and *Zone 3*, among others. Additionally, he is the 2016 winner of *The Pinch* Literary Award in Poetry. John received his MFA from Southern Illinois University Carbondale. He currently lives in Evanston, Illinois, where he serves as an Associate Editor of *RHINO* magazine.

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Mark Neely is the author of *Beasts of the Hill* and *Dirty Bomb*, both from Oberlin College Press. His awards include an NEA Poetry Fellowship, an Indiana Individual Artist Grant, and the FIELD Poetry Prize. He is a professor of English at Ball State University and a Senior Editor at *River Teeth: A Journal of Nonfiction Narrative*.

Steve Nickman's poetry has appeared in such venues as *Mid-American Review*, *RHINO*, and *Antigonish Review*, and has been a guest speaker on NPR. He lives in the greater Boston area where he works as a psychiatrist, specializing in the dilemmas of adopted children and teens.

Tiana Nobile lives in New Orleans, Louisiana. She is a Pushcart Prize nominee, a Kundiman fellow, and a recipient of a Rona Jaffe Foundation Writer's Award. A finalist of the National Poetry Series and Kundiman Poetry Prize, her writing has appeared in *Poetry Northwest*, *The New Republic*, *Guernica*, and the *Texas Review*, among others. Her full-length poetry debut, *Cleave*, is forthcoming in Spring 2021 by Hub City Press. For more, visit www.tiananobile.com

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The Malahat Review, *RATTLE*, *South Dakota Review*, *The South Carolina Review*, *West Branch*, *Poetry Northwest*, *Notre Dame Review*, among others. He has been nominated for a Pushcart Prize and Best of the Net, and was a finalist for the 2020 Sillerman First Book Prize for African Poets. He has served as editor/reader for *Africa in Dialogue*, *PANK Magazine*, and *Jalada Africa*.

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Hannah Sanghee Park is the author of *The Same-Different*, the 2014 winner of the Academy of American Poets Walt Whitman Award. “Plague” was originally written in 2016.

Jianna Jihyun Park was born and raised in Seoul. She received an MFA in Writing from Pratt Institute, where she interrogated her relationship with language and home in the context of collective grief, migration, and familial love that blooms amidst inevitable disappointment. Her works have appeared in *The Adirondack Review*, *The Felt*, *Notre Dame Magazine* and others. Her first poetry book on mental illness, *Contusions*, was published by Vegetarian Alcoholic Press in May 2019. She currently lives in Brooklyn, NY.

Catherine Pierce is the author of three books of poems, most recently *The Tornado Is the World* (Satturialia 2016); her new book, *Danger Days*, is forthcoming in October. Her work has appeared in *The Best American Poetry*, the *New York Times*, *American Poetry Review*, the Academy of American Poets’ Poem-a-Day series, and elsewhere, and has won a Pushcart Prize. A 2019 NEA Fellow, she co-directs the creative writing program at Mississippi State University.

Marko Pogačar was born in 1984 in Split, Yugoslavia. His publications include four poetry collections, four books of essays, and a short story collection. He edited the *Young Croatian Lyric* anthology (2014). His work has received Croatian and international praise, and has been translated in over thirty languages.

Colin Pope grew up in the Adirondacks. His debut collection, *Why I Didn’t Go to Your Funeral* (Tolsun Books) was a finalist for the Press 53 Award for Poetry and was released in 2019, and his manuscript *Prayer Book for an American God* was a finalist for the 2018 Louise Bogan Award, the 2018 Unicorn

Press First Book Competition, and the 2019 St. Lawrence Award. His work has appeared or is forthcoming in *Slate*, *Rattle*, *Third Coast*, *West Branch*, *Willow Springs*, *Ninth Letter*, *Best New Poets*, and others. Colin works on the editorial staffs of *Cimarron Review* and *Nimrod International*.

Gretchen Steele Pratt is the author of *One Island* (Anhinga Press). Her work has recently appeared in *Southern Review*, *Beloit Poetry Journal*, *Gettysburg Review*, *Fairy Tale Review*, *Poetry Daily* and *Ecotone*. She lives in Matthews, North Carolina, with her husband and three children and teaches at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

Joy Priest is the author of *HORSEPOWER* (Pitt Poetry Series, 2020), winner of the Donald Hall Prize for Poetry from AWP. Her work has appeared or is forthcoming in *Poetry Northwest*, *Gulf Coast*, *Mississippi Review*, *The Rumpus*, *Virginia Quarterly Review*, and *Best New Poets 2014, 2016, and 2019*, among others. Priest is the winner of the 2019 Gearhart Poetry Prize from *The Southeast Review*, and has received support from the Houston/Wright Foundation, The Frost Place, the Bread Loaf Writers' Conference, the Fine Arts Work Center in Provincetown, and the University of Houston, where she will be a PhD candidate in Literature and Creative Writing beginning fall 2020.

Angela F. Qian has published writing in *Witness*, *The Common*, *Hyphen*, *Lit Hub*, *Gay* and other outlets. She co-curated the Sweet & Sour Readings in New York City, and is currently at work on a short story collection, as well as other projects. Her website can be found at angelaqian.com and she tweets @anqchan.

Doug Ramspeck is the author of seven poetry collections and one collection of short stories. One recent book, *Black Flowers*, is published by LSU Press. Other books include *Distant Fires*, winner of the Grayson Books Poetry Prize, *The Owl That Carries Us Away*, winner of the G. S. Sharat Chandra Prize for Short Fiction, and *Original Bodies*, selected for the Michael Waters Poetry Prize and published by Southern Indiana Review Press. Individual poems and stories have appeared in journals that include *The Kenyon Review*, *Slate*, *The Georgia Review*, and *The Southern Review*. Ramspeck is a three-time recipient of an Ohio Arts Council Individual Excellence Award. His author website can be found at dougramspeck.com.

Sarah Richards Graba is a writer, teacher, editor, and artist. She had lived in Colorado her whole life, though her DNA comes from all over the world. She has been published for creative work, critical theory, book reviews, and interviews in *Morning/Mourning*, *Bombay Gin*, *Something on Paper*, *Semicolon*, and elsewhere. She currently teaches at Naropa University for writing, research, and literature for writers, and multicultural foundations for future therapists. As a member of collective.aporia, an international arts collective, she organizes online writing and arts workshops for the global artist community.

Nicky Sa-eun Schildkraut is a poet, scholar and teacher who lives in Los Angeles. Her original play about the first Korean pop singers, *The Fantastic Kim Sisters*, was commissioned by East/West Players and will be performed in the fall of 2020. She has a Ph.D. degree in Literature & Creative Writing



from the University of Southern California (2012) and an M.F.A. degree in poetry from the University of Florida (2002). Her first book of poetry, *Magnetic Refrain*, was published in February 2013 by Kaya Press and she is currently completing a second book entitled *Until Qualified For Pearl*.

Aimee Seu is a third-year Poe-Faulkner Fellow in the University of Virginia's Creative Writing MFA Program for Poetry. She was recipient of the 2019 University of Virginia Academy of American Poets Prize, the 2016 Temple University Academy of American Poets Prize, the 2020 University of Virginia Henfield Prize for Fiction and recipient of the Mills College Undergraduate Poetry Award. Her work has appeared or is forthcoming in *Ninth Letter*, *BOAAT*, *Redivider*, *Raleigh Review*, *Minnesota Review*, *Blacklist*, *Wildness Journal*, *Harpur Palate*, and *Runestone Magazine*. She is a Philadelphia native.

Samyak Shertok's poems appear or are forthcoming in *Blackbird*, *The Cincinnati Review*, *Colorado Review*, *The Gettysburg Review*, *Hayden's Ferry Review*, *Shenandoah*, *Waxwing*, and elsewhere. A recipient of fellowships from Aspen Words, the Virginia G. Piper Center, the Vermont Studio Center, and the Fine Arts Work Center in Provincetown, he has performed his poetry at TEDxUniversityOfMississippi. His poems have been nominated for *Best New Poets* and *The Best Small Fictions* and received an AWP Intro Journals Award this year.

신선영 Sun Yung Shin is a poet, writer, artist, and independent curator. She is the author of poetry/essay collections *Unbearable Splendor* (Minnesota Book Award); *Rough, and Savage*; and *Skirt Full of Black* (Asian American Literary Award) (all published by Coffee House Press). She is the editor of *A Good Time for the Truth: Race in Minnesota* and co-editor of *Outsiders Within: Writing on Transracial Adoption*. Her bilingual (Korean/English) illustrated children's book is *Cooper's Lesson*. She is the co-director with Su Hwang of the literary organization Poetry Asylum, which recognizes poetry as a human right. She lives in Minneapolis.

ire'ne lara silva is the author of three poetry collections, *furia*, *Blood Sugar Canto*, and *CUICACALLI/ House of Song*, and a short story collection, *flesh to bone* which won the Premio Aztlán. She and poet Dan Vera are also the co-editors of *Imaniman: Poets Writing in the Anzaldúan Borderlands*, a collection of poetry and essays. ire'ne is the recipient of a 2017 NALAC Fund for the Arts Grant, the final recipient of the Alfredo Cisneros del Moral Award, the Fiction Finalist for AROHO's 2013 Gift of Freedom Award, and the 2008 recipient of the Gloria Anzaldúa Milagro Award. ire'ne is currently working on her first novel, *Naci*.

Leah Silvius is the author most recently of the poetry collection *Arabilis* (Sundress Publications) and is the co-editor of *The World I Leave You: Asian American Poets on Faith and Spirit*. She holds an MFA from the University of Miami and has awards and fellowships from The National Book Critics Circle, Fulbright, and Kundiman. Her criticism has appeared in *The Harvard Review*, *The Believer*, and elsewhere. She is currently based in New Haven where she studies literature and religion at Yale Divinity School and the Yale Institute of Sacred Music.

Jessica Q. Stark is a mixed-race, Vietnamese poet originally from California. She is a doctoral candidate in English at Duke University where she writes on the intersections of American poetry and comic books. She is the author of three poetry chapbooks, the latest titled *Vasilisa the Wise* (Ethel Press, 2018). Her chapbook, *The Liminal Parade*, was selected by Dorothea Lasky for Heavy Feather's Double Take Poetry Prize in 2016. Her poems have appeared in or are forthcoming in *Up the Staircase Quarterly*, *Tupelo Quarterly*, *Potluck*, *Glass Poetry Journal*, and others. Her first full-length poetry collection, *Savage Pageant*, is forthcoming with Birds, LLC. She writes an ongoing poetry zine called *INNANET* and is an Assistant Poetry Editor for *AGNI*.

Born in Seoul and raised in the US, **Kim Stoker** spent most of her adulthood in South Korea where she was an activist for adoptee rights and an editor at *Korean Literature Now*. She last taught at Ewha Womans University's Graduate School of Translation and Interpretation. She has an MFA from Antioch University and recently received a Yefe Nof residency. Stoker currently lives stateside and has forthcoming work in *Nat. Brut*.

Jennifer K. Sweeney is the author of *Foxlogic*, *Fireweed* (forthcoming in 2020, Backwaters/University of Nebraska Press), *Little Spells*, James Laughlin Award winner *How to Live on Bread and Music*, and *Salt Memory*. She lives in California and teaches poetry at the University of Redlands.

Tian-Ai is a writer and musician from Seattle. She is an alumnus of the Bucknell Seminar for Undergraduate Poets. Her work appears in the literary journal *Asterism*, and has poems forthcoming in *Flock* magazine, and elsewhere.

Julia Thacker is the granddaughter of a Harlan County coal miner. Her poetry and fiction have appeared in *AGNI*, *Little Star*, *The Massachusetts Review*, *Missouri Review*, and others. She has held fellowships from the Fine Arts Work Center in Provincetown, the Bread Loaf Writers' Conference and the National Endowment for the Arts. Other honors include a Pushcart Prize and the Grolier Poetry Prize. She has taught creative writing at Radcliffe Seminars and Tufts University. Her book-length manuscript, *The Winter Comb*, was a runner-up for the 2019 Berkshire Prize from Tupelo Press. She lives in Arlington, Massachusetts.

Eric Tran is a resident physician in psychiatry in Asheville, NC. He is the winner of the Autumn House Press Emerging Writer's contest and the author of *The Gutter Spread Guide to Prayer*. He is also the author of the chapbooks *Revisions* and *Affairs with Men in Suits*. His work appears or is forthcoming in *Indiana Review*, *32 Poems*, and elsewhere.

Aileen Keown Vaux is a poet and essayist whose chapbook *Consolation Prize* was published in 2018 by Scablands Books; she writes a bi-monthly column for Spokane, WA's alt-newspaper *The Inlander*, and interviews writers for *The Rumpus*. She grew up in Yakima, WA and is inspired by the agricultural landscapes of Eastern Washington State and queer people who live in rural places. Her book *Consolation Prize* is based on themes from the Central Washington State Fair.



Natalie Vestin is a writer, artist, and infectious disease researcher from Saint Paul, Minnesota. She is the author of *Gomorrhah, Baby* (Anchor & Plume, 2017) and *Shine a light, the light won't pass* (MIEL, 2015). Her essays have appeared in *Territory, Prairie Schooner, The Iowa Review, The Normal School*, and elsewhere, and she has received residencies from Light Grey Art Lab, the Kimmel Harding Nelson Center for the Arts, and the Collegeville Institute.

Jeff Whitney is the author of five chapbooks, two of which were co-written with Philip Schaefer. Recent poems can be found in *Adroit, Colorado Review, Prairie Schooner, Salt Hill*, and *Sycamore Review*. He lives in Portland.

Arhm Choi Wild is a queer, Korean-American poet who grew up in the slam community of Ann Arbor, Michigan, and went on to perform across the country, including at Brave New Voices, the New York City Poetry Festival, and Asheville Wordfest. Arhm is a Kundiman fellow with an MFA in Poetry from Sarah Lawrence College, and was a finalist for the Jake Adam York Prize in 2019. Their first book of poems, *Cut to Bloom*, was the winner of the 2019 Write Bloody Book Contest. Their work appears in the *Daring to Repair Anthology, The Queer Movement Anthology of Literatures, Barrow Street, The Massachusetts Review, Split this Rock, Hyphen, Foglifter, Lantern Review, F(r)iction*, and other publications. They work as the Director of the Progressive Teaching Institute and as a Diversity Coordinator at a school in New York City.

Emily Jungmin Yoon is the author of *A Cruelty Special to Our Species* (Ecco, 2018), winner of the 2019 Devil's Kitchen Reading Award and finalist for the 2020 Kate Tufts Discovery Award, and *Ordinary Misfortunes* (Tupelo Press, 2017), winner of the Sunken Garden Chapbook Prize. She has also translated and edited a chapbook of poems, *Against Healing: Nine Korean Poets* (Tilted Axis, 2019). Individual poems and translations have appeared in *The New Yorker, New York Times Magazine, POETRY, The Paris Review*, and elsewhere. She has accepted awards and fellowships from the Poetry Foundation, Bread Loaf Writers' Conference, Ploughshares' Emerging Writers Contest, AWP's WC&C Scholarship Competition, and elsewhere. She is the Poetry Editor for *The Margins*, the literary magazine of the Asian American Writers' Workshop, and a PhD candidate in Korean literature at the University of Chicago.

Monica Youn is the author of *Blackacre* (Graywolf Press 2016), which won the William Carlos Williams Award of the Poetry Society of America. It was also shortlisted for the National Book Critics Circle Award and the Kingsley Tufts Award, longlisted for the National Book Award, and named one of the best poetry books of 2016 by the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, and *BuzzFeed*. Her previous book *Ignatz* (Four Way Books 2010) was a finalist for the National Book Award. She has been awarded the Levinson Prize from the Poetry Foundation, a Guggenheim Fellowship, a Witter Bytter Fellowship from the Library of Congress, and a Stegner Fellowship among other honors. The daughter of Korean immigrants, and a member of the Racial Imaginary Institute, she teaches at Princeton and in the MFA programs at NYU and Columbia.

YL Xue lives in NYC and received the Galway Kinnell Memorial Scholarship from the Squaw Valley Community of Writers in 2019.

