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Contributors

***Em Bober** is currently a senior studying English Literature and Creative Writing at Central Michigan University. An avid plant enthusiast and lover of all things blueberry, Em is hoping to attend an MFA program in the future. She has been previously published in *Central Review*, *American Academy of Poets*, *Porter Gulch Review*, and *ANGLES*.

John Brzezinski is a Chicago native who bought his first camera in 1966, used and on lay-away, at the age of fifteen. He says, "I quickly discovered that I often noticed things that others didn't (and vice versa) and my camera allowed me to compose, record and show what I encountered in an interesting or compelling way. My most important photographic accomplishment is that I have traveled all the lower 48 states and documented some of the best collegiate architecture at well over 600 university campuses."

Kevin Burris lives in southern Illinois. His work has appeared in *Southern Poetry Review*, *Poetry East*, *Atlanta Review*, and many others. His poem "Factory Birds" was a finalist in the 2019 Mary Blinn Annual Poetry Prize. His first poetry collection, *The Happiest Day of My Life*, was published in 2016 by FutureCycle Press.

Thanks to a serendipitous encounter on Ellis Island, **Elizabeth Bush's** grandfather Ted "Papa" Bush was routed to Chicago, beginning her family's lifelong affection for the city by the lake. Water imagery abounds in most of the photographs Elizabeth takes each summer when she visits her family in Delray Beach, Florida. Her underwater photography primarily features her daughter Theodora, a sage soul masquerading as a seven-year-old who feels equally enamored by water's enveloping charms. Elizabeth's work will appear this September in the Palm Beach Photographic Centre's exhibition.

Andrew Byrne's work has appeared in the *Chicago Reader*, *Oyez Review*, *Poetry Quarterly*, *North Chicago Magazine*, and *After Hours*. He is also the author of a book of poems, *FirstWords*.

Dan Campion is a Chicago native who has lived in Iowa City since 1978. He is the author of *Peter De Vries and Surrealism* and the co-editor of *Walt Whitman: The Measure of His Song*. His poems have appeared in *After Hours*, *Able Muse*, *Light*, *Poetry*, *Rolling Stone*, and many other magazines. A selection of his work titled *The Mirror Test* will be published by MadHat Press in 2022.

***Bob Chicoine** is a CPA and ballpark beer vendor. He has written and produced documentaries on Comiskey Park and Wrigley Field. Bob has found that when you write poetry as a hobby, rather than as an art, you never suffer from writer's block.

***James Conroy's** poetry and short fiction appear in *Blue Unicorn*, *The Cafe Review*, *Xanadu*, *The Iconoclast*, *Freefall*, *Speakeasy*, *The Grove Review* and numerous other fine literary journals. He is also the author of seven published novels, including *Literally Dead*, a historical fiction work about 1930s Chicago that was a Historical Novel Society's starred pick for 2012. His latest, *The Coyote Hunter of Aquidneck Island* (2017, The Permanent Press), was nominated for the National Book Award, the Chautauqua Prize, and *Foreword Review's* Multi-Cultural Book of the Year.

Nina Corwin, a psychotherapist known for her work on behalf of victims of violence, is the author of two books of poetry, *The Uncertainty of Maps* and *Conversations With Friendly Demons and Tainted Saints*. Corwin is widely published, a two-time Puschart nominee and the literary curator at Chicago's Woman Made Gallery. On occasion, she takes some pretty decent photographs.

Carlos Cumpián is the featured writer in this issue of *After Hours*, page 28.

Suzanne Cosgrove is a financial journalist by trade. In her off hours she is also a poet and photographer. She grew up in Chicago and currently lives in Evanston, Illinois.

Albert DeGenova is the publisher and co-editor of *After Hours*. He is the author of four books of poetry and two chapbooks. His work has appeared in numerous journals including: *RHINO*, *The Paterson Literary Review*, *The Louisville Review*, *Aesthetica Magazine*, *The Café Review* and others. DeGenova received his MFA in Writing from Spalding University in Louisville. He splits his time now between the metro Chicago area and Sturgeon Bay, WI. He is also a blues saxophonist.

Jennifer Dotson's debut collection, *Clever Gretel*, received the first Journal of Modern Poetry Book Award and was published by Chicago Poetry Press in 2013. Her second poetry collection, *Late Night Talk Show Fantasy & Other Poems*, was published in 2020 by Kelsay Books. She is the founder and program coordinator for www.HighlandParkPoetry.org.

***Steve Geer** is a scientist and photographer living in Chicago. He has exhibited his photographs in galleries in the U.S. and in Europe, has published his work in numerous photography magazines, and is on the board of directors of Perspective Fine Art Photography in Evanston, IL. In 2019 Steve was a founding member of the P2 Collective, a group of photographers and poets producing an ekphrastic dialogue in which poems inspire photographs that then inspire further poems, and so on. Steve has recently begun writing poems inspired by his own photographs.

P. Hertel is a writer, artist and co-editor of *After Hours*.

Larry Janowski's most recent full-length book of poetry is *Dancing A Dizzy Holiness* (After Hours Press, 2019). He has published two chapbooks, *Celibate Dazzled* and *Chicago Cantata*, and a full-length book, *BrotherKeeper* (The Puddin'head Press, 2007). Janowski has been published widely in numerous journals and anthologies. He was born in Chicago where he taught at Wilbur Wright Community College, Dominican University, and Loyola University. He now lives near La Crosse, Wisconsin. Larry is a Franciscan friar.

Michael Lee Johnson has been writing poetry since 1968. He has been nominated for two Pushcart Prize awards for poetry 2015; Best of the Net 2016; Best of the Net 2017; Best of the Net 2018. Johnson, as of now, has 232 poetry videos on YouTube and has been published in 42 countries.

Viola Lee graduated from NYU with an MFA in Poetry. Her book *Lightening after the Echo* was published by Another New Calligraphy. She has published poems in literary journals throughout the US, and won honorable mention in the Vincent Chin Memorial Prize. She recently published poems in *Bellevue Literary Review*, *Literary Mama*, *Hong Kong Review*, *Crosswinds Poetry Journal* and *Another Chicago Magazine*. She has poems forthcoming in *Lotus Magazine* and *Crazyhorse*. She lives in Chicago with her husband, son and daughter. She teaches at Near North Montessori School.

*Winner of the Bill Holm Witness poetry award, **Jayne Marek** has been nominated for Best of the Net and Pushcart Prizes and most recently was a finalist for the Sally Albiso Poetry Book Award. Her next poetry volume will be *Dusk-Voiced* (2021). Her writings and art photos appear in *Spillway*, *Salamander*, *Eclectica*, *Northwest Review*, *Grub Street*, *Calyx*, *Cortland Review*, *Bellevue Literary Review*, *Slipstream*, *Women's Studies Quarterly*, *Notre Dame Review*, *Gulf Stream*, *Watershed Review*, and elsewhere.

Siegfried Mortkowitz is a writer living in Prague, Czech Republic. He is the author of *Eating Brains and Other Poems*, published by After Hours Press. His work has also appeared in *Body*, the *Prague Review*, and *Politico*.

Susan T. Moss is the author of two poetry books, *Keep Moving 'til The Music Stops* (Lily Pool/Swamp Press) and *In From The Dark* (Antrim House). She is a former English teacher and is presently serving a fourth term as president of the Illinois State Poetry Society. She is the treasurer of the Poetry Club of Chicago and is also a member of Poets and Patrons. Her work has appeared in numerous publications including *After Hours*, *Caduceus*, *Vermont Literary Review*, *The Kerf*, *Steam Ticket*, *Siftings from The Clearing*, *Seeding the Snow*, and the *Wisconsin Fellowship of Poets*, among others. Moss holds an M.A. in English from Middlebury College, Bread Loaf School of English and a B.A. in Teaching of English from the University of Illinois.

Contributors

Ralph Murre, most easily spotted near large bodies of water, has spent much of the last three-quarters of a century more or less along Wisconsin's east coast, but flirted with the Mississippi for a while during the nineties. He even claims to have visited Chicago on several occasions. Something of a jack-of-all trades and re-inventor of himself, he has done a bit of writing. In that regard, he was honored to serve as Door County's (Wisc.) poet laureate for 2015-2017. His books of poetry include *Crude Red Boat*, *Psalms*, and *The Price of Gravity*. He also co-authored *Wind Where Music Was*. What he'll be dabbling in next is anybody's guess.

Marilee Pritchard is a retired RN who lives in the Chicago suburbs and belongs to the Second Saturday Poetry Writers group in Palatine. She has published in the *Paterson Literary Review*, *Third Wednesday*, and *Passager*. She has forthcoming work in *The Naugatuck River Review* and *The Avalon Literary Review*.

Donna Pucciani, a Chicago-based writer, has published poetry worldwide in *Shi Chao Poetry*, *Poetry Salzburg*, *ParisLitUp*, *Mediterranean Poetry*, *Meniscus*, *Gradiva*, *Agenda*, and other journals. Her seventh and most recent book of poetry is *EDGES*.

Maira Pujols publishes literature and cultural journalism in Spanish. She is a regular photo contributor to *After Hours*, *Contratiempo*, and *Plenamar* magazines. She is on Instagram at @moirap

***Tianna Rosa** is a Columbia College Chicago graduate with a degree in journalism and some of her work can be found on ChicagoTalks.org. During her free time, she co-hosts a comedic podcast that covers pop-cultural hot takes and music reviews. Rosa has been filling up countless notebooks since middle school. Journaling and scribbling poems became performing spoken word and later manifested into studying journalism.

***Kevin Shyne** came to Chicago in 1978 with every intention of returning to his East Coast home after completing a master's degree program in journalism. Instead he found a new home base for his writing career, including 12 years as a freelancer, 24 years as a corporate speechwriter and 10 years (and counting) as a poet. His poems have appeared in such publications as *The Lyric*, *The Road Not Taken*, *Poetry Porch* and *The Grey Sparrow Journal*.

James Silk is a self-taught artist who just retired after 37 years in the electric utility industry. He is a former member of the Association of American Editorial Cartoonists 2015-2018. He won first place for best editorial cartoon for the Hoosier State press awards. He was an Illustrator for *Penthouse* magazine 2017-2019. Illustrations for *Blueprint* magazine, Ottawa, Canada and *Born to Run* magazine. Had three pieces of artwork on display for the Sallie and Berton Kerman gallery located in West Palm Beach Fl. He has one piece of art on permanent display at the Ty Cobb museum in Georgia.

Jan Stojaspal is a Correspondent for Central and Eastern Europe for the Bloomberg Industry Group. His photographs have appeared in previous issues of *After Hours*.

Santiago Weksler is a writer and photographer who was based in Chicago for many years. His photographs have been featured in a number of exhibitions in Chicago and his native Peru. His work has appeared many times in *After Hours*, and he was the featured artist in *After Hours #22*.

Jamie Wendt is the author of the poetry collection *Fruit of the Earth*, which won the 2019 National Federation of Press Women Book Award in Poetry. Her poems, essays, and book reviews have been published in various literary journals and anthologies, including *Feminine Rising: Voices of Power and Invisibility*, *Lilith*, *Literary Mama*, *The Forward*, *Third Wednesday*, and *Saranac Review*. She holds an MFA from the University of Nebraska Omaha. She teaches high school English and lives in Chicago with her husband and two children.