



Parallel Press
2005 Catalog

University of Wisconsin–Madison Libraries

INTRODUCTION



Parallel Press

Parallel Press, an imprint of the University of Wisconsin–Madison Libraries, publishes a series of poetry chapbooks by regional poets in addition to books that parallel online publications. Parallel Press is a commitment by the libraries to support the Wisconsin Idea of making scholarly works available worldwide.

The poetry chapbook series was an initiative launched in 1999 to revive the publication of small, collectible editions of poetry. A new history series begins this year—America’s Founders, which provides vivid word portraits of our early leaders.

Chapbooks are one of the oldest forms of publishing, appearing shortly after the invention of the printing press in the mid-fifteenth century. Itinerant peddlers sold these pamphlet-sized books out of the back of their wagons for a penny. The first chapbooks were cheap because the print revolution made the publication of inexpensive popular literature possible. They usually contained fables, witticisms, tales, reports of notorious crimes, and other popular matter.

The publication of books by Parallel Press grew out of a larger UW–Madison Libraries project to make important but out-of-print texts available for study online, as well as in print, thereby creating parallel editions of a publication. Parallel Press also offers print-on-demand reprints of some of the more popular online texts.

Parallel Press endeavors to create an affordable model for publishing. All of the chapbooks and books are professionally designed and handsomely printed on archival–quality paper. For more information on Parallel Press or its publications, please visit Parallel Press Web site at:

<http://parallelpress.library.wisc.edu> or
E-mail: parallelpress@library.wisc.edu.

2005 POETRY CHAPBOOK SERIES—FORTHCOMING

Considerations of Earth and Sky by *Temple Cone*

Available January 2005

Temple Cone searches out the “plain beauty” of straightforward lives (animal and human alike) occupied with daily labor, necessity, and tenacity. His poems are highly sentient, a finger on the pulse of bodily awareness, making tangible the heat of fever, the hard white glare of sun on water, the cadences of physical work, the release of sweat. He carries murdered crows from cornfields, restrains the thrashing of a dying deer, and edges up to a swallow’s nest to look the bird in the eye. Cone has received the John Lehman Award for Poetry and an Academy of American Poets Award; his poems have appeared in numerous magazines. He is currently teaching at the United States Naval Academy.



Our time is lent to us, portioned out
in ways we’d weep to understand. The call
of geese at dawn can ease us, or a friend’s voice
remembered like the whisper of feet over snow.
But even these we have to give away,
for they were only ours to borrow.

2005 POETRY CHAPBOOK SERIES—FORTHCOMING



What I wanted had nothing
To do with the privilege
Of being included
By his maple eye
But had everything to do
With the hunger to heave with
His boyness and his bluster
From the inside out.

White Horses on Sale for a Song by *Shoshauna Shy*

Available March 2005

Shoshauna Shy delves into the impressions, surprises, contradictions and hurts of childhood and early adolescence. She confronts the constraints of growing up female with an energetic insistence on “snip[ping] the elastic of childhood’s ruffled cuffs.” Braced by a girlfriend’s bravado, possibilities bestowed by a new nickname, and moxie “inhaled” from her mother, a scrappy sense of selfhood gathers boldness and conviction. Shy is the poetry editor for the Wisconsin Fellowship of Poets’ quarterly *Museletter*. Her poems have appeared in over thirty anthologies and she has published two previous chapbooks of poetry.

The Minimalist’s How-to Handbook by *Karl Elder*

Available May 2005

Remember the blind men who went to see the elephant? Each “saw,” by touch, different portions of anatomy and drew wildly divergent conclusions on the nature of the beast. So Karl Elder would unsettle our perceptions with wild interpretations of familiar forms. Might the numeral “3,” for example, suggest by shape “the unlocked handcuff / Houdini still sports”? And, does the colon of common punctuation gaze at us with “eyes of a dead man / lying on his side”? These mind-stretching works exhibit extraordinary imagination and urge us to keep our eyes and minds open. Elder is a professor of creative writing and Poet-in-Residence at Lakeland College and is editor of the literary magazine *Seems*. He has written five collections of poetry and received numerous honors and awards.



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Whose lagoon, what sky
is this reflection of the moon
and solar eclipse?

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Your call: Italian
ticktacktoe or weighty case
of too much *vino*?



In more myths than I can count the hero
back from the underworld returns lame,
scarred, crippled. Marked. Maybe this is why
they fear us so: in their bones they know
we know things, we have wrestled with the dark
and the light, we have come limping back

Facts of Life by *Jim Ferris*

Available July 2005

“I was just another crippled child,” writes Jim Ferris, “a leg among legs. . . .” Ferris’ poems are part howl / incantation for being crooked, part laughter at an absurdly crooked world. They are reverently irreverent, unsparingly direct, grinningly playful and haunted with hurt. Ferris keeps the reader somewhat off-balance — the better to alter our mental gait so that we make both more and less of disability as a measure of being. “This is my body. Look if you like. / This is my meat, substance / but not my substance. . . .” Ferris is a professor of communication arts at the University of Wisconsin–Madison with a particular interest in humanities-based disabilities studies. An award winning poet, Ferris’ poems and writings have appeared in numerous national publications.

2005 POETRY CHAPBOOK SERIES—FORTHCOMING

Alley Scatting by Sharon McDermott

Available September 2005

Like alleys themselves, Sharon McDermott's poems are tough, gritty, and sometimes violent. They are also lively, daring, on edge, and filled with ironic juxtapositions. Many of the poems are literally set in alleyways; others deal with metaphoric passages such as adolescence, midlife, death, sex changes, and daydreams. McDermott is intrigued by "fringe space[s]," the "in-between world[s]" that constitute a "crack between ordered lives," where "boundaries [are] breached / and breached again." After all, "*in-between* is / both about erasure and new blooming." McDermott teaches creative writing at the University of Pittsburgh. Her poems have been widely published in literary magazines; her chapbook, *Voluptuous*, was published in 2001.



. . . Of course, the world will bleed through
cracks: the stewing trash, the lilac's oversweet perfume,

the tart of neighbor's barbecue. And shards of sound
will pierce the harmony: old Italians arguing, a phlegmy

cough, some muffled sobs and those relentless
footsteps — all the faceless — passing through.

Now You See It by Ron Wallace

Available November 2005

"He said, 'No thank you.' / Life wasn't going to jilt him now, . . ." Part nervous laughter, part numb disbelief, part where-do-we-go-from-here, these poems try on catchy rejoinders to the "sick joke" of prostate cancer. Ron Wallace writes with wry edginess of how obituaries ought to drop the "heroic struggle" lingo and simply acknowledge "*Rolled over. Bailed out.*" How the doctors' recommendation for treatment ("*just cut it out*") was what he kept telling his brimming tears. These are poems of tenacity rather than submission, simultaneously laughing and crying and holding on with all you've got. Wallace is co-director of the Program in Creative Writing at the University of Wisconsin–Madison and editor of the University of Wisconsin Press Poetry Series.



Amazing how one minute you can be
walking along, on top of the world,
all the world, as it were, your oyster,
and the next minute be a goner,
a lobster in somebody's pot. . . .

The Promised Land by Harriet Brown

Harriet Brown writes of home, family, and the natural world, subtly fanning the simmer of perception into a bright blaze of discovery. She considers how nature can offend with arbitrary carelessness, then bless with generous bestowals, how the wholeness of her grandparents' affection overlaid her fractured childhood, how hopelessness can soften under the thinnest light. These are quietly compelling poems, rich in substance. Brown's poetry and nonfiction are regularly featured in national publications. Her first nonfiction book was published in 1998 by the University of Wisconsin Press.

ISBN: 1-893311-42-2



I held myself there
in the stillness forever,
for as long as I could.
So this, I thought
when thought returned,
this is believing.

The Heart of War by Carmine Sarracino

The American Civil War is Carmine Sarracino's focal point. He highlights battlefield mayhem with its twin threats of physical and emotional death, the butchery of primitive medicine, the agony of awaiting invasion, the curious faithfulness of Walt Whitman attending the wounded. These colorful poems gain dimension through a variety of speakers and lend a convincing vitality to one of history's great dramas. Sarracino is a professor of English at Elizabethtown College in Pennsylvania. His first book of poetry, *The Idea of the Ordinary*, was nominated for a Pushcart Prize and was a finalist in the 2004 Paterson Poetry Prize. ISBN: 1-893311-37-6



Banners snapped in the wind. Riders pulled up shouting, pointing. Drivers cursed and cracked their blacksnakes, the wagons heaped with ammunition, rations, dog tents, stoves, kettles, pans, entrenching tools, and with stacks and stacks and not nearly enough pine boxes.

A Little Dinner Music by Stephen Murabito

Stephen Murabito celebrates food as a language of ethnic identity, a ritual of social interchange, a constant backdrop to life's big and small moments, and ultimately a sacrament of meaning. Dished up with the food are stories of humor and pathos, and good talk that adds its own flavor to shared meals. Murabito addresses his subject laughingly and lovingly, enlarging our awareness of food as a touchstone for the authenticity of life and relationships. Murabito is an associate professor of English at the University of Pittsburgh. His book-length poem, *The Oswego Fugues* (Star Cloud Press), is forthcoming. ISBN: 1-893311-43-0



I've been taught the grace of eggplant,
The mercy of olives, the assurance of garlic.
I have had lessons in
The redemption of plum tomatoes.

When I was seven, Grandpa Joe
Sat me down at his kitchen table
And desperately whispered,
This is what I wait to show you.
This is for your whole life!



2003 POETRY CHAPBOOK SERIES

Chapman's Pack by John D. Niles

A "chapman" was an itinerant peddler who would hawk any small thing of value from door to door, such as bits of yarn, thimbles, songs, stories, and riddles. John Niles' chapbook is a full pack of artful storytelling. His poems tease and beguile, promise insight, retain mystery. This is elegant writing that both invites and furnishes the imagination, "a web of words so deftly woven / it captures each hue of light." Niles is a medievalist and folklorist who taught for twenty five years at University of California, Berkeley, and is now an English professor at the University of Wisconsin–Madison. ISBN: 1-893311-41-4



With a single thread of yarn
she pulls in a skein of listeners,
a circle extending as far
as the first and last person's fingers
ever to hold your hands on earth.

Getting Out Alive by Tisha Turk

After months of grappling with life-threatening illness, Tisha Turk emerged into a new / old life. Her understated but resonant poems chronicle this experience. They evoke the disorientation of finding one's own life becoming diminished, ethereal. Although surgery is successful, Turk finds it difficult to regain her steadiness in the world until she learns a lesson about the tenacity of roots. Turk is completing her doctorate in English literature at the University of Wisconsin–Madison where she administers the University's Writing Fellows program. ISBN: 1-893311-36-8



The house of the body is held together
by the bent wires of friendship, rusty
but still strong. Its porch is propped
on the lids of jars I filled with hope
and lentils for the coming winter. . . .

Marquees of Buffalo by Dennis Trudell

Fascinated by the curiously intimate relationship between movies and moviegoers, Dennis Trudell explores with cleverness and imagination how movies become entwined with viewers' personal experiences. Movies may not be "real life," but Trudell illustrates that their impression on our lives can be as real as it gets. Trudell is a retired professor of English from the University of Wisconsin–Whitewater. He was awarded the Felix Pollak Prize in Poetry for *Fragments in Us: Recent & Earlier Poems* and has also published *Full Court: A Literary Anthology of Basketball*. ISBN: 1-893311-35-X



"Dream of me," the *femme fatale* said in black-and-white in the 1940s. And after watching the rented video, I did. My six-word reply there was wittier than the private eye's had been, and my stare from under a fedora made hers lower as his had not.



2003 POETRY CHAPBOOK SERIES



Bones of Light by Judith Sornberger

Judith Sornberger draws word images so effectively that the reader looks over her shoulder at living scenes. The characters and circumstances captured in her poems are both ordinary and quirky, sturdy and dignified. Yet what holds Sornberger's attention are the moments of alchemy, the flash of insight that can suddenly halo the familiar with the gold of new meaning. Sornberger has previously published a full-length poetry book, *Open Heart*, and two chapbooks. She is a professor of English and Women's Studies at Mansfield University of Pennsylvania. ISBN: 1-893311-34-1

☒ ...I'm trying to quit
giving her grief about smoking.
But, damn it, I don't want her
joining him under the hokey rose
and "together forever"
any sooner than she has to.

Light Made from Nothing by Susan Elbe

Susan Elbe's poems explore learning how to live and love, and the aching distinctions that must be made along the way. Although she encounters losses, the speaker embraces the "new knowledge/opened in me" through "the hard slog/and radiance of this journey." Elbe's images are well drawn and inventive, her use of language sophisticated and clear. Paul Zimmer in *The Georgia Review* says "There is always something to catch and please the reader in this work." Susan won the inaugural Lois Cranston Memorial Poetry Prize sponsored by CALYX Journal and received a Rowland Foundation Fellowship residency to the Vermont Studio Center. ISBN: 1-893311-33-3

☒ But it isn't always love we want
even when we say it's love we want.
We didn't know then how
to save each other, that small
accommodations of the heart could.



Pregnant, eight months,
maybe a full-blown nine,
wind whipping her blouse up
and what does she care,
standing there with that smile,
and for whom? . . .

Singing to the Garden by Roger Pfingston

Bearing witness to the rich ripeness of life as well as its disquieting decay, Roger Pfingston's poems might be said to simultaneously sing and weep. His descriptions are highly sensuous, inviting the reader to join him in smelling, hearing, touching, to be awash with awareness in the midst of common experience. Pfingston is the recipient of a poetry fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts and two PEN Syndicated Fiction awards. A retired teacher of English and photography, Pfingston has published ten chapbooks and one full-length collection. His most recent chapbook is *Earthbound* (Pudding House, 2003). ISBN: 1-893311-32-5

What the Body Knows by Alison Townsend

In poems vivid with narrative detail and perception, Alison Townsend explores how closely a woman's sense of self is tied to bodily experience. She chronicles the innocence of childhood and its gradual erosion by social accommodations, the desire for acceptance, and the undertow of sexuality. A second voice, lighter and more lyrical, records the speaker's insights as she begins to unlearn convention and invoke her own internal compass. Townsend is the author of *The Blue Dress*, a full-length book of poems. She teaches at the University of Wisconsin–Whitewater. ISBN: 1-893311-25-2



I am inviting back the one
who has been away, rapping my knuckles
against my chest and calling out to her,
the way a psychic calls her soul
back to her body, reeling her in
like a silver fish on a line.

Rendered into Paradise by Jean Feraca

Jean Feraca has a passion for finding spirit incarnate in daily life. She squeezes issues great and small for their essence, whether contemplating the magnitude of death or the sensuality of a ripe tomato. Feraca's voice is evocative and powerful, gutsy, world-wise, yet childlike in her embrace of wonder and possibility. Feraca is an award-winning poet and essayist and is widely known for her work as a distinguished public radio broadcaster. She has published two other books of poetry. ISBN: 1-893311-24-4



I nuzzle you under my chin, my syllables
simmer in your ear: *ucellino*,
piccioncino mio, *sweetness, sweetness*,
my fat little squab fallen into this lap
of days, I whisk you up! O windfall, gathered in.

Small Acts by Mary Mercier

Mary Mercier explores how minuscule events reveal principal life themes in the "small acts" observed in nature's creatures and cycles. The capture and banding of wild cranes affords a brush with the elemental. Migration unfolds not only as a native animal instinct but also a compelling urge toward deeper knowing. For Mercier, the energy and endurance of the natural world offer confirmation of life's transformative possibilities. Mercier's scholarly research has explored the connections between poetry and a writer's sense of place. This is her first collection of poems. ISBN: 1-893311-23-6



I've always wanted
to do that. Let go of everything
I hold too dear. Become an empty tree.
They say
a man once climbed a sycamore
to see eternity.



2002 POETRY CHAPBOOK SERIES



Sand Island Succession by Judith Strasser

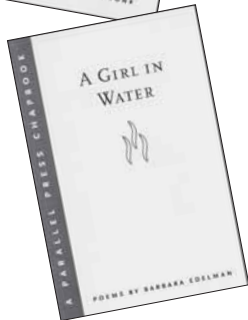
In 1998, Judith Strasser accepted an invitation to serve as poet-in-residence at the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore on Lake Superior. There, in a rustic cabin, she “hear[d] the poems I promised to write” in exchange for three weeks in “paradise.” Strasser seems to speak in two voices, her own and that of the islands, as she interweaves contemporary perceptions with island history. A retired radio producer and interviewer, Strasser conducts poetry workshops for children and adults. Her award-winning poems and essays have appeared in many national publications. Strasser’s memoir *Black Eye: Escaping a Marriage, Writing a Life*, was published in 2004. ISBN: 1-893311-22-8



I have a change of clothes, a roof, a fireplace.
But what of the voyageurs, rushing to rendezvous?
And the loggers, swarming the smoky cookhouse in sweat-
drenched trousers and shirts? How wet does a fisherman get
in November, racing the making ice to pull his herring nets?

From the Sketchbooks of Vanessa Bell by Allison Funk

Vanessa Bell, early 20th century painter and sister of writer Virginia Woolf, is the focus of Allison Funk’s chapbook. Funk brilliantly depicts Bell’s artistic sensibilities, capturing with her own artistry of language the endlessly changing color, light and shape which were the focus of Bell’s internal and external lives. Funk has published three books of poems and has received numerous awards and fellowships. She is an English professor at Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville. ISBN: 1-893311-21-x



The light that dusts the surface,
sticks and the grey-blue stones water burnishes,
flowing over everything, may be perfect,

though what it glazes is flawed. Love,
love seems lately
to abide in the light



My poems will not wash the dishes or whisper
in the sweet voice of your mother. They won’t
have your father’s eyes or his exquisitely chiseled

brain. They won’t hold you long enough. They’ll
never buy you a Benetton sweater. . . .

A Girl in Water by Barbara Edelman

Barbara Edelman’s poems swim the depths — sometimes murky, sometimes shimmering — of our complicated relationships with family, lovers, and ourselves. These are restless poems that tangle with loose ends and surprises. A sturdy resilience emerges, however, as the speaker achieves a wry balance between contradictory perspectives. Edelman teaches writing at the University of Pittsburgh. Her poems and short fiction have appeared in journals nationally and in translation. She has received a Pennsylvania Council on the Arts Grant for Poetry and several artist residency fellowships, and her one-act play, *Charades*, was produced by the Pittsburgh New Works Festival. ISBN: 1-893311-20-1

Anna, washing by Ted Genoways

Like an exhibit of intriguing daguerreotypes, *Anna, washing* captures moments in the lives of Anna and Abe, Finnish immigrants to the Klondike in 1897. Abe is consumed with the romance of gold dust while Anna struggles to subdue their primitive circumstances with cleanliness. Writing in the tight brevity of the sonnet form, Ted Genoways evokes the stark loneliness of obsession and hard-scrabble survival. Genoways is the author of four chapbooks. His numerous awards include a Pushcart Prize, a 2003 National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship, and two Guy Owen Poetry Prizes from *Southern Poetry Review*. ISBN: 1-893311-19-8



Treasures

lurk in black sand. Abe once whispered those words as if we were in church, or new lovers.

I rarely see him now, just a washer
full of his clothes and a leather pouch, pursed
by a drawstring.

Cicatrix by Charles Cantrell

In this aptly named collection, Charles Cantrell explores the deep impression on him of his father's alcoholism. His vibrant portrayals of the lively interests and energies of boyhood contrast achingly with the frightening violence of his father's addiction. The boy struggles with the sweet and the bitter, deciphering the tangled misery and longing that tie him to his father. Charles Cantrell teaches English at Madison Area Technical College. His awards include grants from the Wisconsin Arts Board and fellowships from Ragdale, the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts, and Ucross. He was nominated for a 2000 Pushcart Prize. ISBN: 1-893311-18-x



That fall I would lie on Dad's Army blanket
in the frosted grass and watch the stars
through my cardboard telescope and wonder
how their harmonies mesh and why they burn out
and if spirit figures in this.

The Only Everglades in the World by Robin Chapman

Robin Chapman's clear, direct poems chronicle a journey to and through the Florida Everglades. They depict both a remarkable adventure and a disquieting odyssey, an expectation of primeval wildness confronted with the reality of its casual despoiling. Yet Chapman's voice is not one of drama or blame, but of thoughtful awareness and regret. Chapman received the 2000 Posner Book-Length Poetry Award from the Council of Wisconsin Writers for her poetry collection, *The Way In*. Her other published poetry includes *Learning to Talk*, *Distance*, *Rate and Time*, *Banff Dreaming* (a CD), *Arborvitae*, and *Once* (Juniper Press). Chapman lives in Madison, Wisconsin. ISBN: 1-893311-17-1



...we woke
to find the bay entirely still,
a glass, reflecting underfoot
even the littlest stars
of the clear sky overhead, so that we stood
in a world made entirely of stars . . .



2001 POETRY CHAPBOOK SERIES



Eat & Remember by Carl Lindner

Carl Lindner's poems are immediately engaging in their word play and witty fun. Interwoven with this cleverness are threads of self-examination, parables for living, and gentle iconoclasm. Lindner's aim is lightness—not careless lightheartedness, but a genuine unburdening and emergence into simplicity and renewal. Lindner is the author of two other chapbooks, *Vampire* and *The Only Game*, and two books of poetry, *Shooting Baskets in a Dark Gymnasium* and *Angling into Light*. He is a professor of literature and creative writing at the University of Wisconsin–Parkside and has received numerous awards for distinguished teaching. ISBN: 1-893311-16-3

☒ My thighs are gone I call my woman
In their place, who sings
these sausages. "I only have thighs for you."
I hang up.



Where is that thread of gold in me,
the oh-so-beautiful, the spun
clockwork of the organ player,
a lost pier that remembers
each morning's twisted mist?

How Dumb the Stars by Francine Conley

Francine Conley's poems are wrapped in tantalizing metaphors. They are fanciful, dreamlike, and exploratory, like secrets partially revealed. The poems are peopled with curious characters and encounters (or, perhaps, with various faces of internal encounters). Thoroughly at home in the mysteries of human experience, Conley seeks understanding through embracing rather than dissecting the shadowy undercurrents. Conley has written, produced, and performed six one-woman shows. She has been the recipient of a Fulbright grant to write and do theater work in France. ISBN: 1-893311-15-5



Border Crossings by Heather Dubrow

Poet Heather Dubrow explores some of life's "border crossings"—the loss of parents, divorce, medical crisis, accident, and injury. Although some outcomes slip achingly beyond control and events "edg[e] ever closer to the border/Of the cliff I cannot fence," Dubrow discovers in art a gift of containment. Dubrow is the author of a chapbook titled *Transformation and Repetition* and a play, *The Devil's Paintbrush*. She is a professor of English at the University of Wisconsin–Madison and has published numerous critical works on the literature of the English Renaissance. ISBN: 1-893311-14-7

☒ The moment you died, I was sheltering in a bookshop door
From the summer cloudburst the sky shouted
Without warning. The weatherman's the last to know.

I thought I surely would have known
The moment of your death. Surely that door
Should slam, not glide. Not murmur, shout.

What Grandmother Says by J.D. Whitney

For many native people, “grandmother” represents an elemental creative force pervading all life. Through J.D. Whitney’s evocative word pictures, we witness Grandmother’s encounters with “warm-belly full-belly bloody-muzzle wolf,” “waddling rustle-walker belly dragging porcupine,” and many other creatures. These poems are delightfully refreshing, brimming with wisdom lightly told. Whitney has received creative writing fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Wisconsin Arts Board. This chapbook adds to his already extensive published works. He teaches at the University of Wisconsin–Marathon County. ISBN: 1 893311-13-9



<p>☒ Grandmother carries the stories— when they’re not being told—</p>	<p>huddled in her story-bag whispering softly among themselves: . . .</p>
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Our Sainted Lady Esther by Matt Welter

Matt Welter’s poems blend elements of myth, history, and nature. He artfully rearranges familiar tales such as harpies, Little Red Riding Hood, and the Wizard of Oz with wry, contemporary twists. Each poem delves into the emotional landscape of women, from the story of a fisherman’s daughter to a paean for Esther Williams. These poems are clever, accomplished, and imbued with subtle humor. Welter was nominated four times for the Pushcart Prize, including once for the title poem. ISBN: 1-893311-12-0



I could see her wolfish grandmother
using the girl’s red riding cape as a napkin
and I knew that I wanted
to be under another girl’s arm:
One from the other side of the world; . . .

Them Poems by Mason Williams

Written during the 1960s, Mason Williams’ *Them Poems* were so widely diffused into folk culture that they are often presumed to be another product of that prolific author “Anonymous.” Here they are collected for the first time by their creator. *Them Poems* is a bold, brassy collection that captivates the free and down-home antics of the 1960s. Smart, rhythmic stanzas have readers snickering through each knee-slapping work. Williams is widely known as a composer, musician, and writer. He wrote the single “Classical Gas” in 1968, that won three Grammys. ISBN: 1-893311-11-2



<p>☒ How about Them Surf Serfs, Ain’t they dillies? Bobbin’ on the water, Like frogs on lillies.</p>	<p>Ridin’ them waves, Racin’ them winds, Wipin’ they outs, Hangin’ they tens.</p>
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2000 POETRY CHAPBOOK SERIES



The Twig Songs by Gwen Ebert

Gwen Ebert's poems juxtapose the fragility and emotion of human life with that of the natural world. She regrets the loss of "everything I thought/too plain to hold on to," even as she contemplates the accumulating environmental vacuums being passed on to future generations. Ebert's poems draw on her experiences as a naturalist and environmental educator. Ebert was awarded a Four Way Books prize in 2001 and a Guy Owen Poetry Prize from *Southern Poetry Review*. ISBN: 1-893311-10-4

☒ We leave you skimpy migrations, dead salamanders,
absent slugs and whales, the whole kaboodle
of useless and gone. We've ruled it out:
the microscopic, majestic, turtle slow
growth and decay, the predatory slink of cats.
We leave you nothing too subtle for large machinery.
No delicate thread of life, . . .

A Visionary's Company by Rick Hilles

Many of the poems in Rick Hilles' chapbook are inspired by historic figures and incidents. Often using the poem as a vehicle for imaginative sympathy, he portrays Swedenborg's mysterious spiritual searchings, Catherine Blake's memories of life with her poet-husband William, as well as what it might be like to be a "four-legged" man. Hilles was the Amy Lowell Poetry Traveling Scholar for 2002–2003 and currently teaches creative writing at the University of Michigan. ISBN: 1-893311-09-0

☒ . . . In the long night of the body, the mind
climbs out its snail shell ear. Like an owl
its head turns, impossibly around, before it flies
across whole continents of feeling. . . .



. . . I wonder
what we would do if an angel
stopped on our stoops like the UPS man,
if he held toward our hands—
in a simple brown box—
the blue bone of loneliness, America.
Would anyone sign for it?

Luck by Marilyn Annucci

Marilyn Annucci's poems are wryly playful and utterly serious as she contemplates the threat of serious illness, the poignancy of aging parents, and the elusiveness of life's purpose. Annucci finds comic relief and perspective in humble household objects—the contents of a kitchen drawer, dental floss, or a stick of butter. These wonderfully imaginative poems speak of yearning, protest, and joy. Annucci was awarded second prize by the 2003 Summer Literary Seminars in St. Petersburg, Russia, for her work *Cosmography*. She lives in Madison and teaches in the Department of Languages and Literatures at the University of Wisconsin–Whitewater. ISBN: 1-893311-08-2

1999 INAUGURAL POETRY CHAPBOOK SERIES

Sure Knowledge by Elizabeth Oness

Many of Elizabeth Oness' poems reflect her Irish-American Catholic childhood and her upbringing in a family of girls. Her poems are rich with salient details of family connections and everyday life. They speak simply and directly with a subtle, almost shy, unveiling of insight. Oness also writes short stories, for which she has received the 2000 Iowa Short Fiction Award, an O. Henry Prize, and a Nelson Algren Award. Oness teaches at Winona State University in Minnesota and is the director of marketing and development for Sutton Hoo Press. ISBN: 1-893311-07-4



Always the mind worries on what's next,
His eye is on the sparrow, but I resist
believing I'm included. The mind a field of earth-dark
furrows. I guide myself around a turn each day
muttering intricate charms, the incantatory wish
against the changing light.

Apparition by Max Garland

In Max Garland's title poem, the moon glows on water like an apparition. The presence of the intangible shining through the tangible infuses many poems in this lyrical and engaging chapbook. Garland questions the dogma of his childhood religion, but he cannot escape seeing parables of spirit in nature and his own life. Garland was awarded the 1994 Juniper Prize for his first book of poetry, *Postal Confessions*, and has earned many other awards and fellowships. He is a member of the English Department at the University of Wisconsin–Eau Claire. ISBN: 1-893311-06-6

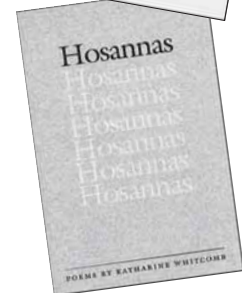


God unveils himself in the pulses
of my mother's perfume,
so close and faintly drumming,
and then it's no longer Sunday,
and I don't know what to worship,

though a flower comes to mind
that I would like to marry.

Hosannas by Katharine Whitcomb

The word "hosanna" traditionally refers to a shout of praise or an appeal for deliverance. Katharine Whitcomb encompasses both dimensions. In the presence of guilt, she searches for innocence. Witnessing the carelessness of environmental destruction, she is reminded that we do not always know when we are suffering. Whitcomb delves into the complex entanglements of life and brings quirky and original observations to the surface. She has won the 2000 Bluestem Poetry Award and received fellowships from the Wallace Stegner Creative Writing Program at Stanford, the Wisconsin Institute for Creative Writing, and the Fine Arts Works Center. ISBN: 1-893311-05-8



Goldfish, spewed from the sewer, gills starved
for oxygen, write hieroglyphs in the muddy creek bottom
with their tails, write *the Lord bless us*

*and keep us, make his face to shine upon us, write in praise
of time and their golden skin. . .*

1999 INAUGURAL POETRY CHAPBOOK SERIES



The Perfect Day by Andrea Potos

In the first chapbook publication of Parallel Press, Wisconsin poet Andrea Potos speaks from that bittersweet juncture of family life where the generations pass each other, one ending as another is beginning. Beneath the translucent skin of her aged grandparents, we glimpse the lives that have shaped and sheltered the author, even as under her own skin Potos' unborn child takes compelling form. Potos writes with grace and clarity, enlarging the familiar with fresh perception. Her work has appeared in many journals and anthologies and has received numerous awards. ISBN: 1-893311-03-1

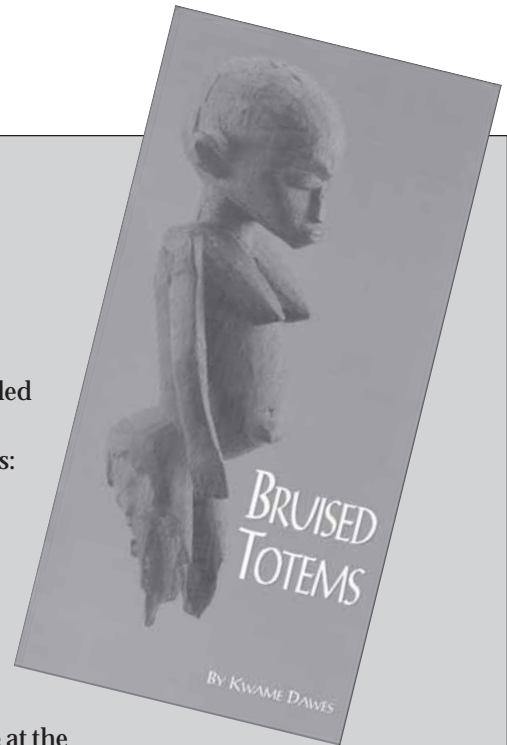


. . . His skin is smooth
as candlewax, thin as parchment
or the membranes of wings.
I trace their raised lacery of deep
purple lines, like the veins of an ancient country
I want to know.

PARALLEL PRESS SPECIAL COLLABORATION ~ with UW–Madison African Studies Program & the Elvehjem Museum of Art

Bruised Totems by Kwame Dawes

Bruised Totems is a collection of original poetry born out of the intended confluence of the thirtieth anniversary conference of the African Literature Association and the opening of an exhibition, “Perspectives: African Art from the Bareiss Family Collection,” at the Elvehjem Museum of Art, University of Wisconsin–Madison. The exhibit consists of some sixty pieces from the 800-strong Bareiss Family Collection of African Art. Dawes was commissioned to write poems about the art in the exhibit. The result is a beautiful collection of poetry and art with an enlightening introduction by Dawes. An award-winning author, poet, and playwright, Kwame Dawes is currently a professor of English and Distinguished Poet-in-Residence at the University of South Carolina. ISBN: 1-893311-48-1



Poetry chapbooks are only one aspect of what Parallel Press offers. Parallel Press book publishing grew out of the larger University of Wisconsin–Madison Libraries initiative to make important texts available for study online. The press created print editions of many of these out-of-print works based on the demands from University of Wisconsin faculty and the goal of the libraries to support the teaching and research missions of the university. These digital and print publications also support the Wisconsin Idea of making scholarly works available worldwide.

A sample of Parallel Press book publications is listed below.

The Experimental College

by *Alexander Meiklejohn*

Noted philosopher and educator Alexander Meiklejohn was, among other things, the founder and director of the Experimental College at the University of Wisconsin–Madison where he pursued his vision of exploring innovative (and sometimes radical) approaches to teaching and learning. *The Experimental College*, first published in 1932, is an account of his early experiments with communal education and social learning at UW–Madison. ISBN: 1-893311-31-7

A First Draft Version of Finnegans Wake

by *David Hayman*

This is the earliest and remains arguably the most ambitious attempt to map the development of James Joyce's last and most demanding work. Since the passages it presents in transcription are among the most complex in the manuscript record and because we now have available facsimiles of the remainder, it has become, if anything, more useful than ever as a point of access to Joyce's creative process. ISBN 1-893311-27-9 (softcover)

Root Nodule Bacteria and Leguminous Plants

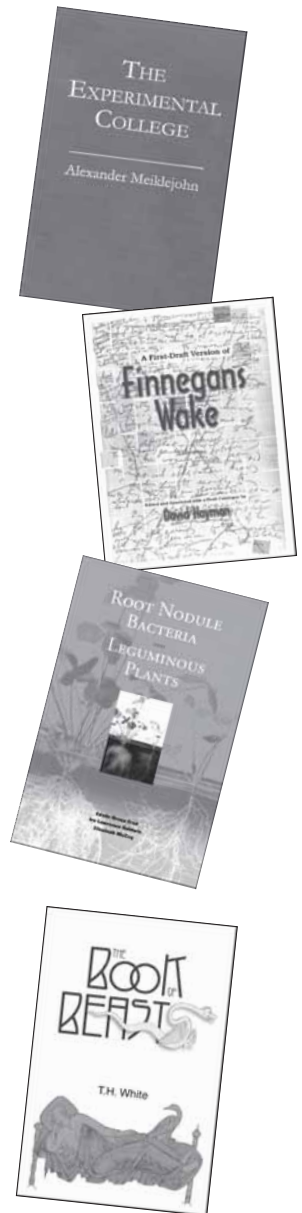
by *Edwin Broun Fred, Ira Lawrence Baldwin, and Elizabeth McCoy*

This classic monograph, first published in 1932, presents a thorough and critical examination of early research in biological nitrogen fixation. Seventy years later this publication continues to be an influential work and a valuable reference for those in the field. ISBN: 1-893311-28-7

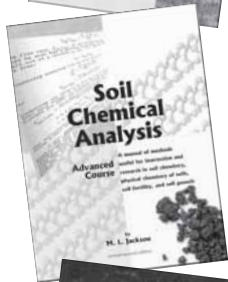
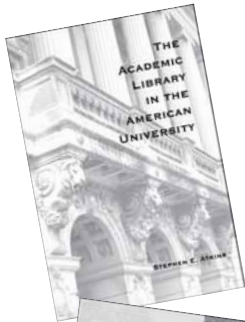
The Book of Beasts

by *Terence Hanbury White*

Bestiaries, a bestseller of the Middle Ages second only to the Bible in popularity, are richly illustrated stories offering a fascinating glimpse into pre-scientific man's perception of the earth's creatures. Terence Hanbury White (1906-1964), translator of this twelfth century bestiary, *The Book of Beasts*, was an accomplished novelist and medieval scholar. White's translation includes copious footnotes and a comprehensive appendix detailing the history of bestiaries. ISBN: 1-893311-29-5



PARALLEL PRESS BOOKS



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by *Stephen E. Atkins*

First published by the American Library Association in 1991, this book is a critical examination of the emergence and evolution of the academic library as a special purpose institution supporting higher education. This reprint with a new introduction by Charles Lowry, dean of the University of Maryland Libraries, continues to be an important resource for academic librarians and library educators. ISBN: 1-893311-38-4

The Challenge of Constantly Changing Times: From Home Economics to Human Ecology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, 1903-2003

by *Rima D. Apple*

To order see the School of Human Ecology Web site at www.uwsohecentennial.com or call 608-262-5402.

This book reflects on the rich history, accomplishments, and challenges during the first 100 years of the School of Human Ecology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Published in conjunction with its centennial celebration, the book “tells the story of the people and events that, in the words of Dean Frances Zuill, faced ‘the challenge of constantly changing times’ to make the School the vibrant educational and research institution it is today.”

ISBN: 1-893311-39-2

Soil Chemical Analysis-Advanced Course

by *M.L. Jackson*

To order contact the Department of Soil Science at 608-265-2595.

This revised edition of a much-sought-after text, privately published by the author since 1956, is a modern classic and the source book for many of today’s standard methods of soil mineralogy. M.L. Jackson (1914-2002) was a professor of the Department of Soil Science at the University of Wisconsin-Madison for almost fifty years. This edition contains a new introduction by UW-Madison Professor Phillip W. Barak as well as additional material commemorating Jackson’s long and productive scientific career. ISBN: 1-893311-47-3

Healing Landscapes: Therapeutic Outdoor Environments

by *Martha Tyson*

In this thoughtful volume, Martha Tyson presents a sensitive look at creating outdoor spaces for people in need of physical, emotional, or spiritual healing. Tyson, a landscape architect with a focus on healing gardens, is president of Martha M. Tyson Design Consulting and Access Gardening, LLC, based in Door County, Wisconsin. Her nationwide work with developers, architects, and owners of senior living environments, hospice, and health care providers has been recognized for both scholarly and design excellence. Tyson is a consultant with the Chicago Botanic Garden’s Horticultural Therapy Services Program and a research associate with the Institute on Aging and Environment at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee’s School of Architecture and Urban Planning. ISBN: 1-893311-51-1

First in a New Series of History Chapbooks – America's Founders

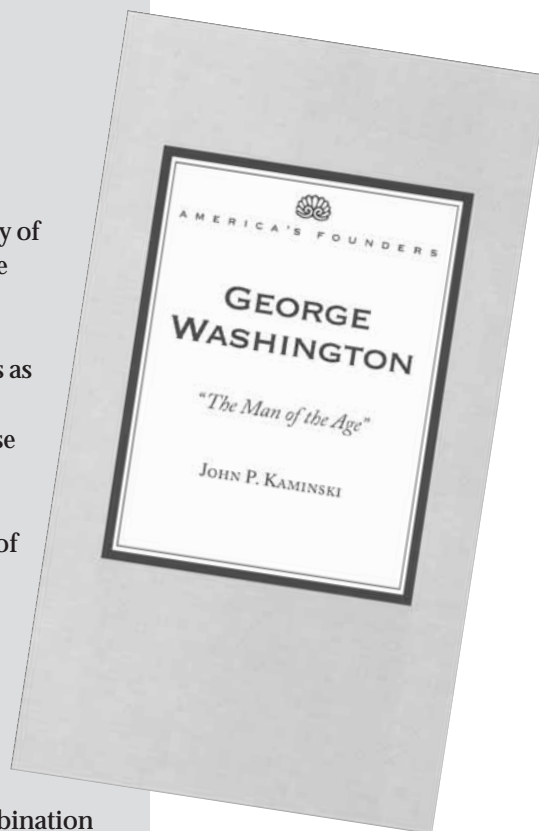
George Washington: "The Man of the Age"

by John P. Kaminski

Parallel Press is pleased to announce a new series of chapbook biographies entitled "America's Founders" written by University of Wisconsin–Madison historian John P. Kaminski, director of the Center for the Study of the American Constitution. Unlike traditional biographies, these chapbooks will emphasize the character, mannerisms, and physical appearance of the subjects as largely seen through the eyes of their contemporaries. Critical historical events are described in vivid detail in the elegant prose of America's Revolutionary generation. Illuminating vignettes and "behind-the-curtain" glimpses of both well-known and obscure events will add new dimension to the historic dramas of revolution and nation-making. In a certain way, the Revolutionary generation itself will be writing its own biographies with both praise and admiration on the one hand and vituperation on the other.

The first chapbook in the series is *George Washington: "The Man of the Age."* One reviewer of the chapbook described it as "an absolutely delightful reading experience. Just the right combination of 'light touch' and serious engagement with the issues. The judicious selection of quotations from friends and fellow revolutionaries really gave a superb picture of the man. So I can truly say that Washington came alive for me as he hasn't really in any other book or account before. The amazing thing is that, despite the fact that the piece is so short, it probably gave me a better sense of the man than anything else before."

Thomas Jefferson will be examined in the second chapbook. Others to follow include: James Madison, Thomas Paine, the Marquis de Lafayette, Alexander Hamilton, Benjamin Franklin, John Jay, Patrick Henry, and John, Samuel, and Abigail Adams. ISBN: 1-893311-49-X



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(Order information: inside back cover.)



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