



Fall 2017

new titles +  
complete backlist

NEW  
STAR  
BOOKS



New Star Books

# Fall 2017

New Titles + Recent Highlights +  
Complete Backlist



## New Titles

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## Recent Poetry

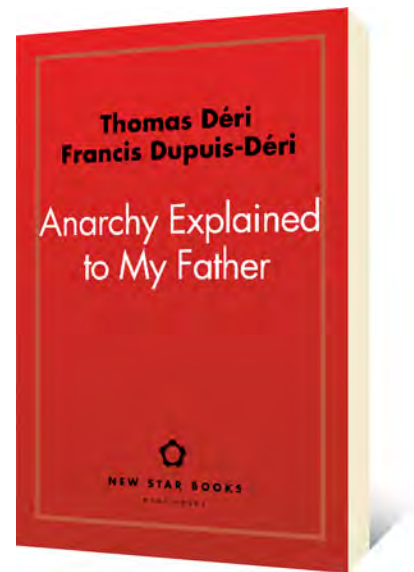
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Thomas Déri and Francis Dupuis-Déri

# Anarchy Explained to My Father

Translated from the French by John Gilmore



*Anarchy Explained to My Father* (first published as *L'anarchie expliquée à mon père* by Lux Éditeur, 2014) is a provocative and accessible discussion of the revolutionary mode of thought that rejects all forms of domination and seeks, in the words of Louise Michel, "order through harmony." Francis Dupuis-Déri, a professor of political science and a radical anarchist, reveals through dialogue with his father the deeply humanistic and peaceful roots of anarchism—beyond the caricature of anarchists as proponents of chaos and violence is a movement based on ideals of equality, co-operation, and autonomy.

The wide-ranging conversation covers the ideas of classic writers such as Proudhon, Bakunin, and Goldman, as well as contemporary thinkers like Taiaiake Alfred, Patricia Hill Collins, and Randall Amster; the main flavours of anarchism, from anarcho-syndicalism to anarcho-feminism; anarchist views on oppressive systems like the state, capitalism, and patriarchy; the tremendous achievements that anarchist activists have contributed to, such as labour unions and eight-hour work days; and the recent resurgence of anarchism in protest movements and activist groups around the world. With temperatures rising and authoritarianism flourishing near and far, *Anarchy Explained to My Father* is a timely initiation to a way of thinking that's more relevant than ever.

**Francis Dupuis-Déri** teaches political science at Université du Québec à Montréal and is the author of numerous books and articles about anarchism, including *Who's Afraid of the Black Blocs? Anarchy in Action Around the World* (Between the Lines, 2013). His father **Thomas Déri** is a former publisher, an editor and translator, co-founder of the Librairie du Québec bookstore in Paris, and former director of the Salon du livre book fair in Montreal.

PUBLICATION DATE

SEPTEMBER 14, 2017

SPECS

Trade ppb, 224 pages, 5.5" x 8.5"

PRICE

\$20 CAD • \$18 USD

ISBN

978-1-55420-137-2

[CLICK HERE TO PRE-ORDER FROM NEWSTARBOOKS.COM](http://newstarbooks.com)



Erín Moure

# Sitting Shiva on Minto Avenue, by Toots



*“A beautiful testimony to a life bravely lived on the edges of contemporary values.” —Aaron Peck*

*Sitting Shiva on Minto Avenue, by Toots* is the story of a man who had no obituary and no funeral and who would have left no trace if it weren't for the woman he'd called Toots, who took everything she remembered of him and — for seven days — wrote it down.

**Erín Moure**, a poet who once lived in Vancouver, begins this “work of the imagination” (“minto,” in Galician, means “I’m lying”) with a quote from Judith Butler about those persons who have “come to belong to the ungrievable,” though there may be some that grieve them.

In recording the tale of the little man, through memories and Google searches, the book gives a glimpse into an entire era of urban Canada, from Vancouver's Downtown Eastside and Main Street and Chinatown to a long-ago Montreal between the Great Depression and Expo '67.

**Erín Moure** is a poet and translator whose most recent book of poems is *Planetary Noise: The Poetry of Erín Moure*, edited and introduced by Shannon Maguire (Wesleyan University Press). No one alive now knows who Toots is.

**PUBLICATION DATE**  
SEPTEMBER 29, 2017

**SPECS**  
Trade ppb, 128 pages, 6" x 9"

**PRICE**  
\$21 CAD • \$19 USD

**ILLUSTRATIONS**  
12 b&w

**ISBN**  
978-1-55420-141-9

[CLICK HERE TO PRE-ORDER FROM NEWSTARBOOKS.COM](http://newstarbooks.com)



Sharon Thesen

# The Receiver



*The Receiver* is Sharon Thesen's thirteenth book, and the first from the three-time G–G finalist since *Oyama Pink Shale*, six years ago.

More formally various than Thesen's recent books, *The Receiver* includes the short lyrics documenting the poet's witnessing that readers of her work will recognize, as well as various kinds of found poems, translations, prose poems, alongside some brief essays or memoirs.

Thesen's mother and father, friends, poets in her own life, their poems, might form the immediate subject of the poems here, but above all, *The Receiver* is about poetic imagination:

The body is the receiver of all that is; poetic imagination the transmitter of the world. A memoir about poetic imagination, about the transmission of language / energy (the poet will have had "some several causations"), contagion, ancestral / cellular memory, what is received through books, reading, talk, voices, rhythms of thought & experience. The education / mis-education of a poet "by ear"; transmission/transcription/telephone/telegraph; annunciation as method. (Sharon Thesen)

A native of Tisdale, Saskatchewan, **Sharon Thesen** grew up in Prince George and has been a British Columbia resident ever since. She now lives in Lake Country in the West Okanagan, and is professor emerita of creative writing at the UBC Okanagan in Kelowna.

Three of Sharon Thesen's previous books have been finalists for the Governor-General's Award for Literature — *The Good Bacteria* (2006), *The Beginning of the Long Dash* (1987) and *Confabulations* (1984). She has also won the Pat Lowther Award (for *A Pair of Scissors*, 2006), and been a finalist for the Dorothy Livesay Poetry Prize (for *Oyama Pink Shale*, 2011, and *The Good Bacteria*).

## PUBLICATION DATE

AUGUST 31, 2017

## SPECS

Trade ppb, 128 pages, 5.5" x 8.5"

## PRICE

\$19 CAD • \$17 USD

## ISBN

978-1-55420-140-2

[CLICK HERE TO PRE-ORDER FROM  
NEWSTARBOOKS.COM](#)







## A Short Sad Book

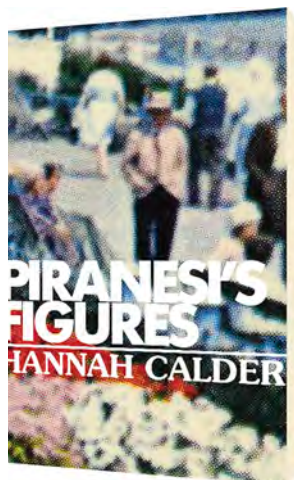
**George Bowering**

Playful, amusing – but with a darkly serious undertone... *A Short Sad Book* is a delightful picaresque romp that borrows freely in matters of style from Gertrude Stein: the spirit of Canadian literature is chased up, down and across the country, sought in vain, with both the author and his readers learning much about what it means to be Canadian in the process... Above all, this book fairly brims over with invention.

— James W. Wood, *Vancouver Sun*

Forty years ago, George Bowering saw a country still struggling to find itself in its books, and decided to write *A Short Sad Book* about it. Did he know he was writing if not *The Great Canadian Novel* something like it?

**SPECS** ppb, 224 pp, 5.5" x 8.5"  
**PRICE** \$19 CAD • \$17 USD  
**ISBN** 978-1-55420-129-7  
**PUBLISHED** March 2017



## Piranesi's Figures

**Hannah Calder**

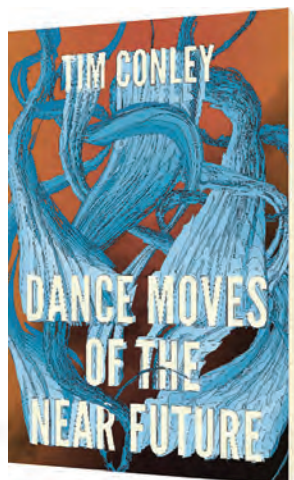
Reading Calder is to move through the world barefoot over asphalt, grass, sand and water. This is sensual, insightful writing.

— Michael Turner, author of *8 X 10* and *The Pornographer's Poem*

*Piranesi's Figures* is a romp through the magnificent psychological ruins of at least two marriages and one attempt at child-rearing, and a gleefully reckless contortion of novelistic conventions, sexual practices, and family dynamics.

As in her first novel, *More House*, Hannah Calder peers into hidden corners and under creaking beds with such relentless abandon that even her own characters bristle at her advances. The result is a dense witches-brew of storytelling, a feminist-tinged fairytale.

**SPECS** ppb, 234 pp, 5.5" x 8.5"  
**PRICE** \$21 CAD • \$19 USD  
**ISBN** 978-1-55420-112-9  
**PUBLISHED** 2016



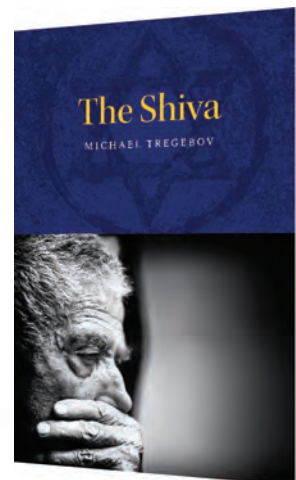
## Dance Moves of the Near Future

**Tim Conley**

A wild ride through the absurd, the surreal and the speculative... What is Conley doing that's so effective? It's part storytelling prowess, part hitting the sweet spot between realism and the weird (and the weird is almost always played straight), part dedication to the aesthetic as overriding function... The overall effect of these 24 experiments isn't an idea but a feeling: an unsettling, a strangely pleasant unease.

— *Globe & Mail*

**SPECS** ppb, 160 pp, 6" x 9"  
**PRICE** \$18 CAD • \$16 USD  
**ISBN** 978-1-55420-097-9  
**PUBLISHED** 2014



## The Shiva

**Michael Tregobov**

Chock full of dialogue so rich and smooth it's like you're eavesdropping rather than reading... In many ways, a completely legal *Ocean's Eleven* replete with a cadre of colourful cronies... Reading their back-and-forth is like listening to the opening scene in *Reservoir Dogs* if Woody Allen took a crack at rewriting it.

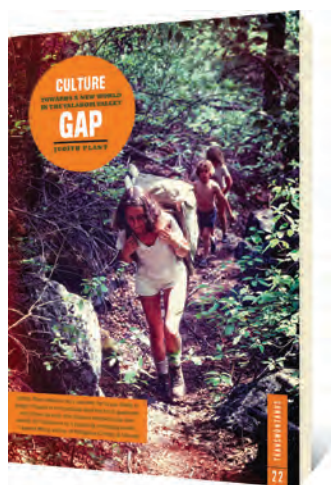
— *Winnipeg Review*

It's Tregobov's obvious affection for all of his characters, his willingness to indulge them—their crazy schemes and crazier conversations—that make this novel a distinct pleasure to read.

— *Montreal Gazette*

Like Michael Tregobov's debut novel *The Briss*, which was a finalist for the Commonwealth First Novel Award (Canada–Caribbean Region), *The Shiva* is a fast-paced character-driven novel.

**SPECS** ppb, 272 pp, 5.5" x 8.5"  
**PRICE** \$21 CAD • \$21 USD  
**ISBN** 978-1-55420-063-4  
**PUBLISHED** 2012



## Culture Gap

Towards a New World  
in the Yalakom Valley

**Judith Plant**

Judith Plant takes us on a journey we're not likely to forget, one that deepens our own search for relevance in a radically changing world.

—Joanna Macy, author of  
*Widening Circles: A Memoir*

Decades ago, out back of beyond, Camelsfoot, a philosophical commune, aspired to "self-conscious culture making." Imbued with her conviction that "a meaningful and caring life with others is our natural right," Judith Plant's memoir of its fleeting achievement and many uncommon good times glows with wisdom, complexity, and compassion. A noble read. —Stephanie Mills, author of *Epicurean Simplicity* and *In Service of the Wild*

**SPECS** ppb, 112 pp, 6.75" x 9.75"  
**PRICE** \$19 CAD • \$17 USD  
**ISBN** 978-1-55420-133-4  
**PHOTOGRAPHS** 25 B&W  
**PUBLISHED** May 2017



## The Sacred Herb / The Devil's Weed

**Andrew Struthers**

All about nuance and wit . . . infused with mental playfulness . . . This charming book will have special appeal for those who have experienced the pleasures and perils of cannabis use, but it is deftly enough written to provide pleasure to even the drug naïve.

—Tom Sandborn, *Vancouver Sun*

*The Sacred Herb* answers all your questions about the world's most misunderstood plant, from how "the bikers of the Stone Age" spread it across Europe to why it makes music sound better. *The Devil's Weed* is a non-stop trip as Struthers weaves together true stories, collected from 100 friends, of marijuana-inspired misadventures.

**SPECS** double-sided ppb, 208 pp,  
5.5" x 8.5"  
**PRICE** \$19 CAD • \$18 USD  
**ISBN** 978-1-55420-115-0  
**ILLUSTRATIONS** 12 B&W  
**PUBLISHED** April 2017



## Maria Mahoi of the Islands

**Jean Barman**

Since its original publication in 2004, *Maria Mahoi of the Islands* has become a classic in its field, and an important document on the history of Indigenous Hawaiians known as Kanakas, who had an early presence across the Pacific Northwest and are now part of the broader Hawaiian diaspora across North America.

Drawing on information that has come to light since the book's first publication—and sometimes as a result of it—Jean Barman has updated and expanded her account, and written a new Foreword talking about the life that the book has taken on.

**SPECS** ppb, 116 pp, 6.75" x 9.75"  
**PRICE** \$19 CAD • \$17 USD  
**ISBN** 978-1-55420-132-7  
**PUBLISHED** April 2017



## The News We Deserve

The Transformation of Canada's  
Media Landscape

**Marc Edge**

*George Ryga Award long-listed*

Marc Edge is one of the most prescient and provocative observers of the Canadian media scene. *The News We Deserve* is a compelling book showing how money, policy, and education have aligned to give Canadians poorer journalism than they deserve. Anyone concerned about the role journalism plays in Canadian politics, culture, and society will find his critique deeply unsettling.

—Robert G. Picard, Reuters Institute  
for the Study of Journalism,  
University of Oxford

**SPECS** ppb, 224 pp, 6" x 9"  
**PRICE** \$24 CAD • \$24 USD  
**ISBN** 978-1-55420-121-1  
**PHOTOGRAPHS** 12 B&W  
**PUBLISHED** 2016





## A Series of Dogs

**John Armstrong**

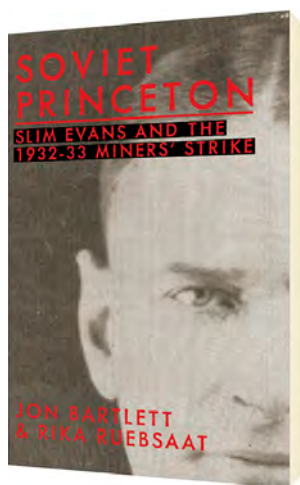
*Leacock Medal long-listed*

Pretty much guaranteed to make you laugh out loud . . . a memorable compendium of philosophy, social commentary, slobbery kisses and love.

—Heidi Greco, *Vancouver Sun*

John Armstrong uses his wry wit and vivid prose to evoke a life immeasurably enriched by one best friend after another. He tells boyhood tales of romping along the railroad tracks with Spooky the mutt, touching accounts of Sluggo the Rottweiler befriending sex workers, howl-inducing memories of laying a treasured friend to rest during a rain- and beer-soaked night, and many more stories both moving and hilarious.

**SPECS** ppb, 192 pp, 5.5" x 8.5"  
**PRICE** \$21 CAD • \$19 USD  
**ISBN** 978-1-55420-118-1  
**PUBLISHED** 2016



## Soviet Princeton

Slim Evans and the 1932–33 Miners' Strike

**Jon Bartlett &  
Rika Ruebsaat**

*BC Book Prizes finalist  
BCHF Historical Writing Awards finalist*

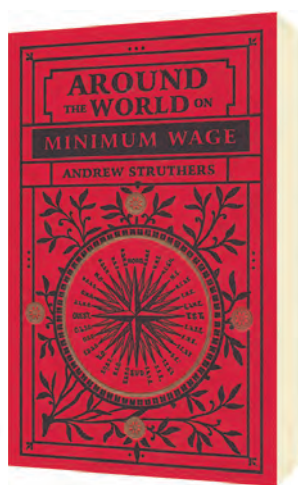
A fascinating chapter in labour organizing history in Canada.

—*Literary Review of Canada*

A carefully documented and well-textured chronicle of a class' dangerous struggle for livable wages set against a landscape of political and social unrest. —*Penticton Western News*

Required reading for the Canadian leftist who is curious as to what exactly was going on west of the Rockies during the worst of the Depression. —*Socialist.ca*

**SPECS** ppb, 136 pp, 6" x 9"  
**PRICE** \$19 CAD • \$18 USD  
**ISBN** 978-1-55420-109-9  
**PHOTOGRAPHS** 12 B&W  
**PUBLISHED** 2015



## Around the World on Minimum Wage

**Andrew Struthers**

To understand this culture, we need writers with a genuine sense of humour, such as Struthers.

—Phillip Marchand, *National Post*

Something of a hybrid spawned of *Gulliver's Travels*, William Kotwinkle's classic *The Fan Man*, and *National Lampoon* magazine . . . I was hooked on his manic stream of the sublime, the sublimely ridiculous and much that lies strewn somewhere between the two—especially the delightful graphics.

—*BC Studies*

Imagine T.E. Lawrence's *Seven Pillars of Wisdom* performed as a Bob and Doug McKenzie sketch, and you're halfway there.

—*subTerrain*

**SPECS** ppb, 304 pp, 5.5" x 8.5"  
**PRICE** \$24 CAD • \$21 USD  
**ISBN** 978-1-55420-086-3  
**ILLUSTRATIONS** numerous, by the author  
**PUBLISHED** 2014



## Greatly Exaggerated

The Myth of the Death of Newspapers

**Marc Edge**

Soundly researched . . . delivers the analytics lacking in many reports about the 'death' of printed news.

—*Newspaper Research Journal*

A provocative thesis that Edge backs up with reams of data . . . And he accomplishes this with a breezy, readable style.

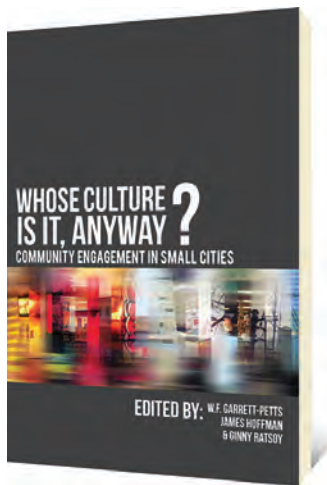
—*Georgia Straight*

Demonstrates ample awareness and critique of the dangers to good journalism of excessive profit orientation.

—*Journalism & Mass Communication Quarterly*

**SPECS** trade paperback, 320 pages, 6" x 9"  
**PRICE** \$21 CAD • \$21 USD  
**ISBN** 978-1-55420-102-0  
**PUBLISHED** 2014





## Whose Culture Is It, Anyway?

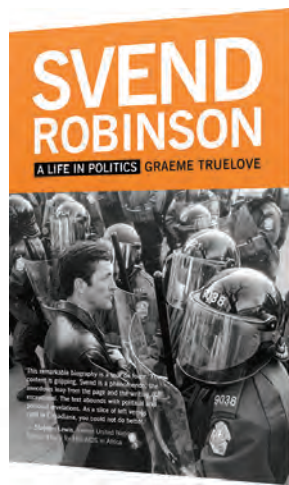
Community Engagement in Small Cities

**W.F. Garrett-Petts  
James Hoffman  
Ginny Ratsoy (eds.)**

Addresses important questions about the contribution of arts and culture in small and medium sized cities and the ethos and ethics of supporting cultural development in these environments. —*BC Studies*

Includes contributions by Bruce Baugh, bill bissett, Ila Crawford, Nancy Duxbury, Alexander Forbes, Kathleen Irwin, Terry Kading & Christopher Walmsley, Caffyn Kelley, Ernie Kroeger, Lucy Lippard, Adelheid Mers, Judith Miller, Bernard Momer, Maureen F. Rogers & Barry P. Brockley, Si Transken, and Savannah Walling.

**SPECS** trade paperback, 320 pages, 6.75" x 9.75"  
**PRICE** \$35 CAD • \$35 USD  
**ISBN** 978-1-55420-087-0  
**PHOTOGRAPHS** 35 B&W  
**PUBLISHED** 2014



## Svend Robinson

A Life in Politics

**Graeme Truelove**

*BC Book Prizes finalist*

Informative, interesting and sometimes very moving. A terrific biography of an amazing man. —*Rabble.ca*

Readers will learn a great deal about Robinson, his motivations, his colleagues and friends, and gain multiple valuable insights into the internal workings of the political system during one of the most tumultuous eras in Canadian, British Columbian, and NDP history. —*BC Studies*

**SPECS** trade paperback, 352 pages, 6" x 9"  
**PRICE** \$24 CAD • \$24 USD  
**ISBN** 978-1-55420-072-6  
**PHOTOGRAPHS** 32 B&W  
**PUBLISHED** 2013



## Mac-Pap

Memoir of a Canadian in the Spanish Civil War

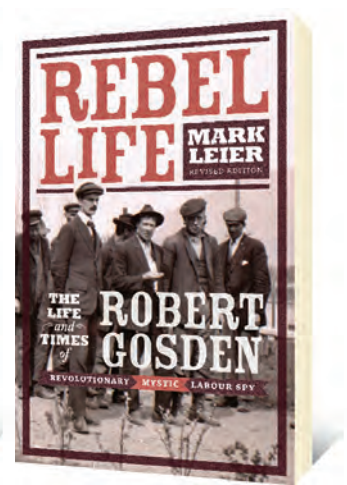
**Ronald Liversedge  
David Yorke (ed.)**

In recognizing Liversedge and his compatriots, we recognize the centrality of the subjects associated with the Great Depression to the emergence of a vibrant social history on the Left Coast and elsewhere. —*BC Studies*

A fascinating and much needed contribution to the slowly growing number of books on Canada's role in the Spanish Civil War —*The Volunteer*

Ronald Liversedge's (author of *Recollections of the On-to-Ottawa Trek*) memoir of his two years at the front is richly illustrated and annotated by labour historian David Yorke.

**SPECS** trade paperback, 224 pages, 5.5" x 8.5"  
**PRICE** \$19 CAD • \$19 USD  
**ISBN** 978-1-55420-071-9  
**PHOTOGRAPHS** 19 B&W  
**PUBLISHED** 2013



## Rebel Life (2nd ed. rev.)

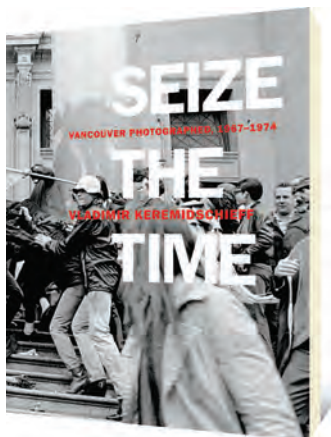
The Life and Times of Robert Gosden, Revolutionary, Mystic, Labour Spy

**Mark Leier**

More than a biography: a rich examination of a radical era that students of labour history will benefit from . . . [Leier] has shared the details of [Gosden's] life with the imagination of a mystery writer and the documentary knowledge of one of our most seasoned labour historians. —*BC Studies*

*Rebel Life* plumbs the enigma that was Gosden, but it is much more: an introduction to BC labour history; a trove of rarely seen archival photographs, and sidebars rich with historical arcana; and, with its chapter describing the research that unearthed Gosden's story, a rich resource for instructors, students, and trade unionists alike.

**SPECS** trade paperback, 192 pages, 6" x 9"  
**PRICE** \$21 CAD • \$21 USD  
**ISBN** 978-1-55420-058-0  
**PHOTOGRAPHS** 20 B&W  
**PUBLISHED** 2013



## Seize the Time

Vancouver Photographed, 1967–74

**Vladimir Keremidschieff**

Afterword by Jamie Reid

Recall[s] a much smaller Vancouver of a much simpler age that was nonetheless far more exciting than the present . . . Full of visual information and social history . . . A handy crash course in a period of history that is quickly receding from memory. —Georgia Straight

These photographs document Vancouver at a moment of profound change, when the buttoned-down, rainswept city of developer Tom "Terrific" Campbell was being washed away by the social and cultural wave of the Sixties. The music festivals, the protests, the squats on the North Shore mudflats, and the passion of that moment in time are indelibly captured by his photographs.

**SPECS** ppb, 128 pages, 8" x 10"  
**PRICE** \$24 CAD • \$24 USD  
**ISBN** 978-1-55420-074-0  
**PHOTOGRAPHS** 100 B&W  
**PUBLISHED** 2013



## Voyage Through the Past Century

**Rolf Knight**

*BC Book Prizes finalist*

Rolf Knight's reflection on seventy years as a labourer, academic, writer, and activist is a fascinating account of a vanishing world of rednecks and roustabouts, saloon philosophers and peasant rebels, bohemians and activists. His evocative descriptions of life and work in BC, post-war Berlin, the Colombian mountains, New York City, and beyond are informed by a deep, personal appreciation of workers and a smart, pugnacious disgust for capitalism and its apologists.

—Mark Leier, author of *Rebel Life*

**SPECS** ppb, 336 pp, 6" x 9"  
**PRICE** \$24 CAD • \$24 USD  
**ISBN** 978-1-55420-068-9  
**PHOTOGRAPHS** 30 B&W  
**PUBLISHED** 2013



## if wants to be the same as is

Essential Poems of David Bromige

**David Bromige**

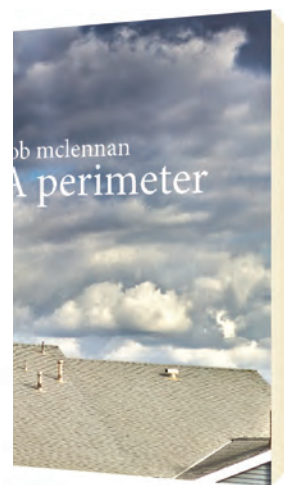
Edited by Jack Krick, Bob Perelman, and Ron Silliman

Introduction by George Bowering

Drawn from twenty-two books of poetry published by David Bromige in his lifetime, *if wants to be the same as is* presents a life's work that is, in the words of Bob Perelman, "beautiful, deeply amusing, continually surprising."

Bromige's work holds wide appeal and from the start resisted any sort of classification, winning praise across the literary-critical spectrum. His publishers included Black Sparrow Press (Bukowski's publisher), Sun & Moon, Brick, and The Figures, and he won acclaim from the likes of Robert Hass, the Poetry Foundation, and the National Endowment for the Arts. He died in Sebastopol, California, in 2009.

**SPECS** ppb, 640 pages, 6.75" x 9.75"  
**PRICE** \$45 CAD • \$35 USD  
**ISBN** 978-1-55420-134-1  
**PUBLISHED** 2017



## A perimeter

**rob mclennan**

In fatherhood, mclennan has found a perfect subject for his signature rhythmic gifts: their pause and heft, their sweeping forward and pulling back. Listen to *A perimeter* and you will hear a moment expand, a year collapse. This is a book about focus, but also about the blur of sleep deprivation. As with so much about parenting, it is equal parts gratitude and bewilderment. Could it be any other way? —Marcus McCann

A new child, a new house, a new neighbourhood: rob mclennan takes the measure of his environment in *A perimeter*, a collection of shorter and longer pieces from 2010 to 2014.

**SPECS** ppb, 80 pages, 5.5" x 8.5"  
**PRICE** \$18 CAD • \$16 USD  
**ISBN** 978-1-55420-128-0  
**PUBLISHED** 2016





## Clean Sails

**Gustave Morin**

*Alcuin Book Design Awards,  
honourable mention*

Stunningly complex, hypnotic visual poems composed manually on modified typewriters . . . A major entry into Canada's corpus of typewriter poetry, a strange, stunning book where every page impresses with its meticulous patterning.

—*Winnipeg Free Press*

An epic of oddball sights, a saga of unstable figures, and a colossus of concrete poems made from an arsenal of typewriters with names like Tooth Courier, Hector Wheat-Gomez, and Cy Machina.

—*subTerrain*

**SPECS** ppb, 164 pp, 6.5" x 8.75"  
**PRICE** \$24 CAD • \$21 USD  
**ISBN** 978-1-55420-108-2  
**PUBLISHED** 2015



## Twenty Seven Stings

**Julie Emerson**

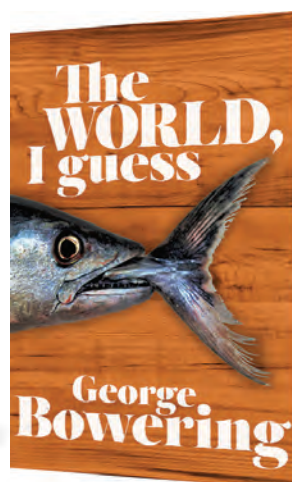
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**Roxanna Bikadoroff**

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## The World, I Guess

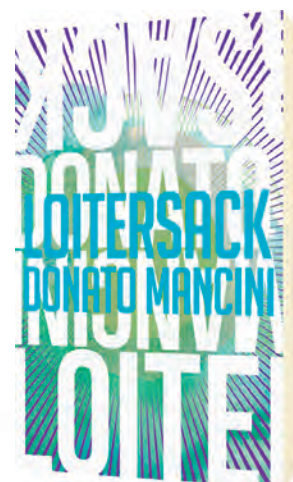
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—*Contemporary Verse 2*

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*Rua Da Felicidade* celebrates memory and desire precisely in their immateriality and impermanence, seeking to constantly immerse itself in the uncertain materiality of the here and now. As such, it challenges Williams's dictum "no ideas but in things": "You'll sail the world / in your paper boat, / eventually throwing out / your cordless anchor."

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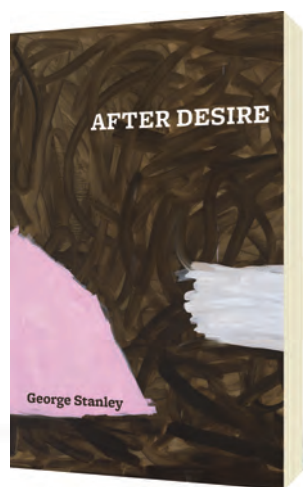
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**George Stanley**

In tandem with being or becoming invisible as an object of desire as he ages, Stanley's poetry also ruminates on the process of making poetic meaning itself when the impetus—desire—abates. [The poem] is the gift that the poet can offer others, having lived through the mysteries of desire, having not yet, not ever solved the pull to beauty, to youth, to the consolations of old age.

—*Canadian Literature*

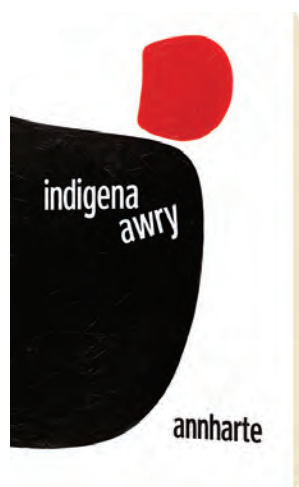
The poems in *After Desire* might be sparked by the beauty of a waiter in a restaurant in Stanley's Kitsilano neighbourhood, by a conversation in his neighbourhood pub, by a glance exchanged with a baby or a teenager on the bus, by a failing vacuum cleaner, or by another poet's poem. Whichever the case may be, Stanley's poetry remains solidly embedded in the material city in which he lives.

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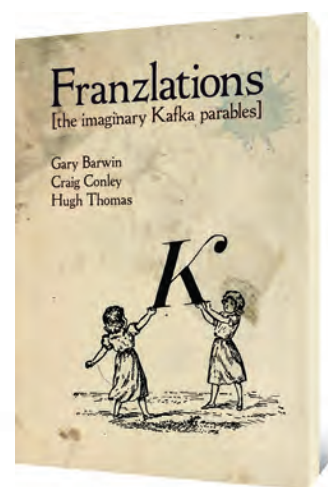
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## A SHORT HISTORY OF NEW STAR BOOKS

In 1969, a group of writers and editors published the first of several literary supplements inserted into the weekly *Straight*. The Georgia Straight Writing Supplement featured work by writers such as *Straight* editor/publisher Dan MacLeod, Stan Persky, Milton Acorn, Gerry Gilbert, Jack Spicer, George Stanley, Robin Blaser, Maria Hindmarch, Jim Herndon, Dennis Wheeler, and Colin Stuart.

Soon the GSWS began publishing books, including works by Bill Bissett, Judith Copithorne, Fred Wah, Brian Fawcett, George Bowering, and Daphne Marlatt. Within another year, many of the GSWS writers left the *Straight* to

continue under a new imprint, Vancouver Community Press, based at "the York St. commune."

By 1974, the press began to emphasize non-fiction titles about current affairs and politics. One of these books, *Two Roads* by Jack Scott, a largely positive account of the People's Republic of China (Scott was one of the first westerners to visit, and write an account of, the China of Mao Zedong and the Cultural Revolution) inspired another name change, to New Star Books.

By 1978, the York Street commune was no more, and Lanny Beckman, who had joined the press in 1974, became publisher, a position he held until

1990, when Rolf Maurer assumed the role. This last change coincided with a return to the press's literary roots: while New Star continues to publish books about politics and social issues, it also resumed publishing poetry, as well as prose fiction and non-fiction. As well, books on local history and culture became an important component of New Star's list.

In 1998, New Star moved across town to its current location, at 18th and Commercial Street in East Vancouver. Today, New Star Books publishes four to ten new titles per year.

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*On the cover:* Barricade at the corner of boulevard Voltaire and Richard-Lenoir during the Paris Commune of 1871, photo from BHVP/Roger-Viollet