



NEW STAR Books

SPRING 2018 feat. **THE
BIG NOTE: A GUIDE TO THE
RECORDINGS OF FRANK ZAPPA**

SOME END / WEST BROADWAY by **GEORGE BOWERING
& GEORGE STANLEY** **IF WANTS TO BE THE SAME AS IS:**
ESSENTIAL POEMS OF DAVID BROMIGE + **COMPLETE
BACKLIST & ORDERING INFO** **NEW STAR BOOKS,**
VANCOUVER, BC **FINE POETRY & PROSE SINCE 1970**

New Star Books Spring 2018

New Titles + Recent Highlights + Complete Backlist



New Titles

- 1 *The Big Note: A Guide to the Recordings of Frank Zappa* by Charles Ulrich
- 2 *Some End / West Broadway* by George Stanley / George Bowering
- 3 *if wants to be the same as is* by David Bromige

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| 4 <i>The Sacred Herb / The Devil's Weed</i> by Andrew Struthers | 6 <i>Svend Robinson</i> by Graeme Truelove |
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Charles Ulrich

The Big Note

A Guide to the Recordings of Frank Zappa

The Big Note is the complete guide to the music of Frank Zappa—100 albums recorded over 35 years, the 80+ players on them, each one of 1,772 tracks described in detail, backed up by 1,424 citations.

Based on hundreds of interviews, letters, and e-mail correspondences with scores of musicians, singers, engineers, artists, copyists, and others who worked with Zappa, **The Big Note** provides the liner notes that every album in the protean and prolific composer's oeuvre cries out for. It is the indispensable resource for any FZ fan or scholar.

Who's playing what on each track? When was this recorded? How did FZ put this together? What is the "hippy riff"? What does a Telefunken U-37 look like? What the heck are we listening to, anyway, and why does it sound vaguely familiar?

In a work of careful scholarship that itself took more than fifteen years, Charles Ulrich answers all these questions, along with a whole lot of others most listeners probably didn't even know were lurking within FZ's vast continent of recorded output.

Charles Ulrich was born in Palo Alto, California, in 1957. He attended Pomona College, where—like Frank Zappa—he was a disc jockey on KSPC-FM. He earned a PhD in linguistics from UCLA and taught at ten universities in the United States and Canada. He published the Frostbite Falls Far-Flung Flier, a zine devoted to Jay Ward cartoons. Since 1994 he has been active in the on-line Zappa fan community — on [alt.fan.frank-zappa](http://alt.fan.frank-zappa.com), zappateers.com, and his own website, The Planet Of My Dreams <fzpomd.net>. He lives in Vancouver, BC.



PUBLICATION DATE

Mother's Day, May 13, 2018

SPECS

Trade ppb, 736 pages, 6.75" x 9.75"

PRICE

\$45 CAD • \$39 USD

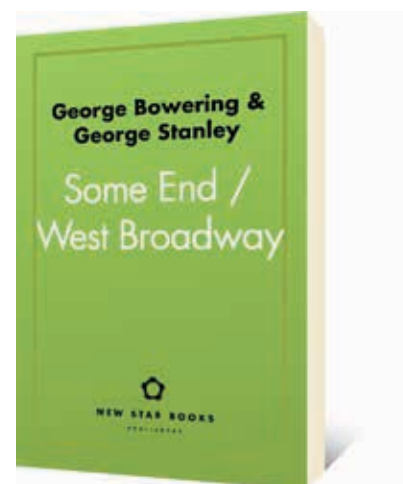
ISBN

978-1-55420-146-4



George Bowering & George Stanley

Some End / West Broadway



A masterpiece of late style and friendship, this volume combines, back-to-back, two powerful new works by old masters, **George Bowering** and **George Stanley**.

"West Broadway" is a narrative/lyrical work, set along the West Broadway corridor on the West Side of Vancouver. It's a sequence of events, personally experienced but largely uninterpreted, that may take place crossing the street or on the sidewalk, riding the bus, in interiors, or in dreams. Along the way there are versions of poems by Charles Baudelaire and Anna Akhmatova." —George Stanley

"I just loved, and still do, the notion of doing a flip book with George Stanley, and took to the idea even before we started trying to enter each other's poems, as we do in this book.

Some End continues, in its short length, the formal organization I have been listening to over the past few years and in my recent volumes. I can't say much about the images and arguments of the poems, because I just start going on one and keep going till it shows me when to quit.." —George Bowering

George Bowering is a two-time winner of the Governor-General's Award for Poetry, and was Canada's first Poet-Laureate. His most recent books of poetry are *The World, I Guess* (2015) and *Teeth* (2013). New Star Books recently re-issued his 1977 novel *A Short Sad Book*.

George Stanley is the author of seven previous books, the most recent being *After Desire* (2013), *Vancouver: A Poem* (2008), and *North of California St.* (2014), which collects poems from three earlier, out-of-print books. Born in San Francisco and living in Canada since 1970, Stanley was the 2006 recipient of the Shelley Memorial Award from the American Poetry Society.

PUBLICATION DATE

February 14, 2018

SPECS

Two-sided trade ppb
("tumble book")

80 pages, 5.5" x 8.5"

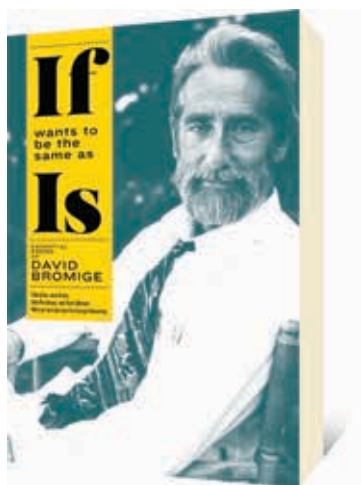
PRICE

\$18 CAD • \$16 USD

ISBN

978-1-55420-145-7





if wants to be the same as is

Essential Poems of David Bromige

David Bromige

Edited by **Jack Krick, Bob Perelman & Ron Silliman**

Drawn from 22 books of poetry published by David Bromige in his lifetime, ***if wants to be the same as is*** chronicles the career of one of contemporary poetry's most distinctive writers.

Born in London, England, in 1933, raised in Canada, and a resident for most of his adult life of California, David Bromige is just as difficult to pin down in terms of his aesthetics. As a student at the University of BC in the early 1960s, Bromige met writers like Fred Wah, George Bowering, and Jamie Reid, who pointed him towards the American postmodernists, and eventually, to a scholarship to UC–Berkeley. There, he became immersed in the Bay Area's explosively creative poetry scene, and came to be associated with many of the L=A=N=G=U=A=G=E poets.

Bromige's own work, however, 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.

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."

SPECS ppb, 640 pp, 6.75" x 9.75"

PRICE \$45 CAD • \$35 USD

ISBN 978-1-55420-134-1

PUBLISHED June 21, 2018



Sitting Shiva on Minto Avenue, by Toots

Erín Moure

"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.

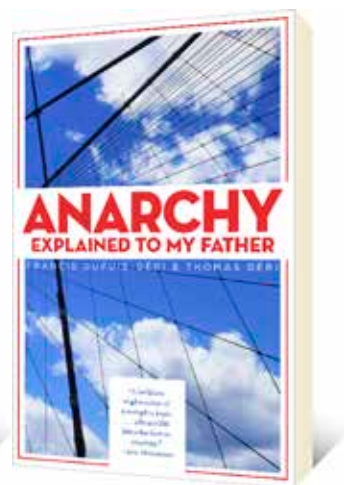
In recording the tale of the little man, through memories and Google searches, the book gives a glimpse into an entire era of urban Canada, from Vancouver's Downtown Eastside and Main Street and Chinatown to a long-ago Montreal between the Great Depression and Expo '67.

SPECS ppb, 152 pp, 6" x 9"

PRICE \$21 CAD • \$19 USD

ISBN 978-1-55420-141-9

PUBLISHED 2017



Anarchy Explained to My Father

**Francis Dupuis-Déri
Thomas Déri**

Translated by **John Gilmore**

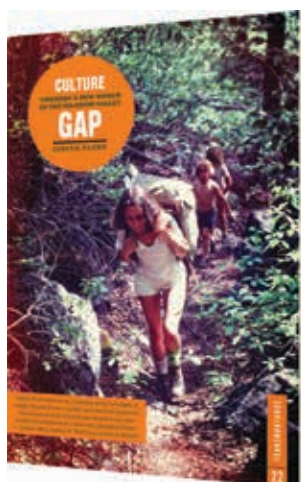
Anarchy Explained to My Father (first published by Lux Éditeur in 2014 as *L'anarchie expliquée à mon père*) is a provocative and accessible discussion of the revolutionary mode of thought that rejects all forms of domination and seeks, in the words of Louise Michel, "order through harmony." Francis 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. The discussion shows that beyond the caricature of anarchists as proponents of chaos and violence is a movement based on ideals of equality, co-operation, and autonomy.

SPECS ppb, 224 pp, 6" x 9"

PRICE \$20 CAD • \$18 USD

ISBN 978-1-55420-137-2

PUBLISHED 2017



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

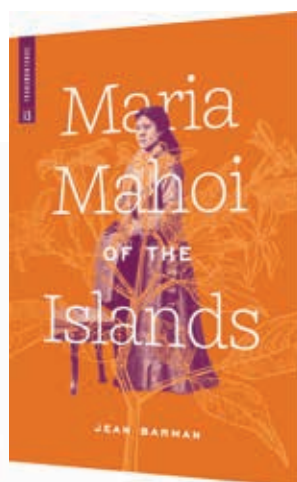
Andrew Struthers

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



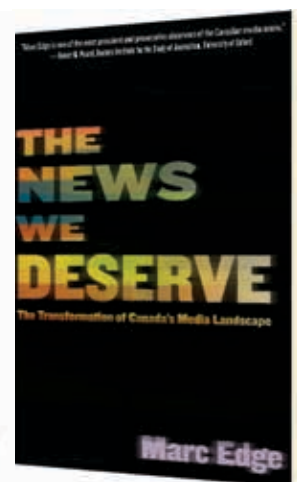
Maria Mahoi of the Islands

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

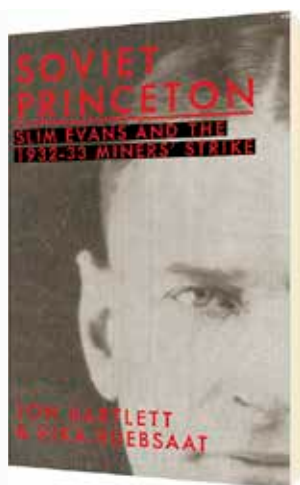
Leacock Medal long-listed

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*

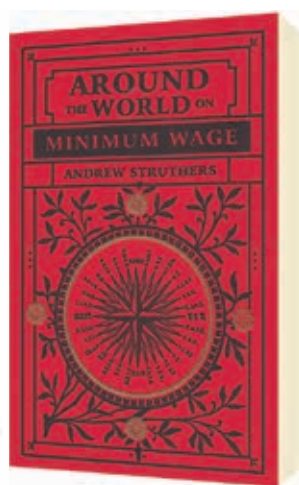
A fascinating chapter in labour organizing history in Canada.

—*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?

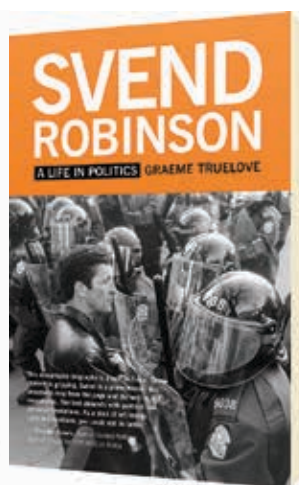
Community Engagement in Small Cities

**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

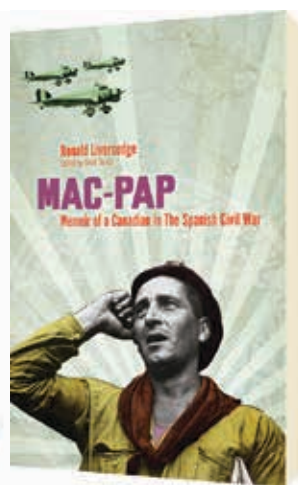
Graeme Truelove

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

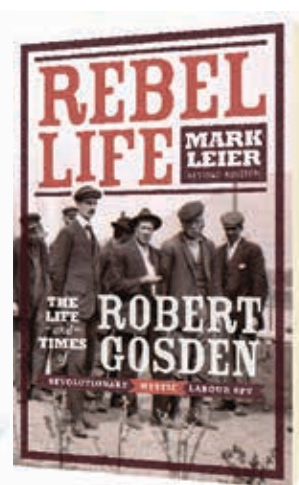
**Ronald Liversedge
David Yorke (ed.)**

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

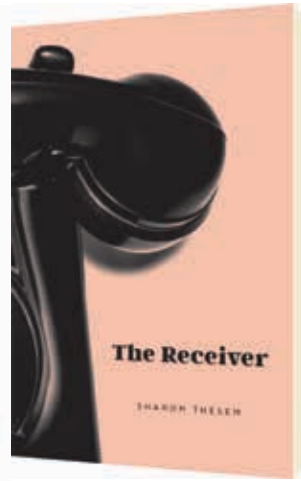
Rolf Knight

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



The Receiver

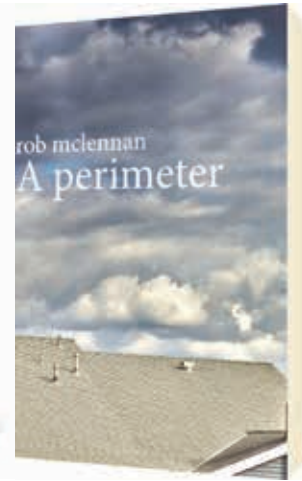
Sharon Thesen

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” (Sharon Thesen).

SPECS ppb, 110 pages, 5.5” x 8.5”
PRICE \$19 CAD • \$18 USD
ISBN 978-1-55420-140-2
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

Illustrated by
Roxanna Bikadoroff

Carefully crafted, lapidary poems . . . illustrated with powerful drawings . . . Deft and austere, evoking the gaudy horrors of war and what it does to women . . . The voices that drive and inform her poems are strong and fierce, and women are agents as well as objects.

—*Vancouver Sun*

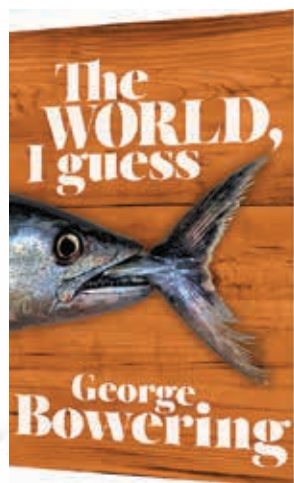
Twenty Seven Stings is a suite of seventeen poems inspired by roles of women in wars, and the cultural histories and military strategies that have led us into wars throughout history, from sixth-century BCE China to Alexander the Great to contemporary American drone warfare.

SPECS ppb, 72 pages, 6" x 9"

PRICE \$18 CAD • \$16 USD

ISBN 978-1-55420-107-5

PUBLISHED 2015



The World, I Guess

George Bowering

Bowering's candour is beguiling. He gives you a good time with his writing, you feel comfortable, even chummy, in his presence; he's playful, but then he nails you with some hard truths. —*Vancouver Sun*

The World, I Guess is a substantial book that commands a broad poetic range, a catholic span of interests, and echoes of a lifetime of reading and learning from Pound, Williams, Stanley, and others.

The centrepiece is "The Flood," a long, complex, discursive poem whose subject is poesis and whose interest is in the world around the writer. But the book ends with a suite of translations of the "modern" Canadian poetry canon, from Charles G.D. Roberts and Archibald Lampman to Irving Layton and Phyllis Webb.

SPECS trade paperback, 160 pages, 6" x 9"

PRICE \$18 CAD • \$16 USD

ISBN 978-1-55420-096-2

PUBLISHED 2015



Loitersack

Donato Mancini

Packed full of quotations, analyses, and deconstructions of and about poetry, and yet it never gets old . . . the effect is just as perplexing and just as thrilling as sitting down with the work of a well-loved scholar. The best part of *Loitersack* is that Donato Mancini makes it fun. The book is simultaneously a theatrical play, a grocery list, a deconstruction of laughter (you have to read it to understand), and uniquely poetic. At times it is almost nonsensical, but charming all the same.

—*Contemporary Verse 2*

SPECS trade paperback, 128 pages, 6" x 9"

PRICE \$21 CAD • \$19 USD

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PUBLISHED 2014



North of California St.

Selected Poems 1975–1999

George Stanley

Introduction by Sharon Thesen

A rich selection of [Stanley's] much earlier work, some of it dating back 40 years, with an incisive introduction . . . His poems are often like slide shows, kaleidoscopic and discontinuous . . . at times he rises to great beauty. —*Vancouver Sun*

North of California St. will be most useful to newcomers to Stanley's work, readers who may have missed the publication of the four out-of-print books from which this collection is drawn. Thesen's introduction helps place this selection of poetry in the context of Stanley's larger career, as "a retrospective reading" of Stanley's first few Canadian decades. —*Malahat Review*

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Posh Lust

Louis Cabri

Smart, sometimes silly, and always biting, Cabri's poems are poetic products par excellence . . . *Posh Lust* resembles a compost heap of poetic language. Cabri's primary target is neo-liberal capitalism, which is happy to destroy the world for you as long as you fill out its satisfaction survey: "Most Satisfying Rubble: / (a) chunks (b) dust." —*Winnipeg Free Press*

People study poetry and some read it. Poetry is a pinnacle art — as in "a small ornamental turret" — even when it's a drunk imaginary communist, or just a drunk imaginary. Kitsch makes the serious art of poetry bearable, so that poetry may become a situation where one is entertained by many an aspirational boner or becument in the literary field.

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Parkway

(Hammertown, Part 3)

Peter Culley

Culley's poetry is remarkable for its suspension of rhetorical elegance, together with all the stubborn rawness of the refusal to stop seeing. The inconsistencies and ravelled edges resulting from this charged refusal are themselves the troubled condition of "being," which is but one refraction among many in natural history.

—Lisa Robertson, *Lemonhound*

Parkway is suffused with impulses of loyalty, generosity, and discovery, all of which can be found in moments of laughter, nostalgia, or learning. —*subTerrain*

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Ken Norris

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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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—*Canadian Literature*

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—*Herizons*

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PUBLISHED 2013



After Desire

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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PUBLISHED 2013



Indigena Awry

Annharte

Blue Metropolis First Peoples Literary Prize winner (2015)

This book directly responds to the injustices facing Aboriginal people. It is revolutionary literature.

—*Contemporary Verse 2*

Saturated with rejection of "honest Injun" clichés and of ageist and sexist stereotypes from settler culture . . . The 'experimental' is never separate from a passionate rejection of white bourgeois aesthetics.

—*Canadian Literature*

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—*The Rusty Tuque*

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PUBLISHED 2012



Franzlations

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Gary Barwin, Craig Conley & Hugh Thomas

Filled with modest poetry and literary frills at every turn; their sounds echo and whisper, not unlike Kafka himself, across generational gaps . . . Conley, Barwin, and Thomas induce you into a willing hypnosis as you ponder over the pithy blocked letters, scattered scraps of sentences, and gothic illustrations.

—*Paper Street Journal*

Takes the work of Kafka into a wholly other sphere of meaning . . . to a space where the imagination can be freed by virtue of the play of images, text, and history.

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ILLUSTRATIONS Profuse, throughout

PUBLISHED 2011



A Short Sad Book

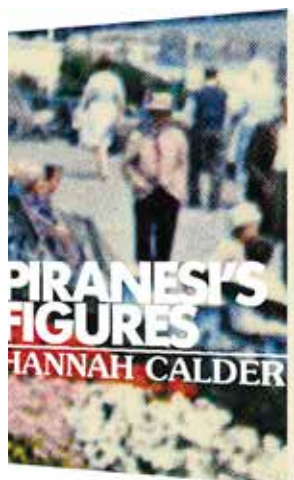
George Bowering

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"
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PUBLISHED March 2017



Piranesi's Figures

Hannah Calder

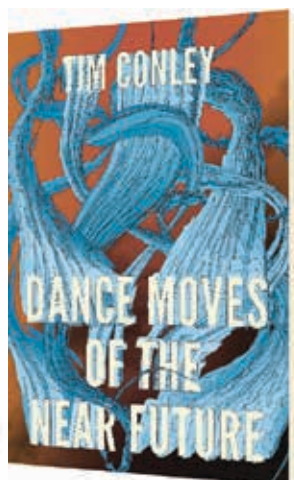
Reading Calder is to move through the world barefoot over asphalt, grass, sand and water. This is sensual, insightful writing.

— 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.

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PUBLISHED 2016



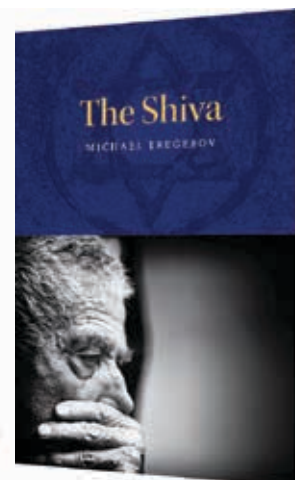
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Tim Conley

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— *Globe & Mail*

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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.

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PRICE \$21 CAD • \$21 USD
ISBN 978-1-55420-063-4
PUBLISHED 2012

COMPLETE BACKLIST BY TITLE

TITLE (<i>bold</i> =ebook available) AUTHOR	GENRE	ISBN	YEAR PUBLISHED	CAD / USD					
Æthel Donato Mancini	POETRY	978-1-55420-030-6	2007	\$21 / \$18	Exercises in Lip Pointing Annharte (Marie Baker)	P	978-0-921586-92-0	2003	\$18 / \$16
After Desire George Stanley	P	978-1-55420-070-2	2013	\$18 / \$18	Field Day Matt Hern	N	978-1-55420-002-3	2003	\$21 / \$21
Age of Briggs & Stratton The Peter Culley	P	978-1-55420-039-9	2008	\$18 / \$16	Franzlations Gary Barwin, Hugh Thomas, & Craig Conley	P	978-1-55420-062-7	2011	\$19 / \$19
Along the No. 20 Line Rolf Knight	NON-FICTION	978-1-55420-061-0	2011	\$24 / \$24	Gardens Aflame Maleea Acker	N	978-1-55420-065-8	2012	\$19 / \$19
Anarchy Explained to My Father Francis Dupuis-Déri & Thomas Déri	N	978-1-55420-137-2	2017	\$20 / \$18	Ghost in the Water A Terry Glavin	N	978-0-921586-38-8	1994	\$16 / \$16
Around the World on Minimum Wage Andrew Struthers	N	978-1-55429-086-3	2014	\$24 / \$21	Greatly Exaggerated Marc Edge	N	978-1-55420-102-0	2014	\$21 / \$21
Backup to Babylon Maxine Gadd	P	978-1-55420-024-5	2006	\$20 / \$16	Green Shadow The Andrew Struthers	N	978-0-921586-44-9	1995	\$16 / \$16
Basking Sharks Scott Wallace & Brian Gisborne	N	978-1-55420-022-1	2006	\$19 / \$19	Guilty of Everything John Armstrong	N	978-0-921586-86-9	2001	\$16 / \$16
Big Note The Charles Ulrich	N	978-1-55420-146-4	2018	\$45 / \$39	Hammertown Peter Culley	P	978-1-55420-000-9	2003	\$16 / \$16
Box The George Bowering	FICTION	978-1-55420-045-0	2009	\$19 / \$19	High Slack Judith Williams	N	978-0-921586-45-6	1996	\$16 / \$16
Briss The Michael Tregebov	F	ebook only	2009	\$5.99	Hollywood Utopia Justine Brown	N	978-0-921586-90-6	2002	\$18 / \$18
Buffet World Donato Mancini	P	978-1-55420-054-2	2011	\$21 / \$21	if wants to be the same as is David Bromige	P	978-1-55420-134-1	2017	\$45 / \$35
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Caprice George Bowering	F	978-1-55420-053-5	2010	\$19 / \$19	Indigena Awry Annharte (Marie Baker)	P	978-1-55420-067-2	2012	\$19 / \$19
Captivity Tales Elizabeth Hay	N	978-0-921586-32-6	1993	\$18 / \$18	Islands of Resistance Andrea Langlois, Ron Sakolsky, and Marian van der Zon (eds.)	N	978-1-55420-050-4	2010	\$21 / \$21
Cedar Surf The Grant Shilling	N	978-0-921586-93-7	2003	\$16 / \$16	Killing Time Hank Schachte	F	978-1-55420-019-1	2005	\$18 / \$18
Chiwid Sage Birchwater	N	978-0-921586-39-5	1995	\$16 / \$16	Kokanee Don Gayton	N	978-0-921586-85-2	2002	\$16 / \$16
Chronicles of Dissent (2nd ed.) Noam Chomsky	N	978-1-55420-003-0	2003	\$24 nfs	Last Voyage of the Loch Ryan The Andrew Struthers	N	978-1-55420-008-5	2004	\$18 / \$18
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Short Sad Book A George Bowering	F	978-1-55420-129-7	2017	\$19 / \$17	Weather The Lisa Robertson	P	978-0-921586-81-4	2001	\$16 / \$16
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Soviet Princeton Jon Bartlett and Rika Ruebsaat	N	978-1-55420-109-9	2015	\$19 / \$18	Wreck Beach Carellin Brooks	N	978-1-55420-031-3	2007	\$19 / \$19
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Stranger Wycott's Place John Schreiber	N	978-1-55420-037-5	2008	\$19 / \$19	XEclogue Lisa Robertson	P	978-0-921586-72-2	1999	\$16 / \$16
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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, be-

came 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.

A WORD ON OUR SPONSORS

This country's literary culture is made possible by the citizens of Canada and BC through the Canada Council for the Arts, which last year invested \$153 million to bring the arts to Canadians throughout the country, and the BC Arts Council. Be sure to let your elected representatives know of your support for these vital initiatives.



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