

THE POETS

Sofia Abad was born in Polillo, Quezon in the Philippines and came to New York in 1972. She has been an active member of the Filipino-American community, working for the Philippine American Government Employees of New York, and a member of the Filipino Community Network.



Ammiel Alcalay is a poet, critic, and scholar. During the war in the former Yugoslavia, he served as a vital primary source for providing access to Bosnian voices in the American media. He has edited and translated numerous books, including Rezak

Hukanovic's *The Tenth Circle of Hell*, the first survivor's account in English from a victim held in a Serbian concentration camp. He teaches at Queens College.

Elena Alexander writes poetry and "fictionnonfiction." She organizes readings for the MAD ALEX Arts Foundation and curates in-depth, live readings of all varieties of text, covering all communities. Her most recent work is *Footnotes: Six Choreographers Inscribe the Page*, and her poetry and prose have appeared in many journals and anthologies.

Arts of Apsara Seth Dip (plays *tro*), Phan Keo (plays *khim*), Von Noth (plays *take*), Mono Lay (plays *skor*), Vath Chum (vocal), and Srey Rieth Man (vocal), all learned *ayai* and other traditional music while growing up in Cambodia. After surviving forced labor, starvation, and disease during the Killing Fields, they each fled to refugee camps in neighboring Thailand, where they returned to their passion for their instruments. They arrived to the U.S. in the early 1980s.



Maggie Balistreri is the co-host with Jackie Shoeler, of the popular Pink Pony West reading series. Her first chapbook, *The Evasion English Dictionary*, has been flying off the shelves at St. Mark's

bookstore, and she has been featured at many NYC venues, from The Knitting Factory to CBGB's.

H. Dirksen Bauman is a Professor at Gallaudet University, and has written extensively on the themes of American Sign Language literary theory and poetry.

Bei Dao is an internationally acclaimed Chinese poet who has been short-listed for the Nobel Prize. He has lived in exile since the Tiananmen Square massacre of 1989. He is a leading member of the Misty School of poets and continues to serve as the poetic conscience of China's dissident movements, as he has for over twenty years. His books include *Old Snow*, *Landscape Over Zero*, and, most recently, *Unlock*.

Charles Bernstein is one of the leading figures of the L=A=N=G=U=A=G=E school of poetry. He is the author of more than 20 books, including *Republics of Reality: 1975 – 1995* and *My Way: Speeches and Poems*. He is the David Gray Professor of Poetry and Letters at SUNY Buffalo, where he is Director of the Poetics Program and Executive Editor of the Electronic Poetry Center.



Toni Blackman is a rap lyricist, writer, and performer whose work helps bring teens to a new love of language. She is the founder of The Freestyle Union, an organization dedicated to the elevation of hip hop music and art culture through cipher workshops, leadership training, artist development and performance.

Max Blagg is the author of several books, most recently *Pink Instrument*, a collection of poems; a novel, *Diving for Blondes*; and the forthcoming book-length poem *Autobio-a-gogo*. He has collaborated with a diverse array of artists, and wrote the text for two artists' books, Jerelyn Hanrahan's *Notations on a Trek* and James Brown's *New Poems/New Drawings*.



Robert Bly has been a practicing poet for over thirty years, and has, according to *Library Journal*, "an insured place as a major figure in American poetry." His most recent books are *Eating the Honey of Words* and *Morning Poems*, and he has published several books of cultural criticism, including the bestseller *Iron John*, which launched the men's movement to national fame.

Jean Binta Breeze is an actress, dancer, choreographer, and theatrical director. Her work appears in her collections, *Ryddim Ravings and Other Poems*, *Spring Cleaning*, and *On the Edge of an Island*.





Lee Ann Brown's most recent book, *Polyverse*, won the 1996 New American Poetry Series Competition. She currently serves as editor of the independent press Tender Buttons, which publishes experimental poetry by women, and teaches writing at St. John's University in Staten Island, Bard College, and Lesley University, and through Teachers & Writers Collaborative.

Regie Cabico is a performer, comedian, teacher, and poet par excellence who took first place in the 1997 National Poetry Slam as a member of the winning team, Mouth Almighty. He co-edited *Poetry Nation: A North American Anthology of Fusion*; his most recent collection of poems is entitled *I Saw Your Ex-Lover Behind the Starbucks Counter*.



Charles Cantalupo is a poet, essayist, translator, critic, and playwright. He is Professor of English and Comparative Literature at The Pennsylvania State University, and co-director of an initiative devoted to the presentation and critical

discussion of African languages and literatures. His many publications include *Poetry, Mysticism, and Feminism: from th' nave to the chops*, a book of literary criticism; *Anima/I Wo/man and Other Spirits*, a collection of poetry; and the translation, *We Have Our Voice: Selected Poetry of Reesom Haile*.

Joseph Castronovo, a Deaf child of Deaf parents, received his first poetry award at a Deaf youth convention when he was 17. He has conducted a Nordic poetry workshop in Sweden and "Primal Poetry" workshops at three schools for the Deaf. His American-Sign-Language poetry has been seen at the Los Angeles Poetry Festival and Gallaudet University.



Mary Ann Caws is a Distinguished Professor of English, French, and Comparative Literature at CUNY Graduate School. She recently edited *Manifesto: A Century of Isms*, a groundbreaking anthology of poetry manifestos, which explores the genre both as literature and as a history of the evolution of poetic consciousness.

Tina Chang's work has appeared in many journals and anthologies. She has received awards from the Academy of American Poets, Poets & Writers, Villa Montalvo, and Fundacion Valparaiso, and is the recipient of the Van Lier Fellowship.



Kassahun Checole founded Red Sea Press, the publisher and distributor of Third World Books. He dedicates his global travels to spreading the literatures of Africa, and is especially interested in intra-African translations, often making the first translation of texts between neighboring languages.

Steve Clay, the publisher of Granary Books, is an editor, curator, and archivist specializing in the art and literature of the 1960s, 70s, and 80s. He co-authored, with Rodney Phillips, *A Secret Location on the Lower East Side: Adventures in Writing 1960 – 1989* and co-edited, with Jerome Rothenberg, *A Book of the Book: Some Works & Projections About the Book of Writing*.

Carol Conroy, author of the book of poems, *The Beauty Wars*, facilitates a monthly memorization circle at Poets House and helps create special events at Teachers & Writers Collaborative.



Jayne Cortez works extensively with the rhythms of jazz and blues. She has made nine recordings with her band, The Firespitters, and has written ten collections of poetry, including *Somewhere in Advance of Nowhere*. Her poems have been translated into 28 languages, and she has received awards from The National Endowment for the Arts, New York Foundation on the Arts,

and The International African Festival, as well as the American Book Award.

Enid Dame, along with her husband, poet Donald Lev, is the co-editor of *Home Planet News*, a literary tabloid that celebrated its 20th anniversary in 1999. Her collections of poetry include *On the Road to Damascus, Maryland*, and *Anything You Don't See*, and she is co-editor of the anthology *Which Lilith? Feminist Writers Recreate the World's First Woman*. She teaches creative writing at Rutgers University and is currently a lecturer at New Jersey Institute of Technology.



Fielding Dawson is an acclaimed novelist and teacher whose work serves as a vital link between prisons and the public. He directed the PEN Prison Writing Workshop Program and appears weekly on WBAI's "Wake-Up Call," reading letters and writing by inmates and interviewing individuals on prison-related issues.

Frances Dominguez was born in Hagonoy, Bulacan, and was raised in Dagupan City, Pangasinan. While working on her Master's, she and her family immigrated to the United States. She has helped to organize a Balagtasan at the Kalayaan Hall of the Philippine Center.



Jesse Dominguez (translator) was born in Balanga, Bataan, Philippines. He is an MBA Graduate of Ateneo De Manila and was voted Mr. Ateneo of 1977. Married with two sons, he resides in Queens, New York, and is currently connected with Primerica Financial Services.

Cornelius Eady is the co-founder, with Toi Derricotte, of Cave Canem, the country's only workshop/retreat dedicated to serving African American poets. He is the author of six books of poems, including *The Autobiography of a Jukebox* and, most recently, *Brutal Imagination*.

Charles Easter writes in the Japanese forms of haiku, tanka, haibun, and renga. His book *Spirit Dance* and his magazine *black bough* include works in these forms. He has informally run many renga parties in New York City, and creates and performs "music poems," poetry set to his own music.



Rosa Elena Egipciano is from Moca, Puerto Rico. She practices and gives classes on the art of *mundillo*, bobbin lace. She was President of the Cultural Center in Moca and traveled throughout the island giving lectures at various institutions and universities. She currently teaches at Boricua College and likes to recite poetry.

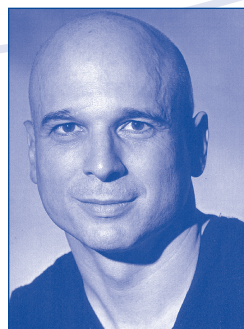
Barbara Einzig's work has been described as "the invention of another kind of novel... which might also be read as a serial poem, travel journal, or philosophical investigation" by Geoffrey O'Brien. She is a poet, fiction writer, editor, and cultural critic who has published numerous books, among them *Distance Without Distance* and *Life Moves Outside*.



Susan Eisenberg is a poet, oral historian, and master electrician. Her recent books are *Pioneering: Poems from the Construction Site* and *We'll*

Call You If We Need You: Experiences of Women Working Construction, selected as a New York Times Notable Book. A longtime activist, she has used poetry, installation, and theater to address gender issues in the workplace.

Ruel Espejo still hasn't found a title for what she does, but remains optimistic. Her days include writing and working in that odd stretch of space between art and technology. Someday, she hopes to live near the ocean.



Daniel Ferri, Haiku slam pioneer, created the Head-to-Head Haiku competition and has been the Headmaster for it at the National Poetry Slam Tournament since 1995. A featured poet in the movie *Slamnation*, he is a sixth-grade teacher and a regular commentator on NPR's "All Things Considered" and Chicago Public Radio's "848."

Flying Words consists of Peter Cook, a Deaf performer, and Kenny Lerner. Lerner's poetic narratives, which he creates in collaboration with Cook, serve to punctuate Cook's vocabulary of body language. Their performances fuse poetry (written and ASL), body kinetics, and cinema-style perspectives.



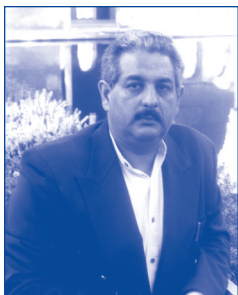
John Foley is a Curators' and W.H. Byler Professor of Classical Studies and Director of the Center for Studies in Oral Tradition at the University of Missouri.

Daniela Gioseffi is a poet/translator/activist. Her new book is *Going On* (Purdue University 2000). She is the editor of *Women on War: Essential Voices for the Nuclear Age*, a 1990 American Book Award Winner.

Reesom Haile is a poet and scholar who returned to Eritrea after a 23-year exile. His first collection of poems in Tigrinya, *Waza Ms Qumneger Ntnsae*, won the 1998 Raimok prize, Eritrea's highest award for literature. A Tigrinya/English collection of his poetry, *We Have Our Voice: Selected Poetry of Reesom Haile*, has also been released as a two-volume CD.

Janet Hamill is a poet, painter, performer, and author of several books of poetry and short fiction, most recently *The Eternal Café*, co-authored with Patti Smith. This year's Gathering reunites Smith with Hamill, her poetic mentor. With her band, Moving Star, Hamill recently completed her first full-length poetry CD, *Flying Nowhere*.





Victor Hernández Cruz's work is infused with the music, colors and textures of his Puerto Rican homeland and New York's Lower East Side. He is the author of numerous books, among them *By Lingual Wholes*, *Mainland*, and the forthcoming *Maraca: Selected Poems*. He was featured on the Bill Moyers PBS series, "The Language of Life," and his awards include a Guggenheim Fellowship and the New York Poetry Foundation Award.

Robert Hershon's gifts to the world of poetry are many. They include his own 11 books of poems, most recently *The German Lunatic*; *Hanging Loose* magazine, for which he has served as editor since 1966; and Hanging Loose Press, founded in 1972, which has brought the work of such writers as Sherman Alexie, Ha Jin, Kimiko Hahn, Hettie Jones, and Paul Violi to a grateful national audience.



Brenda Hillman is the author of six books, notably her two companion volumes, *Death Tractates*, written in response to the sudden death of her closest female mentor, and *Bright Existence*. A faculty member at St. Mary's College in Moraga, she has received fellowships from

the National Endowment for the Arts and the Guggenheim Foundation.

Edward Hirsch is the author of numerous books, including *On Love* and *How to Read a Poem*. A 1998 MacArthur Fellow, he teaches in the Creative Writing Program at the University of Houston and writes a poetry column for *The American Poetry Review* and *The Wilson Quarterly*.



Amy Holman is a poet and founder of the Publishing Seminars at Poets & Writers, Inc., where she directs the Literary Horizons program. Her column, "Amy Holman's Tough Love Guide To Publishing," appears bimonthly in *Poets & Writers Magazine*. Her work appears in many journals and anthologies, including *The Best American Poetry 1999*.



Bob Holman was the slam impresario at the Nuyorican Poets Cafe for seven years. He founded Mouth Almighty Records, the all-poetry label, and produced the PBS series, *The United States of Poetry*. His own

most recent collection is *The Collect Call of the Wild*, and his CD is *In with the Out Crowd*. He is currently working on *The World of Poetry*, the first digital poetry anthology (worldofpoetry.org), and is the Poetry Guide at About.com.

Marie Howe is the author of two collections of poems, *The Good Thief*, selected for the National Poetry Series, and *What the Living Do*. She has received fellowships from the Bunting Institute, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the Guggenheim Foundation, and she teaches at Sarah Lawrence College and New York University.

Ararat Iyob, a former political prisoner, works for the Eritrean consulate in Washington. Her first collection of Eritrean poetry in English, *Blankets of Sand*, has received positive reader response and critical reviews.



Dave Johnson is the author of *Marble Shoot*, a book of poems, and two plays entitled *A Sister*, *A Cousin*, *An Aunt* and *Baptized To The Bone*. He is also the editor of *Movin': Teen Poets Take Voice*, a collection of teen poems produced in association with The New York Public Library and Poets House, and is currently

a Visiting Faculty member of the MFA Creative Writing Program at The New School for Social Research.

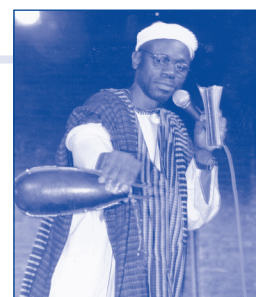
Linton Kwesi Johnson's recordings are among the top-selling reggae albums in the world. He has written four books of poetry and made 11 recordings, one of which, *LKJ Live in Concert with the Dub Band*, was nominated for a Grammy Award. In 1990, the city of Pisa awarded him at the XIII Premio Internazionale Ultimo Novecento for his contribution to poetry and popular music.

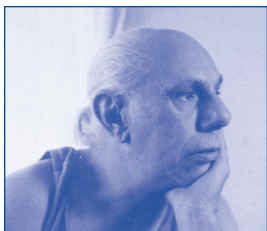


Hettie Jones is the author of the celebrated memoir of the Beat scene, *How I Became a Hettie Jones*, and a collection of poems entitled *Drive*. An experienced teacher of writing, she is Chair of the PEN Writing Committee and currently facilitates a writing workshop at the New York State Correctional

Facility for Women at Bedford Hills.

Kewulay Kamara comes from the Koinadugu District of Sierra Leone and is of the Kuranko Ba Mandeng ethnic group. His family is part of the *finenu* caste, who are poets, emissaries, mediators, and masters of ceremony at important occasions.





Maurice Kenny's many books include *Between Two Rivers: Selected Poems*, *In the Time of the Present: Poems*, and *Tortured Skins and Other Fictions*. He has edited two anthologies of Native American poetry and fiction, and received the

American Book Award for *The Mama Poems*. He is an editor of *Many Moons Magazine* and the publisher of Strawberry Press, a Native American publisher. A Visiting Professor at SUNY Potsdam, he will soon be teaching in the new Native American Program at St. Lawrence University.

Saba Kidane, a 25-year-old poet living in Asmara, is already recognized as a leading voice in Eritrean poetry. She directs the youth culture programming for Eritrean radio.

Galway Kinnell is the winner of the Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Award. His many books include *When One Has Lived a Long Time Alone* and, most recently *A New Selected Poems*. He is also the co-translator of *The Essential Rilke*. He teaches Creative Writing at New York University.



Michael Klein's memoir, *Track Conditions*, was recently optioned for film; his book of poems, *1990*, won a Lambda Literary Award. He is currently the visiting writer at SUNY-Binghamton, and teaches poetry and essay writing at the Fine Arts Work Center in Provincetown.



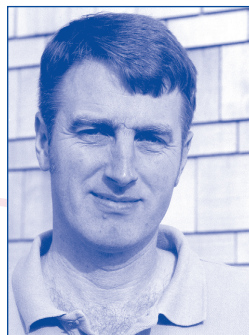
Irena Klepfisz is a poet, essayist, translator, and activist in the lesbian/feminist and Jewish communities. She is the author of *A Few Words in the Mother Tongue*, a collection of poetry, and a book of essays entitled *Dreams of an Insomniac*. She co-edited *The Tribe of Dina: A Jewish Woman's Anthology* and *Di Froyen: Women and Yiddish*. She teaches Jewish women's studies at Barnard College and serves as editorial consultant

for the Jewish feminist magazine *Bridges*.

Ron Kolm is one of the founding members of the Unbearables. He is the author of *Welcome to the Barbecue* and an associate of *Appearances* magazine.

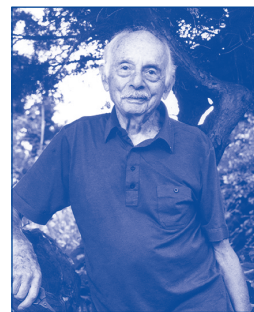


Yusef Komunyakaa's *Neon Vernacular* won the Pulitzer Prize, and he is also the author of *Pleasure Dome: New and Collected Poems, 1975 – 1999*; a newly published volume of poems, *Talking Dirty to the Gods*; and *Blue Notes: Essays, Interviews, and Commentaries*.



John Kulm's family has farmed for four generations in the Pacific Northwest. Kulm writes poetry about farming and about other topics as seen through a farmer's eyes, although this year he became the first in his family line to leave farming, largely due to low commodities prices. He currently works for the *Chinook Observer*, a community newspaper in Washington State.

Stanley Kunitz is the current United States Poet Laureate, whose *Collected Poems* was recently published by W.W. Norton. He is the winner of the Pulitzer Prize and The National Book Award. He is the President Emeritus and co-founder of Poets House, and the beloved mentor to a generation of young poets.



Gregory Dunfunia Kweik, a Romani (Gypsy) poet, was born in Sweden and lived for many years in Staten Island. His parents, from the Lovara and Kalderash groups, were born in Poland and his grandparents were born in Russia. Centuries of discrimination against his people have galvanized his own political activism and transformed him into an advocate for Romani rights.



Julie Landau is a poet and translator, whose recent book, *Beyond Spring: Tz'u Poems of the Sung Dynasty*, is the first anthology available in English of lyrics from the golden age of the Chinese tz'u. In her own poetry, she adapts tz'u, a song form written and performed by prostitutes in the

singing houses of eighth- and ninth-century China, to create a new English form.

Annie Lanzillotto is the literary curator at The Kitchen and renowned NYC performing artist.

Tato Laviera is a Puerto Rican poet, playwright, and composer. He has taught at Rutgers University and directed the Prep School at University of the Streets. He has published several volumes of poetry including *La Carreta Made a U-Turn* and *American*.

Evangeline Lazaro worked as a teacher in the Philippines before coming to the U.S. In 1983 she moved to NYC.



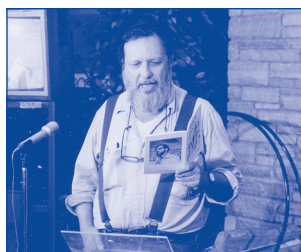
Guy LeCharles Gonzalez is originally from the Bronx and now lives across the Hudson with his wife Salomé and their son Isaac Daniel, in West New York, New Jersey. He is the founder and curator of the “a little bit louder” series and co-author of *Burning Down the House* (Soft Skull Press, 2000).



Wesley “Geno” Leech, a former merchant seamen and commercial fisherman, began writing poetry while drag fishing on the “Columbian Star” off the Oregon/Washington coast. He has recited his poems over the radio, at sea, and in waterfront bars from Eureka, California,

to Bristol Bay, Alaska. When he’s not working aboard the “Salvage Chief,” he helps his wife, Joanne, at the Sanctuary Restaurant.

Donald Lev has been writing and publishing poetry, fiction, and criticism in magazines and anthologies for over 40 years. *Home Planet News*, the literary tabloid he and his wife, Enid Dame co-edit, is now in its 22nd year of publication.



Richard Loranger is a 20-year veteran of the performance poetry scene, whose experience includes almost a decade of experimental theater in San Francisco, Boulder, Austin, Chicago, and New York. He is the author of a volume of poetry, *The Orange Book*, currently curates the Brooklyn Voices reading series and serves, as general editor for the forthcoming *Brooklyn Review* #18.

Brendan Lorber fights the prosaic on several fronts. The editor of *LUNGFULL! Magazine*, a literary journal that prints the rough drafts of writers’ work so readers can witness the creative process, he’s also the author of *The Address Book*, *Your Secret* and, with Jen Robinson, *Dictionary of Useful Phrases*.

Thomas Lynch is a funeral director and the author of three books of poetry and two collections of essays. *The Undertaking — Life Studies from the Dismal Trade*, translated

into seven languages, won The Heartland Prize for nonfiction and The American Book Award, and was a finalist for the National Book Award. His commentaries have been recorded and broadcast by BBC Radio, RTE in Ireland, and NPR.



Molly McQuade is the editor of *By Herself*, an anthology of essays about poetry, released by Graywolf Press in 2000. Her debut volume of poetry, *Barbarism*, was recently published by Four Way Books.



Lon Minkler, a retired logger and author of four books of poems, logged the entire west coast from Alaska to the Redwoods of Northern California, and now spends most of his time writing poetry and leading tours to Mount St. Helens.

Louis Mofsie received his Master of Arts at Hofstra University and taught art for 35 years. He is currently the director of the Thunderbird American Dancers and is a member of the Hopi and Winnebago tribes.

Lenard D. Moore, of Raleigh, North Carolina is a poet, teacher and essayist. His second book of poetry, *Desert Strom: A Brief History*, established him as one of the premiere poets working in the haiku form here in the United States.

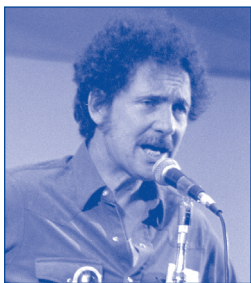
Bill Morgan is an expert on Allen Ginsberg and the Beats as well as the literary history of New York City. His books include *The Beat Generation in New York City: A Walking Tour of Jack Kerouac’s City*, and *Literary Landmarks of New York City*.

Dave Morice’s amazing feats include 1,000 poems in 12 hours, a 1-mile poem, a poem across the Delaware River, a 10-hour blindfold poem, a 24-hour poem, and a 1-second poem. He has taught Children’s Literature and has published several books of poetry, including *Tilt*, *Quicksand Through the Hourglass*, and *Snapshots from Europe*, and two books of cartoons. His most recent book is *The Dictionary of Wordplay*.



Tracie Morris is a former Nuyorican Poets Cafe Grand Slam Champ and National Haiku Slam Champ, and has been featured in PBS’s *The United States of Poetry*. She is a recording artist and the author of two books of poems, *Chap-T-her Won* and *Intermission*. She teaches at Sarah Lawrence College in Bronxville.

Sharam Nazieri is an internationally acclaimed Iranian singer.



Hank Nelson worked as a logger in the Pacific Northwest and Alaska for the past three decades. He has produced three tapes as a singer-songwriter and storyteller. Most of his songs and poems reflect his working days in the woods and the loggers he has known.

Nuala ní Dhomhnaill is one of the premier poets writing in Irish today. Her work easily crosses the borders between the mythic and the everyday. She is the author of numerous collections of poetry, most recently *The Water Horse*.

John O'Donohue is an Irish poet, author, and Catholic scholar from County Clare, Ireland. His books of poetry include *Echoes of Memory* (1994) and *Conamara Blues* (2001).



Melanie O'Reilly is one of Ireland's finest singer-songwriters, whose exhilarating work blends Irish traditional music and jazzy worldbeat rhythms. Her debut album, *Tir na Mara*, recently re-released as *Oilean Draoichta*, features songs in collaboration with Irish poet, Nuala ní Dhomhnaill. Her new album, *House of the Dolphins*, has been nominated for "Best Contemporary Album" and "Best Female Artist" by Irish Music Magazine.

U Sam Oeur's work documents the recent terrors in his native Cambodia, and celebrates the enduring beauty of its culture. Driven out of Phnom Penh by the Khmer Rouge, he and his family returned to the U.S. after surviving six concentration camps. He is a former member of the National Assembly of Cambodia, a secretary general of the Khmer League for Freedom, and a UN delegate, and is the author of *Sacred Vows*, translated by Ken McCullough.



Chan Park specializes in Korean language and literature, Korean traditional song narrative, and Asian and Western drama and theater. She has been trained in the traditional Korean performing arts of *p'an sori* singing, *kômun'go sanjo* playing, and *changgo* drum

dance. A Visiting Professor in the Department of East Asian Languages and Culture at Berkeley, she received the 2000 Outstanding Artist Award from the Korean American Women Artists & Writers Association.

Oliver Platt is an award-winning actor who has appeared in numerous TV series and films, including *Big Night*, *Funnybone*, *Bicentennial Man*, and *Bulworth*.

Paul Polansky's work testifies unflinchingly to the persecution of East European Roma (Gypsies). For the last ten years he has done human rights work in the Czech Republic on the holocaust, and in Kosovo on Roma victims in ethnic conflict. His books include *Living Through It Twice: Poems of the Romani Holocaust* and *Not a Refugee: The Plight of the Kosovo Roma After the 1999 War*.



Oliver Ray is a poet and musician who lives in NYC. He plays in Patti Smith's band, and his poems have appeared in a few small magazines.



Claudia Rankine is the author, most recently, of *Art for Plot* and *The End of the Alphabet*. She teaches at Barnard College.

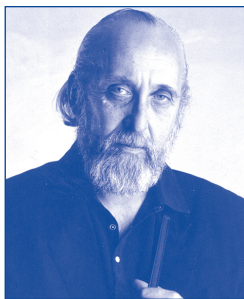
Jonathan Reeve is a third-year poetry student at NYU and poetry editor at Gathering of the Tribes.

Bertha Rogers has written four books of poetry, translated *Beowulf*, and produced audio and video programs for radio, television, and the internet. She has been a poet and visual artist in residence for Arts in Education programs throughout New York State and elsewhere. She is the founding director and editor-in-chief of Bright Hill Press, and is the administrator of the New York State Council on the Arts Literary Curators website, www.nyslittree.org.



Bob Rosenthal is an adjunct Professor of English at New York Technical College and the author of four collections of poetry and one book of prose. He has co-written and produced five plays, and has taught workshops at The Poetry Project. He was Allen Ginsberg's secretary for the poet's last 20 years, and is currently writing his account on the business of Allen Ginsberg.

Jerome Rothenberg is considered the father of ethnopoeitics. He is the author of over 50 books of poetry and the co-editor, with Pierre Joris, of the two-volume *Poems for the Millennium*. He has received a Guggenheim Fellowship and several awards from the National Endowment for the Arts. The Gathering is proud to honor him for illuminating the connections between oral and written poetries from around the globe.



Douglas Rothschild is a poet and critic whose work has appeared widely and to great acclaim. He is the author of *Matchbook* and the founder of The Poetry School of Poetry.

Kate Rushin is the author of *The Black Back-Ups*, a New York Public Library "Books for the Teen Age" selection. She is currently the Visiting Writer at the Center for African American Studies at Wesleyan University.



Jun Sales, born, raised, and educated in Tarlac, Philippines, has been writing and reciting poems since he was in elementary school. He migrated to the United States to create a golden opportunity for his family, who are still in the Philippines. He is currently doing business with Bistro Castellvi.

Ed Sanders' poetry has been likened in energy and ambition to that of Blake, Whitman, and Ginsberg, blending slang, neologisms, and classical Greek and Egyptian hieroglyphs. He has also written novels, short stories, song lyrics, and nonfiction. His most recent work is *1968: A History in Verse*.

Najeeb Shaheen is a renowned Palestinian oud player from a well-known family of Arab musicians.

Toni Shapiro-Phim is a dance ethnologist/anthropologist who specializes in the performing arts of Southeast Asia, with a particular focus on Cambodia. She is the co-author of *Dance in Cambodia*, and has a Ph.D in cultural anthropology from Cornell University.

Jackie Sheeler is the publisher of the busy poetz.com website and its associated monthly poetry newsletter. She has just compiled an anthology, entitled *Off the Cuffs*. Together with Maggie Balistreri, she co-hosts the popular Pink Pony West Reading Series at the Cornelia Street Café. She received the Marilyn K. Prescott Award in 2000 for her poem "Banished."



Danny Shot is the publisher and editor of *Long Shot*, an arts and literary magazine he founded with Eliot Katz in 1982. A book of his own poetry and stories is forthcoming.

Carol Silverman, associate professor of Anthropology and Folklore at the University of Oregon, has been involved with Romani (Gypsy) music and culture for over 20 years as a researcher, teacher, performer, and human rights educator. In her publications she has investigated the relationships among music, politics, ethnicity, ritual, and gender in the Balkans. She also served as educational coordinator for the 1999 tour of "The Gypsy Caravan."

Pang Xiong Sirirathusak is a noted *paj ntaub* (reverse quilting), and musical and dance representative from Xieng Khouang province in Laos. She has taught Hmong culture to people during her stay in the refugee camps of Thailand and continues to do so in America.



Les Slater is a specialist in Carribbean culture living in Brooklyn.



Carolina Slim (Elijah Staley) is a longtime member of the MUNY (Music Under New York) roster of artists. For most of his professional career, he was a drummer, playing and touring with John Lee Hooker, Brownie McGhee, and Big Maybelle. He now concentrates on singing the Blues and playing guitar.

Patti Smith is an internationally acclaimed poet and musician whose records include *Gone Again*, *Peace and Noise*, *Gung Ho*, *Easter*, and *Horses*. Oliver Ray will be joining Smith in a reading of his poetry.



Sekou Sundiata writes for print, performance, music, and theater. He has recorded and performed with a wide variety of artists, including David Thomas, Nona Hendryx, and Vernon Reid. He was featured in the Bill Moyers PBS series on poetry,



"The Language of Life," and has recorded two CDs, *The Blue Oneness of Dreams* and *longstoryshort*. He is a professor at The New School, where he also produces the Talking Book Festival of Literary Arts.

Szaszcsavas is a musical ensemble of Roma (Gypsies) from a village in Transylvania, Romania. Learning traditionally by ear, they have a wide repertoire of table and dance music and songs, in part because they perform professionally for Hungarians, Romanians, and Roma. Members of the ensemble are all related; the three elders, playing lead violin, kontra (chord viola), and bass, have been performing together for over 30 years.



Katja Tanmateos is a Romani (Gypsy) poet who has lived in Sweden and Spain and is active in Romani cultural projects. Her parents, metalworkers and merchants from the Kalderash group, fled Russia at the time of the communist revolution. Her poetry has been featured in the Swedish press and television, and she has been hailed as a major figure in the new generation of Romani poets. Her poetry explores the Romani experience and the dilemmas of Romani women.

Anne Tardos is the author of the multicultural performance work *Among Men*, which was produced by the Westdeutscher Rudfunk in Cologne under the title *Unter Männern*. Her polylingual books are *Cat Licked in Garlic* and *Mayg-shem Fish*.



Her latest book is *Uxudo*, a polylingual edition.

Cheryl Boyce Taylor is a poet, activist, and visual artist born in Trinidad. She is the author of two books of poetry, *Night When Moon Follows* and *Raw Air*.

Dennis Tedlock is the McNulty Professor of English, Research Professor of Anthropology, and co-director of the Center for the Americas at SUNY Buffalo. His books include *Finding the Center: Narrative Poetry of the Zuni Indians* and *Breath on the Mirror: Mythic Voices and Visions of the Living Maya*, among others. He received the Elsie Clews Parsons Folklore Prize and the PEN Translation Prize in Poetry for *Popol Vuh: The Mayan Book of the Dawn of Life*.

Virlana Tkacz, a director, writer, and translator, founded Yara Arts Group in 1990, a resident company at La MaMa Experimental Theatre, because she had access to magnificent texts from overlooked cultures. She creates original theatre pieces by bringing together fragments of drama, poetry, song, historical materials, and



chants in their original language and in translation. She has been working with African American poet Wanda Phipps since 1989 on translations of Ukrainian poetry. Together they have received the AGNI Translation Prize and The National Theatre Translation Fund Award.



Rafael Tufiño is a well-known Puerto Rican poet whose work has been inspired by Palés Matos.



Jean Valentine is the author of eight collections of poetry, including *The River at Wolf* and *Home-Deep-Blue*. She recently won the Poetry Society of America's Shelley Award.

Janine Pommy Vega is the author of 15 books of poetry, most recently *Mad Dogs of Trieste: New & Selected Poems* and *Tracking the Serpent: Journeys to Four Continents*. She has performed extensively with her band Tiamalù and solo in English and Spanish. Having taught inside prisons for 20 years, she is the Director of Incisions/Arts, an organization of writers working with people behind bars. She has edited an acclaimed anthology of poems by prisoners, *These are Successful Hands*; and has co-authored, with Hettie Jones, *Words, Wall, Razor Wire*, a PEN-sponsored guide for writers on how to start a writing workshop in prison.



Cecilia Vicuña is a Chilean poet, editor, artist, and filmmaker works in the oral tradition of the High Andes. She forges a poetic universe in which ancient wordplay meets modern linguistics and contemporary realities.

Anne Waldman is an internationally known performance poet, teacher, editor, and author of over 30 pamphlets and books of poetry, including most recently the 20th anniversary edition of *Fast Speaking Woman* and *Marriage: A Sentence*. She is a Distinguished Professor of Poetics at The Jack Kerouac School of Disembodied Poetics at The Naropa Institute, which she co-founded with Allen Ginsberg in 1974. She is currently working on a CD of her poetry and songs entitled *Alchemy! Alchemy!* and a book of essays and interviews entitled *Vow To Poetry*.



Bruce Weber is the author of two books of poetry, *These Poems are Not Pretty* (Miami: Palmetto Press, 1992), and *How the Poem Died* (New York: Linear Arts Press, 1998). He organizes and co-hosts the Sunday afternoon readings at ABC NO RIO in the Lower East Side of New York, and also organizes the seven-years' running Alternative New Year's Day Spoken Word/Performance Extravaganza. His group, Bruce Weber's No Chance Ensemble, recently put out its first CD.



King Wellington is a master of the improvised Trinidadian calypso tradition.

Suzanne Wise is the author of *The Kingdom of the Subjunctive*, and her work also appears in the anthol-

ogy *American Poetry: The Next Generation*.

Emily XYZ has been performing and recording her poems since 1982. She has been featured in the PBS television series, "The United States of Poetry," and in two anthologies, *Aloud: Voices from the Nuyorican Poets Cafe* and *Verses That Hurt: The Poemfone Poets*.



Lu Yu is an original member of La MaMa Chinatown and a founding member and honorary advisor of the Pan Asian Repertory Theatre, where he is currently directing *The Legend of Whitesnake*. He appeared in over 30 Mandarin movies and in numerous Hong Kong television programs. He is the Director of the Performing Arts Division of Arts Resources for Teachers and Students, Inc., and the Executive Director of Tsai Fung Dance Company.



Artists Involved with Partner Programs

Jane Alberdeston ♦ Charles Althier ♦ Quraysh Ali Lansana ♦ Meena Alexander ♦ Cristin O'Keefe Aptowicz ♦ John Ashbery ♦ Cheryl B. ♦ Reverend Babb ♦ Holly Bass ♦ Clifford Bernie ♦ Mei-Mei Berssenbrugge ♦ Pena Bonita ♦ Lisa Marie Bronson ♦ Toni Brown ♦ Buddah (Giovani Pasquale Pavolli) ♦ Guillermo Castro ♦ Staceyann Chin ♦ Hortensia Colorado ♦ Noon Meem Danish ♦ Eisa Davis ♦ Jill Dearman ♦ Xue Di ♦ Jed Distler ♦ Denise Duhamel ♦ Anne Elliot ♦ Sarah Gambito ♦ Elena Georgiou ♦ Gogol Bordello ♦ Linda Gregg ♦ Pejmon Hadadi ♦ Dominic Hamilton-Little ♦ Shannon Hamann ♦ Monica Hand ♦ Syed Mohammed Hanif ♦ Duriel Harris ♦ Reginald Harris ♦ Syed Azizul Hasan ♦ Kathryn Hellerstein ♦ Jeanne Hopper ♦ Dean Hutchins ♦ Susan Imhof ♦ Tyehimba Jess ♦ Brandon Johnson ♦ Jacqueline Johnson ♦ Jacqueline Jones LeMon ♦ Sabiha Khatoon ♦ Dennis Kim ♦ Bill Kushner ♦ Be LaRoe ♦ Tom Lee ♦ Rachel Levitsky ♦ Antonina LiCastrì ♦ Timothy Liu ♦ Bonnie Rose Marcus ♦ Mariposa ♦ Dawn Martin ♦ Douglas A. Martin ♦ Patrick Martin ♦ Charlotte Meehan ♦ David Mills ♦ Veronica Mitchell ♦ Lenard Moore ♦ Dennis Moritz ♦ Hafez Nazeri ♦ Shahram Nazeri ♦ Joyce Carol Oates ♦ Greg Pardlo ♦ Gaspare Pipitone ♦ Antonio Provezano ♦ James Ragan ♦ Asad ur Rahman ♦ Humera Rahman ♦ Malin Ramirez ♦ Donald Revell ♦ Clara Sala ♦ Jason Scheiderman ♦ Maureen Seaton ♦ Nancy Shakir ♦ Reginal Shepard ♦ Barbara Synder ♦ Kristin Stuart ♦ Cole Swenson ♦ Juliette Torrez ♦ Giuseppe Turricano ♦ Lyrae Van Clief-Stefanon ♦ Rinaldo Wilson

Organizers/Curators

Felice Bell ♦ Michael Broder ♦ Helene Browning ♦ Robert Browning ♦ Regie Cabico ♦ Steve Cannon ♦ Gaetano Cipolla ♦ Rachel Cooper ♦ Ellie Covan ♦ Jim Cyrus ♦ Ram Devineni ♦ Adele Heyman ♦ Frances Hui ♦ Michele Kotler ♦ Annie Lanzillotto ♦ Darrell Larson ♦ Carolyn Micklem ♦ Rick Pernod ♦ Elizabeth Reiss ♦ Joseph Sciorra ♦ Nancy Larsen Shapiro ♦ Anantha Sudhakar ♦ Angelo Verga ♦ Jen Weiss

Others:

Susan Bee

David Goldfarb

Nick Plombino

Carolee Schneeman