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Contributors

Andrew Byrne's work has appeared in *After Hours*, *Poetry Quarterly* and *North Chicago Review*. He recently published his first book of poems, *First Words*. He was the featured writer in *After Hours #15*.

Joan Colby has published widely in journals such as *Poetry*, *Atlanta Review*, *South Dakota Review*, *The Spoon River Poetry Review*, and *New York Quarterly*. Awards include two Illinois Arts Council Literary Awards, Rhino Poetry Award, the new renaissance Award for Poetry, and an Illinois Arts Council Fellowship in Literature. She was a finalist in the GSU Poetry Contest (2007), Nimrod International Pablo Neruda Prize (2009, 2012), and received honorable mentions in the North American Review's James Hearst Poetry Contest (2008, 2010). She has published 11 books; *Selected Poems* received the 2013 FutureCycle Prize. Her latest book *Properties of Matter* is just out from Aldrich Press (Kelsay Books).

Esteban Colon is a founding member of the Waiting 4 the Bus Poetry Collective, he has co-hosted two Chicago poetry venues and continues to perform in the city he loves despite his recent move to southern Wisconsin. His full length collection *Things I Learned the Hard Way* is available from Plain View Press, and his poetry has been in a variety of publications.

Albert DeGenova's new collection of poetry, *A Good Hammer*, is forthcoming in 2014 from Timberline Press. His most recent collections are the chapbook *Postcards to Jack* and the full-length book, *The Blueing Hours*. He is a Pushcart nominee; his poetry has appeared in *RHINO*, *The Louisville Review*, *The Paterson Literary Review*, *Oyez Review*, *Café Review*, *Haibun Today*, and other literary journals and anthologies. He is a blues saxophonist and former contributing editor to *Down Beat* magazine. He earned his MFA from Spalding University, and is the publisher and co-editor of *After Hours*.

Max DeGenova is a photographer, pianist, and a film student at Columbia College. This is his second *After Hours* cover. He was selected as an award-winning photographer on www.capturemychicago.com; one of his photographs was chosen for the Congressman Danny Davis Art Competition; and he won first place in the Oak Park Community Photography Contest.

Charlotte Digregorio lives in Winnetka, writes many poetic forms, has won several literary awards, and been nominated for a Pushcart Prize in Poetry. Her latest book, *Haiku and Senryu: A Simple Guide for All*, has just been released. Her poems have been translated into five languages. She is the author of five non-fiction books and a haiku poetry collection, *Shadows of Seasons*, that are sold in 38 countries. She has given workshops at writer's conferences throughout the country. Charlotte hosted a poetry radio program on Public Broadcasting and is Midwest Coordinator of the Haiku Society of America.

***Nora Frazin** is an educator raised in the western suburbs, currently living and working in Logan Square. Her poem "Bone Candles" appeared on ChicagoPublishes.com in 2012 as the winner of the Morbid Curiosity poetry contest.

***Joe Hertel** is a life-long Chicagoan and veteran of the Viet Nam War. After his retirement as a children's lead poison risk assessor for the city, he returned to Northeastern Illinois University and completed his degree in Communications, Media and Theatre. He is now engaged in neighborhood youth work in Uptown and maintains a booth at the Broadway Antique Mall on the North side.

P. Hertel is an educator, writer, photographer, painter, creator of handmade books and cards, antique dealer and co-editor of *After Hours*. A solo exhibition of her photographs, "Good Eye" was featured at the Old Town Art Center in 2013. Her most recent painting is part of a series of mini-murals that can currently be seen along the 5000 block of North Winthrop St., now called honorary John Vietnam Nguyen Way.

***Joyce Hshieh** is a native Ohioan. She currently lives and works in Chicago, where she graduated with a BFA in acting from The Theatre School at DePaul University. Her vocation has since switched from acting to fiction writing.

Larry Janowski is the son of a south-side Chicago used car dealer and used to live around the corner from Barack Obama's home (no, really)! He is the author of *Brotherkeeper* and is a 2008 recipient of an Illinois Arts Council literary award. He is a contributor to the anthology *A Writer's Congress; Chicago Poets on Barack Obama's Inauguration*. Larry is a Franciscan friar and has taught poetry at several universities in the Chicago area.

***Patrick Jones** is currently poet in residence at Velindre Hospital in Cardiff. He was recently awarded a Literature Wales bursary to develop poems about modern Wales. He has set up various writing projects for people with specific needs, such as hospice patients, school non-attendees, mental health patients, the young homeless and prison inmates. He has been a writer with many Welsh National Opera projects. Works include the plays *Everything Must Go*, *The War is Dead* and *Revelation*; as well as the books *Fuse* and *Darkness is Where the Stars Are*.

Lee Kitzis was born and raised in Chicagoland. He is a graduate of Columbia College Chicago with a BA in Magazine Journalism. Like most journalism grads he currently works as a prep cook. He has had two chapbooks of poetry published by Puddin'head Press: *Eight Dollars an Hour* and *The Laundromat Girl*.

***Mark Magoon** writes poetry, short-fiction, and secret songs for his dog. His work is forthcoming or has been featured in *DIALOGIST*, *Ghost Ocean Magazine*, and *Midwestern Gothic*. He lives in Chicago with a wife far too pretty.

Pamela Miller is the featured writer in *After Hours #29*

***Katie Morris** is a poet living in Cary, Illinois.

Wilda Morris has lived in the Chicago Area for nearly 40 years. She has served as president of both the Illinois State Poetry Society and Poets & Patrons of Chicago. Her poetry has been published in numerous anthologies, websites and journals, recently including *Turtle Creek Quarterly*, *BorderSenses*, *Avocet*, and *About Place Journal*. In addition to poetry, she writes an occasional nature blog for the *Bolingbrook Patch*.

Siegfried Mortkowitz was born in Germany, raised in New York City and is living in Prague with his wife and rugby-playing son. His poetry has appeared in the online magazine *BODY* as well as in *After Hours*. His first chapbook, *Eating Brains*, was published in 2012 by After Hours Press.

***Sam Need** is a 26-year-old anthropologist and writer of fiction and poetry. He originally hails from the central plateau of North Carolina, and moved to Chicago in 2011 to pursue graduate school in Hyde Park. He moved to Logan Square not long after that, and works now as a behavioral researcher. When not shivering on the platform of the Blue Line, he dabbles in organic farming, a rotation of vices, and the formation of sentences.

James Paradiso is a recovering academic in the process of refreshing himself as a photographer and writer. A recipient of the Freedoms Foundation's Leavey Award for Excellence in Private Enterprise Education and Professor Emeritus at an Illinois college, he holds graduate degrees in both Philosophy and Business Management. Inspired by Garry Winogrand and Vivian Maier among others, his work has been displayed at Chicago's Apollo, Greenhouse, LifeLine, Raven and Wit Theatres.

Jean Sotos has had previous poetry acceptances in *After Hours Press*, *Dark Matter Journal* and *Outside In Literary and Travel Magazine*, and also maintains a blog about whatever moves her. She lives in Chicago with her family, and subscribes to the adage, "All things in moderation – except poetry."

Contributors

***Janet St. John** has an MFA in Writing from Vermont College, and her poems have been published in a variety of literary magazines including *The Nebraska Review*, *Puerto del Sol*, *Spoon River Poetry Review*, and *Poet Lore*. She was a poetry and fiction book reviewer for *Booklist* for nearly a decade and taught poetry/creative writing. She also founded and edited a literary magazine (*Baybury Review*) for six years.

***Christopher Stewart's** poetry has appeared in numerous poetry journals and anthologies, most recently in the inaugural issue of *Red Truck Review*, a *Journal of American Southern Literature and Culture*. His collaborations with music artists include his work with the group *Circadian Rhythm*, among others. His and Quraysh Ali Lansana's forthcoming collection of poems, *The Walmart Republic*, will be published by Mongrel Empire Press in October 2014. He is an assistant professor in the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at Dominican University.

Santiago Weksler, originally from Peru, has been a Chicago-based writer and artist for almost 15 years. His poetry has appeared in the magazines *Contratiempo*, *Hoy*, and the anthology *En la 18 a la 1*. He has published two chapbooks, *(mi) evolucion / (my) evolution*; and *Historia Del Peru*. Santiago has had numerous photography exhibits and was the featured artist in *After Hours #22*.