

# after hours™

a journal of Chicago writing and art

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## Contributors

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**John Brzezinski** is a Chicago native. When he bought his first camera at the age of fifteen, he thought it was simply for taking pictures, but soon discovered that it allowed him to frame what he saw in an interesting or compelling way. He uses photography to explain where he's been, what he's seen, and what has made an impression. He believes that photography is a language that nearly everyone understands.

\***Kevin Burris** lives in Illinois. His work has appeared in *Poetry East*, *Atlanta Review*, *Bitter Oleander*, *The Timberline Review*, and others. His first poetry collection, *The Happiest Day of My Life*, was published in 2016 by Future Cycle Press. His poem "Factory Birds" is a Finalist for the inaugural Mary Blinn Poetry Prize sponsored by *After Hours*.

**Andrew Byrne's** work has appeared in the *Chicago Reader*, *Oyez Review*, *Poetry Quarterly* and *North Chicago Magazine*. He is also the author of the book of poems, *FirstWords*.

**Dan Campion** is a Chicago native who has lived in Iowa City since 1978. He is co-editor of *Walt Whitman: The Measure of His Song*, the third edition of which has just been published in honor of Whitman's 200th birthday on May 31. Dan's poetry has appeared in *After Hours*, *Able Muse*, *Ars Medica*, *Blue Unicorn*, *Ekphrasis*, *Innisfree*, *Light*, *Measure*, *Medical Literary Messenger*, *The Midwest Quarterly*, *The North American Review*, *Parody*, *Poet Lore*, *Poetry*, *Rolling Stone*, *Shenandoah*, *Think*, and many other journals.

**Albert DeGenova** is an award-winning poet, editor, teacher and blues saxophonist. His most recent collection is titled *Black Pearl: poems of love, sex and regret* from Purple Flag Press. His work has appeared in numerous journals and anthologies including *RHINO*, *The Paterson Literary Review*, *Aesthetica*, *Lips*, *The Louisville Review*, *Door County Living* and others. He teaches an annual week-long writing class at the Clearing Folk School, Ellison Bay, WI, as well as workshops for WriteOn Door County. He is the publisher and co-editor of *After Hours*.

**P. Hertel** is a photographer, painter, designer, writer, retired college professor, and co-editor of *After Hours*.

**Susanna Lang's** newest collection of poems, *Travel Notes from the River Styx*, appeared in 2017 from Terrapin Books. A two-time Hambidge fellow and a recipient of the Emerging Writers Fellowship from the Bethesda Writer's Center, she had published poems in such journals as *North American Review*, *Little Star*, *december*, *Prairie Schooner*, *Verse Daily* and *American Life in Poetry*. Her translations of poetry by Yves Bonnefoy include *Words in Stone*. She lives and teaches in Chicago. Her poem "Shelter" is the Winner of the inaugural Mary Blinn Poetry Prize sponsored by *After Hours*.

In addition to writing poetry, **Viola Lee** teaches 1st, 2nd and 3rd graders at Near North Montessori School. She is a mother of two, Phillip and Willa, and both were both named after Midwestern poets. She lives with her husband and two children in Logan Square right down the street from Julia de Burgos Park.

\***Ellaraine Lockie's** fourteenth chapbook, *Sex and Other Slapsticks*, has recently been released from Presa Press. Earlier collections have won Poetry Forum's Chapbook Contest Prize, San Gabriel Valley Poetry Festival Chapbook Competition, Encircle Publication's Chapbook Contest, Best Individual Poetry Collection Award from *Purple Patch Magazine* in England, and the Aureorean's Chapbook Choice Award. Ellaraine teaches writing workshops and serves as Poetry Editor for the lifestyles magazine, *Lilipob*. Her poem, "Flashbacks in a Bottle" is a Finalist for the inaugural Mary Blinn Poetry Prize sponsored by *After Hours*.

\***Bill Marsh** is a college teacher and part-time beekeeper based in Chicago. His work appears in *Ascent*, *Belt Magazine*, *Bluestem*, *Writing on the Edge*, and *The City Visible: Chicago Poetry for the New Century*, among other journals and anthologies.

**Siegfried Mortkowitz** is a writer living in Prague. He is the author of *Eating Brains and Other Poems*, published by After Hours Press. His poems and autobiographical complaints have been published in *Body*, *After Hours* and *The Prague Revue*. He is a regular contributor to the online journal *Politico*.

\***Philip T. Nemeč** has been writing fiction and poetry his entire life. As an undergraduate at Saint Louis University, he worked closely with the midwestern poet John Knoepfle. Later on, he graduated from the writers' program at the University of Illinois at Chicago. Much of his writing is set in the city. He grew up in the area, served as a Marine Corps infantry officer and was the Dean of Students at St. Ignatius College Prep in Chicago. During that time he also had a farm in the Ocooch area of Wisconsin which was the inspiration for *Slightly North Of Gillingham*. He currently lives in the suburbs of Washington, D.C. with his wife, Harumi. They have two adult children, Takumi and Mioko.

\***Marilee Pritchard** has lived in the Chicago area all her life. She has dual degrees in English and Nursing and worked a boring government job by day, so she could write poetry at night. Previous publications include *Hammers*, *Pudding*, and *Wisconsin Quarterly*.

**Moira Pujols** presents and publishes literature and cultural journalism in Spanish through her work as executive director of *contratiempo nfp*, and co-founded and developed the annual *Poesía en Abril* festival. Moira is conference and federal court interpreter, and was the founding president of the Midwest Association of Translators and Interpreters. Her photography has been previously published in *After Hours* and *revista contratiempo*. You can follow her on Instagram at @moirap.

**Jenene Ravesloot** is the featured writer in this issue of *After Hours*, p.28.

## Contributors

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\***Edwin Rozic** received his M.A. in English Literature from DePaul University. He teaches English to people who already speak English and lives in Chicago with his wife and son and a menagerie of furry and scaled beasts. His work has been published in *McSweeney's*, *Glimmer Train*, *The Matador Review*, and other journals.

\***e.a.d. sellors** is a writer and publisher based in London, UK. [www.raggedlionpress.co.uk](http://www.raggedlionpress.co.uk)

**Jan Stojaspal** is a journalist, photographer, and Central European correspondent. He lives in Prague, Czech Republic.

\***Doug Van Hooser's** poetry has appeared in *Chariton Review*, *Split Rock Review*, *Sheila-Na-Gig*, and *Poetry Quarterly* among other publications. His fiction can be found in *Red Earth Review*, *Flash Fiction Magazine*, and *Bending Genres Journal*. Doug is a playwright active at Three Cat Productions and Chicago Dramatists Theatre.

\***Yohyoh Wang** is new to Chicago, moving to the city in 2014 to attend the University of Chicago. He graduated in 2018, and is now working in neuroscience research at the University of Illinois at Chicago. Wang states that he has been impressed at how nature often peeps out of the city's industrial background in odd ways – a plastic horse, a small tree askew, a treacherous ice-covered lakefront. He enjoys capturing the city's relationship with the natural world in these small ways.

**Jamie Wendt** is the author of the poetry collection *Fruit of the Earth*, published by Main Street Rag Publishing Company (2018). She is a graduate of the University of Nebraska Omaha MFA program. She received a Bachelor of Arts in English from Drake University. Her poetry has been published in various literary journals, including *Lilith*, *Raleigh Review*, *Minerva Rising*, *Third Wednesday*, and *Saranac Review*. Her essays and book reviews have been published in *Green Mountains Review*, *the Forward*, *Literary Mama*, and others. She teaches high school English and lives in Chicago with her husband and two children.

