CONTRIBUTORS

SAMUEL ACE is the author of three collections of poetry: Normal Sex, Home in three days. Don’t wash, and, most recently, Stealth, with Maureen Seaton (Chax Press). He was a recent finalist for the National Poetry Series. His work has been widely anthologized and has appeared most recently in Aufgabe, Black Clock, Atlas Review, Mandorla, Volt, Rhino, Versal, Trickhouse, Eleven Eleven, Tupelo Quarterly, The VOLTA, and Troubling the Line: Genderqueer Poetry and Poetics.

CHARLES ALEXANDER’s several books of poetry include Pushing Water (Cuneiform Press) and Certain Slants (Junction Press). He founded Chax Press in 1984 in Tucson, Arizona, and in the fall of 2014 moved himself and Chax to Victoria, Texas, where he directs the Creative Writing MFA Program at the University of Houston–Victoria (UHV). He maintains a press studio in the UHV Center for the Arts, and co-curates (with Cynthia Miller) the UHV Downtown Arts Series, which regularly presents poets and artists to the community.

Editor and poet LISA COOPER ANDERSON has lived in Tucson since 1957, earning her MFA at the University of Arizona in 1989. She loves finding traces of the city’s natural origins springing up in hidden and wise spots, large and small, throughout the metro area—hopeful and persistent revelations of the region’s past. She loves the harmonies of wind and desert grasses.

RENEE ANGLE resides in Tucson, Arizona, where she works for the University of Arizona Poetry Center. Her poems have been published in Diagram, Practice: New Writing + Art, Sonora Review, EOAGH, I’ll Drown My Book: Conceptual Writing by Women, Spiral Orb, and in the chapbook Lucy Design in the Papal Flea (dancing girl press).
Amanda Jean Bailey is a poet, educator, and language researcher who works in Arizona, Montana, California, and Mexico. She currently lives in Los Angeles, where she is completing her doctorate in linguistic anthropology at UCLA.

Christine Baines has won several awards, including the Dartington Prize (Penguin Press, London) and the Style Magazine award for fiction. Her work has appeared in several journals and publications, including CrossConnect, Dreamsville, Yes, I Like That Poem, and Messages from the Heart. She was poet in residence at Yerevan State University, Armenia.

Sherwin Bitsui is the author of Flood Song (Copper Canyon Press) and Shapeshift (University of Arizona Press). He is Diné of the Bij'ibítóó'nií Tódi'chii'nii Clan and is born for the Tlizilłani' Clan. He is from White Cone, Arizona, on the Navajo Reservation. His honors include the 2011 Lannan Literary Fellowship, a Native Arts and Cultures Foundation Fellowship in Literature, a PEN Open Book Award, an American Book Award, and a Whiting Writers’ Award.

Wynne Brown is a freelance writer, editor, illustrator, and graphic designer. She is the author of two award-winning books: More Than Petticoats: Remarkable Arizona Women (2003, 2012) and Trail Riding in Arizona: A Guide to 50 of the State’s Best Trail Rides (2006); she also co-edited and designed Cave Creek Canyon: Revealing the Heart of Arizona’s Chiricahua Mountains (2014). In addition, she is a member of Tucson’s Dry River Poets and is a contributor to and the designer of the group’s poetry collection, Spilled (2011).

Laynie Browne is the author of twelve collections of poetry and two novels. Her most recent collections of poems are Scorpyn Odes, from Kore Press and PRACTICE (SplitLevel Texts). Other recent books include Lost Parkour Ps(alms) in two editions, one in English and another in French, from Presses universitaires de Rouen et du Havre (2014). She is a 2014 Pew Fellow. She teaches at the University of Pennsylvania and Swarthmore College.
Melissa Buckheit is a poet, dancer/choreographer, photographer, English lecturer, and bodywork therapist. Her books include Noctilucent (Shearsman Books, 2012) and Arc (The Drunken Boat, 2007), and her writing has appeared or is forthcoming in HerKind, The VOLTA, Waxwing, Sinister Wisdom, Bombay Gin, Spiral Orb, Shearsman Magazine, and Denver Quarterly, among others. Olga Broumas has described her poetry as deploying “the sensory intricacies of high lyric, iridescent candor & dynamic range to serve our imagination an eclectic feast of electrifying, intimate, thermospheric meditations.”

Simmons B. Buntin is the founding editor in chief of Terrain.org: A Journal of the Built + Natural Environments. He is the author of two books of poetry, Bloom and Riverfall, and a collection of community case studies: UnSprawl: Remixing Spaces as Places.

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Scott Calhoun is the author of six books about plants, gardens, and design in the American Southwest. His work has been featured in the Wall Street Journal and the New York Times. He lives in Tucson with his wife Deirdre and their dog Macy.

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Matthew Conley was the executive director of the Tucson Poetry Festival from 2011 to 2014 and has been a teaching artist with the Arizona Poetry Out Loud program, where he has coached three of the last
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Gerálidine Connolly is the author of the chapbook The Red Room, as well as three full-length collections of poetry: Food for the Winter, Province of Fire, and Hand of the Wind. Her poems, reviews, and essays have appeared in Chelsea, Gettysburg Review, Poetry, Shenandoah, Georgia Review, and the Washington Post. She has been awarded two NEA fellowships, a Maryland Arts Council Fellowship, and the Margaret Bridgman Fellowship of the Bread Loaf Writers’ Conference.

Alison Hawthorne Deming’s most recent book is Zoologies: On Animals and the Human Spirit (Milkweed, 2014). She is the author of three additional nonfiction books and four poetry books, most recently Rope (Penguin, 2009) and Stairway to Heaven (Penguin, 2016). She is Agnese Nelms Haury Chair in Environment and Social Justice and professor in the creative writing program at the University of Arizona.

TJ Hoffman Duffy graduated from the University of Arizona with a BA in creative writing. He moved from Phoenix to Tucson in 2000. He loves to use his everyday experience to enhance his poetry.

Kimi Eisele is a writer, visual artist, and dancer/choreographer. Her work explores relationships—joyful, complicated, and interdependent—between people and place, humans and nature, movement and stillness, suffering and surrender.

Karen Falkenstrom has lived, written, and drummed in Tucson since 1989. Her poetry has appeared in journals such as Colorado Review and Prairie Schooner. She is currently director of Odaiko Sonora, Tucson’s Japanese ensemble drumming group and manager of Rhythm Industry Performance Factory.

Valyntina Grenier graduated with a BA in English from the University of California, Berkeley, and an MFA from St. Mary’s College, Moraga, California. Her multimedia practice includes encaustic art,
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**Annie Guthrie** is a poet and jeweler from Tucson. Her book *The Good Dark* is from Tupelo Press. She teaches creative writing courses at the University of Arizona Poetry Center and Casa Libre.

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**Maya L. Kapoor** is an MFA student in creative nonfiction at the University of Arizona where she writes about ecology, the environment, and underappreciated desert species. Prior to attending the UA she received a master’s degree in biology from Arizona State University. She grew up in New Jersey and feels just fine about humidity.

**Maria Melendez Kelson**’s first mystery novel-in-progress, set in the redwood country of northern California, received the Eleanor Taylor Bland Crime Fiction Writers of Color Award from Sisters in Crime. Her poems have appeared in *Poetry, Orion*, and elsewhere, and she is author (as Maria Melendez) of two poetry collections from the University of Arizona Press. She teaches literature and writing at Pueblo Community College in Colorado.

**Cybele Knowles** writes poems, essays, and stories. Her work has been published in *Fairy Tale Review, Destroyer, Diagram, Spiral Orb, Pindeldyboz, Asian Pacific American Journal, Fauchuse*, and *Prose Poem*. She grew up in New York and California and studied at the University of California–Berkeley and the University of Arizona.

Canyon State (University of Arizona Press, 2015), is a twenty-thousand-mile joyride that takes readers across the state to fifty-two destinations in fifty-two weeks. Lamberton holds degrees in biology and creative writing from the University of Arizona and lives with his wife in an 1890s stone cottage near Bisbee where he is often haunted by mountain lions.

Rachel Lehman is a poet, writer, and sometimes artist currently living in the United Kingdom. Her work has appeared in poetry magazines and journals as well as in the anthologies Infinite Difference (Shearsman Books, 2010) and Sea Pie (Shearsman Books, 2012). Her chapbook Second Waking was published by Oystercatcher Press in 2009.

Jake Levine is a subspecies of mammal indigenous to the Sonoran Desert. He is currently at work on a PhD in Seoul, Korea, as an invasive but mostly benign species.

George Life graduated with an MFA in creative writing from the University of Arizona in 2009. Current work includes an ongoing poetic series titled Precarity, sections of which have appeared or are forthcoming in Berkeley Poetry Review, New American Writing, Ham-bone, and elsewhere, and a projected two-volume translation of the late poems of Du Fu. He is a PhD student in the Poetics Program at the University at Buffalo.

Rita Maria Magdaleno has lived in and loved the Sonoran Desert since 1986 when she moved to Tucson. She has two children, two grandchildren, and a deep affection for the underdog as well as golden retrievers, especially Audrey Hepburn, her current golden. Rita’s poetry collection, Marlene Dietrich, Rita Hayworth, and My Mother, was published in the University of Arizona Press’s Camino del Sol series.

Eric Magrane is the first poet in residence at the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum. He has been an artist in residence in three national parks and is the founding editor of Spiral Orb, an experiment in permaculture poetics. He is currently completing his PhD in geography at the University of Arizona.

KIRSTI MAXWELL is the author of four books of poetry, including *That Our Eyes Be Rigged* (Saturnalia Books, 2014) and *Re-* (Ahsahta Press, 2011). She teaches at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville.

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A longtime resident of Tucson, JANE MILLER is a recipient of a Wallace Foundation Writers’ Award for poetry, as well as a Guggenheim Fellowship and two National Endowment for the Arts Fellowships. Her recent publications include *Thunderbird*, a book-length sequence of short poems, and *Midnights*, poetry and prose poems.

PAUL MIROCHA’s illustrations first appeared in *Gathering the Desert* by Gary Paul Nabhan, winner of the John Burroughs Medal for natural history in 1985. Since then he has illustrated over twenty picture books for children on plants and animals, as well as works by contemporary nature writers, among them Jean Craighead George and Barbara Kingsolver. Mirocha’s work is included in *The Very Best of Children’s Book Illustration*, compiled by the Society of Illustrators.

GARY PAUL NABHAN is a farmer and Ecumenical Franciscan brother whose writings have appeared in over forty books, one hundred journals, and in six languages. Although he has lived for forty years in the Sonoran Desert, he grew up in the Indiana Dunes, where he first
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**Alberto Álvaro Ríos**, Arizona’s inaugural poet laureate and a chancellor of the Academy of American Poets, was born in Nogales,
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A native of Tucson, Arizona, Shelby Salemi has a degree in creative writing from the University of Arizona and works in the social services. She enjoys studying Portuguese and the Brazilian martial art of capoeira angola. She is working on her first novel.

Steven Salmoni’s recent publications include *Landscapes, with Green Mangoes* (Chax Press, 2011), poems in *Fact-Simile*, N/A, *Spinning Jenny*, *Spiral Orb*, *Versal*, and *Sonora Review*, and articles in *The Salt Companion to Charles Bernstein*, *Studies in Travel Writing*, and *Journal of Narrative Theory*. He received a PhD in English from Stony Brook University and currently teaches at Pima Community College in Tucson, Arizona. He also serves on the board of directors for POG, a Tucson-based poetry and arts organization.

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Aisha Sabatini Sloan is a writer and visual artist living in Tucson. She published the collection of essays *The Fluency of Light: Coming of Age in a Theater of Black and White* with the University of Iowa Press in 2013. Her work has appeared in publications such as *Ninth Letter, Michigan Quarterly Review, Terrain.org*, and *Guernica*.

Shawna Thompson is a Navajo poet from the Four Corners area who currently lives and works in Tucson. She loves the desert heat, which inspires her to write, paint, and walk among the saguaros, chollas, and creosotes. Her passion is silence and contemplation of all beauty that surrounds her. *A Strangeness Within* is her chapbook about breast cancer.

TC Tolbert often identifies as a trans and genderqueer feminist, collaborator, dancer, and poet, but really s/he’s just a human in love with humans doing human things.

Erec Toso teaches in the Writing Program at the University of Arizona. His memoir *Zero at the Bone: Rewriting Life After a Snakebite* was selected as one of the Southwest Books of the Year in 2007. He has published essays in *The Sun: A Magazine of Ideas, Briar Cliff Review, Northern Lights, Arizona Literary Magazine*, and other literary journals. He lives outside the city limits of Tucson in an old adobe house with his wife Megan, Luna the lab, Zeus the cat, other teachers. He began volunteering with Richard Shelton’s prison writing workshops in the fall of 2007 and is currently working on a book about the workshops.

As writer, editor, and photographer, Stephen Trimble has published more than twenty award-winning books. He lived in Tucson while studying ecology and evolutionary biology at the University of Arizona and spent ten years collecting stories and photographing in Southwest Indian Country. His home ground stretches northward from the Sonoran Desert across the Colorado Plateau to the Great Basin and southern Rockies.
CHRISTINA VEGA-WESTHOFF is a poet, translator, and aerialist currently living in Mérida, Mexico. Her poetry most recently appears or is forthcoming in *Horse Less Review, LIT, A Perimeter, Synecdoche*, and *Truck*. Her translations of Panamanian writer Melanie Taylor Herrera’s work appear in *Asymptote, Exchanges, Ezra, Metamorphoses, PRISM International*, and *Waxwing*.

M. E. WAKAMATSU was born in the border town of San Luis R.C., Sonora, Mexico. The daughter of a Mexican mother and Japanese father, she writes from the border between cultures, between patterns of discourse, between first and third worlds. She graduated from Arizona State University.

ERIN WILCOX is a writer, poet, musician, and editor. Her creative work has been featured in numerous literary journals and anthologies, including *Praxis: Gender and Cultural Critiques, Spiral Orb, Crack the Spine*, and *Cold Flashes: Literary Snapshots of Alaska* (University of Alaska Press). Her story “Half a World Away” was nominated for a 2014 Pushcart Prize.

JOSHUA MARIE WILKINSON is the author of eight books, the editor of five anthologies, and the director of a film about Califone. He lives in Tucson, where he runs a poetry site called The VOLTA and a small press called Letter Machine Editions. He teaches in the MFA program in creative writing at the University of Arizona.


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