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ST@NZA update

As we're sure many of our diligent members have noticed, we have been behind on our scheduled delivery of ST@NZA in 2024. First, we apologize: we had a challenging staff transition this winter, and it's taken us some time to get our feet back under us! Second: we happily introduce an updated, streamlined vision for ST@NZA that puts our member news front and center, starting right now.

West Ambrose

HLK Quarterly: Call for Chapbooks: April 15-May 31. Read the guidelines and sally forth, dear sailor! Work may appear in The Crow's Nest ahead of publication in the quarterly. Questions, concerns, queries and poems go to West or the HLK EIC Oscar at westofcanon@gmail.com

READ THE UPDATED GUIDELINES BEFORE SUBMITTING. If you do not read the three tabs to the right in their entirety, and especially if we get a sense of this, we cannot take your work. Also, if something is unclear, you can always reach out to us at our email/socials. We are neither unreachable nor unreadable!

Courtney Bates-Hardy

My second book of poetry, Anatomical Venus, is coming out on April 9, 2024 from Radiant Press.

Heather Cadsby

Heather Cadsby gave a poetry reading at the Free Times Cafe in Toronto on January 22, 2024.

Fern G. Z. Carr

Fern is delighted to have been invited to do a solo poetry reading at a private Ladies Luncheon as guest speaker. The venue is the beautiful Kelowna Golf and Country Club. In February, Fern was thrilled to have performed some of her Mandarin poetry for an audience of five hundred people in celebration of the Chinese New Year Spring Lantern Festival. Dignitaries in attendance included a federal Member of Parliament, a provincial Member of the Legislative Assembly, and the Mayor. Fern extends her many thanks to the OCCA Communities Association for their gracious invitation.

Louise Carson

Louise Carson has had haiku published at The Daily Haiku blog, Enchanted Garden blog, and Haiku Canada Review. Tanka have appeared in Gusts, spring/summer, with other poems in The Nashwaak Review, Winter 2023. She continues to read and share at Kafe Poe events and with the Greenwood Poets.

AJ Dolman

AJ Dolman (they/she) is delighted to announce the publication of their first full-length poetry collection, Crazy / Mad (<u>Gordon Hill Press, April 2024</u>). Dolman is a poet, author, editor and bi/pan+ rights advocate living on unceded, unsurrendered Anishinaabe Algonquin territory.

Amanda Earl

<u>Amanda Earl is now offering editing</u> and mentoring services.

Joanne Epp

For the past decade, Joanne Epp, Sally Ito and Sarah Klassen have been collaboratively translating the poetry of Austrian writer Catharina Regina von Greiffenberg (1633-1694). In late 2023, CMU Press published a collection of their translations, Wonder-Work: Selected Sonnets of Catharina Regina von Greiffenberg, available here.

Doris Fiszer

My second poetry collection, If I Were A River was published by Silver Bow Publishing in September 2023. The book is available through <u>Silver Bow Publishing</u> and can also be ordered from any independent bookstore.

Dagne Forrest

I was honored to hear from The New Quarterly that they nominated my poem "Abecedarian with Sharpened Vision" for a Pushcart Prize. I had just finished working on the selection of poems to nominate for the Pushcart for the literary journal I volunteer with (Painted Bride Quarterly), and this was a lovely surprise.

Katerina Fretwell

My 10th book, Holy in My Nature, Silver Bow Publishing, 2024, is available. My 11th, Familiar and Forgiveness, Ace of Swords Publishing, is out on May 21, 2024. Both poetry collections feature

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Subscribe to Between the Lines

Going forward, ST@NZA will not contain as much information about calls for submissions and other writing opportunities. This is because this information is already distributed monthly through our public newsletter, Between the Lines. Make sure to subscribe to Between the Lines to catch all the latest opportunities!



> Click here to subscribe



my art on the cover. I read at the Literary Salon, March 24, Toronto, and painted a portrait of the group, run by George Elliott Clarke and Giovanna Riccio.

Susan Glickman

Susan's 8th book of poetry with Signal Editions of Vehicule Press came out past October. It's called Cathedral/Grove and also contains some of her drawings.

Andreas Gripp

happy to announce completion of a poetry book trilogy with the publication of Bombs Away Dream Baby, following on the heels of 2023's Urban Burlesque and You're Dead After School. A collection of new and selected poems, Outré Cantata, has also just been released by Beliveau Books (February 2024). Two new book releases this Spring! The Lucky Ones and Outré Cantata: Poems Selected and New. Available from my website For more details, please visit my website. Curating the Black Mallard Poetry Series in London has kept me busy, as well as editing and publishing the recent Beneath Stones the Surface anthology. Finally, ľve been adjudicating entries to the Starling Award for Poetry (which was open to poets living in Ontario). The winning poet's book was launched in April during National Poetry Month.

Brenda Gunn

I am over the moon to announce release of the updated, large print version of my mother, Ellamae Gunn's poetry collection, the Rosedale Readings Revisited, in honour of her upcoming 96th birthday! Originally published in August, 2021, this version, now available in print copy on amazon, includes additional photos some new. previously unpublished poems.

Raymond Helkio

Join host Raymond Helkio on the third Sunday of every month at Buddies In Bad Times Theatre for some of Toronto's most dazzling, brazen, saucy, shameless, flashy and flamboyant poets! Every show features a dynamic and prolific Featured Artist. Open Mic sign-up at 4:30, showtime 5PM. One work up to a maximum of 5 minutes or two short ones. The theatre is fully accessible. Find out more here.

Hunyah Irfan

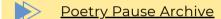
HunyahTravels X Silk Roads Institute Virtual Open Mic Series - May and June 2024

Dianne Joyce

Dianne Joyce held a Teen Poetry Writing Workshop on Saturday, April 6th, 2024 at the Hanover Library in Hanover, Ontario.

Find the latest from the League:







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Member Townhall & 2024 AGM

We invite you to join us for our annual Member Townhall on Tuesday, June 18 at 2 p.m. EST. The 2024 Annual General Meeting will take place on Tuesday, June 25 at 2 p.m. EST.

LCP Book Awards

Congratulations to Hannah Green, Sandra Ridley, and Bradley Peters, winners of the 2024 Gerald Lampert Memorial Award, Pat Lowther Memorial Award, and Raymond Souster Award! Each award carries a \$2,000 prize.

Lillian Allen Prizes

The Lillian Allen Prize supports and promotes a spoken word artist five or more experience, and the Lillian Allen Emerging Artist Prize is for a spoken word artist with less than experience. vears' nomination deadline is June 30 and the submission deadline is July 31.



More details here

Donna Kane

I have a new book of poetry out, Asterisms (Harbour, 2024).

Penn Kemp

Interview in CV2 with Penn Kemp by Sophie Guillas

For my beloved granddaughter, Ula Podesta Chalmers

"The Lords and Ladies of the Fermi Bubbles", a collaborative poem with Harol Rhenisch. Masque & Spectacle. An arts & literary iournal

"The Big Ask", the Transitions issue, Uproar

"Losing the Vernacular", with image by Jim Kemp. The Vernacular Journal. Winter 2024

Jim Andrews from Vancouver included my poem "Lethologica" in his wondrous See of Po series, and on Jim Andrews's manifesto, manual, and magazine, p. 61

March 21, 2024: "Searching For His Original Face", Sage-ing With Creative Spirit, Grace and Gratitude, #48

March, 2024: Interview with me by Richard Capener, Hem Press

Wednesday, June 5, 6:30-8pm. Black Mallard Reading Series features



> 2024 Book Awards Winners

Penn Kemp and D.A. Lockhart, Mykonos Restaurant, 572 Adelaide St. N., London. World Environment Day! Free.

Saturday, June 15, 10:30-11:30am. Sounds of the Forest: Music and Poetry Reading at Meadowlily Nature Reserve on the south side of the Thames River between Highbury Avenue and Meadowlilv Road, London. ON N6G 2N5. Passport to Nature in support of Thames Talbot Land Trust. Free.

Monday, September 23, 2024, 7pm. Art Bar Reading Series, Free Times Café, 320 College Street. Toronto, ON M5T 1S3 w. of Markham. Features Penn Contact: (416) 967-1078 artbarpoetry@gmail.com. \$10

Intent on Flowering, anthology, Rose Garden Press, 2024. Contributing poets: Katie Jeresky, Penn Kemp and Jessica Lee McMillan, This remarkable collection is curated by Rose Garden Press for their handprinted book. Order here.

Catherine **Episode** Owen, "Performing your Poetry"She draws from my piece, "Performing Your Work".

"Chuffed Kevin Spenst, About Chapbooks" on my project, "Poem for Peace in Many Voices". SubTerrain issue #95, 2024.



More info here

Carol MacKay

My first poetry book, Bird, Making No Sound: Collected Poems, is now available. It's something of a throwback DIY project, only available in print. If you'd like one, send an email to <u>carol@carolmackay.com</u>. Copies are \$17 (which includes shipping within Canada). It was a small press run so it's best to check availability with me first. My poem "Maidenhair Fern" was selected as the winning poem in the 2023 Wine Country Writers' Festival Competition. "Nature Changes," a poem about the restorative power of forests will appear the Penguin Random House/Convergent anthology, Bless the Earth: A Children's Book of Poems and Prayers for Honoring the Earth, due out April 2, 2024.

Katie Marshall Flaherty

Poetry Pause Fundraiser, an afternoon of music and poetry at Hirut Cafe in Toronto was held on Saturday February 3rd, 2-4pm. All door donations went to Poetry Pause; donate \$20 and get Katie's book "Titch," donated by her and Piquant Press. Anne Hurley and Jim Videto of Walk on the Wire and Kate Marshall Flaherty hope to make this an annual event with open mic next time!

Susan McCaslin

Poet Susan McCaslin has edited poet E.D. Blodgett's posthumous volume

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of poetry titled Walking Into God (Fairleigh Dickinson University Press. 2024) and has organized a reading and discussion of Ted's last volume at People's Co-op Bookstore. 1391 Commercial Drive, Vancouver, BC. on Friday June 14th at 7:00 pm. Susan will be hosting and reading along with fellow poet Heidi Greco. E.D. Blodgett (1935-2018) held a PhD in Comparative Literature, published some 30 books of poetry and received numerous awards, honours, affiliations, and distinctions. As Ted wrote. "What interests me in poetry is the interplay of language, the page, and silence. Heaven falls out of words because possibility is in the page, another kind of heaven; I wonder if that's the only heaven we are given to know in life." To see the cover on image click this https://rowman.com/ISBN/978168393 3410/Walking-into-God

Natalie Meisner

My book, It Begins in Salt (Frontenac) is a finalist for both the <u>W.O. Mitchell</u> <u>Award</u> and the <u>Stephan G. Stephansson Award</u> for poetry.

Concetta Principe

This spring, my collection of poetry, Disorder, is coming out with Gordon Hill Press. This collection represents the condition of Borderline Personality Disorder through the metaphor of the house: where is home and what kind of home life can protect you from unstable borders?

Hendrik Slegtenhorst

On the Cantatas of J.S. Bach. Six volumes, non-fiction, Enlora Press (Vancouver, BC), 2017-2021. Second edition, 2023.

Music and Being. Nine personal essays on Mozart, Bach, Strauss, Beethoven, Shostakovich, Aristotle, Stravinsky, Hesse, and a memoir of homage to my music teacher. Non-fiction, Enlora Press (Vancouver, BC), 2023.

Notes for an Unfinished Future. Essays on Haydn, Dante, Beethoven, Shakespeare, Verdi, Kurosawa. Enlora Press (Vancouver, BC), 2023.

The Stanley Park Seawall, non-fiction, Enlora Press (Vancouver, BC), 2023.

Mahler and Freud Meet in Leiden, Book Two of Solitary Ethics, poetry, Enlora Press (Vancouver, BC), 2023.

Constellations of Desire, Book Three of Solitary Ethics, poetry, Enlora Press (Vancouver, BC), 2023.

Notes on each book can be found on https://hendrikslegtenhorst.com

Lindsay Soberano Wilson

Lindsay Soberano Wilson's second poetry book is forthcoming: Breaking Up With the Cobalt Blues: Poems For Healing (Prolific Pulse Press LLC, 2024) finds peace in the painful, shameful parts of life messy. unearthed at inconvenient times. Poems about an ex-boyfriend's suicide, sexual assault, addiction, mental health, Toronto 90s rave culture, and a pandemic, Breaking Up With the Cobalt Blues is about finding light in the darkness like the poems "Dancing Through the Dark" and "Glimmers."

Kevin Spenst

My fourth poetry collection, A Bouquet Brought Back from Space, was released April 2024 by Anvil Press. There are poems about weathering loss (a crown of sonnets for Jeff Steudel and prose poems with topics such as dealing schizophrenia and climate change) and poems that celebrate the riches we all share: love, language (a multilingual weather-report poem which appeared in Best Canadian Poetry 2020) and this miracle moment of being alive. It's a collection about imagination, angels and mustering faith in whatever's at

hand.

Derek Webster

Derek Webster's second collection of poems, National Animal, was published in April by Vehicule Press. Look for news of upcoming book launches and reading events in Toronto and Montreal this spring, and Vancouver and Victoria in September.

www.derekwebsterwriter.com

Elana Wolff

Happy to have poems newly published or upcoming in The Antigonish Review, Best Canadian Poetry 2924, Galaxy Brain, Juniper, The Nashwaak Review, Prairie Fire, and The Temz Review. And to have fine reviews of my new cross-genre Kafka-quest work, Faithfully Seeking Franz (Guernica Editions, 2023), in The Literary Review of Canada (Bookworm), The Humber Literary Review, The Miramichi Reader, and on Goodreads! Huge thanks to astute reviewers!

Bänoo Zan

Shab-e She'r (Poetry Night), Canada's most diverse and brave poetry reading and open mic series, is looking for volunteers to join our team. Check the link for qualifications, information about the series, recruiting process, and contact information. Spread the word!



Let's Modernize O Canada. So much has changed since 1908!

Sign the petition here



COMMUNITY **COMMITTEE UPDATES**





Click Here: find the latest in the Member Hub



Feminist Caucus

The Feminist Caucus (FC) of the Leauge of Canadian Poets celebrated International Women's Day across Canada and the world on March 8. 16 women poets with diverse ethnic backgrounds, gender identities, and aesthetics shared their work and their passion to change the world. The League of Canadian Poets has generously funded the readings of Anne Burke and Bänoo Zan. The other poets have kindly donated their time.

The Feminist Caucus of the League of Canadian Poets strongly and uncompromisingly champions the rights of those who identify as women and/or feminists in Canada and worldwide. Our mandate is to celebrate, promote, and support women's creativity within the League and beyond. We oppose systemic misogyny, anti-feminist traditions, and rights-restrictive cultural relativism and commit to take action against any infringement of women's rights and their creative work. The Feminist Caucus respects and advocates for equality and freedom of expression in its practices and membership.

Chair: Diana Manole (dianamanole2013@gmail.com)

Parenting Poets

Parenting Poets is planning to move forward with a Parenting Poets chapbook, and would also like to host a Parenting Poets open mic.

The mandate of Parenting Poets is to community for poets often isolated by the demands of parenting, to discuss issues pertinent to parenting poets, and to organize events that attempt to eliminate the barriers parents often face.

Co-Chairs: Jessica Coles (jessica.n.coles@gmail.com) and Jennifer Bowering Delisle (delisle.jennifer@gmail.com)

Poets Anonymous

Poets Anonymous is seeking committee members. Please email chair Stephen Roney.

Poets Anonymous is for poets of faith; those who believe their craft is in service to a Supreme Being.

Chair: Stephen Roney (sroneykor@mail.com)



WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS



January - May 2024

BC

- Cherie Hanson
- Deborah Fannie Miller
- Diane Massam
- Fatima-Ayan Malika Hirsi
- Holly Flauto
- Jennifer BS Williams
- Jeremy Loveday
- Jimy Dawn
- Kayla MacInnis
- Kurt Trzcinski
- Lidice Megla
- Lorne Daniel
- Marilyn Belak
- Meghan Kemp-Gee
- Patrick Grace
- Shane Book
- shō yamagushiku
- SJ Valiquette
- Veronika Gorlova

Alberta

- Aldona Dziedziejko
- Annette Lapointe
- Leilei 莫譯 Chen
- Sharon Christie
- Telmo dos Santos

Ouebec

- James Hawes
- Sina Queyras

Toronto

- Bruce Eves
- Daniel Maluka
- Deb O'Rourke
- Diane Taylor-Sexton
- Eliyah Williams
- Emily Bulicz-Arnelien
- Emma Rhodes
- Genevieve Chornenki
- Heather J. Wood
- Jacqueline Valencia
- Ling Ge
- M W
- Mel Thompson
- P. W. Jarungpiterah
- PAMELA MORDECAL
- Pushpa Acharya
- Sean Meggeson
- Spencer Butt
- Susana Molinolo

Nova Scotia, Newfoundland, New Brunswick, & PEI

- Amber McMillan
- Curtis Vandenbrand
- S.A. Leger
- Clare Dalgarno
- colleen coco collins
- Cory Lavender

Ontario

- Andrea Josic
- Andreas Gripp
- Ben Robinson
- Chantel Daniels
- Charlotte Blair
- Dannabang Kuwabong
- Dianthe West
- Faisal Mirza
- Gail M. Murray
- John Mulligan
- JR MacLean
- Krystal River
- Lisa Baird
- Liz Worth
- MERKAT/Meredith Hoogendam
- Natalie Fraser
- Shani Mootoo
- West Ambrose
- Zane Koss

Manitoba

- Hannah Green
- Melanie Dennis Unrau

Saskatchewan

- Daniel Bliss
- Peace Akintade-Oluwagbeye



IN MEMORIAM

Remembering members of our community who have passed on



Blossom Thom

Remembering Blossom Thom, Poet, Editor, and Friend to Many via Baraka Books, April 24, 2024

Blossom Thom left us on Tuesday, April 16. She died of a very aggressive form of cancer. Her sudden departure has left many people reeling. Until the end of January, Blossom was working very hard as Fiction Editor of Baraka Books, and now she is gone.

I first met Blossom at a poetry reading she was doing in November 2017 as part of the annual Pop up Bookfair organized by AELAQ at the Monument-National, boul. Saint-Laurent. We had a very good conversation about her name, not the beautiful name Blossom, but her family name, Thom. Baraka Books had just brought out an important old book entitled <u>The Prophetic Anti-Gallic Letters</u> by Adam Thom, first published in the form of editorials in 1835-36 in the scurrilous British colonial newspaper The Montreal Herald.

The Thoms had apparently left their name in the British colony of Guyana, where Blossom was born in 1967 and lived for the first two years of her life. Her family then moved to New York for two years before moving to Waterloo, Ontario, where she grew up. She also lived and studied in Hamilton, Ontario, before moving to Montreal in the early '90s.

Shortly after we met in 2017, Blossom began to put her skills to work on our many book projects, and the resulting books were so much the better thanks to her. As of 2021, she began to take on more responsibility in both editing, proofreading, and promotion. She loved the books we were publishing and devoted time, energy, and brilliant insights to make them better.

She was then appointed Fiction Editor and was intent on learning everything about becoming a publisher, which, she admitted, had been one of her secret long-term projects. That was her project before it came abruptly to an end on April 16.

She has left an indelible mark on Baraka Books, on our team, on people in the book industry, and above all on the authors with whom she worked and the books we have published.

Read the full homage via Baraka Books. View Blossom's obituary here.



IN MEMORIAM

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David Pratt

With admiration for his resolve and commitment to a person's right to choose, we are deeply saddened to share that David Pratt died peacefully, with Medical Assistance in Dying on April 9, 2024. David was surrounded by loving family and friends. David was born in Worthing, Sussex, England, on November 4, 1939. As the middle son of Major James Henry Pratt, a veteran of two World Wars, and Deaconess Kathleen Pratt, his early life consisted of many moves throughout England. This led to a lifelong passion for travel, exploration and the English countryside.

David attained a scholarship to Oxford University and a fellowship to Harvard University before earning a PhD at University of Toronto and, later in life, an honorary doctorate from Nipissing University. He had a deep commitment to teaching and to lifelong learning. While working as Professor of Education at Queen's University for almost 30 years, he published two major texts on curriculum before pursuing his love of writing full-time. He received numerous awards in both education and writing, and his articles, poetry and short stories have appeared in many newspapers, literary journals and anthologies in the United States, Canada, Britain and Australia. In honour of David's wishes, there will be no funeral or memorial service. A private celebration of life will be held at a later date.

Memories and tributes may be shared at: www.jamesreidfuneralhome.com

Read the full obituary here.

Brian Bett

Poet and memoirist Brian Brett, known for signature humour and ruminations on nature, dead at 73 Via <u>CBC Books</u>, Jan 19, 2024

The award-winning writer, memoirist and poet Brian Brett is known for his body of work that showcases his sharp wit and appreciation for nature.

The B.C. author died on Jan. 17, 2024 at the age of 73. He published 13 books, including the poetry collection The Colour of Bones in a Stream and trilogy of memoirs <u>Uproar's Your Only Music</u>, <u>Trauma Farm: A Rebel History of Rural Life</u> and <u>Tuco and the Scattershot World: A Life with Birds</u>.

Brett was born with Kallmann Syndrome, a rare genetic condition which left him unable to produce male hormones. He was biologically androgynous until he had a surgery at 15 and his early years were thus fraught with bullying, abuse and feeling of otherness.

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IN MEMORIAM

Remembering members of our community who have passed on



At 20, a doctor gave him the prognosis that he wouldn't live past 40. "Well, I fooled everybody, including myself," he told Michael Enright in a 2019 interview on The Sunday Edition, when he was almost 70 years old.

It's that sense of humour — and his passion for writing — to which he attributed his remarkable ability for survival.

Brett started his career in the 1970s as a freelance journalist and critic, writing for nearly every Canadian newspaper. But above all, he was a poet, delighting in the beauty of the natural world and exploring food through writing.

Many of his celebrated food poems are found in his collection The Colour of Bones in a Stream. Some of his other poetry collections include <u>The Wind River Variations</u>, which explores the relationship between human beings and nature, and his most recent book, To Your Scattered Bodies, published in 2022. His poem by the same name won the <u>CBC Poetry Prize</u> in 2010.

Brett also was recognized for his memoir trilogy, the first of which, <u>Uproar's Your Only Music</u>, is a mix of poetry and prose that tells of his childhood living with Kallmann Syndrome.

His second memoir, <u>Trauma Farm</u>, was a bestseller and won the Writers' Trust Nonfiction Prize in 2009. It explores his connection to the land of Salt Spring Island, B.C., where he lived and ran a farm with his long-time partner, Sharon Doobenen. While quite rural, it was a place to visit for many of Canadian literature's brightest stars and home to an entire flock of black sheep.

<u>Tuco and the Scattershot World: A Life with Birds</u> is the final memoir of the trilogy, which dives into the special friendship between Brett and his beloved parrot Tuco, who was often found perched on his shoulder, even when he was writing.

Brett was always giving back to the writing community — in the forms of both teaching and service. He started the British Columbia Poetry-in-the-Schools program to bring poetry into classrooms and taught workshops across the country. He was also a member of PEN International, the League of Canadian Poets, the Federation of BC Writers and was the chair of the Writers' Union of Canada in 2005.

Read the full tribute on CBC Books



IN MEMORIAM

Remembering members of our community who have passed on



Bob MacKenzie

Bob MacKenzie had been greatly influenced by growing up in Alberta with artist parents and found inspiration for writing during daily walks through woods and along waterfronts in and around Kingston, Ontario. His keen eye for detail showed in his talent for outdoor photography. Bob had an ability to draw a wide variety of people into conversation and it resulted in astute observations on human nature in his writing, and his love of music from diverse genres allowed his poetry to sing and dance its way through our complex world.

Bob MacKenzie's poetry was published across North America and as far away as Africa, Australia, Greece, India, and Italy in publications that include The Literary Review of Canada, The Dalhousie Review, Windsor Review, and The Criterion. He published nineteen volumes of poetry and prose-fiction and his work appeared in numerous anthologies.

Bob received a number of awards for his poetry, prose fiction, scriptwriting, and performance including an Ontario Arts Council grant for literature, a Canada Council Grant for performance, and a Fellowship to attend the Summer Literary Seminars in Tbilisi, Georgia.

For eighteen years Bob's poetry was spoken and sung live with original music by the ensemble Poem de Terre, and the group released six albums.

Click here to submit a memory of a poet no longer with us for the next ST@NZA