

In This Issue



Find out what's in store for BOA in 2013
(with previews for Spring 2013 titles)



Announcing the Third Annual
BOA Short Fiction Contest



Upcoming Events

the BOAhemian

the e-newsletter of BOA Editions, Ltd. | volume 2 | issue 1 | Spring 2013

BOA's Featured Titles

The Collected Poems of Lucille Clifton 1965-2010

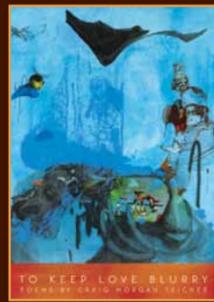
Edited by Kevin Young and Michael Glaser
With a Foreword by Toni Morrison



The Collected Poems of Lucille Clifton 1965-2010 (BOA, 2012) is a Best Book of 2012 for *Publishers Weekly*, *Ms. Magazine*, and *Eleventh Stack*. *Ms. Magazine* says of the landmark collection: "Just two years after her death, this 769-page collection is a welcome anthology, representative of more than 40 years of Clifton's writing. If you're not yet familiar with Clifton's incredible mix of the familial and the political, this is one book you need right now."

To Keep Love Blurry

Poems by Craig Morgan Teicher

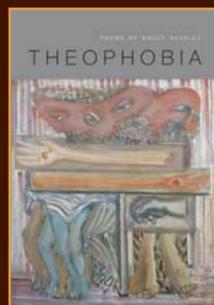


To Keep Love Blurry (BOA, 2012) is a Top 10 pick for *Coldfront Magazine's* Top Poetry Books of 2012. Of the collection, *Coldfront* says: "With *To Keep Love Blurry*, we open a world of poems that ask obsessive questions of choice and consequence... These are

poems of an interior that reimagines the past, pays tribute to predecessors, and above all, values frankness above artifice... Teicher revitalizes formal autobiographical verse in this collection..."

Theophobia

Poems by Bruce Beasley



Theophobia (BOA, 2012) recently made *Image Journal's* Top 10 of 2012 list, out of more than one hundred books, films, albums, visual art collections, and television shows. "For Beasley, language itself becomes a metaphor for the

Incarnation... You might be reaching for the dictionary more than once with this book, but trust us: this doesn't lessen its delight in the least."

True Faith

Poems by Ira Sadoff



True Faith (BOA, 2012) is a Notable Book of 2012 for the Academy of American Poets. Of the collection, the Academy says: "Sadoff poses questions about happiness and resilience. The poems often gesture toward a common humanity... moments of divinity emerge in unexpected places... Ultimately, to Sadoff, it is imagination that allows faith, fosters possibility, and evidences beauty."

Contortionist Tricks & Book Picks for Spring 2013: Words from BOA Publisher Peter Conners

One of the contortionist tricks independent publishers pull is to support the authors already on their roster while also seeking out new voices. Why do I call this a contortionist trick? In BOA's case, it's because we only publish 10-12 books a year and we have a 36 year-long roster of previously published authors. We could easily spend the life of the press publishing the outstanding writing of our current authors and still have more work available than we could possibly bring to print. But that's not what BOA is all about. It's crucial to our Mission to continue seeking out new authors of exceptional talent while also nurturing our established authors. So the "contortion" part comes into play on two fronts: 1) Carefully bending each season until it blends incumbent authors with new ones, and, 2) Scrunching up our faces in anguish as we are forced to make difficult choices about what to publish, given our limited publishing schedule and modest budget.

Our Spring 2013 season features a thrilling twist of both established and new BOA authors. The season kicks off with a new edition of BOA all-star Li-Young Lee's memoir, *The Winged Seed: A Remembrance*. The book was originally published by Simon & Schuster (1995) and won the American Book Award from the Before Columbus Foundation. In finely spun threads of poetic prose, Li-Young sheds light on the governmental oppression that forced his family from China to Indonesia and, ultimately, to their life in America. For anyone who craves additional insights into the award-winning author of such poetry classics as *Rose* (BOA, 1986), *The City in Which I Love You* (BOA, 1990), and *Book of My Nights* (BOA, 2001), this will be an invaluable memoir—and a beautiful read. This edition will also include a new Foreword by Li-Young Lee and never-before-seen photos of the author's family and childhood.



Poet Li-Young Lee (bottom, center), with his siblings.

The second incumbent author of the Spring season is anthropologist/poet Adrié Kusserow. Adrié's debut collection *Hunting Down the Monk* (BOA, 2002) carried a Foreword by Karen Swenson and introduced her unique blend of anthropology and poetry to readers for the first time. In this second collection, *Refuge*, her ethnographic poetry probes culture and globalization in poems about Sudanese refugees based in Uganda, Sudan, and the United States, especially the "Lost Boys of Sudan." Throughout the book, Adrié struggles with how to respond to suffering, poverty, displacement, and the brutal aspects of war.

Each year, BOA introduces a new poet to its list as winner of our annual A. Poulin, Jr. Poetry Prize. This year, we are proud to publish *The Stick Soldiers* by Hugh Martin with a Foreword by Cornelius Eady. At age nineteen, Hugh withdrew from college for deployment to Iraq. After training at Fort Bragg, he spent eleven months in Iraq as the driver of his platoon sergeant's Humvee. While in Iraq, he participated in hundreds of missions, including raids, conducting foot patrols, clearing routes for IEDs, disposing of unexploded ordnance, and searching thousands of Iraqi vehicles. The poems in his debut collection recount his time in basic training, his preparation for Iraq, his experience withdrawing from school, and ultimately, the final journey to Iraq and back home to Ohio. If I could make this collection required reading for every American citizen, I would. But I can't. So, instead, I encourage you—at the top of my voice—to read this book.

In 2007, BOA included short fiction collections as part of its publishing list. Since that time, we've published 10 story collections—all by authors new to BOA. With the fiction list established and clearly filling a need in the larger publishing landscape, we felt it was time to honor this new venture by creating the BOA Short Fiction Prize. Thus, in Spring 2013, we present the first winner of the now-annual BOA Short Fiction Prize: *The Era of Not Quite* by Douglas Watson. Christine Schutt says of this debut collection: "Herein find fiction full of whimsy, wit, hurt, and terror. Wicked, as in wickedly funny, is in the mix, too, along with a prose style both seductive and sly. Any one of Douglas Watson's first collection of stories, *The Era of Not Quite*, can mend a broken world." I say this book is a winner in every sense of the word.

With the support of the Lannan Foundation, each season BOA publishes a work of translated poetry. Our Spring offering is *Light and Heavy Things* by the late Pakistani poet Zeeshan Sahil. Born in Hyderabad, Sindh, in 1961, Sahil went on to publish eight collections of poetry in Urdu. Often described as a shy man, Sahil was confined to a wheelchair and suffered from serious health problems his entire life leading to his premature death at the age of 47. Despite the difficulties he faced, Zeeshan Sahil's poetry is marked by an often lighthearted sensitivity and a post-modern sensibility that presents the political realities of Pakistan in personal terms. This first American edition of Zeeshan Sahil's poetry will provide many English-speaking readers an opportunity to discover his poetry for the first time. The book was translated by Faisal Siddiqui,

UPCOMING EVENTS

BLESSING THE BOATS:

A Tribute to Lucille Clifton



February 21, 2013
7:00 p.m.

Proshansky Auditorium
Center for Humanities
CUNY Graduate Center
365 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York

This **free** and **public** tribute event for Lucille Clifton will feature readings from 13 world-class poets, including Sharon Olds, Sherman Alexie, Tracy K. Smith, Timothy Donnelly, Marie Howe, and Cornelius Eady.

2013 AWP Conference & Bookfair

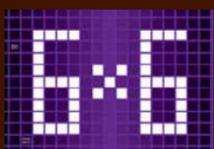


March 6-9, 2013

Hynes Conv. Center &
Sheraton Boston Hotel
Boston, Massachusetts

AWP is quickly approaching, and BOA can't wait to be part of it again this year. Stop by our tables, i21, i22, and i23, to say hello and have your books signed by our authors. We hope to also see you at our panel "Come Celebrate with Us: The Multiple Legacies of Lucille Clifton," Saturday at 4:30 p.m., Room 210, Level 2. We'll see you in Boston!

'Poetry is Jazz' and RoCo '6x6' Call for Entries



BOA is collaborating with RoCo again, this June 25, for our annual 'Poetry is Jazz' event, hosted during the Rochester International Jazz Festival. The event will be held in the RoCo gallery during its 6x6x2013 exhibition (June 1-July 14).

RoCo welcomes artists of all backgrounds to be a part of 6x6x2013. All 6"x6" artworks must be submitted by **April 21, 2013**. There is no entry fee. Check out the 6x6x2013 Facebook page, and click here for more submission details.

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Lannan



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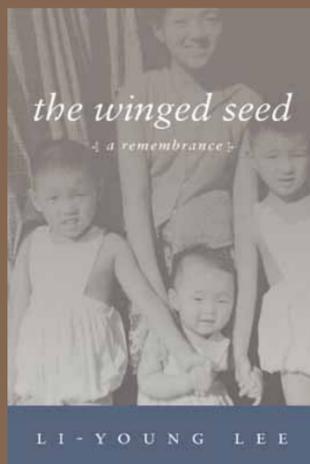


Christopher Kennedy, and Mi Ditmar, and carries a Foreword by Christopher Kennedy (who you may remember from such BOA poetry collections as *Encouragement for a Man Falling to His Death* (2007) and *Ennui Prophet* (2011)).

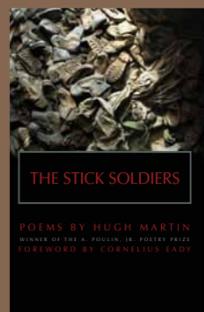
So you see: We may bend, but we never break! BOA's Spring 2013 season truly spans the globe and presents books that matter—not just to poetry lovers, but to anyone who wants to know more about our ever-shrinking world. As always, we thank you for participating in the literature of your time by reading and supporting BOA books and authors.

Onward!
Peter Conners
Publisher

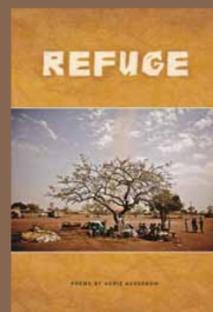
Spring 2013 Titles: Pre-orders Now Available



The Winged Seed: A Remembrance
Memoir by Li-Young Lee
With a new Foreword



The Stick Soldiers
Poems by Hugh Martin
Foreword by Cornelius Eady



Refuge
Poems by Adrie Kusserow



The Era of Not Quite
Stories by Douglas Watson



Light and Heavy Things
Selected poems by Zeeshan Sahil
Translated by Faisal Siddiqui,
Christopher Kennedy, and Mi Ditmar



To pre-order, please visit
BOA's secure online bookstore.

We will ship your book(s) to
you as soon as they arrive.

Announcing the Third BOA Short Fiction Prize



The BOA Short Fiction Prize recognizes outstanding short story collections by writers at any stage of their career. BOA's short fiction collections feature voices more concerned with the artfulness of their writing than the twists and turns of plot. The third BOA Short Fiction Prize will be awarded to a collection of short stories. As with our poetry, the first criterion for publishing any book will be its artistic excellence.

The prize was established in 2010 as a way to further BOA's Mission to bring high quality literature to the public. Publisher and contest judge Peter Conners says of the prize: "BOA strives to seek out and support writing that falls through the cracks of mainstream, corporate publishing. At this point, short fiction is, perhaps, more under-served than even poetry in the realm of literary publishing. As an organization, BOA recognizes the need to put this important literary genre back on the table and to support authors who have innovative approaches to writing short fiction."

Winner Receives:

- Book publication by BOA Editions, Ltd. in Spring 2015, in BOA's American Reader Series
- A \$1,000 Honorarium

Send one copy of the manuscript, our entry form, and the \$25 entry fee between **April 1—May 31, 2013**, to:

BOA Editions, Ltd.
P.O. Box 30971
Rochester, NY 14604

For eligibility requirements, submission guidelines, and the entry form, visit
www.boaeditors.org.

BOA's Mission

BOA Editions, Ltd., a not-for-profit publisher of poetry and other literary works, fosters readership and appreciation of contemporary literature. By identifying, cultivating, and publishing both new and established poets and selecting authors of unique literary talent, BOA brings high quality literature to the public.

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