

# **Gulf Coast Poets**

*Chapter of the Texas Poetry Society*



**March 14, 2015**  
**General Meeting**  
**Peter Hyland**

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### **Gulf Coast Poets Proudly Presents**

Peter B. Hyland is the author of the poetry collection *Out Loud* (Sheep Meadow Press) and the chapbook *Elegy to the Idea of a Child* (Trilobite Press). He has published poems, articles, and book reviews in *American Literary Review*, *Conduit*, *Ecotone*, *Green Mountains Review*, *Gulf Coast*, *New England Review*, *New South*, *Ploughshares*, *The Ploughshares Blog*, and other journals and websites. He is Director of Advancement at the Honors College at the University of Houston (UH), and serves on the advisory boards of *Glass Mountain*, the undergraduate literary journal at UH, and *Public Poetry*. He is also an assistant editor for the nationally distributed literary journal *upstreet*.

## LAKE CHARLES

A gas flare throbs, an ignition  
Urged out from the interlacing steel.  
Over the refinery, it hovers,  
So long as pipelines rush raw oil  
Thrilling through  
A circulating need, so long  
As a man must be propelled  
Forward & his engine filled.  
The burning occupies the black air  
Like a moth transfixed—  
Still living, fluttering, a golden blur.  
It is extinguished & returns.  
Faintly illuminated  
By dashboard light, travelers  
Pass & are compelled  
At the speed by which they are driven.  
They reach a familiar, temporary,  
Carved-out space where a bed  
Extends like a tongue to receive them,  
& they dissolve  
Into a fog of linens. Enthroned above,  
The flame beats its wings & scatters  
Heat on the city, on motels,  
On the two-storied suburban squares  
Where families sleep  
& look with closed eyes toward it,  
Sensing the thin imperceptible  
Valves buried at their centers  
That take & release what is given,  
Currents washing out  
& into the fleshy cylinders,  
Stirred by the spinning cranks,  
The dark secretions, the yearning,  
Hollow mechanism of the organic.

## ELEGY TO THE IDEA OF A CHILD

**Gulf**

You transpired in an amniotic sea  
Where the currents of your mother & me  
Ran blindly together,  
Blending our bodies' furtive elements  
Which we can barely understand.  
Godlike, you unlocked yourself  
At the core of her belly & began to shape  
Your distending world,  
Outdoing the prescriptions we had inherited  
To ward off your inconceivable becoming.  
And through the ultrasound's grains,  
The nurse peered into her interior,  
Deciphering your cryptic anatomy:  
The minuscule rhythms, the augury of your skeleton.  
What we did not will we had undone.  
I see your unknowable face sometimes buried  
Beneath those of living children  
Who came forth brilliantly  
From their mothers' glad, convulsing wombs,  
Learning the first motions permitted  
To their airheavy lungs,  
Their fathers looking on, moving to touch  
The strange substance they had released  
Painlessly from themselves,  
Finding it now altered & returned.  
I have generated a realm  
In which to carry you where you haunt  
Me through the energy that rises  
As I look with or without care toward  
Women who momentarily  
Take me into their desire.  
I do not know if I loved you;  
Forgive me; I am not sorry.

## **Inprint First Fridays**

April 13, 2015--Robin Davidson  
May 1, 2015--Saba Husein

Readings begin at 8:30 pm Inprint House  
1520 West Main (two blocks south of The Menil  
Collection, one block east of Mandell). Admis-  
sion is free

### **Ongoing: OPEN MIC LOCATIONS**

1st Mondays: NOKtune, 17062 Saturn Ln, Houston, TX 77058,  
8:30 PM free

4th Tuesday: Barnes & Noble, 1029 W Bay Area Blvd, Web-  
ster, 7:30, free

Wednesdays: Notsuoh, 314 Main St, 77002, 9 PM, free

3rd Wednesday, Heights Library, 1302 Heights Blvd. 77008,  
6:00 PM, free

4th Wednesdays: Teatro Bilingue Houston, 3333 Jensen Dr,  
7:30-10 PM, Tintero/Inkwell – Bilingual Reading Series

Fridays: The House of Tea, 1927 Fairview, 77019, 9 PM, free

Saturdays: Secret Word Café, 2061 Dowling, 11 AM Write  
Club, workshop hosted by Marcell Murphy

Sundays: Bohemeo, 708 Telephone Rd., Suite E, 77023, 8  
PM, free

Sundays: Bambou, 2540 University Blvd (in Rice Village) 7  
PM. Cost: \$10

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# **Upcoming Poetry Events**

**Speak!Poet launches its 2015 program with noted Houston poets Ken Jones and Carolyn Adams. This year's first event will be held Saturday, March 14, 2 p.m. at the Freed-Montrose Library, 4100 Montrose Blvd.**

**NOKturne on March 14, 2015 from 7PM to 10PM for a great night of poetry. This event is hosted by Weasel Press and will have an open mic session. Features will be: Z.M. Wise, David E. Cowen, Ce Jac, and Billie Hill. Weasel Press will also be featuring a selection of their catalogue, including *Wolf: An Epic and Other Poems* by Z.M. Wise and *The Madness of Empty Spaces* by David E. Cowen.**

**Saturday March 21 — Blue Willow Bookstore, 3270 Westheimer, Houston TX 77098 -- Goodbye Mexico: Poems of Remembrance - 4pm – featuring Sarah Cortez, Carolyn Dahl, Margo Davis, Christa Forster, Elizabeth Humber, A.M. Krohn, Janet McCann, Loueva Smith, Sandi Stromberg, Melissa Studdard, Randall Watson, Germaine Welch, Patrick Allen Wright**

**Sunday March 28 — Last Concert Cafe. March Hare Shindig. Hosted by Dustin Pickering (Transcendent Zero Press). Other poets: Gwendolyn Zepeda, Vanessa Zimmer-Powell, Jennifer Rodriguez-Watkins, Shen Ge. Bands: Fear the Poet, Mystery Loves Company, Gwen Doll & the Somethin Somethins. 1403 Nance St. \$10. 7-11:30pm**

**April 17-19 — Poetry At Roundtop. Information at <http://poetryatroundtop.org/>**

**For other events see [www.houstonpoetrysummit.org](http://www.houstonpoetrysummit.org).**

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### **Anthologies and Calls for Submission**

**Rio Grande Valley International Poetry Festival** — March 28, 2015 Deadline. Information at <http://www.valleypoetryfest.org/>

**Mutabilis Press Submission Call for “Houston Nature,” Poetry Anthology** Submissions deadline: March 31, 2015. Info at: [www.mutabilispress.org](http://www.mutabilispress.org) for details.

**Horror Writers Association Call for Submission** for Second Annual Horror Poetry Showcase will open April 1. Check the GCP Facebook page for more information.

**Weasel Press Poetry Chapbook Contest:** Deadline July 1, 2015. Weasel Press is hosting its first chapbook contest this year. Starting April 1, 2015 . \$250 cash prize and 20 complimentary copies of their book. We love the existential, beat poetry; poetry that thrives on showing us the current state of the human condition. We Poets are asked to submit 3-5 poems from their chapbook and an entry fee of \$15. 10 poets will be selected to move onto round two where they will be asked for the full manuscript and a video of themselves reading a few pieces from the book. Submissions are accepted through Submittable. <http://weaselpress.submittable.com>

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## **GULF COAST POETS MEETING MINUTES**

### **FEBRUARY 2015**

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#### **CALL TO ORDER – LAURA PEÑA**

10:50am

#### **UPCOMING DEADLINES**

02.20.15 – *Texas Poetry Calendar*

Submit online at [dosgatospress.org](http://dosgatospress.org)

02.28.15 – *Words & Art Reading Series*

Submission details at [ricegallery.org/programs/#/words-art/](http://ricegallery.org/programs/#/words-art/)

03.28.15 – *Boundless* (for Rio Grande Valley International Poetry Festival)

Submit online at [valleypoetryfest.org](http://valleypoetryfest.org)

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

##### **Festivals**

04.09.15 to 04.12.15 – *Austin International Poetry Festival*

Featuring Nikki Giovanni

For more information, visit [aipf.org](http://aipf.org)

04.17.05 to 04.19.05 – *Poetry Forum at Round Top*

Featuring Richard Blanco, who read at President Obama's 2<sup>nd</sup> Inauguration

For more information, visit [festivalhill.org](http://festivalhill.org)

04.23.15 to 04.26.15 – *Rio Grande Valley International Poetry Festival*

For more information, visit [valleypoetryfest.org](http://valleypoetryfest.org)

##### **Local Events**

02.15.15 – *Galveston Mardi Gras Reading*

Mod Coffee House, Galveston, TX, 7pm

03.10.15 – *Galveston Poets Roundtable Meeting*

Bring 14-15 copies of one poem for critique

1501 Post Office St, Galveston, TX, 5pm

03.11.15 – *Words & Art Reading, hosted by Mary Wemple*

Rice Gallery, Houston

First, visit the exhibit. Then, write something inspired by your visit and submit.

For more information, visit [ricegallery.org/programs/#/words-art/](http://ricegallery.org/programs/#/words-art/)

#### **Welcome New Member**

Taylor Lane Jones

#### **FEATURED READER – CHOONWHA MOON**

Pieces read include:

"A February French Poem"

"Dénouement"



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"Rotation" – presented right-justified on the page  
"Child vs. the Board of Mothers"  
"Three Night Rental: My Memories of Blockbuster"  
"Light Pollution"

## **FEATURED READER – CHOONWHA MOON**

*Continued . . .*

"Some Mothers' Random Biographies"  
"Jackson & Perkins Mail Order Bride"  
"Writing Rivals"  
"Spoiled Last Supper"  
"Lamentations for the One Who Drowned"  
"How to Stop a War"  
"Poet #307 Mistranslates . . ."  
"The Sexual Ontology of Trees"  
"The Onion Poem: The Warning"

## **GUEST READERS**

Mary Margaret Carlisle  
"The Perfect Fountain Pen" by Constantine Cavafy  
"Proof in the Duff"  
Ann Fogleman  
"One More Ride"  
Eloísa Pérez-Lozano  
No Title Given  
Laura Peña  
"On Love by Edward Hirsch"  
Weasel Patterson  
"We Are Not the End of a Movie"  
Carmen Jacobsen  
"Four Haikus in One" from her current book *Men of Fish*  
Gary Rosin  
"A Border for the Dead"  
Amy Sasser  
"Amalgamation" from her current book *Inevitable*  
Glynn Monroe Irby  
"Rosa Penelope" from his flower series  
Jean Mahavier  
"Where I Am From"  
Taylor Lane Jones  
"Nothing, Something, and Everything"  
Billie Hill  
"Walking on the Water"  
"Waiting for Wings"

## **ADJOURNED – LAURA PEÑA**

Meeting followed by lunch at Hibachi Grill for those wishing to attend.

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### **UPCOMING GP FEATURED READERS**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Speaker</b>
<b>March 14, 2015</b>	<b>Peter Hyland</b>
<b>April 11, 2015</b>	<b>Chris Wise</b>
<b>May 9, 2015</b>	<b>Robin Davidson</b>
<b>June 13, 2015</b>	<b>Larry "Weasel" Patterson</b>
<b>July 11, 2015</b>	<b>Chuck Wemple and Mary Wemple</b>
<b>August 2015</b>	<b>No Meeting</b>
<b>September 12, 2015</b>	<b>Cindy Huyser</b>
<b>October 3, 2015</b>	<b>Poetry Out of Bounds</b>
<b>November 14, 2015</b>	<b>Eloisa Perez-Lozano</b>
<b>December 12, 2015</b>	<b>Jan Seale, 2012 Texas Poet Laureate</b>

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Treasurer Report for Mar 14, 2015 General Meeting

Report Period: Feb. 1 – Feb 28, 2015 -- with 2015 totals

*This report covers the one month period since last report*

	Cash Flow: Feb. 1 – Feb. 28, 2015	2015 Totals
Contests.....	.00	-.00
Dues.....	15.00	120.00
Speaker Expense.....	-20.00	-36.32
Honorarium	-20.00	
Speaker Lunch/Dinners	-.00	
Lodging	-.00	
Donations.....	** 30.00	30.00
Interest/Dividend.....	.09	.18
Officer Travel.....	-10.00	-10.00
Anthology.....	-.00	-.00
Other .....	.00	.00
<b>Net Cash flow, Feb. 1 – Feb. 28</b>	<b>15.09</b>	<i>Jan1-Feb28</i> <b>103.86</b>

	Account Activity: Feb. 1 – Feb. 28, 2015 –	2015 YTD
Checking Ledger		
<i>Beginning</i>		2115.04
Checks written (2)	-30.00	
Debit Card	-.00	
Deposits	** 45.00	
Dividend	.09	
Ending		2130.13
Outstanding checks (2) **	40.00	Bank chk bal=2170.13
Cash (undeposited checks, cash)		
<i>Beginning</i>		70.00
Inflow	15.00	
Outflow	-15.00	
Ending		70.00
Savings (seldom changes)		
<i>Beginning</i>		10.33
Ending		10.33
<b>All accounts</b>		<i>Jan1/Feb 28</i>
<i>Beginning</i>	<i>2/1/2015</i>	<b>2195.37</b>
<i>Ending</i>	<i>2/28/2015</i>	<b>2210.46</b>

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## **2015 Gulf Coast Poets Chapter Membership**

<b><i>Honorary lifetime members</i></b>	<b><i>2015 Chapter Members</i></b>
Ted O. Badger	Penny Clark
Alan Lee Birkelbach	Sybil Pittman Estess
Robert Clark	Dede Fox
John Gorman	Carmen Erna Jacobsen
Erica Lehrer	C. Lynn (“Happy Daze”) Carden
Karla Morton	Yong-Ae Kim
Dave Parsons	Jean Mahavier
Larry D. Thomas	John Milkereit
	Deandra Newcomb
<b><i>Lifetime members</i></b>	Jonathan Peckham
Nancy Bertoneclj	Eloisa Perez-Lozano
Diana Dettling Buckley	Sandi Stromberg
Mary Margaret Carlisle – Member Chair	William Turner
Daniel Carrington -- Correspondence Secretary	Vanessa Zimmer-Powell
Jane Chance	Weasel (Larry Patterson)"
David Cowen -- President	Kay L. Cox
Winston Derden	Amy L. Sasser — Anthology Chair
Susan Ellis	Jane Wenninger
Ann Fogelman -- Greeter	Dory Williams
Fulton Fry	Charles Williams
Mary Ann Goodwin	Billie Hill
Susan Musch -- Vice President	Terry Jude Miller
Bernard Patten	Lauren English
Richard Peake	Adriana Vazquez
Oscar Peña	Luis Vazquez
Laura Peña -- Recording Secretary	Gary Rosin
Lynne Streeter	Taylor Lane Jones
Martha M Tamez	Peter Hyland
Glynn Monroe Irby	
Leo Waltz – Treasurer	<b><i>2015 Student Chapter Member</i></b>
	Katherine Sanger