

Gulf Coast Poets

Chapter of the Texas Poetry Society



May 9, 2015
General Meeting
Robin Davidson

Gulf Coast Poets

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Gulf Coast Poets Proudly Presents

ROBIN DAVIDSON

Robin is a poet, literary translator, associate professor of English at the University of Houston-Downtown, and author of two poem chap-books, *Kneeling in the Dojo* (Finishing Line Press) and *City that Ripens on the Tree of the World* (Calypso Editions), and a full collection, *Luminous Other*, recipient of The Ashland Poetry Press's 2012 Richard Snyder Memorial Publication Prize. She is co-translator with Ewa Elżbieta Nowakowska of *The New Century: Poems by Ewa Lipska* (Northwestern UP), and is the recipient of numerous awards, including a Fulbright lectureship to Poland, an NEA translation fellowship, and two Houston Arts Alliance grants. Davidson has long been affiliated with Writers in the Schools-Houston, and is a member of Calypso Editions, an American artists' collaborative press specializing in small collections of poetry, fiction, and literary translation

UNDER THE MOON

A painting by Billy Hassel

A man takes the long way home,
sees in the blue-black dark the figure of the wolf,
the shape of darkness
swallowing up all where he walks.

The wolf contains constellations
and the man moves under the stars

in the wolf's belly, swims among them, lost,
afraid of the shape darkness takes.

He begins again.

A man walks home under the moon as if
the sky were a blank canvas, a page of a sketchbook
he keeps in his back pocket, a map

of tangled branches where a raven perches,
fire under her wing. He holds the moon
in his palm like fireflies he's trapped,
until his knuckles shine,
and with that light he paints
the moon, the blue-black night,



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the raven, the fish, the luminous wolf.
He reaches into the canvas,
 turns his hands to the raven's nest,
 rolls the night-eggs in his palm,
until they are hard as the moon or lapis lazuli,
 stones which open,

 each crystalline face a door.
The man enters, is immersed in blue stone, in darkness
 among constellations he can never contain,
among angels, raven-like, haunting.
 Or, the dark inhabits him
 and he devours grief until it sparkles,

 rises like angels or stars, like fireflies
released into a night meadow, soaring,
 leaving his body.
 He is the man who emerges from stone,
who travels the violet grass in moonlight,
 a dark angel in the loose weave of branches.

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HOW TO PAINT LIGHT

To paint light you must return to that first raw surface
like the wall of a room

in the lives of rooms you never knew.

Return to sheetrock, shiplap, memoryless
stone,

or to striations of sun at the bottom of a lake
before shadow accumulates layer by layer.

You must work backwards against pigment,
and dust. Pain and ash. The swift current

of human memory sealing out dawn.
You must close your eyes until you see

your dozing grandmother rock history to sleep.
You are a child in her arms.

Inprint First Fridays

June 5 , 2015–Kenan Ince

July 10, 2015–First Friday's Fortieth Anniversary featuring Rich Levy

August 7, 2015–Chuck and Mary Wemple

September 4, 2015–Vanessa Zimmer-Powell

October 9, 10, 11–Houston Poetry Fest 2015 (UH Downtown)

November 9, 2015–Jane Creighton

Readings begin at 8:30 pm Inprint House
1520 West Main (two blocks south of The Menil Collection, one block east of Mandell). Admission 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, Webster, 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

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

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Upcoming Poetry Events

Thursday, May 14 at 7pm -- Friendswood Library **off the page poetry series** presents featured Gulf Coast Poets **Glynn Monroe Irby, Daniel Carrington, and Laura Peña**. A brief open mic session will follow featured poets.

Anthologies and Calls for Submission

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>

For other events see www.houstonpoetrysummit.org.

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2015 Poetry Society of Texas Summer Conference

Partying With Poetry Mardi Gras Style, will be held July 16th, 17th, and 18th in Beaumont, Texas.

Location:

Hilton Garden Inn

3755 IH-10 South @ Walden Rd

Beaumont, Texas 77705

844-619-0654

For information and registration go to:

<http://poetrysocietyoftexas.org/events/summer-conference/>

Houston Poetry Fest 2015

Houston Poetry Fest 2015 will be held in Willow Street Pump Station, 811 N. San Jacinto Street, Houston 77002 on the campus of the University of Houston - Downtown, on October 9, 10, and 11, 2015.

The submission deadline is July 15, 2015. To submit, go online to "Submittable / Houston Poetry Fest", create a user account, remember your password, and submit everything including your poetry pages, cover letter with bio, and an \$18 donation, electronically.

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WORKSHOPS

Writers Retreat Workshop 2015 — May 14 - 21,
2015

**Venue: Oblate Renewal Center, 5700 Blanco Rd.,
San Antonio TX — [http://
writing.shawguides.com/writersretreatworkshop](http://writing.shawguides.com/writersretreatworkshop)**

Writers Retreat Workshop 2016 — May 19 - 26,
2016

**Venue: Oblate Renewal Center, San Antonio, TX
— [http://writing.shawguides.com/
writersretreatworkshop](http://writing.shawguides.com/writersretreatworkshop)**

**June 8-12 - West Texas Writers' Academy, West
Texas A&M University, Canyon, Texas.
www.wtamu.edu/wtwa**

**2015 Summer Writing Retreat — July 19-23,
2015 - with Orientation July 18 at 6 pm — Sul
Ross State University in Alpine, Texas — [http://
www.writersleague.org/37/Summer-Writing-
Retreat](http://www.writersleague.org/37/Summer-Writing-Retreat)**

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UPCOMING GP FEATURED READERS

Date	Speaker
June 13, 2015	Larry “Weasel” Patterson
July 11, 2015	Eloisa Perez-Lozano
August 2015	No Meeting
September 12, 2015	Cindy Huyser
October 3, 2015	Poetry Out of Bounds
November 14, 2015	Chuck Wemple and Mary Wemple
December 12, 2015	Jan Seale, 2012 Texas Poet Laureate; John Milkereit as second feature

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Treasurer Report for May 9, 2015 General Meeting
 Report Period: Apr. 1 – Apr 30, 2015 -- with 2015 totals
This report covers the one month period since last report

Cash Flow: Apr. 1 – Apr. 30, 2015		2015 Totals.
Contests.....	.00	-.00
Dues.....	.00	120.00
Speaker Expense.....	-30.00	-86.32
Honorarium	-20.00	
Speaker Lunch/Dinners	-10.00	
Lodging	-.00	
Donations.....	.00	30.00
Interest/Dividend.....	.09	.35
Officer Travel.....	-10.00	-40.00
Anthology.....	-.00	-.00
Other00	.00
Net Cash flow, Apr. 1 – Apr. 30	-39.91	Jan1-Apr30: 24.03

Account Activity: Apr. 1 – Apr. 30, 2015 –		2015 YTD
Checking Ledger		
<i>Beginning</i>	2120.21	2056.27
Checks written (1)	-20.00	(1/1/2015)
Debit Card	-.00	
Deposits	.00	
Dividend	.09	
Ending	2100.30	2100.30
Outstanding checks (3)	60.00	Bank chk bal=2160.30
Cash (undeposited checks, cash)		
<i>Beginning</i>	40.00	40.00
Inflow	.00	
Outflow	-20.00	
Ending	20.00	20.00
Savings (seldom changes)		
<i>Beginning</i>	10.33	10.33
Ending	10.33	10.33
All accounts		<i>Jan1/Apr 30</i>
<i>Beginning</i>	4/1/2015	2170.54
<i>Ending</i>	4/30/2015	2130.63

Treasurer Reports will normally end on the last day of the month preceding the meeting and cover the month(s) since the previous report.

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2015 Gulf Coast Poets Chapter Membership

<i>Honorary lifetime members</i>	<i>2015 Chapter Members</i>
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
<i>Lifetime members</i>	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	Chris Wise
Leo Waltz – Treasurer	Robin Davidson
	<i>2015 Student Chapter Member</i>
	Katherine Sanger