



**GULF COAST POETS CHAPTER OF THE
POETRY SOCIETY OF TEXAS
PRESENTS**

**Xach Blunt
June 8, 2018**

Xach Blunt is a spoken word artist who spends time competing in poetry slams across Texas. He is apart of Write About Now's 2017 and 2018 national slam team which represents Houston Texas. He incorporates his personal narrative with everyday experiences in hopes to make as many genuine connections with as many people as possible. His goal is to encourage people to embrace the human experience and the range of emotions that comes with it, because he believes this shows how much more we have in common with one another than we may think.

A Poem About Nothing

I am an expert at doing nothing.

I do nothing very well.

I am better at doing nothing than most people are at doing anything.

Do not undermine my doing nothing,

this is a human hard at work.

Laying in this bed when all one wants to do is move
can be just as exhausting as running a marathon when all one wants to do
is...

stop.

...

I have mastered this art of nothingness.

It is a delicate balance between living and not dying

while trying not to do either,

because trying disqualifies one from doing nothing.

Hoping disqualifies one from doing nothing.

Needing also disqualifies one from doing nothing.

Go ahead.

Try to do nothing.....

.....

...

..

.

It isn't easy, is it?

Do you see how effortless I make depression look?

Can you tell how badly I want to do
something

about

it?

Demigod

I am not yet strong enough to compare to Hercules
but I often find myself in a dream surrounded by goddesses and gods

in a single bound I leap across the room and ask their fearless leader

why am I here

she replies

because we see you as one of us

and I begin to question everything

first I pinch myself to make sure I am awake

because it is not a matter if this is or isn't my dream

it is a matter of if I am living it or not

the pinch does not hurt

but then I think do gods even feel such trivial type of pain

I asked

how can I ever be on the same level as the deities I look up to

she replies

do you think your art is not enough to be revered by others

do not see the worth in your words and how it is enough to make a bad
day better

I say

a bad day better is not always a good day
I just want to be like you and make good days great
great days amazing
amazing feel like heaven
like standing before goddesses and gods
like possessing a type of holy that lingers in the room long after every-
one has left

teach me how to speak everlasting life
and maybe I can be half as worthy as you
maybe I can become a demigod
maybe I can use these words to forge tridents
or strike bolts
or set fires!
I just wanna spit fire!
Like you

Upcoming Events

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

July 6, 2018—43rd Anniversary of First Friday – Deborah DEEP Mouton, Houston Poet Laureate

August 3, 2018—John Gorman

Write About Now - Every Wednesday at 7:30pm

Avante Garden

411 Westheimer Rd, Houston, TX 77006

NOKturne Poetry Reading Series - Every 1st Monday of the month at 7:30pm, Hosted by Z.M. Wise

NOKturne

17062 Saturn Ln, Houston, TX 77058

Coast2Soul Open Mic ft. Erica Nicole

June 19 2018, The Proletariat at 8:30pm - 11:00pm

2221 Market St. Galveston, TX 77550

<https://www.facebook.com/events/563299100697941/>

Poetry FIX: Weasel

June 12, 2018 at 6:30pm

Fix Coffeebar

415 Westheimer Rd, Houston, Texas 77006

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/115591455775073/>

Colliding with Orion Party at Brazos Bookstore w/ Chris Wise

June 10, 2018 at 7:00 pm

2421 Bissonnet Street

Houston, TX 77005

<http://www.brazosbookstore.com/event/chris-wise-colliding-orion>

Barnes & Noble Poetry Reading Series - Every 4th Tuesday of the month at 7:30pm, Hosted by Z.M. Wise

Barnes & Noble

1029 Bay Area Blvd, Webster, TX 77598

Call for Poetry Submissions

Speculative Poetry (Paying) Market List:

<http://fiendlover.blogspot.com/p/pro-paying-speculative-fiction-poetry.html>

More Calls for Submission Daily at

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/156020074604805/>

Madness Muse Press

Seeking poems on Addition/Recovery

send poems as an attachment in the form of a Word Document.

Send submissions to: MadnessMusePress@Gmail.com

No previously published material (Blogs and social media is okay)

Publisher will stop accepting poems around June 12.

<https://madnessmusepress.com/submissions/>

Inflectionism

Inflectionist Review has a strong preference for non-linear work that carefully constructs ambiguity so that the reader can play an active role in the poem. In general, we commend the experimental, the worldly and universal, and eschew the inane, trendy, and overly personal. This journal reads year round. 3-7 poems at a time, in a single document.

<https://theinflectionistreview.submittable.com/submit>

Philosophical Idiot

Likes to publish writing that's easy on the eyes but hard on the emotions. Weird stuff is good. Angry stuff is good. No specific guidelines. Email: aksdgjsghskgiddfv@gmail.com

Houston Poetry Fest Submissions 2018

Deadline: May 31

Submission Fee: \$18

To submit: <https://houstonpoetryfest.submittable.com/submit>

Into the Void

Deadline: June 9, 2018

We're looking for musicality, economy of words, vividness, evoking of the senses, voice, a unique way with language. Poems can be about anything at all, and of all shapes. Accepts up to 4 poems of up to 60 lines each.

<https://intothevoidmagazine.com/submissions/poetry-submissions/>
<https://intothevoidmagazine.submittable.com/submit>

Guttural

Deadline June 10, 2018

Seeking contemporary poetry. No specific theme. Welcomes risky and experimental forms. 3 poems max, no line limits.

Submit via email: submissionsgutturalmagazine@gmail.com

Helpful Resources

<http://www.duotrope.com>

<http://www.newpages.com>

<https://www.pw.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/35517751475/>

Gulf Coast Poets

Treasurer Report for May 12, 2018 General Meeting

Report Period: Apr 1 – Apr 30, 2018 -- with 2018 YTD totals

This report covers the one month period since last report plus the 2018 summary

Cash Flow: Apr 1 – Apr 30, 2018		2018 YTD
Contests.....	.00	-0.00
Dues (all types)00	50.00
Speaker Expense.....	-39.20	-113.42
Honorarium	-20.00	
Speaker Lunch/Dinners	-19.20	
Donations00	0.00
Interest/Dividend.....	.09	.36
Officer Travel.....	-10.00	-60.00
Net Cash flow, Apr 1 – Apr 30	-49.11	Jan 1-Apr 30 -123.06

Account Activity: Apr 1 – Apr 30, 2018 –		2018 YTD
Checking Ledger		<i>Jan 1, 2018</i>
<i>Beginning</i>	1974.74	2018.69
Checks written (2)	-39.20	
Debit Card	-0.00	
Deposits	.00	
Dividend	.09	
Ending	1935.63	1935.63
<i>Outstanding checks (7) Note 1</i>	169.20 <i>Bank chk bal=2104.83</i>	
Cash (undeposited checks, cash)		
<i>Beginning</i>	10.00	40.00
Inflow	.00	
Outflow	-10.00	
Ending	0.00	0.00
Savings (seldom changes)		
<i>Beginning</i>	10.33	10.33
Ending	10.33	10.33
All accounts		<i>Jan 1/Apr 30</i>
Beginning	4/1/2018	1995.07
Ending	4/30/2018	2069.02
		1945.96

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

Note 1: 6 of the 7 outstanding checks were written to poets.

Upcoming GCP Featured Readers

Date	Reader
May 12, 2018	Sarah Frances Moran
June 9, 2018	Xach Blunt
July 14, 2018	Sharon O
August 2018	NO MEETING

GCP Meeting Minutes 03/10/218

10:40am Meeting called to order

Announcements

June 10, 2018 - Chris Wise Brazos Bookstore

Xach Blunt, June featured reader

Weasel Press Degenerates submission call

Madness Muse Press submission call

10:45am - Feature Sarah Frances Moran

11:15am - Open Mic

Ann Fogelman - I Remember it Well

Jonathan Peckhan - A Life Lived at Night

Daniel Carrington - Layoffs

Choonwa Moon - Turning Point

Lynne Streeter

Meeting Closed at 11:45pm

Lunch afterwards at Cafe Express

Honorary lifetime members

2007 John Gorman
2008 Larry D. Thomas
2009 Robert Clark
2010 Alan Lee Birkelbach
2011 Ted O. Badger
2012 Erica Lehrer
2013 Dave Parsons
2014 Glynn Monroe Irby
2015 Leo Waltz
2015 Karla Morton
2016 Jan Seale
2017 Gwendolyn Zepeda
2018 Robin Davidson

Lifetime members

Nancy Bertoncelli
Gary Borkowski
Stella Brice
Diana Dettling
Mary M. Carlisle
Daniel Carrington
Jane Chance
David Cowen
Kay Cox
Jane Creighton
Winston Derden
Billie Duncan
Susan Ellis
Lauran P. English
Pat Dixon
Ann Fogelman
Jerry D. Frick
Fulton Fry
Mary Ann Goodwin
Carmen Jacobsen
Susan Musch
Bernard Patten
Richard Peake
Laura Pena
Oscan Pena
Gary Rosin
Sharman Speed
Lynne Streeter
Sandi Stromberg
Martha M. Tomez
Adriana Babiack Vazquez
Luis Vazquez
Leo Waltz
Weasel
Joyce Zongrone

Chapter Members

Chris Cantu
Kelly Ellis
Jeremy Eugene
Billie Hill
Jean Mahavier
Leila Merrill
John Milkereit
Choonwha Moon
Sarah Frances Moran
Deandra Newcomb
Johathan Peckham
Matthew Riley
Amir Safi
Emily Seay
Tria Wood
June Zaner
Richard Zaner
Vanessa Zimmer-Powell

PLEASE RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP!!!

In Memoriam

2006 Peggy Z. Lynch - 1st Member - Honorary Lifetime Member
David Hicks - 2nd Member - Lifetime Member