

PALABRAS LUMINOSAS (Luminous Words):
The Alternative New Year's Day Spoken Word / Performance Extravaganza
- 2016 Anthology

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PALABRAS LUMINOSAS

Luminous Words

The Alternative
New Year's Day
Spoken Word / Performance
Extravaganza!

2016 Anthology

<http://alternativenyd.org>



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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

It is terrific that the the Alternative New Year's Day Spoken Word / Performance Extravaganza is being accompanied for the third year in a row with an anthology celebrating the writing of many of the featured performers. Every year we attempt to freshen up the event by adding a substantial new group of performers and reaching out to different areas of the tri-state area. For the last two years Thaddeus Rutkowski has played a principal role in working with a group of outside curators who have their pulse on emerging as well as more established talents, who then bring some of these people into our fold. Once part of our mix we often reach out to them in future years to come back and join us. This year the group of outside curators has included Gabriel Don, Russ Green, Wayne Kral, Jane Ormerod and Vittoria Repetto.

When I began this event in 1995 at Café Nico on Avenue A between East 6th and 7th streets our staff was small, and I was responsible for most of the effort (Larry Jones, Joanne Pagano, John Holt, and Grace Period were other key players). Now we have a wonderful staff who help with myriad aspects of the event, from scheduling the clockers to writing the first draft of the press release to reaching out to outside curators as Thad has done to broaden and expand our mix. In addition to Thad, key staff members this year have included Madeline Artenberg, Boni Joi, Ptr Kozlowski, Annmarie Lockhart, Ellen Aug Lytle, Su Polo, Robert Roth, my wife [now] Joanne Pagano Weber, Merissa Anderson who volunteered her time this year as assistant editor, Miriam Stanley for her continued support of Rogue Scholars Press, and of course C. D. Johnson, who has produced this wonderful anthology and designed our logo, flyer and poster. Thanks C. D. – you are a gem. Finally, we would like to thank the management of the Nuyorican Poets Café who have welcomed us since 2014 when this anthology first took flight.

- Bruce Weber

FOREWORD

The annual event, which has taken place every New Year's Day since 1995, was founded by poet and art historian Bruce Weber and quickly became one of the most popular events on the city's poetry scene. Mr. Weber returns to oversee this year's production after a one-year hiatus, ably assisted by a staff of poets, writers and designers. "This is an amazing contingent of performers rocking all day and into the night from all sides of the city and beyond — lots of fresh voices and new discoveries," Mr. Weber said.

The Alternative New Year's Day Spoken Word / Performance Extravaganza features poets, monologists, musicians, dancers and other performers in a 10-hour showcase of some of New York's most talented writers and artists. The lineup that evolves each year to keep the event as fresh and democratic as possible.

Collected here in this volume is just a fraction of the talented voices brought to bear every New Year's Day in New York's East village. This anthology is the next best thing to being there. If you sniff the pages, you can actually smell the poets. Smells like wine, ink, and existential crisis.

APPENDIX

CONTRIBUTOR BIOGRAPHIES

Austin Alexis

Austin Alexis received the **Madgett Poetry Award** for **Privacy Issues** (2014), and is also the author of two chapbooks: **Lovers and Drag Queens** (2007) and **For Lincoln & Other Poems** (2010). He has fiction and poetry published or forthcoming in **J Journal**, **Home Planet News**, **The Ledge**, **The Journal** and in the anthology **Rabbit Ears: TV Poems**.

Joel Allegretti

Joel Allegretti is the author of five collections of poetry. His second collection, **Father Silicon** (**The Poet's Press**, 2006), was selected by **The Kansas City Star** as one of 100 Noteworthy Books of 2006. He is the editor of **Rabbit Ears: TV Poems** (**NYQ Books**, 2015), the first anthology of poetry about the mass medium.

Amber

The cornucopia fruit and vegetable lady, from apple to zucchini. Poems published, performed, taped, translated. Hosted monthly office poetry events. Amber illuminates.

Maria Aponte

Maria Aponte – Community Arts Activist / Educator. Her work focuses on growing in NYC's El Barrio and the Puerto Rican woman's experience. She has been featured on Bronx Net, NBC Latino and performs her work locally and nationally. In May 2013, her book **Transitions of a Nuyorican Cinderella** won 2nd Place for Best Poetry in English at the **International Latino Book Awards**.

Madeline Artenberg

Madeline Artenberg's poetry has appeared in many print and online publications, such as **Vernacular and Rattle**. She won Lyric Recovery and Poetry Forum prizes and was semi-finalist in the 2005 contest of **Margie, The American Journal of Poetry**. Her work often touches on Jewish and New York City themes. **The Old In-and-Out**, a play based on her poetry and that of Karen Hildebrand, directed by Kat Georges, garnered raves in June, 2013.

Ayres

Ayres read for the first time @ the Annual Alternative New Year's Day reading 2(-) years ago. "I Am a Flim-Maker (sic)!" (1994-2015) appears in print for the first time! In 2016, Ayres, his middle name, will have a 4-6 week retrospective (Wallpaper & Beyond) with 2 (film) screenings + a 200-300(-) page book @ Printed Matter.

Gabriella M. Belfiglio

Gabriella M. Belfiglio lives in Brooklyn, NY. She teaches self-defense, conflict resolution, karate, and tai chi. Gabriella won second place in the 2014 **W.B. Yeats Poetry Contest**. Gabriella's work has been published in many anthologies and journals including **VIA, Literary Mama, The Avocet, The Potomac Review, Lambda Literary Review**. Her website is www.gabriellabelfiglio.info

Patricia Carragon

Patricia Carragon loves cupcakes, chocolate, cats, haiku, and Brooklyn. Her publication credits include **BigCityLit**, **Boog City**, **Clockwise Cat**, **Yellow Chair Review**, and others. Her latest chapbook, **The Cupcake Chronicles**, is forthcoming from **Poets Wear Prada**, winter 2015. She hosts the Brooklyn-based **Brownstone Poets** and is the editor-in-chief of its annual anthology.

Tina Chan

Tina Chan is a lively poet whose writing style is a poetic puzzle. She believes words extracted from the heart are to be made memorable.

Steve Dalachinsky

Poet / collagist Steve Dalachinsky was born in Brooklyn after the last big war and has managed to survive lots of little wars. His book **The Final Nite (Ugly Duckling Presse)** won the **PEN Oakland National Book Award**. His most recent books are **Fools Gold** (2014 **Feral Press**), **A Superintendent's Eyes** (revised and expanded 2013 / 14 – **Unbearable / Autonomedia**) and **Flying Home**, a collaboration with German visual artist Sig Bang Schmidt (**Paris Lit Up Press** 2015). His latest CD is **The Fallout of Dreams** with Dave Liebman and Richie Beirach (**Roguard** 2014). He is a 2014 recipient of a **Chevalier D' le Ordre des Artes et Lettres**. He is also a 2015 Pushcart Prize nominee.

Vivian Demuth

Vivian Demuth's poetry book, **Fire Watcher**, published by **Guernica Editions** highlights "lively eco-poems with an exquisite eye for detail and a profound concern for the larger environmental picture." Vivian is also the author of two novels, **Bear War-den**, and **Eyes of the Forest**. Her writing has been published in journals / anthologies in Canada, the USA, Mexico, and Europe.

Pete Dolack

Pete Dolack is an activist, essayist, poet and photographer who tries to keep juggling all these balls but, alas, keeps dropping some of them. Pete currently writes about the economic and environmental crisis and what a better world might look like on the **Systemic Disorder** blog, and his book **It's Not Over: Learning From the Socialist Experiment** will be published in February.

Gabriel Don

Gabriel Don received her MFA in creative writing at The New School, where she worked as the Reading Series and Chapbook Competition Coordinator. Her writing has appeared in **The Brooklyn Rail**, **The Sydney Morning Herald**, **Westerly**, **Mascara Literary Review**, **Transtierros** (translated into Spanish), **Gargoyle 62**, **LiveMag! 12**, **Gainsayer and Three Rooms Press**, **MAINTENANT 9**. She currently teaches writing at BMCC.

Akeem K. Duncan

Hailing from the southeast section of the Bronx, Akeem K. Duncan is inspired by an off-kilter harmony of love, drugs, instinct and generational existentialism. His work usually comes in the form of what he affectionately refers to as “receipt poems,” brief but sweet excerpts scribbled on the back of pieces of paper. He is also an entrepreneur, an aspiring curator and currently heads a grassroots art magazine titled **Quiet Lunch**.

Bill Evans

Bill Evans’ book of poems, **Modern Adventures**, was published by **Spuyten Duyvil** press in 2014. He’s lives in the East Village, almost around the corner.

Cheryl J. Fish

Cheryl J. Fish’s short fiction has been featured in **Liars League NYC** and she was a finalist for **L Magazine’s Literary Upstart** search for pocket fiction. Her most recent poetry chapbook is **Make It Funny, Make it Last** (#171, **Belladonna Chaplets**, 2014). Her poetry has appeared in **The Bloomsbury Anthology of Contemporary Jewish American Poetry**; **Far from the Centers of Ambition: The Legacy of Black Mountain College**; Terrain.org; **New American Writing**; **Talisman**; **Kudzu House Review**, and **Volt**.

Bryan Fox

Bryan Cornel Fox is a New York poet who loves to box and has performed poetry around the city at places such as Nuyorican Poets’ Café, GLBT Center, Word at 4F, and the Bowery Poetry Club.

Armando Jaramillo Garcia

Armando Jaramillo Garcia was born in Colombia, South America and raised in New York City. He attended Hunter College and currently works as a photo industry professional at a science and medical agency. He has published recently in **Prelude, Horse Less Review, ThoseThatThis, TYPO, The Opiate, Jerkpoet, Kentucky Review** and others.

Robert Gibbons

Robert Gibbons is a poet living in New York City– Brooklyn. With more than 10 years under his belt in search of his muse, It could be Langston, or Baldwin, or Frank Ohara or Baraka, but it is the muse goddamit that he is search of. The publishing credit are too numerous and lengthy to enumerate for he likes compression. He like the brevitats with long enunciations and chants. He likes to worship the ancestors and Cleo, the goddess of History. There is no telling what will be found on his next elephant hunt. Maybe he will find his lost friend Nomusa with her amphora. Robert's first collection was published in 2012 by **Three Rooms Press**, entitled **Close to the Tree**.

Russ Green

Russ Green is a Graduate of Hofstra University. He is co-editor at **Great Weather for Media**, runs readings on Long Island and has a book called **Gimme Back My Radio**. He can be found in the mountains with crazy artist friends or roaming the docks of Port Jefferson at night with his tuxedo cat.

Antonia Greenberg

I'm 17 and currently a junior at Beacon H.S., NYC. Been writing since I discovered William Carlos Williams in the 6th grade and realized the notes I taped to the refrigerator constituted poetry! I've taken courses at Columbia in creative writing and currently write songs and poetry with my band, and when I'm most particularly inspired on the downtown 1 train. Writing for me has expressed the words I've only been able to say with a pen, and will hopefully always remain a source of happiness in my life.

Bob Heman

Bob Heman has edited **CLWN WR** (formerly **Clown War**) since 1972. His collages have appeared recently in **Caliban** online, **Right Hand Pointing**, **Skidrow Penthouse**, **Fell Swoop** and **Clockwise Cat**. During the late 1970s he was an artist-in-residence at the Brooklyn Museum.

Aimee Herman

Aimee Herman is the author of two full-length books of poems and teaches writing in the Bronx.

Roxanne Hoffman

Roxanne Hoffman worked on Wall Street, now answers a patient hotline. Her words can be found in cyberspace, set to music, on the silver screen, and in print. She and Jack Cooper run **Poets Wear Prada**. Her elegiac poem "In Loving Memory," illustrated by Edward Odwitt, was released as a chapbook in 2011.

Kate Irving

Kate Irving's poems have appeared in, among others, BigCityLit.com, **qaartsiluni**, and **Press 1**. Her chapbook, "Raising the Arsonist's Daughter from the Dead" was published by **Finishing Line Press** in 2014. She grew up in NYC and is grateful for that unique education.

Evie Ivy

Evie Ivy is a dancer / poet in the NYC poetry circuit. She hosts one of the longest running poetry series, **The Green Pavilion Poetry Event** in Brooklyn. Her latest book out is "Living in 12-Tone... and other poetic forms."

C. D. Johnson

C. D. (Seedy) Johnson: Former web developer, webmaster, and I.T. Director for CEO Clubs International, Inc. Currently, a freelance web, software, and digital publishing consultant. Holds an M.A. in analytic philosophy and logic theory and a B.S. in computer science. Has taught religious instruction in Sanatana Dharma and Shaktism, as well as Advaita Vedanta. Current projects include an 800 page magnum opus on theology and mysticism that no one will want to read, research into Indian Nyaya logic, and a conlang (constructed language) project. C. D. is the graphics artist for the Alternative New Year's Day Spoken Word / Performance Extravaganza. As editor-in-chief of Rogue Scholars Press, he is the editor and publisher of the ANYDSWPE annual anthology. He likes to anger people in his spare time.

Boni Joi

Boni Joi was born in North Miami Beach, Florida, raised in New Jersey and discovered her lost lineage in Salem, Massachusetts. She has a MFA in poetry from Columbia University and has read and performed her poems at numerous venues in New Jersey, New York and elsewhere including Switzerland, Canada, and England. Her poems have appeared in **Arabella**, **Long Shot**, **Boog City Reader**, **Big Hammer**, **Lungfull!**, **The Brooklyn Rail** and many other journals. Her first collection of poetry, **Before During or After Rainstorms**, was published in 2012. Boston Review says: “Armed with an eye for the particular and a knack for gentle satire, Joi writes from the front lines of a doomed fight for America’s spirit, but does so with a bright infectious gusto.” Boni is an editor and project manager for **Black Square Editions**, a small poetry press and has designed their website: www.blacksquareeditions.org. She works a photograph and reference archivist and lives with musical chef Tobi Joi in Brooklyn.

Tobi Joi

Tobi Joi is one of Switzerland’s premier rockers. Known for his bass guitar and trumpet playing skills in bands such as **Lobster**, **The Flying Shrimps**, **Take A Virgin**, **Moped Lads**, **Steven’s Nude Club & the Nude Horns**, **Sylvia Juncosa Band**, and Switzerland’s only Mod band **The Reaction** and many more. Audiences experience stoner-rock anthems and heavy psychedelic bass and drum symphonies that meander to a fully amplified crawl.

Larry Jones

Larry Jones was the co-producer along with Bruce Weber of the first five **ANYDSWPE** events at Café Nico, his loft apartment / performance venue one flight above the Pyramid Club on Avenue A. An Associate of the **Academy of American Poets**, his work has appeared in many literary magazines and anthologies. He teaches literature and creative writing to gifted and talented youth at Hofstra University.

Meg Kaizu

Meg Kaizu has lived in Tokyo, Moscow, and NYC, contributing articles for magazines such as **Tokyo Art Beat**, **PingMag**, **Whitehot Magazine**, **Being A Broad**, **Metropolis**, and **New York Art Beat**. Her paintings, prose and poetry have appeared in **KD-Magazine**, **Avenue**, **Off-Yellow**, and **Otter Magazine**. She studied art at the University of Oregon and the Art Students League of New York.

Ron Kolm

Ron Kolm is a contributing editor of **Sensitive Skin magazine**. He's the author of **The Plastic Factory**, **Divine Comedy** and **Suburban Ambush**. A collection of stories, **Duke & Jill**, has just been published by **Unknown Press**. He's had work in **Live Mag!**, **The Otter** and **The Outlaw Bible of American Poetry**. Ron's papers were purchased by the New York University library.

Ptr Kozlowski

Ptr Kozlowski has been a taxi driver, a deliveryman, a poet and a printer, singer-songwriter and guitarist. He likes to draw upon his experience to bring a musical perspective to the spoken word. He's been published in **Hobo Jungle** and **Curare**, in anthologies of **Brownstone Poets** and **Great Weather for Media**; and performed at CBGB's and The SIN Club, Bowery Poetry Club and ABC No Rio, Cornelia Street Cafe, the Saturn Series, Yippie Museum Cafe and Barnes and Noble Park Slope, among others. "Where's My Poem" was in **Stained Sheets** for Winter 2009.

Wayne Kral

Wayne Kral has lived in the Lower East Side for the last 26 years. He is an artist, writer and a musician, in that order.

Jane LeCroy

Jane LeCroy: (**Sister Spit, Vitapup, Nu Voices, Ohmslice, Transmitting**) fronts the avant-pop-post-punk band, **The Icebergs**, with Tom Abbs and David Rogers-Berry. **Three Rooms Press** published her multimedia book of lyrical poems, "Signature Play"

Linda Lerner

Yes, the Ducks Were Real, was published by **NYQ Books** (Feb. 2015) as was my previous collection, **Takes Guts and Years Sometimes**. A chapbook of poems inspired by nursery rhymes, illustrated by Donna Kerness, **Ding Dong the Bell Pussy in the Well** was published by **Lummo Press**, Feb. 2014. I've been nominated three times for a Pushcart Prize.

Phillip X Levine

Phillip X Levine lives near Woostock, NY and is approximately an actor, poet, poetry editor for **Chronogram** magazine and president of the Woodstock Poetry Society.

Steven T. Licardi

Steven T. Licardi is an author, spoken word poet, actor, motivational speaker, and activist who performs prominently across Long Island and Manhattan. Steven uses his work to engage in political discourse in order to positively affect society and culture. Steven believes in the power of art to teach love, altruism, selflessness, and compassion. For more, visit his website: TheSvenBo.com

Tsaurah Litzky

Tsaurah Litzky, a widely published poet, also writes fiction, memoir, erotica, plays and commentary. **Baby On The Water (Long Shot Press)** and **Cleaning The Duck (Bowery Books)** are her poetry collections. The most recent of her twelve chapbooks is **Jerry in the Bardo (NightBallet Press)**. She curates The Resistance reading series at Gallery Gaia, Vinegar Hill, Brooklyn.

Veronica Liu

Veronica Liu's writing, comics, photography, and silkscreen prints have been published in **Broken Pencil, Quick Fiction, We'll Never Have Paris**, and other publications, and she has received artist grants from Northern Manhattan Arts Alliance, Manhattan Community Arts Fund, Citizens Committee, and the Goodman Fund. She is founder of Word Up Community Bookshop, a volunteer-run, multilingual community space in Washington Heights.

Ellen Aug Lytle

This may be the year, 2016, I finally either finish my novel or chop it into short stories; probably the latter! Still teaching for **Poets and Writers** and trying my damndest to help the world some and especially animals.

Nancy Mercado

Nancy Mercado is the editor of **The Nuyorican Women Writers Anthology** published by the **Center for Puerto Rican Studies** at Hunter College, CUNY. Featured on National Public Radio's **The Talk of the Nation** and the PBS NewsHour Special: **America Remembers 9/11**, she has authored a poetry collection: **It Concerns the Madness**, 7 theater plays and edited **If The World Were Mind: A Children's Anthology**.

Marlene Nadle

Marlene Nadle is a former reporter for **The Village Voice** and writer on politics and the arts.

Uche Nduka

Uche Nduka is a Nigerian–American poet, essayist, lyricist & dancer. He is the author of ten volumes of poems of which the most recent are **If Only The Night, eel on reef, Ijele, Nine East**. Some of his writings have been translated into German, Dutch, Finnish, Spanish, Italian, Serbo–Croat. He presently lives in New York City and teaches at Queens College.

Ngoma

Ngoma is a performance poet, multi-instrumentalist, singer / songwriter and paradigm shifter, who for over 40 years has used culture as a tool to raise socio-political and spiritual consciousness through work that encourages critical thought. Ngoma weaves poetry and song that raises contradictions and searches for a solution to a just and peaceful world.

Bri Onishea

Bri Onishea is a want-to-be-gypsy, an ardent lover of words, and an amateur in many things. A curious creature by nature, she hopes to pursue a lifetime of art and learning.

Jane Ormerod

Jane Ormerod is the author of **Welcome to the Museum of Cattle** (**Three Rooms Press**, 2012), **Recreational Vehicles on Fire** (**Three Rooms Press**, 2009), and the chapbook **11 Films** (**Modern Metrics / EXOT Books**, 2008). Born on the south coast of England, Jane now lives in New York City and performs extensively across the United States and beyond. She is a founding editor at **Great Weather for Media**.

Yuko Otomo

Yuko Otomo. Japanese origin. A bilingual (Japanese & English) poet & a visual artist. She also writes haiku, art criticism & essays. She has read in St. Mark's Poetry Project, Tribes, Bowery Poetry Club, ABC No Rio, La Mama, The Living Theatre, PS1, MoMA, The Queens Museum, etc & in Japan, France & Germany. Her publication includes "Garden: Selected Haiku" (**Beehive Press**), "A Sunday Afternoon on the Isle of Museum" (**Propaganda Press**), "PINK" (**Sisyphus Press**), "Small Poems" (**Ugly Duckling Presse**), "The Hand of The Poet" (**UDP**), "STUDY & Other Poems on Art" (**UDP**) & "Elements" (**the Feral Press**). She exhibited her artwork at Court House Gallery @ Anthology Film Archives, Tribes Gallery & Vision Festival, etc. She is a contributing writer for a collective art critical forum www.Arteidolia.com currently. Yuko is a 2015 Pushcart Prize nominee.

Amy Ouzoonian

Amy Ouzoonian is an artist, yoga teacher, dancer and member of the band **Expat**. She lives and creates in Phoenix, AZ.

Mireya Perez

Mireya Perez's poetry searches for that "other voice" breaking through entrapment and oppression, the fragile markers to unearth more hidden voices. Her work appears in **Revista del Hada**, **Caribbean Review**, **Americas Review**, **Diosas en Bronce: Anthology of Colombian Women Writers**, **IRP Voices**, among others.

Puma Perl

Puma Perl is a performer, producer, and a widely published poet / writer. She's the author of two chapbooks, **Belinda and Her Friends** and **Ruby True**, and two full-length collections, **knuckle tattoos** and **Retrograde**. As Puma Perl and Friends, she performs with some of NYC's best musicians and merges poetry with rock 'n roll. She is a regular contributor to **The Villager**.

Helen Peterson

Helen Peterson, M.A., a Cuba-native, performs her poems with castanets. Awards from **Mobius**, **The Poetry Magazine**; **Pen and Brush**; Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation among others Publications: **Mobius**, **The Poetry Magazine**; **U.S. 1 Worksheet**; **Avocet**; among others REVIEW: Experience...magic and genius of Helen's [poetry]...heart and soul.--Ellen Gilmer, **IPAIMPRESS**.

Su Polo

Native New Yorker, Su Polo is a writer of poems and stories, singer / songwriter with guitar / dulcimer, Jazz vocalist and graphic artist. Her book, **Turning Stones**, is at St. Marks Books. She's founder / host of Saturn Series poetry reading in its 22nd year every Monday night, NYC. For 10 years Su designed the stage for the Alternative New Years Day Poetry Extravaganza. <http://www.supolo.com>

Kelly J. Powell

Kelly J. Powell is a poet from Long Island.

Ron Price

Ron Price is a Teaching Artist at Juilliard. His most recent collection is **A True Account of the Failure of Bodies to Adequately Burn.**

JD Rage

JD Rage writes poetry and novels, paints and takes photographs and often appears in strange places for no good reason. When able, she publishes **CURARE** magazine and runs **Venom Press.**

Jill Rapaport

Jill Rapaport's collection of fiction, **Duchamp et Moi and Other Stories**, was published by **Fly by Night Press / A Gathering of the Tribes** in 2014.

Janet Restino

Janet Restino. multimedia artist. Philly roots & NYC streets. formally trained sculptor. eyes & hands. finding voice lifelong journey. funded by **Poets & Writers**, found on Youtube, etc. hosted own radio show **Heart & Soul**, recorded **Love Poems & Fast Songs**. Coming soon...**Canary in a Coal Mine**, stories, poems, songs. Art for the people: www.cafepress.com/janetsarhouse & www.janetrestino.com

Barbara Rosenthal

Barbara Rosenthal is a NY Media Poet whose works explore intense human relationships. She belongs to the Unbearables Collective. **VSW Press** published four of her books. Her new novel, **WISH FOR AMNESIA** is just out from **Deadly Chaps Press**. She's read at Cornelia, Parkside, Bowery, etc, been published in **LiveMag**, **MacGuffin**, **Assembling**; taught at CUNY; and writes reviews for **Ragazine**.

Thaddeus Rutkowski

Thaddeus Rutkowski is the author of the books **Violent Outbursts**, **Haywire**, **Tetched and Roughhouse**. **Haywire** won the Members' Choice Award, given by the Asian American Writers' Workshop. He teaches at Medgar Evers College and the Writer's Voice of the West Side YMCA in New York. He received a fiction fellowship from the New York Foundation for the Arts.

Ilka Scobie

Ilka Scobie is a native New Yorker. Her recent poems appear in **Glitter Mob**, **Urban Graffiti** and here / there. She is a deputy editor of **Live Mag**. She writes about contemporary art for **London ArtLyst** and **White Hot**. She co-curated a group show Art Am 3 in Soncino, Italy with her husband, Luigi Cazzaniga.

Alan Semerdjian

Writer, musician, and educator Alan Semerdjian's poems and essays have appeared in print and online publications and anthologies including **Adbusters**, **Diagram**, and **Brooklyn Rail**. He released a chapbook of poems called **An Improvised Device (Lock n Load Press)** in 2005 and his first full-length book **In the Architecture of Bone (GenPop Books)** in 2009.

Brian Sheffield

Brian Sheffield is a poet from California living in Brooklyn and is pretty sure that he takes himself way too seriously. He is immature and talks about himself way too much. He has taught in various public school and university classrooms and has been published a few anthologies, journals, and zines. Oh yeah, he also has chapbooks.

Susan Sherman

Susan Sherman: Most recent books are **Nirvana on Ninth Street**, short Fiction with photos by Colleen McKay and **An Afterward by Rona L. Holub** (Wings Press, Fall, 2014); **The Light that Puts an End to Dreams: New and Selected Poems** (Wings Press, 2012); **America's Child: A Woman's Journey through the Radical Sixties**, a memoir (Curbstone / Northwestern University Press, 2007). She has survived living and writing in the East Village / Lower East Side for over fifty years.

Dan Shot

Dan Shot lives in Hoboken. He is doomed to write prosaic poetry and poetic prose. He very much agrees with Ralph Ellison that "life is to be lived, not controlled, and humanity is won by continuing to play in face of certain defeat."

Joanna Sit

Joanna Sit was born in China and grew up in on the Lower East Side. She is the author of two books of poetry: **My Last Century** and **In Thailand with the Apostles**, and she is working on an oral history about Cantonese Opera and New York Chinese immigrants.

Alice B. Talkless

Alice B. Talkless is Ronna Lebo, a poet, musician and painter who has performed in the NY scene for over twenty years. She is co-founder of **Black Square Editions**, a non-profit press for poetry and art. She is also co-founder of Reservoir Art Space in Ridgewood, Queens, which includes private studios and an experimental gallery for visual arts.

J. M. Theisen de González

JM Theisen de González received her first rejection letter at age 9 from **Reader's Digest** when her proud Gramps submitted a homework assignment about Lucky the hamster. Previous publications / venues: "The Curse", "Pink Pages", East Village Eye, "Waterfront Week" (columnist), "Estrellas", Knitting Factory, Nuyorican Cafe, McManus Cafe, Pussycat Lounge, Right Bank, Charleston; in Spain: La Llotja, Hotel Colón, Bar Babia.

Zev Torres

Zev Torres' poetry has appeared in numerous print and on-line publications including the previous **ANYDSWPE** anthologies and the 2010–2015 **Brownstone Poets Anthologies**. In addition to featuring at poetry readings throughout New York, Zev hosts the Skewered Syntax Poetry Crawls and Make Music New York's annual Spoken Word Spectacular.

Bruce Weber

Bruce Weber is the author of five published books of poetry, including **The Break-up of My First Marriage (Rogue Scholars Press)**, and is the producer of the long running Alternative New Year's Day Spoken Word / Performance Extravaganza. By day, Bruce is Curator of **Paintings & Sculpture** at the Museum of the City of New York.

Jeffrey Cyphers Wright

Jeffrey Cyphers Wright is a poet, artist, critic, eco-activist, and impresario. He also edits and publishes **Live Mag!** His 13th book is a manifesto titled **Party Everywhere**. Wright's poem "Staggering Love" originally appeared in New Verse News.

Anton Yakovlev

Anton Yakovlev, originally from Moscow, Russia, is the author of chapbooks **Neptune Court** and **The Ghost of Grant Wood**. He has also directed several short films.

Susan L. Yung

Domestic-violence; misogynist-hater; anti-racist; democratic-anarchist; ghettoe-girl; Chinatown-Harlem; East Village-West Village; homesteader-gentrifier; yuppie-squatter; homeless-sheltered; American-Asian; World-Traveller; Adventress-Common-Law-Wife; Photographer-Videographer; Martial-Fine-Artist; Musician-Drummer; Artist-Scientist; Geologist-Librarian; Mathematician-Designer; Collector-Exhibitionist; Buyer-Seller; Cook-Politician; Migrant-worker; Independent-Dependent; Pacifist-Activist.

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