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The Breakwater Book of Contemporary Newfoundland Poetry

Contributions by: Ken Babstock
Contributions by: Michael Crummey
Contributions by: Tom Dawe
Contributions by: Richard Greene
Contributions by: Carmelita McGrath
Contributions by: Al Pittman
Contributions by: Sue Sinclair
Contributions by: John Steffler
Contributions by: Agnes Walsh
Contributions by: Patrick Warner
Contributions by: Sue Sinclair
Contributions by: John Steffler
Contributions by: Enos Watts
Edited by: Mark Callanan
Edited by: James Langer

April 10, 2013
Active
$19.95 CAD

Gathering the strongest poetry published by Newfoundlanders since the death of E.J. Pratt in 1964, The Breakwater Book of Contemporary Newfoundland Poetry features selections from twelve of the province's most impressive poets, including Al Pittman, Tom Dawe, Mary Dalton, John Steffler, Patrick Warner, and Ken Babstock. This groundbreaking anthology, with over forty years of poetry on display, celebrates the rousing and the rebirth of contemporary Newfoundland verse.
Where Genesis Begins

By (author): Tom Dawe
By (artist): Gerald Squires

Winner of the Canadian Authors Association (CAA) Poetry Award

Where Genesis Begins is a collaboration of two of Newfoundland’s foremost artists: Tom Dawe, a profoundly visual poet, and Gerald Squires, a profoundly poetic painter. The book contains thirty-seven poems by Dawe, twenty-nine of which have not been published before, and seventy-one artworks by Squires. The book opens with an essay by Martina Seifert of Queen’s University in Belfast and closes with an afterword by poet, novelist, and essayist Stan Dragland of Newfoundland.

ABOUT THE CONTRIBUTORS

Born in Long Pond, Manuels, Conception Bay South, Tom Dawe has been a teacher, professor of English (Memorial University), visual artist, editor, writer and poet. His work includes poetry, fiction, dramatic script, folklore and children’s literature. His is also one of the founding members of Breakwater Books Ltd. and TickleAce magazine. Winner of many awards and honours in arts and letters, he was recently awarded honorary membership in the Writers’ Alliance of Newfoundland and Labrador and induction into Newfoundland and Labrador Arts Council Hall of Honour. His work has been studied in schools and colleges around the world.

Gerald Squires was born in Change Islands, Newfoundland, in 1937. He studied in schools and colleges around the world. Rewriting Newfoundland Mythology: The Works of Tom Dawe, a book by Martina Seifert, was published in Germany and Cambridge, Massachusetts in 2002.

Gerald Squires was born in Change Islands, Newfoundland, in 1937. He obtained much of his early training in art in Toronto, where his mother, a Salvation Army officer, was stationed when Squires was twelve. In 1969 he returned to live in Newfoundland with his wife Gail and daughters Meranda and Esther, settling in 1971 at the Ferryland lighthouse residence and then moving to Holyrood in 1983. Squires received the Newfoundland and Labrador Arts Council’s Ted Drover Award for Achievement in the Visual Arts in 1984 and an Honorary Doctorate from Memorial University in 1992. In 1999 he was elected to the Royal Canadian Academy of Art and was also appointed Member of the Order of Canada. He received the Golden Jubilee Award from Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth in 2003, and in 2008 he was inducted into the Newfoundland and Labrador Arts Council’s Arts Hall of Honour. Major exhibitions have traveled across Canada, and his works have been included in more than 300 group exhibitions in Newfoundland, Canada, the United States, Great Britain, France and India.
Soak

By (author): Kerri Cull

This collection focuses on physical experience and contemplates the beauty of everyday life – the objects, the stories, and the people that drift in and out. It finds the extraordinary in the ordinary.

ABOUT THE CONTRIBUTOR

Kerri Cull is from the small mill town of Corner Brook on the West Coast of Newfoundland. She has been a bartender, bookseller, waitress, administrator, radio show host, columnist, instructor, and is the creator of The Book Fridge. She currently lives in Labrador.

Other Formats

9781550813890 E-book, EPUB, $13.99 CAD

Supply Detail

Distributor: Breakwater Books
Availability: Available
Carton Quantity: 150
$15.95 CAD
The Last Will and Testament of Jon Martinez de Larrume

By (author): Antony Christie

The Last Will and Testament of Jon Martinez de Larrume explores Labrador South and the people who were drawn to its resources and wild beauty from the 1500s to the present day. From one of the first wills written in Canada, the collection moves to a recreation of voices from the 1893 journal of photographer Eliot Curwen combined with a description of the Straits coast today, before the main voice becomes that of Jon Martinez himself, a Basque adventurer from Orio in Spain who died at Red Bay in June 1577. The central section of twenty-five linked poems explores his state of mind during the voyage to Labrador and a hard overwintering, focussing on his changing attitudes towards his ambition, his desire for wealth, his religion and his wife Ana and daughter Marie who wait for his return.
An Island in the Sky
Al Pittman's Selected Poetry

By (author): Al Pittman

This compilation from one of Canada's most acclaimed writers spans four decades and six volumes. Often bittersweet and occasionally enigmatic, these poems represent Pittman's infinite talent. Targeted at a wide circle of readers, this book gives poetry back to the people, where it truly belongs.

ABOUT THE CONTRIBUTOR

Al Pittman's writing has been featured in many publications and has been the subject of radio, television and film documentaries. He has given public readings of his work in Canada, the United States and Europe. Among his many literary awards is the Arts Council's Lydia Campbell Award for Creative Writing in 1985, which Pittman was the first to receive, and the Writers' Alliance of Newfoundland and Labrador Book Award for Poetry in 2001. Al Pittman was inducted into the Newfoundland and Labrador Arts Council Hall of Honour in 1999. Al Pittman died in August of 2001 at the age of sixty-one.
Thirsty for Sixty

By (author): Al Pittman

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Dancing in Limbo

By (author): Al Pittman

Jul 01, 1993
Active
$9.95 CAD

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Allowing the Light

By (author): Mary Dalton

The word allow has roots in the Latin verb laudare, to praise. These poems seek to allow the music of that which is muted in a world of bellowing. In Section I light plays on the veined ways of vegetation, of poetry, of eros. Section II illuminates states of alienation and longing. The fierce light of Swift bu s in Section IV; these poems lament Newfoundland’s losses and celebrate its landscape, language, and culture.

ABOUT THE CONTRIBUTOR

Mary Dalton was born in Lake View, in the parish of Harbour Main, in Conception Bay. She has studied at the University of Toronto, Memorial University of Newfoundland and the University of Liverpool. She now lives in St. John’s and teaches in the Department of English at Memorial University of Newfoundland. She was editor and co-publisher of the Newfoundland literary magazine TickleAce from 1980-1986. Her first volume of poems, The Time of Icicles, was published by Breakwater in 1989.
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ABOUT THE CONTRIBUTOR

Nick Avis was born in England, moved to Newfoundland in 1971 and currently lives in St. John's, where he practices law. He has degrees in both law and physics. He is the author of a handbook called Know Your Rights In The Marketplace and co-authored a handbook on inmates' rights. He has given seminars on poetry at conferences in Quebec, Ontario, California, and New York.
Republic of Solitude

By (author): Richard Greene

Richard Greene’s poetry examines a wide range of subjects: politics, spirituality, marriage, fatherhood, landscapes, the environment, Newfoundland culture, war, mortality, and the afterlife. His poetry has been widely admired for its unusual combination of technical competence and visionary intensity. One of the main conce s of this volume is the political and religious implications of a profound sense of place.

ABOUT THE CONTRIBUTOR

Richard Greene was born in St. John’s, Newfoundland, in 1961. He was educated at Memorial University of Newfoundland, where he was granted an Honors BA in English in 1983, and at Oxford University, where he took a Doctorate in 1990. His first book, a scholarly work on the eighteenth-century poet Mary Leapor, was published by the Oxford University Press in 1993. He currently teaches English at Memorial University. He was married to Dierdre Green in 1981, and they have two children, Sarah and Samuel.
Timely Departures

By (author): Randall Maggs

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ABOUT THE CONTRIBUTOR

Born in Vancouver, Randall Maggs has since made a steady migration eastward. For the last few years, he has lived with his family in Corner Brook where he teaches literature at Grenfell College, writes, turns and carves local hardwoods and happily prowls the hills, bowls and trails of spectacular Western Newfoundland.
I Moved All My Women Upstairs

By (author): Roberta Buchanan

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ABOUT THE CONTRIBUTOR

Roberta Buchanan was born in South Africa, educated in England, and immigrated to Canada in 1964. She lives in St. John's, Newfoundland, and teaches women's studies and English literature at Memorial University. She is actively involved in the local feminist community and in various writers' groups, including the Writer's Alliance of Newfoundland and Labrador, and the Newfoundland Writer's Guild.
Landscapes of Time

By (author): Alastair Macdonald

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ABOUT THE CONTRIBUTOR

Alastair Macdonald was born and educated in the United Kingdom. He received degrees from Aberdeen University, Christ Church, Oxford, and the Victoria University of Manchester. From 1955 to 1987 he was a member of the English Department of Memorial University of Newfoundland where he was a Professor Emeritus. His poems have been included in numerous anthologies and magazines. He was a member of the Writer's Alliance of Newfoundland and Labrador, the League of Canadian Poets, and the Scottish Poetry Library Association.
Voices of the Young
A Selection of Student Poetry 1993 Edition

By (author): Breakwater Books Ltd.

The Newfoundland Poetry Series was begun in 1993 as Breakwater's twentieth anniversary project to honour and preserve the literary talents of our Newfoundland and Labrador poets. Selection is based on quality. Breakwater's aim is to make the series affordable to as many lovers of poetry as possible.
Talking to Ghosts

By (author): Philip Gardner

Talking to Ghosts is Philip Gardner’s fourth volume of poetry, and his second to be published in Newfoundland, where he has taught for nearly thirty years. The poems it includes are selected from a much larger number written over the last decade. Many have been published in magazines and anthologies; others make their first appearance here. Written in a wide range of forms, they refer to many places lived in and visited, address a variety of people, living and dead, and reflect the inevitable passage of time.

ABOUT THE CONTRIBUTOR

Phillip Gardner was born in Liverpool in 1936. He studied English Literature at King's College, Cambridge, and after four years of teaching in Japan came to Newfoundland in 1964, where he joined the English department at Memorial University.
In Hardy Country

By (author): Tom Dawe

Poems carefully selected from earlier books that are now out of print, from journals, anthologies and magazines around the world form the body of an enticing, wide-ranging collection.

ABOUT THE CONTRIBUTOR

Born in Long Pond, Manuels, Conception Bay South, Tom Dawe has been a teacher, professor of English (Memorial University), visual artist, editor, writer and poet. His work includes poetry, fiction, dramatic script, folklore and children’s literature. His is also one of the founding members of Breakwater Books Ltd. and TickleAce magazine.
The Time of Icicles

By (author): Mary Dalton

A collection of lyric pieces, The Time of Icicles is anchored in the author's experience of Newfoundland, but these poems are of a continent, a century. An underlying preoccupation of the volume is with states of struggle—of people, cultures, vegetation, of language itself. Moving from moods of sly irony to haunting sadness, this music of dissolution in one sense sabotages its own cry, for it affirms, in its wide-ranging allusiveness and its suppleness of line, the joy of wordmusic. Out of the wreck of contemporary existence what can be salvaged? An undaunted looking, a saying, a singing. Singing become act.

ABOUT THE CONTRIBUTOR

Mary Dalton was born in Lake View, in the parish of Harbour Main, in Conception Bay. She has studied at the University of Toronto, Memorial University of Newfoundland and the University of Liverpool. She now lives in St. John’s and teaches in the Department of English at Memorial University of Newfoundland. She was editor and co-publisher of the Newfoundland literary magazine TickleAce from 1980-1986. Her first volume of poems, The Time of Icicles, was published by Breakwater in 1989.
A Painter’s Poems

By (author): Christopher Pratt

A Painter’s Poems comprises poetry that Pratt has written over the past 50 years, echoing his career as a painter. They are autobiographical — “pages from a diary.” They respond to encounters with people, places, and events that have had particular significance and impact on his working life. My poetry is a personal exorcism; I am aware that exorcism is not always ‘art’. It is a self-portrait, random pages from a ‘diary’ in code, and portraits of others, friends, anonymous, given the protection of pronouns. I use simple language: some poetry glitters and illuminates like a foyer chandelier; I think mine as a single light bulb in a porch. Christopher Pratt 1999

ABOUT THE CONTRIBUTOR

Christopher Pratt is one of Canada’s most prominent painters and printmakers. Throughout his career, he has received many honours, including being named a Companion of the Order of Canada and receiving several honorary doctoral degrees. Pratt also designed the provincial flag of Newfoundland and Labrador, and has work included in major collections, both public and private, throughout Canada and other parts of the world. Retrospectives of his work have been organized by the Vancouver Art Gallery in 1985, and again in 2005 by the National Gallery of Canada. He continues, since 1963, to live and work in his studio in St. Mary’s Bay.
The poems selected for this book were gathered from a larger collection that remains on paper napkins, Air Canada puke bags, restaurant menus, hotel stationery and the like. Some of my critics might quip— and perhaps justifiably—that it might have been better if they were left there. I make no claim to be a poet. I am simply driven by some inherent passion to pen words to paper especially when I’m travelling on long trips. My words tumble out on whatever is at hand and generally stay in the state they were created.

ABOUT THE CONTRIBUTOR

Clyde Rose was born on Fox Island on the southwest coast of Newfoundland. He attended school in Burgeo following which he studied at Memorial University where he later became an assistant professor in the English Department. He has worked as a teacher, a naval diving officer, lecturer with the Commonwealth Institute in the U.K. and a book and software publisher.
A Figure on the Move

By (author): Alastair Macdonald

Human movement in space and time, and a conce with the substance of reality and being are the pervasive themes in this book. The central poem, Isola Bella, develops this motif as Macdonald's personal response to Newfoundland. Illustrated with black and white line drawings by the author.

ABOUT THE CONTRIBUTOR

Alastair Macdonald was born and educated in the United Kingdom. He received degrees from Aberdeen University, Christ Church, Oxford, and the Victoria University of Manchester. From 1955 to 1987 he was a member of the English Department of Memorial University of Newfoundland where he was a Professor Emeritus. His poems have been included in numerous anthologies and magazines. He was a member of the Writer’s Alliance of Newfoundland and Labrador, the League of Canadian Poets, and the Scottish Poetry Library Association.
If More Winters or this the Last

By (author): Alastair Macdonald

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Dec 29, 2003
Active
$16.95 CAD

The Cyclic Variations
Alastair Macdonald
$16.95 CAD
May 01, 2007
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Around the Red Land

By (author): Larry Small

Poems that span the gamut of life from love to death; a eulogy for a people who, for the most part, are no longer with us. Full of knowledge, self-sufficiency, independence, pride and dignity: one could easily argue that this collection is a portrayal of the tyranny of progress, the displacement of people, the destruction of community or part of the natural progression of human history. Either way, one cannot help being affected by their demise and the transformation of people and place into a form of human madness. A lament for ordinary people who were the most extraordinary men and women whom I was fortunate enough to have known. It behoves us never to forget them.

ABOUT THE CONTRIBUTOR

Larry Small was born on Twillingate Island and grew up in Moreton’s Harbour, the home of his ancestors for two centuries. He did an M. A. in Folklore at Memorial University and a Ph. D. in Folklore and Anthropology at the University of Pennsylvania, after which he taught at Memorial University until his retirement.

Supply Detail

Distributor: 701216
Availability: In stock
Carton Quantity: 144
$14.95 CAD
Tracing One Warm Line
Poetry of Canada

By (author): Elisabeth Mouland

Tracing One Warm Line traces the poetry of Canadians through time, from the aboriginal voices through to high school and university students. It reflects rural and urban Canada, as well as established, new, and immigrant voices which express universal themes such as love and hate, humanity vs. nature, hopes and dreams, growing up and growing old.
Come By Chance

a collection of poems

By (author): Carl Leggo

Come-By-Chance is a collection of poems, often narrative, sometimes lyrical, always ruminative, about home, family, and place, about leaving and returning, about growing up and growing old, about leaving Newfoundland to live in British Columbia, and returning to Newfoundland often because it is always the place that breathes poetry in the heart and imagination.

ABOUT THE CONTRIBUTOR

Carl Leggo is a poet and professor in the Department of Language and Literacy Education at the University of British Columbia where he teaches courses in writing and narrative research. His degrees include: BA, BEd (Memorial University of Newfoundland); Certificate in Biblical Studies (Tyndale Seminary); MA, MEd (University of New Brunswick); PhD (University of Alberta). His poetry and fiction and scholarly essays have been published in many journals in North America and around the world. He is the author of two collections of poems, titled Growing Up Perpendicular on the Side of a Hill and View from My Mother’s House (both published by Killick Press, St. John’s), as well as a book about reading and teaching poetry, titled Teaching to Wonder: Responding to Poetry in the Secondary Classroom (Pacific Educational Press, Vancouver). After more than sixteen years on the Pacific coast of Canada, he still longs for the Atlantic coast, and Newfoundland which will always be home.
The Birth and Burial Grounds

By (author): Boyd Chubbs

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ABOUT THE CONTRIBUTOR

Boyd Warren Chubbs was born in L'Anse Au Clair, Labrador. His poetry and music have been broadcast and featured on both regional and national CBC Radio and Television. He has received numerous private and public commissions for drawings and illuminations. From 1987 to 1990 Boyd was Poet-in-Residence at the former Nova Scotia Teacher's College in Truro. His previous books of poems include Lines from the Migrant Coast (Mokoshan, 1989), Through Solomon's Lane (Mokoshan, 1991), Poems from the Burntwoods (Creative Publishing, 1995), And You, Blessed Healer (Breakwater Books, 1996) and The Birth and Burial Grounds (Breakwater Books, 1999). Boyd Chubbs lives in St. John's.
The Winter of Remarkable Oranges

By (author): Boyd Chubbs

This localised interpretation of the Book of Job is rich with history, colour, and beauty. The lyrical poems are balanced with some of the finest drawings to ever come out of Newfoundland.

ABOUT THE CONTRIBUTOR

Boyd Warren Chubbs was born in L’Anse Au Clair, Labrador. His poetry and music have been broadcast and featured on both regional and national CBC Radio and Television. He has received numerous private and public commissions for drawings and illuminations. From 1987 to 1990 Boyd was Poet-in-Residence at the former Nova Scotia Teacher’s College in Truro. His previous books of poems include Lines from the Migrant Coast (Mokoshan, 1989), Through Solomon’s Lane (Mokoshan, 1991), Poems from the Burntwoods (Creative Publishing, 1995), And You, Blessed Healer (Breakwater Books, 1996) and The Birth and Burial Grounds (Breakwater Books, 1999). Boyd Chubbs lives in St. John’s.
The March Hare Anthology

Edited by: Adrian Fowler

The March Hare Anthology commemorates twenty years of one of Canada's most successful literary festivals. Blending local and international writers from Canada, Ireland, and the world with the cream of Newfoundland and Labrador's professional musicians, The March Hare is a unique celebration of words and music. This anthology contains the writing of authors including Al Pittman, Michael Ondaatje, Wayne Johnston, Lorna Crozier, Michael Crummey, Lisa Moore, John Ennis, Michael Winter, Bernard O'Donoghue, John Steffler, Paul Durcan, Joan Clark, Alistair MacLeod, and Bernice Morgan.

ABOUT THE CONTRIBUTOR

Adrian Fowler's work has appeared in various magazines and collections of Canadian writing. He was co-editor with Al Pittman of the poetry anthology 31 Newfoundland Poets, published in 1979. He lives in Corner Brook, Newfoundland, where he teaches English at Sir Wilfred Grenfell College.