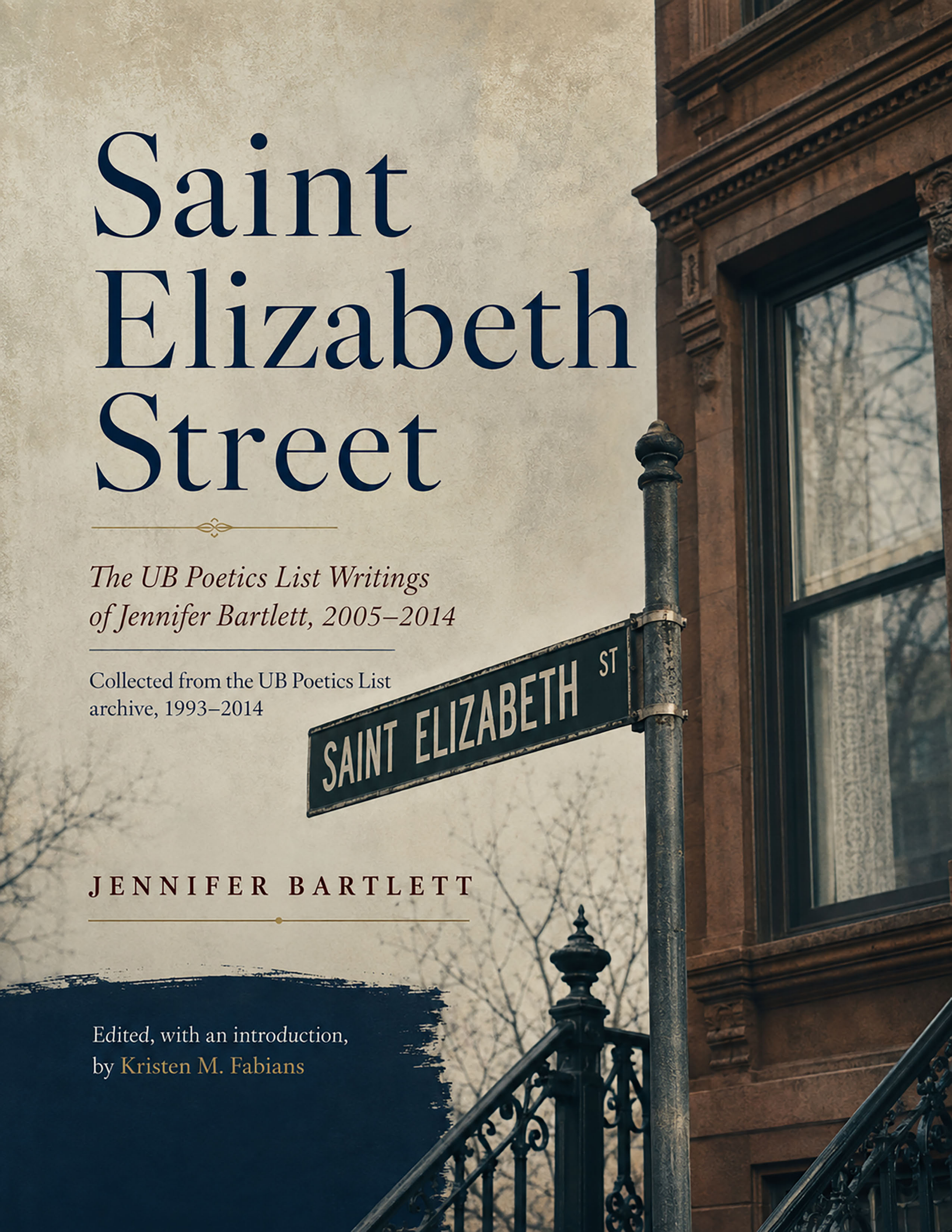


Saint Elizabeth Street



*The UB Poetics List Writings
of Jennifer Bartlett, 2005–2014*

Collected from the UB Poetics List
archive, 1993–2014

SAINT ELIZABETH ST

JENNIFER BARTLETT

Edited, with an introduction,
by **Kristen M. Fabians**

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The UB Poetics List Writings of Jennifer Bartlett, 2005–2014

Collected from the UB Poetics List archive, 1993–2014

The UB Poetics List was, for two decades, a mailing list where poets argued, mourned, gossiped, and thought out loud together. Jennifer Bartlett — poet, editor of the magazine Saint Elizabeth Street, and one of the room's clearest voices for a poetics of disability — wrote there from 2005 until the list closed in 2014. Her posts are reproduced whole, each under a short editorial note. The notices she sent for her magazine are gathered apart, and everything else is kept in a catalogue at the end, so that nothing she wrote is lost and nothing she sent is hidden.

Edited, with an introduction, by Kristen M. Fabians

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Introduction

A Disability Poetics, Filed from Brooklyn

Jennifer Bartlett came to the UB Poetics List late — the winter of 2005, when the room was already a decade old — and she came, characteristically, on an errand: she had a magazine to sell. It was called *Saint Elizabeth Street*, and she ran it out of Brooklyn on nine dollars a year, and the name catches, whether she meant it to or not, the hospital where Ezra Pound spent his twelve committed years. That doubleness is the whole of her: a working editor with a subscription list and a stamp budget, and, underneath, a poet who had thought hard about who gets shut away, who gets read, and who decides.

The magazine came first, and half her presence on the list is its bulletins — the new issue, the last call for submissions, the blog just updated, the back numbers still for sale. She published Edwin Torres and Bill Kushner and Nathaniel Tarn and Andrea Baker; she asked, tirelessly, for help and for readers and for a teaching job and once for a Brooklyn sublet. I have gathered those notices apart, at the back, because they are the sound of a small press kept alive by one person's labour, and they deserve to be seen for what they were rather than skipped as clutter.

But the cause that made her unmistakable was disability. Bartlett wrote as a poet with a disability and as the movement's fiercest list-room advocate, and her argument never varied: that of all the categories poetry had learned to worry over, disability was the one it still declined to see. In 2011, with Sheila Black and Michael Northen, she published *Beauty Is a Verb: The New Disability Poets* — the anthology that gave “crip poetics” a shelf of its own — and when the poetry world convulsed that same season over Rita Dove's Penguin anthology and Helen Vendler's attack on it, Bartlett watched the noise with a plain, unanswerable dismay: everyone was counting by race and gender, and no one had noticed that the disabled poets were simply not in the book at all.

She could be blunt about the cost of it. “I've suffered a life of discrimination in all areas,” she wrote in 2007 — “work, lovers, children, every getting an apartment” — and she said it not for sympathy but as evidence, the way an organizer reads out a figure. She spelled the way she spoke, quickly and without apology, and I have left every word of it as she typed it; to tidy her would be to concede exactly the polish the world uses to keep such voices at the edge of the room.

Behind the advocate was a scholar of one poet above all: Larry Eigner, the great cerebral-palsied poet of the single room and the two typing fingers, whose life she was at work on to the end. And behind the scholar was a literary childhood — she is the daughter of the critic Lee Bartlett, William Everson's biographer, and she could drop, mid-thread, the memory of visiting Everson as a teenager at Kingfisher Flat in the Santa Cruz mountains, the old poet already deep in Parkinson's. Poetry, for her, was never quite separable from the bodies that made it.

She liked a fight, and she knew it. She had once called out the poet Paul Guest for letting John Ashbery describe him as an “invalid” in a blurb, and “all hell broke loose,” she reported, unrepentant. By 2011 she was trying to reform: “that was the old Jennifer,” she wrote, “& the new Jennifer wants to be heard without causing too much anger” — Bob Grenier having told her, gently, that “fighting is for young people.” The reader will watch her keep the resolution about as well as anyone ever keeps that one.

Her posting falls into two seasons with a long silence between. The first, 2005 through 2007, is the magazine at full tilt. Then she goes quiet for the years she was making the anthology and the life of Eigner — and returns in 2011 as the advocate in full, the private editor turned public conscience. It is a smaller body of work than some in this series, and I have not padded it; a short book is the honest shape of a voice that came, said exactly what it meant, and did not waste the room's time.

She was there at the end. When Charles Bernstein closed the list in January of 2014, after twenty-one years, Bartlett was among the last to keep talking — and, of all people, she spoke up for the moderation the others were blaming, having been on the receiving end of what an unguarded room can do. The farewell tangled, as farewells do, into one more argument, hers with Murat Nemet-Nejat, run out over several days as the lights went down; and then, the room all but dark, she let it go and turned neighbourly — a poem, a few links to where her work lived, a shared friend in Fanny Howe, and the hope that he had finally read her book.

I have kept her farewell exactly where it fell, argument and poem and courtesy all in their order, because that is how she left: still making the case, and then, mid-sentence almost, deciding that the case had been made and it was time to go and do the work instead. The magazine is folded now and the list is dark, but Saint Elizabeth Street is still, in these pages, open for business — nine dollars a year,

submissions after the fifteenth, everyone welcome who is willing to notice who has been left outside.

— Kristen M. Fabians

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2006

NEGLECTORINO PROJECT

01 Feb 2006

The Neglectorino Project — a crowdsourced blog roll of poets the age had let slip — was going the rounds of the list, and Bartlett answered with the West-Coast names she would spend a career reclaiming: her father's Everson, her beloved Eigner, Niedecker, Palmer.

I definitely agree with the poet who brought up Muriel Rukeyser. Rukeyser was a great thinker, and a great political and lyrical poet. I have only heard ONE person in all my years mention her name - I think it was Claudia Rankine. I have NEVER heard anyone mention the great, seminal poet Bill Everson/Brother Antonious who was so popular in the 70's in the Bay Area. My father wrote a biography on him. Also, Larry Eigner and Lorraine Niedecker. All these poets have published WIDELY and are largely ignored.

I think a real problem in the poetry community is the division between East and West Coast. Here (I'm in NYC) we hear a lot about Berrigan, Ashbury, Graham, Bernstein, and so on. All of these are GREAT GREAT poets - but why don't we ever hear about those mentioned above and MICHAEL PALMER, who is probably one of the greatest living poets!

Jennifer Bartlett

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Palmer ect.

01 Feb 2006

Michael Tod Edgerton had picked up the Palmer talk and carried it over to Rosmarie Waldrop; Bartlett answers him mid-enthusiasm, dad's Everson biography still on the tip of her tongue.

I love Waldrop too - and her husband Keith. Burning Deck was/is a great press. Can't find the name of my dad's bio on Everson right quick but dad's name is Lee Bartlett & I think it's published by New Directions. I still think Palmer rarely gets any press - he was mentioned briefly in the Times by Joshua Clover (another good poet) but that's it.

Jen

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Rukeyser & Palmer

03 Feb 2006

Maria Damon had gently doubted the premise, finding both poets respected enough; Bartlett, insisting she'd meant no scandal, returns to the coastal grievance underneath it all.

Oh my God! I didn't mean to start a scandal because I said Palmer was neglected! Palmer was in the second half of my post - not necessarily about neglected poets, but about East Coast versus West Coast. My point is that the East Coast literati is dismissive of all others. IE How much do we hear about Berrigan and Ashbury! (both great poets) but not Palmer, Everson, Cole, even Duncan. But, this is just my perspective from living in NYC. The great thing about the listserv is that people are reading from everywhere and can give a different perspective.

I stand by my conviction of Murial Rukeyser as a widely published, then forgotten poet. MR published in the 1930-1974 when she died. I discovered her via a gift from my father in 1994 - the MR reader published by Norton. I wrote my grad thesis on her. In 1994, this was the only book she had in print, and it was a few years later that people got interested. Life of Poetry was FINALLY re-issued in 1996, and very difficult to find. 12 years later, her collected came out. I'm paranoid, and argued that she was pushed aside (for almost 20 years) because she was a commie.

Is she "neglected" like Ashbury's John Wheelwright? Obviously not. But in a certain context, yes.

Jennifer B.

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Mark Rothko

14 Mar 2006

The room was after a good biography to read; the daughter of a biographer had one ready.

My favorite biography of all time is the one about Mark Rothko which explains in detail the birth of many New York museums.

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Poetry, O'Hara, and Flushing Meadows Park

14 Mar 2006

One of her queries into the room, angling for the New York School to have loved Queens the way she does.

Can anyone suggest a poem/poems which talk in any way about the old NY world fairgrounds in Queens, NY. Surely someone in the New York School might have written about it.

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Charles Bernstein

25 Sep 2006

A quick call into the room for a backchannel address, signed with the magazine.

For the life of me - I can't find Mr. Bernstein's email address... Will someone backchannel?

Jennifer Bartlett, SES

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Jen Benka Review

19 Oct 2006

A bulletin from Saint Elizabeth Street, the blog-magazine she ran out of Brooklyn on next to nothing, steering readers to her Benka review with the midterms in view.

I just completed a review of a box full of longing with fifty drawers by Jen Benka.

An important book with the coming elections!

It's on my blog @ www.saintelizabethstreet.com click on liz blog. Due to the fact that I cannot control my blog-world - the post is dated 10/3/06.

Jennifer

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Looking for two things!

21 Oct 2006

The poet's economy laid bare — an apartment wanted and a class or two to teach — put to the only network she had.

I am looking for a reasonably priced studio or 1 bedroom in Brooklyn.

Also, a college/University/community college in NYC that needs a teacher for just 1 or 2 101 classes.

Ideas - Back channel

Jennifer

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What are you reading?

10 Nov 2006

Another canvass for the blog, the bedside-reading feature she kept going at Saint Elizabeth Street.

I'm looking for more bedside reports for my blog www.saintelizabethstreet.com

What's on your bedside table?

Backchannl.

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SES

27 Dec 2006

From the desk of Saint Elizabeth Street, notice of a new serial: her years in the city's schools, told with the gloves off.

Excuse the shameless self-promotion. I've started writing a short history of my life as a New York City Dept. of Ed. Teacher on saintelizabethstreet.blogspot.com

It's pretty scandalous! JB

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2007

Homophobia...

30 Jan 2007

The list was deep in a bruising thread over homophobia as the last unchecked bigotry, and Bartlett rose to enter the case she would make for the rest of her life — that disability is the civil-rights category poetry keeps forgetting.

I'm sorry...I have to weigh in here. I believe that disabled people are the most shunned in society. They are excluded from the media, and retinely referred to in unacceptable language. Unemployment is near 70% because it is so darn hard to get a job. I've suffered a life of discrimination in all areas: work, lovers, children, every getting an apartment!!!!!!!!!! And there is no "affirmative action" for PWD.

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BugHoose

13 Feb 2007

A tracer sent out for the editors of Bughouse, a small Southwestern magazine of the mid-nineties long gone quiet.

Does anyone know how to reach Doug Blumhardt, Eric Peterson, or Noah Stroehle? These were editors of a AZ/NM magazine called Bughouse in the mid-1990's. Please backchannel!

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Derivative of the Moving Image

23 Apr 2007

The announcement she'd waited years on — her first book, from the University of New Mexico Press, still half a year from print.

I'm so thrilled to announce my first book, *Derivative of the Moving Image*, from the University of New Mexico Press. The book is in the catalog on their website at <http://www.unmpress.com/pdf/F07catalog.pdf>

on page 32. It won't be out until Sept or Oct, but it can be ordered now. If anyone wants a review copy, let me know! I hope I don't sound like a cad spilling the beans all over...I've just been working so long!

Jennifer

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Brooklyn Reading

10 May 2007

A reading notice forwarded into the stream — Nicole Steinberg's EARSHOT bill in Williamsburg, Bartlett's name among the readers with her book still forthcoming.

Friends of EARSHOT, Don't miss out on the next installment of EARSHOT! Please join us on Friday, May 11th at 8 PM for a dose of literary goodness!

Our featured readers are Mónica de la Torre, author of the new poetry collection, *Talk Shows*, and poet Jennifer Bartlett, author of the forthcoming *Derivative of the Moving Image*. They'll be joined by three talented MFA students and copies of Mónica's book will be on sale. As always, it's only five bucks, which gets you a free drink! Join us!

Your pal, Nicole Steinberg

EARSHOT!

Join us for the next installment of EARSHOT at The Lucky Cat, located in Williamsburg, Brooklyn! EARSHOT is a bi-monthly reading series, dedicated to featuring new and emerging literary talent in the NYC area.

Friday, May 11th, 2007 at 8 PM Hosted by Nicole Steinberg

Featuring: Mónica de la Torre (author of *Talk Shows*) Jennifer Bartlett (author of the forthcoming *Derivative of the Moving Image*) Ari Baniyas (Hunter College) Gregory Crosby (City College) Denise Burrell-Stinson (Columbia University)

Admission is a mere \$5 plus one free drink (beer, wine or well drinks only)! The Lucky Cat is located at 245 Grand Street in Brooklyn, between Driggs and Roebling. Visit their website for directions: <http://www.theluckycat.com>.

Also visit <http://www.earshotnyc.com> for more information on Earshot or e-mail Nicole Steinberg at [REDACTED].

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Derivative of the Moving Image

12 Sep 2007

The book landed at last, and here she gathers the room to Greenpoint to toast it.

After years of toil, the University of New Mexico Press is releasing my first book, *Derivative of the Moving Image*. It will be out around October 5th and can be pre-ordered through Amazon or the Press <http://www.unmpress.com/Book.php?id=11519572582983> (Yeah!)

Please, if you are in NY. come to a book party in Greenpoint, Brooklyn. There will be wine, beer, and fabulous company!

Nov. 9th 7-9 PM Word 126 Franklin Street Brooklyn, NY 11222 [REDACTED]
www.wordbrooklyn.com

Jennifer Bartlett

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2011

Mary Rising Higgins EPC Page

25 Nov 2011

Mary Rising Higgins — the Albuquerque poet of tidal, parenthetical page-scores — had recently died, and Bartlett, refusing to let the work slip out of print, turns the list into a scanning-and-permissions crew to build her a page at the Electronic Poetry Center.

Hi. It's Jennifer,

I have begun to compile an EPC page for the poet Mary Rising Higgins. I am looking for assistance with the project. Our plan is make PDFs of all her books. I need help with a few things: 1. I need most of the books and/or I need help scanning the books. Would anyone like to take a few hours to scan their copies of Mary's books? Would anyone be able to loan/sell me the books? The ones I need are below. 2. I need permission from all of Mary's publishers - so if you published Mary - please write me. 3. Anyone with any other documents of interest, please email me. I have a cd of Mary reading with Gene and a few other folks at the Harwood Center in Abq -Mary also used to handmade little Christmas chapbooks, so if any one has those? Below is the list of books -

Anyone who will help (or has a student who will help) will be grandly karmically rewarded.

Mary was/is a very special poet & we don't want folks to forget her.

**

Greatest Hits

0 Clock

)cliff tides((

)Joule Tides *Queen Anne's Lace: poem*

exchange values interview

borderlining - pieces from r to b

* *

Jennifer Bartlett

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Dove, Vendler, Beauty is a Verb

05 Dec 2011

The poetry world was consumed by Rita Dove's Penguin anthology and Helen Vendler's attack on it; Bartlett, fresh from co-editing Beauty Is a Verb with Sheila Black and Michael Northen, had a different exclusion in mind. This is the core statement of her cause — disability as the civil-rights category poetry still declines to see — and a reckoning with what it once cost her to press it, the Paul Guest quarrel and Bob Grenier's counsel that fighting is for the young.

Hi All,

I have been following the news on Vendler/Dove with a personal dismay. What is nagging at me is that a relatively mainstream anthology is causing such a stir. A few months ago Sheila Black, Michael Northen, and I published *Beauty is a Verb: The New Disability Poets* & although we got great reviews from some of my favorite poets, the controversy of the book has been very nonexistent. My argument isn't that there are real racial and gender problems that need to be solved. My point is that the arguments about race and gender are so loud that the civil rights of people with disabilities are consistently ignored. And the problems of this minority remain so severe in comparison to other groups.

First, looking at the Dove anthology itself what interests me is the still glaring lack of attention paid to poets/people with disabilities as a multicultural group. In what appears to be the ultimate inclusive collection Larry Eigner, Vassar Miller, Josephine Miles, Jim Ferris, Paul Guest are all absent and there is no mention of Crip Poetics. The only poet in the collection who *might* identify as 'disabled' is Duncan, and I'm guessing the Duncan poems don't address his vision/vision which was arguably central to his work.

I do think that an anthology, such as ours, which for starters is an entirely new phenomenon calls for a little attention. Beauty is a Verb discusses how aphasia is a link to experimental language (Cole), addresses 'crip poetics' which most people have never heard of (Kuppers), speaks to the linguistic complexity of translating English to ASL (Clark), and most of all addresses the disabled body as something that is okay, even sexy and a worthwhile experience.

I wonder if speaking about disability is still a thing that makes people nervous, and they feel afraid of having a voice. Although there is plenty of discussion regarding race from white people, and unlike skin color, most of the able-bodied will have some disability in their lifetime. More importantly, it seems that people still dismiss disability as a category/identity and one that is privileged to the most simple rights like getting into the store or having a job, for gosh sake - not to mention being in the Penguin anthology.

It also seems true that in the poetry world you have to insult someone directly or indirectly to get attention - which I did a few years ago when I called out Paul Guest for allowing John Ashbery to call him an invalid in his blurb. All hell broke loose & evidently the right to call a person an invalid is something people of which are very attached to.

But that was the old Jennifer & the new Jennifer wants to be heard without causing too much anger. & Bob Grenier told me 'fighting is for young people.' Perhaps Rita & Helen need Bobly's phone number!

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2012

Eigner questions

19 Apr 2012

The Eigner biography was underway, and its research kept running aground on the vanished small-press world of the 1960s and '70s; here Bartlett works the list as a switchboard for its missing names.

Hi everyone,

If anyone knows... I'm trying to reach Robert Wilson (of the Phoenix bookshop) does anyone have a contact for him? Also, does anyone know who Vance Morgan is and whether he is alive? He is a person who Eigner corresponded with in the 80's and I can't figure out who he is. Also, if anyone wants to publish an excerpt of a Larry Eigner biography-please backchannel me. (I'm telling you, it's pretty engaging!)

Love, Jennifer

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Horace Schwartz

02 May 2012

A quick call for anyone who remembers Horace Schwartz, the Bay Area small-press editor of the Rexroth-bookstore orbit — another figure from the mid-century poetry economy Bartlett was forever piecing back together.

Hi, If anyone knows a lot about Horace Schwartz (of the Rexroth Bookstore) and wants to chat about him, let me know!

Best, Jennifet

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Berstein on Stein

21 May 2012

Charles Bernstein had gathered a Jacket2 forum on Gertrude Stein's war years — her survival under Vichy, her friendship with the collaborator Bernard Fay, the notorious quotation — the same controversy then trailing the Stein exhibitions in New York and San Francisco; Bartlett had read the lot and come away with the hard questions still open.

Hi,

I love Charles project. I read nearly every article. What I did gather from all of it is that it is truth that Stein was friends with Bernard Fay, she translated text, and she and Alice moved during the war were they were protected by villagers who they knew and were loved by. No one has provided any information (but I'm a dense reader) as to whether Stein knew Fay's status, supported Hitler, or why she did the translation or if doing a translation makes her a sympathizer (has anyone read *Chronicles of the Guaki Indians/Auster* is not a cannibal to my knowledge). To me, and again, I might be silly. To say that the infamous quote means that she was pro-Hilter, grammatically would mean that she was utterly anti-Left and anti-democratic, was she? I know she was republican, but anti-democratic?

There are a few things that fascinate me.

1. That when the show was in San Francisco there was relatively no hoopla. I did find a few articles. But in New York is become a huge controversy and was in the Daily News and CBS. It really infiltrated into popular culture. It alarmed me tho that people all over were making a judgement of someone whose work and life they knew nothing about.

2. I do have to say that Stein's self-preservation make me think. Could I act the same? Could fear or self-importance lead me to sit in my house while Jewish children and gays and disabled people and their Catholic sympathizers where being burned in ovens?

3. Yesterday, Jeff & I went to the show to see what was up. The MET did change the sign in the show. They folded to their benefactors. However, the sign merely said something to the effect of Stein was friends with Fay who helped her during the war. In the Met's defense, they kept the issue both brief and factual. I also have to say that I was the BEST collection I've ever seen, and made me cry. I was not prepared for it to be so great. It closes in 2 weeks (I think) and everyone who can, should.

4. After seeing the companion show in San Fransisco, I formed the opinion (which I am still forming) that despite her writing and the great Mother of Us All. I cannot consider Stein a feminist. Here marriage was a patriarchy of the worst kind, she kept the company of largely men, and other than the Mother Of Us All, I can't see how her work advanced the plight of woman at all. Instead, to me, she was a strong brilliant woman (a genius really) who functioned within and perhaps even lauded the patriarchy. A super-great writer, yes. A feminist or kind person, not necessarily.

Jennifer

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Andrea Baker

18 Jul 2012

A small flag for OmniDawn, and for Andrea Baker — the poet Bartlett claimed, without hedging, as her best friend and favourite.

This OmniDawn has a collage piece by my best friend and favorite poet Andrea Baker.

Her work is truly magical.

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Re: Useful for professors of creative writing?

10 Aug 2012

The thread had turned on Jonathan Williams's out-of-print Jargon Society, and when Ruth Lepson asked where the books could still be found, Bartlett answered from the Eigner corner of her own shelf.

Ruth,

I haven't followed this thread,...but I have a least one Eigner Jargon and some Jargon Letters (tho I don't know if I'm allowed to show those)

JB

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2013

Re: Spicer query

27 Jan 2013

Someone had asked after Allen Joyce, the shadowy dedicatee of a Spicer poem; Bartlett placed him at once from the Ellingham-Killian life, Poet Be Like God.

I do! I do! He was what Kevin Killian and Lewis E, call in Spicer's bio a "more conventional boyfriend" Spicer met as he was a "fixture in Berthelon's Berkeley salon." I just glanced and haven't read it in year, but Allen is mentioned numerous times in "poet be like God" I Love that book! But it's a little hard to get and expensive (\$40). Jen

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Re: Jeffers and the Beats

10 Feb 2013

A query on Robinson Jeffers and the Beats drew Bartlett toward the poet she was raised near — William Everson, Brother Antoninus, subject of the biography written by her father, Lee Bartlett.

Hi All,

Bill (Everson)'s connection to Jeffers is described at length in my dad's biography "The Life of Brother Antoninus (written by Lee Bartlett). Although I have never hear Bill called a Beat Poet. He was very loosely associated with San Fran. Renaissance (although him and Duncan didn't get along too well, always). Jennifer

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Re: Jeffers and the Beats

10 Feb 2013

Her father's Everson scholarship was a family inheritance as much as a bibliography; the second half of the reply leaves the shelf for the Santa Cruz mountains and a teenage visit to Kingfisher Flat, the poet already stilled by Parkinson's.

My dad edited tons of Bill's stuff. The other one I have here is Naked Heart (that's essays by UNM Press) and the Veritable Years (which largely poetry). There is tons of other stuff but don't have in my mind...

I went to Bill's house as a teenager (it was called Kingfisher Flat) it was wonderful in the Santa Cruz mountains. Bill had pretty severe Parkinsons by then, but I was lucky to meet him (as an "adult).

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Please Come Support Robert Grenier

13 May 2013

Robert Grenier — whose late four-colour drawing-poems cross the line from writing into drawing — was given a retrospective a subway ride from Bartlett's Brooklyn; the same Bob Grenier who had told her fighting was for young people.

ROBERT GRENIER **"Language Objects: Letters in Space, 1970 - 2013"** * May 18 - June 30, 2013 Reception Sunday, 19 May 4-6 PM

May 18 - June 30, 2013 Reception for (& presentation by) the artist, Sunday, 19 May 4 - 6 PM

SOUTHFIRST is proud to present **"Language Objects: Letters in Space, 1970 - 2013,"** ***a retrospective exhibition tracking (via notebooks, holographic & published texts, archival materials and works on paper) the evolution from early typewriter-generated forms to more recent four-color drawing poems in the work of American poet *Robert Grenier* between 1970 - 2013. The show will be on view from May 18 - June 30, 2013.**

***On Sunday, May 19, 4 - 6 PM, Robert Grenier will introduce the 'idea' for the show, and speak to/read from & provisionally 'interpret' certain of the materials set forth in the room. ***

Over the past 40 years, poet/artist Robert Grenier (b. 1941) has constantly pushed poetry into new frontiers of practice and utterance. His handwritten poems, produced in the last two decades, cross the upper limit of inscription to be both writing and drawing. His works include ***Series ***(This Press, 1978), ***SENTENCES*** (Whale Cloth Press, 1978), ***Oakland ***(Tuumba Press, 1980), ***A Day at the Beach ***(Roof Books, 1984), ***Phantom Anthems*** (O Books, 1986), and ***OWL/ON/BOU/GH ***(Post-Apollo Press, 1997), as well as more recent online color drawing poem sequences like ***POND 1***<<http://bit.ly/106cFxV>> and ***PENN SCANS*** <<http://www.whalecloth.org/grenier/pennscans>>. A graduate of Harvard College and the Iowa Writers' Workshop, Grenier has received two NEA fellowships for poetry writing and a 2013 grant from the Foundation for Contemporary Arts. An archive of his work is housed in the Stanford Libraries' Department of Special Collections. He lives in northern Vermont.

SOUTHFIRST, founded in 2000, is located at 60 N6th Street in Williamsburg, Brooklyn between Wythe and Kent Avenues. Gallery hours are Fri., Sat. and Sun. from 1 - 6 PM and by appointment. Subway: L train to Bedford Avenue. For more information, please contact Maika Pollack at [REDACTED] or [REDACTED] .

SOUTHFIRST 60 N6th Street Brooklyn, NY 11211 [REDACTED]

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Famous Rapes

18 Jun 2013

Andrea Baker again, and a harder occasion than OmniDawn: the first installment of a packing-tape series that Bartlett wanted the list to receive as feminist work of the first order.

My great friend Andrea Baker just had the first installment of her "Famous Rapes" series published at the Rumpus. This installment of visual poetry reenacts "Master Paintings" that include rape through packing tape. This is one of the best feminist projects I've seen in years!

<http://therumpus.net/2013/06/famous-rapes-1-old-master-paintings/>

Jen Bartlett

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Review of Ilanot Review, and Teaching Copies of Beauty is a Verb

25 Aug 2013

A dispatch with two errands — a notice of the Ilanot Review and the standing plea Bartlett would repeat to the end: adopt Beauty Is a Verb, still the only disability-poetics anthology, as a textbook.

There was a great review of the Israel Journal, Ilanot Review in "The Review Review." This issue included work by me, Joy Ladin, Miriam Libicki, Diane Wakoski, and others.

<http://www.thereviewreview.net/reviews/online-mag-delivers-great-new-writing-israel>

ALSO. please please consider using BEAUTY AS VERB as a textbook! We're trying to get it around three universities, and it remains, until this point, the only disability poetics anthology. It includes work by Norma Cole, Jim Ferris, Bernadette Mayer, Rusty Morrison, Brian Teare, Larry Eigner and many others. Beyond the poetry, the essays serve as great readings, not just on poetics, but on mobility, prejudice, and other aspects of disability. If you write to me, I can try to get you a review copy - or sample. Best, Jennifer

[↑ Contents](#)

2014

Re: Poetics List (1993-2014)

26 Jan 2014

Charles Bernstein had closed the list after twenty-one years, and the farewells had already turned practical — what a successor should look like, and whether moderation had throttled the old room or kept it alive. Where mIEKAL and and Murat Nemet-Nejat mourned the restraint, Bartlett, of all people, spoke for the guardrail.

I think monitoring is ultimately a good thing. The internet is a place where people feel free to be abusive and say things they would never say in public.

I had a bad experience with this with Roxann Gay. She published an article I wrote on disability poetics (ok, it was the wrong forum) but people wrote in ruthlessly mocking me... one guy wrote "Is having a small dick a disability?"

I know this is difficult because the question becomes "who is the gatekeeper?" and the moderation becomes at their personal discretion. Amy King, in fact, was a good person to do this because she has a wide awareness of prejudice. Most people do not. Most people do not even think of prejudice against disability and have their own prejudices, so it is not something people willingly stand up against.

I guess I am just saying that if you have controversial views, not even snarky ones or fighting for the sake of fighting, but truly controversial views (but this i mean my view that poets and people with disabilities have nothing wrong with them and should be treated as equals in the poetry community, employment, dating and sexuality) you are going to be attacked. When I called Paul Guest on letting himself be called 'invalid' on his book cover by John Ashbery. I was brutally attacked, and Guest actually won that discussion. HE WON THE RIGHT TO HAVE SOMEONE CALL HIM AN INVALID~! CONGRATUALATIONS!

All I am saying is having a moderator helps people like me who are trying to put forth controversial opinions and are also sensitive and loving and have a super hard time being attacked. Love, Jennifer

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Re: Poetics List (1993-2014)

26 Jan 2014

Murat Nemet-Nejat pressed her to say where a controversial view stops and an abusive one begins; she took the question seriously and drew the line herself.

Contraversial to me means putting forth an unpopular opinion in a tempered manner. It used to be gay rights, or rights for people of color, now, for me, it's any resistance against disability as anything but a tradegy or something to be avoided.

Abuse is name calling. Putting people down. Cruel comments that don't add to the discussion - such as Paul Guest calling my writing and arguments that quality of a

bad first-year writing student. Or when some guys from a list-serv read my blog post regarding the word retarded and posted my picture on their site ruthlessly making fun of me and attacking me and emailed me at the university to make sure I looked at it, Or the times I have been told online that I am a disgrace to all disabled people and should shut up. That is abuse... have you had this happen to you?

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Re: Poetics List (1993-2014)

26 Jan 2014

Francesco Levato had shrunk the moderation question to spam and trolls; Bartlett turned it back toward the person, putting it to Murat Nemet-Nejat and the room whether any of them had ever met the kind of attack she had.

Murat (and others),

I'm just curious if you feel your ideas and self have ever been attacked on the internet to this degree? I even had a poet write to tell me that she quit the WomPo list because of my beliefs of disability.

On Sun, Jan 26, 2014 at 12:42 PM, Francesco Levato 

wrote:

My main reason for the moderation is to stop spam from trolls. I have an automated system in place, on the new list, to stop automated spam attacks, but someone could still register for real, than send spam messages to the board. So, hopefully moderation will help on that end. Best, Francesco
===== *The Poetics List will cease operations by the end of January 2014; please do not post messages after that time. Archives will continue to be available at <http://epc.buffalo.edu/poetics/poeticslist.html>. NOTE this exception: Information regarding discussion groups that might extend the work of the Poetics List will be posted after Feb. 1 so all participants will be informed of such options.*

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Re: Poetics List (1993-2014)

27 Jan 2014

Mark DuCharme had offered to turn the list out in her defence; the support reached her, and in thanking him she let the goodbye widen — toward the Larry Eigner biography then consuming her, and toward her own quiet retreat from the internet.

Hi Mark,

Thank you so much for your support - it makes me feel really heard.

You mentioned Eigner. I am writing a biography on him, doing some archival work, and assisting with permissions for his works. It's a non-stop adventure.

Yes, I haven't spoken about irt publicly, but once I wrote a "column" on my blog about using the word 'retarded.'" Some creeps got ahold of my photograph and put my picture up on their list-serv mocking me ruthlessly. They emailed me both at home and Montclair state (where I taught) to make sure I saw it.

This was devastating. I also got quite a bit of slack for calling Paul Guest out on letting Ashbery refer to him as "invalid" as did also Mary Kerr. You would think that respecting the rights of people with disabilities is a no-brainer. But, really, it is controversial and when I speak up often I am shot down or ignored. Although I realize that my opinions are extreme...I for example am perfectly happy having cerebral palsy - it's just who I am! But most want to pity you or believe you would be better off abled and that you wish for that. When you say - I'm disabled and happy with who I am - people will react strongly and negatively.

That said, I haven't had much trouble on the list, here. I think Amy has been a gem. And I have chosen to speak up minimally here because (really) I feel as a girl poet, I am speaking into an empty well & many of my comments are just ignored. Also, since I am uber-sensitive, I am attempting to back away from the internet entirely.

I did take issue, recently, with some criticism here that I felt criticized Lisa Jarnot, instead of her writing, and I wrote about that. But, overall, the list has been pretty safe for me and I met some wonderful folks, namely my assistant, Eric.

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Re: Poetics List (1993-2014)

28 Jan 2014

Days from the close and worn down by the long round with Murat Nemet-Nejat, she gave the Paul Guest argument one last full airing — Ashbery's blurb, the word she would not let pass, the analogy she refused to soften — and closed, as ever, as Lee Bartlett's daughter.

Jennifer Bartlett!

Hi Murat, The list is dying and so is my energy. I am including some links of my work that might explain better... this is a long and tedious topic with many turns and ideas. I feel like you are not quite getting it.

Without reliving the trauma of the Guest thing. Yes. My disagreement with Guest was allowing himself to be referred as NOT VALID - i.e. put down on his book cover, disempowered and put in the victim role for sake of sales. I see it this way - if someone had used the word nigger, fag or bitch in a blurb, we'd never hear the end of it. However, people are so attached to their concept of disability that this kind of thing goes unnoticed and then defended (as you are here). Guest has every right to call himself and invalid and let Mary Kerr and others to it. I have

every right to challenge and question that decision. Question: Would you defend the poet is it where the case of a blurb with a racial slur?

I do not use the word SUFFERING FROM in terms of disability. Every corporeal body is or will be full of various types of suffering. To say someone "suffers from" cerebral palsy is degrading and makes a neurotical difference into a disease - which it is not.

Girl poet- I say that a big ironically. But I do consider myself a feisty, sexy "girl" but my father is Lee Bartlett and, therefore, genetically, I can talk circles around any man and probably drink them under the table too.

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Re: Poetics List (1993-2014)

28 Jan 2014

The arguing had stopped paying its way; this time she answered Murat not with another rebuttal but with the work itself — a poem, and a few links to where her poetry lived.

to be crippled means to have a window

into the insanity of the able-bodied

to be crippled means to

see the world slowly and manically

*to translate *

to record

to adapt

to be crippled means to have

access to people's fear

of their own eroding

<http://www.beautyisaverbbook.com/>

http://www.wordgathering.com/past_issues/issue25/reviews/bartlett.html

http://www.wordgathering.com/issue27/reading_loop/bartlett.html

On Tue, Jan 28, 2014 at 12:29 PM, reJennifer Bartlett [REDACTED] wrote:

Jennifer Bartlett!

Hi Murat, The list is dying and so is my energy. I am including some links of my work that might explain better... this is a long and tedious topic with many turns and ideas. I feel like you are not quite getting it.

Without reliving the trauma of the Guest thing. Yes. My disagreement with Guest was allowing himself to be referred as NOT VALID - i.e. put down on his book cover, disempowered and put in the victim role for sake of sales. I see it this way - if someone had used the word nigger, fag or bitch in a blurb, we'd never hear the end of it. However, people are so attached to their concept of disability that this kind of thing goes unnoticed and then defended (as you are here). Guest has every right to call himself and invalid and let Mary Kerr and others to it. I have every right to challenge and question that decision. Question: Would you defend the poet is it where the case of a blurb with a racial slur?

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Re: Poetics List (1993-2014)

28 Jan 2014

The quarrel had dwindled to a courtesy — a single phrase she asked Murat to retire — and then, the list all but dark, she turned neighbourly: a friend they had in common in Fanny Howe, and the anthology, Beauty Is a Verb, she hoped he had finally read.

Murat,

For the sake of humoring me, next time you bring up a poet with a disability would you just say "they have" instead of "suffers from." Have you read Beauty is a Verb? Have you heard of it? BTW, are you friends with my good friend Fanny Howe? I saw a picture of you two on FB?

On Tue, Jan 28, 2014 at 12:29 PM, reJennifer Bartlett [REDACTED] wrote:

Jennifer Bartlett!

Hi Murat, The list is dying and so is my energy. I am including some links of my work that might explain better... this is a long and tedious topic with many turns and ideas. I feel like you are not quite getting it.

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Appendix — Announcements & Notices

The submission calls, new issues, blog updates, and notices she sent — mostly for Saint Elizabeth Street — reproduced in full here, apart from her other writing, so the working record of the magazine is kept whole. 32 in all.

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2005

Saint Elizabeth Street

03 Dec 2005

Saint Elizabeth Street currently has on sale the current issues, as well as past issues. The current issue includes Edwin Torres, Bill Kushner, and Emily XYZ. Past issues have included Charles Bernstein, Nathaniel Tarn, Andrea Baker, Bill Olsen, and many others. A yearly subscription is \$9, \$5 per single issue. Send orders to Jim Stewart 136 Freeman St. Apt 1A, Brooklyn, NY 11222. We will be accepting submissions after 12/15. Thanks!

A Teacher needs help!

08 Dec 2005

I have been teaching in the NYC Department of Education for five years. As many of you know, this is an extremely abusive system & I need to get out. I would like to find an adjunct position somewhere in NYC. Just adjunct - not looking for anything too ambitious. Does anyone know of any openings or how to start the process? I have numerous publications, a NYFA, and a pending book from a university press.

Thanks,

Jennifer Bartlett

Help for a teacher.

08 Dec 2005

A kind person advised me to write more about myself re: needing advice on getting an adjunct position. I have three degrees - an BA in English from UNM, an MFA in poetry from Vermont College, and an MA in English with an emphasis in teaching English from Brooklyn College. I have taught English in high school for five years, and am more than willing to teach composition, although poetry would be great.

Jennifer B.

2006

(no subject)

14 Jan 2006

Saint Elizabeth Street has finally joined the 21st Century with our new website - www.saintelizabethstreet.com Complete with blog and hypertext poetry.

We are also looking for work for the Spring 2006 Issue. We prefer email submissions at [REDACTED]

Best, JB

Saint Elizabeth Street

24 Jan 2006

Saint Elizabeth Street is looking for submissions for our Spring 2006 Issue. Past contributors have included Charles Bernstein, Nathaniel Tarn, Marcella Durand, Andrea Baker and others.

***** New on the LIZBLOG

Why Al Gore is our hero.

Life inside of Cerebral Palsy.

And

Why Elizabeth Bishop is a goddess.

Last call for submissions

10 Apr 2006

Saint Elizabeth Street is preparing to launch its first issue on the web. We are still looking for a few good poems. Send work to [REDACTED] Cheers!
Jennifer Bartlett

Brooklyn Housing Position

12 May 2006

We are looking for someone to "house-sit" our apartment from July 4- July 24 in a nice, fun part of Brooklyn. We have a 2 bedroom on the first floor with a yard. Responsibilities include feeding a cat, bringing in mail, and possibly moving car for alternate side parking. We will be charging a very small fee to cover electricity ect., and a deposit. If the house is clean & the cat's alive the deposit will be happily returned!

Email me, Jennifer

Saint Elizabeth Street

31 Aug 2006

The SES blog is up and running! A new issue of the magazine is soon to follow.

www.saintelizabethstreet.com

click on "online only"

Exciting new pieces on Dj Spooky, sound, and Hillary Clinton!

Saint Elizabeth Street Blog

11 Sep 2006

BRAND SPANKING NEW! On the SES blog!

Michael Palmer and the Wallace Stevens Award Factotum 100 poems/ books to be read immediately!

Saint Elizabeth Street

20 Sep 2006

On Sunday, we release our new issue of SES at www.saintelizabethstreet.com

New poems by Elizabeth Robinson, Bruce Covey, Nick-e Melville, Kate Greenstreet, Joe Massey, and others.

Also, a blog by Jennifer Bartlett on disability, language, the visual arts, Bukowski, and breastfeeding.

All for free!

Also, we are now accept work for our Winter issue.

Best,

JB

New of Saint Elizabeth Street Blog

12 Oct 2006

Marxists with Trust Funds: a short history of Language Poetry Poetry and Visual Art The Pleasures of Photography

New On the Saint Elizabeth Street Blog

24 Oct 2006

Ralph Ellison and Disability Just What is Experimental Poetry? Kate Greenstreet and Adam Clay A review of Jen Benka's new book Tales of a Frustrate Housewife/poet

New on SES Blog

01 Nov 2006

The Bedside Project Gallaudet The Normalization of Poetry

Saint Elizabeth Street Blog

17 Nov 2006

Review of Kate Greenstreet's case sensitive Ron Silliman and why women don't blog

Back Issues of SES

08 Dec 2006

Send me 5\$ for shipping. I'll send you three copies of Saint Elizabeth Street. Poets include Bernstein, Tarn, Andrea Baker, Bill Olsen, Robyn Art, Fanny Howe, Jim Stewart, Marcella Durand, and many, many others.

136 Freeman St Apt. 1A Brooklyn, NY 11222

CASH ONLY

2007

Teaching Search

17 Jan 2007

Hi all,

I'm sorry to be a pest, but I'm still trying to put my feelers out for a job. If anyone's school happens to need a last minute adjunct to teach English Comp, please backchannel. I'm in Brooklyn, but will travel. I have five years of teaching experience, and all the good stuff!

Best, Jennifer Bartlett

Issue 5 of Saint Elizabeth Street

11 Feb 2007

Issue #5 of Saint Elizabeth Street has arrived @ www.saintelizabethstreet.org with interviews by Adam Clay, Jen Benka, Andrea Baker, Kate Greenstreet, and Bruce Covey.

Best,

Jennifer

New on the SES Poetics Blog

10 Mar 2007

1. Essay on Nathaniel Tarn 2. Comments on David Orr's Times Article

Gene Frumkin/ Call for Work

14 Mar 2007

The next issue of Saint Elizabeth Street will be dedicated to Gene Frumkin. Please submit poems, stories, notes, and so on relating to Gene and his poetry.

Thanks.

Jen B.

More on Gene Frumkin Issue of SES

15 Mar 2007

Regarding submissions for the Gene Frumkin issue of SES.

We prefer email submissions in the text of ONE word document. Our address is



If you need to submit via regular mail, our address is 136 Freeman St. Apt 1A Brooklyn, NY 11222.

Please send poems, photos, essays, notes, letters, and so on.

The deadline is April 30th.

Best, Jennifer

SES Blog

29 Apr 2007

New on the Saint Elizabeth Street Blog

The Fun of Life w/a Disability New Poems Not For Mother's Only Progress with Derivative of the Moving Image

New on the SES Blog

04 Jun 2007

The Poetics of Disability: Julian Weise, Eoach, and parenthood:

Request for librarians and SES blog

16 Jun 2007

I would like to do an interview with some librarians/archivists on the changing nature of archiving. It should not take too much time. If you are interested — or know someone who is — please backchannel!

Also, new on the SES blog—

The letters of Rukeyser, Olson, and Wheelwright Richard Serra Segregation in NYC public school Felix Gonzales Torres Tory Dent, Julian Weiss, and the poetics of identity and, as always, Rufus Wainwright

New on SES Blog

07 Jul 2007

Muriel Rukeyser Larry Eigner Deborah Garrison The Science and problem of editing

Upcoming

Language Poetry Carl Phillips Fur Fast Food Natiion and Bullwinkle and Rocky

New on SES Bliog

08 Jul 2007

Ooops forgot the link!

saintelizabethstreet.blogspot.com

NEW Issue of SES

26 Jul 2007

Hello Friends,

We have a new issue of SES hot off the press.

Poets include Nancy Kuhl Michael Leong Changming Yuan Jason Fraley David Wolach Jennifer Firestone Maryrose Larkin Larissa Shmailo Translation of Dante by Anna Akhmatova Susanna Fry Kristin Abraham Carolyn Guinzio Meredith Quartermain Stephanie Strickland Gil Fagian

www.saintelizabethstreet.org

Also, check out the blog with essays on Tarn, Rukeyser, Eigner, schools of poetry, and the problem of the cool.

Cid Corman/ Mary Higgins

31 Aug 2007

On SES blog. An old letter I recently found from Cid Corman & thinking of Mary Higgins.

saintelizabethstreet.blogspot.com

JB

2012

Information on Larry Eigner/ Brooklyn Sublet

13 Feb 2012

Hi all,

I am doing research on a biography of Larry Eigner. I am looking for anyone who might want to share stories or be interviewed who knew Eigner.

I am also looking for people to exchange ideas with — specifically about how Eigner's work coincided with Hart Crane's and ee cummings, the Black Mountain Poets, and how Eigner's work did or did not inform so-called L=A=N=G=U=A=G=E poetry.

If any one has any stories, articles, or thoughts to share - please backchannel me.

ALSO:

I am looking for someone to sublet my Greenpoint Brooklyn apartment for two weeks in late July-early August. It's a really nice (small) three bedroom with a yard across the street from Triple Canopy! It comes with two well behaved cats. Price very negotiable.

Jennifer Bartlett

Room for AWP??

27 Feb 2012

Howdy,

If anyone needs to cancel a room reservation at AWP, please email me. Andrea Baker and I had an apartment there, but they canceled at the last minute! We have a reservation at the fairmont, but I walk like a turtle.

Jen

Adjunct Freshman English

13 Jul 2012

Hi All,

Im interested in picking up one or two freshman comp classes for fall. If anyone's department needs someone last minute, will you let me know? I am interested in some place within an hour commute of Greenpoint Brooklyn. I have six years high experience and three years freshman comp experience, two books, awards and all that jazz. I would actually prefer to teach a disabilities studies class, but I know those are hard to come by.

Love, Jennifer

2013

Intern!

31 Jan 2013

I know it's unlikely, but does anyone have a student in the New York City area who would like to be an intern for a Larry Eigner biography. Duties include typing quotes from letters and doing library research online at archives across the country...LE corresponded with so many people that it is nearly becoming impossible to keep up with..I can pay \$10hr and in books. Must not be allergic to pugs nor cats nor ten-year-old boys. Jennifer

***Re: Editor/Web Designer sought for W.W. Norton Anthology Relaunch
2013***

19 Feb 2013

Norton has money. This is offensive.

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Appendix — A Complete Catalogue

Every message in the archive, in order. Reviews and essays are reproduced above; the rest — announcements, forwards, reading notices — are logged here so the record is complete. 75 in all.

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- 08 Dec 2005 A Teacher needs help! · *brief*
- 08 Dec 2005 Help for a teacher. · *brief*

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- 24 Jan 2006 Saint Elizabeth Street · *brief*
- 01 Feb 2006 NEGLECTORINO PROJECT · *brief*
- 01 Feb 2006 Palmer ect. · *brief*
- 03 Feb 2006 Rukeyser & Palmer · *brief*
- 14 Mar 2006 Mark Rothko · *brief*
- 14 Mar 2006 Poetry, O'Hara, and Flushing Meadows Park · *brief*
- 10 Apr 2006 Last call for submissions · *brief*
- 12 May 2006 Brooklyn Housing Position · *brief*
- 31 Aug 2006 Saint Elizabeth Street · *brief*
- 11 Sep 2006 Saint Elizabeth Street Blog · *brief*
- 20 Sep 2006 Saint Elizabeth Street · *brief*
- 25 Sep 2006 Charles Bernstein · *brief*
- 12 Oct 2006 New of Saint Elizabeth Street Blog · *brief*
- 13 Oct 2006 SES · *brief*
- 19 Oct 2006 Jen Benka Review · *brief*
- 21 Oct 2006 Looking for two things! · *brief*
- 24 Oct 2006 New On the Saint Elizabeth Street Blog · *brief*
- 01 Nov 2006 New on SES Blog · *brief*
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- 08 Dec 2006 Back Issues of SES · *brief*
- 27 Dec 2006 SES · *brief*

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- 30 Jan 2007 Homophobia... · *brief*
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- 13 Feb 2007 BugHoose · *brief*
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- 15 Mar 2007 More on Gene Frumkin Issue of SES · *brief*
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- 29 Apr 2007 SES Blog · *brief*
- 10 May 2007 Brooklyn Reading · *brief*
- 04 Jun 2007 New on the SES Blog · *brief*
- 12 Jun 2007 Susan Howe · *brief*
- 16 Jun 2007 Request for librarians and SES blog · *brief*
- 07 Jul 2007 New on SES Blog · *brief*
- 08 Jul 2007 New on SES Blog · *brief*
- 26 Jul 2007 NEW Issue of SES · *brief*
- 31 Aug 2007 Cid Corman/ Mary Higgins · *brief*
- 02 Sep 2007 Lee Bartlett - Marginalized Critic · *brief*
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- 25 Sep 2007 PEACE MARCH · *brief*

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- 25 Nov 2011 Mary Rising Higgins EPC Page · *brief*
05 Dec 2011 Dove, Vendler, Beauty is a Verb · *brief*

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- 27 Jan 2013 Re: Spicer query · *brief*
31 Jan 2013 Intern! · *brief*
10 Feb 2013 Re: Jeffers and the Beats · *brief*
10 Feb 2013 Re: Jeffers and the Beats · *brief*
19 Feb 2013 Re: Editor/Web Designer sought for W.W. Norton Anthology Relaunch 2013
· *brief*
13 May 2013 Please Come Support Robert Grenier · *brief*
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25 Aug 2013 Review of Ilanot Review, and Teaching Copies of Beauty is a Verb · *brief*

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- 23 Jan 2014 Re: the last posts · *brief*
26 Jan 2014 Re: Poetics List (1993-2014) · *brief*
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