

THE POETS



Jack Agüeros was the Director, for nearly a decade, of El Museo del Barrio, the only Puerto Rican museum in the United States. His most recent book of poems is *Sonnets from the Puerto Rican*. His other books include *Correspondence Between the Stonehauers* (poetry), *Dominoes & Other Stories from the Puerto Rican* (short fiction), and *Song of the Simple*

Truth: The Complete Poems of Julia de Burgos (translation).

Elena Alexander is a writer of poetry and “fictionnonfiction”; she also organizes readings for the MAD ALEX Arts Foundation. Her most recent work is *Footnotes: Six Choreographers Inscribe the Page*.



Sherman Alexie is the author of ten books of poetry and fiction. His first book, *The Business of Fancydancing*, was chosen as a New York Times Notable Book of the Year. He wrote a script adapted from one of the short stories in his book *The Lone Ranger and Tonto Fistfight in Heaven*, which was made into the film *Smoke Signals*. He has won a Lila Wallace-Reader's Digest Writer's Award and an American Book Award.



Miguel Algarín is a founder of the Nuyorican Poets Cafe in New York City. Author of eight collections of poetry, he is also the co-editor of *Aloud: Voices from the Nuyorican Poets Cafe*.

Penny Arcade debuted at the age of 17 in the Playhouse of the Ridiculous and was a part of Andy Warhol's Factory. In 1982 she started her own solo work. She is a member of Feminists for Free Expression.

Max Blagg is the author of several books, most recently *Pink Instrument*, a collection of poems, and the forthcoming novel, *Diving for Blondes*. He also writes a monthly column, “Bohemian Veneer” for New York's *Paper Magazine*.



Robert Bly is the author of ten collections of poetry and several books of cultural criticism, including the bestseller *Iron John*, which launched the men's movement to national fame. His most recent book of poetry is *Morning Poems*. He lives in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Jim Boyd & Rez Bound are a Native American group from the Colville Indian Reservation in Washington State. They perform original contemporary music written and recorded by Jim Boyd, who is also known for his music in the movie *Smoke Signals* by Miramax.

Braggin' Rites is an emcee competition which started in 1997 at the Nuyorican Poets Café. It was founded by Isaac “105” Collazo, Fritz “106” Jeanniton and Edwin “Yeshua dapo Ed” Avellaneda, who as a collective form Pen & Pad Productions.

Isaac Collazo as well as being the creator of Braggin' Rites is also an emcee under the name of Agent Eye 105 and along with Agent 106 he forms the group State of Flux.

Fritz Jeanniton is a graphic artist who designs the group's logos and performs as an emcee under the name of Agent 106.

Edwin “Yeshua dapo Ed” Avellaneda is the frontman for Braggin' Rites and a respected emcee in the underground circuit. He has released an EP with his partner Siah as well as a solo single.

DJ DP One is one of the most active DJ's in New York City's underground hip-hop scene. He is also part of the rap group OBS and the DJ crew Turntable Anihilists.

DJ Bless has been deejaying for eight years and producing for five years. He is in the process of producing the upcoming Wee Be Foolish album cited for release in late 1999.

Blowout has been rhyming for seven years and is part of the deejay crew Turntable Anihilists. He has also been a professional barber for five years.

Influence is an emcee who has been rhyming for seven years and has performed at many of New York City's hottest underground venues such as Baby Jupiter and Arlene's Grocery.

Pumpkinhead is a well known underground lyricist and a former winner of Braggin' Rites. He is part of the group OBS and intends to release a solo album by the end of 1999.

Subconscious has been shining throughout the New York City open mic circuit. He is an emcee from the group Sight Beyond Sight.

Vast has been an emcee for over a decade. He is part of the group Cannibal Ox who are presently working on an EP.

Yak, a 16 year-old Iranian, is the youngest emcee in the competition. He is part of the group Theoretiks.

Lee Ann Brown teaches poetry and writing and is the editor of the independent poetry press Tender Buttons, which publishes experimental poetry by women. Her book *Polyversee* won the 1996 New American Poetry Series Competition.



Dana Bryant has recently released a collection of poetry, *Song of the Siren*, and a CD of her poems backed by music, *Wishing from the Top*. She is a graduate of the Nuyorican Poets Cafe, where she was the Grand Slam Champ in 1992, and The Stoop at Tribes, and has toured the world with such artists as Ronny Jordan and The Groove Collective, the Nuyorican Poets Cafe Live, and Real Live Poetry. She is featured in *The Rolling Stone Book of Women In Rock* and the *International Who's Who of Music*.

Regie Cabico is co-editor of *Poetry Nation: A North American Anthology of Fusion*. His solo show "the poet welcomes his male muse a cabaret poem in 1 act" will be presented at the Public Theater in New York. He is a member of the poetry slam team Mouth Almighty, which won first place at the 1997 National Slam Tournament.



Hal Cannon is a founding director of the Western Folklife Center and its famous child, the Cowboy Poetry Gathering. He conceived and developed The Open Road radio show and co-produced the Voices of the West radio series. As a musician, his band, the Deseret String Band/Bunkhouse Orchestra, have made a specialty of researching and performing nineteenth century music from the West.

John Cephas and Phil Wiggins — Cephas, a National Heritage Award winner, and Wiggins, started performing together after meeting at the 1977 Smithsonian National Folklife Festival. Playing acoustic guitar and harmonica, they perform Piedmont country blues and are considered "ambassadors of the blues," having toured for the U.S. State Department in Africa, South America, and Russia.



Sylvia Cole was born of Jewish immigrants on the Lower East Side and her first language was Yiddish. She became a high school English teacher for 28 years. After retirement, she created a series of poetry cassettes: *Portraits in Poetry*, *Poetry and Music*, *Poems of Social Protest*, *The Voice in Poetry*.

Abdoulaye Diabate is from Keila, Mali, and was raised in the heart of the Mandeng tradition. He is from a long line of *Jalilu*. He has also spent twenty years performing contemporary and popular styles of music.

Ani DiFranco is a singer/songwriter/guitarist/poet who released her first album herself in 1990. She started her own record company, Righteous Babe Records, and has produced her own ten subsequent albums. Recently she has begun to experiment with and record a mix of music and spoken word.





Don Edwards is well-versed in the lore and musical traditions of the American cowboy. During his teens he chased rodeos and worked ranches in Texas and New Mexico; he also wrote and researched cowboy musical traditions and made his first record in 1964. Recently, he appeared in Robert Redford's movie *The Horse Whisperer* and wrote songs for the soundtrack.



Eric Gamalinda was born in Manila, where he worked as an editor and a journalist. He currently teaches at NYU and was a recipient of a fellowship for fiction from the New York Foundation of the Arts.

Martín Espada is a former tenant lawyer and the author of five books of poetry, including *Imagine the Angels of Bread*, which won the Before Columbus Foundation's American Book Award. He is also the editor of *El Coro: A Chorus of Latino and Latina Poetry* and *Poetry Like Bread: Poets of the Political Imagination*. Mr. Espada teaches in the Department of English at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst.



Maxine Greene is the William F. Russell Professor in the Foundations of Education and Professor of Philosophy and Education (emeritus) at Teachers College, Columbia University. Her books include *The Public School and the Private Vision*, *Existential Encounters for Teachers*, *Landscapes of Learning*, *The Dialectic of Freedom*, and *Releasing Imagination*.



Sandra María Esteves is a lifelong resident of the Bronx and a prime mover in Latino literary culture. Her first book of poems, *Yerba Buena*, was revolutionary in establishing an urban Latin woman's aesthetic. Her third collection, *Bluestown Mockinbird Mambo*, blends oral and literary traditions in a fusion of spiritual blues and women's poetics.



Lisa Gutkin is a fiddler/composer of Irish and Scottish traditional music and co-founder of the acoustic Celtic/World group *Whirligig*. She also teaches "fiddle styles" workshops and master classes and was Artist in Residence at New York University in 1998.

Dee Evetts began writing haiku in 1964. He co-founded the British Haiku Society in 1990 and started the Spring Street Haiku Group the following year. He has been a member of the Haiku Society of America since 1987 where he has judged the HSA Renku Contest in 1989, 1995 and 1996.

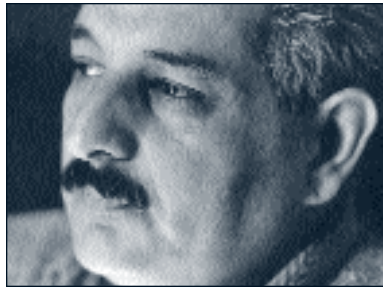


Daniel Ferri created the Head-To-Head Haiku competition form and has been the Headmaster for it at the National Poetry Slam Tournament since 1995. He currently teaches sixth grade and was a featured poet in the movie *Slamnation*.

Linda Hasselstrom grew up on her family's ranch in South Dakota. After receiving her M.A. in American Literature, she earned her living by ranch work, freelance writing, and teaching workshops in writing and publishing. In 1984 she received a National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship in poetry. She is the author of many books of poetry and nonfiction; her latest publication is an anthology she edited with Nancy Curtis and Gaydell Collier, *Leaning into the Wind: Women Write from the Heart of the West*.



Victor Hernández Cruz is the author of *Red Beans, Mainland, Tropicalization, By Lingual Wholes, and Rhythm, Content and Flavor*. He was featured on Bill Moyers's "The Language of Life" series and has received numerous awards, including the Guggenheim Award and the New York Poetry Foundation Award.



Judith Johnson is a poet, fiction-writer and performance artist. She is the author of eight volumes of poetry, the most recent of which is *The Ice Lizard*. She is the winner of the Yale Series of Younger Poets Prize and a National Endowment for the Arts Poetry Fellowship.



Edward Hirsch is the author of several volumes of poetry, including *Wild Gratitude*, which won the National Book Critics Circle Award, and *Earthly Measures*. He teaches at the University of Houston.

Patricia Spears Jones is the author of *The Weather That Kills*. Her poetry has appeared in *Real Things: An Anthology of Popular Culture and American Poetry* and *Sisterfire: An Anthology of Black Women's Writing*.

Amy Holman is a poet and the founder of the Publishing Seminars at Poets & Writers, Inc., where she directs the Literary Horizons program. Her most recent chapbook is *The Cathedral of My Head*.

Bob Holman's most recent collection of poetry is *The Collect Call of the Wild*; CD: *In with the Out Crowd*. He is a founder of the NYC Poetry Calendar, former Coordinator of the St Mark's Poetry Project, and for seven years was slam impresario at the Nuyorican Poets Cafe. He is a founder of Mouth Almighty Records, the all-poetry label, and producer of the PBS series, *The United States of Poetry*, and is Visiting Professor of English at Bard College. He is currently working on *The World of Poetry*, the first digital poetry anthology.



Teresa Jordan is the radio illustrator for The Open Road radio show. She is also an award-winning author whose books include the memoir *Riding the White Horse Home* and *Cowgirls: Women of the American West*, as well as two collections of Western women's writings.

Dave Johnson's first collection of poetry is entitled *Marble Shoot*. He is the author of the plays *A Sister, A Cousin, An Aunt* and *Baptized to the Bone*. He has taught extensively in Poets House's Poetry in the Branches programs in community libraries. He also teaches writing at the New School, Cooper Union, Columbia University, and through Teachers & Writers Collaborative.



Kewulay Kamara comes from the Koinadugu District of Sierra Leone and is of the KurankoBa Mandeng ethnic group. His family is part of the *finenu* caste, who are poets, emissaries, mediators, and masters of ceremony at important occasions. Their business is in the domain of memory, as repositories of communal history and transmitters of culture.



Galway Kinnell's twelve books of poetry include *What a Kingdom It Was, The Book of Nightmares, When One Has Lived a Long Time Alone, and Imperfect Thirst*. He is a former MacArthur Fellow and has been State Poet of Vermont. In 1982 his *Selected Poems* won the Pulitzer Prize and the American Book Award. He is also the editor of *The Essential Whitman* from Ecco Press.



Irena Klepfisz is a poet and activist in the lesbian/feminist and Jewish communities. She teaches Jewish women's studies at Barnard College and serves as editorial consultant for Yiddish and Yiddish literature on the Jewish feminist magazine *Bridges*.



The Klezmatics was formed in 1986 to perform Yiddish klezmer music with a modern aesthetic. Klezmer music dates back to the Middle Ages and is a mix of religious and folk sources such as Hasidic blessing dances; it also incorporates modern influences from ragtime and jazz. In the early part of this century, Klezmer was popular in communities on New York's Lower East Side. Having undergone a period when it seemed it might die out, the music is currently enjoying a revival.



Lansana Kouyate belongs to the lineage of Bala Fassèkè Kouyate, the famous Griot of Soundjata Keita, King of the Mandingos. He was born in the coastal region of Guinea.

Joakim Lartey was born in Ghana. He studied and apprenticed with traditional musicians and folklorists. He also studied biological sciences and ethnomusicology at Vassar College. He founded the band FUTU FUTU.

David Lee was the subject of a PBS documentary entitled *The Pig Poet*. Winner of the 1995 Western States Book Award for his latest book, *My Town*, Lee has also been the recipient of fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities. His previous books are *Days Work*, *The Porcine Canticles*, and *Driving and Drinking*.

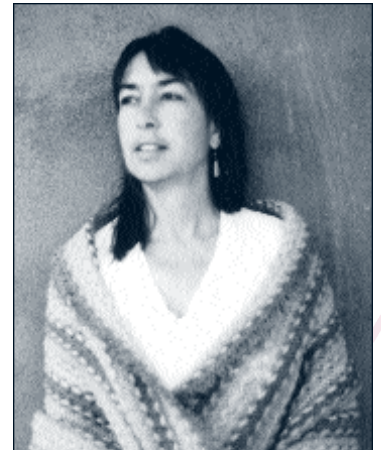


Brendan Lorber is a poet and the editor/publisher of LUNGFULL! Magazine, a national literary journal. He was a panel member at the Nuyorican Poets Cafe Symposium on the Politics of Race in Poetry and at the St. Mark's Poetry Project's Thirtieth Anniversary Symposium.



Jackson Mac Low makes poetry, music, plays, radio works, and visual art. He has been composing and realizing performance works for individuals and groups since 1955 — since 1979, often with Anne Tardos. He is the author of thirty-one books, and his work has appeared in many periodicals and anthologies.

Anne MacNaughton co-founded the Taos Poetry Circus in 1982 and has been a poetry activist ever since, currently serving as Director of the World Poetry Bout Association and the annual Taos Poetry Circus. She is a visual artist, organic farmer, playwright and a founding member of The Luminous Animal jazz-poetry performance ensemble.



Wallace McRae from Forsyth, Montana, has been a featured artist at the Cowboy Poetry Gathering in Elko, Nevada. He also owns the Rocker Six Cattle Company and serves as a member of the National Endowment for the Arts National Council.

Sharon Mesmer teaches literature and fiction writing at the New School in New York City and is the English language editor of the Japanese literary magazine *American Book Jam*. Her first poetry collection, *Half Angel, Half Lunch*, was published in 1998.





Ed Miller, originally from Edinburgh, Scotland, is a folklore scholar as well as a performer of traditional Scottish ballads and folk songs. He also conducts Burns Suppers, which include the piping in of the haggis and recitations of the works of Robert Burns, the eighteenth-century poet/songwriter/folklorist who is considered Scotland's national bard.

Louis Mofsie received his Master of Arts at Hofstra University and taught art for 35 years. He is currently the director of the Thunderbird American Dancers and is a member of the Hopi and Winnebago tribes.

Shani Mootoo is a writer, visual artist, and video-maker based in Vancouver, Canada. Her latest book is *Cereus Blooms at Night*.



Tracie Morris is a Nuyorican Poets Cafe Grand Slam Champion and the author of *Chap-T-Her Won* and *Intermission*. She was featured in MTV's "Unplugged" spoken word pilot and in *The United States of Poetry*.



Charlie Morrow, a composer and sound designer, is president and creative director of Charles Morrow Associates, Inc. Morrow has worked on records and events with Philip Glass, Laurie

Anderson, and Allen Ginsberg and is the winner of a Clio award.

Eileen Myles is a poet whose books include *School of Fish*, *Maxfield Parrish*, *Chelsea Girls*, and *Not Me*. In 1992 she ran a write-in campaign for President of the United States. (Unfortunately, she lost the race.) She is a winner of the Lambda Book Award.



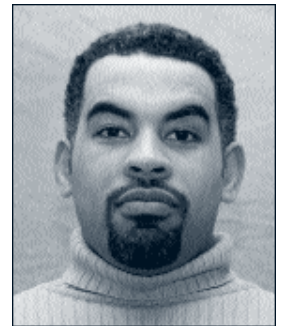
Han Ong is a playwright, poet, fiction writer, and performer from the Philippines. He is one of the youngest recipients of a MacArthur "genius" Fellowship.

Raymond Patterson's books of poems include *Elemental Blues* and *26 Ways of Looking at a Black Man*. Much of his work focuses on singing the blues as a metaphor of grit and transcendence. A former teacher and editor, he has also written a book-length poem on the life of Phyllis Wheatley, entitled *Dearest Phyllis*.



Larry Penn is a songwriter and singer of railroad songs as well as a teller of hobo tales and railroad lore. The 1995 National Hobo Convention dubbed him the "Hobo Troubadour," and his songs have been recorded by well-known performers, including Pete Seeger and John McCutcheon.

Willie Perdomo is the author of *Where a Nickel Costs a Dime*. He was a touring member of "Nuyorican Poets Cafe Live!" and has been featured in several PBS documentaries, including *Words in Your Face* and *The United States of Poetry*. He has also appeared on BBC Radio and TV.



Rafael Pérez López is from Córdoba, Colombia. In 1995 he published a book of *décimas*, which include poems about nature, love, daily life, his love for Colombia, and the art of being a *decimero*.

Marjorie Perloff is one of our country's most distinguished literary critics. Her many books of essays and letters include *Radical Artifice* and *Poetry On & Off the Page: Essays for Emergent Occasions*. Currently she teaches at Stanford University.

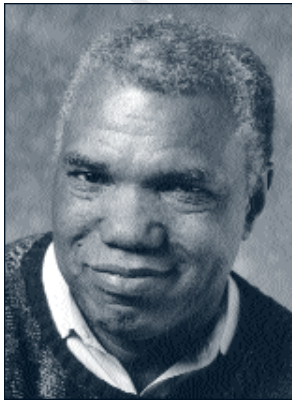
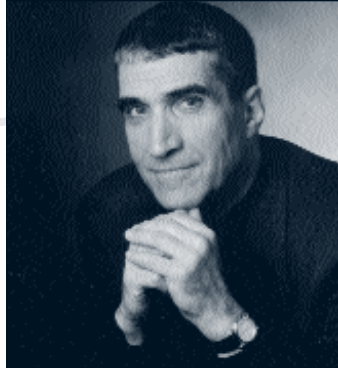




U. Utah Phillips was raised in a family of union organizers. He began to ride the rails as a teen and started to play the ukulele to keep himself company. He eventually learned to play the guitar and soon was writing songs about his life on the road. He has always been a social and political activist, joining the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW) and founding the *Poor People's Party*. In

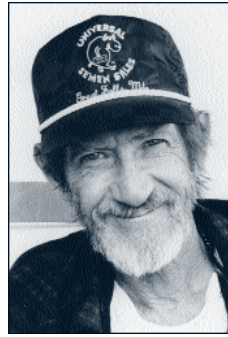
the 1970s he decided to make a living with his music.

Robert Pinsky is the current United States Poet Laureate. His recent books include *The Sounds of Poetry: A Brief Guide*, *The Handbook of Heartbreak: 101 Poems of Lost Love and Sorrow*, and *The Figured Wheel: New and Collected Poems, 1966 - 1996*. His verse translation of *Dante's Inferno* won the Los Angeles Times Book Prize. A professor of graduate writing at Boston University, he is also the poetry editor of the weekly Internet magazine *Slate*.



Sterling Plump has published many books of poetry, including *Hornman*, *Ornate with Smoke*, and *Mojo Hands Call I Must Go*, which won the Carl Sandburg Literary Prize for Poetry in 1993. He has been a professor in the Department of African-American Studies and English at the University of Illinois at Chicago since 1971.

Alfred Pommer was a supervisor for the New York City Parks Department until 1991 when he started giving guided tours through New York City. He gives tours on a regular basis for Hofstra University College of Continuing Education, Harvard Business School Alumnus Association and Second Stage Theater.



Peter Rabbit is best known as a founding light of Drop City, Libre, Taos Poetry Circus, SOMOS, and the World Poetry Bout Association. He has been on the cutting edge of poetry and communitarian movements his whole life and wants to be remembered as the Don King of poetry — he has relentlessly promoted poets and their work since the mid-1950's.

Eugene Redmond has been the Poet Laureate of East St. Louis for the last twenty years. He won an American Book Award in 1993 for his book *The Eye in the Ceiling: Selected Poems*. He is a professor of English at Southern Illinois University, where he chairs the Creative Writing Committee and edits the literary journal *Drumvoices Revue*. In addition to his own writing, Redmond's other passion is showcasing the work of Henry Dumas, an African-American poet and writer who died in 1968.



Keith Roach is a poetry activist and host of the Friday Night Poetry Slam at the Nuyorican Poets Cafe.



John Roberts and **Tony Barrand** have performed and presented English folksongs at festivals, colleges, clubs, and coffeehouses throughout the United States, Canada, and Great Britain. Their 1997

release, *Naulakha Redux*, is a collection of lyrics by Rudyard Kipling; it reunites the poetry with the melodic styles of traditional folksong and music hall that were part of Kipling's own cultural world.

Eddie Rosa is the director of the group Renacer Trovero and the New York organizer of a *trovador intercambio* which will take place in July. It is the first *concurso* to bring *trovadores* from the greater New York metropolitan area together with *trovadores* from Puerto Rico.

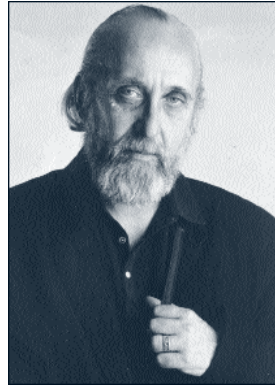


Mark Ross started his career singing in Greenwich Village in the 1960s. He performs a wide range of music, including traditional folk music, the songs of hobos, cowboys, and loggers, and fiddle and banjo tunes. His latest release, *Loafers Glory*, recorded with Utah Phillips, was nominated for Best Traditional Folk recording by the National Association of Independent Record Distributors.



José João dos Santos, known as Mestre Azulão, was born in Sapé, Paraíba in 1932. He moved to Rio de Janeiro in 1949, and is equally well known as a master of the *cordel* tradition, and as a *repentista*, who improvises sung poetry. He has published more than 80 *folhetos*, travelled throughout Brazil and presented the tradition in Paris. He normally has sung in shirtsleeves in the Sao Critovão fair on Sundays, and is the leader of the folk festival called *Bumba-meu-boi*.

Jerome Rothenberg is the author of more than fifty books of poetry, including *Poems for the Game of Silence*, *Poland/1931*, *A Seneca Journal*, *Vienna Blood*, *That Dada Strain*, *New Selected Poems 1970 - 1985*, *Khurbn*, *The Lorca Variations*, and, most recently, *Seedings & Other Poems*. He has received a Guggenheim Fellowship and several awards from the National Endowment for the Arts.



Sapphire is a poet, writer, and performing artist. Her first book was a collection of poetry and prose entitled *American Dreams*. Her novel *Push* won the Book of the Month Club Stephen Crane Award for First Fiction.

Gabriel Segura Miranda is from Soledad-Atlántico, Colombia, and started singing as a *decimero* on radio programs when he was sixteen. Along with Rafael Pérez López, in 1988 he represented Colombia in the first *Encuentro de Trovadores de Décimas del Caribe*, which took place in Puerto Rico.

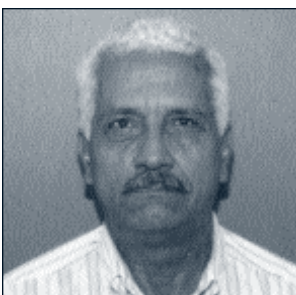


Frazier Russell is the assistant director of The Writer's Studio and directs Poets & Writers Exchange Program. His collection of poems, *How We Are Spared*, will be published by Four Way Books.



Ntozake Shange is the author of *For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide/When the Rainbow is Enuf*. She is Associate Professor of Drama and English at Prairie View A&M University in Texas where she is also a member of The Texas Institute of Letters. She is the winner of many awards, among them, a National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship, a Guggenheim Fellowship, and the Medal of Excellence from Columbia University.

Doug Safranek has performed and competed on the bagpipes since the 1960's. He was the winner of the Medallion Competition in 1990 and the Aggregate Trophy for senior amateur piping in 1980 and 1989.



Arturo Santiago, Jr., a Puerto Rican *trovador* from Vega Alta, sings *décima* in both Spanish and English. He has recorded with the noted *cuatrista* Edwin Colón Zayas.

Nancy Shapiro has worked at Teachers & Writers Collaborative since 1976 and has been the director since 1979. She has written articles on T & W's work, and with Ron Padgett edited *The Point: Where Teaching and Writing Intersect*. She served on the Creative Writing Committee for the National Endowment for the Arts and on an Advancement Grant panel.

Beau Sia's book of poems, *a night without armor II: the revenge*, was inspired but not endorsed by the singer Jewel. He hails from Oklahoma but now lives in New York.

Candace Slater is a professor of Spanish and Portuguese. Her books include *Stories on a String: The Brazilian 'Literatura de Cordel'* and *City Steeple, City Streets: Saints' Tales in Granada*. She has earned numerous fellowships and awards including the Chancellor's Professorship and the Bacardi Eminent Professorship in Latin American Studies.



Patricia Smith is an award-winning journalist, poet, playwright and performer. She has read her work throughout the United States, Europe and Brazil and is a four-time champion of the National Poetry Slam. She is a former Boston Globe columnist and the author of *Close to Death*.

Elijah Staley (Carolina Slim) was a drummer for most of his professional career, playing with John Lee Hooker, Brownie McGhee and Big Maybelle. He now concentrates on singing the Blues, accompanied by guitar.



Bob Suckiel is a poet, actor, and musician and has worked for various railroads over the past thirty years as a gandy dancer (track man) and a hog head (engineer). He is also the founding member of the nonprofit organization CROSSCURRENTS.

Sekou Sundiata is a poet who writes for both print and performance, as well as music and theater. He has recorded and performed with a wide variety of artists, including David Murray, Craig Harris, Nona Hendryx, and Vernon Reid. He was featured in the Bill Moyers PBS series on poetry, "The Language of Life," and his work appears in the anthology based on the series. As a recording artist, he released his first CD, *The Blue Oneness of Dreams*, to critical acclaim on the Mouth Almighty/Mercury record label. He is a professor at the New School in New York City, where he also produces the Talking Book Festival.



Mahamadou Salieu Suso was born into a family of traditional Gambian musicians/historians that extends back nearly 1,000 years. He was trained to play the 21-stringed kora (West African harp) by his father. He settled in the United States in 1989.

Anne Tardos is the author of the multicultural performance work *Among Men*, which was produced by the Westdeutscher Rudfunk in Cologne under the title *Unter Männern*. Her polylingual books are *Cat Licked in Garlic and Mayg-shem Fish*. Segments from her book, *Uxudo*, forthcoming from Yuumba/O Books/ghos-ti, were published in the magazines *Conjunctions*, *The Germ*, and *Chain*.



Yomo Toro learned to play the *cuatro* (Puerto Rico's ten-stringed guitarlike instrument) from his father. Born in Guanica, Puerto Rico, he has lived in New York since 1953 and has performed with many artists, including Trio Los Panchos, Willie Colón, Hector Lavoe, and Ruben Blades.

Edwin Torres recites poetry from tongue to body to earth, from the Nuyorican Poets Cafe to the beaches of Australia. From blood to cyclone heart, his poems perform themselves in workshops and performances all around the alphabet. He has two books of poetry available: *I Hear Things People Haven't Really Said* and *Lung Poetry*.



Sam Weiss is a noted recitalist, lecturer, and Jewish music consultant. He is the cantor of the Jewish Community Center of Paramus, New Jersey, and is on the faculty of the Academy for Jewish Religion in New York City.



Trío Jarocho Chalchihuecan de los Hermanos Ochoa is composed of brothers **Felipe** and **Marcos Ochoa Reyes** and the National Heritage Fellowship winner **José Gutiérrez**. The group plays the traditional music of their native Veracruz, Mexico called the *son jarocho*. *Chalchihuecan* is



an indigenous word meaning "jade-green beach," the name of a beach to the north of Veracruz. The music of the *son jarocho*

is accompanied by pre-composed *décimas* and improvised six-line *sextillas*.

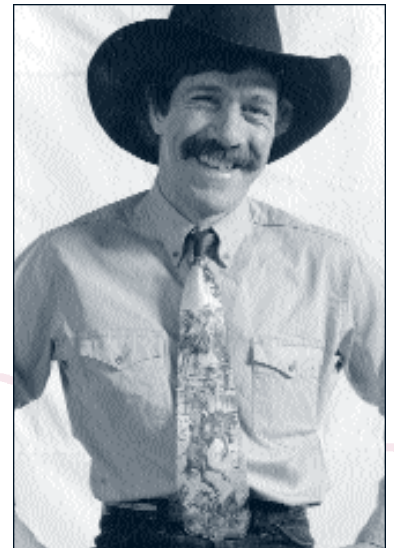


Lois-Ann Yamanaka is the author of a collection of poetry and three novels, including *Heads By Harry*. She is the recipient of the Pushcart Prizes XVIII and XIX. She has received the Asian-American Literary Award, the Asian-American Studies National Book Award, and a Lannan Literary Award.

Quincy Troupe is the author of five volumes of poetry, including *Avalanche* and *Weather Reports: New and Selected Poems*. He is the winner of two American Book Awards, a Peabody Award, and the title World Heavyweight Champion Poet.



Paul Zarzyski received his degree in creative writing, while at the same time learning bareback bronco riding. Now he makes his living through poetry. His publications include *All This Way for the Short Ride* (1996) and *Blue-Collar Light* (1998). He has received the Western Heritage Award for Poetry from the National Cowboy Hall of Fame and has been a featured performer at the Cowboy Poetry Gathering in Elko, Nevada, for the past twelve years.



John Trudell served as the National Chairman of the American Indian Movement from 1973 to 1979. In 1981 he published his first book of poetry, and his first album, *AKA Graffiti Man*, was released in 1986.

Also Featuring

Christin O'Keefe Aptowicz
José Enrique Ayala
Rolando Ayala
Anselm Berrigan
Guillermo Colón
Junior Colón
Carol Conroy
Manadou Diabate
Guy LeCharles Gonzalez
Kimiko Hahn
Hashim
Jeannie Hopper
Kathe Izzo

Dionne Kamara
Don Lev
Taylor Mali
Angel Luis Palermo
Pedro Pietri
Angel Rodriguez
Carl Hancock Rux
Danny Shot
Mahamadou Salieu Suso
Nat Turner
Barry Wallenstein
Laura Watson
Saul Williams