

## CONTRIBUTORS

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**Cathryn Alpert** is the author of the novel, *Rocket City*. A Bread Loaf Fellow in Fiction, she has been published in many anthologies, including *O. Henry Festival Stories*, *Walking the Twilight I and II*, *An Anthology for Creative Writers: A Garden of Forking Paths*, *Sudden Fiction (Continued)*, *Best of the West 5*, *Word of Mouth*, and *Touching Fire*, to name a few. Many of her stories have also appeared in literary magazines, including *Puerto del Sol*, *The Wittenberg Review*, *Thema*, *The Amaranth Review*, *ZZZZYVA*, and *The Rambler*.

**Ahimsa Timoteo Bodhrán**, born in the South Bronx, is a Ph.D. candidate in American Studies at Michigan State University. His work appears in ninety periodicals and anthologies in the U.S., Canada, and England, including *LUNA*, *Mizna*, *maganda*, *Inclined to Speak: An Anthology of Contemporary Arab American Poetry*, *Dangerous Families: Queer Writing on Surviving*, and *Yellow Medicine Review: A Journal of Indigenous Literature, Art, and Thought*. His first book, *Yerbabuena/Mala yerba, All My Roots Need Rain: mixed blood poetry & prose*, is forthcoming.

**Louisa Calio** has directed the Poets and Writers Piazza for Hofstra's Italian Experience for 6 years. She is an internationally published writer, was awarded The Connecticut Commission of the Arts Award to individual writers, the Women in Leadership award, Barbara Jones & Taliesin Prizes for Poetry (Trinidad & Tobago) and was honored in 2006 at Barnard / Columbia College, along with Alice Walker and other notable women, as *A Feminist Who Changed America*. She received a grant for the multimedia production of *In the Eye of Balance*, her first collection of poetry, and she will exhibit her photos and poems again in a new show (2008) at Round Hill Resort, Montego Bay, Jamaica, where she lives part of the year.

**Melissa Carroll** scribbles poetry on cocktail napkins, is saving up for her MFA and feels both excited and upset when she reads a remarkable word she's never heard before. In 2005 and 2006 she won first place for poetry in the student journal, *Quilt*. Originally from New York, she currently resides in beautiful Tampa, Florida where she works as a copywriter and practices Reiki, an ancient form of energy healing.

**Janine Coyne's** photo essay *Sicilian Journey* has been the subject of solo exhibitions most recently at The Italian American Museum in New York and The Riverside Metropolitan Museum in California. Her photographs are in the collections of The Brooklyn Museum, The Museum of The City of New York and The National Museum of Immigration at Ellis Island. Janine is a professor of photography at Kingsborough Community College and The College of Staten Island (CUNY).

**Anthony Di Renzo** teaches writing at Ithaca College. His work has appeared in *Alimentum Journal*, *Cottonwood Magazine*, *River Styx*, and *Voices in Italian Americana* and was cited in *Best American Essays*. "Eternal Death" is an excerpt from the first chapter of his novella, *Trinàcria*.

**Gil Fagiani** co-hosts the monthly open reading of the Italian American Writers' Association at the Cornelia Street Café and is the Associate Editor of *Feile-Festa*, a Literary Arts Journal. Two of his books have been published: *Crossing 116th Street: A Blanquito in El Barrio*, a chapbook and *Rooks*, the book-length poetry collection. He has also translated poems written in Italian, Abruzzese dialect, and Spanish into English. A social worker by profession, Gil directs a residential treatment program for recovering alcoholics and drug addicts in Downtown Brooklyn.

**Enzo Farinella**, a journalist, was born in Gangi, Sicily and has been living in Ireland for 30 years. From 1979 to 1999 he served as the Cultural Attache of the Italian Cultural Institute in Dublin and is currently the Director of Casa Italia Cultural Centre (Dublin), as well as Editor of the journal, *Casa Italia*. Enzo's books include *Un'ombra sull'Europa – La Tragedia dell'Irlandia del Nord* (Pellicanolibri, 1990), *L'Irlandia: Terra di Magia – Ireland: Land of Magic* (Bonanno Editore, 1995) and *Italia-Irlandia – Irish-Italian Links* (Bonanno Editore, 1997).

**Venera Fazio** was born in Bafia, Sicily and now lives in Bright's Grove, ON. She is co-editor of the anthologies, *Sweet Lemons: Writings With a Sicilian Accent* (Legas, 2004), *Writing Beyond History* (Cusmano, 2006) and *Strange Peregrinations: Italian Literary Landscapes* (Frank Iacobucci Centre, University of Toronto, 2007). Her prose and poetry have been published in several anthologies and in a number of literary magazines in Canada and the United States. She is currently working on a sequel to *Sweet Lemons*.

**Marisa Frasca** was born in Vittoria, Sicily. With her family, she emigrated to the United States as a young girl. Her importing business has kept her traveling between JFK, Malpensa, Fumicino, and Fontanarossa airports for the past 25 years. Recently, she semi-retired her suitcase and enjoys spending more time at home in Manhasset, New York. She now goes back and forth between writing Sicilian, Italian and English poetry, and (finally) learning to play the guitar.

**Paul Germano** lives, works and plays in Syracuse, NY. His most recent fiction stats include "Crash," published in *Hot Metal Press* (Winter 2008 issue), "Slim Chance" in *The Scruffy Dog Review* (Autumn 2007) and "Bad News in a Red Sweater" in *Samiz Dada* (January 2007). His fiction has also been published online and in print in *Collected Stories*, *Hobart*, *The House of Pain*, *Java Snob Review*, *MWP Journal*, *Slow Trains*, *Slug Fest*, *Sonata* and *Twilight Times*.

**Joseph Hart** is a playwright and theater director at Rutgers University. For many years he was a student of Joseph Campbell and a member of the Jung Foundation. His theater troupe of myth and folklore has toured internationally and won the Fringe First Award at the Edinburgh Festival. Last year his poetry took first honors at the Writers in Paradise National Writers Conference in St. Petersburg, Florida.

**Rosemarie Crupi Holz** taught English many years at Fort Hamilton High School, Bay Ridge Brooklyn, where she now works as a librarian. In addition, she enjoys her job as Director of the Book Club of the Mediterranean Celtic Cultural Association whose mission is to promote the understanding and appreciation of various Mediterranean and Celtic cultures.

**Jillian Foster Knight** travels throughout the country participating in historical reenactments and Highland Games. She is also the author of five art books, including *ReWritten: Tales of Celtic Mythology*.

**Maria Lisella** was a finalist in the competition for Poet Laureate of Queens in 2007. Her poetry has appeared in *Feile-Festa*, *NY Quarterly*, *Oberon*, *Paterson Literary Review*, *Skidrow Penthouse*, and on the online *Poets for Humanity*; two of her poems have been translated into French to soon appear in the French literary journal, *Liqueur 44*. She co-hosts the Italian American Writers Association readings and is co-editing an anthology based on those readings.

**Katharyn Howd Machan** is a Professor of Writing and Women Studies at Ithaca College and has edited the anthologies, *The Wings, the Vines: Poems by Katharyn Machan Aal, Alice Fulton, karen marie christa minns, and Sybil Smith* (McBooks Press, 1983) and *Rapunzel, Rapunzel: Poems, Prose & Photographs by Women on the Subject of Hair* (McBooks Press, 1980). Her most recent book is *The Professor Poems* (Main Street Rag Pub., 2008). She wrote her poem, "Dun Arann," after attending the Aran Islands Poetry and Prose Festival, 1999.

**Paul Many's** poems and stories have appeared (in his head unbidden and have been published) in *Jeopardy*, *Oracle*, *The Journal*, *Kaleidoscope*, *Exquisite Corpse* and *Blueline* among others. He holds (close to his heart) an MFA in creative writing from Bowling Green State University and teaches (when they permit) creative writing in the English department at the University of Toledo in Toledo, Ohio.

**Nick Matros** has a BFA in playwriting from NYU and an MA in Italian language and literature from Middlebury College. His work has previously appeared in *Feile-Festa*, as well as in *Italian Americana*. He has recently completed his first chapbook, *Poesie scritte col laptop: Poetry written by laptop*, and is at work on his next chapbook of narrative prose and metric verse entitled, *Prosimetro: Sonnets on Love and Baseball*. He reads regularly at IAWA's open mic at Cornelia Street and occasionally at Queens: Poet to Poet. He is also a contributing author to *Gelf Magazine's* Varsity Readings series. He teaches Italian language at North Shore Hebrew Academy High School, where he has also organized a Poet's Cafe evening for students. He lives in Queens, NY.

**Janet McCann** was born in 1942. Journals publishing her poems include *Kansas Quarterly*, *Parnassus*, *Nimrod*, *Sou'wester*, *Christian Century*, *Christianity and Literature*, *New York Quarterly*, *Tendrill*, *Poetry Australia* and *McCall's*, among many others. She has won three chapbook contests, sponsored by Pudding Publications, Chimera Connections, and Franciscan University Press. A 1989 NEA Creative Writing Fellowship winner, she has taught at Texas A & M University since 1969, was coordinator of creative writing here until recently, is currently Professor of English.

**Susan Moorhead's** poetry and short stories have appeared in *The Comstock Review*, *Bayou*, *Earth's Daughters*, *Mothering*, *Brain*, *Child*, and *Whetstone*, including an essay nominated for a Pushcart prize. A children's book is forthcoming from E.P. Dutton. A librarian in Westchester County, Susan has always been proud of her Scottish heritage courtesy of her father, George H. Clarkson, whose tales of his native country and stirring recitations of Robert Burns's poetry enriched her childhood.

**Perry S. Nicholas** is an English professor at Erie Community College North in Buffalo, N.Y. He has two chapbooks in print, entitled *Stars That Cover You* and *Rooms of the Atrium*. He was nominated twice for the Pushcart Prize in 2006 and 2007 by *Skyline Magazine*. In 2006, he won the Skyline Winter Poetry Bash Contest for his poem, "Comealong." His poem, "Santorini," appeared in the Spring 2007 edition of *Feile-Festa*.

**Frank Polizzi's** poems and stories have appeared in *The Archer*, *Bitterroot*, *City Legacy*, *Electric Acorn* (Dublin Writers), *la bella figura*, *Mudfish*, *Paterson Literary Review*, *Urban Spaghetti*, *Wired Art* and others. He has participated in six joint presentations with Enzo Farinella, former Italian Cultural Attaché in Dublin, on the similarities between Irish and Italian/Sicilian cultures, including a collaboration with the Glucksman Ireland House & Casa Italiana of NYU. He has completed his first novel, *A Pity Beyond All Telling*, and is currently working on a second novel.

**Kenneth Scambray** is the author of *A Varied Harvest: The Life and Works of Henry Blake Fuller* (University of Pittsburgh Press, 1987), *The North American Italian Renaissance: Italian Writing in America and Canada* (Guernica, 2000), *Surface Roots: Stories* (Guernica, 2004), and *Queen Calafia's Paradise: California and the Italian American Novel* (Fairleigh Dickinson University Press, 2007). Since 1978, he has served as the book and film critic for *L'Italo-Americano*, the West Coast Italian-English newspaper. He is also contributing writer for *Accenti: The Canadian Magazine with an Italian Accent* (Montreal). Recently, his stories and poems have appeared in *Sweet Lemons: Writing with a Sicilian Accent* (2004) and *Writing Beyond History: An Anthology of Prose and Poetry* (Montreal, 2006). In June, his poem "Piece Work" won the Editor's Choice Prize for the Allen Ginsberg Poetry Prize (2007) sponsored each year by *The Paterson Literary Review* (New Jersey). He is Professor of English at the University of La Verne.

**Gina M. Tabasso**, a poet with her master's degree in English, has won numerous awards and has been published in *Mangrove*, *The Common Review*, *Upstairs at Duroc*, *The MacGuffin*, *Mid-American Review*, *Slant*, *Blue Mesa Review*, *Pavement Saw*, and many others. Gina earns her living as the corporate communications manager for a tire distributor. She loves to ride her Thoroughbred racehorse, read, write, watch films, belly dance and spend time with those she loves.

**Harry Youtt** is a Pushcart Prize nominated poet, whose work appears in numerous publications. He teaches in the UCLA Writers Program (Ext.), where he was named Outstanding Instructor for Board of the U.K. based *Journal of Consciousness, Literature and the Arts*. For several years, he conducted workshops for Welsh poets at the Dylan Thomas Centre in Swansea.

**Tony Zeppetella** spent his professional career as a mathematics professor, actuary, insurance executive, investment manager and consultant. His published articles have appeared in mathematical and actuarial journals. His reviews have appeared in *Feile-Festa* and genealogical publications. He specializes today in the enjoyment of life, friends, and family, with subspecialties in travel, food and wine, theatre, literature, film, music and opera.