

Olivia Arieti is an American citizen, with a degree from the University of Pisa, and lives in Italy. Her plays and short stories have been published in the USA and the UK. Her poems appeared in *Women In Judaism*, *The Wanderlust Review*, *Poetica Magazine*, *Eye On Life*, *VWA: Poems For Haiti*, *Cliterature*, *The Harsh And The Heart Anthology*, *Pagan Friends*, *The Expeditioner's Guide To The World*, and *Bridging the Cultural Divide Anthology*.

Diego Bastianutti has a number of publications: *A Major Selection of the Poetry of Giuseppe Ungaretti*, in 1997, winner of the "1998 John Glassco Prize"; two books of poetry, *Il punto caduto* and *La barca in secco* in 1993 and 1995. His book, *Per un pugno di terra/For a Fistful of Soil* in 2006, was a winner of the *International Literary Prize Umberto Saba*. He has completed a fourth volume, *The Bloody Thorn*. His award-winning poetry and short stories have been featured in various journals and anthologies.

Kathleen Cain is an Irish-American poet and writer from Nebraska, living in Colorado. Recent work has appeared online in *Hospital Drive* and *Collecting Life: Poets on Objects Real and Imagined*. She has work forthcoming in the anthology *Turn* from Uttered Chaos Press and *The Untidy Season: An Anthology of Nebraska Women Poets*. She hopes to make her eleventh visit to Ireland in 2013.

Alan Cohen gave up behavioral science research to poetize and eat truffled pastas. From 1970 to 1980 he was Random House's major education author and for 20 years his wife and he directed doctoral studies in learning at the University of San Francisco. His poems appear in more than a dozen literary magazines and anthologies, most recently in the *Marin Poetry Center Anthology*, *Poetica Magazine*, *Soundings Review*, *Xanadu*, *Front Range* and others.

Mary Crescenzo is an award-winning writer, playwright and poet. Her work has appeared in both commercial and literary publications, including *The New York Times*, *Santa Fe Reporter*, *Italian-Americana* (editor, *Dana Goia*), *Trapani Nuova* (Sicily) and the Yale Divinity School literary journal, *Reflections*. Mary is also a blogger for *The Huffington Post*. Her poem, "Olive Girl," was first published in *la bella figura: a choice - malafemmina* press.

Donald Dewey has published 33 books of fiction, nonfiction, and drama for such houses as, HarperCollins, Little, Brown, and Carroll and Graf. His biographies of actors Marcello Mastroianni and James Stewart have been widely translated. His novels include *Wake Up and Smell the Bees* and, to be published in June, *The Man Who Hated History*.

Liz Dolan's second poetry manuscript, *A Secret of Long Life*, which is seeking a publisher, was nominated for the Robert McGovern Prize. Her first poetry collection, *They Abide*, was published by March Street Press. A six-time heart nominee and winner of The Best of the Web, she has also won an established artist fellowship in poetry and two honorable mentions in prose from the Delaware Division of the Arts. She recently won The Nassau Prize for prose.

Gil Fagiani's most recent published collection of poetry is *Serfs of Psychiatry* (Finishing Line Press, 2012). He has translated into English poetry written in Italian and Abruzzese dialect. Gil co-curates the Italian American Writers' Association's readings at the Cornelia Street Café and is a founding member of the Vito Marcantonio Forum.

Kate Falvey's poetry and fiction have appeared in an eclectic assortment of print and online journals, including *Italian Americana and Revival Literary Journal* (Limerick Arts Centre). She is on the editorial board of the *Bellevue Literary Review* and is editor in chief of the *2 Bridges Review*. She has two chapbooks forthcoming: *What the Sea Washes Up* (Dancing Girl Press) and *Morning Constitutional with Sunhat and Bolero* (Green Fuse Poetic Arts).

Marisa Fazio lives in Melbourne, Australia and is of Sicilian background. Her poetry and prose have appeared in numerous Australian and international journals and anthologies. Her most recent writing projects include the verse novella, *A Leopard's Kiss* (2011) and a poetry installation, *The Nature Lovers* (2012).

Cristina Ferrari-Logan is a native Californian and a graduate of UC Berkeley. After a colorful and fulfilling career as classical pianist, a Special Needs teacher, wife, mother and grandmother, she has arrived pleasantly intact at the geezerette stage where retirement affords her quality time for new and challenging pursuits.

D. Dina Friedman is a native New Yorker currently living in western Massachusetts next door to 400 cows. Her poems have appeared in numerous literary journals, including *Calyx*, *Bloodroot*, *Inkwell*, *Pacific Poetry and Fiction Review*, *Tsunami*, *The Sun*, *Anderbo* and *San Pedro River Review*, and she has received two Pushcart Prize nominations. Dina is also the author of two young adult novels, *Escaping Into the Night* and *Playing Dad's Song*. She teaches at the University of Massachusetts/Amherst.

George Guida is the author of five books, including *The Pope Stories and Other Tales of Troubled Times* (Bordighera Press, 2012) and three collections of poems — *Friars Club Conscience* (Oliver James Press, 2013), *New York and Other Lovers* (Smalls Books, 2008) and *Low Italian* (Bordighera Press, 2006). He teaches English and creative writing at New York City College of Technology and serves as Poetry Editor of *2 Bridges Review*.

Simon Jackson is an award-winning writer of poetry, plays, films and music. His recent short films with Scottish poets and Billy Bragg have been screened by the BBC and in film festivals around the world, and his last play, *Turning to the Camera*, was The Guardian's Pick of the Week for Scottish theatre. He's never come close to making a living through art and teaches in an international school in Cairo.

Carmela Lanza is an assistant professor of English at Dakota State University. Her poetry has appeared in numerous journals including *Blue Mesa Review*, *Voices in Italian Americana*, *la bella figura*, and *Puerto del Sol*. Her chapbook, *Long Island Girl* was published by malafemmina press.

Maria Lisella's Pushcart Poetry Prize nominated work appears in *Amore on Hope Street* (Finishing Line Press) and *Two Naked Feet* (Poets Wear Prada). Her collection, *Thieves in the Family*, is a forthcoming publication by New York Quarterly Books. Her work has appeared online or in *New Verse News*, *Pirene's Fountain*, *First Literary Review-East*, *The New York Quarterly*, *Fox Chase Review*, *Mobius*, *Paterson Literary Review* and other journals. She co-curates the Italian American Writers Association literary readings at Cornelia St. Café and is a travel writer by profession.

Mike Maggio has published fiction, poetry, travel and reviews in *Potomac Review*, *The Montserrat Review*, *Pleiades*, *Apalachee Quarterly*, *The Northern Virginia Review*, *The L.A. Weekly*, *The Washington CityPaper*, *Beltway Quarterly*, *Pig Iron*, *DC Poets Against the War* and others. His books include *Your Secret is Safe With Me* (Black Bear Publications, 1988), *Oranges From Palestine* (Mardi Gras Press, 1996) , *Sifting Through the Madness* (Xlibris, 2001), *deMOCKcracy* (Plain View Press, 2007) and *The Keepers* (March Street Press 2011). His novel, *In the Valley of Granite and Steel*, has just been release by thewritedeal.org.

Shahé Mankerian is the first place winner of 2012 "Black and White" anthology series from Outrider Press. His recent poems have won Honorable Mentions in both the Allen Ginsberg Poetry Award and Arts & Letters Rumi Prize for Poetry. He was also a Semi-Finalist at the Knightville Poetry Contest in 2012.

John McCaffrey graduated from the City College of New York's creative writing program and currently lives in Hoboken, NJ. His debut novel, *The Book of Ash*, will be released by Boxfire Press in October 2013.

Phyllis Meshulam provokes written poetry from young people through the California Poets in the Schools (CPITS) program and spoken poetry from them in the nationwide Poetry Out Loud (POL) competition. Phyllis is the author of the chapbook, *Valley of Moon* from dPress, and a contributor to many literary journals, as well as the award-winning anthology, *Veterans of War, Veterans of Peace*, edited by Maxine Hong Kingston. It was in this latter publication that composer Diane Benjamin found Phyllis's poem "Weaving Peace" and chose it as the finale in her chorale, "Women and War," which also included texts by Lucille Clifton and Carolyn Kizer. Phyllis has an MFA in poetry and fiction from Vermont College.

Constantine Mountrakis is an anthropologist and writer from New York City. He currently lives in Athens, Greece, where he is pursuing a doctorate. While he has been writing for approximately twenty years, he has only recently ventured out of his shell to join the literary community. His work has appeared in *Punchnel's*, *Misfit's Miscellany*, and *Speculative Edge Magazine*, among others.

Perry S. Nicholas is an Assistant English professor at Erie Community College North in Buffalo, N.Y. His poems have appeared in *Slant*, *Feile-Festa*, *Louisiana Literature*, *Chautauqua Literary Journal*, *Chest*, *Common Ground Review*, and *The Healing Muse*. He has published four books of poetry: *The River of You*, *What the World Sees*, *Small Crafts*, and *Beginnings*.

Marc Ó Conchúir was born and raised in Cork, but travelled the world playing bass with a jazz trio. He is now studying at University College Cork and trying his hand at writing fiction.

Renzo Oliva was born in Bracciano, Italy, and has spent most of his life in the diplomatic service, retiring as Vice Consul of Italy in Philadelphia. The Russian literary magazine, *Zvezda* (Star) published his experimental novel, *Wonderland*. During 2002 in St. Petersburg, he won first prize at the "4th International Festival of Performance and Experimental Art," as well as the "Pushkin Prize." Since 1996 he devotes himself to Scrap Art, which he discovered during a holiday on the island of Mallorca, Spain. He has had 20 solo exhibitions and has participated in many group exhibitions internationally. His detective-historical novel, *The Mayakovsky's Pistol*, is coming out in Italy this year.

Frank Polizzi's poems and stories have appeared in *The Archer*, *Electric Acorn*, *Mudfish*, *Paterson Literary Review*, *Wired Art* and others. In April 2009, the Guild of Italian American Actors (GIAA) conducted a reading of his one-act play, *By the Light of a Barber Pole*. In March 2011, Finishing Line Press published a chapbook of his poems, *All Around Town*, centering on his experiences in NYC and Sicilian American roots. Several chapter/stories were published from his first novel, *A Pity Beyond All Telling*, and one of them was shortlisted for the Fish Prize in Ireland. He is currently finishing work on a second novel set in San Francisco and Italy during World War II. The poem, "In the Cold Night Air," first appeared in the *Anthology: Italo-American and Italo-Canadian Poets* edited by Ferdinando Alfonsi.

Nino Provenzano has had two collections of his poems published by Legas Press: *Vinissi... / I'd Love to Come...* and *Turno / The Return*. He is currently the Vice President of Arba Sicula, an international organization that promotes Sicilian culture in the world. *The New York Times* has published two articles on his work promoting Sicilian poetry in America. He provided English-to-Sicilian translations for the feature film, *MAC*, directed by John Torturro, and he worked with director, Spike Lee, in preparing the actor, John Leguizamo, for his role in the film, *Son of Sam*. He frequently recites his poetry at colleges, universities and cultural exchange festivals around the world.

Donna Pucciani, a Chicago-based poet, has published poetry in the U.S., Europe, Australia and Asia in such diverse journals as *International Poetry Review*, *The Pedestal*, *Shi Chao Poetry*, *Spoon River Poetry*, *Journal of the American Medical Association* and *Christianity and Literature*. Her work has been translated into Italian, Chinese and Japanese. Her books include *The Other Side of Thunder*, *Jumping Off the Train*, *Chasing the Saints*, and *To Sip Darjeeling at Dawn*. A four-time Pushcart nominee, she has won awards from the Illinois Arts Council, The National Federation of State Poetry Societies and Poetry on the Lake.

David Risk is a New York writer, documentary filmmaker and translator. His play, *The Kissing Booth*, was published in a new plays anthology in 2006. The Players Foundation presented an evening of his translations of Nino Provenzano's poetry in May, 2010 at The Players Club. Mr. Provenzano and he were joined by Emmy Award-winning actor, Michael Badalucco, in performances of the work. He is currently at work on a biography of the great restaurateur, Joe Baum, and a comedic screenplay, *Faking the News*.

Carole Stone's three books of poetry are: *Lime and Salt*, Carriage House Press, *Traveling with the Dead*, Backwaters Press and *American Rhapsody*, CavanKerry Press. She is a Professor of English Emerita, Montclair State University and a recipient of fellowships from Rothermere Institute, Oxford University, England, Hawthornden Castle, Scotland and Chateau de Lavigny, Switzerland.

A. Hunter Sunrise holds an MFA from Vermont College of Fine Arts, where a study of cross-genre hybrids spurred the mind to take in the world and reinvent it as flash, lyric, narrative prose. Hunter's work can be found in literary journals, such as *Fringe*, *The Pointed Circle*, and *Embodies Effigies*, among others. When not writing, Hunter is often found wandering the streets of San Miguel de Allende or Budapest, visioning the world through a camera lens and tracing invisible lines between people's lives and their imaginings.

Greg Tuleja was born in New Jersey and received degrees in biology and music from Rutgers University. He has worked as a professional musician, piano technician and flute teacher. Greg is currently the Academic Dean at the Williston Northampton School in Easthampton, Massachusetts, where he also teaches 9th grade English and coaches the girls cross country team. His poems and short stories have appeared in various literary journals and magazines, including the *Maryland Review*, *Lonely Planet Press*, *Romantics Quarterly*, *Thema*, and the journal of the *California Literary Society*.