



## Celebrate Carrboro's 100th Birthday!



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[www.SchardingDesign.com](http://www.SchardingDesign.com)

This spring we celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our town's incorporation with a birthday party, Thursday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> where the current poet laureate is anticipated to read.

The celebration will continue at Town Hall on Carrboro Day- This annual tradition will be highlighted by extra special touches to mark this historic occasion. Details Sunday May 1<sup>st</sup>.

Details of the above events and other events are currently being planned by the Carrboro Centennial Committee.

Carrboro Poet Laureate Jay Bryan and The Carrboro Poet Council are currently compiling information to produce an anthology of poems read at past Carrboro Day events and including writings of past Carrboro poet laureates to honor Carrboro's 100 years!

All events will be free and open to the public.

To check for updates and more details as the celebration draws near visit:

[www.carrborocentennial.com](http://www.carrborocentennial.com)



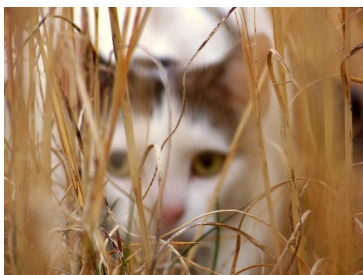
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## Live Round

All ten-thousand  
 parts of cat run  
 like seventeen jewels  
 in velvet. Target-locked,  
 she tucks white forepaws,  
 folds couchant and waits.  
 One-thousand gyros idling  
 silently, ordnance round  
 of bottled death  
 with nose that never sleeps  
 tuned to the frequency  
 of mouse.

From *Negotiating Physics*,  
 David T. Manning



## Playing with Lightning

We'd be like Ben Franklin  
 with his kite, two amateurs  
 in a thunderstorm. He was  
 damn lucky!—flew his line up

Lady Weather & she tickled  
 his key & sent him home unharmed.  
 It would be fun to find out  
 what it's like, just a tiny jolt,

then walk away & write it in  
 a diary & of course my scientific  
 curiosity is aroused. But old Ben  
 had quite a key-ring &

a knack for tiptoeing & leaving  
 just in time. So what do you think  
 of the chances for both of us  
 to get away with it?

From *The Flower Sermon*  
 David T. Manning

## How to Become a Missing Person

The hero in the cartoon jail  
 sketches a door on the wall,  
 turns the knob and walks away.

I want to write night wind  
 and stars, rainsound,  
 sun-fragrant sage—that way,

to code the scent of orchards  
 on a page, or Christmas  
 when your hands made angel

shadows in the hall. Then  
 when that world's complete—  
 I'll step  
 through into it. That real.

From *Crucible*  
 David T. Manning



## HOW THE DEAD COME BACK

Joanna Catherine Scott



In the course of justice none of us should see salvation.—Portia, *The Merchant of Venice*

The trick is you can execute them, but they do not die. Will not. They refuse. Or cannot. Yes, they lie there on the gurney, still as death, as stone men, still as flesh that has not yet begun to rot, still as evil, still as sorrow and resentment, still as innocence sometimes, stiller than betrayal, which is all agitation and the counting out of thirty silver coins. Stiller yet than justice, who has done them in, or so assumes, which is all she can do since she's blind, or blinded, blinkered, and so cannot see, or foresee, the consequences of her delicately balanced golden scale, a balance, everyone allows, which can be tricky—card up the sleeve, two-headed coin, a pair of weighted dice, a plea that turns, by sleight of hand, into a blue light basement bargain. All are tricky. As is execution. Soft warm flesh shot full of triple death, like the vengeance of a triple God, the one who said, Thou shalt not kill, the one whose son said, Love thy neighbor as thyself, the one who said that mercy blesses him that gives and him that takes—no, that wasn't God, just an ordinary woman with an ordinary woman's view on how the world should be.

So then, the inmate launched with the grim ferryman, now comes the business of unstrapping from the gurney, the hauling out and the incineration, or, if the family can afford the fee, the handing over for burial deep down, a place to mourn above, his final resting place, although he's had no rest for years—those constant shrilling lights—and might appreciate the chance to lie there, quiet in the dark, and Rest In Peace . . . but forget all that, because he's right back on Death Row, where he has been for all, or almost all, his adult life, has grown accustomed to it, learned how to survive it, even learned to love it, think of it as home, that great attachment, the one we all come back to one way or another.

Which is why execution is so tricky, this shooting up with death of men chock brimful with it, the poison overflowing, leaking out, poisoning the executioner and lawyers, the warden whose duty is to come along and watch. (Does he love his duty? Does he dream of it at night? Count the kills like a soldier on a mission overseas, or a canned hunt huntsman on a drive-by shoot of captive black buck antelope?) Poisoning the four official witnesses, upright citizens, respectability required. Poisoning the doctor as he's filling out the death certificate, Cause of Death box-checked homicide. Poisoning the executee's family, who have been dying now for years, the victim's too, if after this long time they feel compelled to come.

Poison leaking through the ventilation system to the air outside, to fall like gentle rain from heaven upon protesters on the hill above the prison, with their prayers and hymns and tears and tender hearts and lighted candles and their signs: No more lynching! Stop state killing now! Poison dropping down onto supporters with their placards: Murderers deserve to die! and their T-shirts saying Die! Poison spreading like a virus, a contagion, out across the city, and the county, and the state, the entire God-bless-us country, out into the world. That awful gentle dropping, that terrible insinuation, that corrosive rain, gentler than mercy but remorseless, down on We the People, seeping into hearts and turning them to stone.

Gently dropping down, too, on the brand new teenage mother walking her new child, a baby boy with brand new baby-boy-child's heart and halo of black curls, walking him into the prison of his future, into hers. And the newly undead watching from a Death Row window, he and those who came before him, killers, with the innocent amongst them, gazing in confoundment at this grand homicidal spree.

## White Roses

Welcome to the New Year's Eve Potluck.

Would you like a glass of champagne?

Finger foods, salads, and entrees  
in this room, beverages and sweets  
the next.

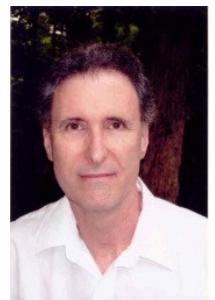
Around midnight, feel free  
to pull a white rose from the vase  
on the coffee table, loosen a palmful  
of petals and throw them like  
Times Square confetti over friends  
wanting snow. Lift another stalk  
and swirl a delicious blessing  
on the couple who mixed the fondue,  
flurry extra pieces of prosperity  
over anyone resolved to talk politics.

Toss feathery petals on the friend  
whose feisty cat lost a leg. Share  
weightless words about friends  
drifted away, sprinkle fields of renewal  
for the starving, war's dispossessed.

These wishes also work at other  
gatherings. The petals needn't be white.

From *Embrace* by Bruce Lader (Big Table Publishing, 2010)

[www.brucelader.com](http://www.brucelader.com)





## THE THIRD ANNUAL NAZIM HIKMET POETRY COMPETITION

Accepting submissions

January 5, 2011

through

February 6, 2011

Don't miss the opportunity to be part of this reputable poetry event.

Last year's competition received over five hundred poems from one hundred seventy poets, representing places as far afield as Alaska and Malta. One-third of the entries were submitted from places outside of North Carolina, establishing a transnational scope.

The winners will receive monetary prizes, read their poems at the Nazim Hikmet Poetry Festival, and their poetry will be published in the Nazim Hikmet Poetry Festival Chapbook.

For information on past competitions, festivals and call for submissions visit [www.nazimhikmetpoetryfestival.org](http://www.nazimhikmetpoetryfestival.org)

Festival

April 2011

Page Walker Arts and History Center, Cary, NC

[www.nazimhikmetpoetryfestival.org](http://www.nazimhikmetpoetryfestival.org)

### **Black Poetry Theatre debuts its second production of the season... "Definition of a Hero"**

Black Poetry Theatre presents "Definition of a Hero", a poetic theatre piece dealing with the perceptions of a hero while examining the complex relationships between fathers and sons. It stars Joseph "Church da'Poet" Churchwell, Dasan Ahanu, Elliot "Axiom" and vocalist Chauncey Taylor. Their combination of rhyme, rhythm and music coupled with their originality and thoughtful words makes for an evening filled with thought-provoking theatre. Written by Dasan Ahanu, the production features original pieces performed by national spoken word artists and poets.

Friday, January 14th at 8pm & Saturday, January 15th, 2011 at 3pm .  
Common Ground Theatre 4815B Hillsborough Road Durham, NC 27705  
<http://www.blackpoetrytheatre.com/>

### **Celebrate Alice's Book Launch/Featured Reading Night for *Unfinished Projects***

Location: Storytellers Bookstore in downtown Wake Forest

Fri. January 28 Time: 7:30-9:30pm

RSVP: [alice@aliceosborn.com](mailto:alice@aliceosborn.com)

Come out to celebrate Alice's book launch of her new book of poems, *Unfinished Projects* published by Main Street Rag Publishing Co. Join Alice and her friends for a night of poetry, wine and chocolate. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

### **Main Street Rag Reading Series & Open Mic Featuring Alice Osborn**

Location: Flyleaf Books, 752 MLK Jr. Blvd (Airport Rd), Chapel Hill, NC 27514

Thurs. February 10<sup>th</sup> Time: 7-9:30pm

Join Alice as she reads from her new book of poetry, *Unfinished Projects*. Her reading will be followed by an Open Mic. Hosted by Stan Absher and Debra Kaufman.

### **Celebrate Alice's Book Launch/Featured Reading Night for *Unfinished Projects* in Durham**

Location: Sweet Tea Cafe, 1058 West Club Blvd, Durham 27701 inside Northgate Mall

Sat. Feb 12 Time: 2-4 pm

Join Alice as she reads from her new book of poetry, *Unfinished Projects*.

RSVP: [alice@aliceosborn.com](mailto:alice@aliceosborn.com)

### **Poet Local Series Featuring Alice Osborn**

Location: Ashley Park, 10300 Pine Lakes Ct, Raleigh, NC 27615

Sunday, February 20<sup>th</sup> Time: 3-5pm

Join Alice as she reads from her new book of poetry, *Unfinished Projects*. Her reading will be followed by questions and discussion. Hosted by Living Poetry.

RSVP at <http://www.meetup.com/Living-Poetry-Brier-Creek-Raleigh/>

### **Iodine Poetry Journal/Main Street Rag Reading Event, for Alice Osborn's *Unfinished Projects* in Charlotte, NC**

**Location:** Green Rice Gallery, 451 East 36th St., **Charlotte, NC**

**Fri February 25, 7-9pm**

Featured Readers will be **Alice Osborn (*Unfinished Projects*, MSR, 2010)** and a player to be named later. Open Mike follows. Sign up for open mike must be in person before 7:15. Details: [editor@mainstreetrag.com](mailto:editor@mainstreetrag.com)

### **The North Carolina Poetry Society Winter Meeting**

The North Carolina Poetry Society holds its annual Winter Meeting Saturday, January 22nd at the Weymouth Center for the Arts and Humanities in Southern Pines, NC. Registration begins at 9:15 am, and activities begin at 10 am. This year's winter meeting is very special; in addition to reading selections of their own work, well-known North Carolina poets Dorianne Laux, John Balaban, and Morri Creech will each be giving a poetry writing workshop, and attendees will get their pick of which to attend. For more information, including bios of our three featured guests and descriptions of their workshops, visit <http://www.ncpoetrysociety.org>. A tentative schedule of events is below.

#### Tentative Schedule

- 9:00 am – Registration; lunch orders (\$10, cash or check payable to 195) until 10:15 am—or bring your own lunch; coffee, tea, and snacks
- 10:00 – Business meeting with Tony Abbott, president, presiding
- 10:30 – Readings by John Balaban, Morri Creech, and Dorianne Laux
- 11:30 – Open mic and recitation
- 12:00 – Lunch, socializing, and perusing the book room
- 1:00 – Open mic and recitation
- 1:15 – Workshop with Balaban, Creech, or Laux
- 2:45 – Adjourn

### **NC Poetry Series: Dorianne Laux, Joseph Millar, & Tim McBride**

Sunday, Jan 30 2:00p at Fearington Village, Pittsboro, NC

The fourth Sunday afternoon of each month McIntyre's features a published member of the NC Poetry Society reading and discussing their work. This month's event features Joseph Millar, Dorianne Laux and Tim McBride

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



## Reoccurring Events:

### **Carrboro Recreation & Parks Department Presents Poet's Open Mic Night at Open Eye Café No January Event. February 1, March 1, April 5 from 7- 9 PM**

Join Carrboro Recreation and Parks Department the first Tuesday of each month for this great event! This is a night where poets can engage with others and share the power and diversity of poetry. The event is staged to provide a venue for people to celebrate, to share, and to encourage the writing, reading and listening to poetry.

#### **Friday Noon Poets**

**Fridays, 12:30pm-1:30pm**

Amity United Methodist Church

Corner of Estes Dr. and Airport Blvd., **Chapel Hill, NC.**

Informal meetings every Friday. Read your poetry or poems of others.

Free parking, side entrance. All are welcome!

Call Dave Manning for details, 919-462-3695

#### **Raleigh Reading Open Mic Night**

**First Thursday of Each Month 7:00-8:30pm**

hosted by Maureen Sherbondy

Royal Bean Coffee House & Gathering Space (across from Meredith College)

3801 Hillsborough St., Raleigh, NC.

Co-sponsored by Main Street Rag Publishing Company. Come to read or just to listen, bring poems, short-short stories, or essays. If you plan on reading, please let Maureen know:

[msherbondy@nc.rr.com](mailto:msherbondy@nc.rr.com). For more info, call Royal Bean at 919-834-BEAN.

#### **Cellar 101 Open Mic**

**Third Thursday of Each Month 5:00pm**

Cellar 101, 101 S. Main St., **Fuquay-Varina, NC.**

This is a monthly Open Mike event hosted by Malaika King Albrecht and Jan Parker, sponsored by Main Street Rag.

For details, email Malaika at [pomegranite8@hotmail.com](mailto:pomegranite8@hotmail.com) or call Cellar 101 at 919-285-3416.



## Lyric Line Workshop

January 14 (Saturday), 2 pm

Southeast Library in Durham

Debra Kaufman and Richard Krawiec will lead a workshop on the lyric line and read from both *The Sound of Poets Cooking* and Debra's collection *The Next Moment*, from Jacar Press. Free and open to the public.

## Correspondence Course for Poets with Alice Osborn

\$295 for 12 months (that's only \$25/month!) of a hand-written poetry critique (1 poem/month).

Year-long class begins February 15<sup>th</sup>

This class is perfect for poets who want a one-on-one poetry session with Alice, but don't live in North Carolina.

With published poet Alice Osborn as your instructor you'll improve your poetry and get published this year!

Register at <http://aliceosborn.com/products-page/>




**By Request:  
Poetry Revealed Presents  
Open Mic Nights!**

**Poet's Open Mic Night at Open Eye Café**

Join Carrboro Recreation and Parks Department the first Tuesday of each month for this great event! This is a night where poets can engage with others and share the power and diversity of poetry. The event is staged to provide a venue for people to celebrate, to share, and to encourage the writing, reading and listening to poetry.

**Dates Held:**  
**February 1**  
**March 1**  
**April 5**  
**May 3**

**Time: 7- 9 PM**



Carrboro Recreation and Parks Department  
 100 N Greensboro St, Carrboro, NC 27510  
 919-918-7364  
[www.townofcarrboro.org/RP](http://www.townofcarrboro.org/RP)

Created and Issued by the  
Carrboro Recreation and Parks Department

For the newsletter, we welcome:

- Poetry News
- Upcoming Poetry Events
- Articles
- Contest Information
- Festival and Event Recaps
- ...and of course, Poetry



100 North Greensboro Street  
 Carrboro , NC 27514  
 919-918-7364

[www.townofcarrboro.org](http://www.townofcarrboro.org)  
[www.westendpoetsweekend.com](http://www.westendpoetsweekend.com)



West End Poets Festival Coordinator:  
 Kim Andrews  
 Phone: (919) 918-7367  
[kandrews@townofcarrboro.org](mailto:kandrews@townofcarrboro.org)  
 Fax: 919-918-4475

Please email your information to  
 TJ Carr at  
[TCarr@townofcarrboro.org](mailto:TCarr@townofcarrboro.org)