

ABOUT LES FIGUES PRESS

Les Figues Press is an award-winning, independent, and nonprofit publisher of poetry, prose, visual art, conceptual writing, and translation. Based in Los Angeles, our mission is to create aesthetic conversations between readers, writers, and artists. Les Figues Press publishes five to seven books a year and favors projects which push the boundaries of genre, form, and general acceptability. We also curate and host literary events, including readings, conversations, performances, and art salons.

Les Figues Press: Beauty · Belief · Bawdry

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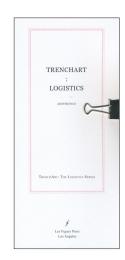
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TrenchArt: Logistics

Dodie Bellamy, Alice Könitz, Redell Olsen, Chris Tysh, Divya Victor

> "In business, logistics simply refers to minding the organizational details. The devil, as you know, is in the details."

—From the introduction by Vanessa Place



Hand-bound in an edition of 250, *TrenchArt: Logistics* introduces the eighth annual TrenchArt series, with aesthetic statements written by participating series writers as well as visual art by Alice Könitz. Of the aesthetic essays, Vanessa Place notes in her introduction that "partial objects are proudly on parade: mouths, cunts, cuts of tongue, and the skin-surface of films/film-surface of skins." Each of the books in the Logistics series uses the cut, and cutting, as an organizing principal. These series titles include: *Our Lady of the Flowers, Echoic* by Chris Tysh; *Film Poems* by Redell Olsen; *Cunt Norton* by Dodie Bellamy; and *Things To Do With Your Mouth* by Divya Victor.

TrenchArt: Logistics is available for Les Figues members. See "Become a Member" on page 17 for more information.

Prose | Price: \$60 for full set | ISBN: 978-1-934254-48-6 | Paperback | Pub Date: Summer 2013

ABOUT TRENCHART

Every writer is in conversation with other writers, every text in conversation with other texts. TrenchArt is an annual book series that explores this notion by presenting new works of literature as part of a larger cultural and aesthetic conversation. Each series features a set of five books that, when placed in proximity, resonate in their conceptual / formal concerns. All participants also write an essay of poetics, which is separately published in a collection of "Aesthetics" for each series.

Our Lady of the Flowers, Echoic

Chris Tysh

"This volume of verse, played over by a flickering ghostly flame, is perhaps the book that Genet meant to write...From pulp novels to the angels in heaven, from sodom to the royal family, from 'gloom's infernal ruckus' to a silent field of flowers, Tysh drags her wounded poem."



—John Tranter

In *Our Lady of the Flowers, Echoic,* Chris Tysh newly translates *Notre-Dame-des-Fleurs,* compressing Jean Genet's disturbing 1943 novel into cuttingly charged verse. Suturing sexual otherness to an aching of gendered expectations, Tysh's cadences embrace postmodernism's emblematic penchant for all manner of appropriation, translating Genet's "derailed speech" in order to explore "the fluffy / Boas and gaudy tinsel of a feeling / Separate from its truth."

Poetry | \$15.00 | ISBN: 978-1-934254-47-9 | Paperback | Pub Date: Fall 2013

Film Poems

Redell Olsen



say the subjects are universal language say the language is universal say the language is subject to it say the language is its subject say the language is subjected say the language is suspected

—from Film Poems

Film Poems is Redell Olsen's most recent publication. Her other publications include Punk Faun: a bar rock pastel (Subpress, 2012), Secure Portable Space (Reality Street, 2004), Book of the Fur (rem press, 2000), and the collaboratively produced here are my instructions (Gefn Press, 2004). Her most recent writing projects have been oriented toward critical essays and performance, involving films as well as site-specific collaborations.

Poetry | \$15.00 | ISBN: 9780-1-934254-51-6 | Paperback | Pub Date: Fall 2013

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Cunt Norton

Dodie Bellamy



"I think this could be the most joyful book on earth."

—From the introduction by Ariana Reines

In *Cunt Norton*, the sequel to her unforgettable *Cunt Ups*, Dodie Bellamy "cunts" *The Norton Anthology of Poetry* (1975 edition), setting her text-ravenous cut-ups loose to devour the canonical voices of English literature: 33 monstrous, beautiful, unashamed, erotic love poems that lust after the very aesthetic they resist. From Chaucer to Shakespeare, Emerson to Lowell, the texts that emerge from this sexual-linguistic encounter breathe life into literary "masters" with joy, honesty, hilarity, and insatiable passion.

Poetry | \$15.00 | ISBN: 978-1-934254-49-3 | Paperback | Pub Date: Fall 2013

Things To Do With Your Mouth

Divya Victor

"There is great care in this book for exposing the measurements used for feeling, if you can appreciate it, after all you are in the title, your mouth."

—From the afterword by CA Conrad



Divya Victor lives in Buffalo, where she earned a PhD at SUNY Buffalo's poetics program and is a teaching artist with Just Buffalo Literary Center. Her past publications include: Partial Derivative of the Unnamable (Troll Thread), PUNCH and Goodbye John! On John Baldessari (Gauss PDF), Hellocasts by Charles Reznikoff by Divya Victor by Vanessa Place (Ood press), and SUTURES (Little Red Leaves). She is also a member of the publishing collective Troll Thread press.

Poetry | \$15.00 | ISBN: 978-1-934254-52-3 | Paperback | Pub Date: Fall 2013

Guantanamo

Frank Smith

"A composition with a strange status that lays a finger on the heart of the links between humanity, justice and language."

—Blandine Sorbe, *nonfiction.fr*



Frank Smith is a French journalist, nonfiction writer, and author of multiple books of poetry. In *Guantanamo*, Smith appropriates language from interrogation minutes at Guantanamo Bay and uses this language to shape a literary world that is "Kafkaesque" in the fullest sense, a world of illogical questions posed by faceless captors. Now translated (back) into English by Vanessa Place, Smith's work is both beautiful and unsettling, transcending the banality of evil by giving back to the words of the detained their original innocence and candor.

Poetry | \$15.00 | ISBN: 978-1-934254-53-0 | Paperback | Pub Date: Fall 2013

The Tales

Jessica Bozek

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"Jessica Bozek's writing pushes the reader around, turns its back, says weird things, and shocks with startlingly beautiful images."

—Natalie Lyalin, Tarpaulin Sky

Stitching together an apocalyptic history from the scraps of fairy tales, hunting songs, interviews, and the remnants of destroyed art and architecture, Jessica Bozek's *The Tales* traces the violence that humans inflict upon one another, investigating the language that victims and perpetrators alike use to make sense of (and attempt to forget) the aftermath of violence. Through the story of the Lone Survivor, an annihilated nation is brought into reality, becoming "a memorial that will disintegrate over time, grey and fray as most of the dead did not have a chance to."

Poetry | \$15.00 | ISBN: 978-1-934254-50-9 | Paperback | Pub Date: Fall 2013

4 Forthcoming in 2013 Forthcoming in 2013

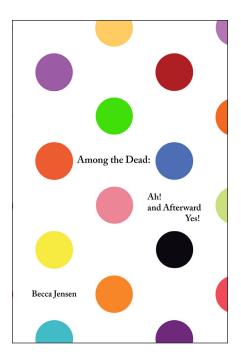


"To read this anthology is to let a hundred flowers bloom, to let a hundred generative approaches to writing contend, to multiply writing endlessly and ad nauseum—to smother us with the miracle of roses, and remove us from the poisonous breath of the world so that we may feel our hearts easily caught by tenderness, and where others fall, we would fall too."

—Janey Smith

"[Among the Dead] reminds us of the family that, through the act of reading, we come home to. Yes, this book is haunted by loss, by orphans and shipwrecks and drowning, yet when one's 'mother is a fisherman' and one's 'father is the sea,' drowning can be a kind of homecoming."

—Sarah Shun-lien Bynum



I'll Drown My Book:

Conceptual Writing By Women

Conceptual writing is emerging as a vital 21st century literary movement, and I'll Drown My Book represents the contributions of women in this defining moment. Edited by Caroline Bergvall, Laynie Browne, Teresa Carmody and Vanessa Place, I'll Drown My Book takes its title from a poem by Bernadette Mayer, appropriating Shakespeare. The book includes work by 64 women from 10 countries, with contributors' responses to the question, "What is conceptual writing?" appearing alongside their work. I'll Drown My Book offers feminist perspectives within this literary phenomenon.

Contributors:

Kathy Acker, Renee Angle, Dodie Bellamy, Jen Bervin, Lee Ann Brown, Angela Carr, Theresa Hak Kyung Cha, Inger Christiansen, Norma Cole, Tina Darragh, Monica de la Torre, Katie Degentesh, Debra Di Blasi, Sarah Dowling, Rachel Blau DuPlessis, Marcella Durand, Danielle Dutton, Renee Gladman, Judith Goldman, Nada Gordon, Jen Hofer, Susan Howe, Bhanu Kapil, Jennifer Karmin, Maryrose Larkin, Rachel Levitsky, Bernadette Mayer, Sharon Mesmer, Mette Moestrup, Laura Moriarty, Tracie Morris, Yedda Morrison, Oana Avasilichioaei & Erin Moure, Laura Mullen, Harryette Mullen, Sawako Nakayasu, Redell Olsen, Jena Osman, Chus Pato, Julie Patton, M. NourbeSe Philip, Anne Portugal, Kristin Prevallet, kathryn l. pringle, a.rawlings, Joan Retallack, Frances Richard, Deborah Richards, Cia Rinne, Stacy Doris & Lisa Robertson, Kim Rosenfield, Susan M. Schultz, Ryoko Seikiguchi, Giovanni Singleton, Juliana Spahr, Anne Tardos, Cecilia Vicuna, Rosmarie Waldrop, Wendy Walker, Hannah Weiner, Christine Wertheim, and Rachel Zolf.

Literature | \$40.00 | ISBN: 978-1-934254-33-2 | Paperback | Pub Date: Fall 2012

Among The Dead: Ah! and Afterward Yes!

Becca Jensen

| with an introduction by Sarah Shun-lien Bynum |

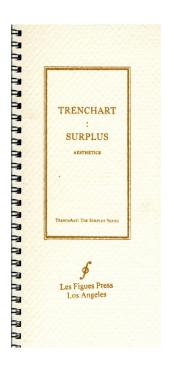
Winner of the inaugural Les Figues Press "Not Otherwise Specified" Contest as selected by guest judge Sarah Shun-lien Bynum, Among the Dead: Ah! and Afterward Yes! is Jensen's first full-length collection. These are poems of adventure and event, sequences and moments, and behind each is the possibility of finding comfort, kinship—or at the very least, meaning—in our stories and the world around them.

The home of a family of five (consisting of Mrs. G, Mr. G, their daughter, a chorus and a collector) rests on the foundations of English and classical literature, the lilt and language of which seep through the floorboards and into the air they breathe. Reading becomes the basis for living. Imagination mingles seamlessly with reality. Interpretation becomes the main form of play, and the play, my dear sirs, is the thing.



Becca Jensen writes and reads from her home in Nashville. Her poems have appeared in *Slope*, *Horse Less Review*, *Handsome*, and *Drunken Boat*.

Poetry | \$15.00 | ISBN: 978-1-934254-38-7 | Paperback | Pub Date: Spring 2013

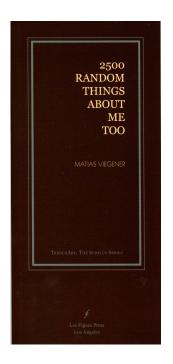


"The books in the *TrenchArt: Surplus* series are uniformly excessive."

—Teresa Carmody

"You can't put two words together without creating a meaning, and you can't make a list without inflecting narrative on your reader. Matias Viegener resists calling his book a memoir, but asks us to think of it as a 'procedural experiment that comes to resemble and echo the memoir.' That it does."

-Kevin Killian



TrenchArt: Surplus

Hand-bound in an edition of 250, *TrenchArt: Surplus* introduces the seventh annual TrenchArt series, with aesthetic statements written by the five participating writers and a visual "statement" by the series artist, Klaus Killisch. The 40-page volume is printed on leftover paper donated by Disney through the nonprofit organization L.A. Shares, and is available for purchase along with the entire TrenchArt: Surplus set.

Although TrenchArt series are usually comprised of only five works, the TrenchArt: Surplus series includes a surplus sixth title. The remaining books in the TrenchArt: Surplus series include: 2500 Random Things About Me Too by Matias Viegener, Lividity by Kim Rosenfield, The Memoirs of JonBenet by Kathy Acker by Michael du Plessis, For Want and Sound by Melissa Buzzeo, and Words of Love by Mark Rutkoski.

TrenchArt: Surplus is available with purchase of the full Surplus series.

Prose | Price: \$60.00 for full set | ISBN: 1-934254-34-7 | Pub Date: Fall 2012

2500 Random Things About Me Too

Matias Viegener

with an introduction by Kevin Killian

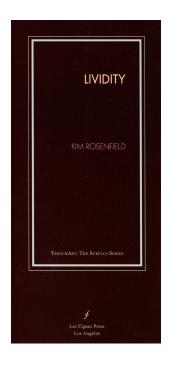
Possibly the first book to have been composed entirely on Facebook, Matias Viegener's 2500 Random Things About Me Too is an experiment in lists, randomness and the self. Neither memoir nor diary but with aspects of both, 2500 Random Things ranges over the past and the present, from Viegener's sexual adventures to the writing scene of 1980s New York, from his friendship

with Kathy Acker to his art practice as a co-founder of the Fallen Fruit collaborative. The result is exhilarating, an experiment in the construction of identity in a Facebook-drenched world of self-manufacturing and short attention spans. The work is a text-cloud raining art, dogs, sex, death, and fruit.



Matias Viegener is a Los Angeles based writer, artist, and critic who works alone and collaboratively in the fields of writing, video, installation, and performance art.

Prose | \$15.00 | ISBN: 978-1-934254-35-6 | Paperback | Pub Date: Fall 2012



"In reading Rosenfield's poem, like an act of recital, one puts one's own brain and mouth through a re-performance of the lesson—as a repressive self-disciplining intended to level out language into some kind of proper English in the (dis)guise of colloquial conversation."

—Nick Thurston, BOMBLOG

"Sweetness of word relations is unavoidable, because the alphabet seeks such joy . . . Don't mock modern moiety; much mud, murderous muse. Make room, Gertrude Stein."

-Paul Hoover



Lividity

Kim Rosenfield

with an introduction by Trisha Low

In *Lividity*, poet Kim Rosenfield works within the outskirts of language, draining it of connotation and excess. Using words and phrases culled from linguistics textbooks and language-learning manuals, she invites the reader to experience everyday vernacular as dislocated affect; what happens when meaning loses its moorings?

Lividity compels the reader to navigate through language that sinks, coagulates, empties out, and becomes a forensic tool. Rosenfield's poetry unsettles and disorients, but ultimately examines. It is an analysis, a scientific picking apart of communication and the limits of self expression. It is mind and body enmeshed in its own traces.



Kim Rosenfield is a poet and psychotherapist. She is the author of several books of poetry, including *Good Morning–Midnight–* (Roof Books, 2001), *re:evolution* and *Lividity* (Les Figues Press, 2009, 2012). Her latest book, *USO:* (*I'll Be Seeing You*) is published by Ugly Duckling Presse. She lives and works in NYC.

Poetry | \$15.00 | ISBN: 978-1-934254-37-0 | Paperback | Pub Date: Fall 2012

Words of Love

Mark Rutkoski

with an introduction by Annette Gilbert

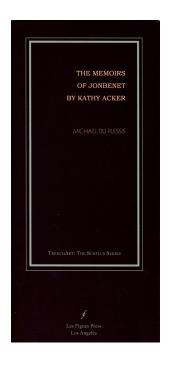
Taking its title from a 1966 pop song by The Mamas and the Papas, *Words of Love* is an index of words and their frequency in the complete sonnets of William Shakespeare. The text includes: 160 loves, 16 hates; 8 summers, 5 winters; 7 virtues, 1 vice; 1 virgin; 12 die, 2 died, 1 dies, 1 dying, 1 diest; 489

ands;163 buts; 80 ors. *Words of Love* is both art object and literary experiment, investigating poetry through the lens of accumulation. Replacing the structural repetition of the sonnet form with the pure repetition of words, Rutkoski disassembles the construct of love as erected by its most iconic architect.



Mark Rutkoski is an artist working in painting, sculpture, photography, video, sound, and words. He lives in Manhattan.

Poetry | \$15.00 | ISBN: 978-1-934254-39-4 | Paperback | Pub Date: Spring 2013



"The Memoirs of JonBenet by Kathy Acker by Michael du Plessis delivers total delight: the book is utterly, enchantingly frivolous and plush with provocative ideas; it's as perkily pretend as a Jon-Benet portrait and as exhilarating and unpindownable as anything Acker has written."

-Megan Milks, Tarpaulin Sky

"For Want and Sound is not simply a test of form; instead, it displays this writer's willingness to let what is written have its own body, its own intensity, and to track that to the place where materials, cells and communities: explode."

—Bhanu Kapil



The Memoirs of JonBenet by Kathy Acker

Michael du Plessis

with an introduction by Peggy Kamuf

In this rollicking coming-of-age tale set in the "ugly snowglobe" of Boulder, Colorado, Michael du Plessis may have produced the first conceptualist novel for young adults. Starring a crossbreed of JonBenet and Kathy Acker, with guest appearances by Little Lord Fauntleroy, H.P. Lovecraft, a wind-up Walter Benjamin, O (from *The Story*

of O), and many more, The Memoirs of JonBenet by Kathy Acker investigates the "self" of very-late-capitalism. Amidst the novel's "masterfully constructed" artifice, Megan Milks has written, "[Memoirs] is some kind of allegiance, if bitter, to the real." It is a collage of all that is right, and terribly wrong, with America.



Michael du Plessis teaches Comparative Literature and English at USC, where he is also completing a Masters degree in Professional Writing. He has written about a wide variety of subjects, from Goth culture to the French fin-de-siècle, and has also performed at Highways, amongst other poetry venues.

Prose | \$15.00 | ISBN: 978-1-934254-36-3 | Paperback | Pub Date: Fall 2012

For Want and Sound

Melissa Buzzeo

| with an introduction by Rob Halpern |

Melissa Buzzeo's *For Want and Sound* is a philosophical lyric in two parts. *Part I: Book,* is fashioned from a series of testimonial statements investigating boundarylessness—in language, in body, in different states of being, in sites of memory and geography—in water. A vibrating outline, or loss of outline, that both creates enormous freedom and in

the same gesture takes it violently away. *Part II: Breach, Recoil,* acts as a kind of embankment to the uncontained, and possibly contaminated, space and water of *Part I,* creating the possibility for commentary. Juliana Spahr has described Buzzeo's work as "something shimmering and fully complicated."



Melissa Buzzeo has published two full-length books: *What Began Us* (Leon Works 2007) and *Face* (Bookthug 2009). Her current work, *Chasm,* explores negation, the legacy of performance art, and the concept of the social body. She has taught at Brown, the University of Iowa and Naropa, and currently teaches at Pratt Institute.

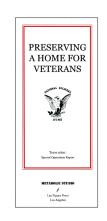
Poetry | \$15.00 | ISBN : 978-1-934254-40-0 | Paperback | Pub Date: Spring 2013

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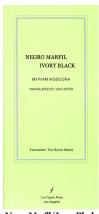
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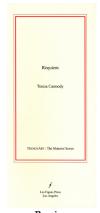
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