

# In This Issue



BOA Launches 40th Anniversary Major Gifts Campaign



Announcing Jericho Brown as the 15th Annual Poulin Prize Judge



Save the Date for *Dine & Rhyme*: September 20, 2015

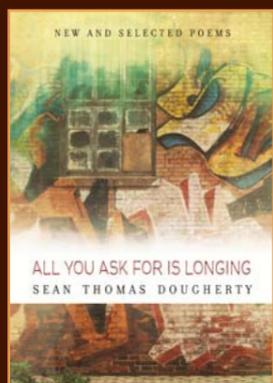
# the BOAhemian

the e-newsletter of BOA Editions, Ltd. | volume 4 | issue 2 | summer 2015

## BOA's Featured Titles

*All You Ask for Is Longing*

Poems by Sean Thomas Dougherty

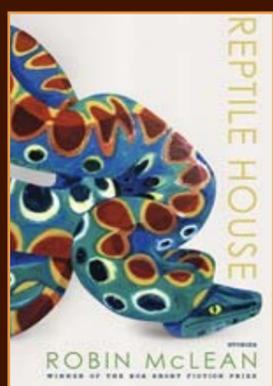


BOA poet Sean Thomas Dougherty was recently honored with a 2015 Lifetime Achievement Award from the Erie, PA, literary institution Poet's Hall. Upon presentation of the award, Poet's Hall founder Cee Williams said, "With more than a dozen collections to his credit, the award-winning poetry of Sean Thomas Dougherty has drawn national attention to our scene. We celebrate him with the highest honor we can bestow."

*Reptile House*

Stories by Robin McLean

Winner of the BOA Short Fiction Prize

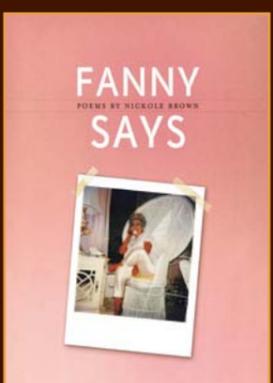


Currently on an extensive national book tour in celebration of her new book *Reptile House*, BOA author Robin McLean is traveling to 30+ cities across more than 15 states over the next several months. To document her readings and the exciting encounters on her trek, McLean

is keeping a Book Tour Blog called "Fish Obituaries." Visit her website, [www.robinmclean.net](http://www.robinmclean.net), for regular blog posts and updates on her destinations.

*Fanny Says*

Poems by Nickole Brown



*Fanny Says* has seen much attention since its release, receiving high praise from such places as *NewPages*, *ALA Booklist*, *Library Journal*, the *Rumpus*, *Poets & Writers*, and *Oxford American*, among many others. Nickole Brown and her wife, the poet Jessica Jacobs, will embark on an

extensive book tour this summer and fall, and will also keep a Book Tour Blog called "What Women Wander." Click here to follow their travels.

## Words from the Chair: Announcing the '40 for 40' Campaign

When you think of BOA its age may be the last thing you consider. The late poet, editor, and translator A. Poulin, Jr. founded BOA on July 4, 1976, which means that on July 4, 2016, BOA will mark 40 years as a publisher of poetry and literary fiction. In those 40 years, BOA has earned an esteemed reputation as an award-winning not-for-profit publishing house. This has been achieved by a staff and board with a strong sense of mission to bring high quality literature to the public.

The fact of "40 years as an independent publisher" is remarkable and deserves celebration. The terrain for publishing poetry and literary fiction is fraught with all kinds of challenges; hardly the least of these is the marketplace itself. As William Logan recently noted, "poetry has long been a major art with a minor audience." So when we recognize that for 40 years BOA has been a successful enterprise maintaining partnerships with its authors, poets, artists, designers, and printers to publish literature that regularly achieves the highest standards in the literary arts, the cause for celebration is brought home even more energetically.



One of my great pleasures as a long-time board member is being awed by our new books as they arrive each season. They always present an enticing visual and even tactile invitation to be opened up and read. And when that reading gets started it becomes difficult to stop. Our poets and writers stir me to think, to empathize, to learn, to understand, and often to be delighted. But what I love most is that I am regularly dazzled by their remarkable and inspiring artistry. For me to be able to say I had a small role in bringing these books to life is very satisfying. This feeling is doubled for our books in translation, which honor outstanding contemporary writers and literature from other nations and cultures, and are part of what we do as a contribution to increased global understanding.

An anniversary often triggers reflections on the past as well as preparations for the future. Our Board of Directors has been planning a number of ways for our organization to do both. In thinking about BOA's future, we will kick off a year-long Major Gifts Campaign on July 4, 2015, one full year before our anniversary. Called "40 for 40," the goal of this campaign is to raise \$40,000 as a celebration of BOA's amazing 40-year history, and to help ensure our financial stability as we step forward into the next 40 years.

Our celebration will also feature a number of special events in different locations around the country, and it is our hope that whenever we are near you, you will join us. Our website and blog will provide further information about these occasions as they take final shape. In addition, the Winter Issue of the *BOAhemian* will focus directly on our anniversary, and will provide full details about the year's plans, developments, and activities.

I'm sure you will agree, as our celebration begins to unfold, that it is an exciting time to be part of the BOA family. We hope you will join the celebration as we mark our 40th year of publishing dynamic literature that enriches a culturally diverse community.

—Jack Langerak, BOA Board Chair

## Upcoming Events

SAVE THE DATE

*Dine & Rhyme* | September 20, 2015



It's time to save the date for one of BOA's most anticipated events of the year! On Sunday, September 20, BOA Editions will host its 18th annual *Dine & Rhyme* event in Rochester, New York, featuring poets Nickole Brown and John Gallaher. *Dine & Rhyme*, BOA's one-and-only fundraising gala of the year, features a poetry reading and book signing at the Memorial Art Gallery, followed by a reception, dinner, and silent auction at Good Luck Restaurant. For more information, contact Melissa Hall at [hall@boaeditions.org](mailto:hall@boaeditions.org) or 585.546.3410, ext. 11.

### Where in the World is BOA?

Check out our interactive map of BOA's national reach, so you can see which BOA authors live near you, and take in all the many places BOA touches. [Click here for map.](#)



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# Lannan

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## Jericho Brown Is 15th Annual Poulin Prize Judge Also Announcing the Winner of the 14th Poulin Prize



With the 15th annual A. Poulin, Jr. Poetry Prize fast-approaching, we are thrilled to announce that highly acclaimed poet Jericho Brown will judge this year's poetry contest.

An annual competition, the A. Poulin, Jr. Poetry Prize is awarded to honor a poet's first book while also honoring the late founder of BOA Editions.

Jericho Brown is the recipient of a Whiting Writers Award and fellowships from the

Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study at Harvard University and the National Endowment for the Arts. His poems have appeared in *The New Republic*, *The New Yorker*, and *The Best American Poetry*. His first book, *Please* (New Issues Press, 2008), won the American Book Award, and his second book, *The New Testament* (Copper Canyon Press, 2014), won the Anisfield-Wolf Book Award and the Thom Gunn Award, and was named one of the best books of the year by *Library Journal*, *Coldfront*, and the Academy of American Poets. He is an associate professor in English and creative writing at Emory University in Atlanta.



We are also pleased to announce that the winner of the 14th annual prize is Derrick Austin, for his first collection of poetry *Trouble the Water*, selected by National Book Award-winning poet Mary Szybist. Austin will receive a \$1,500 honorarium and book publication by BOA Editions in spring 2016.

Of the winning collection, Mary Szybist says, "Expect poison of the standing water; Blake warned, highlighting the dangers of imaginative stagnation. I'm now tempted to believe that Blake himself has sent us Derrick Austin and his remarkable collection, *Trouble the Water*. At once gospel and troubadour song, these deeply spiritual and expansively erotic poems are lucid, unflinching, urgent. This is an extraordinary debut."

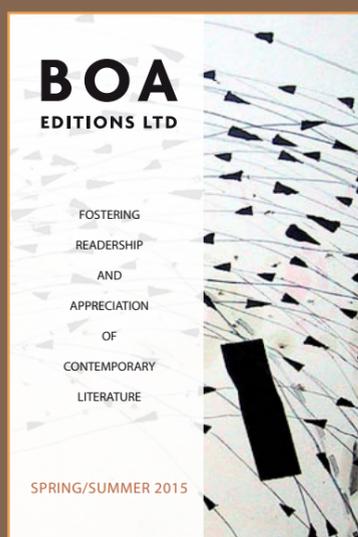
Two finalists were also selected: *Binary Stars* by Dana Koster and *Novena* by Jacques J. Rancourt.

Derrick Austin is a Cave Canem fellow and earned his MFA from the University of Michigan where he was awarded a Hopwood Award in graduate poetry. His work has appeared or is forthcoming in *The Best American Poetry*, *Image: A Journal of Arts and Religion*, *New England Review*, *Callaloo*, *Crab Orchard Review*, *The Paris-American*, *Memorious*, and other journals and anthologies. He is the Social Media Coordinator for *The Offing*.

BOA Editions will accept manuscripts for the 15th annual A. Poulin, Jr. Poetry Prize between August 1 and November 30, 2015. An entry form and \$25 fee are required. Guidelines are available on the [contest submissions page](#).

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## BOA's Spring/Summer 2015 Catalog



BOA's new title catalog is available electronically, making it easier for you to stay up-to-date on what's new from BOA. The Spring/Summer 2015 catalog features:

- *Fanny Says*, poems by Nickole Brown
- *Shame | Shame*, poems by Devin Becker (A. Poulin, Jr. Poetry Prize)
- *Why God Is a Woman*, poems by Nin Andrews
- *Testament*, a poem by G.C. Waldrep
- *Reptile House*, stories by Robin McLean (BOA Short Fiction Prize)
- *Smugglers*, poems by Ales Debeljak; translated from the Slovenian by Brian Henry

[Click here](#) to see what's new from BOA!

## BOA's Mission

BOA Editions, Ltd., a not-for-profit publisher of poetry and other literary works, fosters readership and appreciation of contemporary literature. By identifying, cultivating, and publishing both new and established poets and selecting authors of unique literary talent, BOA brings high quality literature to the public.

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