David Stevenson

David Stevenson is the director of the Creative Writing and Literary Arts M.F.A. program at the University of Alaska. He was educated at Evergreen State College (BA ’78) and the University of Utah (PhD ’94). He writes often about nature & the mountaineering experience both in fiction and nonfiction prose and has published widely in journals such as Ascent, Alpinist, Isotope, and The American Alpine Journal. His novel-in-progress, Forty Crosses, is set in Mexico City in the early 1970s. Stevenson’s new collection of stories and a novella published in 2014 is entitled Letters from Chamonix.

C. G. Hanzlicek

C. G. Hanzlicek was born in Owatonna, Minnesota, in 1942. He received a B.A. from the University of Minnesota in 1964 and an M.F.A. from the Writers’ Workshop at the University of Iowa in 1966. He is the author of nine books of poetry: Living in It, Stars (winner of the 1977 Devins Award for Poetry), Calling the Dead, A Dozen for Leah, When There Are No Secrets, Mahler: Poems and Etchings, Against Dreaming, The Cave: Selected and New Poems, and, most recently, The Lives of Birds, which appeared in 2013. He has translated Native American Songs, A Bird’s Companion, and poems from the Czech, Mirroring: Selected Poems of Vladimir Holan, which won the Robert Payne Award from the Columbia University Translation Center in 1985. In the summer of 2001, he retired from California State University, Fresno, where he taught for 35 years and was for most of those years the Director of the Creative Writing Program.

David Kirby

David Kirby is a poet and the Robert O. Lawton Distinguished Professor of English at Florida State University. His most recent book is Talking about Movies with Jesus. His new and selected poetry collection, The House on Boulevard St., was nominated for the 2007 National Book Award in poetry. Kirby has published over 20 books, including collections of poetry and literary criticism, and his poems frequently appear in The Southern Review. His volume, The Ha-Ha was chosen one of ten “Best Books of 2003” by Boston Globe critic Clea Simon, and was shortlisted for the Griffin Poetry Prize. His work has won numerous awards, including four Pushcart Prizes, the James Dickey Prize, and fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts, and the Guggenheim Foundation. Kirby obtained his Ph.D. in 1969 from Johns Hopkins University. Kirby has taught at FSU’s international campuses in Florence, Paris, Valencia, and elsewhere.

Sholeh Wolpe

Sholeh Wolpé was born in Iran and spent her teen years in Trinidad and the UK before settling in the United States. She is the recipient of 2013 Midwest Book Award, and 2010 Lois Roth Persian Translation Prize. About Sholeh, The Poetry Foundation writes, “Wolpé’s concise, unflinching, and often wry free verse explores violence, culture, and gender. So many of Wolpé’s poems deal with the violent situation in the Middle East, yet she is ready to both bravely and playfully refuse to let death be too proud.” A poet, literary translator and an editor, Wolpé’s eight books include: Keeping Time with Blue Hyacinths; Breaking the Jaws of Silence—Sixty American Poets Speak to the World, featuring some of the most respected voices in American poetry; and The Forbidden: Poems from Iran and its Exiles.

Noah Blaustein

Noah Blaustein has published poems in the Los Angeles Review, the Massachusetts Review, Mid-American Review, Harvard Review, Barrooe Street, The Fish Anthology (selected by Billy Collins), Orion, LIT, Pleiades and many other journals. Noah’s first book, Flirt, was selected by Kevin Prufer for the 2013 Mary Burritt Christiansen poetry series edited by Hilda Raz for the University of New Mexico. The anthology he edited, Motion: American Sports Poems, was an editor’s pick of National Public Radio and The Boston Globe, and a Librarian’s Pick of the New York Public Library.

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