

Joseph A. Amato is a retired Minnesota history professor and dean for the Center for Rural and Regional Studies. Covering a variety of subjects and in diverse genres, Amato's works include *When Father and Son Conspire: A Minnesota Farm Murder*, *The Great Jerusalem Artichoke Circus*, *Victims and Values*, *Dust: A History of the Small and Invisible*, *On Foot: A History of Walking*, *Surfaces: A History*, and forthcoming this year *The Book of Twos*. He describes his mixed Sicilian inheritance in *Jacob's Well: A Guide to Writing Family History* and *Coal Cousins: Ruysn and Sicilian Stories and Pennsylvania Anthracite Histories*. He recently published his first volume of poetry, *Buoyancies: A Ballast Master's Log* and this is his first published short story.

Olivia Arieti, a US citizen, has a degree from the University of Pisa and lives in Torre del Lago Puccini, Italy with her family. Besides being a playwright, she loves writing poems and short stories that have appeared in several magazines and anthologies in the USA and the UK.

Irene Backalenick has been a working journalist for many years, writing for *The New York Times* and other national publications. In more recent years, she acquired a Ph. D in theater history and became a theater critic. Now, at age 93, she has turned to a new genre — poetry.

Gary Beck has spent most of his adult life as a theater director. He has 11 published chapbooks. His poetry collections include: *Days of Destruction* (Skive Press), *Expectations* (Rogue Scholars Press). *Dawn in Cities*, *Assault on Nature*, *Songs of a Clerk*, *Civilized Ways* (Winter Goose Publishing). *Perceptions and Displays* will be published by Winter Goose Publishing. His novels include: *Extreme Change* (Cogwheel Press) *Acts of Defiance* (Artema Press). *Flawed Connections* has been accepted for publication (Black Rose Writing). His short story collection, *A Glimpse of Youth* (Sweatshoppe Publications).. His poetry, fiction and essays have appeared in hundreds of literary magazines. He currently lives in New York City.

Kathleen Cain is an Irish-American poet and nonfiction writer from Nebraska, living in Colorado. Recent poetry has appeared online in *The Prompt* literary magazine and in a podcast titled, *Rocky Mountain Revival*. "Spailpín" is from a manuscript titled, *One Word at a Time: an Irish Primer*.

Jennifer Campbell is an English professor in Buffalo, NY and a co-editor of *Earth's Daughters*. Her second book of poetry, *Supposed to Love*, was published by Saddle Road Press in 2013. Recent work appears in *Comstock Review*, *The Prompt*, *Oyez Review*, *Common Ground Review*, *Red Rock Review*, *Sow's Ear*, *Saranac Review*, *Fugue*, *The Healing Muse* and *Slipstream*, and is forthcoming in *Seems*.

Gaetano Cipolla is a professor Emeritus of Italian at St. John's University and is president and editor of *Arba Sicula*, an international organization that promotes Sicilian culture. In addition to his Meli translations, Gaetano has published bilingual volumes featuring the writers/poets, Nino Martoglio, Vincenzo Ancona, Antonio Veneziano, Nino Provenzano, Nino De Vita and others. As publisher/editor of Legas, Dr. Cipolla founded two series of books dealing with Sicilian culture, "*Pueti d'Arba Sicula*" and "Sicilian Studies." and also authored *Learn Sicilian / Mparamu lu sicilianu*.

Dawn Corrigan's poetry and prose have appeared in a number of print and online journals, with work forthcoming from *Right Hand Pointing*, *Lighten Up Online* and *The Wallace Stevens Journal*. Her debut novel, an environmental mystery called *Mitigating Circumstances*, was published by Five Star/Cengage in January 2014. She lives in Gulf Breeze, Florida.

Franklyn James Dunne enjoys a rich mixture of Italian and Irish heritages. He relocated from the New York metropolitan area to Guadalajara, Mexico, where he shares his life with his wife and their eleven grandchildren. He is now an informal student of Mexican history and culture. He is an infrequent contributor to the local English language newspaper, *The Guadalajara Reporter*.

Gil Fagiani's most recent published collection of poetry is *Stone Walls* (Bordighera Books, 2014). He has translated into English poetry written in Italian and Abruzzese dialect. Gil co-curates the Italian American Writers' Association's readings in Manhattan and is a founding member of the Vito Marcantonio Forum.

Barbara Foster, an Associate Professor, is a Research Librarian at CUNY and a co-author of three highly acclaimed biographies, *Forbidden Journey* (Harper Collins, 1987), *The Secret Lives of Alexandra David-Neel* (third printing, Overlook, 2007) and *Three in Love, Ménages a Trois from Ancient to Modern Times* (Harper Collins, 1998). Her biography of Adah Isaacs Menken, America's first superstar, *A Dangerous Woman*, was published in 2011 by Globe Pequot Press. Barbara has lectured at conferences and libraries worldwide, and written numerous articles for print and online journals. She has published over 100 poems in the U.S. and abroad. Barbara is currently circulating an intimate memoir of her experiences in New York and other exotic locales: *The Confessions Club: A Memoir of Loves* (Riverdale Avenue Books, 2015).

Joe Giordano was born in Brooklyn. He and his wife, Jane, have lived in Greece, Brazil, Belgium and Netherlands. They now live in Texas with their little shih tzu, Sophia. Joe's stories have appeared in more than fifty magazines, including *Bartleby Snopes*, *Newfound Journal* and *The Summerset Review*.

Luisa Giulianetti, a California Bay Area native, works as an administrator and writing instructor at UC Berkeley, where she enjoys teaching and helping students develop their writerly voices. She often incorporates her first languages, Italian and Sicilian, into her work. Luisa's graduate work was in 20th Century American literature, with an emphasis in African American literature. Her work has been published in the *Lily Literary Review*, *The Owl* (currently the *Santa Clara Review*), *The Sun* and the *Tule Review*.

Richard Holz was born in Buenos Aires, Argentina and came to the United States when he was ten. He served five years in the U.S. Navy during the Vietnam War, graduated John Jay College of Criminal Justice, and worked as a NY State Supreme Court Officer before retiring. A winner of the Concours d'Elegance in stained glass, an award he received for winning first place three years in a row in the Greenwich Village Art Show, Richard now concentrates on photography and fine arts. Inspired by many beautiful places he and his wife love to visit, Richard's photographs of Greece showcased in this year's *Feile-Festa* demonstrate his passion for art.

Rosemarie Crupi Holz is a retired, New York City High School English teacher and librarian. She enjoys her job as vice president and director of the Book Group of the Mediterranean Celtic Cultural Association whose mission is to promote the understanding and appreciation of various Mediterranean and Celtic cultures. In this capacity she is fortunate to work with Frank Polizzi, president of MCCA and editor of *Feile-Festa*, and other individuals who have inspired passion and enthusiasm for all things Italian. She and her husband, photographer Richard Holz, enjoy traveling and look forward to returning to Italy again.

Robert Iulo has a Master's Degree in Urban Planning from New York University. After retiring from a career with the City of New York, he began writing about his experiences. His work has been published in *Epiphany*, *Culinate*, *Museum of Americana*, *Gastronomica* and others. Robert has had a special feature published in *The Mississippi Sun Herald* about his volunteer work on the Mississippi Coast after Katrina. He lives in New York City.

Michael Lee Johnson lived ten years in Canada during the Vietnam era. Today he is a poet, freelance writer, photographer and small business owner in Itasca, Illinois. He has been published in more than 875 small press magazines in twenty-seven countries and he edits 9 poetry sites.

Lavinia Kumar is both an Irish and US citizen. Her chapbook, *Rivers of Saris*, was published by Main Street Rag. Her book, *The Skin and Under*, about historical healers and "natural" remedies, will be published by Word Tech in 2015. Her poetry has appeared in several US and UK publications, such as *Atlanta Review*, *Colere*, *Edison Literary Review*, *Flaneur*, *Orbis*, *Pedestal*, *Pemmican*, *Symmetry Pebbles*, *Touch* and *USI Worksheets*. Irish Farmer was first published in *Kelsey Review*, 2011.

Jennifer Lagier has published nine books of poetry as well as in a variety of literary magazines. Her latest book, *Camille Vérité*, was just published by FutureCycle Press. She taught with California Poets in the Schools, co-edits the *Homestead Review*, maintains web sites for *Homestead Review*, *Monterey Poetry Review*, *Ping Pong Literary Journal* and *misfitmagazine*. She also helps coordinate monthly Monterey Bay Poetry Consortium Second Sunday readings.

Maria Lisella's latest collection, *Thieves in the Family* was published by NYQ Books in 2014. Her Pushcart Poetry Prize-nominated work appears in *Amore on Hope Street* (Finishing Line Press, 2009) and *Two Naked Feet* (Poets Wear Prada, 2009). She is a charter member of *brevitas*, the online poetry circle that celebrates the short poem and she co-curates the Italian American Writers Association readings on second Saturdays.

Christina Lloyd holds a master's degree in creative writing from Lancaster University (U.K.) and a master's degree in Hispanic languages and literatures from U.C. Berkeley. In addition to a couple of chapbooks, her work appears in various journals, including *The North*. She currently lives in San Francisco.

Marianne Lyon has been a music teacher for 39 years. She is a member of the California Writers Club, the Healdsburg Literary Guild. She has been published in various literary magazines and reviews.

Catherine Moore's work has appeared in *MaMaZina Magazine*, *Grey Sparrow*, *Provo Canyon Review* and the *Tahoma Literary Review*. She's the winner of the *Southeast Review's* 2014 Gearhart Poetry Prize and has a chapbook titled *Story* forthcoming with Finishing Line Press. Catherine has a Master of Fine Arts from the University of Tampa.

JB Mulligan has had poems and stories in several hundred magazines over the past 35 years, has had two chapbooks published: *The Stations of the Cross* and *This Way to the Egress*, and two e-books, *The City Of Now And Then*, and *A Book of Psalms*. He has appeared in several anthologies, including *Inside/Out: A Gathering Of Poets*, *The Irreal Reader (Cafe Irreal)* and multiple volumes of *Reflections on a Blue Planet*.

Pearse Murray has had poems and short stories published in a wide variety of anthologies, print and online journals. He is a native of Dublin, Ireland and lives in upstate New York.

Perry S. Nicholas is an Associate English professor at Erie Community College North in Buffalo, N.Y. where he was awarded the "2008 SUNY Chancellor's Award for Scholarship and Creative Activities" and the "2011 President's Award for Classroom Instruction." He received the "SGA's Outstanding Teacher Award" on two occasions. He has published 6 books and 1 CD of poetry.

Lu Piero is a Creative Writing Major at Warren Community College. Her poems have appeared or are forthcoming in *Ars Poetica*, *Black Poppy Review*, *Blast Furnace*, *Natural Awakenings*, *US1*, *If and Only If*, *Threeandahalfpoint9* and *East Fork* among other journals.

Frank Polizzi's poems and stories have appeared in *Bitterroot*, *Electric Acorn* (Dublin Writers), *Mudfish*, *Paterson Literary Review*, *Wired Art* and others. Finishing Line Press published *All Around Town*, his poems exploring Sicilian American roots and experiences in NYC. A trilingual edition (English, Italian and Sicilian) of love sonnets, *A New Life with Bianca*, was released by Bordighera Press in March 2015. Several chapter/stories were published from his novel, *A Pity Beyond All Telling*, and one of them was shortlisted for the Fish Prize in Ireland. Frank's new novel, *Somewhere in the Stars* made the 2014 Long list of the UK publisher, Lightship, for its "First Novel Prize."

Nino Provenzano is Vice President of Arba Sicula, an international organization that promotes Sicilian culture in the world. Nino's passion for poetry blossomed early in his childhood in Sicily. He has recited his poetry in the USA, Canada and Italy. Nino has had two books of Sicilian poetry published by Legas Publishing (both translated into English by Prof. Gaetano Cipolla), *Vinissi / I'd Like to Come Back* and *Tornu / The Return*, and has a third book in the works.

Kay Retzlaff's Irish roots reach back to Co. Kildare. She has studied poetry writing with William Kloefkorn, Ted Kooser, Kathleen Lignell and Arielle Greenberg. She has only recently begun sending poems out. Her poems have appeared in *Potato Eyes* and *Plainsongs*. She has two forthcoming in *Common Ground Review*.

Thomas Sanfilip is a poet and writer whose work has appeared in such literary publications as the *Shore Poetry Anthology*, *Thalassa*, *Ivory Tower*, *Nit & Wit*, *Tomorrow*, *Ginosko Literary Journal*, *Maudlin House* and *Per Contra*. Five collections of poetry have been published – *By the Hours and the Years* (Branden Press, 1974), *Myth/A Poem* (Iliad Press, 2002), *The Art of Anguish* (2004), *Last Poems* (2007), *Figures of the Muse* (2012), in addition to a collection of short fiction, *The Killing Sun* (2006). *Poetry in the Age of Impurity*, a collection of published and unpublished essays, was published in 2013 by Bigio Morato.

Carolyn Steinhoff has published articles and some stories in many magazines. She edited and published a magazine of writing and art called *From Here*. Her poems have appeared in various paper and online journals over the years, including, most recently, in *And Then*, *The Cape Rock* and *Emerge*.

Greg Sullivan's fiction has appeared or is forthcoming in *The Collagist*, *Drunken Boat*, *Barely South Review*, *Pithead Chapel* and elsewhere. He is also the founder of the journal, *Cooper Street*. Greg lives in New Jersey with his wife and two bulldogs.

J. Tarwood has been a dishwasher, a community organizer, a medical archivist, a documentary film producer, an oral historian and a teacher. Much of his life has been spent in East Africa, Latin America and the Middle East. He has published three books, *And For The Mouth A Flower*, *Grand Detour* and *The Cats In Zanzibar* and his poems have appeared in magazines ranging from *American Poetry Review* to *Visions International*. He has always been an unlikely man in unlikely places.

Barbara Thomas, a Reading and English teacher for 35 years, presently writes poetry and teaches nature writing. Her current work in poetry concerns her family's immigration from Northern Greece to a village in Connecticut. Her poetic research began at the Joiner Center Institute for the Study of War and Social Consequences where she is an active member in the Writers' Workshop, along with contributing to the Greek Institute and Glenbrook, an environmental writing group. Barbara's poems have appeared in the *Paterson Literary Review* *Lalitamba* and others. Her chapbook, *Seduced by Sighs of Trees*, was published by Cloudkeeper Press, 2007.

Robert Tremmel lives and writes in Ankeny, Iowa. Recently, he has been published in the journals, *Rattle*, *Edge*, *Santa Fe Literary Review*, *Cold Mountain Review*, *San Pedro River Review*, *Comstock Review*, *Earth's Daughters*, *Roanoke Review*, *The Fourth River* and a chapbook titled *There is a Naked Man with Main Street Rag*.

Rosemary Volz has had her short stories published in *Blueline*, *Event* and *Another Chicago Magazine*. Her poetry has appeared in *Evening St. Review*, *Reader's Choice*, *Earth's Daughter*, *Write Wing Publishing*, *Conversations Across Borders*, *Baseball Bard*, *Hospital Drive*, *Pinyon*, *Third Wednesday* and *Wising Up Press*. She was born in Brooklyn, New York and currently lives in Ponce Inlet, Florida.

Catherine Wald's chapbook, *Distant, Burned-out Stars*, was published in 2011 (Finishing Line Press); her poems have appeared in *American Journal of Nursing*, *Buddhist Poetry Journal*, *Chronogram*, *Classical Poets*, *Exit 13*, *Friends Journal*, *Jewish Literary Journal*, *New Verse News*, *The New Poet* and *Westchester Review*. She takes her bagels lightly toasted with butter.

Lisa Wiley teaches English at Erie Community College, North Campus in Buffalo where she co-hosts the Just Buffalo Literary Café. She is the author of a chapbook of 21 villanelles *Chamber Music* (Finishing Line Press, 2013) and forthcoming in 2015, *My Daughter Wears Her Evil Eye to School* (The Writer's Den). Her poetry has appeared in *Earth's Daughters*, *Epiphany Magazine*, *Feile-Festa*, *The Healing Muse*, *Medical Journal of Australia*, *Red Booth Review*, *San Pedro River Review*, *Third Wednesday* and *Yale Journal for Humanities in Medicine*.

Catherine Young, a second generation Italian American, farms and writes in Wisconsin. She completed her MFA in creative writing at the University of British Columbia. Catherine's poetry has appeared in *Verse Wisconsin* and her essays have been published in *Imagination & Place: Cartography*, *About Place Journal* and *Anamesa*.

Tony Zeppetella spent his professional career as a mathematics professor, actuary, insurance executive, investment manager and consultant. His published research has appeared in several mathematical and actuarial journals. His reviews have appeared in *Feile-Festa* and genealogical publications. He specializes today in the enjoyment of life, friends and family, with subspecialties in travel, food and wine, theater, literature, film, music and opera. He is the Director of the Opera Group of the Mediterranean Celtic Cultural Association, a position that is an exercise in the enjoyment of friends, family, food, wine and opera.

Ali Znaidi (b. 1977) lives in Redeyef, Tunisia. His work has appeared in various magazines and journals worldwide. He authored four poetry chapbooks, including *Experimental Ruminations* (Fowlpox Press, 2012), *Moon's Cloth Embroidered with Poems* (Origami Poems Project, 2012), *Bye, Donna Summer!* (Fowlpox Press, 2014), and *Taste of the Edge* (Kind of a Hurricane Press, 2014).