Cold Morning

an international haiku anthology

EDITED BY MARGARET SAUNDERS

The Herb Barrett Award

Cold Morning

a kind of magic
mean streets camouflaged
with flowering chestnuts

Herb Barrett

Cold Morning

an international haiku anthology

the winning poems of
The Herb Barrett Award, 1997

edited by Margaret Saunders

hamilton haiku press

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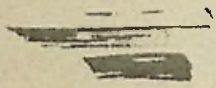

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Giovanni Malito

FIRST PRIZE

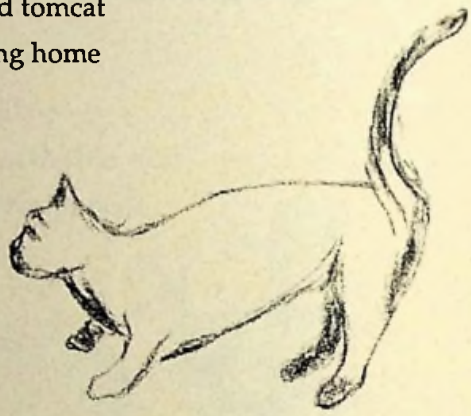
cold morning —
the man at the bus stop
swallowing his neck

puddles . . .
my dog goes around
my daughter goes through

Elizabeth St Jacques

SECOND PRIZE

Spring break
my old tomcat
limping home

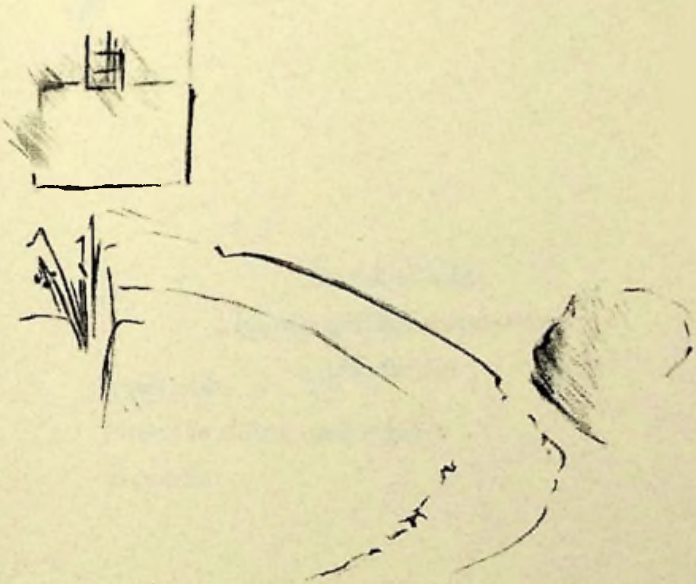


Halloween masks
grimace in the store window
snowfall

midnight tent
leaving it I leap
into a net of stars

frosted windowpane:
scratching our initials
on the moon

first light snow
from garden to house
tracks of her wheelchair



Sandra Fuhringer

THIRD PRIZE

in a backyard
two women folding sunlight
into sheets

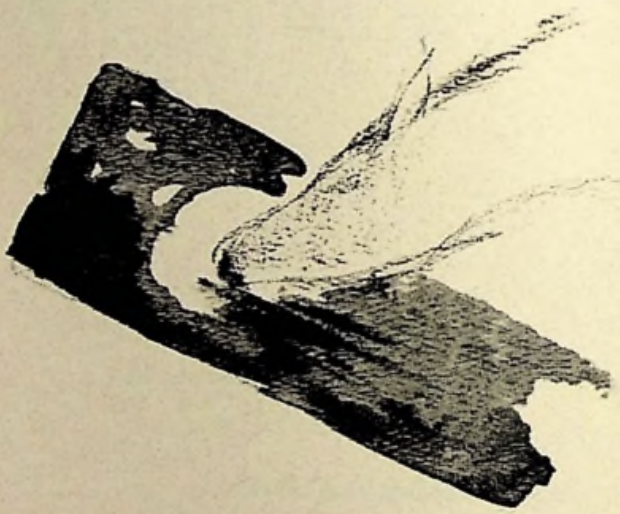
children's ward
a doll in the window
facing out

quiet rain . . .
sisters braiding each other's
grey hair

Winona Baker

HONOURABLE MENTION

horse's muzzle
melts the moon
in the trough



such faint fragrance
in this unknown wildflower
I should not have picked

aviary —
birds watch children leaping
on the trampoline

Ann Goldring

HONOURABLE MENTION

on my knees —
the taste of that
first strawberry

hazy afternoon
only a toad under a cabbage
stays cool

stacking wood —
maple trees
the colour of fire

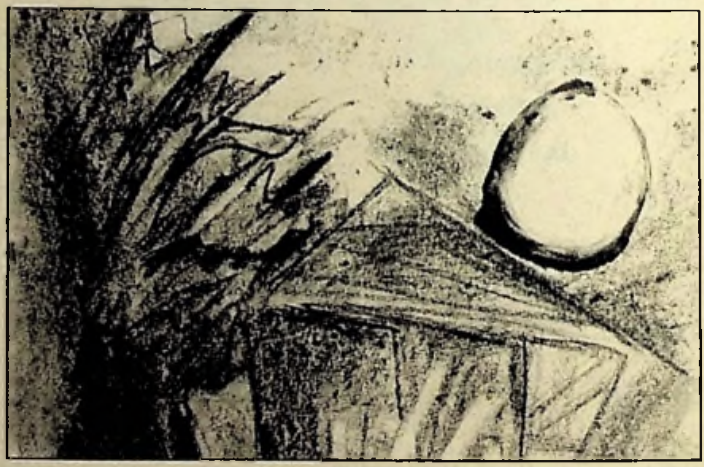
birdsong
among the pink blossoms
an old apple

Myra Stilborn

HONOURABLE MENTION

Clear ice on the pond —
the skater cuts figure eights
on moving clouds

A stifling evening —
the harvest moon rests a while
on the garage roof.



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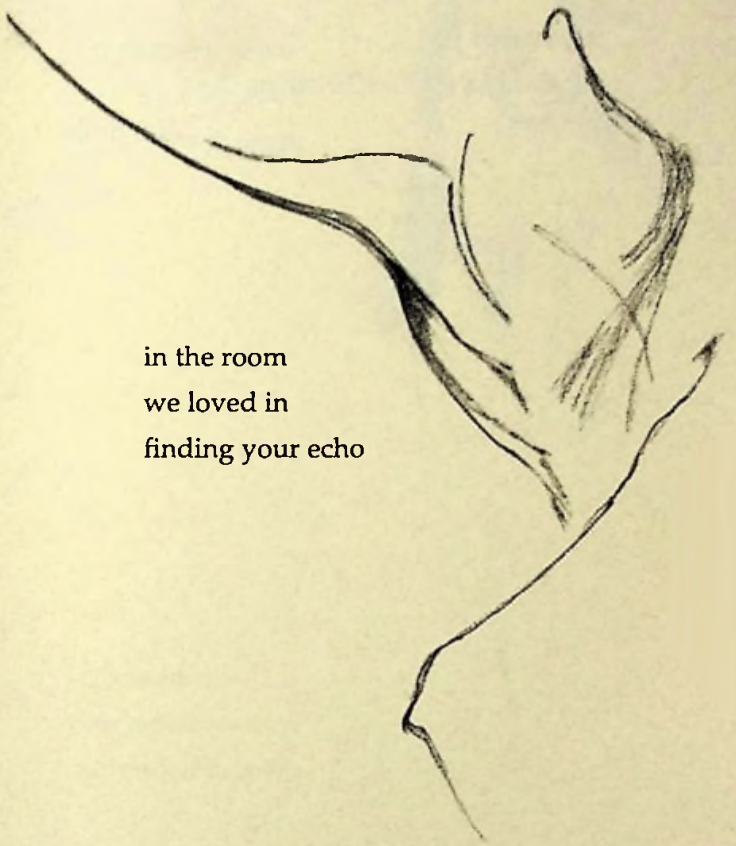


in the room
we loved in
finding your echo

leaving them alone
moonlight
on roses

Louise Beaven

December 1st
all dressed up for Christmas Day
her dolls

Ernest J. Berry

impressive name
for a weed
i look again

closing time
the elderly sexton
shrouded in mist

evening mist
the dust devil
slows

Janice M. Bostok

muzzle pressed
to the slit of car window
dog bites the wind

Marijan Čekolj

Night moth
lost in the light
of kitchen table.

Lena Coakley

Mumbling woman
sweeps her walk
Mine too

dim voices over water
moon pierced by a schooner's mast

Philomene Kocher

bees buzzing around
the sunflowers in a pail —
Saturday market

Mary Partridge

old swimming hole
willow branches
test the water

Catherine Patrick

sparrows gather
behind my house
a singing tree

Mary A. Pellerin

Indelible scent —
wild rose lingers on her
red silk kimono.

Brian Ropcean

No more Harleys
on the streets
the first snowfall

The funeral procession
in the rain
runs a redlight

Timothy Russell

March rain —
the spider withdraws
into the garden faucet

Denver Stull

the persimmon tree
loaded with fruit —
my mouth puckers

Carolyn Thomas

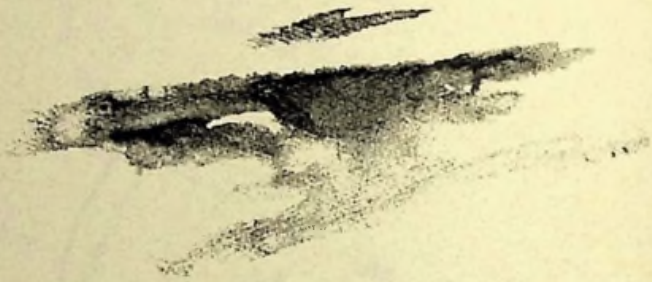
cold rain . . .
cat/dog huddled together
under the overhang

Mirko Varga

Although the whole
estate's flooded I rescue
only the rabbits.

Frances Ward

i sit on the dock
distant golden shimmer
almost reaches



The Poets

Giovanni (John) Malito (first prize) is a Canadian of Italian descent now living in Ireland, where he teaches college chemistry and edits *The Brobdingnagian Times*, a literary broadsheet. His haiku have appeared in many Japanese and North American periodicals. His poems have been published in *Gathering Light*, the 1996 Herb Barrett Award anthology, and *Sing for the Inner Ear*, the 1997 Sandburg-Livesay Award anthology.

Elizabeth St Jacques (second prize) lives in Sault Ste-Marie, Ontario. She is the author of eight books, including *Around the Tree of Light*, the first collection of English-language sijo published in North America. Her 1995 haiku collection, *A Dance of Light*, won the Merit Book Award (Haiku Society of America) and the Albatross Award (Romania), and was among Small Press Review's "November Picks," 1995. Her collection *landings soft* earned the Cicada Haiku Chapbook Award, 1994. She is associate editor of *Sijo West* and poetry editor of *Canadian Writer's Journal*. Her poetry appeared in *Gathering Light*, the 1996 Herb Barrett Award anthology, and *Doors of the Morning* and *Sing for the Inner Ear*, the 1996 and 1997 Sandburg-Livesay Award anthologies. She maintains "Poetry in the Light," an award-winning website showcasing haiku, tanka, and sijo: http://members.tripod.com/~Startag/Contents.html.

Sandra Fuhringer (third prize) lives in Hamilton with her husband and son. She credits haiku for sustaining her creative abilities through seven years of dialysis. Widely published in Japan, Europe, and North America, she has served as president of Haiku Canada and associate editor of *Inkstone* (1982–1984). Her work appeared in *Gathering Light*, the 1996 Herb Barrett Award anthology.

Winona Baker (honourable mention) is the author of five poetry collections: *Beyond the Lighthouse, Moss-Hung Trees: Haiku of the West Coast, Not So Scarlet a Woman, Clouds Empty Themselves: Island Haiku,* and *wild strawberries*. Widely published internationally, she was the 1989 International Grand Prize winner of the Japanese Foreign Minister's Prize in the Bashō contest, and has received a Societatea Romana de Haiku medallion and a Croatian Haiku Association award. Her work appeared in *Gathering Light*, the 1996 Herb Barrett Award anthology, and *Doors of the Morning* and *Sing for the Inner Ear*, the 1996 and 1997 Sandburg-Livesay Award anthologies.

Ann Goldring (honourable mention) lives in rural Stouffville, Ontario. She is an active member of Haiku Canada, and a founding member of the newly-formed Toronto group of haiku poets. Her haiku have been published in a Haiku Canada sheet, *small bird's small breath*, in the 1996 Herb Barrett Award anthology, *Gathering Light*, and in the 1997 Sandburg-Livesay Award anthology, *Sing for the Inner Ear*.

Myra Stilborn (honourable mention) is a retired schoolteacher, born (1916) and raised in Sastatchewan, where she still lives. Her poetry and prose have appeared in a number of magazines, anthologies, and books, including *The Plover* (Japan), *Round Slice of Moon, A Song of Birds, Mosquito in the Cabin* (England), and *Enjoy the Earth Gently* (Australia). Her sonnets placed first and second in the Salmon Arm Sonnet Contest, 1996 and 1997.

ai li lives in North London, England, where she writes, paints, takes urban photographs, and practises Oriental brushwork. She sometimes retreats to a small barrier reef island off the West Coast of Florida. She edits *still,* an international quarterly of short verse, and runs **the empty press**. Her award-winning haiku, tanka, and renku have been widely published, including appearances in the *51st Basho Anthology* (Japan), *Tanka Splendor* (U.S.), and the *Mainichi Haiku Contest Anthology* (Japan). Her work will appear in 1999 in *Global Haiku—Twenty-five Outstanding Poets* (England).

Louise Beaven is an actor living in Toronto. Her haiku have appeared internationally, and she is working on her first collection.

Ernest J. Berry is a 1929 model, manufactured in Christchurch, New Zealand, where he worked until 1950, when he was driven to the Korean War. After a few years as cowboy/shepherd in the New Zealand high country, he started up in business in Auckland as an importer-exporter of sewing machines. Eventually he retired to a remote Mexican beach, where for ten years he indulged in poetry, dune-buggying, frisbeeing, and a little fishing. On return to NZ, he discovered haiku.

Janice M. Bostok lives in the hills behind Murwillumbah, NSW, Australia. She has been writing and publishing haiku since 1971. A former editor and publisher of *Tweed,* she now edits for *Paper Wasp* (Australia), *Hobo Haiku* (Australia), and the *Red Moon Anthology* (U.S.). Her books include *On Sparse Bush.* Her poems have appeared in *The Haiku Anthology* (U.S.) and *Walking Into The Sun* (U.S.).

Marijan Čekolj lives in Samobor, Croatia (near Zagreb) and edits the bilingual international haiku magazine *Vrabac/Sparrow.* His own poetry titles include *In the Heart of Silence, Moonlight, Coming Forward, The Passage, Below the Line, A Picture of Nature,* and *In Open Hand There Is the Whole Sky.* He is the founder and president of the Croatian Haiku Association, publisher of the Croatian Haiku Poets series, and editor of a series of anthologies of Croatian haiku, including *War Haiku.* He also lectures and writes critiques and essays of haiku, and has won several cultural awards in his own country and abroad. By publishing translations of international haiku in Croatian and Croatian haiku in English, he has been instrumental in building bridges between Croatia and the international haiku community. His work appeared in *Gathering Light,* the 1996 Herb Barrett Award anthology.

Lena Coakley is a freelance writer living in Toronto. Her short stories have been published in *Prairie Fire* and the *Sarah Lawrence Review*. She is currently working on a young adult fantasy novel.

Philomene Kocher lives in Kingston, Ontario and works with the Better Beginnings, Better Futures Research Project at Queen's University. Her rural roots and the beauty of the Kingston area provide much inspiration. Her haiku have appeared in the 1996 Herb Barrett Award anthology, *Gathering Light*, and in the 1997 Sandburg-Livesay Award anthology, *Sing for the Inner Ear*.

Mary Partridge was a member of the original Hamilton Haiku Workshop led by Herb Barrett. Her haiku have been widely published and have won several prizes, including third prize for a poem in the 1996 Herb Barrett Award anthology, *Gathering Light*. Mary also writes other types of poetry, short fiction, and articles. Born in England, Mary immigrated to Canada as a child and now makes her home in Elliot Lake, Ontario, where she writes, paints, and enjoys life. She is a contributor to *A Cliff Runs Through It*.

Catherine Patrick is a poet and photographer living in Grande Prairie, Alberta, whose work celebrates life in the Peace River country.

Mary A. Pellerin, a native of the Bay Area of California, lives in Oakland. She wishes she could write haiku for a living.

Brian Ropcean was born in Hamilton, Ontario, where he lives with his wife, Tracy. He has two books of poetry, *Black on White* and *Many Words Make a Book*.

Timothy Russell lives in Toronto, Ohio, where he is a boiler repairman in a steel mill. He is the author of six books of poetry. One of his haiku appeared in *Gathering Light*, the 1996 Herb Barrett Award anthology.

Denver Stull and his wife, Erika, live in Forest Park, Georgia, where he publishes *Parnassus Literary Journal*. His work has appeared in many haiku journals in the U.S. and Japan.

Carolyn Thomas lives in Escondido, California.

Mirko Varga lives in Varazdin, Croatia. His work has appeared in *Sparrow*.

Frances Ward was born in England and moved to Hamilton as a child. Her paintings have been exhibited across southern Ontario. Her poetry has recently appeared in *Top 40* (1995) and *Ingots*. One of her haiku appeared in *Gathering Light*, the 1996 Herb Barrett Award anthology.

Margaret Saunders

Margaret Saunders' poems have appeared in numerous periodicals and anthologies. She is the author of three chapbooks of haiku, *A Flock of Blackbirds* (Unfinished Monument Press, 1979), *Snapdragons* (SWOP Press, 1982), and *Sunken Schooners* (Wee Giant Press, 1983), and has won several awards for her haiku. Two of her poems appeared in *Gathering Light,* last year's Herb Barrett Award anthology, and one was awarded an honourable mention.

Her full-length book of longer poems, *Bridging the Gap,* was published by Moonstone Press in 1990. Her poems were broadcast on Women's Television Network in 1996 and 1997.

Margaret served as associate editor of *Origins* (1973–1977) and editor of *Wee Giant* (1977–1982) and *Daybreak* (1985–1990).

She also writes fiction for children. Her stories have been included in school readers by Gage Publications, and she has authored two books for children, the most recent being *Janet the Jumper* (White Mountain Publications, 1997).

She is currently working on a manuscript about her childhood in Scotland.

Herb Barrett

Herb Barrett (1912–1995) was for many years an important presence in the Hamilton poetry scene: a poet, painter, editor, founder of the Hamilton branch of the Canadian Poetry Association, and a generous mentor to beginning poets. He was a fine practitioner of haiku and related forms.

Herb began publishing poetry in *The Hamilton Spectator* while still in his teens. His books include *Turning Point* (1976), *A Shadow in the Wind* (1983), and *The Light Between* (1992). He was a contributor to *17 Hamilton Poets* (Image Publishing, 1987). A posthumous selection of his work appeared in *A Cliff Runs Through It* (Mekler & Deahl, 1996). For many years he edited and published *Origins,* a poetry quarterly begun in 1967. From 1983 to 1994 he edited the annual *Tidepool.*

Herb's poetry won many awards, including the Alberta Scouten Memorial Award (1962), first prize (1986) and second prize (1983) from the Haiku Poetry Society of Japan, first prize in the Penumbra Poetry Competition (1991), and the Hamilton Arts Award (1988).

hamilton haiku press: Celebrating 15 years of publishing haiku 1983–1998

Other poetry titles by hamilton haiku press, Unfinished Monument Press, and Mekler & Deahl, Publishers

Milton Acorn, ***To Hear the Faint Bells:***
haiku, senryu and short poems from Canada's national poet
Fred Cogswell (judge), ***Doors of the Morning:***
The Sandburg-Livesay Award, 1996
James Deahl (editor), ***Mix Six***
James Deahl (editor), ***The Northern Red Oak:***
Poems for and about Milton Acorn
Simon Frank, ***Imaginary Poems***
LeRoy Gorman (editor), ***Gathering Light:***
The Herb Barrett Award, 1996
Albert W.J. Harper, ***Poems of Reflection***
I.B. Iskov, ***black and white***
M.H. Khan, ***The Unmuffled Voices of El Dorado***
Tanis MacDonald, ***This Speaking Plant***
The Acorn-Rukeyser Award, 1996
Audrey Duncan Major, ***Light and Lively Poems, Book II***
Judge Mazebedi, ***Chicken Cries Out***
Ted Plantos (editor), ***Not to Rest in Silence:***
A celebration of people's poetry
Anna Plesums, ***Intrinsic Revelations***
Anna Plesums, ***Love and Words***
Al Purdy (judge), ***Sing for the Inner Ear:***
The Sandburg-Livesay Award, 1997
Kay Redhead, ***The Song of the Artichoke Lover***
Linda Rogers, ***Picking the Stones***
The Acorn-Rukeyser Award, 1997
Jeff Seffinga, ***Bailey's Mill***
Jeff Seffinga (editor), ***A Cliff Runs Through It***
Jeff Seffinga (editor), ***Ingots***
Jeff Seffinga, ***Tight Shorts:*** *Haiku and other short poems*
Adèle Kearns Thomas, ***Behind the Scenes***

The Herb Barrett Award for short poetry in the haiku tradition is offered annually. Winners are published in an anthology and cash prizes are awarded. Contest closing is in the autumn; the deadline for 1998 is November 30.

Mekler & Deahl also offers two People's Poetry contests:

The Sandburg-Livesay Anthology Award

The Acorn-Rukeyser Chapbook Award

Both offer cash prizes as well as publication, and the deadline for 1998 is October 31.

For full details on these contests, please contact

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The Herb Barrett Award