

# REFLECTION

BE REFLECTION

**GLOUCESTER POETRY FESTIVAL 2021**



# GLOUCESTER POETRY FESTIVAL 2021

## WELCOME TO GLOUCESTER POETRY FESTIVAL 2021!

It's been a time of upheaval and change all over with the dreaded P word continuing to distort the way we live and with politics in the UK has had a drastic effect on how everyone here has interacted and engaged with each other. As such, it was felt that there was a need for introspection and as result we have themed this years festival on Reflection to stand still amongst all the colourful noise.

This year we give thanks and are grateful to include at our online festival:

The Pandemic Poetry Anthology

Blue Diode Publishing

Salt Publishing

Seren Books

The Hedgehog Press

Green Bottle Press

Poets for the Planet

Black Rabbit Press and Infinity Books UK

Arachne Press

plus more events with individual poets.

We are excited to bring poetry to you this year in your homes and it just leaves me to thank Marcelle Newbold, Jason Conway and Charlie Markwick for their assistance to make this festival happen, because together we are stronger and can do more in the name of art.

So, wherever you are join us online to experience dynamic poetry and be inspired.



To book tickets to any of our events, or an open mic slot, please refer to our website:

<http://www.gloucesterpoetryfestival.uk>

# GLOUCESTER POETRY FESTIVAL 2021 PROGRAMME

## **1. Sat. 2 October – 14.00 - Pandemic Anthology**

Adele Cordner, Alan Toltzis, David Pollard, Jo Lambert, Karen Moore, Ness Owen, Nicola Harrison plus others

## **2. Mon. 4 October – 19.30 plus open mic**

Catherine Graham, Elizabeth Rimmer

## **3. Wed. 6 October – 13.00 – Blue Diode Press**

Allie Kerper, Andy Jackson, Georgi Gill, Jake Morris-Campbell, Juana Adcock, Milan Dezinsky (with translator from Czech, Nathan Fields), Nicky Melville, Tessa Berring, Tess Jolly

## **4. Sat. 9th October – 14.00 – Salt Press**

Daniel Hardisty, Matthew Haigh, Rob A. Mackenzie, Louise Peterkin and Julian Stannard

## **5. Mon. 11th October – 19.30 plus open mic**

Daniel Fraser, Richard Meier, Jo Weston

## **6. Wed. 13th October – 13.00 – Seren Publishing**

Zoe Brigley, Kristian Evans, Helen Bowell, Katrina Naomi, Melissa Studdard, Mir Mahfuz Ali, Philip Gross, Richard Gwyn, Samuel Tongue

## **7. Sat. 16th October – 14.00 - Hedgehog Press**

Damien Donnelly, Darren Beaney, Patricia M Osborne, Helene Demetriades, Gaynor Kane, Karen Mooney, Z.D. Dicks, Nigel Kent

## **8. Mon. 18th October – 19.30 plus open mic**

Josephine Lay, Stewart Carswell, Zoe Brooks

## **9. Wed. 20th October – 13.00 – Green Bottle Press**

Caroline Davies, Laura Wainwright, Micheal McCann, Phoebe Walker, Sandra Galton, Stephanie Jacob

## **10. Sat. 23rd October – 14.00 plus open mic**

Chaucer Cameron, J.L.M. Morton, Rosie Johnston

## **11. Mon. 25th October – 19.30 – Poets for the Planet**

Jacqueline Saphra, Anja Konig, Dom Bury, Ethan Saphra, Gita Ralleigh, Helen Bowell, Henny Beaumont, Shareen K. Murayama, Susie Campbell, Tanatsei Gambura

## **12. Wed. 27th October – 13.00 – Black Rabbit Press and Infinity Books UK**

Bailee Wilson, George Sandifer-Smith, Karen Little, Mab Jones, Marc Zeuk Roberts, Mari Ellis Dunning, Olivia Tuck, Richard Owen Powell

## **13. Sat. 30th October – 14.00 - Arachne Press**

Jennifer A McGowan, Jane Aldous, Rob Walton, Kate Foley, Math Jones, Ness Owen, Emma Lee, Jeremy Dixon



Gloucester Poetry Festival

## Pandemic Anthology

'The COVID-19 Pandemic is affecting lives, routines and priorities globally. This anthology unites 78 poets from the UK and further afield in an exploration of personal pandemic experience: fear, love, grief, hope and community.'

The sale of the anthology will be used to raise funds for PPE provision for frontline workers, and NHS charities.'

To book tickets, please refer to the Gloucester Poetry Festival website:

<http://www.gloucesterpoetryfestival.uk>



**Adele Cordner**

Born in Newport, Adele's first poetry pamphlet, *The Kitchen Sink Chronicles*, was published by Hedgehog Poetry Press in 2021. Her poetry has been placed in competitions including The Plough, Welsh Poetry and Poetry on The Lake. She is delighted to be included in Pandemic Poetry in support of NHS workers.

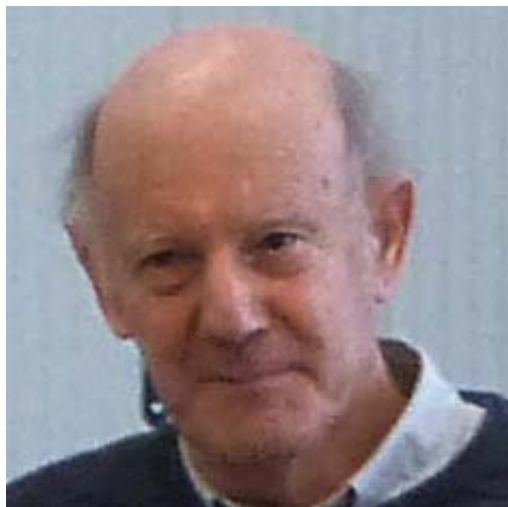


**Alan Toltzis**

Alan Toltzis is the author of two poetry collections—*49 Aspects of Human Emotion* and *The Last Commandment*—and two chapbooks, *Mercy* (forthcoming) and *Nature Lessons*. His poems have appeared in numerous print and online publications including, *Plainsong*, *Grey Sparrow*, *The Wax Paper*, *Black Bough Poetry*, and *Anthropocene Poetry*. Alan is an editor of *The Mizmor Anthology*. After a lifetime in Philadelphia, he now lives in Los Angeles. Find him online at [alantoltzis.com](http://alantoltzis.com); follow him @ToltzisAlan.







**David Pollard**

David Pollard's doctoral thesis was published as: *The Poetry of Keats: Language and Experience*. He has also published *A KWIC Concordance to the Harvard Edition of Keats' Letters*, a novel, *Nietzsche's Footfalls* and seven volumes of poetry. He divides his time between Brighton on the South coast of England and a village on the Rias of Galicia.



**Jo Lambert**

Jo Lambert writes poetry and prose, veering between cynicism and inappropriate over-excitement. She lives in Carmarthenshire. Her work has been published by the New York Times, Gwyllion Magazine and Don't Die Press.

She can be followed on Twitter as @JoCourgetter.





**Karen Moore**

K. S. Moore's poetry has recently appeared in Broken Sleep's 'Crossing Lines', The Stony Thursday Book, New Welsh Review and Atlanta Review.

In 2020, K. S. Moore placed third in The Waterford Poetry Prize and was nominated for the Pushcart Prize.

Samples of poetry can be found at [www.ksmoore.com](http://www.ksmoore.com).



**Ness Owen**

Ness Owen is a poet from Ynys Môn. Her work has been widely published in journals and anthologies and her first collection *Mamiaith* was published by Arachne Press in 2019.





## Nicola Harrison

Nicola Harrison is an Oxford University Lecturer, author of 3 books and 2 pamphlets, singer, poet and Arts Council funded performer.

Specialising in shows of her own poetry, music and song for Three Choirs Festival and touring The Becoming show.







**Catherine Graham**

Catherine Graham is an award-winning poet and novelist. *Æther: an out-of-body lyric* is her seventh poetry collection. A second novel, *The Most Cunning Heart*, is forthcoming. She teaches creative writing at the University of Toronto and leads the Toronto International Festival of Authors monthly book club.

[www.catherinegraham.com](http://www.catherinegraham.com)  
[www.twitter.com/catgrahampoet](https://twitter.com/catgrahampoet)  
[www.instagram.com/catgrahampoet](https://www.instagram.com/catgrahampoet)  
[www.linktr.ee/CatGrahamPoet](http://www.linktr.ee/CatGrahamPoet)



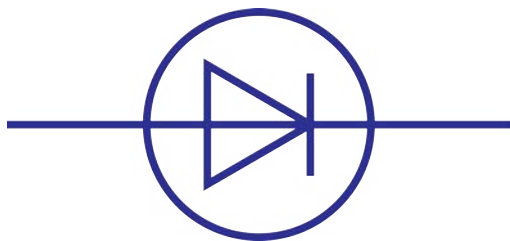
**Elizabeth Rimmer**

Elizabeth Rimmer (@haggardherbs) is a poet, poetry editor for Red Squirrel Press and occasional translator. She has published four collections of poetry with Red Squirrel Press, *Wherever We Live Now*, (2011), *The Territory of Rain*, (2015), *Haggards* (2018) and *The Well of the Moon* (2021), also a translation of the *OE Charm of Nine Herbs*.

[www.burnedthumb.com](http://www.burnedthumb.com)

To book tickets, or an open mic slot, please refer to the Gloucester Poetry Festival website:

<http://www.gloucesterpoetryfestival.uk>



## BLUE DIODE PRESS

Blue Diode Press is based in Leith.

It started in October 2018 with an anthology of poems inspired by Muriel Spark's novels. Since then, it has published several individual collections, one of which was a Poetry Book Society Choice, and two of which were highly commended in the Forward Prizes.

[www.bluediode.co.uk](http://www.bluediode.co.uk)

Part 1: Tessa Berring, Andy Jackson, Georgi Gill, Jake Morris-Campbell, Allie Kerper.

Part 2: Milan Dezinsky/Nathan Fields (poet and translator, from Czech), Tess Jolly, Juana Adcock, Nicky Melville.



## Gloucester Poetry Festival

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**Juana Adcock**

Juana Adcock is a poet and translator. She has published *Manca* (Argonautica, 2019), mainly in Spanish, which explores the anatomy of violence in the Mexican drug war, and *Split* (Blue Diode Press, 2019) which was a Poetry Book Society Choice and was included in the Guardian's Best Poetry of 2019.



**Tessa Berring**

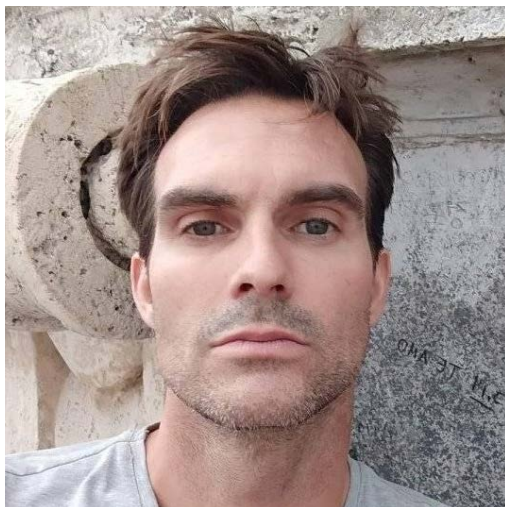
Tessa Berring lives in Edinburgh. Blue Diode Press published her collection *'Bitten Hair'* in 2019. Other recent work can be found via Zeno Press, Berfrois Magazine, Pamenar Press, and the journal *Death Of Workers While Building Skyscrapers*. "I like lean words / you know, like 'spirit' / and lightly placed / unspeakable things".





**Milan Děžinský**

Milan Děžinský is one of the Czech Republic's foremost poets. His seven poetry collections have garnered numerous awards, including Magnesia Litera, the most prestigious Czech poetry prize. The English translation of his collection *A Secret Life* was published by Blue Diode Press in 2021.



**Nathan Fields**

Nathan Fields is a Prague-based literary translator and has been translating the poetry of Milan Děžinský since 2004.





**Georgi Gill**

Georgi Gill is an Edinburgh-based writer and researcher whose poems explore a range of themes including the personal and cultural impact of illness and disability, and queer history. She often collaborates with other artists and writers on print, digital and performance projects. Georgi was the inaugural poet-in-residence at the Anatomical Museum in Edinburgh and she is the editor of *The Interpreter's House* magazine. *Limbo* (Blue Diode Press) is her first collection and was awarded the Michael Schmidt Prize for Best Portfolio.



**Andy Jackson**

Andy Jackson is from Salford but has lived in Scotland for 30 years. His third collection *The Saints Are Coming* was published in 2020 by Blue Diode. He has edited a further six anthologies including *Split Screen* and *Double Bill* for Red Squirrel Press, *Whaleback City* (with WN Herbert) for Edinburgh University Press, and *Scotia Extremis* (with Brian Johnstone) for Luath Press. He is also co-editor of the long-running poetry broadsheet *Poetry Scotland*.

[www.andyjacksonpoet.co.uk](http://www.andyjacksonpoet.co.uk)







**Tess Jolly**

Tess Jolly lives with her family in West Sussex, where she works as a library assistant. She also facilitates creative writing workshops for children and young people, and recently retrained as a freelance proofreader. She has published two pamphlets: *Touchpapers* (Eyewear) and *Thus the Blue Hour Comes* (Indigo Dreams). Her first full collection, *Breakfast at the Origami Café*, was published in 2020 by Blue Diode Press.



**Allie Kerper**

Allie Kerper is a poet living in Edinburgh and working as an educational media editor. Her work explores themes of intimacy and disconnection, home, identity and belonging. She has taught English literature and creative writing at the University of Glasgow, where she earned her MFA in Creative Writing. Her debut collection, *Pale Hairs Reach Between Us*, is out with Blue Diode in October 2021.







**Nicky Melville**

Nicky Melville is a poet, musician and teacher of creative writing. He is very chuffed to have his selected out this year, *Decade of Cuts: new and selected poems*, with blue Diode Press. Other books include *ABBODIES*, *ABBODIES COLD : SPECTRE* (both Sad Press) and *THE IMPERATIVE COMMANDS*, which is forthcoming from Dostoyevsky Wannabe.

He makes daft, funny, but serious protest songs as Fuck This:  
[www.fuckthis1.bandcamp.com](http://www.fuckthis1.bandcamp.com)



**Jake Morris-Campbell**

Jake Morris-Campbell was born in South Shields in 1988. He was recently selected by the BBC and Arts and Humanities Research Council as a 2021 New Generation Thinker. He is preparing Radio 3 broadcasts on arts and culture, bringing his academic research to a wide audience. A recipient of New Writing North's Andrew Waterhouse award, he has contributed to a number of multidisciplinary arts projects. His debut collection, *Corrigenda for Costafine Town*, will be published by Blue Diode Press in November.





### Salt Press

Salt is one of UK's foremost independent publishers, committed to the discovery and publication of contemporary British literature. Salt ensure that diverse voices can be heard in an abundant, global marketplace.

[www.saltpublishing.com](http://www.saltpublishing.com)



### Gloucester Poetry Festival

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### Matthew Haigh

Matthew Haigh's debut collection, *Death Magazine*, was published with Salt in 2019 and was nominated for the Polari First Book Prize. Matthew's work has been highly commended in the Forward Prizes.



### Daniel Hardisty

Daniel Hardisty is a US/UK citizen. He holds a BA from University of East Anglia and an MFA from Boston University. His poems have featured in Poetry London, The London Magazine, Poetry Ireland Review, and The Spectator. His writing has earned him an Academy of American Poets prize, a Robert Pinsky Global Fellowship, a Faber New Poets prize, an Arts Council Writers Award and a New Writing North Award. He was co-editor of the anthology *if you're not happy now*, and is currently co-editor of *Volume* magazine.





**Rob A. Mackenzie**

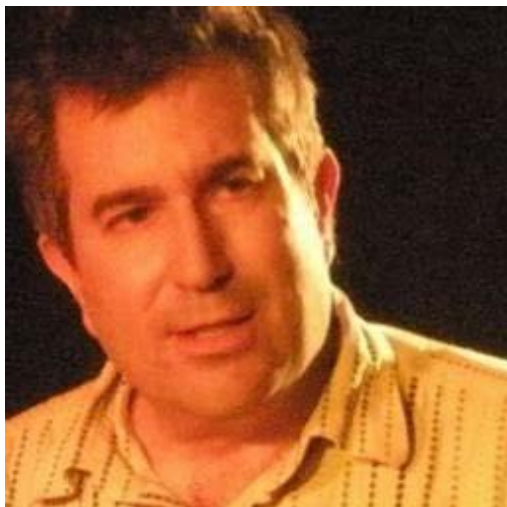
Rob A. Mackenzie is from Glasgow. His most recent collection is *The Book of Revelation* (Salt, 2020). He is reviews editor for Magma Poetry and runs literary publisher, Blue Diode Press.



**Louise Peterkin**

Louise Peterkin is a poet and editor from Edinburgh. She is a recipient of a New Writers Award from the Scottish Book Trust. She is an assistant poetry editor for The Interpreter's House. Her first collection of poetry *The Night Jar* was published by Salt in 2020.





### **Julian Stannard**

Heat Wave (Salt, 2020) is Julian Stannard's eighth collection. He was awarded the Troubadour Prize and has been nominated for the Forward. His film-poem 'Sottoripa' is accessible here [www.vimeo.com/82730928](http://www.vimeo.com/82730928)





**Daniel Fraser**

Daniel Fraser is a writer from Hebden Bridge, Yorkshire. His poetry and prose have won prizes and been published widely in print and online, including: London Magazine, LA Review of Books, Aeon, Acumen, X-R-A-Y, Poetry Birmingham, Radical Philosophy and Review 31. His pamphlet '*Lung Iron*' is published by ignitionpress.



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<http://www.gloucesterpoetryfestival.uk>



**Richard Meier**

Since winning the inaugural Picador Poetry Prize, Richard has had two collections published by Picador: *Misadventure* (2012) and *Search Party* (2019). *Misadventure* was reviewed widely, and favourably, for example in The Times, The Telegraph and Poetry Review. In Poetry Review, the poet David Morley described *Misadventure* as "one of those rare books that will cheer without patronising, and show you how to speak past grief and silence while still holding all that grief and all that silence"; while the poet Don Paterson has written of Richard's work: "There was something in Richard Meier's turn of mind, the precision of his ear, the quiet strangeness of his imagery, the tenderness and clarity of his address, that made us want to read his poems again and again. And each time we returned to them there was more to discover, more to be moved by".





## Jo Weston

Jo Weston is a poet and writer whose work has been listed in the Bridport Prize, Mslexia Poetry Competition, and erbacce-prize. Her poetry, fiction and memoir have been published online, in print, on BBC radio and at Festivals. Jo's pamphlet, *How not to multitask*, is available in print from Five Leaves Bookshop or as an ebook on Amazon.

More details here:

<https://joweston1.wixsite.com/joweston/books>



# SEREN



## SEREN

## Gloucester Poetry Festival

Seren is Wales' leading independent literary publisher, specialising in English-language writing from Wales. In 2021 they are celebrating their 40th anniversary. They publish a range of titles across poetry, fiction and nonfiction, many of which go on to be shortlisted for – and win – major literary prizes.

[www.serenbooks.com](http://www.serenbooks.com)



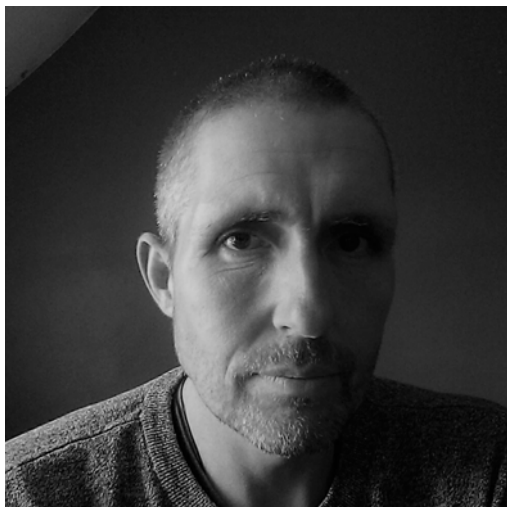
To book tickets, please refer to the Gloucester Poetry Festival website:

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**Zoë Brigley**

Zoë Brigley has three PBS recommended poetry collections: *The Secret* (2007), *Conquest* (2012), and *Hand & Skull* (2019) (all from Bloodaxe), a book of nonfiction essays *Notes from a Swing State* (Parthian, 2019) and several chapbooks. She is Assistant Professor in English at the Ohio State University.



**Kristian Evans**

Kristian Evans is a poet and editor from Kenfig in south Wales, interested in ecological philosophy, magic and receptions of the more-than-human. He has written several texts for performance as well as chapbooks of poems and nonfiction, *Unleaving* (HappenStance, 2016), and *Otherworlds* (Broken Sleep, 2021).





**Helen Bowell**

Helen Bowell is London-based poet and co-director of Dead [Women] Poets Society. She is a Ledbury Poetry Critic, and an alumna of The Writing Squad and the Roundhouse Poetry Collective. Her debut pamphlet is forthcoming from Bad Betty Press. She works at The Poetry Society.



**Philip Gross**

Philip Gross has published some twenty collections of poetry, most recently *Between The Islands* (Bloodaxe, 2020). He is a keen collaborator – e.g. with poet Lesley Saunders on *A Part of the Main* (Mulfran, 2018) and with Welsh-language poet Cyril Jones and artist Valerie Coffin Price on the bilingual *Troeon/Turnings* (Seren, 2021).

[www.philipgross.co.uk](http://www.philipgross.co.uk)





**Richard Gwyn**

Richard Gwyn grew up in Breconshire. He is the author of three collections of poetry and three novels as well as an award-winning memoir, *The Vagabond's Breakfast*. In recent years he has travelled extensively in Latin America, resulting in the publication of *The Other Tiger* (Seren, 2016). He is Professor of Creative Writing at Cardiff University.



**Mir Mahfuz Ali**

Mir Mahfuz Ali was born in Dhaka, Bangladesh in 1958. He attended Essex and Cambridge Universities. He has given readings and performances at The Royal Opera House, BBC Newsnight Review, and Radio 4. His debut poetry collection *Midnight, Dhaka* was published by Seren in 2014. He is now completing his second book.





**Katrina Naomi**

Katrina Naomi's poetic collaboration with Helen Mort, *Same But Different*, is published in Sept 2021 (Hazel Press). Katrina's most recent collection is *Wild Persistence* (Seren, 2020), which received an Authors Foundation award. Her poetry has appeared on Radio 4's *Front Row* and *Poetry Please* and on Poems of the Underground.

[www.katrinanaomi.co.uk](http://www.katrinanaomi.co.uk)



**Melissa Studdard**

Melissa Studdard is the author of the poetry collection *I Ate the Cosmos for Breakfast*. Her work has been featured by PBS, NPR, *The New York Times*, *The Guardian*, and more. She is the 2020 winner of the Lucille Medwick Award from the Poetry Society of America.

[www.melissastuddard.com](http://www.melissastuddard.com)







## Samuel Tongue

Samuel Tongue's first collection is *Sacrifice Zones* (Red Squirrel, 2020) and he has published two pamphlets: *Stitch* (Tapsalteerie, 2018) and *Hauling-Out* (Eyewear, 2016). Poems have appeared in *Butcher's Dog*, *Magma*, *The Compass*, *Finished Creatures*, *Gutter*, *The Interpreter's House*, *Under the Radar* and elsewhere. He works at the Scottish Poetry Library in Edinburgh.

[www.samuel tongue.com](http://www.samuel tongue.com)





### **Hedgehog Poetry Picnic:**

### **A Hedgehog Poetry Press Showcase**

### **Hedgehog Press**

The Hedgehog Poetry Press launched in October 2017. It is the proud home of the 'Cult of the Spiny Hog' which is a type of club for readers and writers of poetry. The press is a little like a co-operative, and whilst 'Cult' members receive everything they publish and free entry to all the competitions, their subscription fees underwrite everything they print.

[www.hedgehogpress.co.uk](http://www.hedgehogpress.co.uk)

[www.twitter.com/hedgehogpoetry](https://twitter.com/hedgehogpoetry)



### **Gloucester Poetry Festival**

To book tickets, please refer to the Gloucester Poetry Festival website:

<http://www.gloucesterpoetryfestival.uk>



**Darren J Beaney**

Darren J Beaney is part of a collective that host a regular spoken word night in Brighton/Zoom - Flight of the Dragonfly. He has published two pamphlets with the Hedgehog Poetry Press - *Honey Dew* and *The Machinery of Life*. He cuts his own hair. He loves Marmite. His favourite author is George Orwell and he listens to a lot of punk rock. He tries to blog - [www.djbeaney.wordpress.com](http://www.djbeaney.wordpress.com) and he can be found lurking on Twitter = @DJ\_Be\_An.

[www.djbeaney.wordpress.com](http://www.djbeaney.wordpress.com)

[www.twitter.com/dj\\_be\\_an](https://www.twitter.com/dj_be_an)



**Hélène Demetriades**

Hélène jointly won the Hedgehog Press full fat poetry collection competition in December 2020. She will have her debut collection '*The Plumb Line*' published in early 2022.

'*The Plumb Line* is a magnificent, soaring testament to the tenacity of the human spirit. These are powerful, visionary poems, attentive to the body and the dark and tender places of the soul,' says Forward Prize winner Fiona Benson.

[www.twitter.com/hlnedemetriades](https://www.twitter.com/hlnedemetriades)

[www.facebook.com/HlneDemetriades1](https://www.facebook.com/HlneDemetriades1)





**Damien B Donnelly**

Damien B. Donnelly is the host and producer of the poetry podcast *Eat the Storms*. His debut pamphlet, published by The Hedgehog Poetry Press, was *Eat the Storms* and was featured on the Poetry Book Society Winter List 2020/21. He followed that with a Stickleback micro collection and this year will see the release of *'In the Jitterfritz of Neon'*, a pamphlet co-written with Irish Poet Eilín de Paor and his first full collection called *'Enough!'*.

[www.deuxiemepeaupoetry.com](http://www.deuxiemepeaupoetry.com)

[www.instagram.com/damiboy](https://www.instagram.com/damiboy)

<https://open.spotify.com/show/0mOECCAcx0kMXg25S0aywi>

[www.eatthestorms.com](http://www.eatthestorms.com)

[www.youtube.com/user/deuxiemepeau/videos](https://www.youtube.com/user/deuxiemepeau/videos)



**Nigel Kent**

Nigel Kent is a Pushcart Prize nominated poet (2019 and 2020) and a reviewer. He is an active member of the Open University Poetry Society, occasionally editing its workshop magazine. He is the author of two collections: *'Saudade'* (Hedgehog Poetry Press, 2019) and *'Unmuted'* (Hedgehog Poetry Press, to be published 2021) and three pamphlets, *'Psychopathogen'*, and *'Thinking You Home'* and *'A Hostile Environment'* written in collaboration with Sarah Thomson.

[www.twitter.com/kent\\_nj](https://www.twitter.com/kent_nj)

[www.nigelkentpoet.wordpress.com](http://www.nigelkentpoet.wordpress.com)





**Karen Mooney**

A career in human resource management provided preparation for some of Karen's current activities; cats and words. Sometimes they hide, reappearing unexpectedly; sometimes they scratch, sometimes they purr. Her words have appeared in online publications and in 'Penned In', a pamphlet of pandemic poetry co-written with Gaynor Kane published by The Hedgehog Poetry Press. She is currently putting the finishing touches to another pamphlet due out from the Hedgehog Poetry Press later this year.

[www.twitter.com/1karenmooney](https://www.twitter.com/1karenmooney)

[www.facebook.com/observationsbykaren](https://www.facebook.com/observationsbykaren)

[www.gaynorkane.com/penned-in](https://www.gaynorkane.com/penned-in)



**Patricia M Osborne**

Patricia M Osborne is married with grown-up children and grandchildren. In 2019 she graduated with an MA in Creative Writing. Patricia is a novelist, poet and short fiction writer. She has been published in various literary magazines and anthologies. She has a successful blog at [Whitewingsbooks.com](http://Whitewingsbooks.com) featuring other writers. When Patricia isn't working on her own writing, she enjoys sharing her knowledge, acting as a mentor to fellow writers. Patricia paints pictures with words.

[www.facebook.com/triciaosbornewriter/](https://www.facebook.com/triciaosbornewriter/)

[www.whitewingsbooks.com](http://www.whitewingsbooks.com)

[www.twitter.com/PMOsborneWriter](https://www.twitter.com/PMOsborneWriter)





**Gaynor Kane**

Gaynor Kane is from Belfast, Northern Ireland. She is published by the Hedgehog Poetry Press and her books include a micro-collection '*Circling the Sun*', pamphlets '*Memory Forest*' & '*Penned In*' (co-written with Karen Mooney) and her full collection '*Venus in Pink Marble*', which was Black Bough Poetry's 'Book of the Month' in November 2020. She is a member of three local writing groups, Woman Aloud NI and a volunteer for EastSide Partnership.

[www.gaynorkane.com](http://www.gaynorkane.com)

[www.twitter.com/gaynorkane](https://www.twitter.com/gaynorkane)

[www.facebook.com/gaynorkanepoet](https://www.facebook.com/gaynorkanepoet)

[www.instagram.com/gaynorkanepoet](https://www.instagram.com/gaynorkanepoet)



**Z D Dicks**

Z. D. Dicks holds an MA in Creative and Critical Writing from the University of Gloucestershire.

In 2016 he founded the Gloucestershire Poetry Society and the Gloucester Poetry Festival. He is the Gloucestershire Poet Laureate and his poetry can be found widely in mainstream publications.

[www.twitter.com/ZiggyPoet](https://www.twitter.com/ZiggyPoet)

[www.facebook.com/TheGloucestershirePoetLaureate](https://www.facebook.com/TheGloucestershirePoetLaureate)

[www.apexpoetry.uk](http://www.apexpoetry.uk)







### Zoe Brooks

Zoe Brooks' collection *Owl Unbound* was published by Indigo Dreams (2020). Her work has been extensively published in magazines, including recently in *Birmingham Poetry Journal*, *Ink*, *Sweat and Tears*, *Prole*, and *Fenland Reed*. Her award-winning long poem *Fool's Paradise* is due to be published in 2022.



### Stewart Carswell

Stewart Carswell grew up in the Forest of Dean and currently lives in Cambridgeshire, where he co-pilots the Fen Speak open mic night. He studied Physics at Southampton University, and has a PhD from the University of Bristol. His poems have recently been published in *Under the Radar*, *Envoi*, *Ink Sweat & Tears*, and *The Fenland Reed*. His debut collection is *"Earthworks"* (Indigo Dreams, 2021).

[www.stewartcarswell.co.uk](http://www.stewartcarswell.co.uk)

[www.twitter.com/stewcarswell](https://twitter.com/stewcarswell)

To book tickets, or an open mic slot, please refer to the Gloucester Poetry Festival website:

<http://www.gloucesterpoetryfestival.uk>





### Josephine Lay

Josephine Lay is a poet living near Gloucester. Her third collection of poetry entitled '*A Quietus*' (Black Eyes Publishing UK 2021) is a contemplation on the calm spaces between moments of life and reflects on our release from existence.





### **Green Bottle Press**

Green Bottle Press was founded in London in 2014 to publish debut poetry pamphlets and the very occasional first collection. There is no one style or subject that marks us out – the quality of the poetry and the attention to detail in production of beautiful books is our hallmark.



### **Gloucester Poetry Festival**

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### Caroline Davies

Caroline Davies was born in Norfolk to Welsh parents and spent much of her childhood by the sea. She has two collections, *Convoy* and *Voices from Stone and Bronze*, published by Cinnamon Press. This is her first pamphlet.



### Sandra Galton

Sandra Galton is half-Danish but has lived most of her adult life in London working as a musician.

She completed an MA in Writing Poetry at the Poetry School, London/Newcastle University in 2017. Her poems have appeared in several publications and have been successful in a number of competitions. This is her first pamphlet.





### Stephanie Jacob

Stephanie Jacob is an actor, playwright and poet. She started in theatre-in-education, then sidled into mainstream theatre where she's worked as an actor for 30 years. She began writing plays to create more diverse female roles.

*Shifts*, first broadcast on BBC Radio Three, is a poetic response to nurses talking about the pandemic ('epic, a vivid, powerful record of these strange times.' *Sunday Times*). *Boudica* is Stephanie's first poetry collection.

[www.stephaniejacob.co.uk](http://www.stephaniejacob.co.uk)



### Mícheál McCann

Mícheál McCann is from Derry. He is beginning a PhD on AIDS writing and optimism. His work appears in *Poetry Ireland Review*, *PN Review* and *The Tangerine*. He has read for the Lifeboat Reading Series and some of his poems have been set to music for the Derry International Choral Festival. He won the inaugural Ireland Chair of Poetry Student Prize in 2019.





**Laura Wainwright**

Laura Wainwright is from Newport, South Wales. She has been a *Magma* 'Selected' poet and her poetry has twice been shortlisted for the Bridport Prize. She has a PhD in Literature from Cardiff University and is also the author of the critical book, *New Territories in Modernism: Anglophone Welsh Writing, 1930-1949* (University of Wales Press, 2018).



**Phoebe Walker**

Phoebe Walker was born in Northumberland and now lives in Manchester, where she works in development for the arts and social justice sectors. She received the Mairtín Crawford Poetry Award in 2019, and a Northern Writers' Award for poetry in 2012. Her work has appeared in *Under the Radar*, *The Tangerine*, *The Moth*, *Ambit*, *Magma*, and in the Northern Poetry Library's 'Poem of the North' exhibition. She is a 2021 winner of an Eric Gregory award for *Animal Noises* published by Green Bottle Press.







### Chaucer Cameron

Chaucer Cameron is the author of *In An Ideal world I'd Not Be Murdered*. She has been published in journals, including: Under the Radar, Poetry Salzburg and The North. Chaucer is creator of Wild Whispers an international poetry film project. She is co-editor of the online magazine Poetry Film Live.



### Rosie Johnston

Rosie Johnston's fourth pamphlet of micro-poems *Six-Count Jive* (Lapwing Publications, 2019) describes her recovery from CPTSD into a world of natural beauty and happiness. Recent anthologies include *Her Other Language* (Arlen House, 2020), *Places of Poetry* (OneWorld, 2020) and *American Writers Review 2021: Turmoil and Recovery*. Rosie lives by the sea in Kent.

To book tickets, or an open mic slot, please refer to the Gloucester Poetry Festival website:

<http://www.gloucesterpoetryfestival.uk>





## JLM Morton

JLM Morton's pamphlets *Lake 32* and *Sentient* are published by Yew Tree Press. This year Juliette was awarded an Arts Council grant to work on a collection exploring the role of trade cloth in colonial expansion. She is poet in residence for Stroudwater Textile Trust.

[www.jlmmorton.com](http://www.jlmmorton.com)





### Poets for the Planet

An eclectic, prize-winning and passionate group of poets come together to address the most urgent issue of our time. Expect to emerge inspired, disturbed, provoked, empowered and mobilised.

This event will include visuals, specially commissioned music, a tea break (bring your own biscuits!) and a Q&A.

With: Helen Bowell, Dom Bury, Susie Campbell, Anja Konig, Shareen Murayama, Gita Ralleigh, Ethan Saphra and Jacqueline Saphra.

[www.poetsfortheplanet.org](http://www.poetsfortheplanet.org)

[www.twitter.com/poets4theplanet](https://twitter.com/poets4theplanet)

[www.instagram.com/poetsfortheplanet](https://www.instagram.com/poetsfortheplanet)



### Gloucester Poetry Festival

To book tickets, please refer to the Gloucester Poetry Festival website:

<http://www.gloucesterpoetryfestival.uk>



**Henny Beaumont**

Henny Beaumont is an illustrator and political cartoonist with work featured regularly in The Guardian. Her most recent project is '*Disappearing Women*', a memorial to honour each of 118 women killed between March 2020 and March 2021.



**Helen Bowell**

Helen Bowell is a co-director of Dead [Women] Poets Society and a Ledbury Poetry Critic. Her debut pamphlet is forthcoming from Bad Betty Press.

Twitter: @helen\_bowell  
[www.helenbowell.co.uk](http://www.helenbowell.co.uk)





**Dom Bury**

Dom Bury runs workshops and initiations on living in planetary Emergency, his first collection of poetry is *Rite of Passage* (Bloodaxe, 2021).



**Susie Campbell**

Susie Campbell is one of the founding members of Poets for the Planet, and her poetry is available from Guillemot Press and, forthcoming, Osmosis Press.

[www.twitter.com/susiecampbell](https://www.twitter.com/susiecampbell)  
[www.susiecampbellwrites.wordpress.com](https://www.susiecampbellwrites.wordpress.com)







**Tanatsei Gambura**

Tanatsei Gambura is a poet and cultural practitioner. She is the author of *Things I Have Forgotten Before*, her debut pamphlet by Bad Betty Press. Her work explores the possibilities of re-memory and healing in the aftermath of individual, familial, national and collective trauma.



**Anja König**

Anja König's first full collection *Animal Experiments* was published in 2020 by Bad Betty Press. She is very interested in ants.

@citywarbler







**Shareen K. Murayama**

Shareen K. Murayama is a Hawaii-based poet, educator, and amateur surfer.

Instagram & Twitter: @AmBusyPoeming



**Gita Ralleigh**

Gita Ralleigh is a medical doctor and writer. Her debut poetry collection *A Terrible Thing* was published by Bad Betty Press in 2020.





### Ethan Saphra

Ethan Saphra is a singer/songwriter from London. He has released both solo and collaborative projects on all streaming platforms, and plays covers and original songs in a variety of styles.

[www.instagram.com/ethansaphra](https://www.instagram.com/ethansaphra)

[www.facebook.com/EthanSaphraMusic](https://www.facebook.com/EthanSaphraMusic)

Spotify: <https://tinyurl.com/3uj78kts>



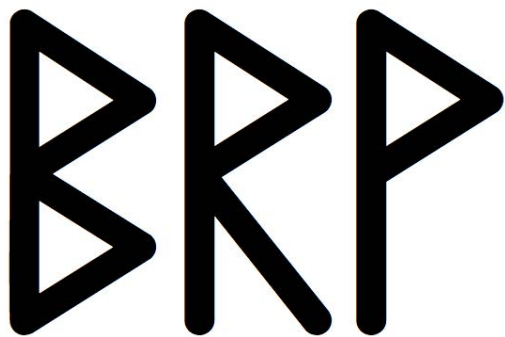
### Jacqueline Saphra

Jacqueline Saphra is one of the founding members of Poets for the Planet and her most recent book is *One Hundred Lockdown Sonnets* from Nine Arches Press.

[www.jacquelinesaphra.com](https://www.jacquelinesaphra.com)

Twitter: @jsaphra





### Black Rabbit Press

Black Rabbit Press publishes distinct and diverse voices in poetry and flash fiction. Their pamphlets feature gorgeous, handmade covers, each featuring a distinctive papercut design. "Excellent production values" - Sabotage Reviews.



### Infinity Books UK

Infinity Books UK is a new publisher - of poetry, primarily. They currently run the annual Love The Words poetry competition, part of International Dylan Thomas Day, in addition.



To book tickets, please refer to the Gloucester Poetry Festival website:

<http://www.gloucesterpoetryfestival.uk>

Gloucester Poetry Festival



**Mari Ellis Dunning**

Mari Ellis Dunning's debut poetry collection, *Salacia*, was shortlisted for Wales Book of the Year 2019. Her second poetry collection, *Pearl and Bone*, will be published with Parthian next year.



**Mab Jones**

Mab Jones is "a unique talent" (The Times). She is a writer, broadcaster, publisher, and is the winner of many awards including, most recently, from the Royal Society of Literature.





**Karen Little**

Karen Little (kazvina) is an artist and internationally published writer. Her most recent collaboration is a series of hand-produced, illustrated poetry booklets, raising funds for animals in shelters.



**Richard Owen Powell**

Richard Owen Powell lives on a strip of wild coast near Aberystwyth. His inspiration comes from the bizarre, often inexplicable, experiences that surround his daily existence out on the periphery.





**Marc Zeuk Roberts**

Marc Zeuk Roberts formed his first band aged eleven. He now performs, promotes unique musical happenings, and is a published author. His latest collection - of haiku - is *Ghost of Clone*.



**George Sandifer-Smith**

George Sandifer-Smith's work has featured in numerous journals including Poetry Wales, The Stockholm Review, and Ink Sweat & Tears. His Infinity Books debut collection is *Nights Travel At The Right Speed*.







**Olivia Tuck**

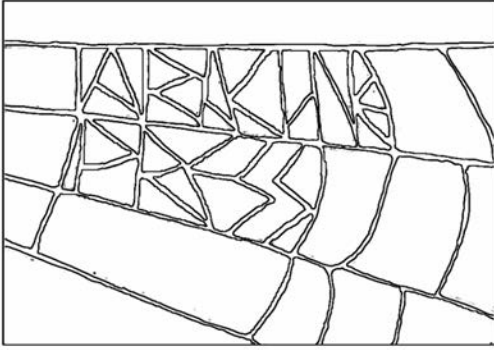
Olivia Tuck's poetry has appeared in journals and webzines including Tears in the Fence and Ink Sweat & Tears. Her pamphlet *Things Only Borderlines Know* is published by Black Rabbit Press.



**Bailee Wilson**

Bailee Wilson is 23 and from Tennessee. She is working on her Master of Public Health at Brown University. She won the international Love The Words poetry competition in 2020.





### ARACHNE PRESS SHOWCASE:

### Gloucester Poetry Festival

#### A VOICE COMING FROM THEN

Arachne Press celebrated our 8th Anniversary last year, an important year for a company named for a spider! Lockdown got in the way of a lot of our plans, but we celebrated anyway, with online interviews and readings from all our books so far, a spider themed anthology and a call out to our writers for new material. One of the results of that call is *A Voice Coming from Then*, Jeremy Dixon's first full-sized collection of poetry, which we published in August at the close of our anniversary year, having published his pamphlet, *In Retail*, a couple of years ago.

For Gloucester Poetry Festival, we have put together a showcase of many of the authors of poetry collections that we have published over the last 9 years.

To book tickets, please refer to the Gloucester Poetry Festival website:

<http://www.gloucesterpoetryfestival.uk>



**Jane Aldous**

Jane Aldous is an Edinburgh-based poet. Her poems have appeared in literary magazines and anthologies. She has been commended in poetry competitions and won the Wigtown Prize in 2012. Her debut poetry collection, *Let Out the Djinn* was published by Arachne Press in 2019.



**Jeremy Dixon**

Jeremy Dixon was born in Essex and now lives in South Wales making Artist's Books that combine poetry and photography. His poems have appeared both online and in print in magazines and anthologies. Arachne Press published Jeremy's first full collection, *A Voice Coming from Then* in August 2021 and his pamphlet, *In Retail*, in 2019.





**Kate Foley**

Kate Foley is a widely published, prize-winning poet and president of the Suffolk Poetry Society. She lives, with her wife, between Amsterdam and Suffolk, where she performs, writes, edits and leads. Arachne Press published Kate's collections, *The Don't Touch Garden*, in 2015, and *A Gift of Rivers*, in 2018.



**Math Jones**

Math Jones was born, and currently lives, in London, but lived in Worcester for many years. A pagan in the Old English and Norse tradition, he often writes poetry on the stories and in the metres of that tradition. We published Math's collection, *The Knotsman*, in 2019.





**Emma Lee**

Emma Lee was born in South Gloucestershire and now lives in Leicestershire. Her poems, short stories and articles have appeared in many anthologies and magazines in the UK and elsewhere, and her collection, *The Significance of a Dress* was published by Arachne Press in 2020.



**Jennifer A McGowan**

Jennifer A McGowan lives in Oxford. Despite being certified as disabled with Ehlers-Danlos syndrome, she has worked as semi-professional mime, researcher, lecturer, and editor. She has published several chapbooks, and her first full collection, *With Paper for Feet* was published by Arachne Press in 2017.







**Ness Owen**

Ness Owen lives on the island of Ynys Mon where she writes plays, poetry and stories in between lecturing and farming. Her work has appeared in numerous journals and anthologies. Arachne Press published Ness's bilingual debut poetry collection *Mamiaith* in August 2019.



**Rob Walton**

Scunthorpe-born Rob Walton lives with his daughters in Whitley Bay. His poetry is published by The Emma Press, Strix, Butcher's Dog, Culture Matters, Atrium and others. Arachne Press published Rob's debut poetry collection, *This Poem Here* in March 2021.





# A SPECIAL MESSAGE OF THANKS

The Gloucestershire Poetry Festival would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone involved in creating this years festival.

From those behind the scenes, to the poets and artists selected to read and perform their work, we thank you for helping to make the 2021 festival the 'go-to' place for leading poets and publishers to showcase thier work.

**Your contributions are very much  
appreciated**

# GLOUCESTER POETRY FESTIVAL 2021

[www.gloucesterpoetryfestival.uk](http://www.gloucesterpoetryfestival.uk)

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