

What Light

A poetry anthology from mnartists.org



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Julie Bates is a local freelance writer, spoken word poet, and literary programs manager for Intermedia Arts' SASE literary programs. She spent four years on the Twin Cities' spoken word scene, appearing at the Minnesota Fringe Festival, Amazon Fridays, Urban Griots Saturdays, Art-A-Whirl, and the University of Wisconsin; and she was the co-coach of Minnesota's 2006 Youth Slam team, which competed nationally in New York City last April. Ms. Bates has extensive experience teaching creative writing and performance poetry to young people. In July, she completed a residency at North Minneapolis's Avenues for Homeless Youth as part of the documentary project *The Sheltering Home Chronicles* with spoken word artists e.g. Bailey, Sha Cage, and Truthmaze and photographer Wing Young Huie. Ms. Bates is a regular contributor to *The Rake* magazine. She studied creative writing at Metropolitan State University with award-winning author Alison McGhee.

John Colburn is originally from Mantorville, Minnesota, and is an editor and co-publisher at Spout Press. His poetry chapbook, *Kissing*, was published by Fuori Editions in 2002, and WinteRed press recently published his chaplet *The Lawrence Welk Diaries*. He works as a high school teacher at the Perpich Center for Arts Education and plays in the improvisational music group Astronaut Cooper's Parade.

Emily Cook is the marketing & publicity manager at Milkweed Editions and has served as co-assistant director of the Twin Cities Book Festival for two years. Previously, she lived in Chicago, where she was program director of the Chicago Tribune Printers Row Book Fair, and she often served as a panelist for the School of the Art Institute of Chicago's MFA Writing critique panels and as a judge for WBEZ's *Stories on Stage* story contest.

Lorena Duarte was born in El Salvador and raised in Minnesota. She holds a degree in Hispanic studies/Romance languages and literature from Harvard University and now lives in Minneapolis. For three years she served as editor of *La Prensa de Minnesota*, a bilingual Latino newspaper, before joining the department of Chicano studies at the University of Minnesota. She performs with Palabristas, Latin@ Wordslingers, a Minnesota-based Latino

poetry collective. She is currently co-editing a Palabrista poetry collection to be published in early 2007. She also contributed to and co-edited *¿Under What Bandera? Anti-War Ofrendas from Minnesota y Califas* published by Calaca Press in 2004 and will also be featured in the forthcoming anthology, *Telling Tongues*, to be published in 2007 by Calaca Press and Red Salmon Press. Duarte performs her work regularly for universities, organizations, and institutions ranging from the Loft to First Avenue and has shared the stage with performers such as Jimmy Santiago Baca and Amalia Ortiz. In 2006, she was part of *Found in Translation*, winners of the Minneapolis MOSAIC spoken word commission and was also the recipient of a grant from the Minnesota State Arts Board. Duarte has facilitated poetry workshops and programs for youth throughout the Twin She is also active in several organizations that focus on community and social justice.

Chris Fischbach is the Senior Editor at Coffee House Press, where he has acquired and edited both poetry and fiction for the past eleven years. He has also served on and was the co-chair of the Minneapolis Arts Commission, is assistant director of the Twin Cities Book Festival, and serves on the outreach committee of the Board of the Friends of the Minneapolis Public Library. He has performed his poetry in the Twin Cities and Boulder, Colorado and has published poems and reviews in local and national periodicals.

Ray Gonzalez is the author of nine books of poetry, including *Consideration of the Guitar* (2005), *The Hawk Temple at Tierra Grande* (2002), winner of a 2003 Minnesota Book Award in poetry, *Cabato Sentora* (1999), and *The Heat of Arrivals* (1996), winner of a 1997 PEN/Josephine Miles Book Award. He is the author of two books of nonfiction: *Memory Fever* (1999), a memoir about growing up in the Southwest, and *The Underground Heart* (2002), which received the 2003 Carr P. Collins/Texas Institute of Letters Award for best book of nonfiction. He is also author of two books of short stories: *The Ghost of John Wayne* (2001) and *Circling the Tortilla Dragon* (2002). His poetry has appeared in the 1999, 2000, and 2003 editions of *The Best American Poetry* and in *The Pushcart Prize: Best of Small Presses 2000*. He is the editor of twelve anthologies, most recently *No Boundaries: Prose Poems by 24 Poets*. He has served as