

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

2007 Poetry Series Contest Winner and Runner-up To be Published

Winner

and aeneas stares into her helmet

by Tiffany Higgins

“*aeneas* won me over with its intelligence, wit, and unpredictability. The manuscript works effectively like a long poem in many ways, due to its tightly interwoven themes and its recurring lines that connect poems within and across sections of the collection. I loved the depth and breadth of the poet’s allusions: wars throughout history—from the Trojan War to the ‘War on Terror’ and the Iraq War—are invoked through literary allusions to Virgil, Whitman, and the Bible, as well as pop culture references to phenomena like the Beatles and reality TV. Despite its deadly subject matter (pun intended!), the manuscript is engaging because it is so varied in tone, diction, and form: The predominant free verse lyrics, for example, are interspersed with such structures as simple unrhymed quatrains, oddly punctuated prose poems, a list poem, a dramatic monologue, and, perhaps my favorite, an epistolary poem (a bizarre, yet highly-astute recruitment letter) sent to the poet by ‘the war’ itself.”

—EVIE SHOCKLEY, judge, 2007 Poetry Contest

Tiffany Higgins’ poems have appeared in a number of journals, including *The Kenyon Review* and *Big Bridge*. Her essay on the work of Palestinian poet Mahmoud Darwish appeared in the *West Coast Poetry Flash*, which will publish, in its forthcoming issue, her review of a book by exiled Iraqi poet Dunya Mikhail. Translations from the French of Lebanese poet Nadia Tuéni’s poems have appeared in *nocturnes: (re)view of the literary arts*. She teaches English at Diablo Valley College in the San Francisco Bay Area and takes classes in UC Berkeley’s French department. Her current research investigates chthonic agency and the figure of the sorceress in the World War I novel *Le Feu* by Henri Barbusse.

Second Place

Karen Leona Anderson’s *Punish Honey*.

“I loved its explosive diction and endlessly shifting syntax. Its thematic coherence, as a whole and in each section, was highly compelling, and it made great use of the rich lexicon of tulips, bees, beekeeping, and fauna generally. A lovely collection to read out loud and savor on the tongue.” —EVIE SHOCKLEY

Karen Leona Anderson received her MFA from the University of Iowa’s Writers’ Workshop and her MA from Victoria University in Wellington, New Zealand. She has had work published in *jubilat*, *Verse*, *ecopoetics*, *the Indiana Review*, *The New Republic*, *Fence*, *Volt*, *Colorado Review*, and other journals. She is currently revising her dissertation on poetry and science in Ithaca, New York, where she co-curates the SOON reading series.

CWP will publish *and aeneas stares into her helmet* and *Punish Honey* in Fall, 2008.

Third Place

Sandy Tseng’s *Leaving the City*.

“This manuscript’s tightly crafted, gorgeously imagined poems tell a story of double exile in both geographical and linguistic terms, using emotionally gripping, elegaic images and, at its sharpest moments, taking powerfully effective formal risks.” —EVIE SHOCKLEY

The next poetry contest will have a deadline of 12/1/2008. Guidelines will be available on our website in July, 2008.

ABOUT THE PRESS Carolina Wren Press publishes poetry, fiction, nonfiction, and children’s books (under its Lollipop Power imprint). As our mission (*new authors, new audiences*) suggests, the Press is committed to an ever-growing vision of the audience for, and the producers of, contemporary literature.