

## 2022 New Measure Poetry Prize Winner

**Molly Spencer**, *Invitatory*

[Winner, New Measure Poetry Prize, selected by Jon Thompson]

*Invitatory* hovers in a space between worlds: one disintegrating, the next yet unformed; outside of time, but teeming with the desires time presents. Probing the nature and reliability of language and perception, the contours of loss and suffering, and the complexities of ordinary love, *Invitatory* insists that we confront, not only the world, but ourselves in it. And, in equal measure, that we abide in the gap where, again and again, we choose whether to turn away or to pledge ourselves to the world-as-it-is, and the world-as-it-might-be, once more. **Molly Spencer** is a poet, essayist, and critic. *Invitatory* is her third collection.

**Kylan Rice**, *An Image Not a Book*

*An Image Not a Book* is an attempt to register “the strain / of assembly,” the difficulty of gathering, garlanding, and holding-together while grieving lost companionship. Instead of raging after order, these poems adapt themselves to looser, more tenuous forms of interwovenness. Improvising restless structures that come together, fall apart, then recombine again, *An Image Not a Book* is an account of relearning how to dwell in this world (the only world there is) in the aftermath of catastrophe. **Kylan Rice** is also the author of *Incrptions* (Spuyten Duyvil, 2021), a collection of experimental lyric essays.

## 2023 New Measure Poetry Prize Announcement

Parlor Press’s poetry series, Free Verse Editions, is pleased to announce the fourteenth annual New Measure Poetry Prize, which carries a cash award of \$1,000 and publication of an original, unpublished manuscript of poems. Additional manuscripts may be accepted for publication by Free Verse Editions editors. Submit a manuscript of at least 54 pages with a \$28 entry fee between **March 1 and June 1, 2023**. The judge for this year’s competition is **Carl Phillips**. For more information, see <https://parlorpress.com/pages/new-measure-poetry-prize>. After March 1, visit the Submittable form here: <https://parlorpress.submittable.com/submit/18947>

## Announcing the 2022 Winners of the New Measure Poetry Prize & 2023 Free Verse Editions

**Daniel Bourne**, translator.

Bronislaw Maj, *Extinction of the Holy City*

Perhaps the most interesting “political poetry” to emerge from the last generation of Polish poets who had to deal with Communism is the work of Bronislaw Maj. Maj offers in *Extinction of the Holy City* a poignant look at the vulnerability of a testament of a city (and world) in peril, “the walls of [a] great icy vacuum / where nothing but the wind / can keep itself alive.” Poet **Daniel Bourne** has published three books of his own poetry as well as numerous translations from Polish.

**Matthew Cooperman**,

*the atmosphere is not a perfume it is odorless*

Bloodied, but still singing, *the atmosphere is not a perfume it is odorless* addresses America. In one take, a chromapoetics that examines the “red, white and blue’s” dubious semiotics, in another, an extended ode project that conjures our emblems of Empire, the poems in *atmosphere*—in their configurations of apostrophe, atomization, song, dialectic, eucharism, etc.—attempt to neutralize the personal, cultural and environmental dis-ease of 21st c America. **Matthew Cooperman** is the author of six books, including *NOS (disorder, not otherwise specified)*, with Aby Kaupang, (Futurepoem, 2018), and *Spool*, winner of the New Measure Prize (Free Verse Editions, 2016).

**Sasha Steensen**, *Well*

The permeable body may be particularly susceptible to toxins, but it is also remarkably receptive to the healing possibilities of interconnectedness. *Well*, a testament to the experience of living in a female body objectified by the cancer industry, is a hybrid text that seeks to reopen the body, not to further harm, but to transformational healing. Committed to connectivity, the journal, the diary, the letter and the poem emerge as forms through which the body can both speak its wounds and commit itself to the care of other vulnerable bodies. **Sasha Steensen** teaches Creative Writing at Colorado State University, where she serves as a poetry editor for *Colorado Review*.

Parlor Press: <https://parlorpress.com>

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