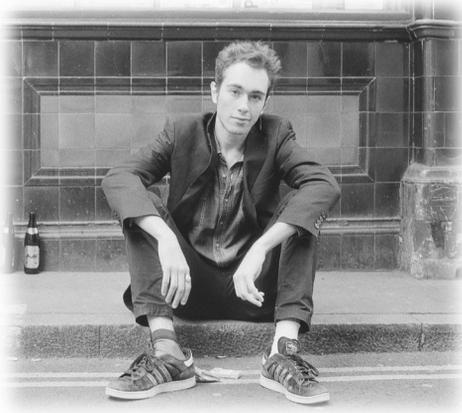


# Contributors



**MAX EEVI** was born in London.

*Incredible ultrasound footage shows Max Eevi PUNCH himself in the face while inside his mother's tummy.*

At eighteen he left London.

*Parents told of their surprise while watching the unusual moment at their twenty-week scan last month.*

Then he came back.

*Dad-to-be explained: "It was a real shock."*

He likes the view.

(He's looking at it now.)



**KEVIN LICHTY** has had a lot of different jobs in a lot of different places: a Starbucks barista in Arizona, a copywriter for the National YoungArts Foundation in Miami, a street musician in Fort Lauderdale, a substitute teacher in Baltimore County, a hotel waiter in Maryland, an English teacher in Washington, DC, a kitchen and bath associate at Home Depot in Virginia, a student library employee at George Mason University, among others. Language is the thread that has held him together. He's currently living and writing in Phoenix, Arizona, with his wife and daughter. His fiction and poetry can be found in *The Best of Vine Leaves Literary Journal 2015*, *Hawaii Pacific Review*, *Green Briar Review*, and elsewhere.



**JOE PONEPINTO'S** novel, *Mr. Neutron*, will be published by 7.13 Books in the spring of 2018. He's the winner of the 2016 *Tiferet* fiction contest and has been published in *Fugue*, *The Lifted Brow*, *Lumina*, and many other literary journals in the United States and abroad. Joe lives in Washington State with his wife, Dona, and Henry the coffee-drinking dog. He's the publisher and fiction editor of *Tahoma Literary Review* and teaches at Tacoma Community College.



**JIM ROSS** spent forty years working as a public health researcher, focused on child and adolescent health. After retiring two years ago, he jumped back into creative pursuits after a long hiatus to resuscitate his long-neglected right brain. Since then, he's published over twenty-five pieces of nonfiction and over ninety photos in thirty journals, including *1966*, *Change Seven*, *Entropy*, *Friends Journal*, *Gravel*, *Lunch Ticket*, *MAKE Literary Magazine*, *Meat for Tea*, *Pif Magazine*, and *Riverbabble*. Forthcoming includes *Bombay Gin*, *Papercuts*, and *Souvenir Lit*. Jim and his wife—parents of two nurses and grandparents of one-year-old twins with another on the way—split their time between

Maryland and West Virginia. Jim hopes to turn more in the direction of longer-form reportage, with an emphasis on socially significant biography.



**BILL SCHILLACI** entered the literary world as a proofreader. But he was a terrible speller—this was in the days before spellcheck—and had to move on to writing. He did this for several engineering firms on both coasts. Along the way, he also took a stab at running a cabinetmaking business. But while busy building cabinets, he tended to forget about the

business. He now works as a freelance writer covering environmental law and regulations. He also continues woodworking as a serious hobby. Bill lives in a somewhat dilapidated house in northern New Jersey, which his wife would love to sell but is resigned to keeping so Bill can dart around with his toolbox fixing things up.



**SUSAN SPANGENBERG** in her own words: I was born in Hell's Kitchen and raised in Jackson Heights, Queens. The daughter of a curry-eating, dark-skinned, superstitious mother and a hustling, drinking, homeless, storytelling father. I learned curse words before my alphabet. Though there were roots and languages of Hindi and German that might have been passed onto me, instead I learned to shoplift, pick up cans for nickels, and lie to the police. I was the caretaker and the black sheep, quiet and obedient, yet brooding in the corner ripping out my hair while absorbing every bit of dysfunction around me, which led to multiple psychiatric hospitalizations. As a child I enjoyed lighting small fires with my brother and painting. Neither were encouraged by my parents. The first painting I ever did was

a bright yellow and orange flower in the center of white paper that I compulsively engulfed with black paint, its petals gradually withering. I had five younger siblings to care for as well as my parents. My art still reflects my upbringing and my relationship with the world. I am more like my parents than I care to admit. If apples do not fall far from the tree, I am one good apple: bruised, tart, strong, beautiful, a sexy red, a sour green, weak, hanging on, ready to be picked. I have a lot to say, come get me: [www.susanspangenberg.com](http://www.susanspangenberg.com)



**ANDREW STEINER** lives in Grand Rapids, Michigan. His short fiction has been published in *Grain Magazine*, *Pithead Chapel*, and *Minnetonka Review*. In 2011 he was a finalist for the Meyerson Prize for Fiction at *Southwest Review*. He's currently working on a novel set in early 17th-century Italy.



**CESAR VALTIERRA** hails from the sun-soaked desert of the wild, wild western city of El Paso, Texas. He wields a pencil like an outlaw gunslinger, drawing up a storm since the tender age of two. He's infamous throughout the land for his provocative ink drawings, his meticulous vector illustrations, and his eye-catching graphic design work. Like a thief in the night, Mr. Valtierra is a man of few words but makes quite an impression with his work. He follows the beat of his own drum and answers to no one; except, of course, his fiancé, Victoria, the love of his life, his inspiration and muse. And their two cats, Chubs and Pretty Boy.

If you think you can handle the awesomeness, feel free to check out his work at [www.cesarvalterra.com](http://www.cesarvalterra.com) and, of course, his comic book featuring the adventures of Balazo, the pint-sized detective, at [www.tonybalazo.com](http://www.tonybalazo.com).

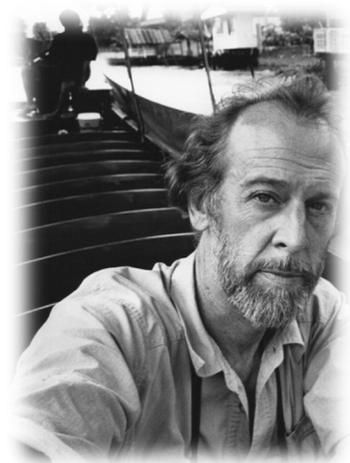


**FRANK WEISBERG** created *The Afterlife* in 2009 while unemployed and waiting for grad school. His fiction has appeared in *Sparkle + Blink* and *Phoebe*. Frank holds degrees in literature and history from SUNY Purchase College and an MFA in Writing from the California College of Arts. Like his work? Drop him a line: [frankweisberg@yahoo.com](mailto:frankweisberg@yahoo.com).



**JOHN SIBLEY WILLIAMS** is the editor of two Northwest poetry anthologies and the author of nine collections, including *Controlled Hallucinations* (2013) and *Disinheritance* (forthcoming 2016). A five-time Pushcart nominee and winner of the Philip Booth Award, American Literary Review Poetry Contest, Nancy D. Hargrove Editors' Prize, and Vallum Award for Poetry, John serves as editor of *The Inflectionist Review* and works as a literary agent. Previous publishing credits include: *The Midwest Quarterly*, *deceMBER*, *Third Coast*, *Baltimore Review*, *Nimrod International Journal*,

*Hotel Amerika*, *Rio Grande Review*, *Inkwell*, *Cider Press Review*, *Bryant Literary Review*, *RHINO*, and various anthologies. He lives in Portland, Oregon.



**HARRY WILSON** is a retired professor of Art at Bakersfield College. His photographs have been exhibited and published widely, yet he remains an unknown photographer who has been on the brink of a brilliant career for fifty years. Apparently refusing fame and fortune. [www.harrywilsonphoto.com](http://www.harrywilsonphoto.com).