

Emily Culliton received her MFA in fiction from the University of Massachusetts Amherst. Her work has appeared in *Route 9* and *TKReviews*. She currently lives in New York City.

Will Cordeiro received his MFA from Cornell University where he is currently a Ph.D. candidate studying 18th century British literature and teaches college classes at Auburn Maximum Security Prison. Recent work appears or is forthcoming in *Fourteen Hills*, *Sentence*, *A cappella Zoo*, *Carte Blanche*, *Leveler*, *Harpur Palate*, *Stone Canoe*, *Ping Pong*, *Requited*, *Lumina*, *Comstock Review*, *Gulf Stream*, *Jacket*, *Prick of the Spindle*, *Word for/Word*, and elsewhere. He is grateful for residencies from Risley Residential College, Provincetown Community Compact, Ora Lerman Trust, and Petrified Forest National Park.

Michael Costello is a poet living in Boston by way of Buffalo, NYC, Saratoga Springs, Chicago, and Washington, DC. He believes, as Jack London did, that “You can’t wait for inspiration. You have to go after it with a club.” Michael received his MFA from The New School and has since been published in *eye-rhyme*, *Crowd*, *swankwriting*, *La Petit Zine*, *Unpleasant Event Schedule*, *Columbia Poetry Review*, *Del Sol Review*, *Tarpaulin Sky*, *MiPOesias*, and the *GSU Review*. He was also selected for inclusion in *The Best American Poetry 2004*. Michael is currently at work on a poetry manuscript: *Black Box Records*. When not writing poetry, he’s a Group Copy Supervisor for a pharmaceutical ad agency. He also moonlights the occasional review or word stew for the culture and arts blog, *WeWhoAreAboutToDie*.

Leora Fridman is a writer, translator and educator living in Massachusetts. Her recent and forthcoming publications are included in *Denver Quarterly*, *Interruption*, *H_NGM_N*, and others. She is an MFA candidate at the UMass Amherst Program for Poets and Writers, where she is Assistant Director of the Juniper Institute and co-curates the Jubilat/Jones Reading Series.

Atar Hadari’s essays appear in *Kenyon Review*, *the Times Literary Supplement*, *Jewish Quarterly* and many other journals. A monologue from his play about Robert Johnson is available on thegoodearreview.com.

Adrienne Kalfopoulou's publications include two poetry collections from Red Hen Press, and work in *Hotel Amerika*, *World Literature Today*, *Web Del Sol*, and the *Valparaiso Poetry Review*. "Stolen Culture" is part of a collection of linked essays. She is on the faculty of Hellenic American University, and teaches in the creative writing program at New York University.

Ivan de Monbrison was born in Paris in 1969 from a French Protestant father and an Egyptian Muslim mother, both mixed with Jewish origins. His interest in art can be linked to a very liberal artistic education, where African and Oceanian arts were at the center of his interest. This left him with a desire to pursue the question of what art meant in the old days and how this can be dealt with in our modern and absurd world of thriving technology. Is art religious? In which way can it still exist in a non-sacralized world? Chasing the human figure in a distorted way, like Bacon and Giacometti did in the past, has appeared for him the best way for this non-religious "spiritual" quest. It has appeared to get even more important as art has tended to become nowadays more and more similar to publicity and fashion. Ivan's works have been shown in the recent years in various countries. <http://www.artmajeur.com/blackowl>

David Nelson Pollock is a co-founding editor of and regular contributor to *Essays & Fictions*. His work also has appeared elsewhere.

Bob Proehl is a writer, bookseller and occasional DJ. His short fiction has appeared in *Stone Canoe*, *Essays & Fictions*, and *400 Words*. His first book, *The Gilded Palace of Sin*, was published by Continuum Press in 2008 and is a nonfiction account of the brief career of a sixties country rock band. He grew up outside of Buffalo but now lives in Ithaca, NY, with his wife and stepson. *DIS* is his first novel.

Danielle Winterton is a writer, artist, educator, and co-founding editor of *Essays & Fictions*. Her work has appeared or is forthcoming in *The Literary Review*, *LIT*, *The Village Voice*, *Chronogram*, *The Black Herald*, and *La Patasola Anthology of Women's Writing East Coast Edition*. She currently teaches writing at Ithaca College.