

Kayla Geitzler & Elizabeth Blanchard, editors

Cadence is about the energy and movement of language in our province, languages and accents that shift as you move across the province, North to South, river to sea. Even the word itself, *cadence*, possesses an interlingual fluidity. A word that in French is feminine, as is the word *langue*, as are the voices in this collection, *des voix féminines*. Our intent was to include voices of women poets who, like their “many-a-mothers” before them, have always been here, or who, by desire or circumstance, have settled here. Each write from a unique linguistic, social, and cultural perspective. This collection is meant to celebrate the diversity of women’s voices in New Brunswick, and to carry these voices beyond our borders through the *New Brunswick Chapbook Series*, an initiative by Shane Neilson and Caryl Peters of Frog Hollow Press.

New Brunswick is a province of *parole* and *parlé*. The synthesis of our tongues define us. We are a close-knit people who welcome and include. We share. We listen. The unique flexing of our tongues reflects this. Our literature is this “being”, a cadence of threads and currents, blood and culture, history tangled in future. Just as a chapbook cannot encompass all the creativity of each female poet in New Brunswick, neither could we fully represent its diversity of language in one volume. We reached out to established and emerging poets in our networks and contacted cultural organizations.

As a female reflection of how we do things here, each author has contributed poems in their language of choice, the juxtaposition of which in *Cadence*—some translated, some not—can be destabilizing, just as poetry can be destabilizing, is perhaps meant to be destabilizing. Our hope was to submit a completely translated manuscript, however due to limited resources, only a select number of poems have been translated. Many of the decisions regarding translation were made with Frog Hollow Press’s English language audience in mind, allowing their readers to fully appreciate and understand the complexity and nuances of the contributors’ work. However, not all texts were translated into English as the decoding and interpretation of language in New Brunswick’s culturally-shared space is not unidirectional.

Such is the journey we allow ourselves to travel, from one language to the other, from one cultural space to the next, if we want to experience the whole. Like our fiddlehead ferns, *comme des fougères*, NB unfurls with language. We live in and on the tongue.



THE CONTRIBUTORS

- Jude Marie Augustine — Rachel Bonbon
- Judy Bowman — Dzung T. Dang — Rose Deprés
- Jo-Anne Elder — Reem Fayyad Abdel Samad
- Kimberly Gautreau — Phyllis Grant
- Emma Haché — Bryn Harris — Brigitte Harrison
- Amanda Jernigan — Nancy King Schofield
- Brigitte Lavallée — Sophie M. Lavoie
- Danielle LeBlanc — Marilyn Lerch
- Sonya Malaborza — Vanessa Moeller
- Katrina Pridgeon — Sue Sinclair
- Carol Steel — Émilie Turmel
- Shoshanna Wingate

CADENCE *Voix féminines Female Voices*

has been published as Volume Thirteen in our New Brunswick Chapbook Series

At 150 pages, this is not your typical chapbook!
53 poems in English, 20 in French,
2 each in Arabic & Vietnamese, and 1 in German

Printed in a limited edition of 135 copies on 80 lb. Mohawk Via Vellum (30% recycled paper) and bound into a cover of the same stock. Endpapers.

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www.froghollowpress.com



THE ARTWORK

Nancy King Schofield

Keltic Series: Evolution, 2019, 120 x 120 cm.
Many Go Into Hiding, 2007, 75 x 90 cm.