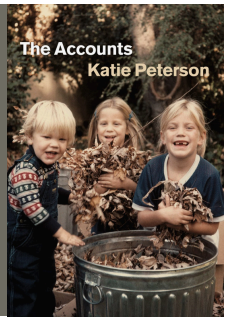


2014 UNT Rilke Prize

Katie Peterson

The Accounts



Katie Peterson's *The Accounts*, published by the University of Chicago Press, has won the 2014 UNT Rilke Prize. The \$10,000 prize recognizes a book written by a mid-career poet and published in the preceding year that demonstrates exceptional artistry and vision. Peterson will read at the University of North Texas on Tuesday, April 8 and at the Dallas Institute of Humanities and Culture on Wednesday, April 9, 2014.

In her astonishing third book, *The Accounts*, Katie Peterson explores with tremendous lyric precision and emotional power not merely the heartbreak of personal tragedy but also the desire to make a beleaguered world new against the pressure of loss. Ovid's spirit of metamorphosis haunts these poems and asks us to reconsider the redemptive power implicit in an account, how it is made, given, and made again. To fashion an account is to reckon, to reconcile, to recall, to count and so to number, to make things matter. As Peterson says in her opening poem entitled "Spring:"

Everything, everything, and before
everything the possibility of something else,
the moment when a moral gets minced by an account
a body makes of any other body,
and time takes place instead of taking time.

So too, in the title poem, time is less mastered than engaged, less stilled than quickened by birdsong and its longing, its will, its imaginative grace. Here a nest cradles a purpose so full of adoration, it lures us to the future in the past, the past in the future, the heaven in the earth below.

Katie Peterson is the author of three collections of poetry: *The Accounts* (University of Chicago 2013), *Permission* (New Issues 2013), and *This One Tree* (New Issues 2006).

Schedule of Events

Tuesday, April 8, 2014: **University of North Texas**
4:00 p.m. Q & A, Curry Hall, Room 103
8:00 p.m. Reading & Book Signing, Business Leadership Building, Room 180

Wednesday, April 9, 2014: **The Dallas Institute of Humanities and Culture**
6:30 p.m. Reception
7:30 p.m. Reading

Peterson's other recognitions include fellowships from the Bread Loaf Writers' Conference, the Foundation for Contemporary Arts, the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, and Yaddo. Her work in poetry and criticism has appeared in the *American Poetry Review*, *Boston Review*, the *Chicago Tribune*, *GREY*, the *Iron Horse Literary Review*, the *Kenyon Review*, and many other publications. Her poem "Filibuster to Delay the Spring" received the Stanley Kunitz Award from the *American Poetry Review* in 2013, and she has been nominated for a Pushcart Prize twice. She has taught at Bennington College in Vermont and Deep Springs College in the high Mojave Desert of California, and she is currently Professor of the Practice of Poetry at Tufts University. Next year she will return to Deep Springs as Distinguished Professor of Humanities. She was born in California.

The judges also selected three finalists for this year's Rilke Prize: Hadara Bar-Nadav's *Lullaby (with Exit Sign)* (Saturnalia Books), Peter Champion's *El Dorado* (The University of Chicago Press), and Angie Estes' *Enchantée* (Oberlin College Press).

For more information about the UNT Rilke Prize and our previous winners, visit: <http://english.unt.edu/creative-writing/poetryprize>

Links

Katie Peterson	UNT Department of English	Dallas Institute of Humanities and Culture
KERA Art & Seek	The Poetry Foundation	Poetry Society of America
If You Want To	Harvard Gazette	University of Chicago Press

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