

Bridges (published in 2018). He has also received many awards and recognition for his haiku, tanka and contributions to the promotion of the art of writing Japanese inspired poetry. For those who are new to Salzer's work and for those who are familiar with it, this book will not disappoint you.



Memories of the Future: Linked & Contrapuntal Poetry by Hansha Teki and Clayton Beach (2020, Heliosparrow Press), 84 pages, 6.6 x 0.2 x 10.2 inches, perfectbound. ISBN: 978-0473513245. \$18 from amazon.com.

Reviewed by Jacob Salzer

Memories of the Future: Linked & Contrapuntal Poetry is a collection of linked-verse and parallel haiku by two established poets living on opposite ends of the globe: Hansha Teki and Clayton Beach. Despite the physical distance between them, this book solidifies their friendship and features their individual and collaborative work in the realm of linked-verse poetry.

The title provides an intriguing theme. It reminds us that everything we have done (and are doing now) will help shape the future and our future generations. It reminds us that the past and future are not separate, but rather constantly flow into each other. In turn, this book asks the reader to contemplate what the future holds, how much of the future will reflect the past, and, perhaps, also offers a word of caution to avoid what the future could be.

These raw, vivid poems utilize all five senses, yet also provide space for the reader's imagination and engagement. The authors blend both dark and light subjects as they dive into significant social, economic, environmental and political challenges we face today. Throughout the collection, the authors also maintain a balance of concrete imagery and abstraction, and have infused their poems with surprising, creative and provocative juxtapositions.

As an example, in the beginning of their collaborative ten-link, slow dance, we have:

terns in a bitter sky
the proffer of knowledge
framed by driftwood

deeper into words
an idea of order

fissures in vinyl
A Love Supreme skips over
talk of chaos theory

the beginning and the end
run into each other

research for my family tree
another marathon of
Planet of the Apes

As the reader, connections are made between the verses, between the lines. Therefore, the collaboration in this book not only includes Clayton Beach and Hansha Teki, but includes you as well.

In terms of specific linked-verse poetry forms, this collection features an interesting mix of ten-link, yotsumono, solo yotsumono, parallel haiku, rensaku, and solo nijuin renku. Breathing between the text we also have original watercolor and ink artwork by Clayton Beach.

After reading *Memories of the Future*, I have become inspired to write more collaborative linked-verse for the unique experiences it provides and its ability to connect people across distances, across countries, around the world. I highly recommend this book.

Here is the link to *Memories of the Future* on Amazon:

<https://www.amazon.com/Memories-Future-Linked->

Contrapuntal-Poetry/dp/0473516519/
ref=sr_1_1?dchild=1&keywords=memories+of+the+future+haiku&qid=1587789461&sr=8-1



New Bridges: The Portland Haiku Group Anthology, edited by Jacob Salzer (2018, A CreateSpace Publication, Portland, OR) 148 pages, 6x9”, perfect bound, ISBN: 978-1721042371. \$12.50 from amazon.com

Reviewed by Shasta Hatter

New Bridges by the Portland Haiku Group contains haiku and tanka by well-known and new poets in the Portland, Oregon area. It contains over 250 poems by 17 poets. The theme of the anthology is building bridges to new friendships through haiku and tanka. Structurally, the book is divided into three-line haiku, two-line haiku, one-line haiku, and tanka sections. This structure allows each form to shine in its own way.

This first offering by the Portland Haiku Group opens with haiku to honor Johnny Baranski (1948-2018) in memoriam. Baranski was a well-known haikai, a long-time member of the Portland Haiku Group, and a prominent member of the Haiku Society of America. He died suddenly in January of 2018 while this book was being developed. This haiku by Clayton Beach alludes to Baranski’s history as an activist while expressing the loss of a valued mentor and friend:

convict 14302
a dragonfly zooms off
into the blue

This simple and heartfelt haiku by Carolyn Winkler honors Baranski’s continuing influence:

watching over us
the words he left
behind