

Why Publish?

A short talk for the students of Kateri Lanthier's Creative Writing Class

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What does it mean to publish and to submit your work? Are published writers better than unpublished writers? Are you a writer if you never publish? Is publication the only way to find an audience or to receive validation for your work?

1. Preparing work for submission

- “I can’t work on this anymore so I’m going to submit it”
- choosing your best work even if you have no idea what that is
- submissions deadlines as a means of having arbitrary deadlines to finish work
- your work will have to fend for itself

2. Researching publications

- Print vs. Online
- Contests
- Chapbook presses
- Book Publishers

3. Dealing with rejection

- persistence matters
- doesn’t mean your work is necessarily bad, it may mean that it’s not ready yet
- using rejection as a means to find out what publications are right for you
- the way in which editors reject your work is provides valuable information

4. Literature operates outside the market economy

- we exist in a culture where everything has its price, however artistic ‘products’ challenge the market economy
- writers do not receive a fair price for their work, the payment is a token

5. Publications = Prestige

- people who publish books are viewed as having more prestige than those who don’t
- hierarchies in the publishing world mimic hierarchies in our society
- writers seek validation and prestige as a means to an end, but must also turn away from it

6. Creating the means of self-validation

- a healthy literary community relies on writers validating each other

7. Being a part of a literary community

- publishing is just one part of being a writer in your community, other activities include: organizing readings and events; helping to edit a literary journal; being in a workshop; reviewing books; interviewing authors; reading, trading, buying and borrowing books

Please feel free to get in touch, ask questions → phoebe@alittleprint.com // www.alittleprint.com

Phoebe's Submissions Spreadsheet

Date	Titles of Work	Publication/Contest	Entry Fee	Date of Reply	Reply
	2010				
07/01/10	Gratitude	Geist Magazine Jackpine Sonnet Contest	\$10	09/21/10	Longlisted; no prize
07/15/10	Two Views	Room Annual Poetry and Fiction Contest	\$27	10/29/10	no prize
	Night Ferry				
	Wreck Beach				
10/08/10	In Which Champlain...	Winston Collins Descant Contest	\$29	02/20/11	no prize
10/24/10	Short Migrations I-IV. Five Yards on Ossington Study for Over Ossington	Diaspora Dialogues TOK 6 Anthology	N/A	11/19/10	Accepted Short Migrations &
10-Nov	Two Views	The Malahat Review	N/A	02/07/11	Declined
	Cherry Blossom Viewing				
	Tea Ceremony				
	Two Tea Bowls				
	Fog				
	Wreck Beach				
	Exorcism				
	2011				
14-Jan	Admittances	Writers Trust Bronwen Wallace Award	N/A	03/01/11	no prize
	The Dwarf Trees				
	Capital				
	The Child Bride: A Letter				
	Mourning Doves				
	Wintering the Garden				
	Porchlight				
15-Jan	Night Ferry	Hart House Contest & Submission	N/A	02/23/11	Accepted- Night Ferry
	Mirror Carp				
27-Feb	Wreck Beach	SLS Unified Literary Contest	\$15US	03/31/11	Scholarship offered -25% off
	Fog				
28-Feb	In Which Champlain...	Arc Poetry Magazine	N/A	10/10/11	Accepted- Two Tea Bowls
	Cherry Blossom Viewing				
	Two Views				
	Two Tea Bowls				
	Tea Ceremony				
	Exorcism				
31-Mar	Parkade	Short Grain Contest	\$35	07/13/11	2nd Prize- \$750 for Penelope
	Penelope Before Marriage				
31-Mar	Capital	The Puritan	N/A	05/22/11	Declined
	Dwarf Trees				
	Blue Irises				
	Porchlight				
01-May	Portage	Norma Epstein Contest	N/A	07/04/11	no prize
	In Which Champlain...				
	The Child Bride: A Letter				
19-Jun	Your Kind	Ricepaper	N/A		
07-Aug	The Tradition	Montreal Poetry Prize	\$25	12/10/11	Longlisted
06-Oct	Mourning Doves	Winston Collins Descant Contest	\$30	01/04/12	no prize
09-Nov	Blue Irises	Poetry Magazine	N/A	12/14/11	Declined
	In a Fog				
	Wreck Beach				
	The Tea Garden				
	2012				
14-Jan	In a Fog	The Kenyon Review	N/A	04/14/12	Declined
	Wreck Beach				
	Scotch Broom				
	Lake Ontario Carp				
	Weeping Cherry				
29-Feb	The Tea Garden	Arc Poetry Magazine	N/A	06/07/12	Declined
	Laquered Bowl				
	Capital				
	Aerial View of Bow River				
	The Garden at the End of the World				
24-Apr	MS Admissions Sample	Brick Books	N/A	05/28/12	Declined
25-Apr	Power Outage	CBC Literary Prizes- Poetry	\$25 CAD	08/24/12	Longlist Finalist
	The Concert-Goers				
	The Chapter House				
14-Oct	Power Outage	CV2	N/A	11/15/12	Accepted- MD & WB
	The Concert-Goers				
	The Chapter House				
	Mourning Doves				
	Spirit Guide				
	Wreck Beach				
15-Nov	Power Outage	Black Warrior Review (US)	N/A	02/13/13	Declined
	The Concert-Goers				
	The Chapter House				
	Porchlight				
	Scotch Broom				
18-Dec	The Garden at the End of the World	Descant Magazine	N/A	19-Feb	Declined
	Laquered Bowl				
	Exorcism				
	Two Views				
	Weeping Cherry				

A Non-Exhaustive Lists of Magazines, Chapbook Presses and Other Resources

Online Magazines

Name of Journal	Website	Payment	Editors/Affiliations
Branch Magazine	www.branchmagazine.com	?	Gillian Sze & Rob Erustu/Montreal
Carte Blanche	www.carte-blanche.org	paid	Gregory McCormick & Laurence Miall/Montreal
Feathertale	www.feathertale.com	website unpaid/semi-annual print review is paid	Brett Popplewell/ Ottawa
Hazlitt	www.hazlitt.com	paid (up to \$200)	various editors/blog of Random House Canada
Joyland	www.joylandmagazine.com	?	various editors, see regional site
Little Fiction	www.littlefiction.com	unpaid	Troy Palmer & Amanda Leduc/ Toronto-based
The Rusty Toque	www.therustytoque.com	\$50 for fiction, poetry, nonfiction; \$75 for reviews	Kathryn Mockler/University of Guelph MFA
Tracer	www.tracerpublishing.com	?	Alexander Brown/Toronto
Ottawater	www.ottawater.com	?	rob mclelland/Ottawa
Puritan Magazine	www.puritan-magazine.com	\$15 per poem, \$50 per story, \$100 for interview/reviews	Spencer Gordon, Tyler Willis & others/ Toronto-based
Winnipeg Review	winnipegreview.com	paid, nonfiction only	Maurice Mierau and others/ Winnipeg

Print Magazines

Arc Poetry Review	www.arcpoetry.ca	paid (\$40 per printed page)	Monty Reid & others/Ottawa
Capilano Review	www.thecapilanoreview.ca	paid (\$50 per page, max \$150)	Andrew Actis & others/ Capilano College, BC
CV2	www.contemporaryverse2.ca	paid (\$30 per poem?)	Clarise Foster & others/Winnipeg
Echolocation Magazine (deadline April 5)	echolocationmag.com	unpaid	editors change every year/U of T MA in English
Existere	www.yorku.ca/existere	paid	editors change every year/York University
Grain Magazine	www.grainmagazine.com	paid	Saskatchewan Writers Guild
Hart House Review (deadline Jan 23 rd)	www.harthousereview.com	paid	editors change every year/U of T Hart House Library Committee
Malahat Review	www.malahatreview.com	paid	John Barton & others/UVic
Prism Magazine	prismmagazine.ca	paid	editors change every year/UBC
Qwerty	http://www.lib.unb.ca/Texts/QWERTY/submit.php	unpaid	editors change every year/UNB

Chapbook Presses

*Chapbook presses vary in payment, depending on print run. A typical chapbook print run is anywhere between 50-100, and sell between \$5-20. Authors are usually given 10-20 copies to sell on their own rather than a payment, because chapbook presses don't make any profit or they funnel that profit back into their printing costs, marketing costs, events, etc.

Anstruther Press	www.anstrutherpress.com	publishes broadsides, poetry chapbooks and essays	Jim Johnstone & others/Toronto
Apt. 9 Press	www.apt9press.wordpress.com	publishes mainly minimalist poetry chapbooks	Cameron Anstee/Ottawa
Desert Pets Press	www.desertpetspress.com	a new press that has published an anthology of youtube poems	Emma Dolan & Catriona Wright, Toronto
Frog Hollow Press	www.froghollowpress.com	perfect-bound poetry chapbook presses, uses more traditional design	Caryl Peters & Shane Neilson/ Victoria
Vallum Chapbooks	www.vallummag.com	poetry chapbooks, also a chapbook contest with March 15 th deadline	Leigh Kotsilidis/Montreal

Other Time-savers/Time-wasters

CanZine — www.brokenpencil.com/canzine-toronto

- a huge fair in mid-October hosted by the magazine *Broken Pencil* for all kinds of publications include zines, comics, illustrators, magazines, small presses and independent presses

Literistic — www.literistic.com

- a monthly newsletter curated by writer Jessie Jones and her partner & designer Liam Sarsfield; the shortlist is free to subscribe, the longlist costs \$38 a month

Meet the Presses — www.meetthe presses.wordpress.com

- a collective that hosts an annual small press fair in Toronto, usually in mid-November

Open Book Toronto and Open Book Ontario — www.openbooktoronto.com;

www.openbookontario.com

- a useful resource for reading about literary news in Toronto and Ontario, with events, calls for submissions, articles and interviews

Places for Writers — www.placesforwriters.com

- a list of calls to submissions for international and Canadian magazines and contests

Submittable — www.submittable.com

- most magazines and journals ask for you to create a submittable account where you can upload your cover letter and submissions, and you can see the progress of all your submissions. It's also very useful if you're editing a publication as it has a free version