

## Why Publish?

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

Prepared by Phoebe Wang

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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 Are published writers better than unpublished writers?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](mailto:phoebe@alittleprint.com) // [www.alittleprint.com](http://www.alittleprint.com)

## Phoebe's Submissions Spreadsheet

Date	Titles of Work	Publication/Contest	Entry Fee	Date of Re	Reply	
<b>2010</b>						
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	<b>Short Migrations I-IV.</b>	Diaspora Dialogues TOK 6 Anthology	N/A	11/19/10	Accepted Short Migrations &	
	<b>Five Yards on Ossington</b>					
	Study for Over Ossington					
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					
<b>2011</b>						
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	<b>Night Ferry</b>	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					
	In Which Champlain...					
28-Feb	Cherry Blossom Viewing	Arc Poetry Magazine	N/A	10/10/11	Accepted- Two Tea Bowls	
	Two Views					
	<b>Two Tea Bowls</b>					
	Tea Ceremony					
	Exorcism					
31-Mar	Parkade	Short Grain Contest	\$35	07/13/11	2nd Prize- \$750 for Penelope	
	<b>Penelope Before Marriage</b>					
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	<b>The Tradition</b>	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					
<b>2012</b>						
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					
	<b>Mourning Doves</b>					
	Spirit Guide					
	<b>Wreck Beach</b>					
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*

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

### *Print Magazines*

Arc Poetry Review	<a href="http://www.arcpoetry.ca">www.arcpoetry.ca</a>	paid (\$40 per printed page)	Monty Reid & others/Ottawa
Capilano Review	<a href="http://www.thecapilanoreview.ca">www.thecapilanoreview.ca</a>	paid (\$50 per page, max \$150)	Andrew Actis & others/ Capilano College, BC
CV2	<a href="http://www.contemporaryverse2.ca">www.contemporaryverse2.ca</a>	paid (\$30 per poem?)	Clarise Foster & others/Winnipeg
Echolocation Magazine (deadline April 5)	<a href="http://echolocationmag.com">echolocationmag.com</a>	unpaid	editors change every year/U of T MA in English
Existere	<a href="http://www.yorku.ca/existere">www.yorku.ca/existere</a>	paid	editors change every year/York University
Grain Magazine	<a href="http://www.grainmagazine.com">www.grainmagazine.com</a>	paid	Saskatchewan Writers Guild
Hart House Review (deadline Jan 23 <sup>rd</sup> )	<a href="http://www.harthousereview.com">www.harthousereview.com</a>	paid	editors change every year/U of T Hart House Library Committee
Malahat Review	<a href="http://www.malahatreview.com">www.malahatreview.com</a>	paid	John Barton & others/UVic
Prism Magazine	<a href="http://prismmagazine.ca">prismmagazine.ca</a>	paid	editors change every year/UBC
Qwerty	<a href="http://www.lib.unb.ca/Texts/QWERTY/submit.php">http://www.lib.unb.ca/Texts/QWERTY/submit.php</a>	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	<a href="http://www.anstrutherpress.com">www.anstrutherpress.com</a>	publishes broadsides, poetry chapbooks and essays	Jim Johnstone & others/Toronto
Apt. 9 Press	<a href="http://www.ap9press.wordpress.com">www.ap9press.wordpress.com</a>	publishes mainly minimalist poetry chapbooks	Cameron Anstee/Ottawa
Desert Pets Press	<a href="http://www.desertpetspress.com">www.desertpetspress.com</a>	a new press that has published an anthology of youtube poems	Emma Dolan & Catriona Wright, Toronto
Frog Hollow Press	<a href="http://www.froghollowpress.com">www.froghollowpress.com</a>	perfect-bound poetry chapbook presses, uses more traditional design	Caryl Peters & Shane Neilson/ Victoria
Vallum Chapbooks	<a href="http://www.vallummag.com">www.vallummag.com</a>	poetry chapbooks, also a chapbook contest with March 15 <sup>th</sup> deadline	Leigh Kotsilidis/Montreal

### **Other Time-savers/Time-wasters**

**CanZine** — [www.brokenpencil.com/canzine-toronto](http://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](http://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.meetthepresses.wordpress.com](http://www.meetthepresses.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](http://www.openbooktoronto.com);  
[www.openbookontario.com](http://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](http://www.placesforwriters.com)

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

**Submittable** — [www.submittable.com](http://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