**CONTRIBUTOR BIOS:**

**Wesley R. Bishop** is an assistant professor of American and Public history at Jacksonville State University in northeast Alabama. He is the founding and managing editor for North Meridian Press.

**Betty J. Bruther** (she/her) is an independent historian. She received her degrees from Indiana University (Bloomington) and the University of Notre Dame in history. She taught history and geography as an adjunct at the University of Indianapolis, Marian University Indianapolis, and Oakland City University via the Indiana Women's Prison. Her major interests are terrorism, paramilitarism, the ideologies behind them, medieval European and East Asian history, the history of serial murder, and the history of film.

**Dr. Adeyemi Doss** is an Assistant Professor in the Department of African American Studies at Saint Louis University. Dr. Doss' research interests are shaped by a growing trend toward producing scholarships that address issues facing African American men and boys. His research raises important questions about black subjectivity, patterns of black spatial mobility, and embodied resistance. Through his research, Dr. Doss sheds light on the challenges African American men and boys encounter as they navigate their way through American society. He examines how these individuals grapple with issues of identity, mobility, and resistance within the context of urban environments.

**Nicolas Dowling** is a graduate student at Hunter College, City University of New York, in Art History. His research interests include the intersection of aesthetics and the philosophy of death in early twentieth-century painting.

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**Aubrey Grison** is a French artist, model and fine arts teacher. She believes in supporting female empowerment and civil rights, and she uses her creativity to spread her values with optimism.

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**Chris Heisserer** is a recent graduate from the English MA program at Jax State University. He has nearly two decades of creative writing and reading experience to back up his studies. His editing career spans genres, with a special focus in postmodern approaches in literary fiction, science
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**Stephanie Kendrick** is the 2023–2024 Athens, Ohio, Poet Laureate. She wrote *In Any of These Towns* (Sheila-Na-Gig editions, 2022) and is the editor of local poetry newsletter, Periodical Poetry. With a Masters in Social Sciences from Ohio University, she serves her local community in a variety of ways, including through her career at the Athens County Board of Developmental Disabilities. She has been published in several amazing journals including *Gyroscope Review*, *Still: The Journal*, *Poets Reading the News*, *Lunch Bucket Brigade*, Sheila-Na- Gig online, and elsewhere. See what she’s up to and read her poetry at stephthepoet.org.


**Bessie Rigakos** is a sociologist and Academic Dean for Marian University’s Saint Joseph College in Indianapolis. Her research focuses on policing of women’s bodies, body image, and beauty standards.

**Vivienne Rose** is a Texas based model, performer, and fat liberation activist. Her work is concerned with creating images that envision a world liberated from anti-fat bias. Her work can be found online at Instagram and Twitter/X.

**Kristen Ruccio** is the Director of First-Year Writing and an Assistant Professor of English at Arkansas State University. She focuses on creating an accessible and inclusive writing program with a dynamite slate of writing instructors. She’s also proud to serve as the Vice President of the Southern Regional Composition Conference. Her research interests focus on Disability Studies, Rhetorics of Extinction, and writing program administration. In her spare time, she loves yarn crafts, vegan cookery, reading, and pet rescue.

**Irina Tall (Novikova)** is an artist, graphic artist, illustrator. She graduated from the State Academy of Slavic Cultures with a degree in art, and also has a bachelor's degree in design. The first personal exhibition "My soul is like a wild hawk" (2002) was held in the museum of Maxim Bagdanovich. In her works, she raises themes of ecology, in 2005 she devoted a series of works to the Chernobyl disaster, draws on anti-war topics. The first big series she drew was The Red Book, dedicated to rare and endangered species of animals and birds. Writes fairy tales and poems, illustrates short stories. She draws various fantastic creatures: unicorns, animals with human faces, she especially likes the image of a man - a bird - Siren. In 2020, she took part in Poznań Art Week. Her work has been published in magazines: *Gupsophila, Harpy Hybrid Review, Little Literary Living Room* and others. In 2022, her short story was included in the collection *The 50 Best Short Stories*, and her poem was published in the collection of poetry *The wonders of winter*.
Marc Alexander Valle is a writer and K-12 educator from Allentown, Pennsylvania. He’s had a number of his pieces published in Door Is A Jar Literary Magazine, Turnpike Magazine, and Beechwood Review. If he’s not writing or educating our youth, you can find him at open mic poetry events, meditating at local meetups, or singing Prince and Nirvana songs at karaoke. If you can’t find him at any of those places, then he probably doesn’t want to be found at the moment. He can be like that sometimes. Until then you can read more of his work at mavthewriter.com. Feel free to drop him a message at mavthewriter@gmail.com if you read anything that tickled you. He likes that. Getting messages that is, not necessarily being tickled.

MariJean Wegert is a ghostwriter, poet, dancer, mother of two, and place emerging from a fixed point in Northern Indiana. Her writing contemplates the poetics of place, weaving ecology, metaphor, and myth; as well as studying the consequences of ideologies of shame and disconnection from dirt, story, and the animate world. She grew up along the Portage River in Ohio, making forts in the woods and forgetting to change out of her high waters to attend band practice. (Not much has changed.) Her poetry and essays have appeared in Analecta, Tributaries, Tilted House, Geez Magazine, RELEVANT Magazine, YoHo Journal, The Salt Collective, Edible Michiana, PAN-O-PLY, Clarion Journal for Religion, Peace and Justice, and others.

Michael White originally hails from the Calumet Region of Northwest Indiana. He obtained his BA in history and philosophy from Indiana University Northwest in Gary, Indiana, and his MA in U.S. History, concentrating in labor and social movements, from Indiana State University in Terre Haute. At ISU, Michael was the recipient of the Gertrude and Theodore Debs Memorial Fellowship to research American labor and social movements. His research focused on women telephone operators’ national organizing efforts in 1919, connecting it to a local general strike in Linton, Indiana. Michael was an organizer and later General Executive Board member of the Industrial Workers of the World from 2012 to 2018. He has been active in various community organizing endeavors and has worked with other unionization efforts, including the Indiana University Graduate Workers Coalition in Bloomington. Michael worked for Half Price Books for over five years, at both the Greenwood location, and the Bloomington outlet. In the fall of 2021 Michael was the lead organizer who helped initiate organizing efforts at the Greenwood store, served as national organizing liaison, and was part of the contract negotiation committee for the Greenwood store.