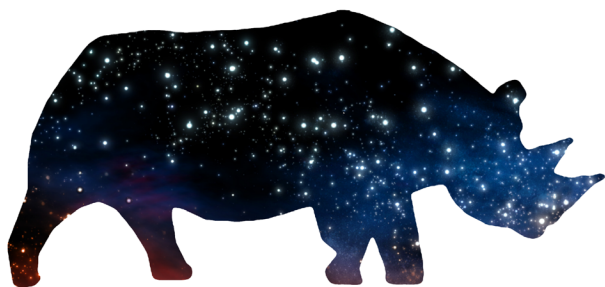


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EST. 1933

SPRING 2018
VOLUME 83



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Wingdings in Subikto Two (Demo) provided by Subtitude Foundry
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Printed in Canada

EDITOR'S NOTE

The past four years have been a whirlwind for *Manuscripts*. You wouldn't be able to count on two hands the number of big changes that have come to this magazine and our organization here at Butler. Just last year it seemed like we were losing many of our student leaders, people who had been with us for years and had helped make these changes possible. But each new year brings new opportunities. As unfortunate as it is to see our veterans depart, more than anything I am amazed by the enthusiasm and promise of our newest staff.

The events this year have been tremendously successful. Our second annual undergraduate literary magazine summit brought in even more schools than before. We had not one, but two guest judges: Monica Youn who judged our poetry contest in the fall, and Ali Eteraz who judged our prose contest in the spring. Many thanks to them for their time, expertise, and kindness. *Literatura* continues for its second year with more activities, student readings, and a reading and class from Melissa Fraterrigo, whom we also thank. Events like these help make *Manuscripts* a presence both on the Butler campus and in the world of undergraduate literary magazines.

2018's magazine is perhaps the most tightly selected and designed of any we have put out. The implementation of a more efficient selection process greatly improved our method of reviewing and selecting the absolute best pieces. *Manuscripts* is, at its core, a collaborative venture. It is the product of months of hard work, both by our lovely general staff, and the executive board which it has been my privilege to work with. And I would be remiss to not mention our faculty advisor Prof. Furuness, who always encourages us to dream big.

Inside this volume, you will find stories, poetry, and art of all different kinds. There is something unique, I believe, about *Manuscripts'* eclectic collection. You could work through it from the beginning,

browse the table of contents to see what catches your eye, or just open to a random page and start reading. My hope is that whichever you do, you will find yourself surprised by the rich variety of stories, verses, and artwork provided within. Our mission is to move you, whether that means to laugh, to cry, to think, or simply, to enjoy.

Karl Agger

Editor-in-Chief

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