

THE LOOM

Poetry in Harrisville

Rosa Lane & Jeffrey Levine

The Loom celebrates its 5th year of bringing today's best poets to the charming mill town of Harrisville NH, welcoming poets Rosa Lane with a brand-new book, *Called Back*, and Jeffrey Levine, *At the Kinnegad Home for the Bewildered*, to read and discuss their work.

Praise for Rosa Lane

The main conceit [of *Called Back*] is to imagine, evoke, and 'call back' to a new, less-othere'd Emily Dickinson, a 21st century Emily Dickinson more able to openly 'swim / up the fish weir...spawn / in sandy silt along the odic / thighs of the Loire [to] flutter/our little deaths.' This sexy book does not protest. It does not rant or shriek any grievance, though God knows it has a right to ..."—**Adrian Blevins**

What marvelous, feral, eccentric, sweetly erotic poems! Like a candle in a frosted window, they illuminate—with electrifying language—the shadows of human love."—**Henri Cole**

"Rosa Lane's *Called Back* breaks through the membrane that separates us from Dickinson's time. Here, we enter Dickinson's world brand-new, with the vigor of research re-imagined, obsession expressed with prolific inventiveness and mounting urgency, and language that astonishes in its apt, abundant, and irresistible embrace of sound. This is a book fearless in its approach and lavish in its accomplishment."

—**Rebecca Kaiser Gibson**

Sunday April 28, 2024

4:30 pm

**The Brick Church, Harrisville
13 Canal Street, Harrisville, NH**

For more information contact:

Rebecca K. Gibson, founder,
The Loom
rebeccagibson55@gmail.com
www.theloompoetry.com

Praise for Jeffrey Levine

About *At the Kinnegad Home for the Bewildered*

Jeffrey Levine's poems hover and oscillate between moments in and out of time, between states of being and nonbeing, between the body and the body within the body. "What is the imagination's job but to blur one life into the next?" Levine's modus operandi is the process of osmosis and the seepage itself that moves, "drop by rusty drop," through porous scrimms.

— **Salmon Press**

"Contemporary American poetry is not very concerned with such a blend of cosmic/domestic questions. That is too bad. 'The best work,' Paul Valery kept telling us, 'is that which keeps its secret longest.' Here, the secret is both intimate and wide open. The secret is to seek the others, while joining the emotive and imaginative realm." — **Ilya Kaminsky**

About *Rumor of Cortez*

"Above all [these poems] are "charming" in the deep sense, casting their spell over us, dazzling us with antic gestures securely tethered to the heart." — **Gregory Orr**

"Levine shifts effortlessly among forms and voices to create a magical lyric that is visionary and funny, compassionate and wise."

— **Carolyn Forché**

The Loom poetry series, celebrating some of the best of contemporary poetry, is located in the historic mill town, Harrisville, New Hampshire.

Rosa Lane, poet and architect, is the author of four poetry collections including *Called Back* (Tupelo Press, 2024), a eulogistic celebration of Emily Dickinson, selected during Tupelo's 2022 Summer Open Reading Period; *Chouateau's Chalk* (UGA Poetry Prize, 2019); *Tiller North* (Sixteen Rivers Press, 2016); and *Roots and Reckonings*, a chapbook that speaks to the generational and native culture of her coastal Maine fishing village.



Kiting April —
by Rosa Lane

*A Pang is more conspicuous in Spring
In contrast with the things that sing
Not Birds entirely — but Minds —
Minute Effulgencies and Winds —*
-Emily Dickinson, from 1530

find me in white — billowing
south wind, flat chest
shaped by darts. Inside my pocket,
a poem folded on the back
of an envelope teases my pencil. I push
the breast-plow — garden thawed
third week. Crocuses already blooming
centuries ahead. I till and turn
the bed, soak my seasonal brain
like seed. Mud-knead. I edge and furrow —
winter forgiven. I reach for the jar,
pour the whole garden into my apron-
draped bowl. And where frost left
its wound, I drop a seed
into the o of pock, like a soft vowel
planted between consonants. Beware
the clicking jaws of the aphid-
mind. And how the emerald march
of these tiny dots can skive
a whole plot. And when sheaths crack
open their specters, shoot up
esophagi, unfurl their mouths for cupping
cerulean, the strophe will unfold
its envelope, release every pinion, slant
upward full timbre, skirr the empyrean.

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Jeffrey Levine is the author of three books of poetry: *The Kinnegad Home for the Bewildered*, (Salmon Press, 2019); *Rumor of Cortez*, nominated for a 2006 Los Angeles Times Literary Award in Poetry; and *Mortal, Everlasting*, which won the 2002 Transcontinental Poetry Prize. His many poetry prizes include the Larry Levis Prize from the Missouri Review, the James Hearst Poetry Prize, the *Mississippi Review* Poetry Prize, the Ekphrasis Poetry Prize, and the 2007 American Literary Review poetry prize. Levine is Founder, Artistic Director and Publisher of Tupelo Press, an award-winning independent literary press, now in its 26th year, located in North Adams, MA.



Vox Humana

In my palm a paperweight
of blue glass blown
to shape the heavens.

Who doesn't within the ribs have a mossy castle?
But I need my own voice built of salt,
ocean winds quivering with gulls,

a low voice with high windows.
I signal my needs with three sprigs
of thyme in a vase of water which

is another way of saying, You,
love my taste,
a bird just hatched, blue,

the nectar of the diatom held under the tongue
and my hands, scabrous
as fish, blind fish striking against the rock.

Acknowledgements

We are grateful for Toadstool Books' on-going engagement with *The Loom, Poetry in Harrisville*.

As always, books by our poets are available for purchase through Toadstool Books at www.toadbooks.com, and at the event.

Without our energetic volunteers, Jeannie Eastman, Chris and Neil Falcone, Kathy and Tom Hamon, Linda Lindgren, photographers Michelle Aldredge, Phil Gargan, Julia Pakrodooni and others, Emerson Sistare of the Toadstool Bookstore, Peterborough/ Keene, the generous hosting by the "Brick Church" in Harrisville, and the sweet encouragement of Rev. Traceymay Kalvaitis, and finally and most essentially, Eleanor Drury and Chick Colony, this series would not have happened.

We are eager to include people who want to help make the events delightful occasions. Graphic design for print, web, and social media by Umbrella Works Design Studio, www.umbrella-works.com.