

October 14, 2013
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Beyond Baroque Announces the Winners of its Fourth Annual Poetry Contest!

Now in its fourth year, the 2013 Beyond Baroque Poetry Contest this year's poetry contest was judged by poet, novelist, screenwriter, and playwright, Nick Flynn. Over 850 entries were submitted to the contest, which is open to poets nationwide. Each winner receives a cash prize: first place \$1000; second place \$500; and third place receives \$250. In addition to the three top prizes, five runner ups were also chosen.

Ms. Beth Woodcome Plantow of Newburyport, Massachusetts took First Place with her poem, "My Own Tonnage". Ms. Plantow's work has been published in a number of magazines including: *Ploughshares*, *AGNI Online*, and *Gulf Coast*. She has been honored with a Grolier Prize, and a PEN/New England Discovery award. She holds an MFA from Bennington College, and teaches at Berklee College of Music.

The Second Place poem, and one of the Honorable Mentions, to Mr. John Johnson of Petaluma, California for his poems, "Learning Curve," and "Hothouse Flowers." Last year's judge, Suzanne Lummis awarded Mr. Johnson the Third Place prize and an Honorable Mention as well.

Four other poems, in addition to Mr. Johnson's, received Honorable Mentions: John Cross of Pasadena, California for his poem, "From a Canyon in Ojai, California"; Ms. Janet Easler of Mound, Texas, for her poem, "Woman's Worth"; Ms. Maggie Millner of Pacific Grove, California. for her poem, "Veliger in Winter"; and Ms. Lucy Ricciardi, of Greenwich, Connecticut for her poem, "Ulterior Trees."

A reading of the winning poems will be held at Beyond Baroque on Sunday, October 20, at 2:00 PM, and will be hosted by last year's judge, Ms. Suzanne Lummis.

Next year's contest opens April 1, 2014 and closes August 1, 2014. There is a \$20 reading fee for each four poems submitted. More information will be available on the Beyond Baroque website in April 2014:

www.beyondbaroque.org

Nick Flynn is the author of two books of poetry, "Some Ether", which won the PEN/Joyce Osterweil Award, and "Blind Huber" - both from Graywolf. He has been awarded fellowships by The Guggenheim Foundation, The Library of Congress and The Amy Lowell Trust. He is also the author of "Another Bullshit Night in Suck City", which was adapted into the feature film "Being Flynn" starring Robert DeNiro. His poetry and other writing have been featured in *The New Yorker*, *The Paris Review*, *The New York Times Book Review*, and on National Public Radio's "This American Life."

Beyond Baroque is one of the United States' leading independent Literary Arts Centers and public spaces dedicated to literary and cultural performance, outreach, and community building. Founded in 1968, and based in the Old Town Hall in Venice Beach, California, the Center houses a bookstore, archive, gallery and theater. The Center offers weekly readings, art exhibitions, and free workshops, all inspired by and in the service of the literary arts. Beyond Baroque is located at 681 Venice Boulevard, in Venice Beach, California, on the beautiful Pacific Coast.

For more information or to arrange interviews contact:
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