## Copyright © 2015 by the Authors

All Rights Reserved.

No part of this book may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means whatsoever without written permission from the publisher, except by a reviewer, who may quote brief passages in a review; or, in the case of photocopying or other reprographic copying, a licence from Access Copyright.

Library and Archives Canada Cataloguing in Publication

Make it true: poems from Cascadia / editors, George Stanley, Barry McKinnon, Paul Nelson, Nadine Maestas.

ISBN 978-1-926655-81-9 (pbk.)

1. Canadian poetry (English)--Northwest, Pacific. 2. American poetry--Northwest, Pacific. 3. Canadian poetry (English)--21st century. 4. American poetry--21st century. I. Stanley, George, 1934-, editor II. McKinnon, Barry, 1944-, editor III. Nelson, Paul, 1961-, editor IV. Maestas, Nadine, 1976-, editor

PS8295.5.B7M34 2015

C811'.608097111 C2015-902091-3

The cover image is of salmon swimming under the highway entering/leaving Nanaimo. This underpass serves as shelter and refuge for many homeless people. Salmon populate all corners of Cascadia; they swim away and then home again, navigating the rivers and creeks through and under our cities and towns without most people even noticing.

We are grateful to Justin Kaczmarek, the artist who painted Salmon Run, for permission to use the image. His helpers were Cadence Warner, Logan Ford, Tyler Sexsmith and Jeanne Ironside.

Kim Goldberg gave permission to use her photographs of the salmon mural. That panorama, a creative work in itself, would not now be possible to replicate, because the mural has been degraded over time.

Thanks also to Five Fathom Studios for their expertise. To Joanne Baumann for help with research. And to the City of Nanaimo, for helping bring this art and this book together.

The editors have allowed the poets from south of the straight line their eccentric spelling.

This book is set in Warnock Pro and Cronos Pro. The cover title is Raincoat, a typeface that describes itself as having secret Victorian roots and a rock-and-roll heart.

Printed in Canada on FSC certified papers.



Leaf Press PO Box 416 Lantzville, BC, Canada www.leafpress.ca VOR 2H0

## TABLE OF CONTENTS -

| PAUL NELSON | 11 Introduction |
|-------------|-----------------|
| PAUL NELSON | 11 Introduction |

CHRISTINE LOWTHER 19 Nuu-Chah-Nulth, Good Advice

DAVID ABEL 21 excerpts from "Sweep"

JORDAN ABEL 24 afeared

25 waterbound26 whitewashed

MALEEA ACKER 27 The Inheritors

29 Shotpouch

30 marina marigo wind

HOPETON (HOPE)

ANDERSON

JOANNE ARNOTT

31 Family Portrait

33 from Adventures

35 Sea Change

36 Down from the Waist37 halfling bear (eclipse)

38 an impressive array

GREG BEM 39 from Field Notes (July–August 2014)
ALEX O. BLEECKER 41 from Responding to Neruda

YVONNE BLOMER 44 In the Box from the World Wildlife Fund

45 Blood Letting46 First Sunset

47 A Walk in Mushrooms

DENNIS E. BOLEN 48 Everybody

50 Greenchain Canticle

AMARANTH BORSUK
53 Shifting Shapes
54 Show of Hands
GEORGE BOWERING
56 Canadian Life

57 Curiosity

58 Father's Day

59 Hard Under, High Above

60 Myth is History

61 Olde Valley Guy's Plaint

62 The Maltese M

JULES BOYKOFF 63 Silent Sting
KATE BRAID 65 Pines in May

66 Untitled

67 Old and New Forest68 Kiko Is Missing

69 Ocean, the Great Conductor

ALLISON COBB 70 Look ALICIA COHEN 72 Civic Life

**BILL CARTY** 

73 Oregon Coast by Joyce Herbst

74 Tillamook Coast Forest

JEN COLEMAN 75 Gossip

77 Aerosmith

STEPHEN COLLIS 79 The Word 80 The Insurgence

80 The Insurgencies 81 Toussaint 2011

82 The World is Never Enough With Us

| JUDITH COPITHORNE |     | Bright Paper   |
|-------------------|-----|--|
|                   |     | Ocular Queries   |
| PETER CULLEY      |     | Cruel Summer   |
|                   |     | A Poem for the Seattle Poets                           |
| CHRISTINE DEAVEL  |     | From the Ground Up                                     |
| SARAH DE LEEUW    | 94  | Copper River   |
| JIM DODGE         | 96  | The Rub (A Charm Against Tough Winters)                |
|                   |     | Learning to Talk                                       |
| DANIELA ELZA      |     | the salt of being                                      |
|                   | 99  | intimate harbours                                      |
| FABIENNE CALVERT  | 101 | For Wren, Turning Six Months Old                       |
| FILTEAU           | 105 | Slim   |
| EMILY KENDAL FREY | 106 | When Do We Get to Ever                                 |
| MAXINE GADD       | 107 | Pemberton Rain May 20, 1968                            |
|                   | 108 | the cabin on the shore                                 |
|                   | 109 | The Contralmirante Does Not Answer                     |
|                   |     | My Amnesty International Letter                        |
|                   | 110 | Berkeley, California                                   |
| KIM GOLDBERG      | 111 | Spawn  |
|                   | 112 | Urban Planning   |
|                   | 113 | Depot  |
| JAMES GRABILL     | 115 | The Idea of 2020                                       |
|                   | 116 | Iron Rails in the West                                 |
|                   | 117 | Emptiness Persists in the Forces of Matter             |
| HEIDI GRECO       | 118 | Lessons from <i>The I Ching</i>                        |
| SAM HAMILL        | 121 | Habitations  |
| ENDI BOGUE        | 128 | Dreamed Thoreau  |
| HARTIGAN          | 129 | Arbitrarily  |
|                   | 130 | It was a church then                                   |
|                   | 131 | It was a jellyfish                                     |
|                   | 132 | 20 s. elegy  |
| JARED HAYES       | 133 | blues mountain / rain drop / water sutra               |
| CRYSTAL HURDLE    | 136 | Ajar   |
| GRAHAM ISAAC      |     | swiping the weather.                                   |
|                   | 139 | There's a limit.                                       |
| CHELSEA JENNINGS  | 140 | Tonight the Trees                                      |
|                   | 141 | Swimming in the Dark                                   |
|                   | 142 | Fall   |
|                   | 143 | Before the Invention of Perspective in Painting        |
| DONNA KANE        | 144 | Resonant Frequency                                     |
|                   |     | Epiphenomenalism                                       |
|                   | 146 | Absorption III   |
| JOSEPH F. KEPPLER | 147 | Poetics for People and Poets                           |
| KOK KOX           | 148 | ow   |
| LARISSA LAI       | 152 | Excerpts from "nascent fashion"                        |
| GP LAINSBURY      | 156 | from Half-Life   |
| ROBERT LASHLEY    | 160 | Thirteen Ways of Looking at a Motherfucker at the Club |
|                   | 163 | The Little White Dude with the DJ Quik Jheri Curl      |
| CHRISTINE LECLERC | -   | from Oilywood  |
| JARED LEISING     | 170 | There Is One   |
|                   | 171 | Keep Portland Weird                                    |
|                   |     |  |

| CHRISTINE LOWTHER |     | Raven   |
|-------------------|-----|---|
|                   |     | Pondering British Petroleum in Florida          |
| NADINE ANTOINETTE |     | Ahab Mayhem                                     |
| MAESTAS           |     | The Very Insistence of Hello                    |
|                   | 178 | Spider Noises                                   |
| DAPHNE MARLATT    |     | "a mesh of force"                               |
| J.W. MARSHALL     |     | A Skagit  |
|                   | 184 | Not Let Across the Hood Canal                   |
|                   | _   | Strolls   |
|                   |     | 50th & Sunnyside                                |
| JERRY MARTIEN     |     | Now the Ice                                     |
|                   |     | Composition as the Way West                     |
|                   |     | to a northern spotted owl                       |
| SUSAN MCCASLIN    |     | The Power of Vegetables                         |
|                   |     | Seeing Seeing                                   |
|                   |     | Epistolary Poetics                              |
| FRANCES MCCUE     |     | Steeple River Faith                             |
|                   | -   | The Trio  |
|                   |     | Why It Takes a Poet and a Private I             |
| BARRY MCKINNON    | _   | Gone South                                      |
| ANDY MEYER        |     | Untitled  |
|                   |     | Declaration(s)                                  |
|                   |     | Westward Expansion                              |
|                   |     | Lichen  |
| CATH MORRIS       |     | Motorless Replicant                             |
| 05750 144 140     |     | Somebody's Daughter                             |
| PETER MUNRO       |     | A Fisheries Scientist Learns to Clean Flounder  |
|                   |     | Dumping Bait Bags after a Soak                  |
|                   |     | How the Spirit Drives Music through the Body    |
| AMBER NELSON      |     | Coarse (The Populace You See In)                |
| DALIL E NIELCONI  |     | Awake at First Light                            |
| PAUL E. NELSON    |     | 30. The Day the Weather Decided to Die          |
|                   | 217 | Juan Vicente de Güemes Padilla                  |
| DOLLG MILIEFP     |     | Horcasitas y Aguayo, 2nd Count of Revillagigedo |
| DOUG NUFER        |     | from "The Me Theme"                             |
| JOHN OLSON        |     | Smart and Black and Full of Birds               |
|                   | _   | And What  |
| CATLIEDINE OVA/EN | _   | Sock  |
| CATHERINE OWEN    |     | Last Request                                    |
| SHIN YU PAI       |     | In Homage to Charles Wright                     |
| SHIN TO PAI       |     | Bell (e)  |
|                   | -   | Iron Chink                                      |
| JEREMY PATAKY     |     | self-park                                       |
| JEREMI PATARI     | _   | Aural<br>Anthropocene                           |
|                   |     | Steeped   |
| CHARLES POTTS     |     | Beginning with a Line by Robert Duncan          |
| CHARLESTOTTS      |     | The Task Master                                 |
| C.E. PUTNAM       |     | DAY 22  |
| C.L. I O IIVAIVI  |     | DAY 123   |
|                   |     | DAY 164   |
|                   | -   | DAY 292   |
|                   | 240 | 1/111 4/4                                       |

| MEREDITH QUARTERMAIN                         | 0.41 | Canada                                      |
|--|------|---|
| MEREDITTIQUARTERMAIN                         |      | Invention 36                                |
|  |      | Heat Haze                                   |
|  |      | Clouds                                      |
|  |      | Dear Mom,                                   |
| DAN RAPHAEL                                  |      | Moments from the History of Rain            |
| 57 (17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 1 |      | Isthmus                                     |
| JAMIE REID                                   |      | Fake Poem 1                                 |
| , which is the second                        |      | Fake Poem 4                                 |
|  |      | Fake Poem 10                                |
|  |      | Fake Poem 11                                |
|  |      | Fake Poem 16                                |
|  |      | Fake Poem 21                                |
| CLEA ROBERTS                                 | _    | Cold Snap                                   |
| LISA ROBERTSON                               |      | Police                                      |
| JUDITH ROCHE                                 |      | Fishtown, Lower Skagit                      |
|  |      | Translation                                 |
|  |      | Heaven                                      |
| RENEE RODIN                                  |      | A Carole Sky                                |
|  |      | Subject to Change                           |
|  |      | En Route                                    |
| LINDA RUSSO                                  | 264  | in ordinary landscapes                      |
| renée Sarojini Saklikar                      |      | Carnaryon Street Lament                     |
|  | 267  | Ode for Mr. Stout                           |
|  | 269  | Exhibit: after-time accompaniment, morning  |
|  |      | raga for Paldi                              |
| KAIA SAND                                    | 270  | At Least Five Gallons Per Second            |
|  | 271  | At Least Twenty Gallons Per Second          |
|  |      | She Had Her Own Reason for Participating    |
| LEONARD SCHWARTZ                             | 275  | _   |
| PRAGEETA SHARMA                              | 280  | It Used to Be that Poems Were Easy for Me   |
|  |      | She Did Not Want to Embody Cheap Signaling  |
| JEREMY SPRINGSTEED                           |      | Untitled                                    |
|  | 285  | Untitled                                    |
| MARILYN STABLEIN                             | 286  | Above, Below Ground                         |
|  | 287  | What Water Carries                          |
|  | 288  | Three Prose Poems from "Deceptions in Gray" |
| GEORGE STANLEY                               |      | Waiting for a Moment                        |
|  |      | Crowds                                      |
|  | 292  | At the Pub                                  |
|  |      | The Infant                                  |
|  |      | The Past                                    |
|  |      | The Vacuum Cleaner                          |
| SHARON THESEN                                |      | Man with Lawnmower                          |
|  |      | The Fishing Trip                            |
|  |      | The Resort of Reason                        |
| L A DV / TIMA EVA /51 1                      |      | White Hillside                              |
| LARY TIMEWELL                                |      | from molecular hyperbole                    |
| ANASTACIA TOLBERT                            |      | Little Girl                                 |
|  |      | Not a Girl on Fire                          |
|  |      | Page Nudity                                 |
|  | 310  | San Son                                     |

FRED WAH

311 Jumbo Requiem Utanikki

314 Mt Crawford Succession

THOMAS WALTON

315 To Invoke a Curse

316 Sayeth Cassandra

317 With Gary Snyder on the Trail

318 At Dusk

GILLIAN WIGMORE

319 article 1: on hope

320 kelp, upper levels

CARLETTA WILSON

321 didn't it rain/reign/rain

LISSA WOLSAK

323 from Of Beings Alone, the Eigenface

RITA WONG

323 from Of Beings Alone, the Eig Borrowed Waters

326 the wonder of being several

327 a magical dictionary from bitumen to sunlight

328 unsung service

329 flush

MAGED ZAHER 330 Do We Always Start from a Fetish

333 Notes and Acknowledgments

337 Editors

338 Contributors