

POETRY AUTHORS

Margaret Dingle is part author of *Friendly Street* New Poets 12 and has been published in a number of poetry anthologies. Her poems, *Afterwards* and *Fireworks* won equal first prize in the 2003 International Women's Day (SA) poetry competition 2003. Her poetry collection *The Landscape of Dreams*, was published in 2014. She has been active in advocating for public transport and renewable energy.

Steve Brock's books include *Double Glaze* (Five Islands Press, 2013) and *Live at Mr Jake's* (Wakefield Press, 2020). He is the co-translator with Juan Garrido-Salgado and Sergio Holas of *Poetry of the Earth: Mapuche Trilingual Anthology* (Interactive Press 2014).

Ella O'Keefe is a poet and researcher who lives in Melbourne on the unceded lands of the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation. Her debut collection *Slowlier* was published by Cordite Books in January 2021 and poems in this issue are reprinted with permission from this book. Other publications include *Rhinestone* (2015, Stale Objects dePress) and *It's what we're already doing*, in collaboration with Elena Gomez, Leah Muddle, Melody Paloma, Emily Stewart and Sian Vate (2018, Shower Books).

Shane Strange's writing has appeared in various print and online journals in Australia and internationally. His first collection of poetry *All Suspicions Have Been Confirmed* was released in 2020. He is publisher at Recent Work Press.

Vyxz Vasquez teaches creative writing and literature at the University of the Philippines, Diliman.

Heather Taylor-Johnson is the author of the novel *Jean Harley was Here*, recently optioned for a tv series, and the editor of *Shaping the Fractured Self: Poetry of Chronic Illness and Pain*. Her fifth book of poetry will be published by Wakefield Press in 2021, as well as an epistolary verse novel by Recent Work Press.

Cath Kenneally is a poet, novelist and arts journalist who lives in Adelaide. She won the John Bray National Poetry Award with her first book, *Around Here*; her latest (2021) is *The Southern Oscillation Index* (Wakefield Press).

Melbourne-born and based poet, **Peter Bakowski** wrote his poems for *NEARLY LUNCH* spontaneously in a back and forth ping pong rally way with and "against" Ken Bolton, deriving challenge and enjoyment from the experience.

Ken Bolton is a Sydney poet who moved to Adelaide for the easy life. He has published much poetry and

art criticism. The co-authored *Nearly Lunch* will be his second book with Peter Bakowski.

Grant Caldwell is a poet, novelist and academic. His latest books are *the edge of the forest* – Cyberwit (India), 2021; *blue balloon: a collection of haiku and senryu* – Collective Effort Press 2020; *Intention and Unintention or the Hyperconscious in Contemporary Lyric Impulse* – Arcadia: Australian Scholarly Publishing 2018. He is a Senior Lecturer in the Creative Writing Program at the University of Melbourne.

Personality test

a colleague
shows me the results
of his psychometric testing

it cost the company
a couple of grand

he had to work
in groups
through different
scenarios

the test went for the full day
& they had different individuals
observing each exercise
to avoid prejudice

the report was detailed
with complex graphs
mapping his leadership qualities
his emotional resilience
his problem-solving abilities
his communication skills

the fact he liked to be in control
of situations
& was good
at small talk

it took some time to read
& I kept looking
but still couldn't find it

apparently they failed to pick up
he's a dickhead.

STEVE BROCK