

# CONTRIBUTOR BIOS

## Fiction Contributors

**E. K. ENTRADA** is currently working on her master's degree in English at McNeese State University in Lake Charles, LA. A freelance writer, she was a newspaper feature writer for eight years and currently works in public relations. Her fiction has appeared in *Story Philippines* and *Asians in America* magazine.

**JIMMY CHEN** has been published in *McSweeney's*, *Hyphen*, *Fourteen Hills*, *Anemone Sidecar*, *Juked*, *Pindeldyboz*, and numerous other journals. He currently lives in San Francisco.

**THOMAS LEE** is an attorney and freelance writer living in Foster City, California. He was born in South Korea and immigrated with his family to Northern New Jersey when he was three. He earned his B.A. in History, *Summa Cum Laude*, from Columbia University, and earned a J.D. from Yale Law School. He writes short stories of various themes; his work has been published in *American Literary Review*, *AIM Magazine*, *Brink Lit*, *Lullwater Review*, *Nassau Review*, *Reed Magazine*, and *Short Fiction World*. He was a Top 25 Finalist in the *Glimmer Train* Family Matters Competition in January 2008.

**THAILA RAMANUJAM** has or will be published in *Nimrod Literary Magazine*, *Readers* and *Cantaraville*. Her short stories have won several contests by *Glimmer Train*. Her articles have been translated and published in *Tamil Literary Magazines* in Canada and India. She is graduating with an MFA in Creative Writing at Bennington Writing Seminars in June 2008 and is currently working on a novel. A Rheumatologist in private practice in Santa Cruz, CA, she considers her two teenage girls to be her biggest accomplishment yet.

KARTIKA  REVIEW

ISSUE TWO, SPRING 2008

**LLOYD LIU** received his B.A. in Economics and a B.A. in English with a Creative Writing Concentration from Boston College in May of 2007. He is currently a J.D. candidate at the University of Richmond School of Law. Mr. Liu resides in Virginia. His fiction has appeared in *Stylus* and is the recipient of the Cardinal Cushing Award for best fiction at Boston College as well as the McCarthy Award for best prose. He is at work on a collection of short stories titled *Water Ghost*, which explores the Asian-American identity.

### Poetry Contributors

**JANE CHUN** works for the U.S. Department of State in the Bureau of International Information Programs in Washington, D.C. She has also previously interned at the Pentagon with the U.S. Department of Defense. Ms. Chun graduated with a B.A. in journalism from George Mason University.

**KAMAYANI SHARMA** was born in the United Arab Emirates to Indian parents and grew up in the Himalayas and the Middle East. She has published a book of verse called *A Wild Moment* (2005) and has been accepted in *Fulcrum: The Annual Journal for Poetry and Aesthetics*. She currently resides in Bahrain.

**JESSICA WOAN** studies medicine at the University of California at San Francisco and moonlights as a ballet dancer. Ms. Woan graduated from Berkeley with majors in Integrative Biology, Dance and Performance Studies, and Music. She also works as a yoga instructor.

## Essay Contributors

**GEMMA GUILLERMO** was born in the Philippines and raised in Hawaii. She received both her B.A. in English and her M.D. from Cornell University, and is a past recipient of the Williams Carlos Williams Prize for medical students. Her poetry has appeared in *Praxis*, *JAMA*, *the Journal of Medical Humanities*, and *Hawai'i Review*. Her memoir essay "Learning to Carve Pineapple" will be appearing in the forthcoming issue of *American Literary Review*. Guillermo works as a physician and is currently at work on a memoir series about growing up in Hawaii.

**MARKO FONG** watches an unhealthy amount of reality television. His current ambition is to look as much as possible like a large-stuffed version of Stuart Little. His wife does not approve of his recent lifestyle decisions and occasionally threatens to commit him. Until then, he buys things on E-bay and blogs at <http://www.chancelucky.blogspot.com>. He lives in Sebastopol, California and has promised to complete his novel about the last American Chinatown before he finishes his transformation into an oversized stuffed rodent in red high-top sneakers with a passing familiarity with Strunk and White. His mother has internet access, but she mostly only does searches for diet plans and deals on Amazon.

**KENNETH POBO** is the author of *Ordering: A Season in My Garden*, a collection of poetry on the politics of academics, the meaningless hustle of the urban scene, and the scurrying of a time-enslaved society, and *Cicadas in the Apple Tree*, winner of Palanquin Press's Annual Poetry Chapbook Competition. His works have appeared in *Colorado Review*, *Nimrod*, *Mudfish*, *Orbis*, *Grain*, *University of Windsor Review*, *Indiana Review*, *The Cider Press Review*, and elsewhere. Ken Pobo teaches English at Widener University in Chester, PA.

**RUSSELL LEONG** is a writer and professor of English at UCLA and an editor of the *Amerasia Journal*, a scholarly publication of Asian American studies. His literary work includes: *The Country of Dreams and Dust (poems)* winner of the PEN Josephine Miles Award in Literature, and *Phoenix Eyes and other Stories*, winner of the 2001 American Book Award. Professor Leong's work was selected by the *Los Angeles Times* as one of the best books of fiction of 2000. His poems, short stories, and essays have been translated in Shanghai, Nanjing, Taipei, Hong Kong, and Rome. He was featured as one of 50 U.S. poets on the PBS series, "The United States of Poetry."

### Art Contributors

**CANDYBIRD** is an illustrator and graphic designer currently residing in Languedoc-Roussillon, or southern France. Her artwork focuses primarily on the female figure. Her work has been showcased in various art exhibitions across Europe and magazines based in Spain, Italy, and the United States, among others. To view her online portfolio, see <http://candybird.free.fr>.

**DARREN LEE** continues his studies in Computer Art where he is in the process of obtaining an MFA from the School of Visual Arts. While not focusing on his thesis and other fine art projects, he works as a designer in the Brand Optimization Strategy (BOS) group for the Ad Agency Publicis.

**JASON NG** currently works for the full metal corporation represented by its rising star the magic of conformity. He graduated from SVA with a graphic design degree and wanders the street captivated by odd textures of concrete sidewalks and worn decay of commercial signs. Can be found strung out on caffeine, complaining about leading and kerning issues still takes time to find the next adventure as he walks the earth.

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**CHRISTINA SONG** is a B.F.A. candidate at the University of Boulder, concentrating in Painting and Drawing. To visit her online portfolio, see <http://web.mac.com/christinasong>.

**CINDY KANG** has over ten years of experience in graphic design and illustration. She earned her B.F.A. in Graphic Design from the University of Tennessee, graduating with honors. She has lived the majority of her life in the New England region of the States and served as the art director and graphic studio manager for various companies in Connecticut and Massachusetts. Ms. Kang currently lives in Springfield, Massachusetts with her husband and three cats.

**EVA TSUI** is a college senior at the University of Pennsylvania where she majors in International Relations and minors in American Public Policy. She has been an avid activist at her campus for Asian American interests and is a leader of several student organizations.

**ELLE CHOI** considers herself a professional student. She has ventured back to her parents home in NJ, like the prodigal "son" and wonders where her next adventures will lead her. She has driven across country three times from NY to CA. Her studies have ranged from mathematics, product design, graphic design, computer science, theater arts and finally, graduating with a BA in Liberal Studies. While she quietly admits that Liberal Studies was the only major that would accept all her multifarious credits thus allowing her to graduate sooner than later, she continues to express her love for art through photos, paintings and poetry. Elle Choi, like a brave nomad, continues on her search towards finding her calling in life and helping others along the way.