

Jane Downs received her BA in English from Syracuse University and her MA from Mills College. She is an editor and writer of poetry, fiction, and nonfiction. She left her position with the University of California Press in 2007 to cofound, with book artist Marie Dern, Red Berry Editions, an independent publishing house that recently published *The Jam Jar Lifeboat and Other Novelties Exposed* by United States Poet Laureate Kay Ryan. Red Berry Editions is currently producing limited letterpress edition of *Letters to Liam* by the poet David Scronce.

Jane's poems have received first place in both the 1997 Artists Embassy Contest and the 2003 Tide Pool Poetry Contest. Another poem was published and was first runner-up in the winter 2002 *Lullwater Literary Review*. Her creative nonfiction and poetry has appeared or is forthcoming in anthologies and literary journals including *Ashville Poetry Review*, *Borderlands*, *Cimarron Review*, *FIELD*, *Folio*, *The Healing Muse*, *Like a Second Mother*, *Marin Poetry Center Anthology V and VI*, *The North American Review*, *Phoebe*, *Psychological Perspectives 50 and 51*, *The Dos Passos Review*, *Quercus Review*, *Red Wheelbarrow Literary Magazine*, *Rhino*, *The South Carolina Review*, *So to Speak*, *Spillway*, *Kestrel: A Journal of Literature and Art*, *Westview*, *Poetry Flash*, and *After the Eclipse*.

She served as an editor of *Cloud View Poets, An Anthology: Master Classes With David St. John*, which was published in 2005. Her novel of innovative fiction, *The Sleeping Wall*, is due to be released late 2009. It was also a finalist in the Chiasmus Press book contest.

For many years she taught Great Books to grade school children and has conducted adult reading groups since 2003. At this time, she is completing a manuscript, *Still Life*, consisting of three distinct sections each using different innovative or hybrid forms.