

**Poets in Conversation: A Zoom Poetry Series Hosted by Phyllis Klein
Seventh Installment: Doug Ramspeck and Nancy Kerrigan**

Saturday May 8, 2021 at 4PM Pacific Time, 7 PM Eastern Time **RSVP** to poetry@phyllispoetry.com

Join these esteemed Grayson Books poets for an hour and fifteen minutes of poetry and conversation for reentry times, as vaccines roll out and Spring opens its heart to us even wider. In addition to poetry, we will entertain questions and comments from the audience after the reading, with the intention to support and connect with the authors and each other.



Doug Ramspeck is the author of eight poetry collections, one collection of short stories, and a novella. Previous books include *Black Flowers* (LSU Press, 2018), which was a finalist for the 2019 UNT Rilke Prize, *The Owl That Carries Us Away* (BkMk Press, 2018), which received the G. S. Sharat Chandra Prize for Short Fiction, and *Original Bodies* (2014), which was selected for the Michael Waters Poetry Prize and is published by Southern Indiana Review Press. Individual poems have appeared in journals that include *The Kenyon Review*, *Slate*, *The Georgia Review*, and *The Southern Review*. A three-time recipient of an Ohio Arts Council Individual Excellence Award, he is a retired professor of English from The Ohio State University at Lima, where he taught creative writing. Doug is the winner of the Grayson Book Award for *Distant Fires*, (2020) which he'll read from today. This book illuminates the humanity and voice of a brother who was imprisoned and died, giving insight into the difficulty of fathoming another's heart. More information can be found at dougramspeck.com.



Nancy Kerrigan grew up in Chicago and later moved to Connecticut. She is an alumna of Wesleyan University's Writers Week, and workshops at the Frost Place in Franconia, New Hampshire. She is the author of two chapbooks: *The Voices: The Poetry of Psychiatry* and *High Heels & Sneakers*, both published by Finishing Line Press. She has shared her poetry in many venues, including Ireland. Kerrigan taught in the Schools of Nursing at Loyola University, St. Xavier University and Yale University. Her work as a psychotherapist in hospitals and private practice has taught her much about the human condition. She'll read from *Lucky Enough: A Journey*, taking us from Chicago to Hartford to Ireland and back, to the mind's eye and the heart of the home, through a life lived and into others imagined, hearing what mother said and feeling what a daughter hoped. Rosa on the bus, Kennedy in the car, a poet on Clare Island, a loving whisper in the ear...Count yourself fortunate to have *Lucky Enough* in yours. Suzanne Strempek Shea, author of *Becoming Finol*