

**Poets in Conversation: A Zoom Poetry Series Hosted by Phyllis Klein.** Join us for an hour and a half of poetry and conversation as we connect and support each other through poetry, reaching a wide-ranging audience.

**Seventeenth Installment:** Saturday, April 30, 2022, at 4PM Pacific Time with Paul Hostovsky and George Bilgere. **RSVP** to [poetry@phyllispoetry.com](mailto:poetry@phyllispoetry.com)



Paul Hostovsky is the author of twelve collections of poetry. His poems have been featured on Poetry Daily, Verse Daily, The Writer's Almanac, and Best of the Net. He has won a Pushcart Prize, the Comstock Review's Muriel Craft Bailey Award, the FutureCycle Poetry Book Prize, and numerous poetry chapbook contests. He makes his living in Boston as a sign language interpreter.

His poems appear and disappear simultaneously (Voilà!), and have recently been sighted in places where they pay you for your trouble with your own trouble doubled, and other people's troubles thrown in, which never seem to him as great as his troubles, though he tries not to compare. He has no life and spends it with his poems, trying to perfect their perfect disappearances, which is the working title of his new collection, which is looking for a publisher and for itself. He is the recipient of such rebukes as *You Never Want To Do Anything and All You Care About Are Your Stupid Clever Poems*.



George Bilgere has published eight collections of poetry, including his new book, *Central Air*, (2022) *Imperial* (2014); *The White Museum* (2010), which was awarded the Autumn House Poetry Prize; *Haywire* (2006), which on the May Swenson Poetry Award; and *The Good Kiss* (2002), which was selected by Billy Collins to win the University of Akron Poetry Award. He has won numerous awards, including the Midland Authors Award and a Pushcart Prize. Bilgere has received grants from the Witter Bynner Foundation, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Fulbright Commission, and the Ohio Arts Council. Bilgere's poetry, while residing firmly in the every-day world of janitors, college students or siblings, is noted for its controlled poignancy and limpid free-verse line. Billy Collins has described him as "a welcome breath of fresh American air." His poems have appeared in numerous anthologies and journals including Poetry, Ploughshares, the Kenyon Review, Fulcrum, and the Best American Poetry series.

A resident of Ohio, Bilgere lives in Cleveland with his wife and two exceptionally fine little boys, where he teaches creative writing at John Carroll University.

**Next Reading:** Mary Kay Rummel and Diane Frank, Saturday, May 28<sup>th</sup> at 4PM Pacific Time.