

**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.

**Twenty-Fifth Installment:** Saturday, April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at 4PM Pacific Time with Mary Dederer and Mirna Hirschl.

To **RSVP** and get the Zoom link, contact Mary, Mirna, or Phyllis, at [poetry@phyllispoetry.com](mailto:poetry@phyllispoetry.com)



Mary Dederer was born in St. Louis and at 13 moved to California, going to high school in Stockton and getting her degrees and teaching credential from Stanford. She taught English at two Bay Area high schools and later at San Jose State, and taught poetry to students K-12 through California Poets in the Schools, delighting in the poems of young elementary students.

*Pink loves red but red doesn't know it.*

*I wake up at pink o'clock. I get dressed at pink thirty.*

In 2004, Mary joined a small group of poets, whose talent, warmth, humor, and good cooking, she says, keep her spirit alive. In 2021, her first book *These Things Remaining* was published.



Mirna Hirschl grew up in Croatia during World War II and lived through the communism that followed. She studied architecture at the University of Zagreb until 1962, when she immigrated to the US and lived most of her life in New York State. She earned a BS and MS in computer science from SUNY Binghamton. After relocation to Belmont, CA, she retired, taking time to travel and enjoy art and culture. Poetry came to her only about 10 ten years ago when she started to write a memoir and found herself writing poetry. Her first collection of poems titled *How Memories Insist* was published in 2022. She continues to write, hoping to finish a memoir but not forsaking poetry. She enjoys reading at the local poetry circles, attending literature clubs, and studying foreign languages. In her spare time, she prepares zesty food: from calamari to Viennese pastries. When relaxing, she contemplates the beauty of waxed amaryllis blooming on her dining room table.

**Next Installment:** Welcome Bunkong Tuon (BK) and Greg Santos, May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023 at 4PM Pacific Time. Save the date!