

EDITORS' NOTE

We could not be more pleased with the issue you hold in your hands; from Michael Lavers' gorgeous, grief-stricken paeon to nature to the evocative strangeness of Felicia Zamora's little boxes, it feels as alive and changing as summer itself. With some sadness, then, we announce that Summer 2017 will be our last quarterly issue. For over sixty-five years, we've sent into the world this "little packet of perfection" (as one young reader put it) every few months, these small but powerful increments a mainstay of our mission, as "*BPJ*" as the soup and bread we share at our marathon editorial sessions.

In spite of that sadness about what we're letting go, we're thrilled—because what's perhaps even more "*BPJ*" than those soup-fueled quarterly issues is a relentless commitment to meaningful innovation, to the pursuit of ever better, bolder ways to serve contemporary poetry. In that spirit, we're proud to announce that this winter you'll find in your mailbox or on your newsstand a longer, perfect-bound *BPJ*—Volume 68, No. 1, reimagined but packed full of everything you've come to expect from this journal. In it you'll find the astonishingly good work we selected from the thousands of poems submitted for the first annual Adrienne Rich Award for Poetry. As we write, our final judge, Carolyn Forché, is selecting finalists and a winner, and folks, she can't go wrong. With each issue, we'll have space to offer more diverse and urgent voices, more of the world-aware and finely crafted poems that are the "*BPJest*" thing about the *BPJ*.

These issues will go to press twice per year, but there's more! Over the years, we've released occasional chapbooks, showcasing the work of a single poet or highlighting movements or issues in poetry or politics. Beginning with Volume 68, we'll release one chapbook per year, and subscribers will receive it as a third, regular issue. (We're already at work on the first one—stay tuned!)

There are other changes afoot—a price increase after decades of holding steady. (Sure—some changes are more exciting than others!) What won't change—ever—is our love for what we do, our love for poets and their champions. We'll keep publishing poems that challenge us to stay attuned to our own lives, alert to our communities small and large, our imperiled and necessary democracy, our imperiled and irreplaceable Earth. We're at work constantly pursuing this mission. We hope it shows—in the ways we stay the same and in the ways we change. We're immensely grateful for those of you who come along for the ride.

—Melissa, Rachel, and all of us at the *BPJ*