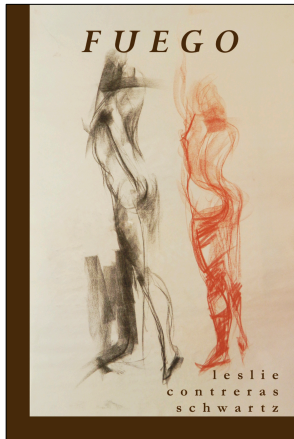


HOUSTON: Press Release - For immediate release March 1, 2016. Saint Julian Press proudly presents a new collection of poems by poet Leslie Contreras Schwartz, which will be available on March 31st through fine book distributors and retailers.

FUEGO by Leslie Contreras Schwartz



"*Fuego* is full of fire, of the passionate intensity of creation in the face of great odds—the intensity of difficult pregnancies and childbirth and all-consuming motherhood, of the immigrant student who struggles to write his first sentences in English, the child who falls from her bike and gets up again and again, the long-distance swimmer trying to swim to Antarctica, all of them stand-ins, I think, for the artist who struggles to make something meaningful from language in the midst of life, which is to say in the midst of death. This Leslie Contreras Schwartz has done in her debut collection, and hers is a distinctive and welcome new voice in American poetry."

—Susan Wood, Gladys Louise Fox Professor Emerita of English at Rice University, author of *Asunder*, National Poetry Series selection 2001

"Leslie Contreras Schwartz's *Fuego* is filled with the power of *things*: floods that bring both destructive power and promise of new life, televisions that bring awful news, a small child's naming of clouds. Like Plath's most tender poems, Schwartz's debut collection uses the minutiae of everyday living to create a world where even in the darkest times, light finds a way to come "from under / the shade, / light from under / the door."

—Amanda Auchter, author of *The Wishing Tomb*, winner of 2013 PEN Center USA Literary Award for Poetry

Leslie Contreras Schwartz holds an MFA in poetry from Warren Wilson College and a BA in English from Rice University. Her poetry has appeared in *Pebble Lake Review*, *Southern Women's Review*, *The Adirondack Review*, "Improbable Worlds: An Anthology of Texas and Louisiana Poets" by Mutabilis Press, and other publications, and her essays have appeared in the *Houston Chronicle*, *Ozy*, and *Dame Magazine*. Saint Julian Press will publish her first collection of poems, *FUEGO*, in March 2016.



READINGS: February 27, 7:30-9:00, WRITEFEST HOUSTON at Trinity Episcopal Church Midtown Houston * April 27, 6-8:30 p.m., Talento Bilingue de Houston, 333 S. Jensen * May 12, 2016, 7:30 p.m. Kaboom Books, 3116 Houston Ave. * May 27, 7 p.m. Brazos Bookstore, 2421 Bissonnet St. (reading with Amanda Auchter) * A radio interview is scheduled for May 10 at 6 p.m. on Houston's KPFT Nuestra Palabra show.

Available soon through ~ **Ingram Content Group** ~ **Amazon** ~ **Barnes & Noble** ~ **Fine Book Distributors & Retailers**

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