

ABOUT SIXTEEN RIVERS PRESS

Sixteen Rivers Press is a shared-work, nonprofit poetry collective dedicated to providing an alternative publishing avenue for Northern California poets.

Founded in 1999 by seven writers, the press is named for the sixteen rivers that flow into San Francisco Bay.

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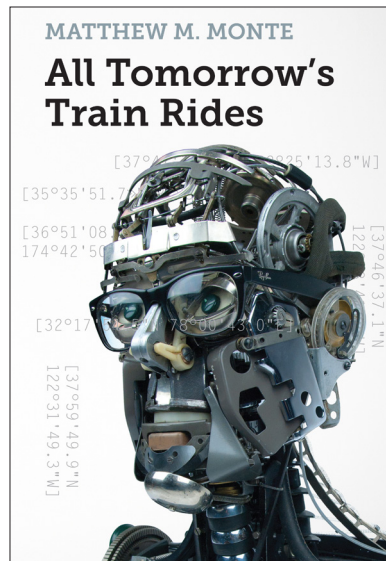


*A Northern California
Publishing Collective*

New Titles 2023

MATTHEW M. MONTE

All Tomorrow's Train Rides



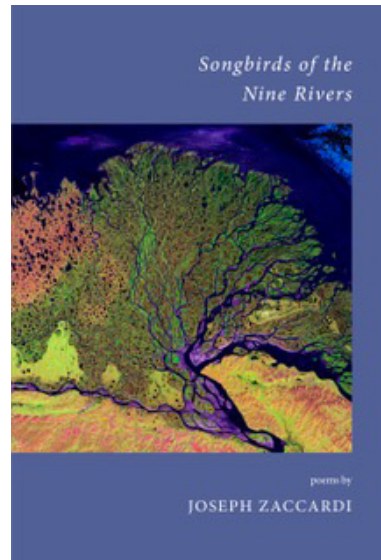
“Matthew Monte writes in the specifics of speech and memory, pulling the reader along his urban coastline of abandoned dreams and possible destinations. This extraordinary book is filled with the noise and silence of the everyday and is underscored throughout with beauty, examination, and compassion. Read these fine poems and encounter some part of your own unvoiced life.”
—Beau Beausoleil, author of *A Glyphic House: New and Selected Poems 1976–2019*

All Tomorrow's Train Rides is an odyssey of reading and poetic memory. What begins as a single day in a worker's commute morphs into a Möbius loop of literary history and cultural consciousness. Riddled with geographical coordinates and commentary, this book of interdependent poems explores the idea of “living in translation” and fuses the formal aesthetics of cartography to our relationships with people, places, books, and the natural world.

\$18 paperback • ISBN: 978-1-939639-31-8 • 112 pages

JOSEPH ZACCARDI

Songbirds of the Nine Rivers



“The beauty of this book is in the lyric surprise, the parabolic of the Tang. These are poems that blend the physical and the eternal, the seen and the unseen.”
—Ann Robinson, author of *Stone Window*

“Historical, philosophical, and alchemical, these poems reenact the cosmos of the classical poet-ancestors of China and Vietnam through the awakened mind of an American poet.” —Jie Tian, author of *Native Songs*

During his time as a Navy corpsman in the Vietnam War, Joseph Zaccardi found refuge in a volume of ancient Chinese and Vietnamese poetry. His study, now lifelong, has borne fruit in this present volume, the ancients at his shoulder. At once a scholarly work, an homage, and above all a striking volume of new poems, this book provides readers with a multifaceted lens: forward, backward, yet always present—and always, even in grief, exultant.

\$18 paperback • ISBN: 978-1-939639-29-5 • 104 pages

A SAMPLE OF THE POETS' WORK

from Descanso

I trade my Giants jersey
for a crown of thorns in Tecoripa
driving against silence, I resist ideas
about solitude and martyrdom
sing instead of the radio Tangled
crown forever in my head but never upon it
rivulets of sweat, copycat sangre
it can't be long now

I stop
by the road
dim green lobes of ginkgo fall
like my body, no business in the desert
Not a tree in sight, they flutter and cling
I stand in a storm of butterflies
until the front passes

—Matthew M. Monte

Mother of Pearl

There was a jeweler from the state of Chu,
Who in order to sell a beautiful strand of pearls,
Made a box from the fine-grained wood of magnolia.
Decorated with rose-colored gems, its borders were
lined
With green jadeite, and the interior scented with the
perfume
Of osmanthus blossoms. The craftsmanship was so
exquisite
That a mandarin who held the box in his hands
Overlooked the pearls.

—Joseph Zaccardi