



Worcester County Poetry Association



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To: Editors
From: Anne Marie Lucci / Publicist / VP / Worcester County Poetry Association
Date: 9 May 2016
RE: 2nd Annual Stanley Kunitz Medal Award Recipient is Dan Lewis

For Immediate Release:

Dan Lewis of Worcester, MA has been chosen to receive the second annual Stanley Kunitz Medal Award awarded through a bequest from the two-time Pulitzer Prize winning poet and Worcester native Stanley Kunitz to the Worcester County Poetry Association.

The medal is awarded by the Worcester Country Poetry Association to a person with a strong Worcester County (MA) connection who best exemplifies Kuntiz's life-long commitment to poetry and poets. The award recognizes a total commitment to poetry as Stanley lived it: teaching poetry, mentoring poets, speaking poetry, publishing poetry and supporting organizations which nurture poetry.

John Hodgen, visiting poet at Assumption College, and a member of the selection committee, said of Lewis, "There is a certain Whitman-like generosity of vision, remarkable intelligence, a heart as big as the world, and always the questioning, this sense of ongoing wonder. Stanley would have approved."

Rodger Martin, chair of the selection committee said, "Lewis' decades of dedication, not only to his poetry but poetry in general and Worcester in particular is rare."

Lewis lives on the edge of Patch Reservoir and is the 2012 Winner of The Frank O'Hara Prize. He has published four collections of poetry: *Tickets for the Broken Year*, and *The Garden* in 2011, *Iconospheres* in 2013 and his fourth this year, *Intimations of the Focal Plane*. Lewis served as typesetting and design editor of *The Worcester Review* from 1999-2011. He has been an active volunteer member of the WCPA Board of Directors for more than twenty years. In this capacity, he regularly designed and produced broadsides for other poets and published many editions of *The Issue*.

An award ceremony and reception to celebrate this selection, free and open to the public and coinciding with Stanley Kunitz's birthday celebration will be held at The Worcester Historical Museum, 30 Elm Street, Worcester on Thursday, July 28, 2016, 6:30-8:30pm. The event will begin with a 30-minute open reading celebrating Kunitz.

For further information on this and other programs of the WCPA on onto <http://www.worcestercountypoetry.org> or follow us on Facebook.

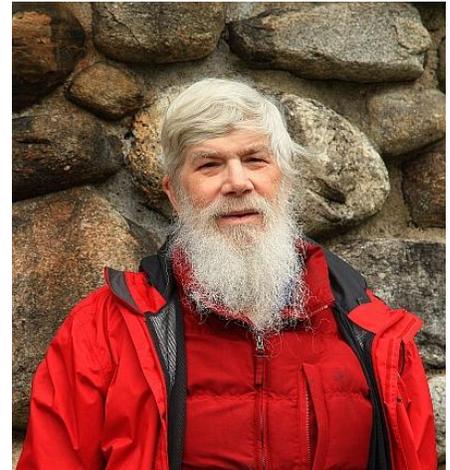


Photo attached: Dan Lewis
Photo credit: Michael Lewis