

EMERGE-SURFACE-BE: 2015-16 FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM FOR EMERGING POETS

APPLICATION DEADLINE – October 15, 2015 AT 11:59PM

PROGRAM OVERVIEW:

Emerge – Surface – Be is a natural extension of The Poetry Project's program offerings. It formalizes the distinct yet unspoken pedagogical aspect of The Poetry Project's programs while providing a unique opportunity to support, develop and present emerging NYC-based poets of promise.

Poet mentors **Lee Ann Brown**, **Tan Lin**, and **Tracie Morris** will each select an emerging poet to work with. Over the course of nine months, Fellows will be given the opportunity to work one-on-one with their mentor to develop their craft. Ideal Fellows will have a project they are working on or want to embark upon, and feel that they would benefit from guidance and support. Each Fellow will receive an award of \$2,500.

In addition to working with their mentors, Fellows will have access to all Poetry Project events (free workshops, free readings, free publications) and be included in the Annual New Year's Day Marathon Reading. Fellows will also read within The Poetry Project's Monday or Friday Night Reading Series as a culminating event with introductions made by their mentors. Fellows will be invited to attend gatherings with the Project staff, as well as the other Fellows and Mentors

Applicants that have achieved some measure of local, regional, or national professional recognition will be judged favorably, as will applicants who have been published or had work presented in recognized publications and venues. However, the most important criterion is that an applicant's work shows potential. Therefore, demonstration of a high level of skill and unique stylistic vision will be considered in the decision making process.

Our definition of "emerging" is a writer who has local and perhaps regional recognition and may have national exposure, though not national recognition. **As a top limit, an emerging writer has published no more than one full-length perfect bound book and no more than three chapbooks (not including self-published work in chapbook form).**

Emerge – Surface – Be is supported with funds from the Jerome Foundation.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

- New York City resident at the time of application and have lived in NYC at least one year prior to the application deadline;
- Eighteen years of age and older;
- Individuals enrolled in undergraduate and graduate degree-granting writing programs are not eligible. However, individuals who enroll in degree-granting writing programs or take classes after the time of application submission are eligible for fellowships providing they maintain an active, professional practice of creating and presenting work to the public.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

- Project description, including project goals and long-term artistic goals;
- Work Sample:
 - Ten to fifteen (10-15) page sample of project manuscript OR
 - Ten to fifteen (10-15) pages of prior work;
- Creative resume and bio;
- Optional video clip or mp3 of applicant reading

The Poetry Project embraces diversity in the broadest sense of the word. This principle is reflected in the choice of mentor poets and will be reflected in the selection of Fellows.

Fellows will be announced in early November.
Please email esbfellowship@poetryproject.org with questions.

MENTOR BIOS:

Lee Ann Brown was born in Japan and raised in Charlotte, North Carolina. She attended Brown University, where she earned both her undergraduate and graduate degrees. She is the author of *Other Archer* (Presses Universitaires de Rouen et du Havre, 2015), *In the Laurels, Caught* (Fence Books, 2013), which won the 2012 Fence Modern Poets Series Award, as well as *Crowns of Charlotte* (Carolina Wren Press, 2013), *The Sleep That Changed Everything* (Wesleyan, 2003), and *Polyverse* (Sun & Moon Press, 2000), which won the 1996 New American Poetry Competition. In 1989, Brown founded Tender Buttons Press, which is dedicated to publishing experimental women's poetry. She has taught at Brown University, Naropa University, Bard College, and The New School, among others. She currently divides her time between New York City, where she teaches at St. John's University, and hosts poetry events as Page Poetry Parlor, and Marshall, North Carolina, where she directs the French Broad Institute (of Time & the River).

Tan Lin is the author of over ten books, including *Heath Course Pak, Bib. Rev. Ed., Insomnia and the Aunt, 7 Controlled Vocabularies and Obituary 2004. The Joy of Cooking, Plagiarism/Outsource, Ambience is a Novel with a Logo, BlipSoak01, and Lotion Bullwhip Giraffe*. His work has appeared in numerous journals including *Conjunctions, Artforum, Criticism, boundary2, Cabinet, New York Times Book Review, Art in America, and Purple*. His video, theatrical and LCD work have been shown at Artists Space, the Marianne Boesky Gallery, the Yale Art Museum, Sophienholm Museum (Copenhagen), Ontological Hysterical Theatre, and as part of the Whitney Museum of American Art's Soundcheck Series. Lin is the recipient of a 2012 Foundation for Contemporary Arts Grant for Poetry, a Getty Distinguished Scholar Grant for 2004-2005 as well as a Warhol Foundation/Creative Capital Arts Writing Grant to complete a book-length study of the writings of Andy Warhol. *7 Controlled Vocabularies and Obituary 2004. The Joy of Cooking* received the Association for American Studies Award for Poetry/Literature in 2010. He has taught at the University of Virginia and Cal Arts, and currently teaches creative writing at New Jersey City University. He received a Ph.D from Columbia University.

Tracie Morris emerged as a poet, performer and writer from the Lower East Side poetry scene in the early 1990s, winning the Nuyorican Grand Slam in 1993. Her book *Intermission* was published by Soft Skull in 1998. Morris is now known as a sound artist and theatrical performer. She often works with composer/musician Elliott Sharp's band, Terraplane, and her eponymous band. She has studied British acting technique at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art, London as well as Laban and Meisner techniques in the United States. Her work was featured in the 2002 Whitney Biennial. In 2008 her poem "Africa(n)" was included on the compilation album *Crosstalk: American Speech Music* (Bridge Records; produced by Mendi & Keith Obadike). Her book (with CD) *Rhyme Scheme* was published in 2012 by Zasterle Press. Morris has a Ph.D. in Performance Studies from NYU and an MFA in poetry from Hunter College, CUNY; and is a full professor at Pratt Institute, specializing in Performance Studies. She was the 2007-2008 Center for Programs in Contemporary Writing Fellow at the University of Pennsylvania.