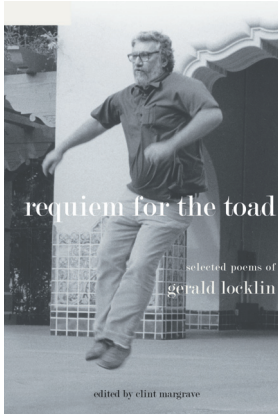


# Press Release

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NYQ Books™ Announces the Forthcoming Publication of

## *Requiem for the Toad*

*Selected Poems of Gerald Locklin*

edited by **Clint Margrave**

"Gerald Locklin's posthumous collection of selected poems, *Requiem for the Toad*, is a gift to iconoclasts everywhere. Irreverent, hilarious, and sometimes downright heartbreaking, Locklin had a voice like no other. Early in the book come these lines: 'Do you love me?' I asked. 'Love you?

How could I love a toad?' And the rest of the book teaches us to do just that. From his musings on everyone from Snoopy to David Hockney, from Ernest Hemingway to the Beach Boys, from Sartre to his friend Bukowski, Locklin gives us zingers about life and mortality. Clint Margrave has assembled one helluva book. Locklin is the toad that never transformed into a stereotypical prince, but kiss these pages and he will be your Prince of Poetry!"

—Denise Duhamel

"In his poems, as in his life, Locklin likes to deliver his sly wit and funky wisdom from the secure elevation of a barstool, rather than the podium or the pulpit. Over many decades, he has maintained a balance between the maze-like halls of academe and the straight talk of the street. He's a colorful, engaging poet, whose often satiric humor hides a tender man regarding the world with an acute, sensitive eye. Open this book anywhere and hear the voice of the speaking Toad." —Billy Collins

"...one of the more important and prolific American poets of the last half-century" —John Penner, *Los Angeles Times*

"Gerald Locklin is one of the great undiscovered talents of our time...I have never been let down. I have been picked up, lifted up, tossed into that rare area: excellent writing, writing with verve, writing that laughs, writing that reads easy yet says something. That's a good package."

—Charles Bukowski

**Gerald Locklin** (1941-2021) was born in Rochester, NY. A prolific writer of both poetry and prose, he published over a hundred books in his lifetime, including *The Firebird Poems* (Event Horizon Press), *Go West, Young Toad* (Water Row Books), *Charles Bukowski: A Sure Bet* (Water Row Books), and *Down and Out* (Event Horizon Press). The Oxford Companion to Twentieth Century Literature in the English Language calls him "a central figure in the vitality of Los Angeles writing." From 1965-2007, he was professor of English at California State University, Long Beach. He lived in Long Beach, CA.

**Clint Margrave** is the author of several books, including the novel *Lyng Bastard* (Run-Amok Books) and three poetry collections, *Salute the Wreckage*, *The Early Death of Men*, and most recently, *Visitor*, all from NYQ Books. He lives in Long Beach, CA.

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