

"A Quarterly  
Published Strictly  
Quarterly"

# Works & Days

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Winter 2012

Nº I

## Apology Not Accepted

by Cara Marsh Sheffler

In our highly confessional culture, I confess this:

You know nothing about me and—what's more—I hope to keep it that way.

Obviously, I should shut up now. That would be the ideal course of action to yield my desired outcome.

But, I'm no better than my vices and no one ever has accused me of restraint. {Cont'd}

## Lion Tamer

by Willow Jane Sainsbury



## A Beautiful Evening to Enjoy the Charms of Being Alive

by Jennifer Kraus and Henry Smith

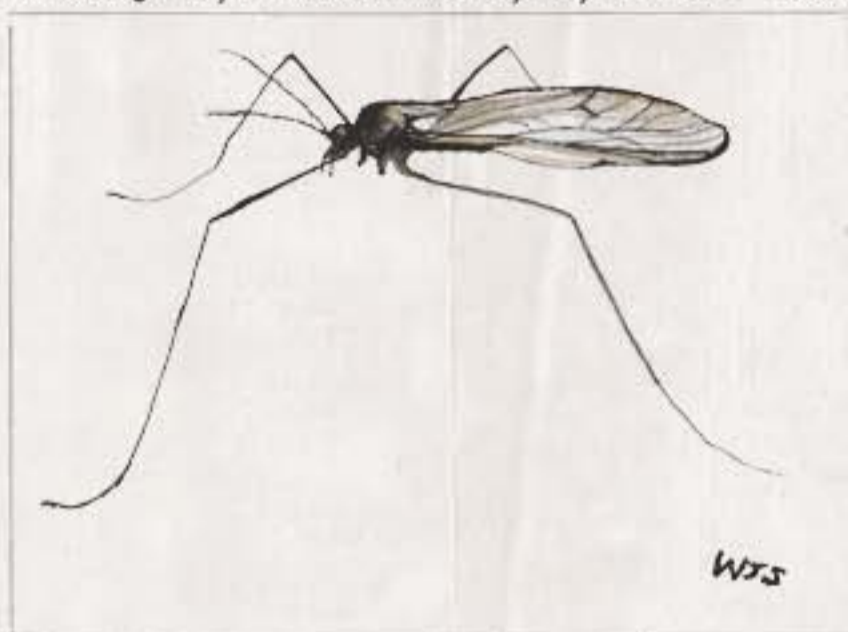


## The Weirdest Thing

by Gillian Louise Bostock



"At dawn get to your fields, and one day they'll be full." - Hesiod



## Drive

by Gillian Louise Bostock



## Work, Transcendent

by Luke Cissell

Before it becomes uncomfortably apparent, let me go ahead and admit it: I have undertaken to write myself out of the trap I have fallen into again. It's a familiar trap, and though I trade in the arts (I make music), I would imagine it's recognizable to anyone who has worked at anything for any length of time. I have begun to question the value of my work in rather non-specific (but oh so specific!), sweeping, metaphysical terms. {Cont'd}

## Trapeze Artist

by Willow Jane Sainsbury



## Recipes

by Eric Wines and  
Ashley Suzan

## Tuxedo Sam

by Rebecca Bersohn



## Building One:

Capital, Fire, and General  
Focus in the Late-Modern  
Nation State

by Eric Bland

## Building Two:

Gross Mismanagement  
of Simple Truth in  
Construction and Thought

by Eric Bland

## Buff Whalin'

by Rebecca Bersohn



## Lonesome Dreamer

by Luke Cissell

## Our Trespasses

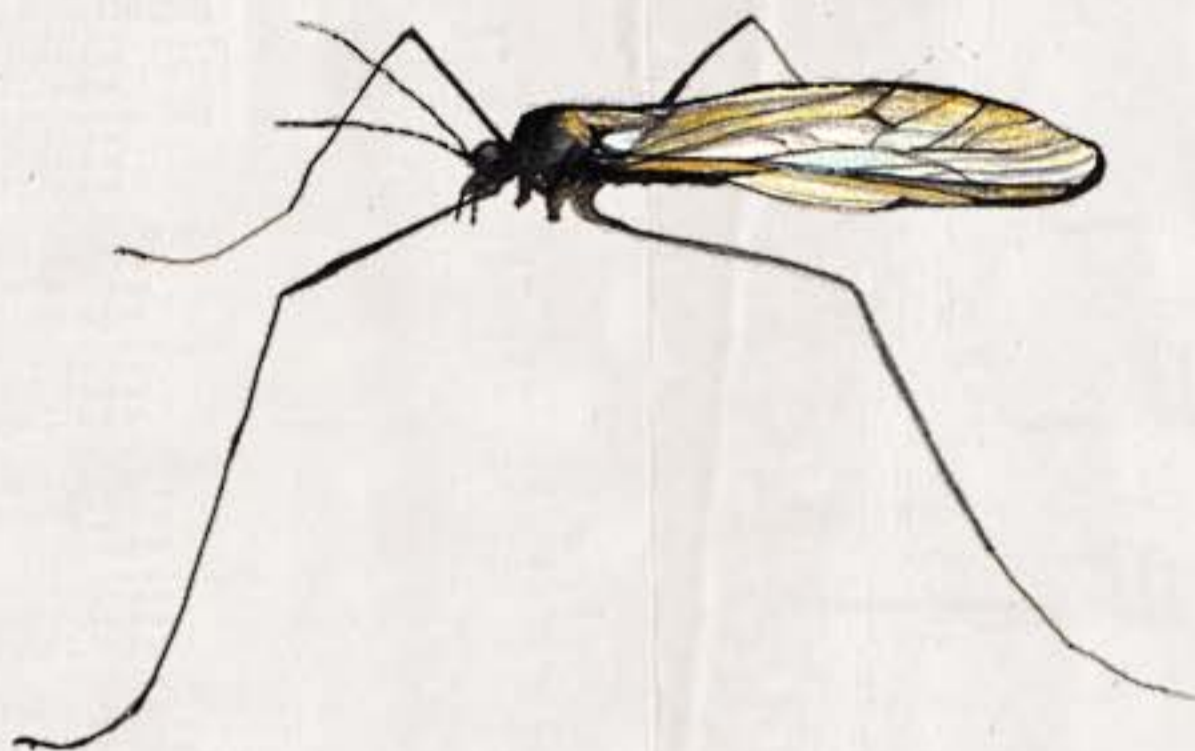
Part One of Three

by Cara Marsh Sheffler

The panic attacks came on the night his mother's twin sister died, a woman Gabe had hardly seen in ten years. That lapse was no one's fault—or so Gabe was wont to think. The disease took a decade to kill her and in that time, as she shuttled from clinic to clinic, Gabe had dropped out of school and made a life for himself out East. Her funeral was held up by the Flood—an 80-year-flood, if you listened to the news, but nothing much worse than '93 if you listened to the locals—so that it had now been just over a week since his aunt had passed away. But the panic attacks, he somehow knew, were to remain a nightly fixture. {Cont'd}

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## *Winter Crane Fly* *Trichoceridae trichocera*

"Winter crane flies of the genus *Trichocera* Meigen are found on warm sunny afternoons in fall, winter, and spring in the contiguous United States, Canada, and Alaska... Swarms of *Trichocera* males are often seen dancing in the late afternoon sunlight, sometimes thousands of individuals in hundreds of swarms over many acres of lawns and open woodlands. Biologists have also noticed these coldhardy insects swarming above the snow when temperatures were between 0° and 10°C."

—Harry D. Pratt, *The Winter Crane Flies of North America North of Mexico*



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## ← Alaskan Upis Beetle *Upis ceramboides*

"In the most northern climates, like the interior of Alaska, midwinter temperatures fall as low as minus 60 degrees Fahrenheit, and snow cover and subzero temperatures can last until May. At these extreme temperatures, most insects are bugsicles. The Alaskan Upis beetle, for example, freezes at around minus 19 degrees. But, remarkably, it can survive exposure to temperatures as low as about minus 100 degrees. To tolerate freezing, it is crucial that insects minimize the damage that freezing (and thawing) would normally cause.

Insects have evolved a variety of cryoprotective substances. As winter approaches, many freeze-tolerant insects produce high concentrations of glycerol and other kinds of alcohol molecules. These substances don't prevent freezing, but **they slow ice formation** and allow the fluids surrounding cells to freeze in a more controlled manner while the contents of the cells remain unfrozen."

—Sean B. Carroll, "When Built-In Antifreeze Beats a Winter Coat," *The New York Times*

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## Editorial Staff

**Luke Cissell** (*Work, Transcendent; Lonesome Dreamer*) is a musician and composer who lives in Lower Manhattan. Born in Louisville, Kentucky, he was a fiddling champion at the age of eight and went on to train as a classical violinist. Cissell's recent work includes a collection of chamber music, a full-length album, and a suite for solo violin written as a companion piece to Cara Marsh Sheffler's *Guide*. He is currently at work on his second studio album and an opera based on Henry James's *The Ambassadors*. Play with his jukebox at <http://www.lukecissell.com>.

**Sarah Marriage** (*Art Director; Designer; Programmer; Calligrapher*) is a woodworking student at the College of the Redwoods Fine Woodworking program in Fort Bragg, California. Conceived in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, born in Tulsa, Oklahoma, raised in Anchorage, Alaska, Sarah has at turns worked in the fields of architecture, structural engineering, occupational health and safety, dog-walking, data management, physics, youth empowerment, and construction supply. Recent projects include a madrone box and the rehabilitation of a nineteenth-century townhouse in Baltimore, Maryland. The box will be on display alongside the work of her classmates at Fort Bragg's Town Hall from January 28th to February 5th.

**Cara Marsh Sheffler** (*Our Trespasses; Apology Not Accepted*) is a writer who lives on Manhattan's Lower East Side. In her past life as an actress, she was featured in Woody Allen's *Celebrity* and in The Looking Glass Theatre's Off-Broadway production of *Much Ado About Nothing*. A recipient of the Eagles Prize, she has most recently been working on an essay collection and a novel about the guidebook used by the Donner Party, *Guide*. She performed an excerpt of *Guide* in tandem with Luke Cissell's (*The Myth of*) *Infinite Progress* at the Brick Theater this past spring. Sheffler is also providing the libretto for Cissell's operatic adaptation of Henry James's *The Ambassadors*. She is not on Facebook.

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## Contributors

Born in Los Angeles, **Rebecca Bersohn** (*Tuxedo Sam; Buff Whalin*) is a New York based artist. She received her BFA at New York University. Her work has been exhibited at Monster Island, Charlie Horse Gallery, the Market Hotel in Brooklyn, BWAC and The Commons Gallery at NYU. Her Awards in the Arts include Bank of America Art Award 2004, an Artist's Distinction Award (2003) for an ink/water color piece at the California Art Education Association Los Angeles County Exhibit and the Governor's Art Scholar Award 2002-2003.

**Eric Bland** (*Building One; Building Two*) is a writer/director/performer/accountant and the artistic director of the Old Kent Road Theater. He was born and raised in Richmond, Virginia and has a degree in Creative Writing (Poetry) from Princeton University and an MA in Writing for Performance from Goldsmiths College, University of London. His play *Death at Film Forum* was published in NYTE's Plays and Playwrights 2009. Recent productions: *Here at Home* (31Down); *Emancipatory Politics: A Romantic Tragedy* (Incubator Arts Project); *Jeannine's Abortion: A Play in One Trimester* (The Brick, w/ Piper McKenzie Productions); *Are We Bourgeois, Mon Amour?* (A Psycho's Analysis) (Bushwick Starr); *I Stand for Nothing* (Ontological-Hysteric Theater). He was named one of nytheatre.com's people of the year for 2010, and his next show, *All the Indifferent Children of the Earth*, will premiere at The Brick Theater in mid-February, 2012. He may be contacted at [ericbland@gmail.com](mailto:ericbland@gmail.com).

Originally from the San Francisco Bay Area, **Gillian Louise Bostock** (*Drive; The Weirdest Thing*) left New York this past spring to return to the West Coast and focus solely on her own work after years of putting aside her own artistic goals to become a real-live sponge of photographic extrapolapagus. Predominantly photographing interiors and landscapes, she employs the medium as a means to dabble with philosophical questions concerning the meaning of life and lock its fleeting beauty into place much like a butterfly pinned beneath museum glass. More of her work can be found here ([www.gillianbostock.com](http://www.gillianbostock.com)) and on Cowbird (<http://cowbird.com/author/gillian/>).

**Jennifer Kraus** (*A Beautiful Evening to Enjoy the Charms of Being Alive*), based in Warwick and Brooklyn, NY is the founder of HUGE CUP Productions, a fledgling live arts production company. Since its inception in 2010 she has produced two original hybrid theater works in Warwick. Jennifer has worked in choreographic and assistant direction roles at The Cell, The Players Theatre, and HERE in NYC. She teaches dance, drama, and voice at the New York Performing Arts Center in Washingtonville, NY. Learn more at [hugecupwordpress.com](http://hugecupwordpress.com).

**Christo Logan** (*Now Playing*) has worked in New York, San Francisco and Shenzhen on projects inventing furniture and products, graphics and websites, buildings and fabrication, installations and urban planning, and remote control fighting robots. He is currently a founding member of Urbanus Labs architecture office in Hong Kong, and he plays the cello.

**Willow Jane Sainsbury** (*Trapeze Artist; Lion Tamer; Insect Illustrations*) is an artist and illustrator, who currently lives in Vicenza, Italy. She has lived in Melbourne, Australia; Auckland, New Zealand; and Oxford, United Kingdom in the past three years where she continues to teach, learn and work as an artist. She most recently returned to education, learning print-making at the Australian Print Workshop. She is currently working on her own illustration project and a study of landscapes. She is not on Facebook.

**Henry Smith** (*A Beautiful Evening to Enjoy the Charms of Being Alive*), hailing from Warwick, NY, is an aspiring creative videographer. Just this past summer he began creating short videos for a website, [grinds.com](http://grinds.com), that focuses on showcasing various artists in the local Warwick community. His dream is to keep creating videos to enrich the community around him, while broadening his own artistic expression. He had a wonderful time teaming up with Jennifer Kraus to create a surreal, dream-like piece that he hopes everyone who watches will enjoy. Thanks to Vastu Yoga for letting us use their beautiful space.

California-grown and a New Yorker at heart, **Ashley Suzan** (*Recipes*) is a graduate of the Gallatin School at New York University. The youngest of four, Ashley was raised in the kitchen. An avid yogi and spinning enthusiast, her creative passions include drawing, food, and beverage. Follow her on Twitter @AshleySuzan.

**Eric Wines** (*Recipes*) enjoys trolling flea markets for treasures, playing with plants, and distance running. Eric is co-owner of Tre restaurant in Manhattan and a member of Skylight NYC. He hosts candlelight suppers and classy cocktail parties. Eric was raised in Detroit, MI and lives in New York City. Follow him on Twitter @EricWines.