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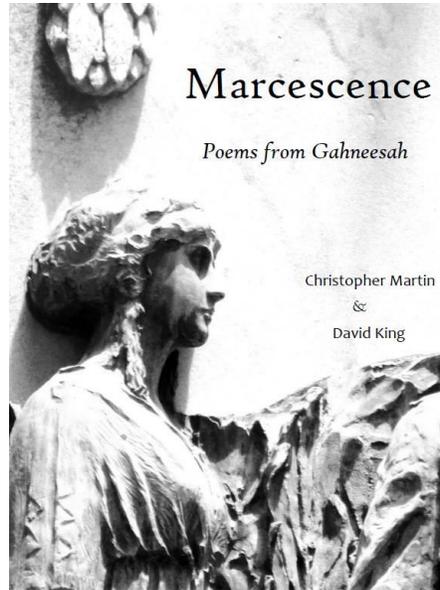
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FINISHING LINE PRESS
PROUDLY ANNOUNCES THE PUBLICATION OF



MARCESCENCE: POEMS FROM GAHNEESAH

by Christopher Martin & David King

Now available for pre-order at www.finishinglinepress.com
Forthcoming September 2014

From the Preface

Gahneesah is the Anglicized form of the Cherokee name for Kennesaw Mountain, from which the word *Kennesaw* derives. It means “burial ground” or “place of the dead.”

Kennesaw Mountain is located in the suburbs of Atlanta, Georgia, between the towns of Kennesaw and Marietta in northern Cobb County. It was the scene of the Battle of Kennesaw Mountain of the Atlanta Campaign of the Civil War, June 27, 1864. It is essentially an isolated ridge—or monadnock, from the Algonquin for “lonely mountain”—consisting of three summits: Big Kennesaw, Little Kennesaw, and Pigeon Hill.

Marcescence is a botanical term describing the retention of dead plant organs that normally are shed, as with the leaves of deciduous trees. In displaying marcescence, the leaves of a given tree, such as the beech, will wither during the winter yet remain attached to the tree until replaced by new growth.

All poems in this book are connected to the topography, real or imagined, of Gahneesah, their true country.

PRAISE FOR *MARCESCENCE: POEMS FROM GAHNEESAH*

“These remarkable poems by two fine Southern writers bring the past into sharp focus. They show us vividly how the wounds of history can touch us, and if they cannot make us completely whole, they can make us more completely human. This is a thoughtful, moving, and compelling book.”

—**David Bottoms**, former Poet Laureate of Georgia, author of *We Almost Disappear* and *Armored Hearts: Selected and New Poems*

“Martin and King have put together a collection haunted by history, in the midst of which, an unforgettable image: the vanishing heron as witness, standing stock still in the trash pile we’ve made of a sacred place. In these poems, Kennesaw Mountain and the battle that was fought here come alive again, for surely nature remembers—even a wren ‘trills the memory / of shell-shattered trees.’”

—**Alice Friman**, author of *Vinculum*, a 2012 Pushcart Prize recipient, and winner of the 2012 Georgia Author of the Year Award in Poetry

“In poems celebrating the way the natural world and we humans are composted and recycled to create the future of our enduring legacy and the posterity of our planet, Christopher Martin and David King have truly captured not only the concept of reconstitution in this collection, but, further, how important *place* is to who we are and who we might become—no matter where we may herald from or come to live.”

—**Thomas Rain Crowe**, author of *Zoro’s Field: My Life in the Appalachian Woods*, winner of the 2006 Phillip D. Reed Memorial Award for Outstanding Writing on the Southern Environment

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

Christopher Martin is author of the poetry chapbooks *Everything Turns Away* (La Vita Poetica Press, 2014) and *A Conference of Birds* (New Native Press, 2012). His work has appeared in *The Southern Poetry Anthology, Volume V: Georgia* (Texas Review Press, 2012), *Shambhala Sun*, *Waccamaw*, *Ruminate Magazine*, *Thrush Poetry Journal*, *Still: The Journal*, *Buddhist Poetry Review*, *Town Creek Poetry*, and elsewhere, including *Loose Change Magazine's* recent *Best of Loose Change* special issue. The editor of *Flycatcher*, a contributing editor at *New Southerner*, and a two-time Pushcart Prize nominee, Chris lives with his wife and their two young children in northwest Georgia, between the Allatoona Range and Kennesaw Mountain. You can find him online at www.christopher-martin.net.

David King is Associate Professor of English and Film Studies at Kennesaw State University where he has taught for over twenty years. His poetry has appeared in numerous journals, and he has won first prize awards from the Academy of American Poets, the Poetry Society of America, *Concepts Magazine*, and *Snake Nation Review*. Most recently his poetry was featured in *The Southern Poetry Anthology, Volume V: Georgia*. He is also the arts and culture columnist for *The Georgia Bulletin*, the newspaper of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Atlanta, and his work has been awarded by the Catholic Press Association. A fourth generation Georgia native, he lives in historic Marietta with his wife and two young sons.

ORDERING INFORMATION

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Just in time for the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Kennesaw Mountain

MARCESCENCE • SUNSET AT PIGEON HILL • DEER CROSSING
OLD MOUNTAIN ROAD • PARABLE OF THE CAROLINA
CHICKADEE • THOREAU'S LAST WORDS • BATTLE HYMN:
HIGHWAY 41, SOUTH • SECOND COMING ON SOUTH COBB
DRIVE • A CHURCH SIGN ON SUMMERS STREET • LISTENING TO
FABLES ON OLD 41 • STROLLING THE DEAD ANGLE •
RESURRECTION IN A BATTLEFIELD BELOW KENNESAW
MOUNTAIN • SEX AT NOSES CREEK • PISSING ON GRAVES •
RELICS • WAITING FOR TRAINS AT MOON STATION ROAD •
HUNTING SQUIRRELS IN CHEROKEE HEIGHTS • LISTENING TO
DIXIE SPEEDWAY • SMOKING POT AT ARMUCHEE CREEK •
COMMUNION • JOGGING AT KENNESAW • GAHNEESAH RISING

The ghosts know better, stirring in the ground...

—“Gahneesah Rising”

*To a gray-green blade, a grasshopper clings;
I catch it, kneel down, open cupped palms
before my son, and the dead
fly from flesh on blood red wings.*

—“Resurrection in a Battlefield below Kennesaw Mountain”

Find the best poem by searching over 1 million poems by type, form, word, and more. Find, read, and share poetry written by over 40,000 famous and modern poets from all around the world. The word poetry comes from ancient Greece. Poieo translated means "to create". Poetry, when it is well written, goes much deeper than the words on a page.