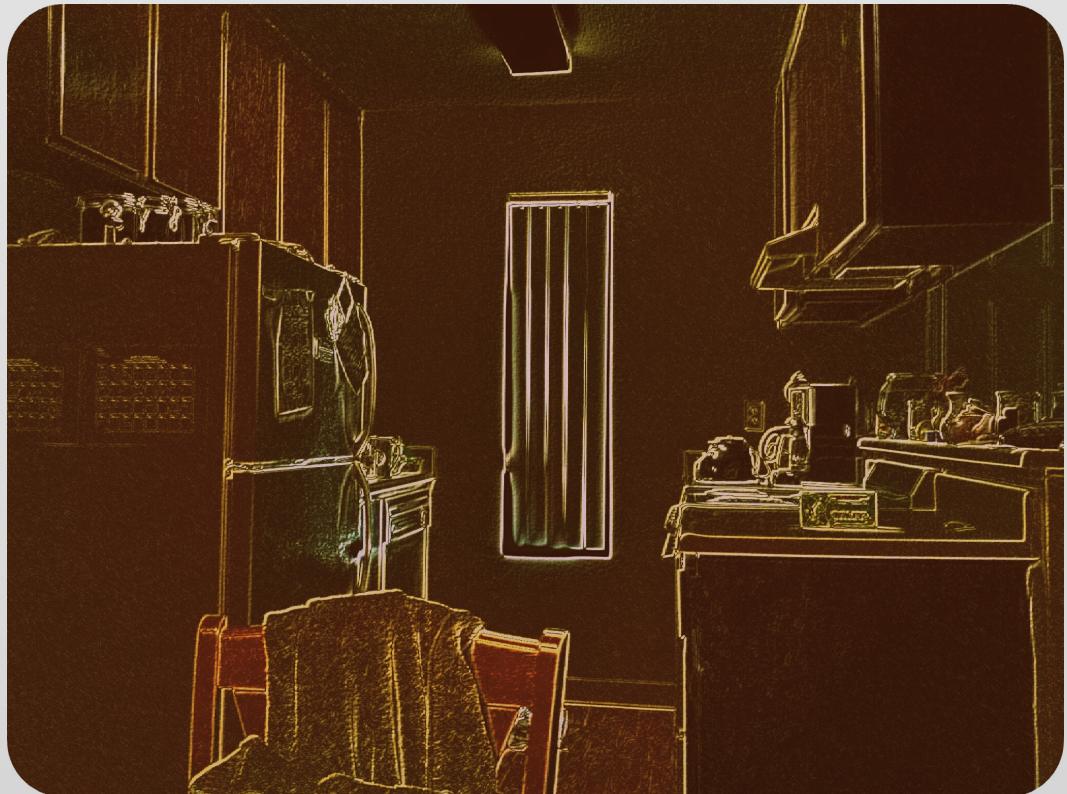


I · am · bic



June 2017 Volume 1 Issue 3

I.am·bic

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Editor's Corner



Hello Readers and welcome to the third issue of Iambic.

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To submit work for
consideration, please
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May was a wild month. You could either celebrate Masturbation month or/and National Bike month. Definitely odd choices but, it did electrify the city with numerous events. The city also held Busking Day and Sunday Street on Broadway event were filled with street performers including poets. Even I was convinced to perform out in the open.

Grace Loescher was May's *Meet the Host* feature. She is one of the hosts of the biweekly open mic, **Speak up Sacramento at Shine Café** (this month's Venue Profile).

This month's *Meet the Host* features: **NSAA**. NSAA hosts two open mics (Joe Montoya Poetry Unplugged and Mahogany Poetry Series) and a poetry podcast called **Coffee and Poets**. Poetry podcast that interviews local poets on a small studio stage at Naked Lounge.

This month I am introducing a new page added to the zine: Sacramento Poetry Slam Page. The Sacramento poetry slam page will provide information on the monthly competition show at Luna's café every third Friday of the month. The show has music, food, drinks, and local performing poets battling to win the cash prize. If you got some powerful poem and performance charisma, then you should participate in the Poetry slam and leave with money in your hand.
~CharRon



Speak Out Sacramento

Speak Out Sacramento is the open mic show replacing Midtown Outloud at Shine Café. This show is run by three co-hosts, alternating throughout the night. Even though this open mic show is in its infancy at just five months old, it has picked up a large LGBTQA similar to its predecessor Midtown Outloud. Speak Out Sacramento allows musicians, poets, and even comics on the mic.

The new co-hosts seemed to have worked out some of the kinks from the old MOL show. While they have retained the “random order” call list for participants, they have more limits on time. Musical performers are limited to five minutes total, including their set up time. This has streamlined the show and the amount of time watching a guitarist trying to figure out the hook ups. Additionally, the new hosts are more aware of flow.

When a performer is taking a bit of time to set up, they will call a poet to perform from the floor and fill the time gap. This makes the show run faster and more smoothly.

Speak Out Sacramento continues the MOL tradition of collecting donations for local organizations. They have limited the time they spend taking about each organization during a show. While the audience still gets a good sense about the group they are being asked to support, the presentations are tighter and feel less labored.

Congrats to all three hosts for continuing a show that had a strong following and its absence would have left a gap. The changes made to the show so far have all been big improvements! Speak Out Sacramento maintains a Facebook page where they regularly post and update their followers about the show.

Meet the Hosts

Lawrence “NSAA” Dinkins is a Renaissance man: veteran poet, poetry show host, blogger, recording artist, photographer, graphic designer, Sac Poetry Board member, sketch artist, podcaster, videoblogger, entrepenuer and book author. A Detroit native, his portfolio life has made him an active artist in the Sacramento art and poetry scene.



He is a host of two long-standing poetry open mic shows (Joe Montoya Poetry Unplugged and Mahogany Poetry Series and co-hosts Third Thursday at the Central Public Library. His comedic host persona is refreshing in a politically driven city. He does not shy away from social and political commentary in his work. However, he brings a new voice to the topics of gender relationships, social inequality, and life as a Black man.

He collaborates with Ross Hammond to form the duo Electropoetic. They have produced two albums together. Nsaa writes and performs the lyrics while Ross provides the melodic background.

He has published several books including *Open Mic Sketchbook*. *Open Mic Sketchbook* includes his personal sketches and poems over a four year of hosting open mic shows. He also has an upcoming book called, *Poet City*, coming out in 2017.

NSAA hosts three podcasts: Black Talk Sacramento, Coffee & Poet and, The Nsaa Report. For more information on NSAA, visit his website at www.nsaa360.com.

His next appearance will be at Poet vs. Band. The event will be at Gold Lion Arts, 2733 Riverside Blvd on Sunday, June 11th, 3pm - 6pm. This month, performers will be helping NSAA celebrate his birthday!

For the full written interview, check out:
www.Reswonderland.com/Iambic

Monkey and Me
Ekphratic Poem for Art Piece
#256
NSAA

Can't you see it?
The monkey on my back
It sees you
Smearing feces in my ear
She says that you hate me
I don't believe her
Because you and I
Are like peas in a pod
Isn't that so?
Monkey says I'm
Overly optimistic
Abundantly kind and
Naively stupid

Monkey says
To stop calling her monkey
She says her last name
Is Donkey
She likes that video game
The one where
The primate is throwing crap
I mean barrels
At some crazy workman
Making his ass jump, jump, climb,
jump
She thinks it's a gas

Can't you see the monkey on my
back?
Pulling my hair
Causing me to nod yes
To everything you ask
Yes, you can borrow sugar
Yes, I can give you a ride
Yes, we can go to an empty field
Where I can burry you alive
All the while
Complimenting your shoes
“They look so great on you,
Shame you're going to get them
dirty”

Time
CharRon Smith

*Don't
Watch life's sand clock.
Tends to run
out of
time.*

River Walk
Rebecca Blanton

*Along the river's side
deep in the summer's heat
hand-in-hand with you
I heard my heartbeat.*

*It beat your name
pushed it past my lips,
Whispered “I love you,”
and then we kissed.*

*Sat on the damp bank
watching drowsy bugs fly
a perfect day
created just for you and I.*

Sacramento Slam Page

Welcome to Sacramento Slam page. A new page about the monthly poetry competition show where poets compete in two round bouts to receive high scores by Judges. The poet with the highest total score is the winner of the cash prize.

The Officials

The Slam Masters: Jennylynn and MC Sho Nuff

The Slam show host: (2014 Sac Slam team member) Ike Torres of the Sacramento crew, ZFG.

Co-host and show DJ: (2016 Sac Slam team member) CharRon Smith aka Resolution.

Our Timer and Scorer: Greg aka Sheets.

The Show

The seats were filled, judges were picked, host was ready, DJ was plugged in, and participates have signed in and paid. We have 6 poets on the list that will be competing for \$30 grand prize. After an hour and a half of Spoken Word performances, judging, music interludes, and more sacrificial poets than the show allowed, we have a winner: Surayyah, a new face in Sacramento from Delaware.

Congratulation, **Surayyah**. You are May Sacramento Slam Champion. We hope she participates in June Sac Slam to defend her title but until then, keep writing and performing, Poet!

Honorable mentions to NSAA, CharRon, and Yeshayah King Yisrael for being Sacrificial Poets.

The Sacramento Slam is performed at Luna's Café every third Friday of the month.



Apocalypse Sideshow

By Jenny D.

When oppressed it can often be difficult to accept understanding when the ally shares the same face of the oppressor.

Hollow bullet points leave chalk outlines around our demise we will not heal with hashtags.

Apocalypse survivors are off the grid prepping for the division. Sewer dwelling cubicle escape artist dismantling the concept of mainstream with steampunk solution diagramed out on post it notes. Sleeping under these bridges is taking its toll, now we are strung out in the intersection.

My Streaming consciousness becoming quite the insanity sideshow. Donut around problems, figure eights we all spin our wheels trying to wrap minds around the concept of infinity. Instead little things eat us alive like bedbugs, constantly sweating bullets labeled small stuff. Passive aggressive abrasion wearing away any hope for compromises.

Their organization breeds a blue suffocating anxiety in me, it's festers in me silently watching them restructuring bad ideas into a plausible reality expelling energy into counter productivity. Just an overly aware outsider observing the mission, no choice but to work smart not hard with logic in times of contention.

Coping with life through artificial memes of inspiration and common knowledge is no longer a cure for the systemic plague of redundant behavior...call me mental but I'd be crazy to keep cycling through this dysfunctional embrace fight back.

Jenny Davison is a Slam Master, competing in slam around the United States. She hosts Joe Montoya's Poetry Unplugged the first Monday of every month, Woke Wednesday at Sacramento City College, the monthly Slam at Luna's, and more! You can find her on Twitter @916Jenny.



Sacramento Poetry Calendar June 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 7p Rhythm & Poetry (8) \$10 8p Luna's Open Mic	2	3
4 12-5P OPOM (3)	5 7:30P Sac Poetry Center 9p Spotlight@ Blue Lamp \$5	6 7 8p Shout Out Sacramento (2) 10P Mahogany (4) \$5		8 7p Rhythm & Poetry (8) \$10 8 PM Luna's Open Mic	9	10 7p Poetry Cake (9) \$15
11 12-5P OPOM (3) 8P Plugged (7)	12 7:30P Sac Poetry Center 9p Spotlight@ Blue Lamp \$5	13 14 10P Mahogany (4) \$5		15 7p Rhythm & Poetry (8) \$10 8P Luna's Open Mic	16	17
18 12-5P OPOM (3)	19 7P Hot Poetry in the Park @ Fremont Park: 16 th & Q St	20 21 8p Shout Out Sacramento (2) 10P-1A Mahogany (4) \$5		22 7p Rhythm & Poetry (8) \$10 8p Luna's Open Mic	23	24
25 12-5P OPOM (3)	26 7:30 Sac Poetry Center 9p Spotlight@ Blue Lamp \$5	27 28 10P-1A Mahogany (4) \$5		29 7p Rhythm & Poetry (8) \$10 8p Luna's Open Mic	30	

(1)Luna's Cafe 1414 16th Street; (2) Shine Café 1400 E Street; (3) Oak Park Mic @33rd Street & Broadway outside; (4) Queen of Sheba 1714 Broadway; (5) Sac City College 2825 Freeport Blvd; (6) Sac Poetry Center 1719 25th Street; (7) Sol Collective, 2574 21st Street; (8) Stellar Studios 202 23rd Street; (9) Brickhouse Gallery 2837 36th Street; Blue Lamp 1400 Alhambra