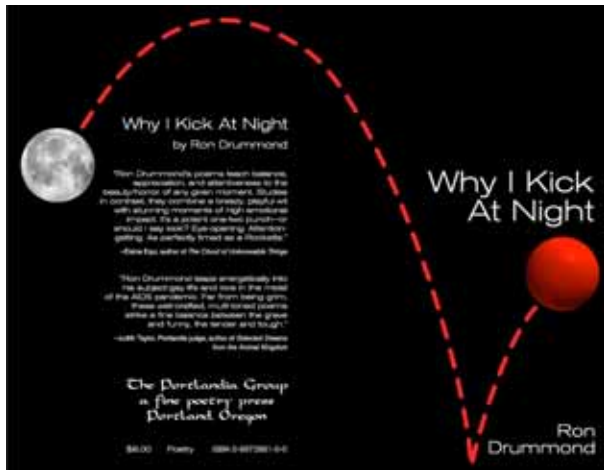


Why I Kick At Night

by Ron Drummond



The Portlandia Group, a fine poetry press, is pleased to announce the publication of Ron Drummond's first collection of poems. His book is the winner of the national 2004 Portlandia Chapbook Contest, selected by a panel of poets.

Ron Drummond leaps energetically into his subject—gay life and love in the midst of the AIDS pandemic. Far from being grim, these well-crafted, multi-toned poems strike a fine balance between the grave and funny, the tender and tough.

—Judith Taylor, Portlandia judge, author of *Selected Dreams from the Animal Kingdom*

Ron Drummond's poems teach balance, appreciation, and attentiveness to the beauty/horror of any given moment. Studies in contrast, they combine a breezy, playful wit with stunning moments of high emotional impact. It's a potent one-two punch -- or should I say kick? Eye-opening. Attention-getting. As perfectly timed as a Rockette.

—Elaine Equi, author of *The Cloud of Unknowable Things*

Drummond's work has appeared in many journals, including *Northwest Review*, *Columbia Review*, *Global City Review*, *California Quarterly*, *The Journal*, *Phoebe*, *Poetry New York*, *Harvard Gay & Lesbian Review*, *The Other Side* and *The James White Review*, and in the anthologies *Poetry Nation*, *Latin Lovers*, *Literature as Meaning*, *Poetry After 9.11*, and *This New Breed*. His translations, in collaboration with Guillermo Castro, of poems by Olga Orozco have appeared in *U.S. Latino Review* and *Terra Incognita*. He lives in New York City.

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