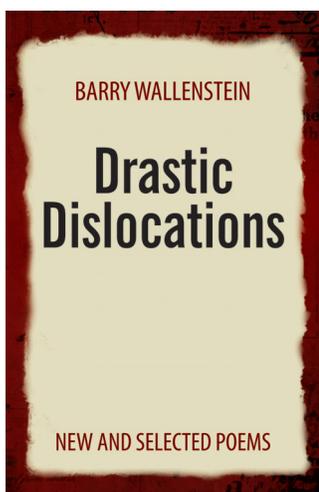


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## NYQ Books™ announces the publication of *Drastic Dislocations* by Barry Wallenstein



February 15, 2011 - New York, NY - NYQ Books™ is proud to announce the publication of *Drastic Dislocations* by Barry Wallenstein. "Drastic Dislocations" is the title poem of the section of new poems in this Selected Poems by Barry Wallenstein, and this title is consistent with many of his concerns registered in the poetry he began writing in his teens. His first publications were in the old *Transatlantic Review* in 1964, but it wasn't until 1977 that BOA Editions published his first book of poems, *Beast is a Wolf with Brown Fire*. This new volume includes the author's choices from each of his six previous books, poems reflecting the socio-political life of the time as well as the perennial, transcendent themes of eros and thanatos. For the past 40 years this poet, who was also a professor of modern poetry at the City University of New York for that many years, has worked closely with jazz artists in the performance and recording of his work.

"There is an off-handed canniness of phrasing about these poems, a way of registering both emotional freight and the time it takes to carry it, that identifies a Barry Wallenstein poem right away. It's a tribute, I suspect, to his lifelong love of jazz, and the source of both jazz and poetry, the syncopated heart." —William Matthews

"Barry Wallenstein's voice is unique in American poetry: magic, seductive, cryptic, a little demonic, definitely sexy, as if some perfume from Les Fleurs du Mal clung to its overtones. Very cool, very hot, a down-low jazz—made, nonetheless, 'of chinks and thin armor.'" —Alicia Ostriker

"[It's] a pure distillation, vivid, buoyant, and serious. What it distills is the whole psyche of an illusionless dreamer, a man of the present moment, very American yet a blood-brother to modern Mediterranean poets as well." —M. L. Rosenthal

"Barry Wallenstein's poems, intense and yet restrained, immediate and yet casual, sing out of love and pathos while whispering of decay. *Drastic Dislocations* offers many pleasures; among them the capacity for joy despite the full knowledge of life's limitations." —Grace Schulman

"Barry Wallenstein's poems animate times of radical contingency. His characters celebrate huge cities on the point of collapse, love affairs that deepen as they become physical. Even his voice seems to have materialized from a Lucky Thompson solo, torn between jubilee and despair, haunted by a little too much wisdom. *Drastic Dislocations* is a magisterial collection, the record of a life transformed by the poetic imagination." —D. Nurkse

NYQ Books™ was established in 2009 as an imprint of The New York Quarterly Foundation, Inc. Its mission is to augment the *New York Quarterly* poetry magazine by providing an additional venue for poets who are already published in the magazine.

