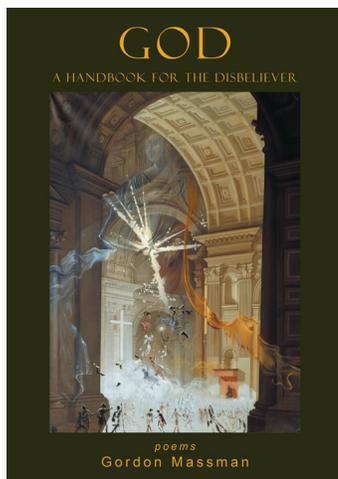


Press Release

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NYQ Books™ Announces the Publication of *God: A Handbook for the Disbeliever* by Gordon Massman



August 21, 2017 - New York, NY - NYQ Books™ is proud to announce the publication of *God: A Handbook for the Disbeliever* by Gordon Massman. As Massman explains, “For decades, a certain photograph—I don’t know who took the picture—has been lodged in my mind of an ash-smearing, half-naked, crazed-looking man peering through a thicket of brambles in what might be called *The Wilderness of No God*. He looks tragically alone, bereft, cut loose from the comforting anchors of religious faith, and yet he seems surprisingly tranquil. In this collection, I have transcribed the poems—I think of them as songs—which I believe this man sings in the depths of his heart. Yes, his *Mystical Faith Exploded in the Midst of a Cathedral*, but after years of wandering, he has found joy, coherence, cohesion—his voice. I have titled this book *God: A Handbook for the Disbeliever* because I think of it as a comforting treasury of verses for all of us who travel this treacherous journey of life alone.”

XV.

God breaks sound barrier, achieves light
 speed, then exceeds that, punching through
 infinitely outstretching infinite universes
 at increasing acceleration galvanizing all
 into one quavering singing thread which
 flashes indescribable enlightenment—
 selflessness, purity wonderment, love—
 into Jesus Christ of Nazareth’s holy spirit.
 I’m scratching a fly bite on my crack
 while pondering a nasty weed infestation.

NYQ Books published Gordon Massman’s previous three volumes: *0.174: The Complete Numbers Cycle; Love; and Death*. After receiving his MFA from The University of Alaska over forty years ago numerous journals in the U.S. and Canada have published his work. Formerly from Plainfield, Massachusetts, he now lives in Camden, Maine with his Portuguese Water Dog Finnegan.

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.

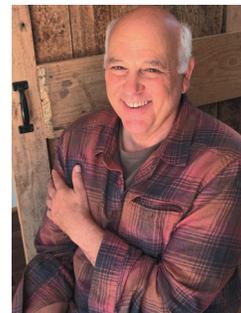


photo by Shari Katz