The Backwaters Press is proud to announce that CarolAnn Russell's latest collection, Gypsy Taxí, is available. Gypsy taxí is a significant addition to Russell's already impressive body of work.





Richard Robbins, author of *Famous Persons We Have Known*, writes about *Gypsy Taxi*: "Travel may release us from daily obligations but not from any central pain or loneliness. CarolAnn Russell's poems remind us of this, even as they give themselves over to foreign places, searching in Australia, for instance, for 'circular caves/ Where the songs come from,' for landscapes from which she can emerge 'as rock fingerprinted/with spirit.' And they rejoice especially in the welter of Rome, where navigating the streets, a difficult language, any slight interchange with another, is seen as part of the city's continuing seduction. Ultimately, it's in the middle of that wondrous confusion where even grief can be addressed. From an ancient Rome cemetery, she invites the reader to 'Blow a kiss with me/To the ashes/ The beautiful bodies/Death has dazzled into sleep.' The poet moves on, choosing life time after time, its 'one flesh,' its 'dance upon the shield.'"

Quinton Duvall, author of *Dinner Music* and *Joe's Rain*, writes: "In these poems, CarolAnn Russell travels the world bearing witness to the pain and the bliss, the suffering that lives next door to paradise. In poems of passionate spirit, she is always searching for the 'Flaming heart/At the heart of things/That keeps us human.'"

John Morgan writes: "Lush, yet precise, CarolAnn Russell's poems travel great emotional distances, crossing borders of the spirit and the globe. Whether in Australia or halfway around the world, in Italy, they dive into the waters of the heart, and swim with intelligence and grace."

Fred Moramarco, editor of *Poetry International*, writes: "*Gypsy Taxi* is a marvelous collection. Get in the Gypsy Taxi in Rome and go for a ride!"

CarolAnn Russell has published 4 full-length collections of poetry, 3 chapbooks, and a letterpress broadside anthology. Her poems have appeared in numerous literary journals including *Notre Dame*, *Poetry Northwest* and *VIA*. Russell lives in Bemidji, Minnesota with her husband, writer and artist Michael Schlemper.

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