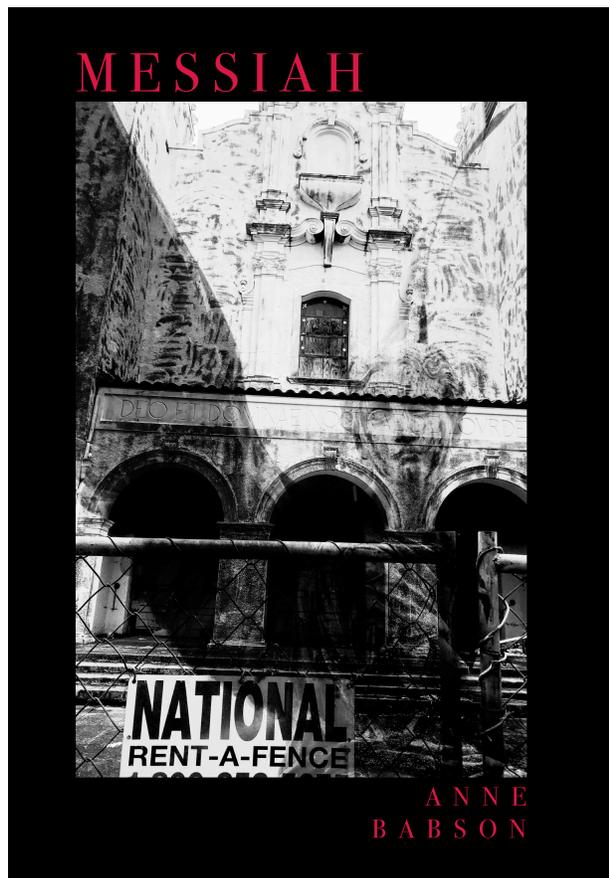


Houston, Texas – September 12, 2019 – Press Release: Saint Julian Press is proud to announce a new book of poetry. *MESSLAH*, by author Anne Babson will be published on November 15, 2019.

MESSLAH discovers fresh hope in the American landscape despite contemporary catastrophes, finds radical forgiveness despite our brokenness, and it expresses itself in the cadence of Jeremiad and jazz. Quoting scripture liberally, it is at once a work of metaphysical poetry and a subversion, proclaiming against all odds a conspiracy of love. It howls prophesy even as it bops to America's indestructible beats.



Anne Babson's *Messiah* takes an energetic leap of faith into sound and spirit. This is the Bible on acid, King James' cadence meets a jazzy barbaric yawp that is distinctly American. Babson knows her way around the testaments—old and new—and insists the stories they contain are relevant for our times. She invites us to “Live powerfully, strongly kneeling, singing!” Reader, be you heathen or believer, you may find yourself saying *Amen*.

—Grace Bauer
Author of *The Women At The Well*
and *MEAN/TIME*

Anne Babson's *MESSLAH* is heady, whirling, and nothing short of ecstatic. It is a must read for fans of poetry who wish to be utterly transported.

—Maurice Carlos Ruffin
Author of *We Cast a Shadow: A Novel*

Anne Babson's *Messiah* begins in the throes of a storm, then picks up velocity poem by poem. These lines roar with the truth, as if delivered from the lips of an Old Testament prophet who's seen the sins of this modern world. There are wars here, economic peril, political corruption, drug abuse, environmental demise,

everything society has wrought in this world. There is also the clarity of a poet who's reckoned these things so clearly, they've burned a path for us toward redemption. These poems sing, they growl, they hiss, and they re-envision history and future in ways necessary to redemption today.

—Jack B. Bedell
Poet Laureate, State of Louisiana, 2017-2019

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Anne Babson's collection *The White Trash Pantheon* won the Colby H. Kullman prize. Her collection *Polite Occasions* was featured at the 2018 Louisiana Book Festival. She wrote the libretto for the opera *Lotus Lives*, which has been performed in multiple cities in the United States and Canada. Her play about gun culture in the South, *Reenactment*, was published by *Review Americana*. She is the author of four chapbooks — the latest of which, *Dolly Shot*, was published by Dancing Girl Press. She has been anthologized in the United

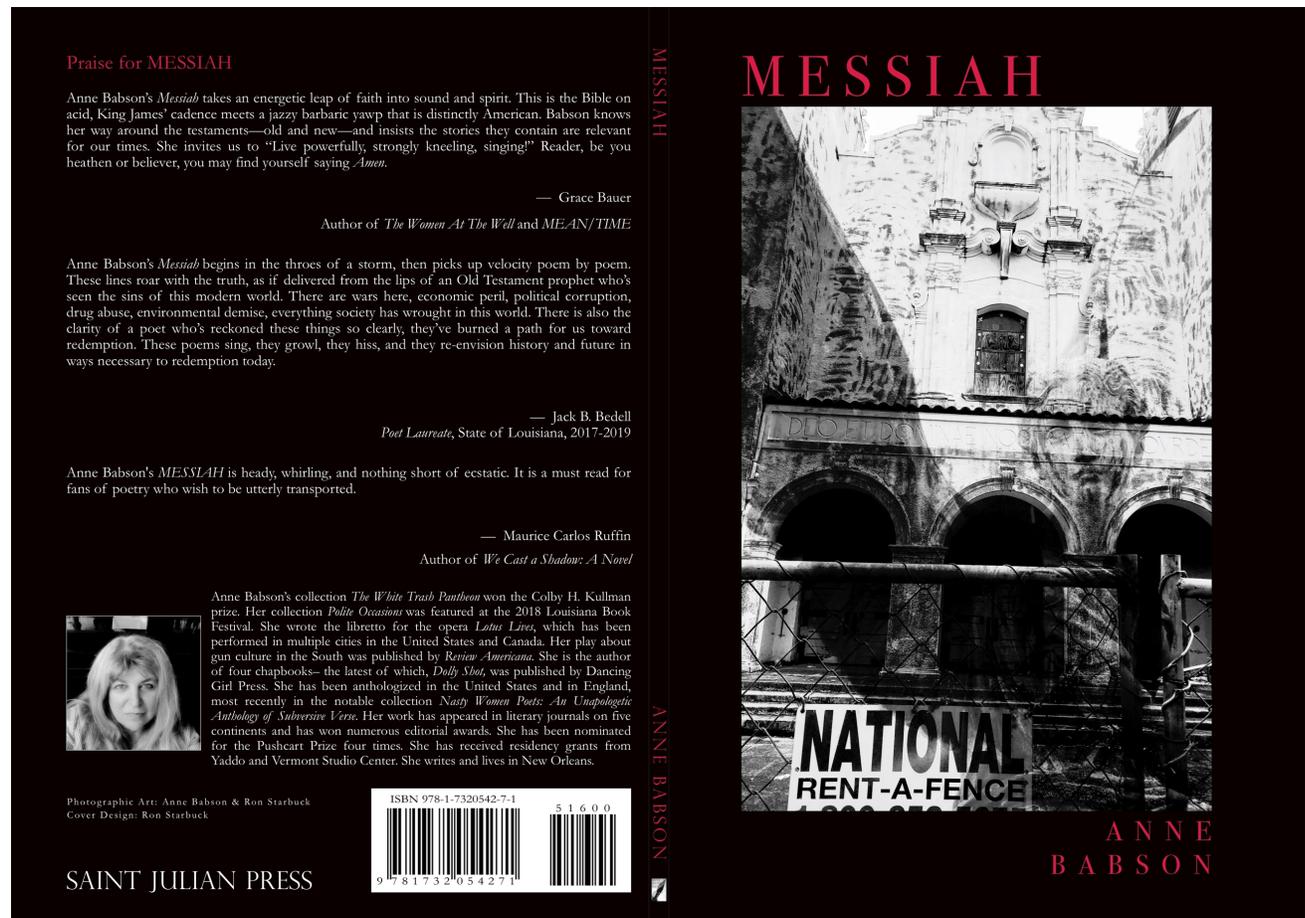
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States and in England, most recently in the notable collection *Nasty Women Poets: An Unapologetic Anthology of Subversive Verse*. Her work has appeared in literary journals on five continents and has won numerous editorial awards. She has been nominated for the Pushcart Prize four times. She has received residency grants from Yaddo and Vermont Studio Center. She writes and lives in New Orleans.

Visit her Amazon author page at: <https://www.amazon.com/Anne-Babson/e/B00XLAEN1I/>.

And her web site: <http://www.annebabson.com>.



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