

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Contact:** M'Bilia Meekers 225.578.5104 / mmeekers@lsu.edu

## **New Poetry from Pleiades Press**

**Baton Rouge**—In October and November, Pleiades Press releases a new poetry collection from E.J. Koh and a new collection of poetry comics from Mita Mahato, distributed by LSU Press.

**A Lesser Love** presents poems of love and departure for romantic partners, family members, and even national citizens. Raised around diasporic Korean communities, E. J. Koh describes her work as deeply influenced by the idea of *jeong*, which can be translated as a deep attachment, bond, and reciprocity for places, people, and things. The spirit of *jeong* permeates this collection as each poem draws astonishing connections and illuminates the bonds that hold across time and place.

**E.J. Koh**'s poems have appeared in *Boston Review, World Literature Today, TriQuarterly, Southeast Review, Columbia Review, Narrative, PEN America*, and elsewhere. She has received fellowships from Kundiman, The MacDowell Colony, Napa Valley Writers' Conference, Vermont Studio Center, and the Jack Straw Writers Program. She earned her MFA at Columbia University in New York for Creative Writing and Literary Translation in Korean and Japanese. She is completing her PhD in English Literature at the University of Washington. She lives in Seattle, Washington.

16 October 2017 / 80 pages, 6 x 9 / 978-0-8071-6777-9 Paper \$17.95 / Distributed for Pleiades Press / Poetry

Mita Mahato is one of handful of artists and writers whose visionary work is defining the new genre of Poetry Comics. *In Between* is a collection of pieces that bring together simple, elegant expressions of thought and emotion with dreamlike mixed media artworks. There are comics that reflect on grief for a loved one who has died of cancer and others that explore ideas of inspiration and surrealist delight. Others combine whimsical word play with visually absurd witticisms. Each work in this volume stretches the definition of what a comic can be, as well as expectations for how much genuine feeling words and pictures on a page can hold.

**Mita Mahato**'s cut paper art and comics explore the transformative capacities of found and handmade paper using layered shapes, textures, and colors that together build multivalent images and stories. Her cut paper comic "Sea" was recognized by Cartoonists NW as 2015's "best comic book" and will be the subject of continued work during her participation in the Arctic Circle Residency in 2017. Her comics and collaborative projects have been spotlighted by *The Stranger, Seattle Review of Books,* and *AV Club.* She is Associate Professor of English at the University of Puget Sound, serves on the board for Short Run Seattle, and teaches art workshops for Seattle Aquarium's Creativity Inspiring Conservation program, Henry Art Gallery's ArtVenture program, and other community organizations.

 $06\ November\ 2017\ /\ 80\ pages,\ 7\ x\ 10\ /\ 978-0-8071-6778-6$  Paper  $20.00\ /\ Distributed$  for Pleiades Press/Pleiades Press Visual Poetry Series / Poetry

To request a review copy or set up an interview with the author, please contact M'Bilia Meekers at <a href="mmeekers@lsu.edu">mmeekers@lsu.edu</a>.

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