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New Poetry from LSU Press

New Books from Stephen Cushman and T.R. Hummer

Baton Rouge—This April, LSU Press releases new poetry collections from Stephen Cushman and T.R. Hummer.

Hothead is a haibun-patterned, book-length declamation in which no topic is off limits—Buddha, Jesus, Lincoln, America, global warming, eros, mental illness, the natural world, technology, the aging body. Cushman's poetry shows us how to live in a world in which it is difficult to balance "the place where light and dark meet." With an outmoded laptop named Patience as his daily consort, the speaker navigates through themes of love, politics, and belief. "There's got to be someone," Cushman writes, "exploring the way," and the speaker of *Hothead* steps in to fill those shoes with intelligence, endurance, moxie, and humility.

A native New Englander, Stephen Cushman has written several volumes of poetry, two books of literary criticism, and two studies of the Civil War. He is also the general editor of the fourth edition of the *Princeton Encyclopedia of Poetry and Poetics*. He is Robert C. Taylor Professor of English at the University of Virginia and lives in Charlottesville.

April 2018 / 104 pages, 6 x 9 / 978-0-8071-6782-3 Paper \$19.95, ebook available / LSU Press Paperback Original / Poetry

A poetic study of the eternal, T. R. Hummer's new collection *Eon*, as with the other volumes in this trilogy—*Ephemeron* and *Skandalon*—offers meditations on the brief arc of our existence, death, and beyond. With vivid, corporeal imagery and metaphysical flourishes, the poet explores how the dead influence the ways we understand ourselves. Anchored with a series of poems that can be read as extended epitaphs, the collection closes with a gesture toward the redemptive power of love. In the tradition of Rainer Maria Rilke, Emily Dickinson, and Philip Levine, *Eon* shows us the power of being "simple expressions of our earth. It imagined us, / And was imagined by something nameless in return."

Born on a farm in rural Mississippi, T. R. Hummer is the author of fourteen books of poetry and essays. Former editor of the *Georgia Review* and the *Kenyon Review*, he is a Guggenheim fellow in poetry and has won numerous awards for his work.

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