

From the Editor

Welcome to the fourth issue of *Drumlummon Views*, the online journal of Montana arts and culture. For those of you who have followed *DV* from our beginnings in 2006, you will have noticed that our progress has been slow but steady. We had originally envisioned publishing three issues of *DV* per year, but it's become clear that one and possibly two issues per year is more nearly realistic, given the limits on our time and energy. We take some solace in the fact that each issue of *DV* is truly substantial, essentially the equivalent of a large book. And we are grateful for the patience and kindness of our supporters, readers, and contributors.

Speaking of books, Drumlummon Institute has launched its book publishing program with two titles, *Food of Gods and Starvelings: The Selected Poems of Grace Stone Coates* (2007) and *Notes for a Novel: The Selected Poems of Frieda Fligelman* (2008). These two books, in turn, launch our DRUMLUMMON MONTANA LITERARY MASTERS SERIES. A reissue of Thomas Savage's first novel, *The Pass*, with an introduction by O. Alan Weltzien and published in collaboration with Riverbend Publishing, will join the series in Winter 2009.

In 2009, Drumlummon is also publishing, in collaboration with Bedrock Editions, another long-nurtured book project, *Splendid on a Large Scale:*

The Writings of Hans Peter Koch, Montana Territory, 1869–1874, edited by historian Kim Allen Scott. A first publication of Grace Stone Coates' second novel, *Clear Title*, with an introduction by Caroline Patterson, is also in the works.

Finally, we have begun a series of offprints from *Drumlummon Views*, featuring essays and portfolios of particular interest. The first is Patty Dean's superbly researched and illustrated essay on architect Cass Gilbert and his designs for the Montana Club. The second is a portfolio of Patricia Forsberg's marvelous Japanese drawings, with an accompanying essay; this first venture into color books by Drumlummon can be ordered at <http://www.blurb.com/bookstore/detail/313138>. To order any of Drumlummon's books and offprints, go to <http://www.drumlummon.org/html/Books-Offprints.html>.

Like its predecessors, this issue of *Drumlummon Views* ranges over a multiplicity of terrains. We have expanded our offerings of original works, with substantial selections of fiction and poetry, together with a moving memoir by O. Alan Weltzien and an insightful interview with artist Wes Mills.

Our visual arts section features a cautionary essay by ceramist Chris Staley on the shrinking role for the hand—and full range of our senses—in the making of art today and a portfolio of Richard Buswell’s singular photographs, with an essay by Julian Cox, curator of photography at the High Museum, Atlanta. We also feature a film and essay celebrating the art and life of the late, great Montana sculptor, Rudy Autio (1927–2007). And in our “Travels & Translations” section, we feature the abovementioned portfolio of Patricia Forsberg’s Japanese drawings, together with a story set in East Africa by Montana agronomist Gilles Stockton.

We continue our coverage of science and health issues with an excerpt from a lengthy biographical essay on Montana biophysicist Jeff Holter, who developed the now-ubiquitous Holter Heart Monitor in his Helena laboratory. Nicholas Vrooman acknowledges the importance of the Indian Education for All initiative, and we continue our serialization of Ada Melville Shaw’s homesteading memoir, “Cabin O’Wildwinds.” Our Literature section ranges from the creation of post-revisionist western fiction (like Karen Fisher’s *A Sudden Country*) to the development of western literature by such figures as playwright Bert Hansen and novelist Caroline Lockhart. Poetics scholar Robert

Baker contributes a lovely meditation on Theodore Roethke’s poem, “The Waking.”

Thank you for your interest in *Drumlummon Views*—the last twelve months have seen downloads of more than 30,000 files from the Drumlummon site. Please continue to let us know how we’re doing. And watch for our Spring 2009 issue, due out in May, which will focus on the built environment and landscapes of Butte and Anaconda, Montana (in conjunction with the June national meeting in Butte of the Vernacular Architecture Forum); this issue is a collaboration with the Montana Preservation Alliance, and its guest editor is public historian Patty Dean.

If you’d like to join our Drumlummon Alerts email list, send an email to that effect to info@drumlummon.org

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This issue of Drumlummon Views is dedicated to the memory of Margaret Regan Gans (1922–2008), whose support of Drumlummon Institute was unstinting.