
THE EXHIBITIONIST

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Cover

Gray Rain (Niagara Falls, Canada)

Eric Allen Jacobson



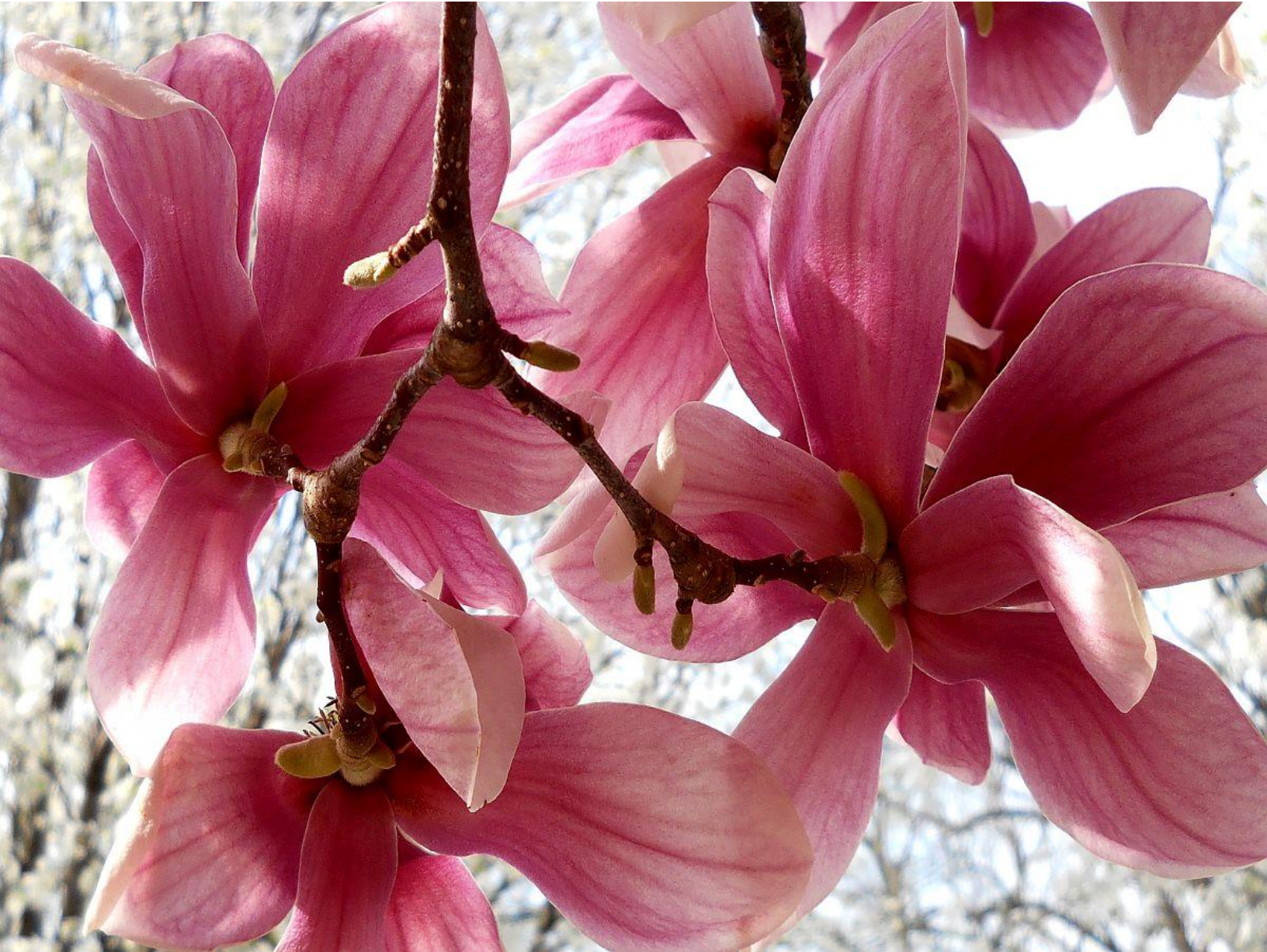
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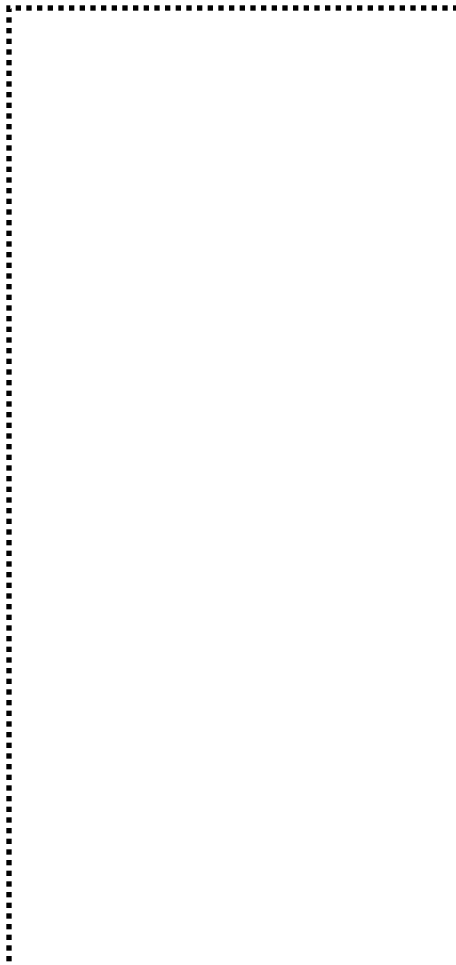
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Pink Magnolias

karen ball





Karen is a Texan who currently lives in the state of Missouri in the United States. She is an artist who works in several media. To make her art original, Karen often takes many photos. She uses bits and pieces of several photographs to compile a complete painting. Along the way, she comes across photos that simply stand on their own.



View Through A Cellophane Wrapper

lance hawvermale

You have been not so much killed
as butchered; you have not so much bled
as cried. You have donated your tears

to that charity online that brings water
to empty African throats.
Your bones have assumed double duty

as chalk dust and grout for the tiles.
Your eyes, damn those green eyes,
dangle from a Malibu's mirror.

Your skin proved too thin for a coat
so we're stretching it on Navajo
drums; that scar across your chest

I loved to tongue resembles their
letter for hope. We saved your brain.
Not a scalpel exists that can slice it,

nor any laser to pare away the Holy
Ghost of your guilt; we shall wrap it
transparently so no one will ever forget.



Lance published his first two novels under the pseudonym of Erin O'Rourke. He released his third novel, a murder mystery titled *The Tongue Merchant*, under his own name - and he hasn't looked back since. His writing has won over 20 awards. His novel *Fugitive Shoes* was named to the University of Oklahoma's "Books That Inspire" exhibit. Currently an Assistant Professor of English at Ranger College in Texas, USA, Lance teaches film, poetry, and creative writing courses.



A Puccini Dream

robert ferrier

A Steinway upright corners
my grandmother's parlor.
As a boy I hid there and
fell prey to a 3 p.m. nap.

The notes awoke,
bearing the boy across
land and sea to the shore
of an Italian lake where
a man with a shotgun
stared down at slain ducks.

Giacomo Puccini wore
boots and hunting pants.
His mustache dripped
the memory of rain
as blood salted the lake.

The boy felt the music
coursing through him
and stared at the ducks,
displayed like crimson
speckled piano keys.

Fishing boats trawled the lake
and a watchtower flashed

gold as the sun crept
over the mountains,
warming the vineyards
and wafting from the hills
a scent of thyme.

The boy could not fathom
the language of the music
yet he felt the plea
and turned to Puccini.
"What are they singing?"

"Nessun dorma.
"No one shall sleep."

The boy watched the wind
ruffling wings and asked
"Why am I here?"

"The notes," said Puccini.
"They make a bridge."

The boy wept
with the music
and for the ducks.
"Why kill them?"

Puccini turned
to the tower,
now his home.

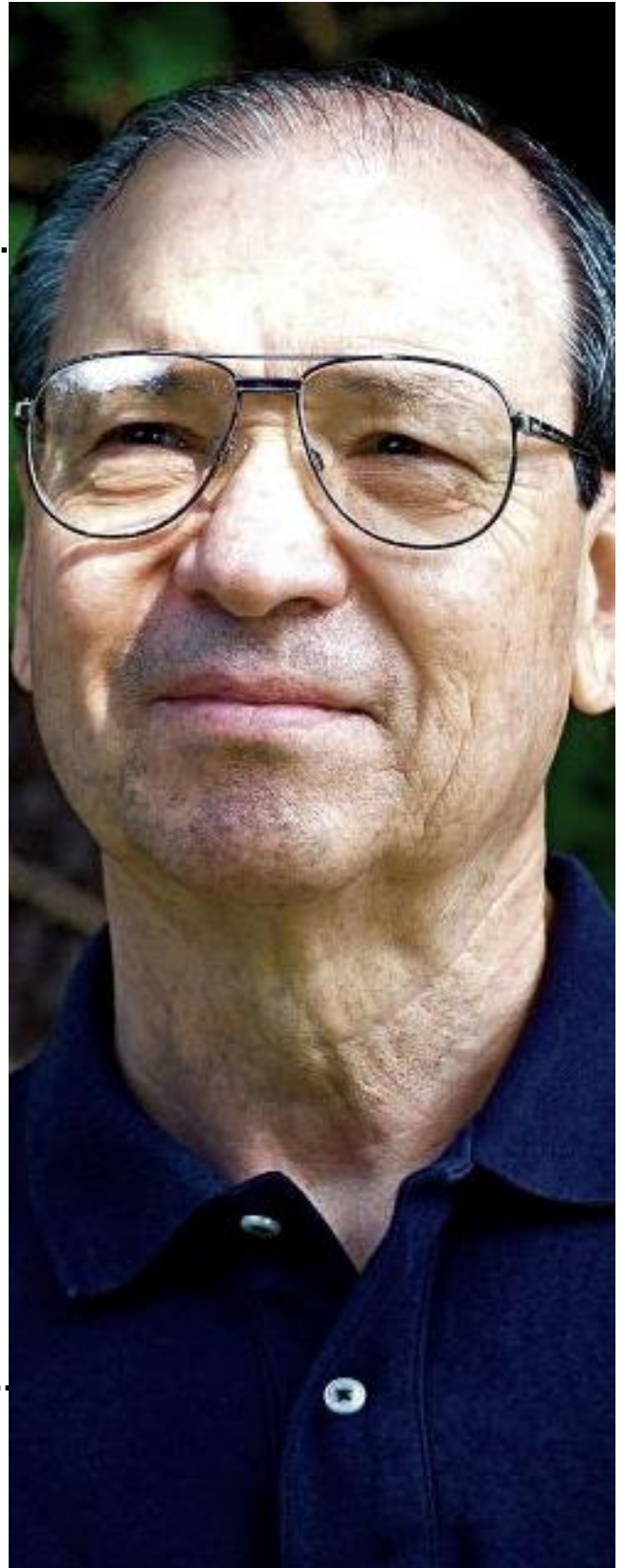


"To flee ghosts
and measures
begging for notes."

The music lifted
the boy again until
man and lake and ducks
faded as the dream died
in an eddy of notes
behind the piano.

Now I scan every stage
for a Steinway.





Robert's poetry has appeared in *Oklahoma Today*, *Möbius*, *The Mid-America Poetry Review*, *Blood and Thunder*, *Broomweed Journal*, *Crosstimbers*, *Westview* and *Metro Library Magazine*. His books, *Rhythms* and *Ambient Light*, each won the Oklahoma Writer's Federation Inc. award for Best Published Book of Poetry. He was a 2007 nominee for Poet Laureate of Oklahoma in the US.

Untitled

eric allen jacobson



Cira Centre at Night (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA)



Sacred Church (Church of Santa Maria del Fiore - Florence, Italy)



Eric grew up in Connecticut in the United States and has been taking photos for over thirty years. He is also a published writer of poetry, children's books, and inspirational books. Eric's writing usually begins with a photo that inspires him to write. Eric and his wife Joy live in in the American state of Pennsylvania.

Black is the Night

amanda ball

Amanda doesn't use photographs as part of her writing career.

Black is the night
Floating, aimlessly
unseeing
Getting there
destination - unknown

Trust

Black is the night
Master plan,
predestined path
blind
One step
closer - benediction

Faith

Black is the night
Living on, hope
finding
Arrival there
Waking - seeing



Amanda lives for creativity. She describes herself as a musician/author/filmmaker/playwright/actor/photographer. She plays piano. She acts in movies. She writes romance novels and mystery novels and movie scripts and stageplays. She creates video projects with her best friend. And, oh yeah...she writes a poem on occasion. Amanda was born in Texas in the United States but lives in the American state of Oklahoma. She considers both states home.



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<http://thexbt.wordpress.com/submissions/>

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