

C & C Press Artists' Book: *In the Face of It*
Poems & Woodcuts by Gary Young

In the Face of It is a 2008 C & C Press artists' book containing original poems and woodcuts by poet, professor and book artist Gary Young of the Greenhouse Review Press. The book is dedicated to Elizabeth Sanchez (1927-2005), Young's close friend and mentor. This series of poems is a response to her death.

The letterpress printed title, "IN THE FACE OF IT" on the folds of the pages stack to create the illusion that the title has been printed directly onto the spine of the book. The operation of this "printing on the fold", as experienced over time within the book form, is cohesive with the book's subject matter in two ways:

As the reader turns the pages of the book, the poems and woodcuts are printed on every other page. The book's title is then printed on the fold of the remaining blank pages. The end result is that the topic of Elizabeth's death is visually "in the face of" the viewer at all times throughout the reading.

As the reader progresses through the book, the printed title on the fold begins at the top of the letterforms. As the pages are turned, and the poems are read, the registration of the title slowly moves towards the foot of the letterforms. As the reader reaches the end of the book, the title moves off the bottom of the fold and comes to a visual resolution. This action is conceptually linked to the poet's grieving process. By writing the series of poems in *In the Face of It*, the poet was able to gradually come to terms with his friend's death.

Gary Young has been the recipient of grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Vogelstein Foundation and the California Arts Council. He has also been named the first poet Laureate of Santa Cruz County. He has received a Pushcart Prize, twice won grants from the National Endowments for the Arts, and his book of poems, *The Dream of a Moral Life*, won the James D. Phelan Award. He is the author of several other collections of poetry, including *Hands*, *Braver Deeds*, winner of the Peregrine Smith Poetry Prize, and *No Other Life*, which won the 2003 William Carlos Williams Award. He was also recently awarded the Shelley Memorial Award by the Poetry Society of America. Gary's work is represented in numerous collections, including the Museum of Modern Art, the Victoria and Albert Museum, the John Hay Library and the Getty Center for the Arts.

The binding consists of C & C Press handmade paper end sheets and cover panels with a flat lap loop signature sewing structure. The text was printed on a Chandler & Price Platten Press using 11 Point Dante. Print on the fold of the spine was printed on a Vandercook SP20 using Dante Titling. The woodcuts were printed by Gary Young at Greenhouse Review Press on a Chandler and Price 10 x 15 Platten Press.

Book Size: 8.5" x 5.75" x 0.75"

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www.candcpress.com

Box Size: 9.25" x 6.5" x 1.5"

A Limited Edition of 170 copies.

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