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Featured Bookshelf: 2018 National Poetry Month

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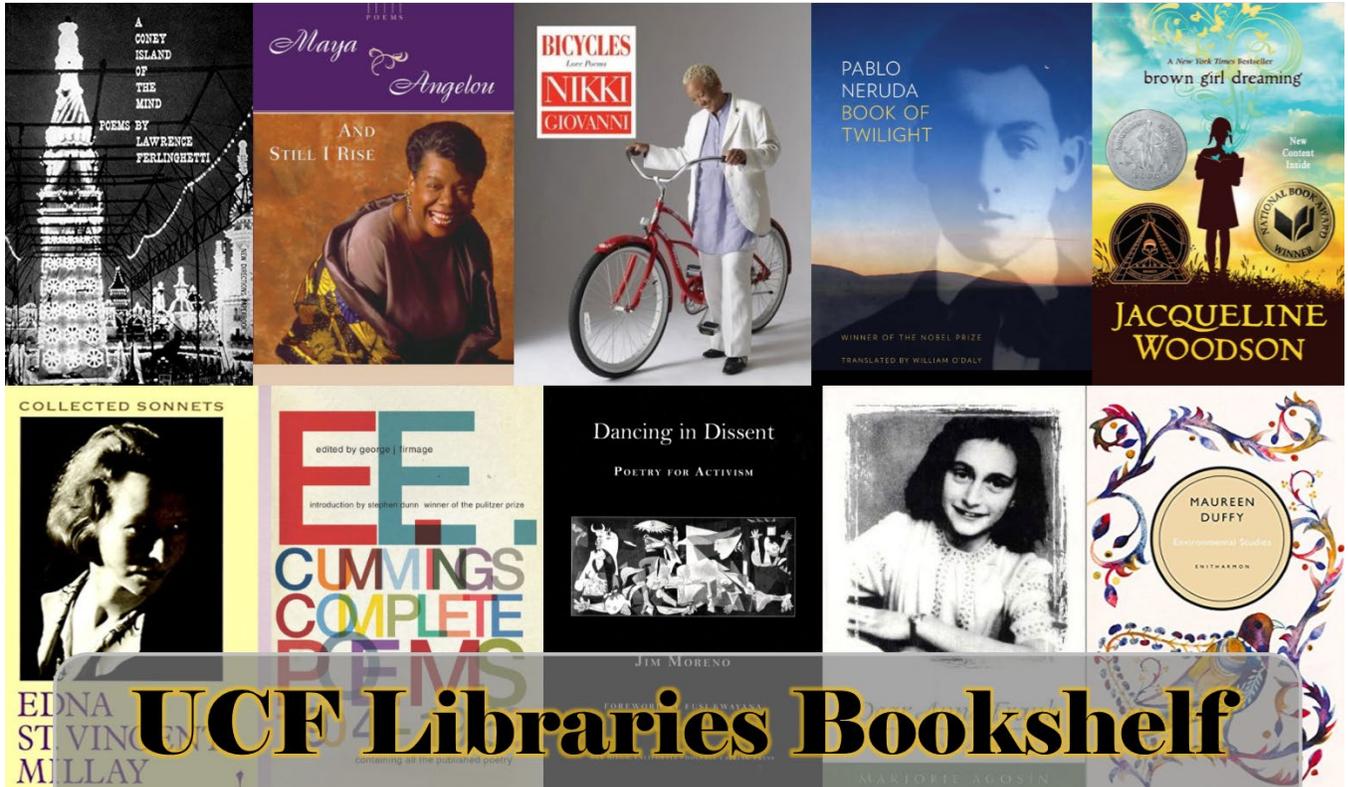
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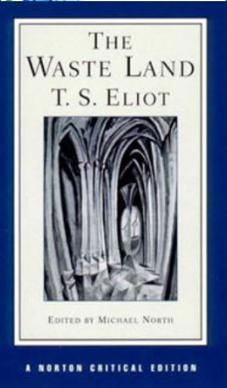
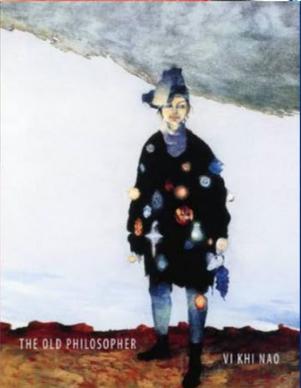
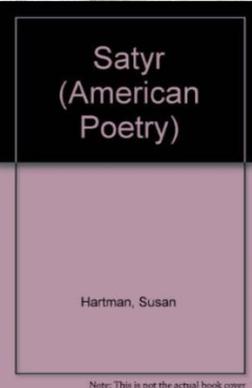
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UCF Libraries Bookshelf

National Poetry Month



YVES BONNEFOY *Together Still*
TRANSLATED BY MATT BIGNAL

What I've picked up is a letter, tossed
 Yesterday into the grass, beside the path.
 It has rained: the pages are stained with mud;
 Ink overflows from the words, illegible.

And yet the iridescence of these signs,
 Decomposed, now is almost light.
 The downpour has drenched a promise;
 The ink has become a puddle of sky.

Like this, let us love the words of the cloud:
 They too were a letter, and our lure;
 But light redeems them by passing through.

Shall I try to decipher these phrases? No:
 They are more to me, by coming undone.
 I dream that night is the breaking of day.

Note: This is not the actual book cover.

“If you are a dreamer, come in,
If you are a dreamer, a wisher, a liar,
A hope-er, a pray-er, a magic bean buyer...
If you’re a pretender, come sit by my fire
For we have some flax-golden tales to spin.
Come in!
Come in!”
-Shel Silverstein, [Where the Sidewalk Ends](#)

Welcome to National Poetry Month!

The Academy of American Poets, inspired by the success of Black History Month and Women’s History Month, created National Poetry Month in 1996. It is the largest literary celebration in the world and UCF Libraries are proud to do their part.

UCF Libraries have gathered suggestions for 20 books of poetry that are currently in the UCF collection. These works represent a wide range of favorite poetry books of our faculty and staff. These, and additional titles, are also on the Featured Bookshelf display on the second (main) floor next to the bank of two elevators.

Keep reading below to see the full descriptions and catalog links.

~

[A Coney Island of the Mind](#) by Lawrence Ferlinghetti

Includes 29 poems revolving around the title selections written for oral readings with jazz accompaniment and 13 previously published poems. The title of this book is taken from Henry Miller’s *Into the Night Life* and expresses the way Lawrence Ferlinghetti felt about these poems when he wrote them during a short period in the 1950s as if they were taken together a kind of Coney Island of the mind a kind of circus of the soul. The title of this book is taken from Henry Miller’s and expresses the way Lawrence Ferlinghetti felt about these poems when he wrote them during a short period in the 1950s as if they were taken together a kind of Coney Island of the mind a kind of circus of the soul.
Suggested by Brian Calhoun, Research & Information Services

[And Still I Rise](#) by Maya Angelou

Maya Angelou’s third book of verse. These poems are powerful, distinctive, and fresh—and, as always, full of the lifting rhythms of love and remembering. *And Still I Rise* is written from the heart, a celebration of life as only Maya Angelou has discovered it.
Suggested by Missy Murphey, Research & Information Services

[Bicycles: love poems](#) by Nikki Giovanni

With *Bicycles*, she’s collected poems that serve as a companion to her 1997 *Love Poems*. An instant classic, that book—romantic, bold, and erotic—expressed notions of love in ways that were delightfully unexpected. In the years that followed, Giovanni experienced losses both public and private. Collected poems that serve as a companion to Giovanni’s 1997 *Love Poems*. That book—romantic, bold, and erotic—expressed notions of love in ways that were delightfully unexpected. Giovanni rediscovered love—what

she calls the antidote. Here romantic love--and all its manifestations, the physical touch, the emotional pull, the hungry heart--is distilled as never before by one of our most talented poets.

Suggested by Missy Murphey, Research & Information Services

[Book of Twilight](#) by Pablo Neruda; William O'Daly (Translator)

When Nobel Laureate Pablo Neruda was a teenager, he pawned a family heirloom to fund the publication of his first book, *Book of Twilight*, which—until now—has never been published in its entirety in the United States. Presenting the highly romantic style refined and empowered in his later books, Neruda's debut introduces a bold poet unafraid to take risks, push boundaries, and write towards an unapologetic romanticism. Everything we know about Neruda—all his gestures, hyperbole, and effusiveness—appears vividly and for the first time in these poems. William O'Daly's superb English translations are presented with the original Spanish en face.

Suggested by Megan Haught, Teaching & Engagement/Research & Information Services

[Brown Girl Dreaming](#) by Jacqueline Woodson

Raised in South Carolina and New York, Woodson always felt halfway home in each place. In vivid poems, she shares what it was like to grow up as an African American in the 1960s and 1970s, living with the remnants of Jim Crow and her growing awareness of the Civil Rights movement. Touching and powerful, each poem is both accessible and emotionally charged, each line a glimpse into a child's soul as she searches for her place in the world. Woodson's eloquent poetry also reflects the joy of finding her voice through writing stories, despite the fact that she struggled with reading as a child. Her love of stories inspired her and stayed with her, creating the first sparks of the gifted writer she was to become.

Suggested by Brian Calhoun, Research & Information Services

[Collected Sonnets of Edna St. Vincent Millay](#) by Edna St. Vincent Millay

More than 180 sonnets selected from Millay's books of poems -- including 20 sonnets from *Mine the Harvest* not contained in previous editions of her *Collected Sonnets* -- are brought together in this new, expanded edition.

Suggested by Larry Cooperman, Research & Information Services

[Complete Poems: 1904-1962](#) by E.E. Cummings

Combining Thoreau's controlled belligerence with the brash abandon of an uninhibited bohemian, E. E. Cummings, together with Ezra Pound, T. S. Eliot, and William Carlos Williams, helped bring about the twentieth-century revolution in literary expression. Today Cummings is recognized as the author of some of the most sensuous lyric poems in the English language, as well as one of the most inventive American poets of his time. Formally fractured and yet gleefully alive and whole, at once cubistic and figurative, Cummings's work expanded the boundaries of what language is and can do. It includes 36 poems that were first collected in the 1991 edition and 164 unpublished poems issued in 1983 under the title *Etcetera*. It spans his earliest creations, his vivacious linguistic acrobatics, up through his last valedictory sonnets.

Suggested by Seth Dwyer, Circulation

[Dancing in Dissent: poetry for activism](#) by Jim Moreno

Dancing in Dissent is an artist-j's (artist and activist) collection of poetry resonating with the legacy of, speaking out against injustice and oppression. As you read this book as a community of peaceful dissent from a poet among poets "know that corporate amerikkka is not pleased."

Suggested by Sheila Green, Research & Information Services

[Dear Anne Frank: poems](#) by Marjorie Agosín

Poems in English and Spanish pay tribute to Anne Frank, noting her courage, love for life, and individuality in the face of painful experiences.

Suggested by Schuyler Kerby, Rosen Library

[Environmental Studies](#) by Maureen Duffy

Centered on environments – human, insect and animal – some experienced personally, some observed, some imagined. Though strictly contemporary in her concerns, she reaches back in her poetry to childhood, and beyond that in her imagination to cultural figures of the past – John Donne, Edward Elgar, Ralph Vaughan Williams, bringing them lucidly and vividly to life. There is a strong sense of compassion and fair play in her poems, reflecting Duffy's lifelong support for progressive social and political movements, and a beautiful lyricism and technical skill derived from her love of the classical world and Old and Mediaeval English. As so often in her work, London past and present provides the backdrop to her real and imagined life stories: of love and loss, forebears and friends, the humorous and sometimes painful experiences of old age.

Suggested by Christina Wray, Teaching & Engagement

[Even This Page is White](#) by Vivek Shraya

Vivek Shraya's debut collection of poetry is a bold and timely interrogation of skin—its origins, functions, and limitations. Poems that range in style from starkly concrete to limber break down the barriers that prevent understanding of what it means to be racialized. Shraya paints the face of everyday racism with words, rendering it visible, tangible and undeniable.

Suggested by Sara Duff, Acquisitions & Collections

[Hallowed: new and selected poems](#) by Patricia Fargnoli

Featuring selections from Patricia Fargnoli's four previous books along with twenty-four new poems, here is a celebration of poetic endurance, filled with quietly distinctive cadences and images closely seen, now freshly understood.

Suggested by Megan Haught, Teaching & Engagement/Research & Information Services

[I'm So Fine: a list of famous men and what I had on](#) by Khadijah Queen

Part 1980s and 1990s nostalgia, part exuberant storytelling, I'm So Fine: A List of Famous Men & What I Had On turns a sharply humorous magnifying glass onto gendered interactions in daily life, framed primarily by random celebrity encounters in Los Angeles. Far from a narrative of fame-chasing or conceit, however, I'm So Fine breathlessly addresses what it means for a woman to fight for dignity and survival in an often hostile environment, to come into her own power as she decides what she wants for herself & mostly gets its every fineness.

Suggested by Sara Duff, Acquisitions & Collections

[Motherland, Fatherland, Homelandsexuals](#) by Patricia Lockwood

A breathtaking new collection from one of today's boldest and most adventurous poets; Colloquial and incantatory, the poems in Patricia Lockwood's second collection address the most urgent questions of our time, like: what if a deer did porn? Is America going down on Canada? What happens when Niagara Falls gets drunk at a wedding? Is it legal to marry a stuffed owl exhibit? What would Walt Whitman's tits look like? Why isn't anyone named Gary anymore? Did the Hatfield and McCoy babies ever fall in love? The steep tilt of Lockwood's lines sends the reader snowballing downhill, accumulating pieces of the scenery with every turn. The poems' subject is the natural world, but their images would never occur in nature. This book is serious and funny at the same time, like a big grave with a clown lying in it

Suggested by Sara Duff, Acquisitions & Collections

[Night Sky with Exit Wounds](#) by Ocean Vuong

Ocean Vuong's first full-length collection aims straight for the perennial "big"—and very human—subjects of romance, family, memory, grief, war, and melancholia. None of these he allows to overwhelm his spirit or his poems, which demonstrate, through breath and cadence and unrepentant enthrallment, that a gentle palm on a chest can calm the fiercest hungers.

Suggested by Sandy Avila, Research & Information Services

[Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats](#) by T.S. Eliot

Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats is a collection of whimsical poems by T. S. Eliot about feline psychology and sociology, published by Faber and Faber. It is the basis for the musical Cats.

Suggested by Becky Hammond, Special Collections & University Archives

[Satyr](#) by Susan Hartman

Chapbook of poems. A chapbook is a type of popular literature printed in early modern Europe. Produced cheaply, chapbooks were commonly small, paper-covered booklets, usually printed on a single sheet folded into books of 8, 12, 16 and 24 pages.

Suggested by Brian Calhoun, Research & Information Services

[The Old Philosopher](#) by Vi Khi Nao

The Old Philosopher is enigmatic, sexual, biblical, anachronistic, political, and personal all at once. These quiet, implosive poems inhabit a nonlinear temporality in which Vi Khi Nao brings biblical time and political time together in the same poetic space, allowing current affairs to converse with a more ancient and historical reality.

Suggested by Sandy Avila, Research & Information Services

[The Waste Land](#) by T.S. Eliot

The text of Eliot's 1922 masterpiece is accompanied by thorough explanatory annotations as well as by Eliot's own knotty notes, some of which require annotation themselves.

Suggested by Athena Hoepfner, Acquisition & Collections/Research & Information Services

Together Still: follow by perambulans in Noctem by Yves Bonnefoy

The international community of letters mourned the recent death of Yves Bonnefoy, universally acclaimed as one of France's greatest poets of the last half century. A prolific author, he was often considered a candidate for the Nobel Prize and published a dozen major collections of poetry in verse and prose, several books of dream-like tales, and numerous studies of literature and art. His oeuvre has been translated into scores of languages, and he himself was a celebrated translator of Shakespeare, Yeats, Keats, and Leopardi.

Suggested by Megan Haught, Teaching & Engagement/Research & Information Services

Tumblr post: <https://ucflibrary.tumblr.com/post/172488408884/if-you-are-a-dreamer-come-in-if-you-are-a>

Blog post: <https://library.ucf.edu/news/featured-bookshelf-national-poetry-month-2018/>