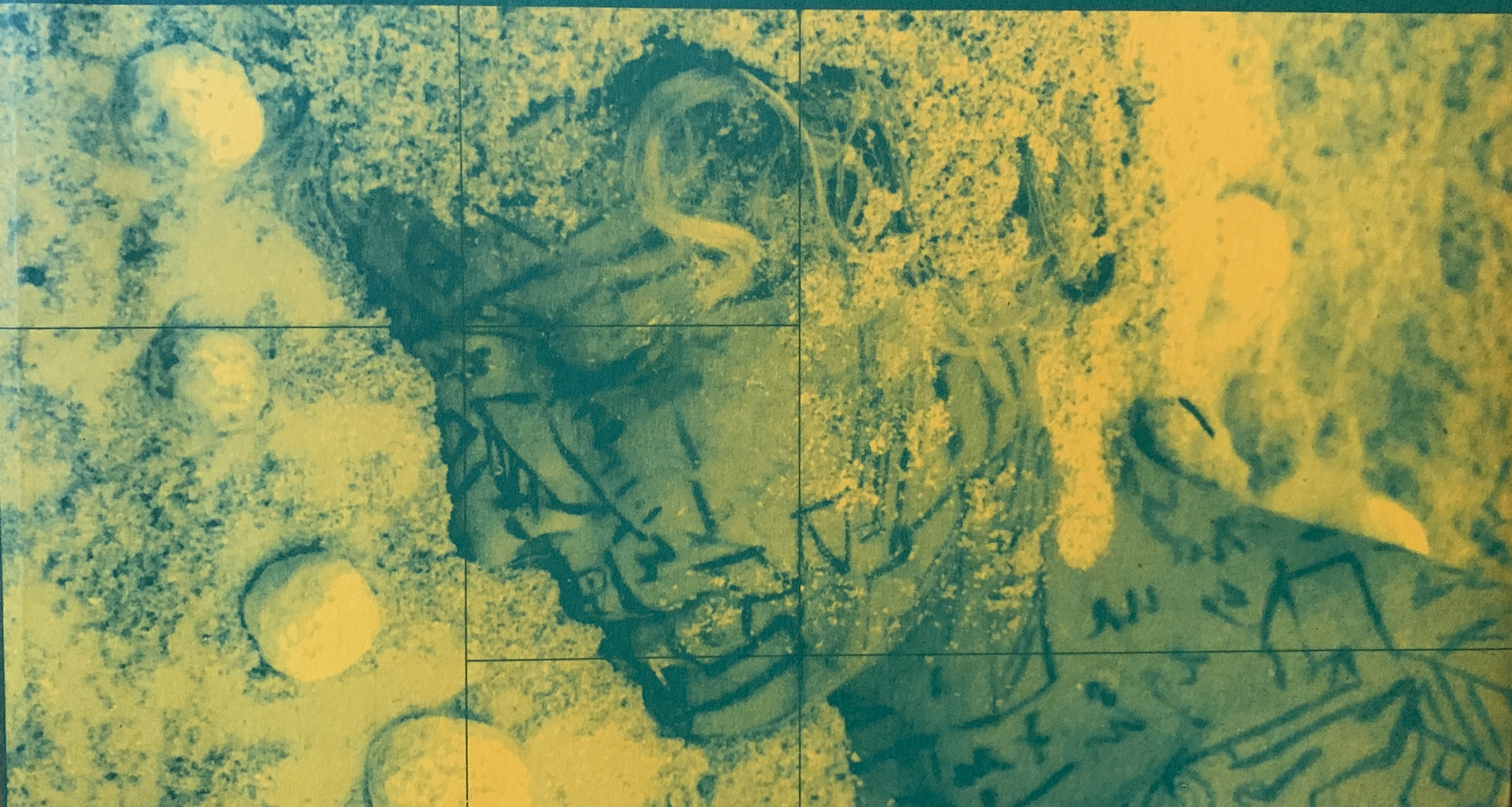


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Tigertail, A South Florida Poetry Annual



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Preface

Tigertail, A South Florida Poetry Annual began in a conversation. I find that project ideas often begin with friends — at dinner parties, around a table after a concert. The kernel of this project started in Brazil about six years ago in conversation with David Beaty. Our original idea never materialized, but the need for a publication of poetry by South Florida poets did — thus we have this new book, the first book that Tigertail has ever produced. Just as visual artists need catalogues of their work, poets need to see their words in print in a book. Our community of poets has amassed a body of work that now needs to be disseminated in a public way. We are honored to have the involvement of Campbell McGrath. Campbell's name was central in that early conversation in Brazil. Each year there will be a

different editor for *Tigertail, A South Florida Poetry Annual*. The 2004 editor is Michael Hettich, who has a poem in this edition. The idea of a rotating editor allows for various points of view to surface, viewpoints that reflect facets of our community and Miami's cultural diversity. The cover photo by Carlos Betancourt is another beautiful gift to this book. Vortex Communications, with their refined touch, have added so much. Frank Herrera & Malloy & Malloy, P.A. have generously provided us with advice. The leadership of Mitchell Kaplan and Books & Books, and the dedication of David Beaty have kept the project on course. But, most of all it is the poets who should be honored.

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