

EDITORS' NOTE

THE TEXT YOU HOLD IN YOUR HANDS represents the convergence of an usually large number of individuals and different editorial projects. The second installment of Miriam Nichols' *Poets' Prose* essays. The first in a series of *West Coast Line Interviews*, featuring poet, novelist, editor, Wayne Compton, in conversation with David Stouck and Myler Wilkinson. And *CUTs* \ a collection of two-page responses by local artists, writers, and activists BC politics and the entrenchment of a new socially and fiscally conservative so-called Liberal provincial government. We are also pleased to publish new work by Andrew Shelley, derek beaulieu, Keith Higgins, Mark Nowak, and Meredith Quartermain.

This issue is our first as the journal's new editors, and as such, for us, it marks an exciting new beginning. A departure, but one we hope is consistent with the work of our predecessors, Roy Miki and Miriam Nichols, each of whom we owe a debt of gratitude and respect.

We would also like to acknowledge the achievements of Colin Browne, for the Governor General's Award nomination of *Ground Water* (Talonbooks); of George Bowering, for becoming the Canada's first Parliamentary Poet Laureate; and of Roy Miki for receiving the Governor General' Award for Poetry in English for *Surrender* (Mercury). It is gratifying for us and gives us hope for the future to think that the rest of the nation is finally beginning to recognize the unique vitality of our West Coast writers.

So here's to Colin, George, and Roy.

—GL & JZ