

For Release: Immediately Contact: Raymond Hammond, Editor; 917.843.8825; rhammond@nyquarterly.org  
Publication Information: 5.5 x 8.5 in.; 104 Pages; ISBN: 978-1-935520-02-3  
Availability: Amazon, Barnes and Noble, Powell's To the Trade: Ingram Distribution

## NYQ Books™ announces the release of *Songs from an Earlier Century* by Ira Joe Fisher



New York, NY - Known for his warm and comforting delivery of the weather on the CBS Saturday Early Show, Ira Joe Fisher will equally delight readers with the release of his second book of poetry, *Songs From an Earlier Century*, published by NYQ Books™.

Fisher's first book, *Some Holy Weight in the Village Air*, originally published by Athanata Arts, Ltd. and now in a second edition also by NYQ Books™, was heralded as "a splendid first collection filled with passionate, wry, wise, still crazy, lucid, and original" by Thomas Lux and "a moving collection and a complex vision" by Paula McLain.

In his second book, *Songs from an Earlier Century*, Fisher maintains the course of the first book, but takes the reader deeper into the New England landscape and ultimately deeper into the self as he explores that region between people and nature, between the past and a vexing present. In straightforward poems, Fisher brings the reader along gently on his journey and explores both the natural and interior worlds of understanding with a conversational tone that feels like you are talking with an old friend on a lazy, rainy day. With both lyric and narrative verse, life is pondered, puzzled and—ultimately—celebrated.

Nalini Jones, author of *What You Call Winter*, writes, "Ira Joe Fisher revels in storms and summer quiet, in the natural world that is at the heart of the best lyric poetry, and he moves all he touches *into something living*. These Songs are a gift from a great talent: hymns as intricate and delicate as snowflakes to moments which should not pass unnoticed, in any century." And Michael Waters, author of *Darling Vulgarly*, says "Fisher plies his craft toward diminishing the gap between creation and creator, between substance and spirit...Songs from an Earlier Century provides, poem by poem, sip by sip, a harvest that slakes our thirst for both authenticity and grace."

Ira Joe Fisher holds an MFA from New England College and has taught poetry at the University of Connecticut in Stamford, Pace University and New England College. He has lectured at the University of Connecticut, Stamford, Keene State College and Manhattanville College. Fisher has worked in radio and television for over forty years, most recently for the CBS *Early Show*. He has acted in films and on the New York stage (for many years appearing in *The Fantasticks*). He and his wife, Shelly, and their four children live in Connecticut.

