

The New York Quarterly Foundation, Inc.

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## **Press Release**

For Release: Immediately Contact: Raymond Hammond, Editor; 917.843.8825; rhammond@nyquarterly.org

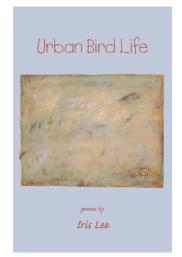
Publication Information: 5.5 x 8.5 in.; 104 Pages; ISBN: 978-1-935520-16-0

Library of Congress Control Number: 2009937603 Website: http://www.nygbooks.org/author/irislee

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## NYQ Books™ announces the release of *Urban Bird Life* by Iris Lee



New York, NY - NYQ Books is pleased to announce the publication of Iris Lee's debut book of poems, *Urban Bird Life*. Swans, owls, and other urban birds soar through the poems in Iris Lee's first collection taking the reader along with them as she covers a broad range in her exploration of the interiors and exteriors of her much-loved New York City. From descriptions of city streets to the Atlantic shores, to a lazy morning in bed with a lover, Lee delves into distances both temporal and spatial, connections both erotic and familial, and moments that are both ecstatic and dreadful all the while sustaining a frank, intense, and lyrical voice—which kicks ass when needed.

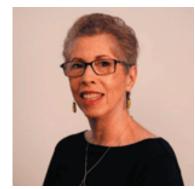
Molly Peacock writes: "Iris Lee's shining collection *Urban Bird Life* puts her in the ranks of walkers in the city from Walt Whitman to Charles

Reznikoff. With elisions and repetitions, yet with a vision that shines a direct light on all in her view, Iris Lee makes the apparent detritus of everyday New York into images that glow with such intensity that the city itself becomes a poem."

And Vijay Seshadri says that the poems in *Urban Bird Life* are "...always imaginative, spare and balanced, and richly and precisely composed, and these things are objects of that peculiar joy we feel in encountering art that is justly conceived and perfectly executed.

Iris Lee is a poet and editor living in Brooklyn. She runs a writing workshop for theater professionals at the Actors Fund, and studies the poetry-theater connection at HB Studio. Lee is both a native New Yorker and Ouaker.

The New York Quarterly Foundation, Inc. has been publishing poetry since 1969. NYQ Books was established in 2009 as an additional venue to be made available to the poets published within its pages over the past 40 years.



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