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Press Release

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NYQ BOOKS RELEASES RABBIT EARS: TV POEMS Contributor Royalties Will Go to N.Y. Food-Rescue Organization



December 1, 2015 – NYQ Books is pleased to announce the release of *Rabbit Ears: TV Poems*, the first anthology of poetry about the mass medium. The editor is poet Joel Allegretti.

Rabbit Ears features 129 poems by 130 nationally known and emerging poets (one poem is a collaborative effort). The title, named for the pair of indoor TV antennae developed in the 1950s, comes courtesy of former U.S. Poet Laureate Billy Collins, who is a contributor. The anthology covers the history of TV, from its invention to its current many-channel incarnation. There are poems about the medium's early days, sit-coms, science fiction and horror shows, TV's celebrated personalities, game shows, televised sports, soap operas, made-for-TV movies, cop shows, nature shows, children's programs, the news, and reality TV. The poems in Rabbit Ears, Allegretti writes in his preface, "are funny, poignant, witty, mysterious, and educational. In short, the poems are much like TV itself."

All contributor royalties earned on sales will be donated to City Harvest, a food-rescue organization dedicated to helping feed the 1.4 million New Yorkers who face hunger.

Follow Rabbit Ears on Twitter @RabbitEarsPoems. Like Rabbit Ears on Facebook: www.facebook.com/RabbitEarsPoems.

Emily Christner, Vice President & General Manager, TV Guide, TV.com and Metacritic at CBS Interactive
From the silly to the sublime, Joel Allegretti's *Rabbit Ears* takes TV's great characters, story lines and big events and weaves them through the fabric of decades and generations. *Rabbit Ears* reminds us that TV is more than just a hobby; we're all part of its diverse, connected community.

Francis X. Comerford, Chief Revenue Officer and President of Commercial Operations, NBCUniversal Owned Television Stations

Rabbit Ears shows how TV memories can be fun and smart. Many remembrances and feelings from our past are brought back in an entertaining way that transports us to a place we may have thought was lost.

<u>Dana Gioia, author of Pity the Beautiful: Poems and former Chairman, National Endowment for the Arts</u>

The Medium really is the Message. What Nature was to the Romantics, the TV screen has become to contemporary Americans—the everyday sensory world that shapes the imagination. The fact that this notion makes us uncomfortable doesn't make it any less true. This is one reason why *Rabbit Ears* is such a significant anthology. It explores the medium that has shaped the way we see ourselves, our country, and our culture.

Joel Allegretti is the author of five collections of poetry. His second, *Father Silicon* (The Poet's Press, 2006), was selected by The Kansas City Star as one of 100 Noteworthy Books of 2006. Allegretti's poetry has appeared in *The New York Quarterly, Smartish Pace, Barrow Street*, and many other national journals, as well as in journals published in Canada, the United Kingdom, Belgium and India. He wrote the texts for three song cycles by Frank Ezra Levy, whose work is released on Naxos American Classics. Allegretti is a member of ASCAP.

NYQ Books[™] was established in 2009 as an imprint of The New York Quarterly Foundation, Inc. Its mission is to augment the *New York Quarterly* poetry magazine by providing an additional venue for poets who are already published in the magazine.

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