

FRAN WESTWOOD

Window

*I'm looking for something
with a hummingbird on it
he says from among
box shelves of tourmaline,
honey quartz, and a basket
of braided grass*

*A gift for my mom
he looks at me
ambles the gift shop
perimeter*

*Finds a navy card
flushed with gold sun,
a small red bird in the corner*

*Money changes at the counter,
he tells me he found a secret
white walls and black coats
can't live in*

*Whatever
someone from above
he just spoke about
falls out of his mouth
and eyes*

*a thousand
wings*

*shattering
my laws of stone*

Fran Westwood is an emerging poet of Scottish-settler heritage. She is a graduate psychotherapy student and sales associate at a Native-owned gift shop. She has lived all over Canada, but she writes from Toronto. Fran's work has been published in the October 2019 "Emergence" issue of CV2, and she actively shares her work in living rooms, editing circles, community readings, and on local stages. Fran is currently working on publishing Kin, her first full-length volume of poetry.

SUSAN MCCASLIN

Inanna

*Deep in the subterranean regions
of the earth sprawls Inanna*

*having descended far
into the dungeons*

*darkened, wounded
smudged, smeared*

*disarmed, naked
ritually removing*

*bracelets, charms
beads of lapis lazuli*

*divesting herself
of investments stocks, investitures*

*becoming the tearfulness of things
out of which bloom*

*the lily and the rose
white lotus from the muck*

*yet out of such birthings
beauty flies into the world*

*as apple, grape, pomegranate
juice, flesh, bones*

*laughter
all out of that holy dark*

Susan McCaslin is a Canadian poet living in Fort Langley, BC, who has published fifteen volumes of poetry, including her most recent, Into the Open: Poems New and Selected (2017). She has recently collaborated with J.S. Porter on a volume of creative non-fiction, Superabundantly Alive: Thomas Merton's Dance with the Feminine (2018). Susan can be found wandering along the Fraser with her dog Rosie in the presence of Douglas firs, hemlocks, and cedars.