

CASCADIA



PROSPECTUS

dawn mist –
the ghost of a western hemlock
drips into silence

NAWAKUM PRESS & MIXOLYDIAN EDITIONS

2021

Nawakum Press and Mixolydian Editions announce the publication of a special limited edition of new work

CASCADIA is an exploration and celebration of the wild forests of the Pacific Northwest. In this homage to natural grace and wonder, a master wood engraver, Pulitzer prize-winning writer, and acclaimed haiku poet weave a rich and insightful tapestry of old growth forests and uncertain futures.

Cascadia, from which the book takes its title, is a unique coastal bioregion, as well as a bioregional movement, located within the rugged northwest corner of the North American continent. It covers an area of exceptional geography and biodiversity, ranging from southern Alaska to northern California. Within this immense landscape lie pockets of primeval forest, cascading down formidable mountain ranges into deep green seas. Life here, from below ground to high in the canopy, paints a remarkable and complex picture of timeless beauty, intelligence and endurance.

This book is a remembrance of what was lost, an appreciation of what is left, and a celebration of what could be. Forests are not eternal. For all their solemn stillness, they constantly change, evolve, die, and regrow. But they are persistent, and they always strive to return to an intricacy that is both evocative and instructive.

Richard Wagener created twenty-six remarkable boxwood engravings for the edition, ranging from mushrooms to pygmy owls, from marbled murrelet to black bear. All were printed by hand on his Vandercook proof press. Over half were printed on colored, handmade Japanese Bichu and Yamagampi papers.

William Dietrich wrote “The Lost Forest” for the edition, a meditation delving into forest realms past, present and future. In crisp and lyric prose he portrays for the reader the essence of what is so special about these sacred places, and what is truly at stake in preserving them.

Christopher Herold contributed thirty haiku poems for the edition, and three haibun, almost all of which are unpublished. Through these clear and heartfelt illuminations he shares his personal insights of wildness, and his reverence for such exquisite worlds.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

RICHARD WAGENER is a California printmaker and book artist specializing in fine wood engraving. At Mixolydian Editions he publishes his own prints and books. His meticulously executed work is in the Special Collections departments of over one hundred thirty public and private institutional libraries around the world.

Wagener was a co-recipient of the 2016 Carl Hertzog Award for Excellence in Book Design, and was also awarded the book Club of California Oscar Lewis Award the same year for his contributions to the book arts. In the summer of 2019 he traveled to the Olympic National Forest, on the west coast of Washington State, for research on this project.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

WILLIAM DIETRICH is a Washington State novelist and non-fiction author of twenty-two books. As a journalist he shared the Pulitzer prize for coverage of the Exxon Valdez oil spill in Alaska. He was a Nieman Fellow at Harvard University and later won reporting and study fellowships from the National Science Foundation, Woods Hole, and Scripps Institute.

Soon after it was published his “The Final Forest” won the Pacific Northwest Booksellers Award and Washington State Governor Writer’s Award. He has taught environmental journalism, traveled to the Arctic and the South Pole, and covered the eruption of Mount St. Helens. He lives in the port town of Anacortes, Washington at the edge of the San Juan Islands.

ABOUT THE POET

CHRISTOPHER HEROLD is an award winning haiku poet from Washington State, formerly of the San Francisco Bay Area. He is past president of the Haiku Poets of Northern California, co-editor of their journal *Woodnotes*, and has often served in the position of judge, most notably for the Haiku Society of America. He also writes tanka, haibun, and renku.

Herold is a Buddhist lay monk and musician, formerly having played and/or recorded with John Lee Hooker, T-Bone Walker, Jerry Garcia, and Mike Bloomfield. His numerous books have won many awards including *A Path in the Garden* for which he won the Haiku Society of America Book Award. He lives in Port Townsend, not far from his beloved Olympics.



ABOUT THE EDITION

Cascadia was designed and co-published by David Pascoe of Nawakum Press and Richard Wagener of Mixolydian Editions. It is their third collaboration, the second since winning the Carl Hertzog Award for Excellence in Book Design in 2016.

Seventy copies measuring 7 1/4” x 14 3/4” inches are published at eighty-two pages long. The printing was done by Richard Wagener and Patrick Reagh, who typeset and cast the type. The typefaces are Monotype Bembo and Centaur Titling. Calligraphic kanji characters by Chiyo Sanada.

The papers are handmade St. Armand from Montreal, Zerkall from Germany, along with Japanese Bichhu and Yamagampi. Endpapers are from Hook Paper in Indiana. Paste papers for the covers were created by artist Meredith Broberg in Massachusetts. The bindings and enclosures are by hand bookbinder John DeMerritt in California.

The book is published in three different states.

Engravers Edition: 8 copies. Full goatskin leather binding with forest green cover and terra cotta spine. Blind embossed on the cover is Mount Rainier from the engraving in the book. The clamshell box has an osprey from the book laser engraved on wood and inset on the cover. A dozen prints from the book, along with a multi-colored engraved print of Hurricane Ridge in the Olympic National Park, are housed in a chemise covered in Japanese book cloth. In addition there is a letterpress Publisher’s View statement and a small broadside. All copies are signed by the artist, author and poet and are designated by Roman numerals I-VIII.

Deluxe Edition: 26 copies. The partial goatskin leather binding, with terra cotta leather on the spine and fore-edge, has green combed paste papers over board on the covers. It is foil stamped, and is housed in an expanding enclosure of goatskin leather and Japanese book cloth, secured by rare earth magnets. Six engraved prints, a letterpress Publisher’s View statement, and a small broadside are housed in a paper chemise. All copies are signed by the artist, author and poet and are designated by lettering A-Z.

Slipcase Edition: 30 copies. Designed with green combed paste papers over board covers, and a black Japanese book cloth spine with letterpress label. Housed in a two-tone lined slipcase made of Japanese book cloth. Included is a letterpress Publisher’s View statement. All copies are signed by the artist, author and poet and are designated by numbers 1-30.

6 copies are *hors de commerce*



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