

# Q&A TIP SHEET

JULIETTE VAN DER MOLEN

## WHAT ARE THE THEMES YOU WRITE ABOUT THE MOST?

I explore themes of feminism, marginalization and imbalance of power. Some of this is in the form of narrative confessional poetry, while others may focus on women in history.

## IS THERE A STYLE OF POETRY YOU GRAVITATE TOWARD IN YOUR WRITING?

I begin writing poetry with vague ideas, there isn't ever a feeling that I want to force a poem to go into a specific direction. I favor organic forms because they feel most natural to me. When a pattern emerges I tend to let it happen and see where it takes me.

## WHO ARE THE POETS THAT HAVE INFLUENCED YOUR WRITING?

Poets that have had a large influence on my work so far are Adrienne Rich, Margaret Atwood and June Jordan. I'm also inspired by contemporary poets such as Jen Rouse, Raine Geoghegan and Sascha Akhtar.

## HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE ON AVERAGE FOR YOU TO WRITE A POEM?

Of course this varies by poem, sometimes a poem takes several iterations before I consider it 'finished enough'. There are pieces that come out of me nearly fully formed in one sitting, but those are rare. Usually it takes the form of an initial writing where I try not to self edit too much, then it sits in my files for a while and I revisit it with fresh eyes.

## HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN WRITING POETRY?

I've been writing poetry long before I called it that. For most of my life I've written prose and I felt intimidated by poetry. It always seemed to be some mystical type of genre that I felt I had no business writing. Looking back at my prose, I see all of the poetic elements now. I started writing what I would call 'official' poetry in early 2018.

## DO YOU HAVE ANY OTHER BOOKS IN THE WORKS?

I have several projects I'm working on currently including a collection about Mary, Queen of Scots and a hybrid verse novel which is a fictional tale set in Wales.

## CONTACT

JULIETTE.VANDERMOLEN@HOTMAIL.COM

WWW.JULIETTEWRITES.COM