

## Celebrating Twenty Years of C & P

We Poets find a home away from home here  
A place to send our words winging without fear

poetry bridge stronger than the broken concrete one, steadfast throughout the darkness of covid  
bound our hearts and minds together, and reached far out into the world

Cardamom and persimmon carry downwind, the kind  
of memory found when we are together like this, witnessing with open hearts

the goddess of poetry unfurling her syllables -- spiraling galaxies  
careening and pulsating us beyond our mortal bodies, back into stardust

carbon and phosphorous, common and particular, matter  
a-shimmer. The matter of us in orbit, ensconced, inspired, aspiring. Here

Can you think of a better Place for Pie  
and Poems- traditional and spontaneous?

Poetry house west town haven- word garden- cursive orange c and p anniversary  
Thoughts realized thoughts performed thoughts by bards celebrate cafe mythology

A museum where fellow word painters display their  
Tales of sweet surrender laced with deep-dyed espresso

Do you Call this Place a temporary home For a Piece of Pie  
or a just-written Poem? (Yes, it welcomes both forms of deliciousness

Here. We gather to read aloud and say Yes  
To fellow poets, whether they're applause-prone or attention averse

they can see Koon Woon in back & canprehend David  
Fewster's sideburns from California & Brandon streets



we rush like water bridging coarse hair to smooth jaws  
and pasture in cracks and plants set in sidewalk reservations

where words flow, soothe and inspire  
root a community in limitless aspirations

Featuring from far end of country,  
A shearwater, coursing through air, over seas, thrilling in it

This is where we gather together for poems  
And pie and praise, at the end of work days

We chorus and play, a creative home, coffee's hearth  
Poets and dreamers, our verses sway, we bridge the gap

There to here, we seek and scribble, image and music,  
Ensnared in coffee and chatter, our souls replenish

Our eyes and ears, retune and return, in short order  
To what brought us together, in memory and purpose



We are grateful for Cam and Pete who have so exquisitely created a space  
for community and friendship for the past 20 years.

Fourteen poets co-created this poem for C&P coffee's 20 year celebration,  
using a form of poetry called Exquisite Corpse. Each wrote two lines to follow two lines  
that had been written by another poet, but only saw the other poet's second line.

*Lyn Coffin, Alexander Smith, Andrea Deeken, Shankar Narayan, Pam Carter, Lew Jones, Jean Braun, Paul Nelson,  
Carrie G-N, Cheryl Latif, Ellen Pober Rittberg, Bonnie Wolkenstein, Arleen Williams, and Leopoldo Seguel*