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University of Pittsburgh Press author wins prestigious poetry prize

PITTSBURGH—Lynn Emanuel’s *The Nerve of It: Poems New and Selected*, published last year by the University of Pittsburgh Press, has won the Lenore Marshall Poetry Prize. The prestigious \$25,000 award, given by the Academy of American Poets, recognizes the most outstanding book of poetry published in the United States in the previous year.

“This honor is a marvelous affirmation of one’s work,” said Emanuel, an English professor at the University of Pittsburgh. “When I look at the company I’m in, I feel humbled.”

Past recipients include Wanda Coleman, also published by the University of Pittsburgh Press; Mark Jarman, and Stanley Kunitz.

About Emanuel’s winning book, judges Amy Gerstler, Reginald Gibbons, and Kimiko Hahn said: “Every poem in *The Nerve of It* brims with unfailing invention and virtuoso wordcraft. This volume of new and selected poems is a beautifully integrated whole, the arc of a life: heady, bold, vivid, sexy, intensely envisioned, metaphorically brilliant. *The Nerve of It* is a witty and courageous body of work.”

Emanuel is also the author of *Noose and Hook* (University of Pittsburgh Press, 2010); and *The Dig* (University of Illinois Press, 1992), which was selected by Gerald Stern for the National Poetry Series. Her honors include two fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts and a fellowship from the Civitella Ranieri Foundation. Emanuel has taught at Bennington College, Vermont College, and Warren Wilson College, among others.

Emanuel’s work has been featured in the *Pushcart Prize Anthology* and *Best American Poetry* numerous times and is included in *The Oxford Book of American Poetry*. She has been a judge for the National Book Awards.

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