

Maria Sticco, Publicist
e-mail: mes5@pitt.edu
tel: (412) 383-2493 fax: (412) 383-2466

3400 Forbes Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15260
tel: (412) 383-2456 fax: (412) 383-2466
www.upress.pitt.edu

For immediate release October 21, 2012

Whirlwind of divorce is theme of award-winning poet's new collection

PITTSBURGH—New York City poet Sharon Dolin describes her new book *Whirlwind* as “one woman’s heartfelt, exploration of the breakup of a marriage.” In her fifth collection, she takes her readers on an off-the-tracks emotional ride through the whirlwind that goes by the name of divorce. Her poems keep their linguistic edge—morosely witty, sexy, and seething with a story that must be told.

The poems in *Whirlwind* are never merely confessional, but ride the white heat of rage, hurt, denial, regret, wistfulness and sexual passion. They hurtle through the many states of grief after the death of a relationship, and importantly, toward the rebirth of a more vital self.

“In *Whirlwind* Dolin’s trademark quick wit and candor are infused with an uncanny mix of flirt and fury,” said poet Terrance Hayes. “Anchored by women who ride and are ridden by the blues, these expert poems shift between ode, testimonial, and elegy. Here is the ‘oh boy woe’ that prompts serious play; here is the intensity a woman displays when ‘her head is lifted above some suffering.’ *Whirlwind* is a book of wonderful whimsy, grace, and bite.”

The collection contains a Pushcart Prize winner, “To the Furies Who Visited Me in the Basement of Duane Reade,” in which Dolin dons the mask of the Furies to confront her ex-husband and his lover.

Dolin is the author of several previous poetry collections: *Burn and Dodge*, winner of the Donald Hall Prize in Poetry; *Realm of the Possible*; *Serious Pink*; and *Heart Work*, as well as five poetry chapbooks. She is Writer-in-Residence at Eugene Lang College at the New School for Liberal Arts in New York City. Dolin also teaches at the Unterberg Poetry Center of the 92nd Street Y and directs the Center for Book Arts Annual Letterpress Poetry Chapbook Competition.

#

Whirlwind, poems by Sharon Dolin, is published by the University of Pittsburgh Press.
88 pp. • 6 x 8 • ISBN 978-0-8229-6221-2 • Paper \$15.95