

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 February 26, 2012

Poet turns to pastoral themes in her new collection

PITTSBURGH—"There's an old notion that the eye emits light and this light seizes the objects we see. I thought of this while reading Paisley Rekdal's wonderful new book *Animal Eye*," said popular poet Bob Hicok. "Paisley has a meditative bent—itsself a kind of light sent out to the world—and as with most poets who dwell, who mull over, her poems convey a deep sense of compassion and joy, another kind of light."

Animal Eye has just been published by the University of Pittsburgh Press.

"When I was very young, I had very black and white views about what kind of poetry was acceptable to be read," remarked Rekdal. "I only wanted the weird or the experimental or the urban, nothing at all that smacked of the pastoral. And now I've written *Animal Eye*, a book that is almost entirely pastoral."

Rekdal once described her writing routine by saying, "I try to write five days a week. I try to write after I walk the dog early in the morning. I try not to do too many reading activities beforehand unless I am desperate," she said. "If I get lost in something or feel I am stuck in a corner, I will start reading to see how other people get themselves out of that situation. But, in general, I do my reading in the afternoons and my writing in the morning."

Rekdal is associate professor of English at the University of Utah. She is the author of three previous poetry collections: *The Invention of the Kaleidoscope*, *A Crash of Rhinos*, and *Six Girls Without Pants*, as well as a book of essays, *The Night My Mother Met Bruce Lee*.

She is the recipient of the *Village Voice* Writers on the Verge Award, the University of Georgia Press Contemporary Poetry Series Award, an NEA Fellowship, a Fulbright Fellowship, the Laurence Goldstein Poetry Prize from *Michigan Quarterly Review*, and the 2011–2012 Amy Lowell Poetry Traveling Scholarship.

#

Animal Eye, poems by Paisley Rekdal, is published by the University of Pittsburgh Press
96 pp. • 6 x 9 • ISBN 978-0-8229-6179-6 • Paper \$15.95