List of contributors

Katlego Nkoana (Poetry) – <u>4332138@myuwc.ac.za</u>

My journey as a poet began with phonology. Hearing words with the same consonant sound in consecutive order for the first time in my pre-teen years piqued my interest and I had to investigate. I found it was called alliteration, and I kept stringing any word with the same consonant my petulant mind could produce – with no concern of whether the words made sense together. As the years passed while growing up in Pretoria, my concern for finding semantics in alliteration was cultivated by my English teachers (particularly Mr. Gule). I found the resources I needed from his English lessons to turn my passion of alliteration and expand it into poetry. I owe my interest in literature to my mother, Nancy. Every single book she bought me over the years adds up to where I am now linguistically. I am currently completing a BA degree at UWC, and I hope that my love for words will open more pathways that will lead to publishing a poetry collection someday. I hope one day I will be proficient in my writing just as Nondwe Mpuma and Lethokuhle Msimang are.

Festus Moses Onipede (Poetry) - onipedefestusmos@gmail.com

Festus Moses Onipede is a budding scholar and a PhD student of English Language at University of Lagos, Nigeria. He has contributed to national and international poetry anthologies. As a scholar, he has contributed to various national and international conferences and journals. He is a member of West Africa Systemic Functional Linguistics Interest Group (WASFLIG).

Violet Makomborero (Poetry) – <u>4377523@myuwc.ac.za</u>

Violet is an emerging writer from Johannesburg, currently based in Cape Town. Her debut collection titled, *Depressive Times like this requires furious dancing* draws inspiration from William Shakespeare's sonnet 29, *When in Disgrace with God and Man's eyes*, expressing the crippling effects of depression and alienation that possess one's self state of stagnation and tumultuous anguish. However, this collection urges readers to transmute these feelings of negativity into courage and positivity. Through her writing, she aims to advocate for the transformative power of creative expression and physical movement, encouraging readers to 'dance furiously' against the odds, oppression and depression, ultimately to find strength and purpose in resistance and self-expression.

Tiffany Dumas (Short Story) – <u>4319049@myuwc.ac.za</u>

Tiffany Dumas is a South African writer and third year Bachelor of Arts student majoring in Psychology, English and Language and Communication Studies at the University of the Western Cape. Her writing is greatly inspired by the work of Carl Jung, memory and the grotesque corners of the human mind, which draws upon her academic interest in mental health and a love for poetic prose and storytelling that is rooted in the feminine aspects of nature, identity and the unseen bonds between humanity, myth, and how personal collective interpretation of myths and history echo throughout the natural world. *Mother Earth* is a part of her collection of short stories that are inspired by horror that are both grounded and spiritual – where memory meets horror and myth, and the Earth becomes a character in its own right.

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