

Zine Project OFFICIAL GUIDELINES

HAND TO MOUTH is an online and print zine dedicated to art addressing the reality of poverty. The zine will be hosted online as a special issue by *Kissing Dynamite Poetry*, and edited by Rebecca Kokitus and Joaquin Fernandez.

ABOUT THE EDITORS:

Rebecca Kokitus is a poet residing in the Philadelphia area. She is the author of two poetry collections: *Seasonal Affected*, now available from APEP Publications, and *Blue Bucolic*, forthcoming from Thirty West Publishing House. You can find her on Twitter and Instagram at @rxbxcca_anna and you can read more of her writing on her website.

Joaquin Fernandez is a recovering filmmaker and Miami native perpetually drifting west like an errant rain cloud and tinkering with his first novel. His fiction has appeared in *Okay Donkey*, *Cotton Xenomorph*, *Rhythm and Bones* among others. He's been an editor for *AFTERMATH: Explorations Of Loss And Grief* and a reader for Radix Media's *Futures* series. He's also been nominated for a 2018 Pushcart Prize as well as a Best Small Fiction Prize. His first chapbook, *A Beginners Guide*, comes out this spring and he can be found on Twitter @Joaqertxranger.

EDITOR'S NOTE:

What's most important to me about this project is that contributors are sharing authentic, reflective art that is centered around their own reality of poverty. What I mean by this is—don't write about that time you helped a homeless person, don't send voyeuristic, observatory, or self-congratulatory art about poverty. I am not interested in survivor's guilt. Although acknowledging poverty from a place of privilege is obviously important (and necessary), we have all seen savior stories, and this is not the place for them. That being said—your work does not have to be tragic or sad—just *real*.

Above all, I want to create a space for artists living with, or who have lived with, the reality of poverty, and who often feel smothered by the privilege so often seen within arts communities.

As someone who has experienced poverty myself, I feel it is important to make it known that art does not have to be a luxury. Your art matters. Keep creating.

Much love,
Rebecca Kokitus

*Please note: any specific questions regarding what I'm looking for can be emailed to me at rebeccakokitus@yahoo.com. I can also be reached via direct message on Twitter (@rxbxcca_anna).

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GENERAL SUBMISSION GUIDELINES:

Submissions will be **OPEN** for two weeks, from **April 8, 2019 until April 22, 2019**. (Dates subject to change based on submission volume) We are planning to send out all acceptances and rejections by the following week, with a potential release date on **May 1, 2019!**

Reprints are welcome, as long as you, the artist, own the rights to the piece(s) you are submitting.

We're open to any and all mediums! Send us hybrid work, visual art, collages, photography, poetry, prose, essays, zine style "how-to" lists, etc.—anything goes, within reason. We are looking for authentic work centered around the realities of poverty, whichever form this may take.

We are pretty flexible about length, but would **prefer** poetry submissions to be 1-5 poems, and any prose submissions to be around 2000 words or less—since this zine will also be published in **print**, there will be a limited amount of space.

Kissing Dynamite has been so kind as to publish an online edition of this zine as a **special issue** of their journal. There will also be a print edition of the zine that will be available for purchase, tentatively in **May 2019**. All proceeds from zine sales will be donated to **Food Not Bombs**, a worldwide organization dedicated to providing free, healthy food to those who cannot afford to buy it. Read more about **Food Not Bombs** here: http://foodnotbombs.net/new_site/

Here is some information we have copied from *Kissing Dynamite's* submission guidelines that also applies to HAND TO MOUTH:

“Submissions are and always will be FREE. Please send [writing submissions] in a Word Document (.doc/.docx); [visual art] should be sent as a JPEG or PNG image (.jpg/.png). If your [written work] contains special formatting, you may send, in addition to the Word Document, a PDF to confirm the formatting of the poem. Any easy-to-read standard font is appreciated. A brief cover letter in the body of the e-mail is appreciated (we will solicit full biographies from authors upon acceptance). Submissions should be e-mailed with the subject "HAND TO MOUTH" to kissingdynamitepoetry@gmail.com.”

“All writers at any stage in their career are welcome to submit. We especially encourage writers from underrepresented backgrounds to submit. Please note in your cover letter if you identify with an underrepresented demographic.

Kissing Dynamite is an inclusive space and will outright reject any work that is degrading. We also reserve the right to remove from the journal work by authors who later perpetrate abuse on others.”