

Formerly Professor of Creative Writing at the University of Virginia, Jeffery Renard Allen is the author of five books, most recently the novel *Song of the Shank*, which is loosely based on the life of Blind Tom, a nineteenth century African American piano virtuoso and composer. Allen has received numerous accolades for his work, including The Chicago Tribune's Heartland Prize for Fiction, The Ernest J. Gaines Award for Literary Excellence, a grant in Innovative Literature from Creative Capital, a Whiting Writers' Award, a Guggenheim fellowship, and a Bellagio Residency. His collection of stories, *Fat Time*, will be published in 2020.

C. Liegh McInnis is the author of eight books, the former editor of *Black Magnolias Literary Journal*, and an English instructor at Jackson State University. He is also a former First Runner-Up of the Amiri Baraka/Sonia Sanchez Poetry Award sponsored by North Carolina State A&T.

Rishi Nath is a writer and mathematician from Boston, Massachusetts. He lives and works in Jamaica, Queens.

Chris Stroffolino is still in Oakland. He works at Laney College.

J.A. Marzán is the prose pen name of poet Julio Marzán, former Poet Laureate of Queens, N.Y., who recently published his second novel, *Don't Let Me Die in Disneyland: The 3-D Life of Eddie Loperena* (Open Books).