TABLE OF CONTENTS

Local, Organic, and Living: A Preface  xi
Marcela Sulak

Riddling the Sphinx: An Introduction to Hybridity  xix
Susanne Paola Antonetta

SECTION 1  |  LYRIC ESSAY

Introduction  3

7  Writing Violence, Writing Time
Julie Carr

15  Blurring the Magisteria: Science as Fact, Science as Metaphor
Susanne Paola Antonetta

22  Assault Hybridity: The Disintegrating Lyric/Mother I
Sarah Vap

34  Stuttering into Relationship: Excerpts from How Literature Saved
My Life
David Shields

39  The New Critic on the Couch
Kathleen Ossip

SECTION 2  |  EPISTOLARY

Introduction  53

57  The Epistolary Enterprise: Fusing Artifact and Art
Julie Marie Wade

70  Poems Embedded in Letters: On The Archaeology of Movies & Books
Diane Wakoski

79  Take a Lily, for Instance: Trying to Capture the “Real” of Writing Poetry
Amy Newman
Buffoonery and the Poetic: Writing Short Letters
Joe Wenderoth

Poetry That Isn’t Poetry: The Fragment as Center in *Postcards to Donald Evans*
Takashi Hiraide

Autobiography of a Hybrid Narrative: Finding a Form for Trauma
Joy Ladin

SECTION 3 | POETIC MEMOIR

*Introduction* 113

Friendship and Process: This Project’s Birth Story
*Arielle Greenberg and Rachel Zucker*

I am no hybrid, no other than myself: On writing *Bright Felon*
*Kazim Ali*

Necessary Ambiguity: Exploring Hyphenate Identity
*Jennifer Bartlett*

Not Notes, Not Aphorisms, Not Fragments, Not Poetry: Composing *Bluets*
*Maggie Nelson*

Writable Radiance: Notes on the Hybrid of Lyric and Prose
*Gregory Orr*

SECTION 4 | PROSE POETRY

*Introduction* 159

It’s Dark in There: Confessions of a Prose Poem
*Sabrina Orah Mark*

Amplitude: On the Possibilities of Prose
*Mary Szybist*

King James and the Prose Poem
*Mark Jarman*

Pointing at Things: A Short Guide to Writing Photographically
*Tung-Hui Hu*

How I Became a Detective: Prose Poetry and Post-Confessional Aesthetics
*Carol Guess*
SECTION 5 | PERFORMATIVE

Introduction 207

211 The Essential Yet Hidden Artifice: Embodying Sensation in *Santa Lear*
   Nick Flynn

220 Discrete Connection/False Isolation: On Hybrid Structure in *Black Peculiar*
   Khadijah Queen

   A. Van Jordan

237 Writing Betwixt-and-Between: Performative Spaces in Real Life and Make-Believe
   Jenny Boully

246 Picture (ピクチャー): Performing Chit-Chat
   Terrance Hayes

SECTION 6 | SHORT-FORM NONFICTION

Introduction 257

261 Cables, Chains, and Lariats: Form as Process
   Brenda Miller

269 The Essay Is the Egg: On Shortness
   Ander Monson

278 A Net You Can Breathe Through: Digressing into Form
   Patricia Vigderman

285 Idea as Sculpture: Exploring a Subject in Three Dimensions
   Sarah Gorham

292 Small Window, Big View: The Short Essay and the Wide World
   Bret Lott

SECTION 7 | FLASH FICTION

Introduction 299

303 Janet Jackson, Aristotle, and Frankenstein’s Monster Walk into a Bar: Humor in Flash Fiction
   Katie Cortese
309 Overlapping Time and Syntax: What to Do with a Dream
   *Julio Ortega*

315 Mind the Gap: Creating Tension Through Omission and Absence
   *Robin Hemley*

322 When the Unthinkable Is Thought: Turning Speculation into Story
   *Pamela Painter*

329 Writing and the Human Animal: On Transforming the Artificial
   into the Natural
   *Etgar Keret*

SECTION 8 | PICTURES MADE OF WORDS

*Introduction*  337

341 Pacific Hybrid Poetics: Unwriting and Interweaving Visual Stories
   *Craig Santos Perez*

350 Mapping the Page: Poem as Diagrammatic Investigation
   *Jena Osman*

361 Erasing the Distance: Graphic Journalism and Empathy
   *Miriam Libicki*

370 Grieving Through Comics: Real Life and Death in Words and Pictures
   *Stan Mack*

379 Palaces, Monsters, and the Idealist Constructs of Memory
   *Mira Bartók*

388 Working the Field of the Page: A Syntax of Shapes
   *Andrea Baker*

Teaching Hybrid Literary Genres: An Afterword  399
   *Jacqueline Kolosov*

Credits  417

Acknowledgments  422

About the Editors  427