

SAVE THE DATE

Book Launch of *ONE HOUSE DOWN*

Wednesday, October 2, 2019

6:30 pm

The University of Tampa Music Room

401 W. Kennedy Blvd., Tampa 33602

SAVE THE DATE of Wednesday October 2, 2019 for an extraordinary evening of poetry as The University of Tampa Low-Residency MFA program celebrates the publication of *One House Down* (Madville Publishing), the long-awaited second collection by UT MFA graduate, Florida Book Award winner and third-generation Tampanian, Gianna Russo. Russo will be joined by Susan Lilley, Poet Laureate of Orlando, who will read from her recently published collection *Venus in Retrograde* (Burrow Press). Both books will be available for sale and the poets will be sign copies after the reading.



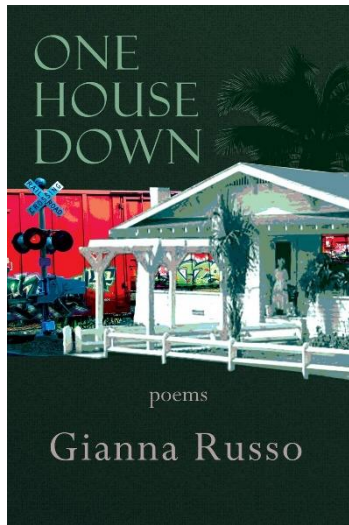
Gianna Russo is a third-generation native of Tampa. She is the author of the poetry collections *One House Down*, (Madville Publishing, 2019), *Moonflower*, winner of a Florida Book Award; and two chapbooks, *Blue Slumber* and *The Companion of Joy*. She is founding editor of YellowJacket Press, Florida's premiere publisher of poetry chapbook manuscripts. She has published poems in *Green Mountains Review*, *Negative Capability*, *Crab Orchard Review*, *Apalachee Review*, *The Sun*, *Poet Lore*, *saw palm*, *The MacGuffin*, *Florida Review*, *Tampa Review*, *Ekphrasis*, *Florida Humanities Council Forum*, *Karamu*, *The Bloomsbury*

Review, and *Calyx*, among others. She was named *Creative Loafing's* Best of the Bay Local Poet in 2017. She holds an MFA in Poetry from The University of Tampa and is Assistant Professor of English and Creative Writing at Saint Leo University, where she teaches in both the undergraduate and graduate programs, serves as editor-in-chief of *Sandhill Review* and directs the Sandhill Writers Retreat.



Susan Lilley, currently serving as the first Poet Laureate of Orlando, is a Florida native. Her poetry and non-fiction have appeared in *American Poetry Review*, *Gulf Coast*, *Poet Lore*, *The Southern Review*, *Drunken Boat*, *Saw Palm*, *Hippocampus*, *The Florida Review*, *Sweet*, *Slipstream*, and other journals. Her two chapbooks are *Night Windows* and *Satellite Beach*. She is a past winner of the Rita Dove Poetry Award and has held a State of Florida Individual Arts Fellowship. She has taught at University of Central Florida and Rollins College, and currently teaches literature and creative writing at Trinity Preparatory School in Winter Park. Her new collection, *Venus in Retrograde*, was published in spring of 2019 by Burrow Press.

What writers are saying about *One House Down*:



Each poem, a song. Each song, a swoon.

Ira Sukrungruang, author of *In Thailand It Is Night*

A “wonderful collection [that] examines the emotional spaces we occupy as we strive for satisfaction, safety, and meaning.”

Erica Dawson, author of *When Rap Spoke Straight to God*

“. . . documents with terrific detail a diverse and fascinating culture in this original exploration of a very particular place.”

Heather Sellers, author of *You Don't Look Like Anyone I Know: a True Story of Family*, *Face-Blindness and Forgiveness*

“A precise and lovingly rendered tour of the rhythms, movements, and loves of a city and its people.”

Steve Kistulentz, author of *Panorama* and *Little Black Daydream*

A “luminous, thoughtful collection [that] explores the bittersweet legacies of old Florida.”

Sandra Beasley, author of *Count the Waves*

“captures life in her Tampa neighborhood, and perhaps neighborhoods everywhere, in all its glory and horror”

Jeff Klinkenberg, author of *Son of Real Florida: Stories from my Life* and recipient of the Florida Humanities Council Lifetime Achievement Award for Writing

“grief, grit, guile and tenderness”

Mary Jane Ryals, Poet Laureate of the Big Bend of Florida and author of *Cookie and Me*.

a “gorgeously rich collection”

Susan Lilley, First Poet Laureate of Orlando, Florida and author of *Venus in Retrograde*.

“a her-story in compelling rhythms”

Earl Sherman Braggs, author of *Negro Side of the Moon*

“looks straight at our human flaws, with warmth and generosity”

Helen Wallace, Poet Laureate of Saint Petersburg, Florida and author of *Shimming the Glass House*