

SOLSTICE

A MAGAZINE OF DIVERSE VOICES

A Reading to Celebrate Our Spring 2025 Issue



HELEN ELAINE LEE's first novel, *The Serpent's Gift*, was published by Atheneum and her second, *Water Marked*, was published by Scribner. Her short stories have appeared in *Ploughshares*, *Prairie Schooner*, *Callaloo*, *Solstice Literary Magazine*, and *Best African American Fiction 2009*. Her novel *Pomegranate*, published in 2023 by Simon & Schuster's Atria Books, was longlisted for the Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Fiction, won the Publishing Triangle 2024 Ferro-Grumley Award for LGBTQ Fiction, and was a finalist for the 2024 Lambda Literary Award for Lesbian Fiction. Helen is a Professor of Comparative Media Studies/Writing at MIT.



ALEXIS RIZZUTO (MFA, Emerson) is a freelance editor based in Cambridge. She was former environmental editor at Beacon Press, and was involved with the Memoir Project, a writing program for Boston's elderly. She has taught writing at Syracuse University and Grub Street and currently teaches at Boston College. Her essay, "Just a Robin," appeared in the Spring 2024 issue of *Solstice*.



MATTHEW E. HENRY (MEH) is the author of six poetry collections, most recently *said the Frog to the scorpion* (Harbor Editions, 2024). He's editor-in-chief of *The Weight Journal*, the CNF editor at *Porcupine Literary*, and an associate editor at *Rise Up Review*. MEH has been nominated for multiple Pushcart, Best of the Net, and Orison awards, and was a finalist for the Massachusetts Book Awards (2020) and New England Poetry Club's Sheila Margaret Motton Book Prize (2023 & 2024) among others. He's the winner of the 2023 *Solstice Literary Magazine* Stephen Dunn Poetry Prize. MEH is a high school teacher who received his MFA yet continued to spend money he didn't have completing an MA in theology and a PhD in education. He writes about education, race, religion, and burning oppressive systems to the ground at www.MEHPoeting.com



This program is supported in part by a grant from the Newton Cultural Council, a local council that is supported by the Mass Cultural Council and the City of Newton.

Saturday, April 5, from 2:00 to 4:00 pm
Newtonville Books, 10 Langley Rd., Newton, MA

Q&A with the authors to follow. Refreshments will be available.
This venue is ADA accessible. For more information: info@solsticelitmag.org
www.solsticelitmag.org