

Graywolf Press announces



***ON THE GROUND* by Fanny Howe**

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**A spiritually resonant and politically urgent new collection of poems
by the 2002 winner of the Lenore Marshall Poetry Prize, Fanny Howe**

“Fanny Howe employs a sometimes fierce, always passionate, spareness in her lifelong parsing of the exchange between matter and spirit. Her work displays as well a political urgency, that is to say, a profound concern for social justice and for the soundness and fate of the polis, the ‘city on a hill.’ Writes Emerson, ‘The poet is the sayer, the namer, and represents beauty.’ Here’s the luminous and incontrovertible proof.” —**MICHAEL PALMER**

This spare, yearning new collection by one of America’s boldest lyricists, Fanny Howe, responds with moving clarity to the contrast between American imperialist goals and the realities of life lived “on the ground.” While our minds are preoccupied with the war games we watch on television, we go on living among our ordinary joys and appetites, according to our daily desires, our routine plans. How can we live under these dissonant conditions and reconcile our existence with our longings?

***ON THE GROUND* (July 2004)** is a bracing and necessary collection, a compelling addition to Howe’s reputation as one of America’s most relevant and visceral contemporary poets.

“In Fanny Howe’s economics of language, similes just won’t do because they produce an unreal world where the poor don’t exist, a place that allows us to think of ‘Utah as if it was Saudi Arabia or Pakistan.’ If Camp X-Ray at Guantanamo Bay is a grotesque stand-in for the present and future of ‘security’ claimed without justice, Fanny Howe turns her own x-ray vision to the things of this world and the constant presence of death beyond a deer stopped in its tracks, London’s chill, the fragility of skin, or the ‘rape robe of war’ that shrouds us all to differing degrees.” —**AMMIEL ALCALAY**

FANNY HOWE is the author of over twenty books of poetry and prose, including *Gone*, *Selected Poems*, *One Crossed Out*, and a collection of essays, *The Wedding Dress*. She lives in New England.

Poetry, Paperback Original, 6 x 9, \$14.00, 72 pages, 1-55597-403-1, **July 2004**