

CONTRAPUNTAL

CHRISTOPHER KONDRICH

Free Verse Editions
Edited by Jon Thompson

Information and Pricing

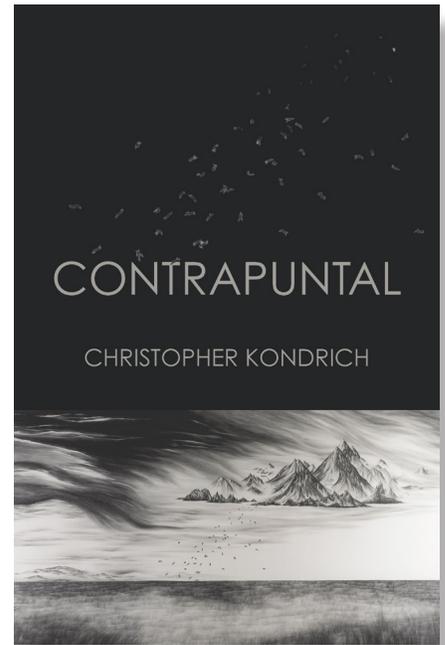
978-1-60235-367-1 (paperback, \$14); 978-1-60235-368-8 (Adobe ebook, \$14). © 2013 by Parlor Press. 89 pages.

“In *Contrapuntal*, an enormously ambitious and masterful debut, Christopher Kondrich has shaped this material into a work of such inventiveness, wit, wisdom, bravura, tenderness and beauty, it leaves me in awe. Or rather, it brings me back to a level of awe I had forgotten I had access to, restoring to their original size my hopes for what a book of poetry might accomplish. I am inordinately grateful for this book.”
— *Timothy Donnelly*

“Before the book begins, the book begins, with contrapuntal movement: “So I take my hand, / and even though I know my hand, / I know I know it, / it feels like your hand.” Throughout the remaining books of this book, a singular duality continues to play, and it is a play of the body, of hands—“I can feel the sounds / between my hands / as I clasp them to play.” In this latter poem, toward the end of the collection, the play on “play” and “pray” is especially apt and emotionally wrought, and—caught up as it is with music, with playing of sounds into emotional sense—such play is both profound and continually delightful. This is a book that needs to be known.” — *Bin Ramke*

“Christopher Kondrich’s *Contrapuntal* is an eerie world of dysymphony and desire, in which the actors have lost their way among objects and senses. Scraps of sound and thought float free, unmoored from belief, and suggest we find a way to bring weight back to the human world. This is a strangely comforting dystopia, pleasing to linger in, a place made of mood and novelistic smoke, the characters in it so clearly our own.” — *Eleni Sikelianos*

CHRISTOPHER KONDRICH is a PhD candidate at the University of Denver and an editor for Denver Quarterly. His poetry has been published in American Letters & Commentary, Barrow Street, Boston Review, Cimarron Review, Free Verse, Meridian, Seneca Review, Verse Daily and elsewhere. He lives in Denver.



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