

Fiddle in the Floorboards



Ben Moeller-Gaa

Fiddle in the Floorboards



Yavanika Press

Fiddle in the Floorboards

Cover photo: Ben Moeller-Gaa

First published in 2018 by Yavanika Press

Bangalore, India

Copyright © 2018 Ben Moeller-Gaa

All rights reserved. This book or any portion thereof may not be reproduced or used in any manner whatsoever without the express written permission of the publisher, except for the use of brief quotations in a book review.

Acknowledgements

I would like to extend my thanks to the editors and publishers of the following publications in which present or earlier versions of these poems previously appeared:

Sonic Boom, Failed Haiku, The Heron's Nest, Pegasus: The Haiku Anthology, Cantos 2017, The Bamboo Hut, the zen space: Spring 2015 Showcase.

pulled back to the refrain
sunrise

morning drizzle
the shifting calculus
of jazz

humming an old hobo tune
i double knot my shoes

rhododendron bloom
the drone of my own
honey song

evening rain the pull of breath through a trumpet

river moon
the slow bend
of the blues

picking through the milkweed grandpa's banjo

old love song
the pinch
of cracked leather

dusk
your
fingers
find
the
sound
of
my
guitar

pub crawl
feeling the fiddle
in the floorboards

brush across the snare drum
the jazz singer's high heels

blues bar
the different ways
we stomp our feet

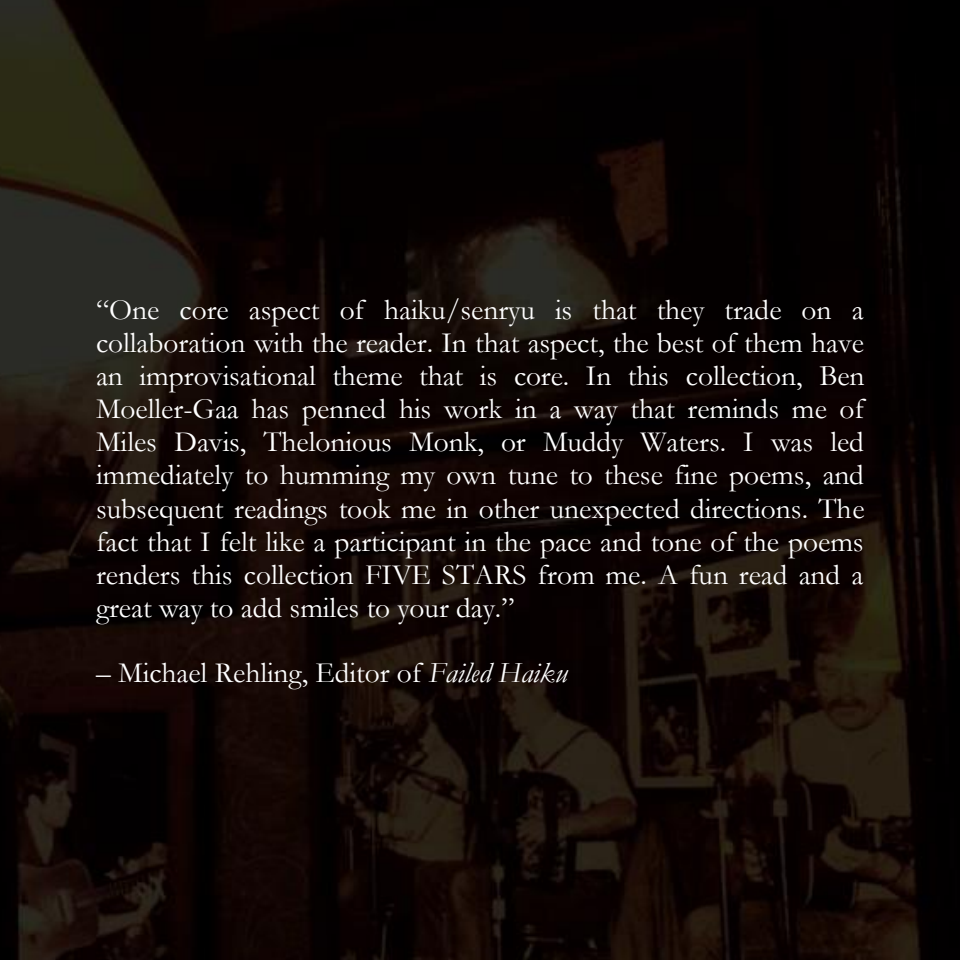
sunset
the record needle finds
my groove

sultry night
the moon consumes
a saxophone

turtledoves —
every word of the song
but the title



Ben Moeller-Gaa is a haiku poet who hails from St. Louis, MO. His work regularly appears in a number of haiku journals and anthologies. He is the author of two haiku chapbooks, the Pushcart nominated *Wasp Shadows* (Folded Word, 2014) and *Blowing on a Hot Soup Spoon* (poor metaphor design, 2014) with a first full length collection, *Wishbones*, due in 2018 from Folded Word. Website: www.benmoellergaa.com



“One core aspect of haiku/senryu is that they trade on a collaboration with the reader. In that aspect, the best of them have an improvisational theme that is core. In this collection, Ben Moeller-Gaa has penned his work in a way that reminds me of Miles Davis, Thelonious Monk, or Muddy Waters. I was led immediately to humming my own tune to these fine poems, and subsequent readings took me in other unexpected directions. The fact that I felt like a participant in the pace and tone of the poems renders this collection FIVE STARS from me. A fun read and a great way to add smiles to your day.”

– Michael Rehling, Editor of *Failed Haiku*