SHAKIN' IT BACK an anthology of lyrics, fiction, non-fiction, poetry, photography & art for Tohoku Edited by Taylor Mignon & Patricia McGahan

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Taylor Mignon (Editor), Ry Beville (Editor), Patricia McGahan (Editor)

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Book Description

Publication Date: March 9, 2014

Shakin' It Back is a collection of work shared at a charity event in Tokyo in late Spring of 2011 to raise funds for disaster relief following the mega-earthquake, tsunami, and nuclear calamity which struck the northeastern shores of Japan on March 11, 2011. It is part of a continued effort to generate funds for assistance and support through the written word, with half of all profits from the book donated to NPOs in the Tohoku region. The volume contains work read or performed by over a dozen expat poets, writers and musicians active in Japan's music and literary scene. In tone, it ranges from hopeful and comedic to tragic and angry (contains some language and mature themes). Not all the material deals directly with the disaster; some contributors chose their pieces as a reaction to it. As a whole, though, it captures the collective spirit of a concerned creative community in the uncertain weeks following 3/11.



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Shakin' It Back

Bright Wave Media, Inc. is pleased to announce the release of Shakin' It Back, a small anthology of poetry and other literary pieces performed at a charity event in Tokyo shortly after March 11th, 2011 to raise money for relief efforts in the Tohoku region. The publication of this work is a continuation of that endeavor of support, with half of the profits to be donated to charities working on behalf of survivors of the earthquake, tsunami and Fukushima disaster.

Edited by veteran Tokyo-based poet and spoken-word advocate Taylor Mignon, as well as Patricia McGahan, an educator in Tokyo, the anthology features the work of over a dozen poets, writers and musicians that gathered to read pieces about, or inspired by, the events of March 11th. It includes poetry by a number of individuals well-known for their contributions to the expat literary scene in Japan, including Wayne Pounds and Frank Spignese. Although slim for an anthology, it contains a great range of style and subject matter, and will likely appeal to anyone interested in poetry, the ongoing narrative of Tohoku, or Japan's community of international creative writers.

Why now?

Although the anthology was complete and ready for publication in late 2011, publisher Ry Beville agreed to delay its release after conversations with prominent officials in the Tohoku region. In particular, Rikuzentakata mayor Toba Futoshi told him in an interview, "My greatest fear is that we will be forgotten." The anthology thus appears now, rather than when the region was receiving frequent coverage in the year following the quake. With three years having passed, this book will hopefully revive reflective memories of that uncertain time and also spark fresh narratives about a region that is still in dire need of continued support.

Shakin It Back is currently available in Kindle edition through the Amazon bookstore for \$7 (users of Mac, Android or Nook devices can download the free Kindle app and purchase the book). While half of all proceeds will be donated, the other half will be earmarked for release of a print version later this year that will include photography and artwork (the digital version does not include this).

Please show your continued support for Tohoku & poetry by purchasing this anthology and/or sharing this announcement with others.

For inquiries please contact the publisher – info@koemagazine.com
or the editors - Patricia McGahan – ps_mcgahan@hotmail.com
- Taylor Mignon – taymig@gmail.com