



Photo: Elana Geller

Jason Holt was born in 1971 in Halifax, Nova Scotia. He teaches philosophy at Concordia University. This is his third book of poetry, preceded by *Feeling Fine in Kafka's Burrow* (1994) and *Memos to No One* (1999). His other works include the novel *Fragment of a Blues* (2001) and the monograph *Blindsight and the Nature of Consciousness* (2003).

  
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 A HAIR'S BREATH OF ABANDON

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[Holt's] lyrics look back to the protosurrealist language sharpenings of Gertrude Stein, while their phrasings seem to echo the laconic—and coolly malevolent—tones of the songs of Leonard Cohen.... But Holt has his own voice, his own vision.... He is a poet of sly, sharp insight.... Holt's demanding art demands our attention.

George Elliott Clarke, *The Halifax Herald*

[C]erebrally seductive... [with] the dreamlike absurdities of David Lynch films.... Holt minutely describes the mind's independent stumbling down its own meaning-seeking paths.

Jim Bartley, *The Globe and Mail*

[I]ntelligent and irreverent... with a supple and assured music.... Holt is dazzlingly eclectic in his dismantling of language.

Mary Dalton, *Books in Canada*

[S]teady and provoking.... Watch out for this guy.

Muriel Gibson, *Atlantic Books Today*