

RELEASE DATE: DECEMBER 20, 2022

"THE MUSIC OF MERMAIDS SINGING BEAUTIFUL TRUE"
MAXINE HONG KINGSTON



PILAR CHRISTIANA GRAHAM

Currents encompasses land, sea, and sky. The cosmic instincts of these poems is to lift themselves from the page as it explores within the silence and white space, found in traditional Chinese landscape paintings. Earthly and sensual tensions live beneath the poems, moving feverishly toward dreams, myth, and madness. The poems stretch towards the unexpected, resulting in the reader having to "work to undress" the poems amongst a landscape within the construct of deep imagery. This collection of poems is strangely brave, while it beautifully and consciously submerges into desire, vulnerability, and loss in order to face survival. The psychological nature of the poems, seen and unseen, is a fearless navigation within the outer dimensions of the abstract, while it intentionally cascades toward the magical, and ultimately, charts courses straight into the headwinds of

"Here, among and between the lines, Graham both seeks and repels the self in carefully constructed verse that rewards the reader's return again and again."

- PENEL ALDEN, AUTHOR OF *CALIFORNIA: POEMS*.

"Pilar's collection, *Currents*, reminds us that home is embodied, present, and fluid." Dr. Kathleen Godfrey
"Graham observers keenly how the loss takes its toll, and with plenty of warnings. And the body rectifying itself from loss."

- MARISOL BACA, AUTHOR OF *TREMOR*, FRESNO POET LAUREATE

"*Currents* presents an intricate and sensuous poetic logbook of an interesting woman's life journey overfraught waters of experience and discovery. An admirably rewarding read."

- C. LOK CHUA, AUTHOR OF *TITLING THE CONTINENT: SOUTHEAST ASIAN WRITING*.

"Pilar's poetry is the music of mermaids singing. Following their currents, we hear silences, and we hear sounds. We're taken to sea-places. And now and again, we land. Beautiful. True."

- MAXINE HONG KINGSTON



Pilar Christiana Graham's poetry has been published in *Sundog*, *Haunted Waters Press*, *Indent Literary Journal*, *Finishing Line Press*, *San Joaquin Review*, *In the Grove*, and *Blackberry*. Published essays have included *Essay Daily*, *The Boiler: A Journal of New Literature*, *Poetry Midwest*, and *Pithead Chapel Press*. Published literary interviews include *The California Journal of Women Writers*. Graham has served as a literary editor and a judge for local and national competitions. She received her MFA in Poetry from CSU Fresno and teaches at CSU Monterey Bay and Fresno City College.

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