WEATHER INVENTIONS

Emily Rosko

With correspondent sweep—inner weather? outer weather? both somehow strobing at once?—and in poems that exist intensely and singly, Emily Rosko’s remarkable Weather Inventions apprehends inter-being as it is made momentarily, in rangy dynamics—the poems themselves—that keep changing like Coleridge’s parabolic starlings. There are the seen ties that the lyric can test and celebrate; in these poems are the ties we never quite verify, that we are made to attend, and feel, in communal proximity. Distance becomes what connects us, becomes potentiality. In these intimations of the earth that insist being of it, Rosko undertakes the immeasurable difficulties of being keenly discerning yet alive to it all.

—William Olsen, author of TechnoRage and Sand Theory

Emily Rosko finds her Muse in the burnished details that are evidence of a deep-down wonder in the natural world. Through her tapestry-like weave of imagistic patterns, her technical mastery of the lyric form, her uncanny ability to articulate the mind’s middle registers, Rosko leaves a reader with a feeling of heightened alertness—“every / molecule in us aware”—to the minutest particulars of our surroundings. Closing the book one can’t help wonder how different our treatment of the earth might be if only we were so awake. Weather Inventions is a unique and marvelous achievement.

—Sherod Santos, author of Square Inch Hours

In Emily Rosko’s third poetry collection, Weather Inventions, she demonstrates how “beauty is thought into being.” These poems are exquisitely crafted, honing the act of attention to a keen edge. Science, the pastoral tradition, meteorology, and the personal all interact and ultimately ask us to contend with the uncertainty of the world around us, its “unsolved riddle.” Weather Inventions promises that “right at the edge of space’s midnight, we lose ourselves past seeing.” Rosko’s piercing gaze, her faith in this struggling life, is what moors us. This a book I plan to read and re-read, as the poems yield more with each new encounter.

—Rebecca Dunham, author of Cold Pastoral

Emily Rosko is the author of two previous poetry collections: Prop Rockery, winner of the 2011 Akron Poetry Prize, and Raw Goods Inventory, winner of the 2005 Iowa Poetry Prize. She has been the recipient of the Stegner and Ruth Lilly fellowships. Editor of A Broken Thing: Poets on the Line (University of Iowa Press, 2011), she also is the poetry editor for Crazyhorse. She is associate professor of English at the College of Charleston.