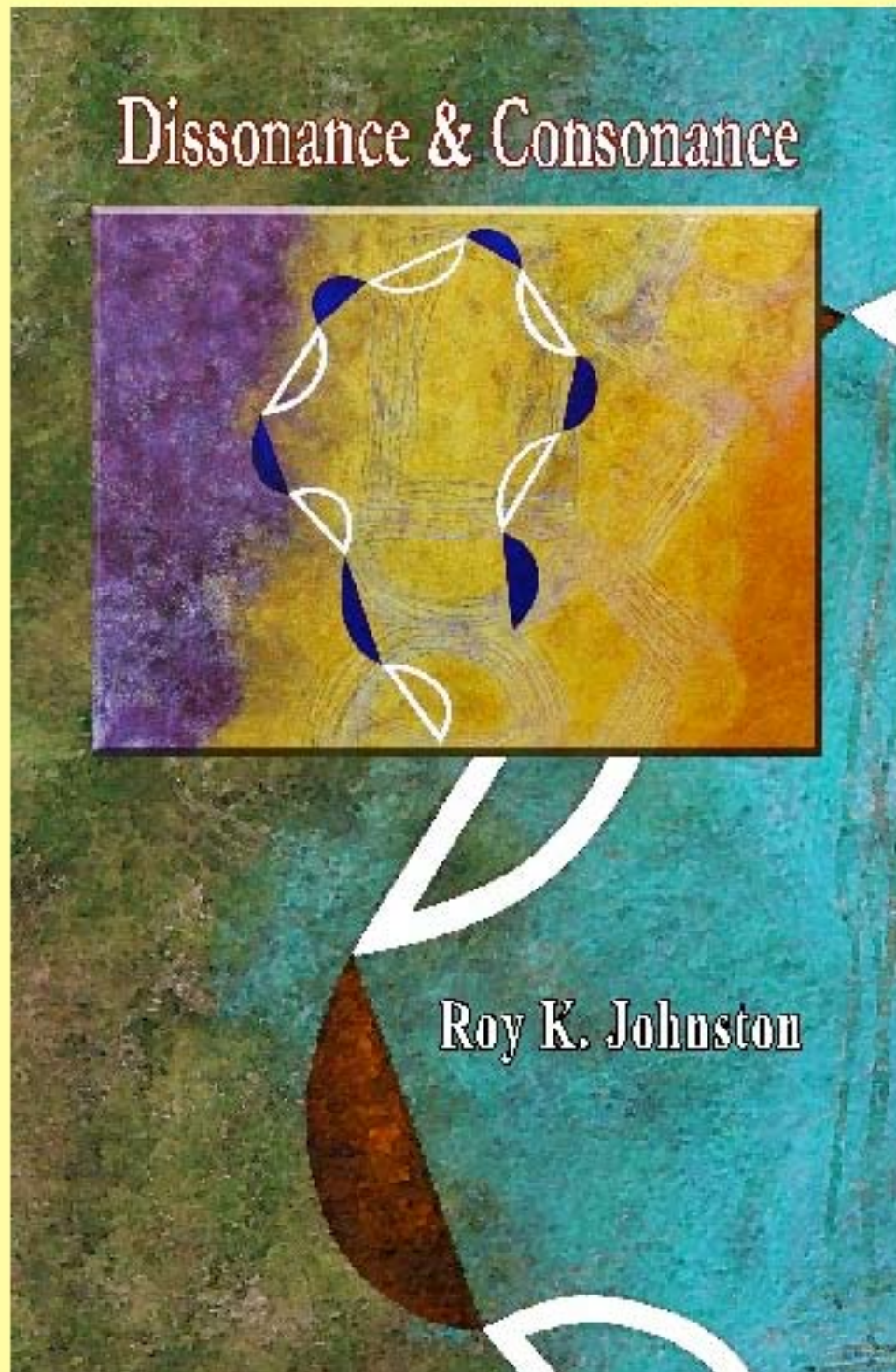


Dissonance & Consonance

Roy K. Johnston



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Roy Kahn Johnston was born in 1938 in New York City. He moved to Southern California at the age of four and was educated in the Torrance Public Schools. He attended the Wiesbaden Conservatory in Germany, graduated with a Master's degree in Clarinet Performance from The Juilliard School in New York City, and earned a Doctorate degree from the University of Southern California Thornton School of Music in Los Angeles. His musical career included the Atlanta Symphony, New York City Ballet, Woody Herman, Glenn Miller and Tommy Dorsey Bands. He served as Dean of the Boston Conservatory and Associate Dean of the University of Southern Mississippi School of Fine Arts.

As a child he wrote poetry, later completed the poetry requirements for the USC Master of Professional Writing Program, and studied poetry at the Charles University in the Czech Republic and the William Joiner Center for War and Its Social Consequences at the University of Massachusetts, Boston. He is published in *Senses Magazine*, Sacramento, CA, *The Tribune*, San Luis Obispo, CA, *Big CityLit*, New York City, *New Times*, San Luis Obispo, CA and *Solo Café Anthology*, Carpinteria, CA. His books include *The System Is Broken*, *Seeds of Tolerance*, and *Kenosis*, San Luis Obispo.

He has been a featured reader at the Annenberg Rare Book and Manuscript Library, University of Pennsylvania; Beyond Baroque, Venice, CA; People's Republic of China, Galaxy II, Yangtze Cruise; and the San Luis Obispo Poetry Festivals. He was recognized by the City of Los Angeles for his 35 years of honorable service as "Performer, Professor, Poet, and Pioneer in the field of "cultural integration".

There is an earnest search for meaning in Roy Johnston's reflections. Innocent without being naive, these convey a heartfelt desire to move that is the mark of a committed poet, while their use of interval and sensitivity to pitch reveal a skilled musician within.

Gavin O'Toole, author of *Che In Verse*

Truman Capote once used the phrase "doing a geographic" to describe his imaginary trips around the world, accomplished with nothing more than imagination and wanderlust. Roy K. Johnston achieves the same thing with his new book of poems—a journey of words and images that transports us from childhood wonder to the things that matter most to him: poetry, music, nature, America today. It's the work of a poet's poet—challenging and reflective.

Kim Powers, author of *Capote in Kansas: A Ghost Story* and *The History of Swimming*