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## **Like Bishop and Lowell, Jessica Hornik and Rex Wilder are Poets and Literary Soulmates**

Jessica Hornik and Rex Wilder, two unique voices in the landscape of American poetry, will be appearing at Chatwin Books' booth (#2351) from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. on Sunday, Jan. 27.

Sharing a literary friendship reminiscent of Elizabeth Bishop and Robert Lowell, Hornik and Wilder have been best friends and literary muses since meeting in New York City thirty-five years ago.

Accomplished writers and poets, Hornik and Wilder have been featured in publications such as *Poetry*, *The Times Literary Supplement*, *The Nation*, *National Review*, the *Yale Review*, and the *Poetry Ireland Review*.

In 2018, Chatwin published Hornik's debut poetry book, *A Door on the River*, and Wilder's fourth poetry collection, *Open Late: New & Collected Poems (1979–2018)*, just nine days apart.

Hornik's *A Door on the River* offers timely, powerful reflections on the tense intersections of personal identity, motherhood, and family. Readers find their lives in hers—in lyrics that sing of the natural world, the close-held territory of home, and the unvoiced drama of the familial.

Hornik says of her work, "Sometimes people are afraid of poetry—they're afraid because they think they can't understand it. I want my book to be one that anyone can pick up without feeling that pressure."

In *Open Late*, Wilder uses wordplay and rhyme to tell of fatherhood, family, and the myriad varieties of love. He writes the poetry of laughter and heartbreak, of light and its attendant shadows. Reading *Open Late* means rediscovering the joy of call-and-response and the beauty of language that rhymes.

Billy Collins, two-term U.S. Poet Laureate, says, "In Rex Wilder's poetry, the tired English of everyday use comes back to us refreshed and full of its original surprise. In a world glutted with poetry, that Wilder has found a new way to say the old things is a notable achievement."

Don't miss the joint appearance of two of Chatwin's standout poets on Sunday, Jan. 27, from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at Chatwin's booth (#2351).