Poet Stephen Campiglio To Read At MCC

Submitted by Mike Jordan-Reilly
MANCHESTER

Stephen Campiglio has assembled a collection of his poems in chapbook form. The collection, entitled “Cross-Fluence,” was published by Soft Spur Press, Missoula, Mont. It is also available at a discount price direct from the author via email, scampiglio@verizon.net.

The title of the collection alludes to the way various influences—from musings on his Italian heritage and ancestral homeland, to travels around the country, and literary inspirations including William S. Burroughs and William Carlos Williams—came together to compose Campiglio’s poetic voice.

“Cross-Fluence is a collection of poems some of which appeared in slightly different forms,” Campiglio said. “The collection is sort of a living body of work that has continued to change and evolve as I’ve encountered various forms over the years.”

Campiglio assembled the poems from his publications in journals, including Black Buzzard Review; Italian Americana; The Literary Review; and The Worcester Review. A native of Stoneham, Mass., who now resides in Sturbridge, Mass., Campiglio also serves as program associate in the college’s credit-free program office in the division of continuing education at Manchester Community College, and some of the poems were also published in the college literary magazine, “Shapes.”

Campiglio said he is pleased that “Cross-Fluence” has come out just in time to help the college celebrate National Library Week, April 8 to 14. He will read selected poems and sign copies of the book from 1 to 3 p.m., April 11 in the MCC library’s Fireside Commons lounge.

“It’s a great feeling to be part of the national celebration of reading and the arts while at the same time sharing my own creative endeavor,” he said.

Campiglio’s commitment to poetry and literature is reflected in his approach to developing the credit-free programs. For example, “Seeing and Writing: A Poet’s Art” and “Minding the Muse: the Practice of Poetry” will be held at the MCC campus beginning Saturday, March 31, from 9:30 a.m. to noon (to register, refer to CRN 12307), and Tuesday, May 5, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. (to register, refer to CRN 12411) respectively.

Campiglio also founded and coordinates the Mishimaya-gat Spoken Word & Music Series, a monthly series of poetry that has included a broad range of local and nationally known poets and musicians for six years.

He holds a bachelor of arts degree in English from Worcester State College and a master’s in education from Assumption College. He has lived in Boston, San Francisco, Missoula, Mont., and Portland, Ore. He has also served as an arts organizer for decades, including as a member of Noh Place Artists’ Cooperative in Worcester; co-founder of the Second Wind Reading Series in Missoula; co-founder/ coordinator of the d’Alson Arts Series at Assumption College. He was a finalist in the Bordighera Poetry Book Prize and has performed his poetry in a multitude of settings over the years, all of which have left a mark on the poetry featured in Cross-Fluence. Campiglio has work forthcoming in the journals, Arts End Books, Marco Polo Arts Magazine, Ping Pong, Skidrow Penthouse, and Off the Coast.

POET Stephen Campiglio.