



Luniver Press

# Hal Shows: PARASOL Poems 1977-2007



## Author

### Hal Shows

Keiser University in Tallahassee, Florida, USA

Florida poet and musician Hal Shows is a State of Florida Individual Artist Fellow and a member of the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences. A chapbook of his poems appeared from the Anhinga Press in 1977.

In 1980, Mr. Shows founded the post-punk rock band Persian Gulf, with whom he released *Changing the Weather* (1984), *Persian Gulf: The Movie* (1986), and *Trailer* (1987). Subsequent solo productions include *Birthday Suit* (1990), *Lifeboat* (1995), *Whitman's Sampler* (2000), and *Native Dancer* (2003).

Mr. Shows teaches at Keiser University in Tallahassee, Florida. *Parasol* is his first full-length volume of poems.

In language at once bracingly direct and lyrical, these poems, which roam from the freest of free verse to traditional forms, fuse the creative heart and the keen critical intellect in a way reminiscent of D.H. Lawrence and Stanley Kunitz. Their themes range from the personal to the global. Classical motifs merge with modern mayhem, and the results are revelatory. At the centre of the book is the search for love in a world that degrades the notion daily. This rare volume of poems will appeal equally to the scholar, the critic, the lover of poetry, and all students of the human heart.

## Review

"Hal Shows' songs are as rawboned as the best Creedence Clearwater Revival; they link personal frustration and political rage without wasting a word or a note."— *New York Times*

"Hal Shows is an artist with a vision; it isn't a pretty one. Frustration, betrayal, the search for love, and the failure of Christianity are themes running through his work."— *Option Magazine*

"Hal Shows is a natural born poet and a rock and roll mastermind all in one extremely talented package."— *Tallahassee Democrat*

## Bibliographic information

ISBN-13: 978-1-905986-06-4  
ISBN-10: 1-905986-06-8  
PUB DATE: October 2007  
FORMAT: Paperback  
PAGES: 84

LIST PRICE:  
\$12.00  
£8.00  
€11.00

AUDIENCE: Academics, researchers and graduate students in literature, lovers of poetry, professionals in classical studies. Valuable supplementary reading for graduate students.

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