

Howard work selected as poem of the week

1/19/06

"Necessities," a poem by Dr. Benjamin W. Howard, professor of English at Alfred University, was selected by Salmon Publishing, Knockeven, Cliffs of Moher, County Clare, Ireland, as its poem of the week, Jan. 17-23, 2006. The poem appears in Howard's book, "Dark Pool" (2004). Captivated by Ireland, Howard writes just about the most natural, musical iambic line around these days, primarily in a propulsive, precise, and vocal blank verse but also in sonnets, quatrains, and unrhymed forms, says Ray Olson of "Booklist." "It's as seductive of the inner ear as Irish storytelling is of the outer, gently drawing attention to large, subtle meanings. And is any meaning larger than that which courses through his work: that language creates the world as much as the world creates language?" For more information about "Dark Pool," go to www.salmonpoetry.com/dark... is the author of the verse novella "Midcentury" (Salmon, 1997), "The Pressed Melodeon: Essays on Modern Irish Writing" (Story Line Press, 1996), and three previous collections of poems. A recipient of numerous awards, including the Milton Dorfman Prize, the Theodore Christian Hoepfner Award, and an NEA Creative Writing Fellowship, he is a frequent contributor to American literary journals. He teaches literature, writing, and classical guitar.