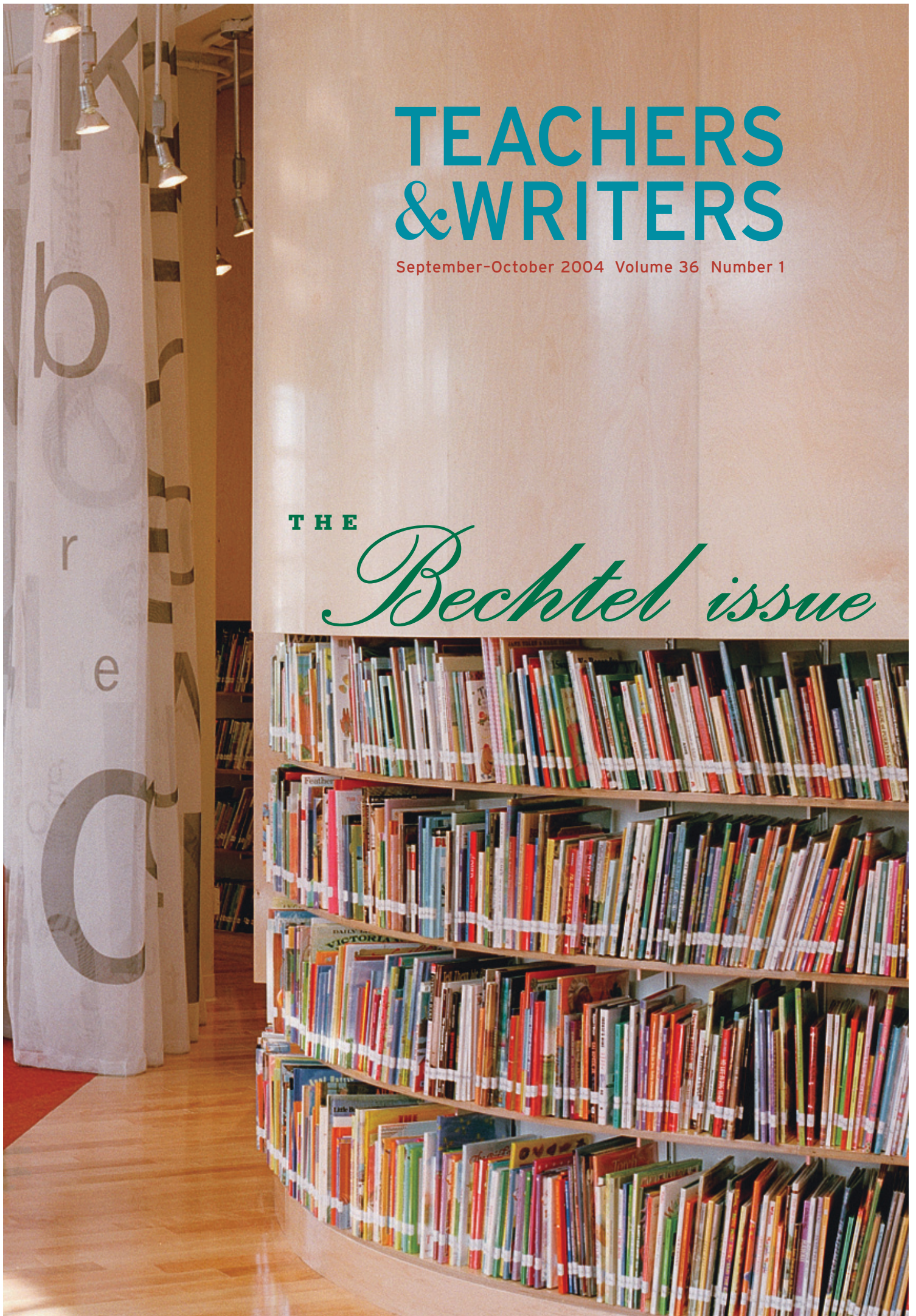


TEACHERS & WRITERS

September-October 2004 Volume 36 Number 1

THE

Bechtel issue



CONTRIBUTORS

About the Cover Art: The cover images are drawn from The Library Initiative, a partnership of the Robin Hood Foundation, the NYC Department of Education, and a team of pro bono architects. The Library Initiative seeks to transform elementary school libraries into exquisitely designed interactive spaces, including instructional areas filled with comfortable couches and chairs, cozy reading nooks, tented performance spaces, and children's poetry (some created in T&W workshops) on the walls. With a view to making the libraries a compelling resource, the Board of Education has agreed to keep the new libraries open daily until 5 P.M. The first ten libraries of the Initiative were completed in fall 2002 and serve children and parents in Harlem, the South Bronx, Brooklyn, Queens, and Staten Island. By this winter, 21 more libraries will be reinvented.

Mary Cappello is the author of the memoir *Night Bloom* (Beacon Press), a multi-genre work that combines oral history, folklore, letters, and cultural theory. In 2001, she was awarded a Fulbright Lectureship at the Gorky Literary Institute in Moscow. Her essay in this issue ("Can Creative Writing Be Taught?") was inspired by the question posed to her by the Institute's Sergei Petrovich, and was first delivered as a talk to Russian teachers. Professor of English at the University of Rhode Island, Cappello teaches courses in creative writing, American literature, and Literature and Medicine.

Richard Hague is a Master Teacher and Teacher of the Year at Purcell Marian High School in Cincinnati, where the Writing Program he designed and administered won the 1994 National First Place in the English-Speaking Union's Award For Excellence. He is the author of ten collections of poetry, from *Ripening* (Ohio State University Press, 1984) to *Alive In Hard Country* (Bottom Dog Press, 2003) and *The Time It Takes Light* (Word Press, 2004.) His collection *Milltown Natural: Essays and Stories from a Life In Ohio* was a National Book Award nominee. Hague lives in Cincinnati with his wife Pam Korte, a potter and college teacher, and their sons Patrick and Brendan.

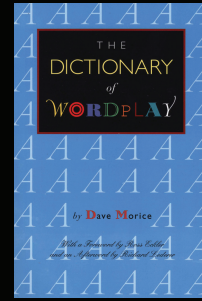
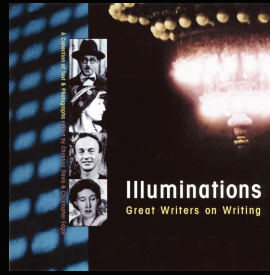
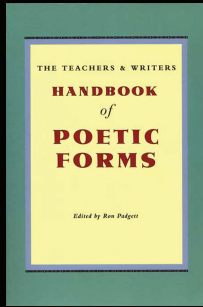
Leonard Marcus is a children's book reviewer and author of *Margaret Wise Brown*, a biography of the author of *Goodnight Moon*. His book *The Wand in the Word: Conversations with Writers of Fantasy* is forthcoming. His publications are listed at leonardmarcus.com.

Nancy Larson Shapiro is Director of Teachers & Writers Collaborative, co-editor of *The Point: Where Teaching & Writing Interest*, and publisher of Grace Court Press.

Sam Swope is the author of several books for children, including *The Araboolies of Liberty Street* (Farrar Straus & Giroux), *The Krazees* (FSG), and *Gotta Go! Gotta Go!* (FSG). His forthcoming book for adults, *I Am a Pencil* (Henry Holt, 2004), a nonfiction account of teaching creative writing to a group of 36 kids from 21 different countries in a Queens public school, will feature his Bechtel Prize essay. Swope is currently the Dean of the New York Public Library's Summer Seminars for High School English Teachers and a freelance reviewer for *The New York Times Book Review*.



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