

## Introduction

Any celebration is a gathering of thanks. This issue of *The Capilano Review* celebrates the life and work of Robin Blaser, and thus, to him go our thanks for his long cultivation of a poetry which clarifies and rejuvenates our language, our inheritance. Our thanks go also to the many other poets whose echoes, hybrids, and new varieties animate these pages. Particular gratitude goes to the organisers of *The Recovery of the Public World*—the Festival and Conference dedicated to Robin's poetics, held in Vancouver in June 1995, at which many of the poets represented here read their work. Their reappearance in this *festschrift* issue of *The Capilano Review* is thus a print echo of that other celebration.

This *festschrift* was the inspiration of Dorothy Jantzen, and I thank her and Jenny Penberthy for selecting the material for the issue, a challenge balanced on the one hand by the joy of reading such a wide variety of excellent poetry and on the other by the need to choose or exclude. My thanks also go to Jane Hamilton and Elizabeth Rains, Managing Editors, who piloted this project from inception to completion.

The readers who find this *festschrift* invigorating should also seek out the recent issue of *Sulfur* and the forthcoming issue of *West Coast Line*, both of which contain material from *The Recovery of the Public World*. A book of the Conference papers is also underway. In tandem with the present issue of *The Capilano Review*, these publications will form a fuller impression of the importance of Robin's work and his ongoing influence. For that also, our thanks.

Bob Sherrin

