

PREFACE

Birth is not a beginning; death is not an end. — CHUANG-TZU

This double issue is dedicated to Bob Johnson, the man responsible for the original graphic design of *The Capilano Review*. Bob died this Spring.

When we first proposed a magazine at Capilano, I wanted one that would not only print good work, but also one whose design would treat that work with respect. Bob Johnson, a successful commercial artist then teaching part-time at Capilano as an avocation, agreed to advise me. In spite of this generosity I was at first suspicious: I didn't believe a commercial artist could be sensitive to the problems of printing poetry.

I soon learned I was wrong. With patience he explained to me graphic design principles. He drew quick sketches, both to illustrate his argument and to test my visual perception. He was a good teacher and gradually we came to agree on some ideas. Then, after a few weeks of not seeing him, he showed up at my office with some rolls of paper under his arm. I was overwhelmed: he had drawn up full-scale layouts for almost every design element of the magazine. Beautiful though they were, they were also unconventional, and therefore risky. But time, I think, has proven him right: in expressing appreciation for how their work has been printed, the writers and artists the magazine serves pay tribute to his talent and foresight. This is for Bob, a lovely man, who in my dream did know the meaning of Chuang-Tzu's words.

There is another to whom the magazine owes much: with this issue Daphne Marlatt ends her work on *The Capilano Review* as Poetry Editor. It is impossible to thank her enough for all that she has done. She continues to illuminate our lives.

Pierre Coupey
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