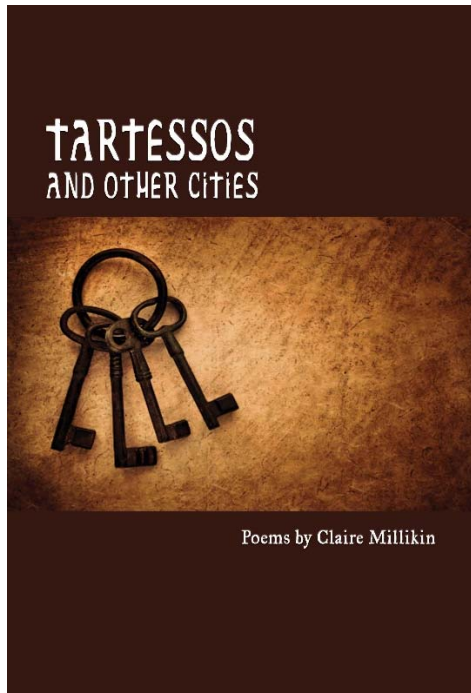


TARTESSOS AND OTHER CITIES

Poems by Claire Millikin



by Claire Millikin

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TARTESSOS AND OTHER CITIES is Claire Millikin's second book of poetry with 2Leaf Press that continues to explore homelessness. In this collection, Millikin uses the sensitivity of poetry to express some of the emotions surrounded by homelessness and loss. Named for Tartessos, a lost city on the Guadalquivir, a river in Andalusia, Spain that was likely buried by a devastating tidal wave in BC, the poems in TARTESSOS gather lost cities and places that were not myths, but were once real. Throughout the collection, Millikin addresses questions such as, "What happened to home" and "Where do I come from?" that examines American geographies of loss, with the poems serving as archeological elements that persist against these losses. From New York City to Muscogee Country, Georgia, from New Haven, to the Haw River, TARTESSOS charts a map of disappearances and resistances to vanishing that make up part of the ghostly American landscape. In the end, Millikin leads readers to discover that home is not just the place where you happen to live, it is the place where you become yourself.

"In TARTESSOS, Claire Millikin takes us deep into both the imagined and real cities and houses of the mind. Memory strikes an urgent chord in her work, haunted by the family and strangers who step in and out of a world that is lost and found and lost again. . . . TARTESSOS is a stunning mix of evocative beauty and remarkably fine-tuned language."

—Kathleen Ellis, author of *VANISHING ACT* (2007)

"Tartessos was a semi-mythical harbor city on the south coast of the Iberian Peninsula. The Tartessians were important tradespeople, most notably of gold, silver, tin and bronze. In Claire Millikin's TARTESSOS AND OTHER CITIES, she offers poetry that is metal-rich, that solders narratives and images of precious value. . . . Millikin's poems are amulets of hope, endurance and survival."

—Sean Frederick Forbes, author of *PROVIDENCIA: A BOOK OF POEMS* (2013)

"The project of Claire Millikin's TARTESSOS AND OTHER CITIES is to come to terms with the condition of being cut off from origins - the timeless subject of exile. These poems enact the difficult work of retracing one's way through imagination to lost home and lost memory, landscape calling out to be mended. The book's honesty and precision in looking back achieves remarkable transformation-the possibility of seeing the present moment anew."

—Debra Nystrom, author of *NIGHT SKY FREQUENCIES
NEW AND SELECTED POEMS* (2016)

About the Poet

CLAIRE MILLIKIN's poetry has appeared in numerous literary journals and magazines, and she is the author of the chapbook *The Gleaners* (Tiger's Eye Press, 2013), and her poetry collections, *Museum of Snow* (Grayson Books, 2013), *After Houses* (2Leaf Press, 2014), and *Motels Where We Lived* (Unicorn, 2014). She received her BA in philosophy from Yale University, MFA in poetry from New York University, and PhD in English literature from the Graduate Center of the City University of New York. She currently teaches art history and sociology, as a lecturer at the University of Virginia. www.claireraymond.org.

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