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**TITLE:** [Collective Brightness](#)

AUGUST 16, 2011

Editor: Kevin Simmonds

Paperback 250 pages; \$24.95

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## "The Sacred Text of Our Queer Times"

**THE BOOK:** *Collective Brightness: LGBTIQ Poets on Faith, Religion & Spirituality* is the first-ever anthology featuring LGBTIQ poets from all over the world writing about and from various faith, religion and spiritual practices.

**THE BUZZ:** *Tales of the City* author Armistead Maupin says, "Kevin Simmonds has achieved something remarkable with this anthology: he has shed light on the universal hunger for spirit by assembling poets who are not so much adherents of religion as survivors of it. The truth for him seems to lie in the tender reaches of the resilient queer heart. I can live there too — even without God -- so I found this book compelling and beautiful." Poet and critic Rigoberto Gonzalez says, "*Collective Brightness* sheds a shining light on a journey that no longer takes place in the dark. The glory of holding Kevin Simmonds's anthology in one's hands is that it burns as the sacred text of our queer times: heavy with burden, luminous with hope." Janice Mirikitani of San Francisco's Glide Church and poet Patricia Smith have also written of the anthology.

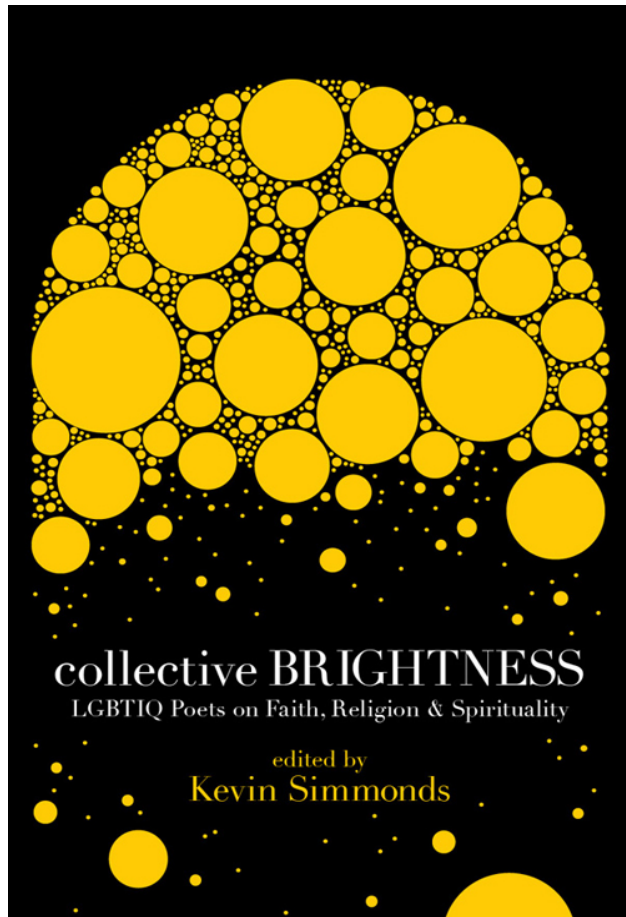
**THE EDITOR:** San Francisco-based poet and musician Kevin Simmonds, author of *Mad for Meat* (Salmon Press, 2011), He has received fellowships from the Atlantic Center for the Arts, Cave Canem, Fulbright, Jack Straw, Community of Writers at Squaw Valley, Napa Valley Writers' Conference and the San Francisco Arts Commission.

**THE LAUNCH:** As the release of this book is truly a global event, book launch celebrations are being planned from San Francisco to New York City to Minneapolis to Washington DC. One of the first events will occur in London, at the London Buddhist Centre on Friday, October 21 at 7:30 pm, when all of the UK poets included in the anthology will read. Editor Kevin Simmonds will be in attendance and will introduce the evening.

**THE PRESS:** The mission of Sibling Rivalry Press is to develop, publish, and promote outlaw artistic talent. We are also home to *Assaracus*, the world's only print journal devoted to contemporary gay poetry. Learn more at [siblingrivalrypress.com](http://siblingrivalrypress.com).

**THE POETS:** Franklin Abbott • Shirlette Ammons • Jeffrey Angles • Ari Baniyas • Ellen Bass • Jeffery Beam • Robin Becker • Dan Bellm • Oliver Bendorf • Ahimsa Timoteo Bodhrán • Moe Bowstern • Ana Božičević • Elizabeth Bradfield • Jericho Brown • Nickole Brown • Regie Cabico • Michelle Cahill • Rafael Campo • Ching-In Chen • Seung-Ja Choe • Maya Chowdhry • James Cihlar • Andrea Cohen • Steven Cordova • Edward Debonis • Neil De La Flor • Joseph Delgado • Cheryl Dumesnil • Blas Falconer • Danielle Feris • John Frazier • J. Neil C. Garcia • Rj Gibson • Brent Goodman • Benjamin S. Grossberg • Jeremy Halinen • Robert Hamberger • Forrest Hamer • Reginald Harris • Jen Hofer • Fanny Howe • Azwan Ismail • Maria Jastrzębska • Joe Jimenez • Irfan Kasban • Maya Khosla • Jee Leong Koh • Paula Kolek • Keetje Kuipers • Rickey Laurentiis • Joseph O. Legaspi • R. Zamora Linmark • Timothy Liu • Raymond Luczak • Ed Madden • Maitreyabandhu • Jeff Mann • Sophie Mayer • Jill McDonough • John Medeiros • Jay Michaelson • Dante Micheaux • Susan L. Miller • Kamilah Aisha Moon • James Najarian • Angelo Nikolopoulos • Mendi Lewis Obadike • G. E. Patterson • Christopher Phelps • Carl Phillips • Olumide Popoola • D. A. Powell • Katy Price • Ruben Quesada • Amir Rabiya • Bushra Rehman • William Reichard • Steven Riel • Joseph Ross • Roberto F. Santiago • Jason Schneiderman • Ruth Schwartz • Maureen Seaton • Seni Seneviratne • Elaine Sexton • Gregg Shapiro • Anne Shaw • Christopher Soden • Yerra Sugarman • Gabriel Sylvian • Atsusuke Tanaka • Yermiyahu Ahron Taub • Brian Teare • Daniel Nathan Terry • Truong Tran • Addie Tsai • Amy Tudor • Steve Turtell • Megan Volpert • Arisa White • Marvin White • Cyril Wong • Mark Wunderlich • Emanuel Xavier • Tom Yates • Crystal Ybarra • Chrissy Anderson-Zavala

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