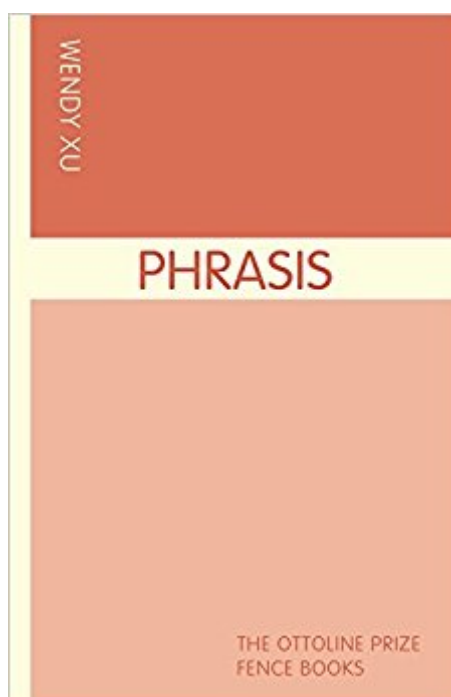


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Phrasis (Ottoline Prize)



Synopsis

This second collection by Wendy Xu develops her lyricism; a seraphic, extractive poetics; in the serenely personalized landscape of Brooklyn. Wendy Xu articulates the whole world by freezing it all at once, looking closely at its parts, and zeroing in on the one image or phrase or feeling that makes the day seem possibly beautiful under all the scaffolding, sirens, and other natural (analog and online) interruptions that make up daily living. About her work, the poet James Tate wrote, "Wendy Xu breaks all the old rules that have never done us any favors anyway." Phrasid was selected by Hoa Nguyen for The Ottoline Prize. Previous winners include Harmony Holiday, Chelsey Minnis, and Ariana Reines. From "Some People": "I had a theory, it flung its scent over every shadow surface. One human apartment, one comes to a loud boil in the morning. If they found me oblique then I am doing this for my blue augmented self now. Fear of the unannounced colloquial war, or, I liked it when the sullen man said just leave your name. The restaurant was crowded. The news was death watches were available, I felt devoted to my new angel of losing time." Wendy Xu is author of the full-length collection *You Are Not Dead*, and several chapbooks, including *Naturalism*. Xu is the recipient of a Ruth Lilly and Dorothy Sargent Rosenberg Fellowship from the Poetry Foundation as well as the Patricia Goedicke Prize in Poetry (selected by D.A. Powell). She lives in New York City, teaches writing at CUNY, and serves as Poetry Editor for *Hyperallergic*.

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