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## UPCOMING EVENTS

George Mason MFA  
Alumni Celebration  
10/7/21

Busboys and Poets  
Washington, DC  
10/15/21

Open Mouth Literary Center  
Virtual Reading  
10/29/21

Middle East Institute  
for Arts & Culture  
Virtual Reading  
with Zaina Alsous  
11/4/21

# NEWS

## Danielle Badra's *Like We Still Speak*, Winner of the 2021 Etel Adnan Poetry Prize, Now Available

FAYETTEVILLE, Ark. – Conversation and memory are at the heart of Danielle Badra's *Like We Still Speak*, winner of the 2021 Etel Adnan Poetry Prize. In her elegiac and formally inventive debut, Badra carries on talking with the sister and father she has lost, often setting her words alongside theirs and others' in polyphonic poems that can be read in multiple directions. Badra invites the reader to engage in this communal space where she investigates inheritance, witnessing, intimacy, and survival.

Danielle Badra is a queer Arab American poet who was raised in Michigan and currently resides in Virginia, where she received an MFA from George Mason University.

"[*Like We Still Speak*] is a deeply spiritual book," write series editors Fady Joudah and Hayan Charara, "all the more so because of its clarity and humility. Yet, we cannot walk away from the addictive command that so many of these poems ask us to follow: to read them along plural paths whose order changes while their immeasurable spirit remains unbound. Each poem is a singular vessel—of narratives, embodiments that correspond with memories, memories that recollect passion. . . *Like We Still Speak* is a sanctum. Inside it, we are enthralled by beauty, consoled by light, sustained by making."

Every year the University of Arkansas Press accepts submissions for the Etel Adnan Poetry Series and awards the \$1,000 Etel Adnan Poetry Prize to a first or second book of poetry, in English, by a writer of Arab heritage. Since its inception in 2015 the series has sought to celebrate and foster the writings and writers that make up the vibrant and diverse Arab American community, and the University of Arkansas Press has long been committed to publishing diverse kinds of poetry by a diversity of poets. The prize is named in honor of the world-renowned poet, novelist, essayist, and artist Etel Adnan.

Previous winners of the Etel Adnan Poetry Prize include Jess Rizkallah (*the magic my body becomes*), Peter Twal (*Our Earliest Tattoos*), Zaina Alsous (*A Theory of Birds*, winner of the Norma Farber Award from the Poetry Society of America and an Arab American Book Award), and Jessica Abughattas (*Strip*).

***Like We Still Speak* is now available.  
\$16.95 paperback**