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City Tech Professor Publishes New Collection of Poetry Exploring Memory and Place

Brooklyn, NY—June 2, 2016—City Tech congratulates Professor Robert Ostrom, Department of English, on the publication of his collection of poems, *Ritual and Bit*, (Saturnalia, 2016). Ostrom teaches development writing and composition at City Tech and poetry at Columbia University. He is the winner of the 2015 Saturnalia Books Poetry Prize. *Ritual and Bit* is a book filled with poems about the speaker's past: empty 40s, old posters, family lies, and fragmented missives.

“I would say that many of my poems were motivated by a desire to trust that the poem itself—its form and music—would construct and make sense of its content,” said Ostrom.

Of *Ritual and Bit*, Mary Ruefle, a 2015 Saturnalia Books Poetry Prize judge, said: “‘Trust me, says what you are about to read to your beautiful ear.’ And I do, I trust these quiet poems of deep loss as they spiral their way in and hold my attention, as they meander the strange stream of their own making, and arrive at that wonderful old unnameable place, poetry’s heart.”

Ostrom’s writing has appeared in *New Voices from the Academy of American Poets*, *Columbia: A Journal of Literature and Art*, *Gulf Coast*, *Cut Bank*, *Drunken Boat*, and *Western Humanities Review*, among other literary publications. He has participated in poetry readings at The Poetry Project and Columbia University.

Other poems from Ostrom can be found in his debut book of poetry, *The Youngest Butcher in Illinois*, (Yes Yes Books, 2012), and in his two chapbooks, *To Show the Living* (The New York Center for Book Arts, 2008) and *Nether and Qualms* (Projective Industries, 2012).

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About City Tech (New York City College of Technology)

City Tech, of The City University of New York, is the largest four-year public college of technology in the Northeast and a national model for technological education. City Tech has an enrollment of more than 17,000 students in 25 baccalaureate and 27 associate degree programs and was recently ranked number one in the nation in producing the highest paid associate degree-earning graduates (<http://www.payscale.com/college-salary-report/2-year-colleges#fullText>). For more information, visit www.citytech.cuny.edu.

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