**RUTH THOMPSON BIOGRAPHY**

**June 2021**

**RUTH THOMPSON** is an award-winning poet and channel. [QUICKWATER ORACLES](http://twofinecrowsbooks.com/quickwater-oracles) is first collection of channels. Ruth has published four books of poetry: [Whale Fall & Black Sage,](https://www.indiebound.org/book/9781732952102) [Crazing](https://www.indiebound.org/book/9780991395262), [Woman With Crows](https://www.indiebound.org/book/9780983307280), and [Here Along Cazenovia Creek](https://www.indiebound.org/book/9780983307204). She began writing in her fifties, after freeing herself from an abusive marriage, about which she wrote in *Woman With Crows.* Her “fierce, gorgeous, sensual poems of earth-as-body and body-as-earth” have been praised by Stanley Plumly, Philip Terman, Irving Feldman, Frank X. Gaspar, and others. Her work has won *New Millennium Writings,* *Harpur Palate*, *Chautauqua*, *Tupelo Quarterly,* and other national awards, and has been nominated several times for the Pushcart Prize.

*Whale Fall* was choreographed and performed in Hilo, Hawai'i by dancers Jenn Eng, Karen Masaki, and Colee Garr in 2018. *Here Along Cazenovia Creek* was choreographed and performed by revered dancer Shizuno Nasu of Japan in 2021. Ruth also performed with cellist Lee Zimmerman in Whitefish, Montana in 2019.

Ruth received a BA from Stanford University and a doctorate in English from Indiana University. She has been an English professor, library administrator, book editor, and college dean in California. She lives in Ithaca, NY with her partner, anthropologist-writer Don Mitchell, where she is an editor of Saddle Road Press and teaches poetry, writing from the body, and embodied meditation. She was a contributor at AROHO women writers' retreats from 2011-2015, and has been writer in residence at Rivendell Writers’ Colony, Rockvale Writers' Colony, and Walking Lightly Ranch in Montana. Along with Don Mitchell, she held the Williamson Endowed Chair of Creative Writing at Eastern New Mexico University in 2019.

Ruth talks about her work [here.](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=obJBbK99zkQ)  Poems, videos of performances, and further information can be found [here.](https://www.ruththompson.net/)

