

# Roberto Bonazzi

Poet, Fiction Writer, Editor, Book Reviewer

Bonazzi has completed a biography of *Black Like Me* author John Howard Griffin, *Reluctant Activist*, a follow-up to the critically acclaimed *Man in the Mirror* (Orbis, 1997). His most recent books are *Oawakened by Surprise* (Lamar University Literary Press, 2016), *Outside the Margins: Literary Commentaries* (Wings, 2015) and *The Scribbling Cure: Poems & Prose Poems* (Pecan



Grove, 2012). He writes reviews for *World Literature Today* and *The San Antonio Express-News*.

While Bonazzi's poetry has been characterized by critic Paul Christensen as taking "poetry to its limits of subtlety, where sense nearly but does not quite give out into silence and awe," his fictional pieces are at times entirely opposite. They ripple with sarcasm, satire, puns, and plays on clichés, pondering headlong into the paradoxical realities of society, philosophy and art, illuminated by his heroes—Kierkegaard, Kafka, Beckett, seditious commas, and a pianist who plays *only* the first nine notes of *Für Elise* (but to perfection).