

Featured Local Author:

Sy Margaret Baldwin



Sy was born and grew up in the West Midlands of England; she now resides in Long Barn, California. Sy describes how Tuolumne county became home:

I have a love of the outdoors. In 1978 I applied for a summer job with the US Forest Service and, to my surprise, was offered a job as a firefighter on Stanislaus National Forest. That was the beginning of a long career— first as a firefighter and then as a Wildlife Technician.

Sy is the author of *"Signal Fires"* - a book of poetry, published October 31st 2014. She has also been a featured poet in *Sonora Seasons* and *Stanislaus Connections* publications, as well as numerous literary magazines - including *Poetry Now*, *Tule Review*, *Third Wednesday*, *Common Ground Review*, and *Calyx*. Sy recalls what led her to become an author:

At the age of eleven I learned to love poetry from a teacher who introduced me to the work of the English Romantics. Later, in my twenties, I began to write poetry myself.

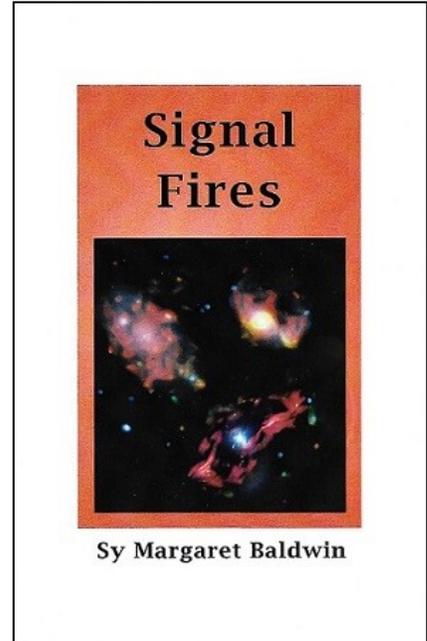
Sy's ideal place to write is at home, at her desk looking out at a beautiful cedar grove and sapling black oaks.

Notable comments:

*"Sy's poetry is reflective and brave in its reflection."
-- Barbara Riley (Santa Fe)*

*"Sy Margaret Baldwin's poems are inhabited by a singular wind, one that refreshes us as it reveals the human predicament"
-- Pam Bernard (Walpole, New Hampshire)*

*"You are a poet after my own heart"
-- Barbara Kingsolver*



Sy does not recommend any particular title, as she feels **"Everyone must search for their own life-changing book."**

Her thoughts on libraries: **"Libraries are essential. They open doors to the world and are free to the poorest person."**



Photo left:
Sy sells copies of her book at the Tuolumne Writers' Retreat, 2015.

Photo right:
Sy reads at the Great Overland Bookstore in San Francisco.



A few of Sy's favorite (local) things:

- Festival or Event - Tuolumne Writers' Retreat and The Calaveras County Fair (jumping frogs)
- Historic Figure - John Muir
- Tourist Attraction - Calaveras Big Trees State Park
- Food & Drink - Mia's (in Pinecrest) and Sonora Thai
- Museum or Gallery - Ventana Galleries in Sonora

Visit her website to learn more about Sy, at symargaretbaldwin.com