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Monkfish Re-Organizes for the Future, Brings on Jon M. Sweeney as Associate Publisher

Always independent Monkfish Book Publishing Company of Rhinebeck, New York, is making plans for the future. Founded by publisher Paul Cohen in 2002, Cohen is now adding longtime designer, Colin Rolfe, to the ownership structure, and promoting him to Director of Design, Production and Administration. Anne McGrath also takes on an equity interest in the company, and is being promoted to Literary Editor. And Cohen is luring longtime editor, author, and publishing veteran Jon M. Sweeney from Orbis Books to be a partner and Associate Publisher starting May 1.

Monkfish publishes spiritual and literary books from a diverse range of perspectives. Authors include Mirabai Starr, Stephen Levine, Cynthia Bourgeault, Rabbi Rami Shapiro, Rabbi Tirzah Firestone, Clark Strand, Elizabeth Cunningham, and Mark Matousek. The press celebrates its 21st year in business this June.

Sweeney's charge is to grow this list. Four new acquisitions are a spiritual memoir, ***For Love of the Broken Body*** by Julia Walsh; ***The Life of Swami Abhishiktananda Told through His Letters***, edited by members of the Delhi Brotherhood Society (Abhishiktananda Center for Interreligious Dialogue) in Delhi, India; ***Wild Grace: Poems*** by previously self-published and best-selling inspirational poet Chelan Harkin; and a "Roots of Christian Mysticism" series starting with ***Jacopone da Todi: Poet and Mystic*** by Evelyn Underhill, with a foreword by Dana Greene.

On the literary side, McGrath is launching a new literary line for the press with three recently acquired poetry titles: ***Psalms of Unknowing: Poems*** by Heather Lanier, author of *Raising a Rare Girl*; Mark Burrows' new translation and bilingual edition of Rilke's ***Sonnets to Orpheus***; and Iraj Anvar and Elizabeth T. Grays' (Pen Award nominee for poetry in translation) bilingual edition of ***Wine and Prayer: Eighty Ghazals from the Divan of Hafiz***.

Monkfish books are distributed to the trade in North America by Consortium Book Sales and Distribution/IPS, and Ingram Publisher Services International overseas.

Asked about the changes, Cohen says: "After twenty years of being a boss with employees, it's exciting to be working with truly committed partners. My hopes for Monkfish have never been higher."

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