

## Author's Biography

**Joan Retallack** is a poet and essayist with a background in philosophy and visual arts. Poetry volumes include *Errata Suite* (Edge Books) chosen by Robert Creeley for a Columbia Book Award; *AFTERRIMAGES* (Wesleyan); *How To Do Things With Words* (Sun & Moon Classics); *Procedural Elegies / Western Civ Cont'd* (Roof Books)—an Artforum Best Book of 2010. She has received a Lannan Poetry Award, a Pushcart Prize, and two Gertrude Stein Awards. Her friendship with John Cage led to *MUSICAGE* (Wesleyan), a volume of their conversations on Cage's compositional poetics. Retallack's *The Poethical Wager* (California) is a widely influential sequence of experimental essays on ethics and poetics, as well as the form of the essay itself. In 2018, Litmus Press published *The Suppositum: Thought Experiments and Poethical Play in Difficult Times*, edited by Retallack as documentation and continuation of a MoMA event she organized in collaboration with Black Dada artist Adam Pendleton. *BOSCH'D—Fables, Moral Tales & Other Awkward Constructions* (Litmus Press, 2020) rejiggers ancient and contemporary wagers on textual forms of "poethical courage." With gravitas and humor, Retallack considers our species' best and worst proclivities *in medias res* of the Anthropocene.