

## Gerald Stern Bio

Called “a poet of ferocious heart and rasping sweetness,” Gerald Stern is an American master of poetry. As a four-time recipient of a National Endowment for the Arts, Stern’s verses are often compared to the likes of Whitman and Keats. At the age of 48 Stern published his first book of poetry, *Rejoicings* (1973), and was immediately called “the most startling and tender poet to emerge in America in a decade” by the Chicago Tribune Book World. Stern has received the Ruth Lilly Prize, the Paris Review’s Bernard Conners Award, the Lamont Poetry Selection, Melville Caine Award, Paterson Poetry Prize, and the National Book Award among many others as well as fellowships from Guggenheim Foundation, the Academy of American Poets and the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts. Stern was a tenured teacher for twelve years at the University of Iowa Writer’s Workshop. Since 1995 he has been retired and splits his time between New York and Pennsylvania.