

Anca Vlasopolos

Noise

this year—cicadas' cycle—
birds have learned
loudness
listen!
could you avoid it?
how cardinal fledglings
demand their share of the world
chip away at the vault of autumn peace
like something stuck in a turning wheel

Anca Vlasopolos is a professor of English and Comparative Literature at Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan. She is of European origin, but since the country of her birth stripped her of citizenship, she prefers not to mention its name. She has published the historical *The New Bedford Samurai*, the memoir *No Return Address: A Memoir of Displacement*, two collections of poems, *Walking Toward Solstice* and *Penguins in a Warming World*, three poetry chapbooks, a detective novel, *Missing Members*, and over two hundred poems and short stories. She was nominated several times for the Pushcart Award in poetry and fiction. She is associate editor of *Corridors Magazine*.