

September 1st, 2015

The Black Mountain Press is pleased to announce that *The Language of the Enemy*, by Stuart Friebert, is now available. Thank you for considering it for review and/or readings. Enjoy!

# The Language of the Enemy

## by Stuart Friebert

### PRAISE:

“In *The Language of the Enemy*, Stuart Friebert gives us something precious: a fictionalized, detailed view of the past that is wondrously free of sentimentality or nostalgia. Friebert’s stories are simply told, but each of them has a bite. A young man’s love of flying whisks him into a wartime disappearance; the big adventure of retrieving a mobster’s body from a lake leads one rescuer to death from an infection; a revered German scholar breaks down as he recalls how he hurled into a bonfire books written by Jews. *The Language of the Enemy* illuminates—over and over—how cultural, natural, and historical forces can threaten an individual or community. The people in this book pick their way through a landscape filled with small joys (fishing, love, a piece of bread smeared with animal fat) and big dangers. Friebert imbues his characters with a beautiful dignity, giving each of them a nod of respect across societies and generations. I love this book.”

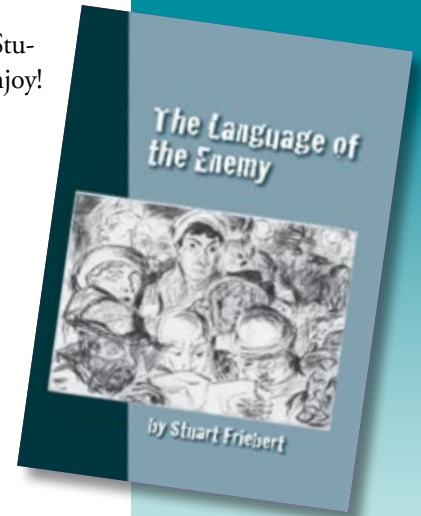
—Martha Moody (*Moody is the author of four novels, including the bestseller Best Friends and The Office of Desire, one of Kirkus Review’s best books of 2008*)

“These tightly wrapped and generous stories are reminiscent of Nabokov’s short stories for the author’s ability to allow subtle metaphors and sometimes seemingly ordinary details to accumulate throughout each of these finely crafted stories towards some resonant and powerful insights about who we really are behind our masks of social convention. Wide-ranging in their attempts to make sense of our lives, they are held together—woven together really—by a deft third person narrator who intrudes, if at all, only when it is critical to the life of the story, and by a richly thoughtful cross-referencing of characters and their extended circle of family and friends. A sheer joy to read, and to watch these lives unfold before us.”

—Bruce Weigl (*BW is the author of many books of poems, translations, and prose, including the best-selling memoir The Circle of Hanh. He has received the Lannan Literary Award, among other grants & fellowships*)

### ARTIST BIO:

Born in Wisconsin, Stuart Friebert spent an undergraduate year in Germany as one of the first U.S. exchange students after WW II. Afterward, he finished his B.A. at Wisconsin State College/Milwaukee and did an M.A. and Ph.D. in German Language & Literature at U. Wisconsin/Madison. Beginning a forty-year teaching career at Mt. Holyoke College, then at Harvard U., where he taught in German Departments, he finally settled at Oberlin College in 1961, where he also taught German before founding Oberlin’s Writing Program, helped by colleagues, which he directed until retiring in 1997. Along the way, he co-founded Field Magazine, the Field Translation Series, and Oberlin College Press. He has held an N.E.A. Fellowship in poetry and received numerous awards for poems and translations, including the Four Way Book Award for Funeral Pie.



#### TITLE

The Language of the Enemy

#### AUTHOR

Stuart Friebert

#### PUBLISHER

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