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Contact: Jenny Keegan
225.578.6453 / jenniferkeegan@lsu.edu

Poet Tara Bray Inaugurates Claudia Emerson's Goat Island Poetry Series
LSU Press to Publish Small Mothers of Fright in December 2015

Baton Rouge—In *Small Mothers of Fright*, the first of two collections chosen by Claudia Emerson for her Goat Island Poetry Series, Tara Bray draws on her experiences as a mother who struggles to strike a balance between protecting her daughter from the world's perils and dazzling her with its many wonders. The birds that fill these pages convey a sense of fragility and uncertainty, while the rhythm of the seasons provides a comfort that promises the old will be made new again.

In a precise yet accessible style, Bray writes about fleeting actions and thoughts that, in sum, create the memorable, lasting moments of life. In one poem, a woman reflects on “the way the young self rushes in” as she blasts music from her past on the car radio, deliberately calling forth the contrast between past pain and present satisfactions. It is the world of the simple and overlooked—crows, wrens, food, tea, sermons, ragged coyotes, runners, yogis, poppies— that serves as something to hold to in spite of loss, human frailty, and unease.

Tara Bray has published poems in *Shenandoah*, *The Southern Review*, *Agni*, *The Hudson Review*, *Poetry*, and elsewhere. She is also the author of *Mistaken for Song*. She is a recipient of a State of Nevada Individual Artist Fellowship and resides in Richmond, Virginia, with her husband and daughter.

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Poetry

To request a review copy or set up an interview with the author,
please contact Jenny Keegan at jenniferkeegan@lsu.edu.

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