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LSU Press to Release Poet Chanda Feldman's Evocative New Collection
Approaching the Fields to be published in February

"Chanda Feldman's quiet, powerful verse unfolds bloom after bloom with a slow seethe of Black-eyed Susans and leotards, of shadow land and grosgrain. Her family's color-lined lineage ripples through history and grown-folk talk. This poet's powers are subtle and slow-boiled as she takes us by the hand and leads us through season after season of challenge and change in a stumble-proof voice that never leaves a passenger behind."—Tyehimba Jess

"In a cadence reminiscent of old gospel rhythms rising from deeper reflections on the evolution of self and culture, the hand of the poet evokes her memories of family and history, sans sentimentalism. With heartfelt precision, Feldman builds the book to its shining summit, a testimony to getting through to an understanding of what it is to stand in awe of an awareness of how love persists. *Approaching the Fields* is a beautifully crafted book of courage gone, courage now taking breath, and courage yet to come."—Afaa M. Weaver

Baton Rouge—Elegiac and fierce, solemn and celebratory, the poems in Chanda Feldman's *Approaching the Fields* consider family and history. From black sharecroppers and subsistence farmers along the Mississippi River to contemporary life in the suburbs, the rituals of home and work link racial experience, social lines, and economic striving, rooting memory and scene in the southern landscape. Love and violence echo through the collection, and Feldman's beautifully crafted poems, often formal in style, answer them sometimes with an embrace and sometimes with a turning away. She witnesses the crop fields and manicured lawns, the dinner table and birthing room, the church and juke joint, conveying the ways that everyday details help build a life. These evocative poems bring to life a rich and complex world, both timely and timeless.

Chanda Feldman's work has appeared in numerous journals including *Cincinnati Review*, *Ecotone*, *New South*, *Prairie Schooner*, *Southern Review*, and *Virginia Quarterly Review*. A former Wallace E. Stegner Fellow at Stanford University, Feldman's work has garnered numerous accolades, including awards and fellowships from the Bread Loaf Writers' Conference, Cité Internationale des Arts in Paris, the Dorothy Sargent Rosenberg Memorial Fund, the MacDowell Colony, and the National Endowment for the Arts.

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Poetry

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