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## Blaze

poems by PEGGY SHUMAKER  
paintings by KESLER E. WOODWARD

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Peggy Shumaker

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PEGGY SHUMAKER

*paintings by*

KESLER E. WOODWARD

## Sensual Alaskan Paintings and Poems

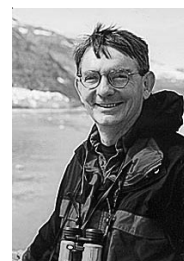
Savoring Alaskan landscapes by way of birch trees has become Kes Woodward's trademark. This collection brings together thirty years of his birch portraits and forest close-ups. Over those same thirty years, poet Peggy Shumaker has traveled inner landscapes via images drawn from two deserts—the Sonoran and the Subarctic. Her poems embody the harsh beauty of heat and cold, the force of true extremes. Wounded trees, marked paths, slashes of color. Bursts of passions, licks of flame. The sensual spirits of two imaginations at work fuel this this volume.

### About the Poet



Peggy Shumaker grew up in Tucson, Arizona in the Sonoran desert. She has lived much of her adult life in Interior Alaska, where she was Profesor Emeritus in the MFA Program at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. Her poems spring from hidden sources—rivers beneath arroyos, inside glaciers, under the ocean. Her previous books of poems include *The Circle of Totems* and *Wings Moist from the Other World*. . Peggy Shumaker has served as President of the Associated Writing Programs and has been awarded an NEA Fellowship in Poetry. She has done extensive community work with prison inmates, gifted students, gang members, the elderly, hearing impaired adults, Native American communities, teachers, and librarians.

Kesler E. Woodward was born in Aiken, South Carolina in 1951. He and his wife Missy live in LaConner, Washington, where they are partners in Braarud/Woodward Fine Art. They were Alaska residents from 1977 through 2004. Woodward served as Curator of Visual Arts at the Alaska State Museum and as Artistic Director of the Visual Arts Center of Alaska before moving to Fairbanks in 1981. He is currently Professor of Art, Emeritus at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, where he taught for two decades, serving as Chair of the Art Department and as Charif od the Division of Arts and Communications. He Currently serves on the board of the Alaska Arts and Culture Foundation and on the board of trustees of the Western States Arts Federation.



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