

## Celeste Newbrough, Author of *The Angel of Polk Street*

### Biographical Note

Celeste Newbrough is the author of two books of fiction, *Unspent Motion* and *The Zanscripts*; and two books of poems, *The Archetype Strikes Back*, and *Pagan Psalms*. She also co-edited a poetry anthology, *The New Eve*, and published a biography, *The Norita Book*.

*Unspent Motion* (2013) is a collection of short stories focuses on older women. Each story relates a turning point such as a chance encounter, crime or illness, driving the protagonist toward transformation. *KIRKUS Reviews* describes the book as: “A quietly compelling and intimate portrayal of lives whose final chapters often go largely unobserved. On the whole the prose of this collection is intelligent and evocative.”

Regarding the novella included in the collection, *Child with Mannequin*, *KIRKUS* contends: “[the story] most fully realizes the theme of transformation. Here, where life and death are both metaphor and fact, Newbrough’s narrative carries significant weight. She makes clear how intellectual and emotional lives can transcend generations and how losses can be both permanent and permeable.”

In reviewing *The Archetype Strikes Back* (2010), *The Muse (Human Rights Quarterly)* observes: “Newbrough exercises her right to explore spiritual matters from a number of perspectives... Reading this book leads one to consider the boundaries of what a human rights aesthetic might be.”

Celeste resides in Berkeley and was born in New Orleans. She has been an activist in the feminist, lesbian/gay, movements. Her essays on women’s reproductive rights were widely used by women’s studies programs. She has lectured on women’s studies and directed a scholarly indexing service. She is retired from the University of California.

Full credits of Celeste Newbrough's work are found at:

[http://celestenewbrough.net/assets/Writing\\_Credits\\_Celeste\\_Newbrough.pdf](http://celestenewbrough.net/assets/Writing_Credits_Celeste_Newbrough.pdf)

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