Work from Copper Nickel chosen for inclusion in the Best American Poetry anthology and listed for “special mention” in the Pushcart Prize: Best of the Small Presses anthology

“Personae Who Got Loose,” a poem by J. Allyn Rosser published in Copper Nickel issue 24 (spring 2017), has been chosen for inclusion in the 2018 Best American Poetry anthology, edited by guest editor and former U.S. Poet Laureate Dana Gioia and series editor David Lehman. The Best American Poetry Series has been published annually since 1988, each year with a different guest editor selecting what s/he considers to be the best seventy-five poems published from across the country in the previous calendar year. There are approximately 600-700 regularly publishing literary journals in America, and 40-50 are represented in each Best American Poetry volume.

Additionally, three pieces published in Copper Nickel—Viet Dinh’s story “The Food Chain” (from issue 25); Jehanne Dubrow’s poem “Self-Portrait with Cable News, Graffiti, and Weather” (from issue 25); and Kevin Prufer’s poem “The Art of Fiction” (from issue 26)—have been listed for “special mention” in the 2019 Pushcart Prize XLIII: Best of the Small Presses anthology. The Pushcart Prize anthology series, edited by Bill Henderson, has been published every year since 1976, and was named among the most influential projects in the history of American publishing by Publishers Weekly. Each year multiple nominations are made by nearly every literary journal in the country, as well as by an advisory board of dozens of famous authors and editors—creating thousands of nominated pieces, from which about 150 are chosen to be reprinted or listed for “special mention.”

Copper Nickel, the national literary journal housed at the University of Colorado Denver, was founded in 2002 by poet Jake Adam York and relaunched in 2015 under the editorship of Wayne Miller, working in collaboration with poetry editors Brian Barker and Nicky Beer and prose editors Teague Bohlen and Joanna Luloff, all of whom are creative writing professors in the English Department at CU Denver. Additionally, each year 20-35 student volunteers and interns work for Copper Nickel, where they gain experience and knowledge in literary publishing.

Multiple pieces published in Copper Nickel have been honored by the Best American Poetry, Best American Short Stories, Best American Essays, Best Small Fictions, and Pushcart Prize anthologies. Past contributors to Copper Nickel include winners of the National Book Critics Circle Award, the Kingsley Tufts Poetry Award, the Nobel Prize, the Georg Büchner Prize, the TS Eliot and Forward Poetry Prizes, the MacArthur “Genius” Grant, and numerous other honors. Still other contributors have seen their first published work appear in Copper Nickel.

For more about Copper Nickel, visit copper-nickel.org.