

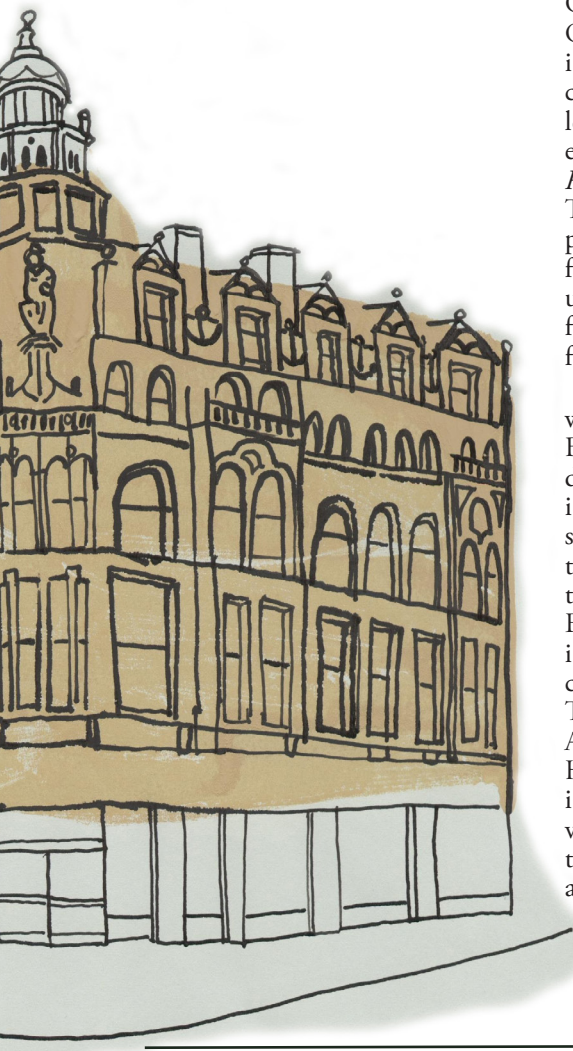
— CARCANET —



— 2015 —

# Letter from the Editor

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Carcanet's 2015 begins in the sixteenth century with Ronsard's *Cassandra*, a classic sonnet sequence transformed into a great modern one. Carcanet poets are busy with translation, from French, German and Arabic, and draw too on Gujarati, Spanish, and the Babel that informs Ezra Pound's posthumous cantos. We are astonished and privileged to be publishing them. There is an ekphrastic strain in Owen Lowery's *Rego Retold* and Elaine Feinstein's *Portraits*. The poet and curator Rod Mengham provides *Chance of a Storm*, a book richly freighted with spoils of language. As usual, there are arresting first collections from four continents, and a *New Poetries* full of pleasure and prediction.

One book in particular may adjust our way of looking at poetic form: Nicolas Barker's *Visible Voices*. Illustrated, it demonstrates how poetry found its way into writing and took many shapes: a suggestive history starting in ancient times and continuing up to modern textual experiments of the kind that Edwin Morgan, whose letters we publish in March, never could get enough of. A catalogue which, Kali-like, balances Tom Raworth, R.F. Langley and John Ashbery in one set of hands, Sophie Hannah, Muriel Spark and Les Murray in the other, describes that unlikely – or visionary – universalism that has been the joyful ethos of Carcanet for four and a half decades.

Michael Schmidt



# 2015

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Paula Rego image, courtesy Marlborough Fine Art, London

# Owen Lowery

## *Rego Retold: Poems in Response to Works by Paula Rego*

---

The right hand resting on her throat  
affects the nervous habit of a speaker  
for whom the words required are suddenly remote,

9781784100032

Paperback 128pp

£12.99

for all the prepping she did with the speech  
and the mirror the night before...

World

from 'Snow White Swallows the Poisoned Apple'

As Deryn Rees-Jones writes in her foreword, one of the most striking elements of Paula Rego's art is her ability to hint at implied narratives, to dramatise the 'pause between feeling and action, between knowing and not knowing'. Owen Lowery uses this pause as the space in which to situate his own poetic responses to Rego's works. Drawing on the often disturbing themes of Rego's art – power, violence, the body at its most vulnerable – Lowery creates poems that both interpret the visual and move away from it into new narratives. *Rego Retold* is a fascinating exploration of the interplay of word and image; it is also a poet's personal tribute to one of the most significant artists of our time.

**OWEN LOWERY** is a former British Judo champion, who suffered a spinal injury while competing and is now a tetraplegic. He holds Masters degrees in Military Studies and in Creative Writing, and is currently completing a PhD at Bolton University on the poetry of Keith Douglas. Owen's first collection of poetry, *Otherwise Unchanged*, was published in 2012 by Carcanet/Northern House.







Image courtesy National Gallery of Art, Washington

# Pierre de Ronsard

## *Cassandra*

TRANSLATED BY CLIVE LAWRENCE

The sonnet sequence *Les Amours de Cassandra*, first published in 1552, established Pierre de Ronsard as the outstanding French poet of his time. He was lauded by Montaigne, admired throughout Europe, and fêted by the French Crown and foreign monarchs, including Elizabeth I. Based on a real relationship with Cassandra Salviati, the sequence combines the poet's love for an unattainable beauty with explorations of classical myth, the works of Homer and Ovid, and questions about the nature of love, literary creation, human existence and the forces that drive the universe. Clive Lawrence's version, the first complete English translation, captures the range and freshness of the writer known in his lifetime as 'Poet of Princes, Prince of Poets'.

**PIERRE DE RONSARD** was born near Vendôme in France in 1524. In 1550 he published his *Odes*, followed in 1552 by *Les Amours de Cassandra*, which established him as leader of the Pléiade group.

**CLIVE LAWRENCE** was born in 1969 and graduated from Cambridge in 1990. He has worked in the legal profession since 1991. In 2011 he was joint winner of the John Dryden Prize, for his translations of Ronsard.



January 2015

9781784100100

Paperback 216pp

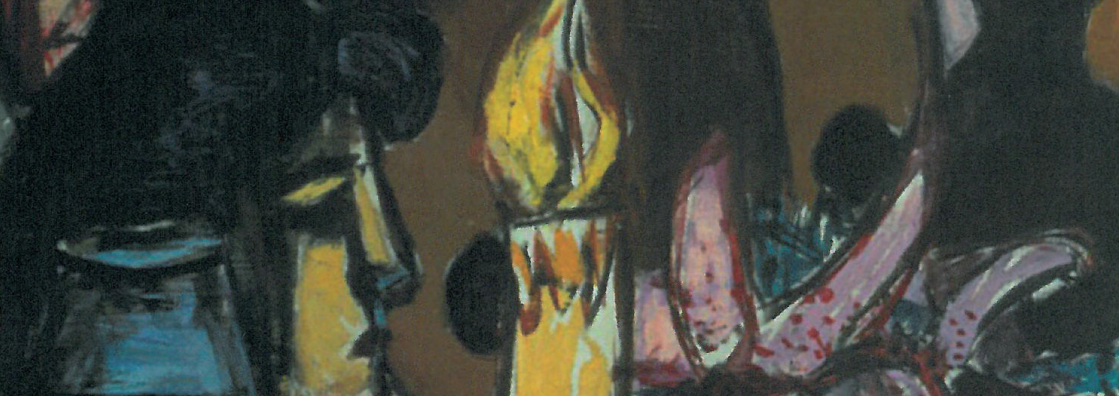
£12.99

Ebook

9781784100117

World

  
FyfieldBooks



# Michael Krüger *Last Day of the Year*

TRANSLATED BY KAREN LEEDER  
& RICHARD DOVE

January 2015

9781937679378

Paperback 298pp

£12.99

World

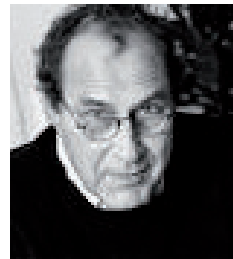
exc. US & Canada

Michael Krüger is a major figure in modern German poetry, one of its great editors and leading practitioners. In 1993 Carcanet published *Diderot's Cat*, Michael Krüger's original *Selected Poems*, which drew on thirteen collections. This new edition, in German and English, incorporates portions of that book with selections from five later books, translated by Karen Leeder and Richard Dove. Introducing *Diderot's Cat*, Dove declared, 'If the recent German Zeitgeist could speak, it might sound a good deal like Michael Krüger.' For his American editor and publisher the poet Stanley Moss he is 'a self-made oracle of various cultures. His poetry... teaches us how to walk in the night...'



Sheep Meadow Press

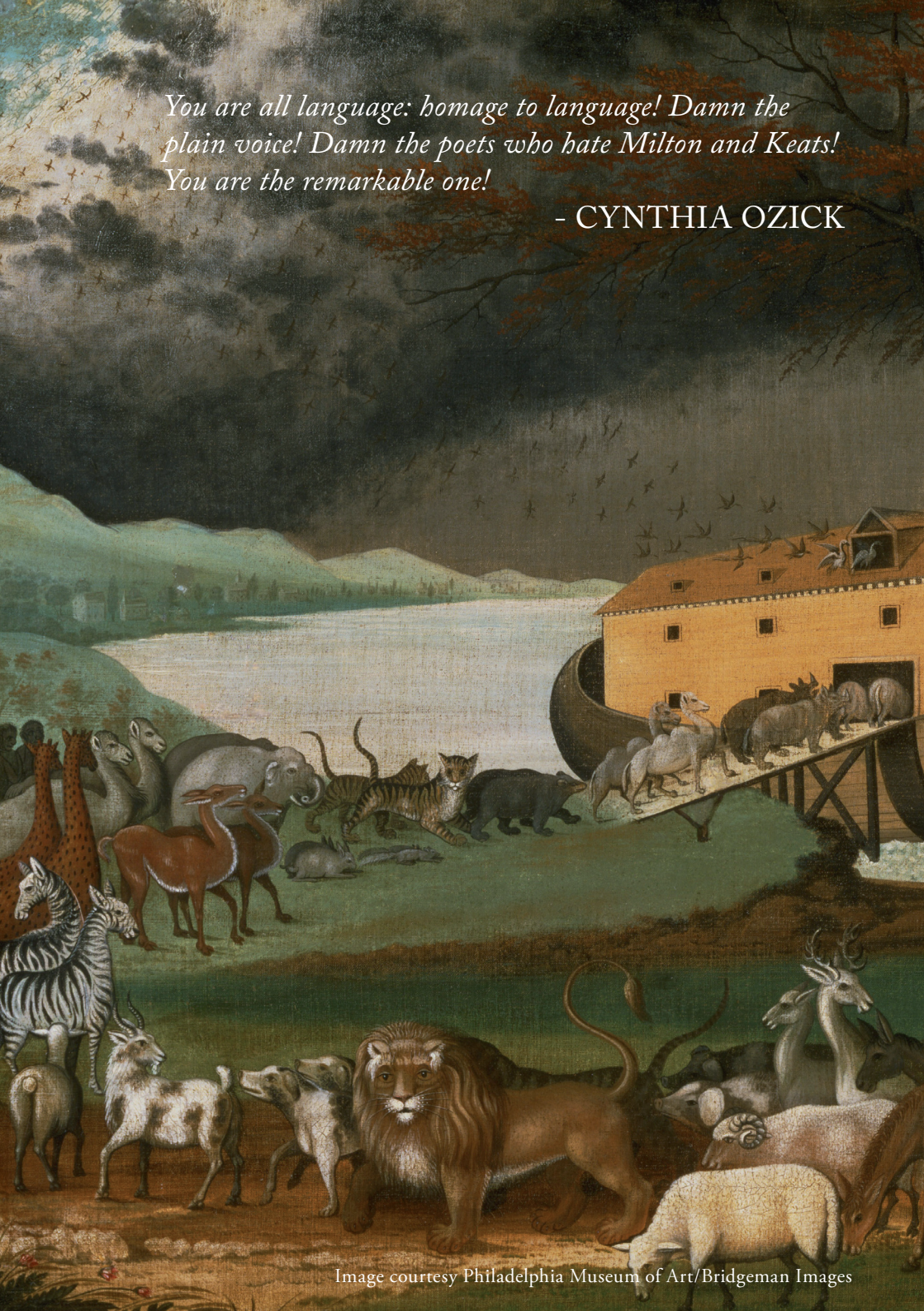
**MICHAEL KRÜGER** was born in Saxony in 1943, grew up in Berlin, and has lived for more than forty years in Munich. A prose-writer, publisher (recently retired after forty-five years as editor and publisher at Hanser Verlag), essayist and critic, and also the editor of the important German literary magazine *Akzente*, he is best known in his own country as a poet.





*You are all language: homage to language! Damn the  
plain voice! Damn the poets who hate Milton and Keats!  
You are the remarkable one!*

- CYNTHIA OZICK





February

Jon Silkin

*Complete Poems*

EDITED BY JON GLOVER & KATHRYN JENNER

---

And then slowly the eye stopped looking  
Inward. The silence rose and became still.  
The look turned to the outer place and stopped,  
With the birds still shrilling around him.

from 'Death of a Son'

*Complete Poems* brings together the published and unpublished work of one of the most significant poets of the second half of the twentieth century, founding editor of *Stand* and of the Northern House imprint. As well as reprinting all the poems included in Silkin's books (from *The Portrait and Other Poems* in 1950 to *Making a Republic* in 2002), it includes significant poems previously unpublished or published only in a wide variety of journals, and work transcribed from manuscripts. *Complete Poems* invites a new perception of Silkin's language and his concerns, the breadth of his passionately humane response to war and the Holocaust, and his scrutiny of humanity alongside nature.

9781847772404

Paperback 1088pp

£29.99

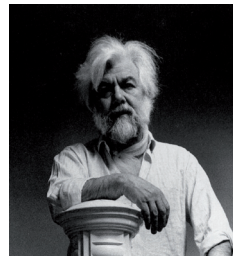
Ebook

9781784100001

World

NORTHERN HOUSE

**JON SILKIN** was born in London in 1930. After National Service and time as a manual labourer, he became Gregory Fellow in Poetry at the University of Leeds. He founded *Stand* magazine in 1952 and Northern House press in 1965. He published nine volumes of poetry and many critical works and anthologies, including *Out of Battle* which is a critical landmark. He held writing fellowships in the United States, Australia and Japan, before his death in 1997.



*Poems of great power and beauty from one of our finest poets...*

*truly, a wonderful collection.*

- BRIAN PATTEN

Image © Royal Collection Trust, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II/Bridgeman Images

# Elaine Feinstein

## *Portraits*

**February 2015**

9781847772152

Paperback 64pp

**£9.99**

Ebook

9781847774965

World

Elaine Feinstein has always written most intensely about people. In this book, she remembers friends she has loved, writers she has known and literary figures from the past. She writes of the Russian poet Bella Akhmadulina – met in Moscow and Paris – with tender admiration; the East End poet Emanuel Litvinoff, at work in his Bloomsbury flat; and Masha Enzensberger, who brought Feinstein into the world of Marina Tsvetaeva. As she imagines Raymond Chandler, Isaac Rosenberg or Billie Holiday her words about them say things about herself. In the closing poem, 'Death and the Lemon Tree', she finds a compelling image for the privilege of continuing to write into old age.

**ELAINE FEINSTEIN** is a poet, novelist and biographer. She has received many prizes, and her books have been translated into most European languages, including Russian, Chinese, Japanese and Korean. Her versions of the poems of Marina Tsvetaeva have remained in print since 1971. She is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature, and received a Civil List Pension in 2010.



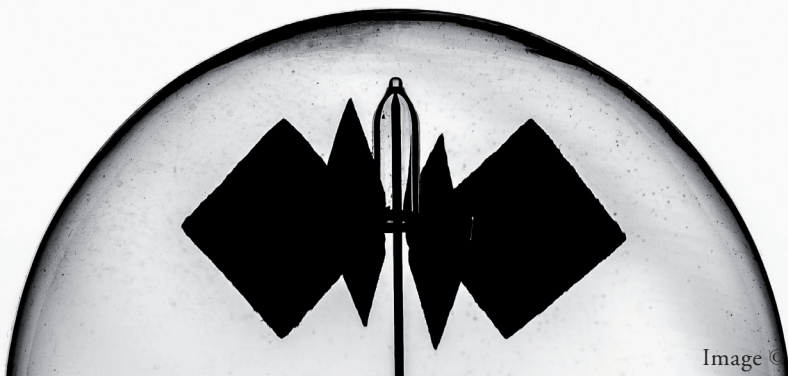


Image © Robert Cross

# John Dennison

## *Otherwise*

**February 2015**

9781847774996

Paperback 64pp

**£9.99**

Ebook

9781847775009

World

exc. Aus/NZ

The poems in this first collection by New Zealand poet John Dennison are concerned, above all, with love, and with the strange, unlooked-for manner of its appearances among us. Marked by emotional acuity and formal deftness, *Otherwise* draws us into confrontations with our equivocal and finite nature. The book includes, among other elegies, a moving sequence for Seamus Heaney. Here too, because ‘some things bear repeating’, are moments of turning, of grace and our refusals. This is a thought-provoking collection from an assured new voice.

**JOHN DENNISON** was born in Sydney, Australia, in 1978, and grew up in Tawa, New Zealand. He has lived and studied in Dunedin and St Andrews, Scotland, and now lives in Wellington, where he is a university chaplain. His poems have appeared in magazines in the UK, New Zealand and Australia, and were anthologised in Carcanet’s *New Poetries V* (2011). John Dennison is also the author of *Seamus Heaney and the Adequacy of Poetry* (Oxford, 2015).





*Sujata Bhatt leads the reader through the bright, familiar world and on into the dark until her words pierce that darkness, offering a light that will challenge and reward.*

- JOHN F. DEANE



# Sujata Bhatt

## *Poppies in Translation*

Look at the ravaged fields – blood-soaked –  
 Can you truly say these red poppies heal?  
 These common, red, wild poppies?  
 Heal what – this earth, your heart?

from ‘Schlafmohn, Blaumohn: Allerleilustblume’

Indonesia, South Africa, Estonia, Lithuania, Shetland, Nicaragua: many worlds meet in these poems as nature dyes Sujata Bhatt’s many languages with its own hues. The real merges with the surreal, certainties are undone in an open-ended quest. A Chinese cook ignores a predatory snake, a heart surgeon lives most intensely between operations, Gregor Samsa’s sister proposes a different sort of metamorphosis, someone listens to the Holy Ghost sing, a woman hears her daughter’s voice in birdsong – and the ‘poppies in translation’ mutate according to the languages and histories they inhabit, ultimately persisting in a space beyond language. At times, language itself is injured by history: Bhatt reimagines the ‘haunted undertow’ of post-war German as experienced by Paul Celan and Ingeborg Bachmann. Meanwhile, the poppies are ever-present, ‘with their black souls in the wind’.

**SUJATA BHATT** was born in Ahmedabad, India, and grew up in India and in the United States. She received her MFA from the Writers’ Workshop at the University of Iowa. She is the author of six previous collections and a *Collected Poems* (2013), and the recipient of numerous prizes, including the Commonwealth Poetry Prize and a Cholmondeley Award. She divides her time between Germany and elsewhere.



9781847770202

Paperback 128pp

£9.99

Ebook

9781847774903

World





Image © Peter Blegvad

# David Morley

## *The Invisible Gift*

### SELECTED POEMS

**March 2015**

9781847772060

Paperback 160pp

**£14.99**

Ebook

9781784100049

World

Over the past twenty-five years, the award-winning writer David Morley has become known as one of Britain's most original poets. Renowned for his energy and linguistic inventiveness, Morley is a master storyteller, whose poems uncover 'universes bound together by language' (*Guardian*). From Romani tales to sharply observed lyrics about nature, from political allegory to vividly imagined histories, his poetry evokes the enchantment and truth of the natural world and our place in it. In the words of Les Murray, 'He holds our world up to a language mostly kept secret; the refraction of the familiar is dizzying and often moving.'

**DAVID MORLEY's** poetry has won numerous awards. An ecologist and naturalist by background, David is also known for his pioneering ecological poetry installations. He has published four previous collections of poetry with Carcanet. He currently teaches at the University of Warwick where he is Professor of Writing.







Image © ADAGP, Paris and DACS, London

# Tim Liardet

## *The World Before Snow*

**March 2015**

9781847772091

Paperback 80pp

**£9.99**

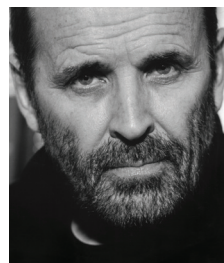
Ebook


9781784100070

World

In 2013, Tim Liardet met an American poet during a blizzard in Boston and the two began an immediate, life-transforming love affair. This is reflected in *The World Before Snow*, the poet's tenth collection, which discovers new dimensions in his language and form. It is a book of passionate extremes. The poems document some of the ways in which a particular species of love can allow for the rediscovery of identity. All the fragments of persona previously put forth to the world are stripped away to expose a raw new self.

**TIM LIARDET** has received an Art Council England Writer's Award, five Poetry Book Society Recommendations and Special Commendations, a Whitbread Prize long-listing and a T.S. Eliot Prize short-listing. He is Professor of Poetry at Bath Spa University.





*Edwin Morgan's poetry encompasses the whole world.  
There's nothing he couldn't make a poem out of -  
he totally realises the possibilities of language.*

- LIZ LOCHHEAD

Friday  
5.30pm  
later collection is made at 7.30pm  
Postbox at  
Mail 77 Clifton Hill  
M4 3 3 3

# Edwin Morgan

*March*

## *The Midnight Letterbox*

SELECTED CORRESPONDENCE 1950–2010

EDITED BY JAMES MCGONIGAL & JOHN COYLE

---

I am really a very Glasgow-loving root-clutching person, and the mechanics of travel fill me with angst, yet I seem to be meant or doomed or prodded to go to place after place, city after city (but cities I love in any case, all cities) [...] I've been round the Cape of Good Hope and down the Odessa Steps. I've seen the Book of Kells and the Isenheim Altarpiece and Beethoven's ear-trumpet and Khalil Gibran's birthplace and Lenin's tomb. [...] I have seen the Red Sea and the Black Sea – both blue. What is it all for? Can you tell me that?

9781784100797

Paperback 456pp

£19.99

Ebook

9781784100803

World

from a letter to Michael Schmidt, 2 April 1972.

One of the central figures of twentieth-century Scottish literature, Edwin Morgan was a prolific letter-writer. His correspondence, like his poetry, is wide-ranging, full of generosity and enthusiasm, and above all a testament to his lifelong commitment to exploring the possibilities of poetry. This selection of his letters, spanning Morgan's full career as a teacher and writer, enables readers to track the development of his ideas, his friendships and his creative collaborations. At the same time it provides a superbly engaging portrait of a man with a boundless interest in the fast-changing world around him.

**EDWIN MORGAN** (1920–2010) received the Queen's Gold Medal for Poetry in 2000 and in 2004 was made Scotland's first Makar.

**JAMES MCGONIGAL** was Professor of English in Education at the University of Glasgow. His *Edwin Morgan* biography was the Saltire Scottish Research Book of the Year.

**JOHN COYLE**, Senior Lecturer in English Literature at the University of Glasgow, edited Ford Madox Ford's *It Was the Nightingale* and *Provence* for Carcanet Press.





*Single-handedly, Tom Raworth has restored the value of quickness to English poetry.*

- BILL BERKSON



# Tom Raworth

## *As When: A Selection*

EDITED BY MILES CHAMPION

---

later fragments  
we assume  
are one with those before  
a sad dance  
invoking your attention  
for whom  
does thought  
translate?

9781784100339

Paperback 256pp

£14.99

Ebook

9781784100346

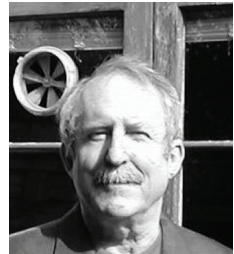
World

from 'West Wind'

Dubbed 'an immaculate survivor' by Robert Creeley, Tom Raworth has remained steadfastly independent of literary fashions and cliques throughout a poetic career spanning fifty years. *As When* is the first selection of Raworth's writing to address the full range of his work, from the first poem he ever shared with anyone outside his family, 'You Were Wearing Blue', to his most recently published poem, 'Surfing the Permafrost through Methane Flares'. The book includes prose work and notational pieces that were intentionally left out of his *Collected Poems* (2003), along with poems that were only published in little magazines or as ephemeral cards and broadsides. Some pieces appear in correct, definitive versions for the first time.

**TOM RAWORTH** was born in London in 1938. During the 1970s he lived and worked in the United States and Mexico. He has published more than forty books and pamphlets. He lives with his wife, Val, in Sussex.

**MILES CHAMPION** was born in Nottingham in 1968. He has published three books, an artbook and several pamphlets of poetry. He lives in Brooklyn, New York.





# Kate Miller

## *The Observances*

In the informal rituals of the tide remaking its tideline, of a painter absorbed in the act of painting or of an old couple greeting the night, the English poet Kate Miller sees and charts the creative process at work. As its title suggests, Miller's striking debut collection explores perception, the poet's eye and ear trained on distances that stretch beyond comfort zones. This is a book full of movement: even quiet reflections on home and family life are rarely still. Throughout the collection Miller dwells on the unfixed and restless image and shows herself as subject to it – to the difficult illusion of physical energy in sculpture, to the changeability of skies and the insistent rhythm and presence of the sea.

**KATE MILLER** grew up in Hampshire and now lives in London. She has received a number of awards including the Edwin Morgan International Poetry Prize in 2008. Selected for the 2011 and 2013 *Salt Best British Poetry* anthologies, her poems have appeared in journals including *Poetry Review*, *The Rialto*, *The SHOp*, *Warwick Review* and the *Times Literary Supplement*.



© Ben Russell

April 2015

9781906188153

Paperback 88pp

£9.99

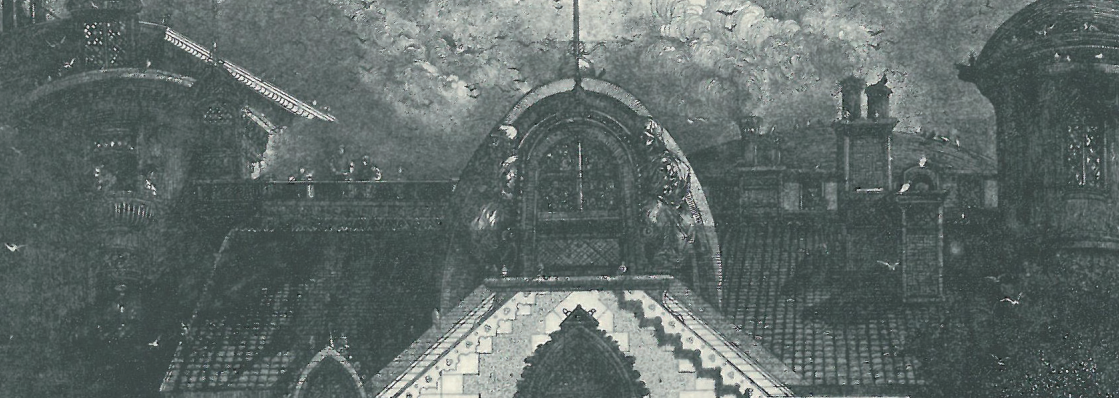
Ebook

9781906188283

World

Oxford *Poets*





# Pierre Reverdy *Haunted House*

TRANSLATED BY JOHN ASHBERRY

*Beyond the threshold one steps immediately into a nightmare.*

Pierre Reverdy's surrealistic tale *Maison hantée* was written in 1928 and first published in 1930. André Breton would later include it in a list of the ten books he would most like to take to a desert island. John Ashberry's translation of this modern classic is part of his lifelong engagement with French literature – an engagement that has vitally informed his own work in poetry, literature and the arts.

**PIERRE REVERDY** was born in Narbonne, France, in 1889. After studying in Toulouse he moved to Paris in 1910, where he met Picasso and Matisse. He edited the magazine *Nord-Sud*, which published the early work of André Breton, Louis Aragon and other Surrealists. He died in 1960.

**JOHN ASHBERRY'S** *Collected French Translations* are published by Carcanet in two volumes (2014), and his new poetry collection *Breezeway* appears in June 2015.



April 2015

9781784101138

Paperback 80pp

£9.99

World

exc. US/Canada





*Shall I put it in capitals?*  
**SOPHIE HANNAH IS A GENIUS.**  
*- The Poetry Review*



# Sophie Hannah

## *Marrying the Ugly Millionaire*

### NEW AND COLLECTED POEMS

---

I am following the Dalai Lama on Twitter  
 But the Dalai Lama is not yet following me.  
 That's fine. Things are as they are. I do not feel bitter.  
 Enlightenment is his thing. Reciprocity?  
 Not so much. He is a spiritual big-hitter  
 And I write detective novels. It's easy to see  
 Why I'm following the Dalai Lama on Twitter  
 And the Dalai Lama is not yet following me.

from 'The Dalai Lama on Twitter'

Sophie Hannah is one of Britain's best-loved poets, a disarmingly witty, sharp-eyed chronicler of everyday life and its peculiarities. She is also an internationally successful author of psychological crime fiction, and has written the first new Hercule Poirot novel to be authorised by the Agatha Christie estate. This book collects all of her previous collections of verse and also includes new and uncollected poems.

Paperback **272pp**

**£12.99**

9781784100254

Hardback

**£30**

9781784100261

Ebook

9781784100278

World

**SOPHIE HANNAH** was born in Manchester in 1971. In 2004 she was selected as one of the twenty Next Generation poets and has now published five collections of poetry. Her crime novels have been published in twenty-seven countries, and have been adapted for television in the UK. Her Hercule Poirot novel *The Monogram Murders* was published worldwide in September 2014. She lives in Cambridge with her husband and children.







Image © Tony O'Malley

# John F. Deane

## *Semibreve*

May 2015

9781847772695

Paperback 120pp

£9.99

Ebook

9781784100223

World

John F. Deane is a vital presence in contemporary Irish poetry. The poems in this new collection combine lyric grace with a fiercely questing intelligence, pushing against the mysteries of faith in a fractured world, paying tribute to the value of human life and love. Running through the book is a thread of elegy for the poet's brother, who died of cancer in 2010. The collection concludes with a sequence describing a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. Throughout, Deane gives poetic voice to the paradox of human existence as simultaneously 'blessed and broken'.

**JOHN F. DEANE** was born on Achill Island in 1943. He founded Poetry Ireland – the National Poetry Society – and *The Poetry Ireland Review* in 1978, and is the founder of the Dedalus Press, of which he was editor from 1985 until 2006. His poetry has been shortlisted for the *Irish Times* Poetry Now Award and the T.S. Eliot Prize. In 2007 he was made Chevalier en l'ordre des arts et des lettres by the French government.

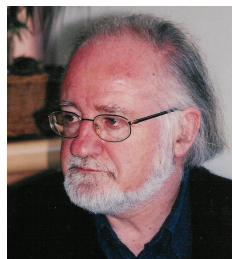




Image © Heather Benning

# *New Poetries VI*

EDITED BY MICHAEL SCHMIDT  
& HELEN TOOKEY

**May 2015**

9781784100377

Paperback 256pp

**£12.99**

Ebook

9781784100384

World

From the first *New Poetries* anthology, published in 1994, through to this sixth volume, the series has showcased the work of engaging and inventive new poets writing in English from around the world, many of whom have subsequently gone on to achieve notable success: Sophie Hannah, Vona Groarke, Patrick McGuinness, Kei Miller, Caroline Bird, David Morley, Jane Yeh, William Letford, Tara Bergin, and many others. Crucially, the *New Poetries* anthologies never seek to identify a ‘school’, much less a ‘generation’: the poets included employ a wide range of styles, forms and approaches, and ‘new’ need not be taken to imply ‘young’. Poets include Vahni Capildeo, John Clegg, Joey Connolly, Adam Crothers, Eric Langley, Rebecca Watts, Judith Willson, Alex Wong, and more.

**MICHAEL SCHMIDT** founded Carcanet Press. He has published numerous books including poetry, novels, anthologies, literary histories and translations; his *Lives of the Poets* (1999) was recently re-issued by Head of Zeus.

**HELEN TOOKEY** is coordinating editor of *PN Review* and lectures in creative writing in Liverpool. Her poems were included in *New Poetries V* and her first collection, *Missel-Child*, was published in 2014.



FEDERICO VARÉLA & C<sup>o</sup>



MALAGA



# John Ashbery

## *Breezeway*

---

You'd better decide what not to do.  
 Everything is pop-up, my 3-time advisor said.  
 He holds my ear. I'll be quite honest with you about it.  
 A man alive, please welcome him.  
 Decent New Yorkers said I can't go his way. He...  
 Supposedly I'm president! A wretch like me!

from 'Queer Subtext'

9781784101152

Paperback 80pp

£9.99

World

exc. US/Canada

The poems in *Breezeway* move lightly between the everyday world, with its pleasures and absurdities, and the worlds of literature and art, with theirs. John Ashbery's poems are haunting, surprising, hilarious, and knowing, the work of an old and always a new master with an uncanny understanding of our age, its fears and fragmentation, its fulfilments. Here is Mr Salteena and the station of the Metro, demystified Middle English mysticism and a peculiarly paced samba, a drugstore, a supermarket, Batman and his dog Pastor Fido, all concluding in 'A Sweet Disorder', in which Herrick is decisively transformed: 'Pardon my sarong. I'll have a Shirley Temple.'

**JOHN ASHBERY** was born in Rochester, New York, in 1927. He has published more than twenty collections of poetry, as well as prose and translations. *Self-Portrait in a Convex Mirror* won the Pulitzer, National Book Award, and National Book Critics Circle Award. In 2002 he was named Officier of the Légion d'Honneur of the Republic of France and in 2012 he was awarded a National Humanities Medal, presented to him by President Obama at the White House.

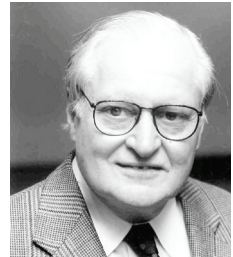




Image ©Michael Schmidt

# Willis Barnstone

## *Mexico in my Heart*

SELECTED POEMS

Willis Barnstone is a literature in himself: poet, translator, interpreter, in one year he can range from Jesus to Sappho and Borges with calm authority and good humour. He re-translates the New Testament in a version Harold Bloom describes as ‘a superb act of restoration’. Borges himself declared, ‘Four of the best things in America are Whitman’s Leaves, Melville’s Whale, the sonnets of Barnstone’s *The Secret Reader*, and my daily Corn Flakes...’ *Mexico in My Heart* is the essential Barnstone, drawing on fifteen collections, poetry from six decades of writing and from several continents. He went to Mexico at the age of fifteen and, gathering languages and literatures, has never stopped learning.

**WILLIS BARNSTONE** was born in Lewiston, Maine, in 1927. He is a poet, translator, critic and biblical scholar. His many books include *The Restored New Testament*, a new annotated translation and commentary. Over the course of an eventful life Barnstone has travelled widely, living at different times in Mexico, Greece, France, Argentina and China, as well as the Unites States and Britain. He is a four-times Pulitzer Prize nominee.



June 2015

9781784100148

Paperback 240pp

£14.99

Ebook

9781784100155

World

exc. US/Canada

# Peter Sansom

## *Careful What You Wish For*

June 2015

9781847772039

Paperback 64pp

£9.99

Ebook

9781784100308

World

A night in Matlock Bath, an Ode to Indolence, a boy running the ploughed fields of cross-country, and the 1975 Reading Festival... *Careful What You Wish For* is winter mornings lit by the tame volcano of a lava lamp, and it is Camus, St-Exupéry and Ken Dodd. Also it is Robert Lowell in a canal boat just outside Mirfield, not to mention family poems and love and tennis poems, and the biggest come-back in golf history, as told by the caddy. 'Entertaining and frequently something more,' Carol Ann Duffy said of Sansom's first book. This sixth Carcanet collection is clear-eyed, tender, and just as bewildered by what life is and does.

**PETER SANSOM** has made 'a sort of living' as a poet for nearly thirty years. He has been Company Poet for Marks & Spencer and Prudential, and Fellow in Poetry at both Leeds and Manchester Universities. He is co-director of The Poetry Business in Sheffield, editor of *The North* magazine and Smith/Doorstop Books. Carcanet publish Peter's five previous books of poems, beginning in 1990 with *Everything You've Heard is True*, a Poetry Book Society Recommendation.







*As a poet, Benning communicates feeling through words  
– and... she does so piercingly.*

*– The Toronto Star*

# Sheri Benning

## *The Season's Vagrant Light*

NEW & SELECTED POEMS

---

Shrew sounds of leaves,  
bleeding at a pace the eye can't hold.  
As a child standing in willow kindle,

grasses the yellow of grandma's dying  
arms, watching geese harrow a sky made  
more blue by the radiance of decay,

asking for a sign...

from 'Wolverine Creek'

9781784101060

Paperback 96pp

£9.99

Ebook

9781784101084

World

exc. USA/Canada

This book marks the UK début of Canadian poet Sheri Benning, featuring new poems alongside work previously published in Canada. Benning's early work draws on her strongly felt connection to her native landscape, rural Saskatchewan. In poems that couple sinew and roots, blood and sap, skin and stone, Benning explores an ecology of affiliation between human beings and the natural world. The poems are also alive to the quiet intimacies between father and daughter, mother and child, between siblings and between lovers. Benning's later work travels further afield – to Russia, New Mexico, Scotland – but always the physical landscape is entwined with memory.

**SHERI BENNING** grew up on a small farm in Saskatchewan. She's since travelled widely. She has published two collections of poetry in Canada, *Thin Moon Psalm* (Brick Books) and *Earth after Rain* (Thistledown Press). Her poetry, essays and fiction have appeared in many journals and anthologies, including *New Poetries V* (Carcanet, 2011). She divides her time between Glasgow and Saskatchewan.





# A.C. Swinburne

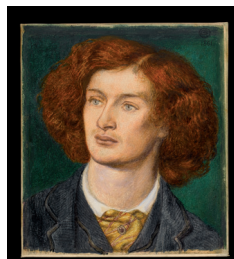
## *Selected Verse*

EDITED BY ALEX WONG

Algernon Charles Swinburne (1837–1909) was one of English poetry's truly distinctive stylists. Next to Tennyson and Browning, he was one of the major poets of the Victorian era and almost certainly the most provocative. In this new selection, Swinburne's first major collection, the *Poems and Ballads* of 1866, is represented much more fully than in earlier selections, and ample extracts are given from his later masterpiece, the Arthurian epic *Tristram of Lyonesse* (1882). This edition also includes generous passages from the best of Swinburne's five-act tragedies, *Chastelard* and *Bothwell*, which have not been reprinted for nearly a century. Above all, the book aims to make Swinburne once again a poet read for pleasure.

**ALGERNON CHARLES SWINBURNE** was born in London in 1837 and educated at Eton and Oxford. A member of the Pre-Raphaelite circle, he shared a house with D.G. Rossetti. *Poems and Ballads* established his reputation as the most controversial English poet of the day. He died in 1909.

**ALEX WONG** studied English literature at Cambridge, completing his doctoral research on Renaissance 'kissing-poems'. He has published essays on English and Latin poetry.



July 2015

9781784100414

Paperback 384pp

£14.99

Ebook

9781784100438

World

  
FyfieldBooks



# Jee Leong Koh

## *Steep Tea*

Singapore-born poet Jee Leong Koh's first book to be published in the UK is rich in detail of the worlds he explores and invents as he follows his desire for an unknown other, moving tentatively, passionately, always uncertain of himself. His language is colloquial, musical, aware of the infusion of various traditions and histories. 'You go where? / I'm going from the latterly to the litany, from writs to rites.' The poems share many of the harsh and enriching circumstances that shape the imagination of a postcolonial queer writer. Taking leaves from other poets – Emilia Lanyer, Eavan Boland, Xunka' Utz'utz' Ni', Lee Tzu Pheng – Koh creates a text that is distinctively his own.

**JEE LEONG KOH** was born and raised in Singapore. He moved to New York in 2003. He has a BA in English (first class honours) from Oxford University and an MFA in Creative Writing from Sarah Lawrence College. He is the curator of the website Singapore Poetry and the co-chair of the inaugural Singapore Literature Festival in New York City. This is his fifth book of poems and the first to be published in the UK.

July 2015

9781847772275

Paperback 72pp

£9.99

Ebook

9781784100469

World







*There is no poetry in the English language now so  
rooted in its sacredness, so broad-leafed in its pleasures  
and yet so intimate and conversational.*

- DEREK WALCOTT



# Les Murray

## *Waiting for the Past*

Foliage is loose flight  
around the top of orders:  
a branch to wither,  
a giant fig to fruit,  
flowering to be started.

from 'High Foliage'

The clearly focused lyrics of Les Murray's *Waiting for the Past* are rich in topographies and the languages peculiar to them – wonga vines, lyre birds, gum trees, shrike thrushes, tallow boughs, boab trees, the octopus in Wylies Baths killed by sterilising chlorine. With the erasures the modern world brings, words, landscapes and lives descend to the Esperanto of the modern. The poet, with a salutary resistance, rejects the computer and the incursions of the levelling Modern in favour of old-fashioned typewriters, unlikely saints, lived-in places, an Easter rabbit 'edible and risen', farming in the spirit of ancestors. This is the past he waits for in scenes unmade by human carelessness, not only in his rural place but across the world. The poems speak of the unspeakable, including old age, vertigo, illness, and the durable resilience of married love.

9781784101169

Paperback 72pp

£9.99

Ebook

9781784101176

World

exc. Aus/NZ

**LES MURRAY** was born in 1938 and grew up on a dairy farm at Bunyah on the north coast of New South Wales. Since 1971 he has made poetry his full-time career. Carcanet publish not only his poetry but also his essays and prose writings (*The Paperbark Tree*, 1992) and his award-winning verse novel *Fredy Neptune* (1998). Les Murray received the Queen's Gold Medal for Poetry in 1999.

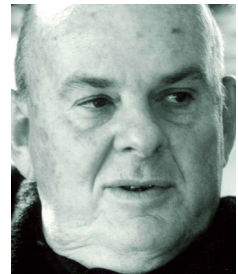




Image © Mahi Binebine

# Abdellatif Laâbi

## *Selected Poems*

TRANSLATED BY ANDRÉ NAFFIS-SAHELY

August 2015

9781784100520

Paperback 224pp

£12.99

Ebook

9781784100537

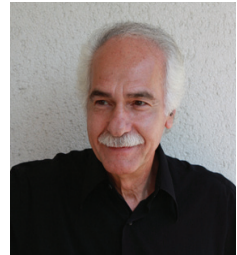
World

Abdellatif Laâbi is the most important contemporary Moroccan poet, editor, novelist, translator and public intellectual. From 1972 to 1980 Laâbi was imprisoned for his peaceful activism against the repressive regime of Hassan II; he was adopted as an Amnesty International prisoner of conscience and received the Prix de la Liberté from French PEN on his release in 1981. His poetry often uses fragmented, exploded forms to register the violence and dislocations his country has experienced. This book includes a generous selection of Laâbi's poetry from the late 1960s to the 2010s, with a special emphasis on his prison writings from the 1970s. The book also features an extensive interview with the author.



**ABDELLATIF LAÂBI** was born in Fez, Morocco, in 1942. In 1966 he founded *Souffles*, a radical journal. He was imprisoned from 1972 to 1980 for his activism against the regime of Hassan II. He moved to France in 1985 and received the Prix Goncourt de la Poésie in 2009 and the Académie française's Grand prix de la Francophonie in 2011.

**ANDRÉ NAFFIS-SAHELY**'s poetry was featured in *Best British Poetry 2014* and the *Oxford Poets 2013* anthology. His translations include *Money* by Émile Zola.





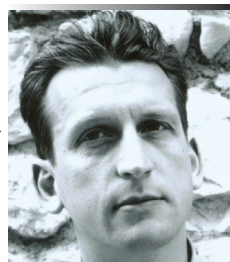
# Iain Bamforth

## *A Doctor's Dictionary*

WRITINGS ON CULTURE & MEDICINE

In this pithy abecedarium, doctor and poet Iain Bamforth takes a close look at the conflict of values embodied in what we call medicine – never entirely a science and no longer quite the art it used to be. Bamforth draws upon his wide experience of medicine around the world, from the high-tech American Hospital of Paris to the community health centres of Papua, together with his engaging interest in the stranger manifestations of medical matters in relation to art, literature and culture, such as the mysterious ‘Stendhal’s syndrome’ which caused 106 tourists in Florence to be hospitalised due to an overload of sublime Renaissance art.

**IAIN BAMFORTH** has worked as a hospital doctor in the American Hospital of Paris and the Australian outback, as urban and rural general practitioner, and more recently on community health projects in south-east Asia. He has published five collections of poetry, as well as a collection of essays on European intellectual history, *The Good European*. He lives in Strasbourg.



August 2015

9781784100568

Paperback 328pp

£16.99

Ebook

9781784100575

World



Withouten any mane venicence  
 Of honour done to the excellence  
 Of Apollo/ beynyng ther p'sent  
 That the phane w' places adiacont  
 Wern defouled/ a pollur w'ith the blade  
 To her fore she sayd shortly it was gode  
 That thei went/ a processyon  
 Thert contrite/ and deuocyon  
 To y' tombe of Achides in the myght  
 Onely to sette/ on her tapre light  
 Sacride sw' beynnyng atte w'ake  
 fully in p'os/ by a sent to make  
 ffor his moedre/ satisfiaryon  
 The w'ithin sw' by non occasyon  
 Shall not quenche/ but his flammes holde  
 Throgh noon assaunt of stormy wyndes colde  
 The sacrific' vpon the autere  
 To fore Apollo/ breine shall so clew  
 And thei of Troye w'ight by hir rede  
 But of ye egle/ she had she take gode hede  
 That no thyng was/ but token of urson  
 p'ronostyng eke/ a declaracyon  
 ffynally hon' Troye and y'llion  
 Shall tunc/ yn to destruccion  
 ffor the fleynyng of this foule royal  
 Queer the coun' the myghty wal  
 With his fetters may les brighte shene  
 And then walls/ in his clees fene  
 To Troye was/ a fynal demons'traunce  
 Both fast she w'ennyng and a sign' fauice  
 That at grave e'ure/ a shappe of olde fortune  
 By lykkynges/ myght not contune  
 ffor p'sence in her fust litte  
 ffor alle attouces thei hau take her flight  
 palladion/ myght hem not/ with holde  
 That stoth was/ like as y' haue tolde  
 ffor no man may/ his fatal chaunce refuse  
 And greekes eke/ fast gau to nuse  
 And in her wyntes/ w'as w'ith sougtht  
 Of cheuence/ that the egle brougtht  
 And ther vpon/ thoue to thare wynt  
 Al that calcas/ eke thynge w'ide expoune  
 And onto hem fully gan assure  
 That the fren' of this aventure  
 conchuse shold/ vpon her welfare

and had also/ for no coste thei spare  
 To p'sence/ and be of her stable  
 By fortune hem self/ to enable  
 hem counlelyng/ to do her best p'eyne  
 Solempnely in haste to ordeyne  
 A certeyn offynyng/ don oute of the f'elde  
 To faure pallas/ w' hir crystal shelde  
 And to hir make auche sacrifice  
 To se the story by ordre shall deuyse  
**A**bysshope calchas/ with his  
 lockes fore  
 D'raut for thisore sith gon  
 ful yore  
 That fallid/ hach his trowthes signaice  
 Whou greekes hau put in remembraunce  
 y' her booke/ w'ith letters olde e' newe  
 To exemplifre/ that no man be contraise  
 ffor though y' eyes fast passe a way  
 Fast of slaudre/ w'it not lightly dre  
 The fret ther of/ so so corrossif  
 That it lastith in a many's lif  
 And is ful hard/ to arruae a way  
 Of w'hos weaym/ ful selde is made a lay  
 Repert therof/ bloisen ys so wyde  
 p' p' r'uchly that it w'ill a byde  
 Remembred/ newe/ a fresshy had in mynde  
 Recorde of him/ that coude a way fynde  
 Of olde calchas/ yuel not he stene  
 D'ur colour of offynyng to ynerue  
 To make greekes/ came into the coun  
 This flyghy serpent/ fadir a p'anon  
 And f'indith vp/ of w'eson a of gyle  
 Compas'se hath/ a y'founde a w'yle  
 Gode greekes shall/ the cte wyne a take  
 p'ortendyng hem/ a sacrific' to make  
 Into pallas/ as y' shall exp'sse  
 ffor this drayto/ mirro of falsnesse  
 The greekes had/ for to do her p'eyne  
 To ymerus/ a offynyng to feyne  
 And in alhast/ that thei shold hem spede  
 A y' sent/ to make a launce f'ede  
 Wyche a wyde/ of copre a of bras  
 And by Symon it contrines was  
 That it myght/ recoune launce a wel  
 A thon sand knyghtes/ armed i' brassy sele



# Nicolas Barker

## *Visible Voices*

September

TRANSLATING VERSE INTO  
SCRIPT & PRINT 3000 BC–AD 2000

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*Traduttore, traditore: every translation is a betrayal. Reading verse, as opposed to speaking or listening to it, loses something. The mind's ear is not so agile as the mind's eye. Subtleties of assonance are less easily appreciated on the page than the beginnings and ends of lines, or rhyme-words, similarly (or, as striking, dissimilarly) spelt. Yet the movement of the poet's eye, from line to line, column to column, or even across the page, with the reader in pursuit, has its own poetry.*

9781847772121

Paperback 80pp

£14.99

World

In *Visible Voices* Nicolas Barker traces the history of the 'translation' of poetry from a spoken medium to a written, or printed, medium. The book moves from the pictograms of the Ancient Near East through the development of alphabetic scripts, the traditions of Medieval European manuscripts, the shift from script to print, all the way to the innovations and experiments of the modernist period. Stéphane Mallarmé's typo-graphically exploded poem *Un coup de dés jamais n'abolira le hasard*, Barker writes, 'takes the problem that has haunted poets and their audiences over 4000 years to a logical conclusion: that is, how the evanescent iridescent idea in the poet's mind is to be registered in graphic form – what, in short, is the art of poetry?' Illustrated throughout with photographs of the texts, this book provides a fascinating account of the history of this art.

**NICOLAS BARKER** grew up in Cambridge, surrounded by books. He started printing them at fourteen, then went into publishing, becoming editor of *The Book Collector*, and in 1976 first Head of Conservation of the British Library. A Fellow of the British Academy, he has written or edited thirty books.







# Moya Cannon

## *Keats Lives on the Amtrak*

Moya Cannon's new collection reaches back into the long past, showing how traces left behind – textile fragments, buried thimbles, cave paintings – enable us to make imaginative connections with our distant ancestors, emphasising the commonalities of human lives lived many centuries apart. At the heart of the book is the vital importance of art, as the means by which we give permanence to the fleeting moments of our lives; and our need for a connection to the natural world, even in the most mechanised of modern environments. As the train conductor in the title poem asserts, “I’m going to get a T-shirt with / Keats Lives on it. This time of year, [...] when everything starts coming green again, / I always think of him...”.

**MOYA CANNON** was born in Co. Donegal, Ireland. She studied history and politics at University College, Dublin and international relations at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge. She has published four previous collections of poetry. She has been editor of *Poetry Ireland Review* and was the recipient of the Brendan Behan Award and of the Laurence O’Shaughnessy Award. She was the 2011 Heimbold Chair of Irish Studies at Villanova University.



September 2015

9781784100605

Paperback 72pp

£9.99

Ebook

9781784100612

World





# R.F. Langley

## *Complete Poems*

EDITED BY JEREMY NOEL-TOD

R.F. Langley is known for his meticulous observation of the natural world and his highly original voice. This volume brings together his two previous Carcanet collections, *Collected Poems* (2000) and *The Face of It* (2007), along with his celebrated but uncollected late poems, including 'To a Nightingale', which won the 2011 Forward Prize for Best Individual Poem. The book includes a biographical introduction and a rare note by the poet on his own compositional practice. Langley kept a careful record of the reading and writing which inspired his poems; this edition is fully annotated with these sources, making it an invaluable guide for readers wanting to explore the visionary imagination of this master craftsman.

**R.F. LANGLEY** was born in Rugby in 1938. He was educated at Jesus College, Cambridge, and taught English and art history at Midlands secondary schools. In 1999 he retired to Suffolk. His *Collected Poems* (2000) was shortlisted for the Whitbread Prize for Poetry. He died in 2011.

**JEREMY NOEL-TOD** is a Lecturer in English and Creative Writing at the University of East Anglia. He was the revising editor of the *Oxford Companion to Modern Poetry* (2013).

September 2015

9781784100643

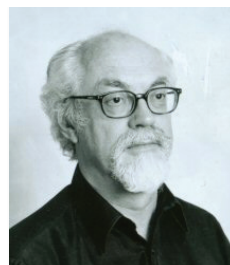
Paperback 144pp

£12.99

Ebook

9781784100650

World







## Ezra Pound

*Posthumous Cantos*

EDITED BY MASSIMO BACIGALUPO

Yet from my tomb such flame of love arise  
 That whoso passes shall be warmed thereby;  
     let stray cats curl there  
             where no tomb stone is  
 and girls' eyes sparkle at the unmarked spot  
 let rancours die  
     and a slow drowse of peace pervade who passes.

9781784101206

Paperback 192pp

£14.99

Ebook

9781784101213

World

Ezra Pound's *Posthumous Cantos* collects unpublished pages of his great poem, drawn from manuscripts held in the archive at Yale's Beinecke Library and elsewhere. They are assembled by Pound's Italian translator, the critic and scholar Massimo Bacigalupo, into a companion book to the *Cantos*, running from 1917 to 1972 and including the cantos he wrote in Italian in 1944–45. An Italian edition was published in 2002 and revised in 2012. This is the first English edition of a crucial part of the Pound canon. *Posthumous Cantos* is arranged to reflect the eight phases of the *Cantos*' composition. Pound's writing suffered the consequences of the turbulent history of his century. World War I left the cultural world he came to Europe for in ruins; and the aftermath of World War II, in which he took a contrary side, made his work, like his life, discontinuous, a sequence of brilliant moments and profound ruptures.


 The logo for Fyfield Books features a red circle with the letters 'FB' in white, positioned above the text 'FyfieldBooks' in a blue serif font.

**EZRA POUND** (1885–1972) is one of the most influential, and controversial, poets of the twentieth century. His poetry remains vital, challenging, contentious, unassimilable.

**MASSIMO BACIGALUPO** is an experimental filmmaker, scholar, translator and literary critic. Since 1990, he has been Professor of American Literature at the University of Genoa.

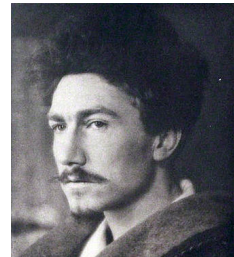




Illustration from a pattern by Hokusai (1760-1849)



# Shuntarō Tanikawa

## *New Selected Poems*

TRANSLATED BY WILLIAM I. ELLIOTT

October 2015

9781784100681

Paperback 184pp

£12.99

Ebook

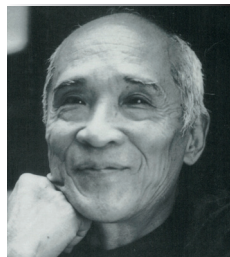
9781784100698

World

Shuntarō Tanikawa has been the most inventive modern Japanese poet ever since he published *Alone in Two Billion Light Years* (1952), his first book, aged twenty-one. Undamaged by Japan's post-War trauma, he took up the language and ran with it. He has continued running. When in 1968 his first *Collected Poems* appeared the critics noted at once his popularity and his refusal to compromise with the negative tones that dominated the poetic palette of contemporary Japan. He has published more than sixty books of poetry, lyrics, prose poems, narratives, epics and satires. He has experimented in form and theme, combining clarity with subtlety. This new book supplements his original *Selected Poems* published by Carcanet in 1998.

**SHUNTARŌ TANIKAWA** has won every major Japanese award for his writing. In 1988 an English translation of his work received the American Book Award. He has been translated into fifteen languages. He writes video, radio and film scripts and plays for children. He is the translator of *Mother Goose* and *Peanuts*.

**WILLIAM I. ELLIOTT** is Professor of English and American Literature at Kanto Gakuin University, Yokohama.



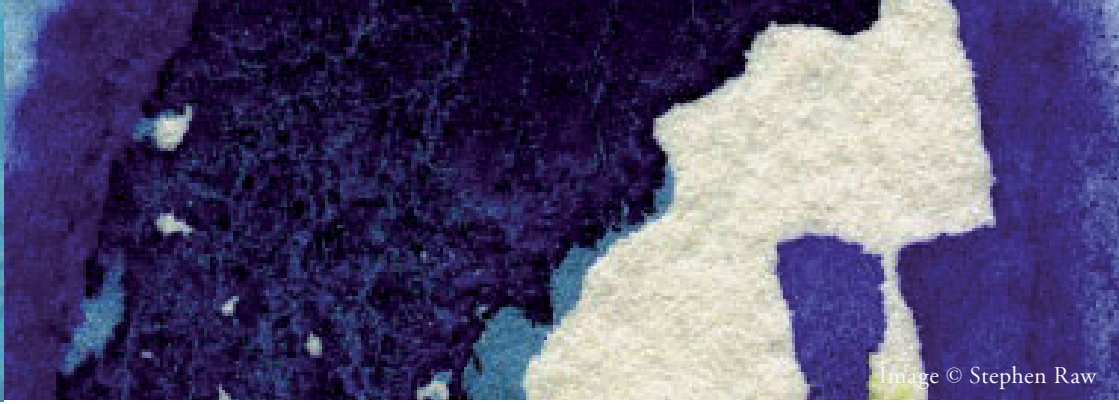


Image © Stephen Raw

# Muriel Spark

## *Collected Poems*

October 2015

9781784101244

Paperback 160pp

£14.99

Ebook

9781784101251

World

In her foreword to *All The Poems* (2003) Muriel Spark wrote, ‘Although most of my life has been devoted to fiction, I have always thought of myself as a poet. I do not write “poetic” prose, but feel that my outlook on life and my perceptions of events are those of a poet.’ Including previously uncollected work, this new edition demonstrates her ear for the rightness of a line and her eye for the telling detail, her command of poetic forms and her ability to rise to the different challenges of freer verse. Spark’s poems are witty, idiosyncratic and haunting, transforming the familiar into glittering moments of strangeness, revealing the dark – and light – music beneath the mundane.

**MURIEL SPARK** was born in Edinburgh in 1918. She edited *Poetry Review* from 1947 to 1949 and published her first volume of poems, *The Fanfarlo and other verse*, in 1952. In addition to her poems, Carcanet publish her memoir, *Curriculum Vitae*, new editions of her critical works *Mary Shelley* and *The Essence of the Brontës*, and a selection of her essays, *The Golden Fleece*. She died in Italy in 2006.





*An insanely scrupulous act of writing.*  
- JOHN WILKINSON on *Unsung*





# Rod Mengham

## *Chance of a Storm*

---

I have this feeling for poetry  
that it will give away my position.

9781784100834

Paperback 80pp

£9.99

It is one small step for you and me  
one giant leap for librarians,  
in sore need of boarding this craft  
whose sails can never be trimmed.

Ebook

9781784100841

World

from 'Assange Militia'

For Rod Mengham sculpture and painting exist in the world the way poems do. He invokes the Polish sculptor Katarzyna Kobro, who believes that sculpture must be understood as part of the world around it. In *Chance of a Storm*, poetry is language that comes trailing bits of other forms of speech and writing. 'Poems should be finished, but be still hot to the touch, giving a vivid sense of the thinking and feeling that went into their creation,' he says. Drew Milne speaks of the poems' 'beautiful, belligerent laconicism'. While the lyric is central to Mengham's work, it cannot shrug off the ambition of epic, scaled down but still latent. This telescoping informs the structure of these prose poems, a species of modernist fable.

**ROD MENGHAM** lives and works in Cambridge. He has written books on Henry Green, Emily Brontë, Charles Dickens, Thomas Hardy and on language and cultural history. He is the editor of the *Equipage* series of poetry pamphlets. His poems have been published in *Unsung: New and Selected Poems* (Salt, 2001) and with photographs by Marc Atkins in *Parleys and Skirmishes* and *Still Moving*.





Image © Linda Cooper

# Grevel Lindop

## *Luna Park*

**November 2015**

9781857549874

Paperback 80pp

**£9.99**

Ebook

9781784100490

World

Drawing on themes of magic, dreams and the nocturnal, Grevel Lindop's new collection of poems ranges in subject from the hidden histories of words to the folklore of yew trees, and in place from a haunted English library to a derelict Australian funfair and the streets of Mexico City. Including 'Shugborough Eclogues', a twenty-first-century take on the country-house pastoral, and sequences on the darker and brighter aspects of love, *Luna Park* deploys an original viewpoint as well as a wide range of traditional and modernist skills in verse. The book ends with 'Hurricane Music', Lindop's prose memoir of a visit to New Orleans in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

**GREVEL LINDOP** lives in Manchester; a former academic, he now works as a freelance writer. Carcanet has published six collections of his poems, including a *Selected Poems* in 2000. His *Travels on the Dance Floor* was a Radio 4 *Book of the Week* and shortlisted as Best Travel Book 2009; his *Literary Guide to the Lake District* won the Lakeland Book of the Year award and his biography of the poet, novelist and theologian Charles Williams will appear from OUP in 2015.





Image © William Jackson

# *A W.H. Davies Reader*

EDITED BY RORY WATERMAN

**November 2015**

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W.H. Davies (1871–1940) was popularly though reductively known as the ‘tramp-poet’ due to his remarkable journey from vagrancy, in Britain and the United States, to considerable literary success. ‘Discovered’ in part by Edward Thomas, who admired his poetry, Davies became a prolific memoirist and occasional writer of fiction, criticism and drama. He is now known almost exclusively for a handful of poems and for his memoir *The Autobiography of a Super-Tramp*; his other writing has long been out of print. This book collects generous selections from Davies’s prose memoir, poetry, and critical prose, alongside comprehensive notes. It brings back into print the work of a remarkable, controversial and unduly neglected author.

**W.H. DAVIES** was born in Newport, Wales in 1871. *The Autobiography of a Super-Tramp* appeared in 1908. He died in Gloucestershire in 1940.

**RORY WATERMAN** was born in Belfast in 1981. His first poetry collection, *Tonight the Summer’s Over*, was a Poetry Book Society Recommendation. He leads the MA in Creative Writing at Nottingham Trent University.

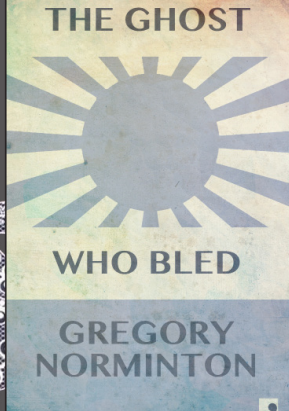
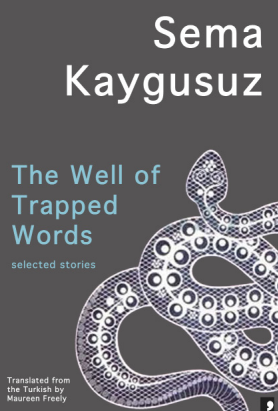
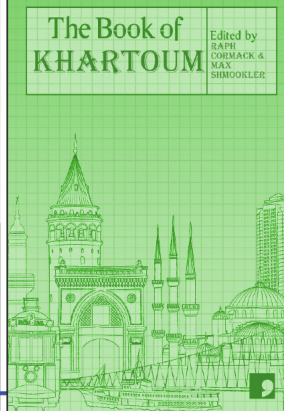
  
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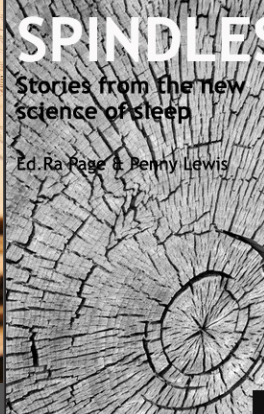
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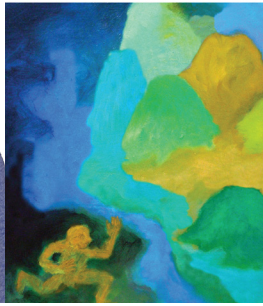
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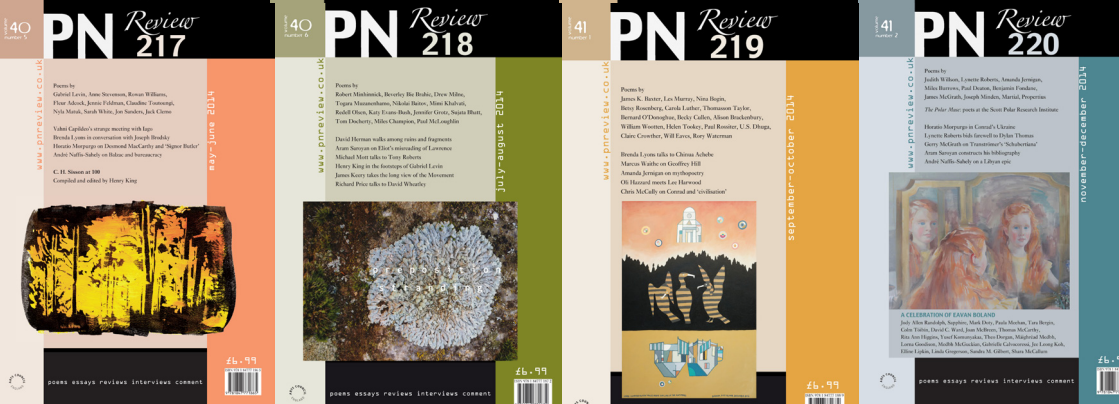
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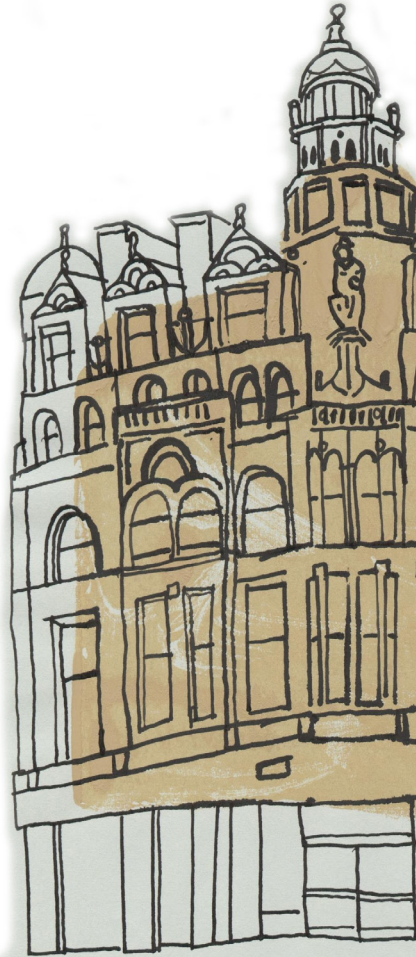
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