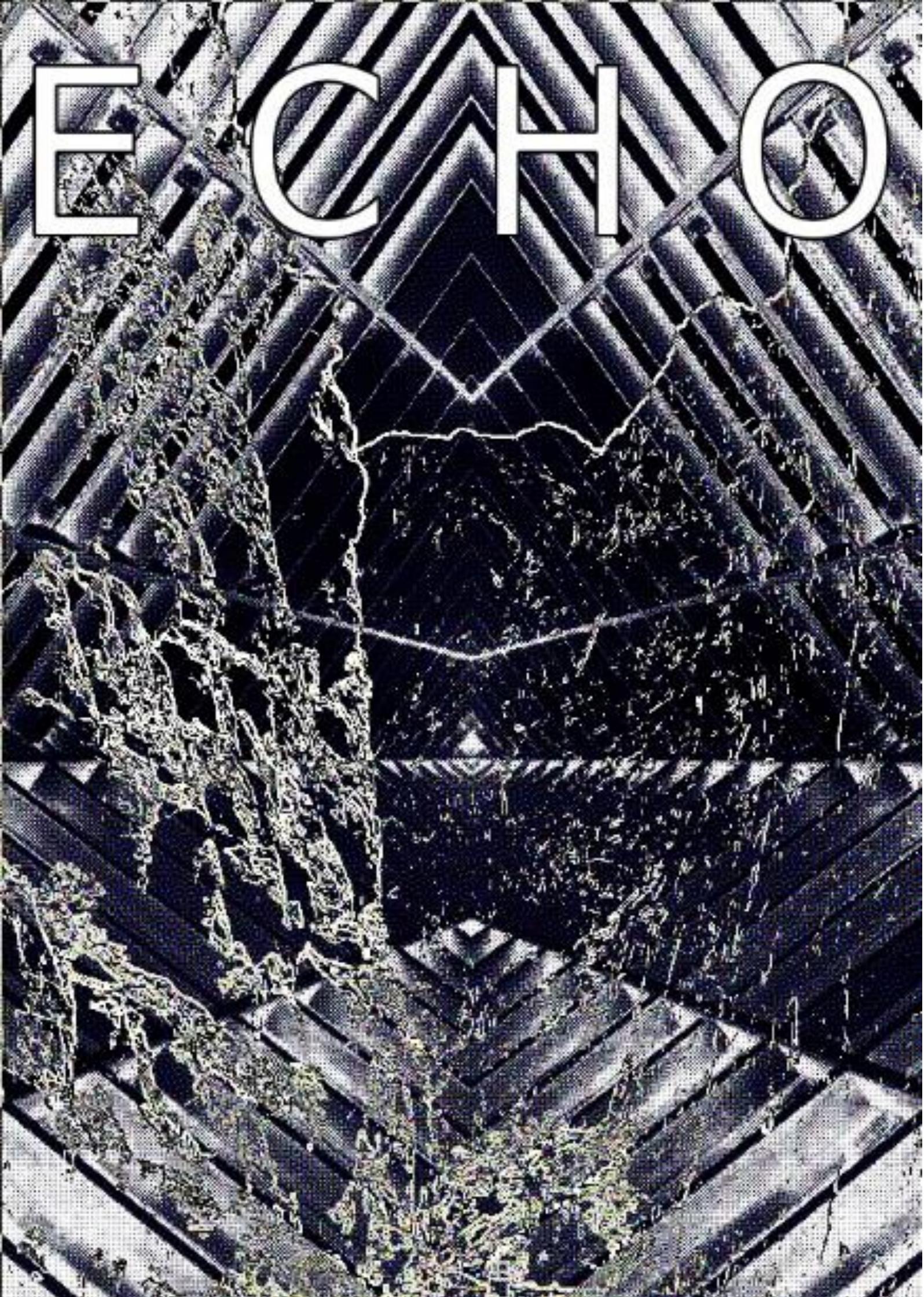


ECHO



E C H O

NOVEMBER 2017

EDITED BY JESSICA TILLINGS

E C H O IS AN ONLINE ZINE, WHICH RUNS ALONGSIDE THE INTERDISCIPLINARY
READING SERIES



CURRENTLY, WE ONLY SOLICIT SUBMISSIONS FROM OPEN MIC PERFORMERS. TO SIGN-UP
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BORDERLINE

Hilary Walker

We are as one
my damaged girl and me,
drowning deep within her constant need
and my unrelenting sense of responsibility

she has two thoughts, black and white
she has two emotions, love and hate
she has two judgements, good and evil
there is no middle ground
they call it borderline

and we live on the border of life,
like refugees in our own diminished detention centre
waiting indefinitely for good news,
for normality, for acceptance

while we wait I learn the language
of our new world
but the words all sound the same
psychology psychotherapy, psychotic, psychosis

she waits desperately,
chronic intensity
raging raw against invisible walls,
cutting to cope,
for a sense of hope
cutting to release
for a promise of peace
cutting to feel
cutting to heal
cutting to breathe
cutting to believe
cutting to survive
cutting to stay alive

abandonment - her worst fear,
the all too familiar mantra sounding loud and clear,
in my ear:

I hate you, please don't leave me

I have more than two thoughts
I have a million, and then a million more,
they litter the floor,
they hide behind the door,
they shout, they scream
they whisper, they roar

One more dance with the devil
One more midnight pact with god
One more last chance
One more...

They tell me I'm now a carer, but some days I don't care anymore

but we are as one
my damaged girl and me
for the scars that cover her body
bleed deep into my heart

SCHAND MAUER

Brendan Quinn

graffiti cascade
avant garde guard

the fascist's faces
are wall coloured

travel far enough left
you end right again

fear is concrete
ideology a tower

death strip
from the guard tower
cigarette light
tanks in the mist
meet fakir bed fate

the will of the people
is to avoid painted lines

borders sever
human chain
mapped across earth

dust is neither east nor west
we breathe in all directions

the orangutan climbs high to shit on the people below
wears a face like a cannoned backside
walls around membrane
walls of abandon
walls
walls
walls

STADT DES GESCHLECHTS

Brendan Quinn

Berlinguists
finger painted thresholds
on cunnilingus

cum café
strip upon entry
feline prowls
these lambent lanes

like orgasms in the arteries
the sure route
to Cheshire grin

bounces laps to
lust licked
luck lounges

Berghain
lines of hopefuls
dressed in black
denied entry

whispers of
twenty-four-hour orgies
and fuck frenzy
techno overdose

Sven apocalyptic
almost prophetic
like a tatted bull
directs human traffic
with one simple move of the arm

the night air
is psychoactive
spliff-lipped
Ecstasy plays with
uncharted erogenous zones

transvestites
glitter clad
kiss on crowded trams

boats along the Spree
carry travellers flushed
on spirit spunk
the clatter of throng
to the backing track of heavy metal

techno coloured cream coated
taxis play into the wide roads

bombed out bus
beer bottle residence
destination Berlin

TOM JENKS

Marjorie

16th October 2017

Reverb Launch

[CLICK TO GO TO VIDEO](#)



[CLICK TO GO TO VIDEO](#)

Tom Jenks is a poet based in Manchester. His most recent book is *Crabtree: the libretto* (The Red Ceiling Press), his other collections of poetry include *A Priori* *, and *Items* (if p then q), *Spruce* (Blart Books) and *Sublunar* (Oystercatcher Press). He has also published a spreadsheet translation of the Book of Genesis: *The Tome of Commencement*, (Stranger Press), a database treatment of John Stuart Mill: *On Liberty, Repressed*, (Knives Forks and Spoons Press) and a Twitter re-write of a 17th century book of medicine and philosophy: *An Anatomy of Melancholy*, (Sad Press). He also co-organises *The Other Room* reading series and edits the avant objects imprint zimZalla.

Video by Jake Ryan

HIPSTERS PARADISE

Robert Edge

*

-Crudités include-

lesser bearded asparagus
garnished with the oil of pulped Humboldt
wild boar get-your-coat-you've-pulled-

lettuce the *Vegetarian* option
flame grilled halloumi 'the squeaky cheese'
served on rye-bugger bread & topped with
an egg! Lovingly poached in the juice of virgin pears

(all our eggs supplied by free range lesbian chickens)

no duck eggs for fear of offence, the shock of promiscuity.

The Rape of Mallard

-Surf & Turf-

Served on recyclable swimming aids
[available to take away at a small replenishment cost]
All other meals, on refugee vessel, reclaimed wood
tentacles humanely sourced without slaughter as
[Chef says they grow back in time]

-Vegans-

enjoy the same with our speciality
-twice boiled shower mat-

*

-New-Wave-

old-school pancakes
not to be confused
with crepes

-Apartheid grapes-

feel our wrath
I.P.A. style not Empire's dominance

Fags are not L.G.B.T

and must be hand rolled
tables are benches, privacy is public
Ginger's are welcome
as are shy Tory's

A pint is a pint

a schooner's indeterminate excuse
for a liver function test.

-the poets corner-

is a drunken aside where trumps
and liberalism collides autographed
flattery will get you everywhere for a fiver.
Cheap souls, a retrospective of the Emperor's
new clothes.

*sustainable beard oil is available in our gift shop

JESSICA TILLINGS

Bus De La Lum
16th October 2017
Reverb Launch

CLICK TO GO TO VIDEO



CLICK TO GO TO VIDEO

Jessica Tillings is a poet, editor & artist based in West Lancashire. She holds first class honours in Creative Writing from Edge Hill University, where she was awarded the Eileen Davis prize for achieving the highest mark of her graduating class. Jessica co-founded, & currently manages the interdisciplinary reading series *Reverb*, and co-chairs the Edge Hill University's gender & sexuality research group *GenSex*. She is the former Head Editor & Poetry Editor for *Black Market Re-View* & in 2016 she was awarded the Rhiannon Evans Poetry Prize. Previously, she has been the Editorial Assistant for *The Wolf* & the scheduling & design intern for *Edge Hill University Press*. Her poetry has appeared in *The Wolf*, *ZARF* & *DATABLEED*.

Video by Jake Ryan

FROM 'ENFILE: A HISTORY OF PAINTING
AND/OR DANCING'

Cathy Butterworth

the big wheel is stupid and
absurd, later stranger
you might call it a Ferris wheel
not for the first time I've been called from a hotel room (or the last)
Extraordinary nonsensical pretence of an entrance
trying to remember to remember what the carpet is like

That was a disastrous debut
Creating all sorts of furorers

looking at it
you'd think it was chaos

being dragged around and/or
not being dragged around
all over the place
but
precise
myself carefully

I was a swimmer and
he said swim in the blue so
I swam in the
exaggerating a little
tininess unfeasible
there was another woman lost touch with
a good friend had to make
lines
that were very hard to
you needed a good physique to
to be able to
to stand the
cold water and the wind
they came out very beautiful and
in those last ones with the three great colours
the fire brought out the
gold shades in the half-burnt paper

the pink he put in with the spray

everything was always going from fire to
water and water to fire
I was a ~~dancer~~ dowser
young people can't fathom it
but you can tell it's me
I was much smaller than the others
had to hold on tight to the roll and we couldn't move quickly
smudging it
an awful mess, an awful mess, this was an
and we went for it, I went for it
you can see where it has the nudity on it
It was essential to sink slowly and completely on to the knees
hands planted on the thighs torso very upright
staying completely unbalanced to the rear
taking short steps back on heels and
falls on to the back hitting the floor with both hands
both legs in the air and
Sit up and pauses for a moment
won't walk away but won't look back

I didn't sign my name with an
E
they don't have the name
as it is in Italian so
I signed it with an H like Helen of Troy

FLIRT

Luke Thurogood

Dunk your fish shop fillet into my bubbling oily vat

Allow my Protestant vicar safety through your Bloody Mary era underground passage

Press your hot West Berlin Scroll into my soft Communist Mail Slot

I will Jangle my Moat House Key into your droopy withered slot hole

It's not droopy and withered. It's firm and fresh like a GM peach.

The moat house on Tomb Raider 2 is what I'm imagining.

Lock your shaking butler in my pixelated pantry

I'll press my alan key into your gleaming knut

Make me shine like a sticky glazed ham under the burning spotlight of a carvery bulb

Peel my clothes from my body like that thin strip of paper that separates mince from plastic

Please me so that my final twitching movements resemble the characteristic flailings of a blind man in a mousetrap factory

I'll press my bulging member, dirty as a miner's thumb into your rattling birdcage arsefanny.

Steady on. Captain. And smash your fleshy cannonballs into my unprepared vessel.

You're such a

FLIRT

GERRY POTTER

Big John

16th October 2017

Reverb Launch

CLICK TO GO TO VIDEO



CLICK TO GO TO VIDEO

Gerry Potter is a poet, playwright, director, actor & one of Liverpool's leading LGBT+ icons. A favourite son of both Manchester & his home town Liverpool, he has been wowing audiences nationally with his own unique brand of domestic-fantastic free verse. Published widely, his most recent collections include: *Accidental Splendour of the Splash*, *The Story Chair*, *Fifty*, *The Men Pomes*, *Planet Middle Age & Planet Young*, (Flapjack Press). Later this year, actress Fennella Fielding will be reinterpreting a selection of Gerry's poems at Liverpool's Homotopia festival. Currently, he is touring his book *The Chronicles of Folly Butler*, (Flapjack Press), which he describes as: 'his genre defying opus, the fifth of hopefully ten volumes of autobiographical theatre verse. Then he promises never to write again'. Gerry has a reputation for putting his Scouse voice on the line a soaring sing-song accent, strong on poetry & strong on the causes of poetry. Currently, he is touring his book *The Chronicles of Folly Butler*, (Flapjack Press), which he describes as: 'his genre defying opus, the fifth of hopefully ten volumes of autobiographical theatre verse. Then he promises never to write again'. Gerry has a reputation for putting his Scouse voice on the line a soaring sing-song accent, strong on poetry & strong on the causes of poetry.

Video by Jake Ryan

CONTRIBUTORS

Cathy Butterworth is an artist who makes work at the intersection of writing, performance and visual art. Her pamphlet *Cimmerian* was published by Dock Road Press. Performance actions, writing and visual art projects include: *Sketches for Britain* (Bridewell Gallery, Liverpool, 2010), *22 Mondays* (durational performance with Mark Greenwood, 2015), *Everyone in Your Life is a Figment of Your Imagination* (Delhi, 2015), *Elective Affinities* (Tate Liverpool 2016) and *True Blue: 26 Lost Performances* (2016).

Robert Edge is a writer and photographer based in West Lancashire. Having just completed a B.A. in English with Creative Writing he has turned his back on the notion of a proper job, rekindling creative aspirations as a fictioneer (he made that up) and as a poet. Robert has worked on Edge Hill Press' Trans-Atlantic poetry anthology, *Atlantic Drift*, which launched at the Edinburgh Book Festival in August 2017. Previously, he was the events coordinator and poetry editor for the online literary journal, *Black Market Re-View*. Currently, Robert co-manages the interdisciplinary reading series *Reverb*, and is writing a novel, *The Fairly Good Samaritan*, whilst studying for a Masters by research at Edge Hill University.

Brendan Quinn works in a variety of disciplines, is currently living in Liverpool and has just completed an MA in Creative Writing at Edge Hill University. Brendan was part of the Edge Hill Press during the production and publication of *Atlantic Drift – an Anthology of Poetry & Poetics*. His poetry was recently featured in *The Wolf* and was also formed as part of *And the Word Was*, an exhibition which celebrated the connections between poetry and visual art. Brendan has performed collaborative pieces at *The University Camarade* and *North By North West Poetry Tour*, both curated by The Enemies Project and was a part of *Happening Tonight*, a celebration of fifty years of The Mersey Sound.

Jake Ryan is a community artist and educator who works across a variety of forms including film, photography, creative writing, graphic design & motion graphics, visual arts and making. He also creatively documents and augments arts processes and performances using film, photography and recorded sound. He collaborates with a

range of artists and performers. He is currently producing work for Tate Galleries, Manchester Art Gallery, Plaza Community Cinema and FACT.

Luke Thurogood is a world champion of similes and 'would you rather' questions. He, along with Torkel Tennberg, is working on a project called *The Pollyverse*, a multimedia series detailing the adventures of Polly St. Irene and others. He periodically dresses as a sentient lemon. Previously he was the Head Editor for both *Black Market Re-view* and *Three and a Half Point 9*. His work has appeared in *Poetry Pacific*, *Ikleftiko* and has been featured on Robert Sheppard's blog: *Pages*. Luke has performed collaborative pieces at *The University Camarade*, *The Liverpool Camarade*, *Exclaim! and North By North West Poetry Tour*.

Hilary Walker became involved with the Bolton based poetry performance group *Write Out Loud* in 2004 and gained experience of reading her work at *open mic* events around the North West. She also travelled with the group to poetry festivals including: Bordeaux, and on a personal level has enjoyed performing poetry whilst on holiday in Greenwich Village, New York and throughout Australia.

Hilary believes that within her poetry she creates a space of honesty that is difficult to find in any other aspect of her life. She writes passionately about life experiences in order to understand and make sense of the world.

Hilary has recently completed a memoir written about her daughter who she adopted from Romania, and currently is beginning a project to archive the personal memories and social history contained within many letters received and sent between her parents during the Second World War.

FREE EVENT

REVERB

SPOKEN WORD

OPEN MIC

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7.30PM MONDAY 27TH NOVEMBER

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