

# zine 02

zine edited by Michał Kamil Piotrowski

## Writers Forum Workshop

a workshop series for experimental poetry, open to all

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#### ANDREW NIGHTINGALE lives

in St Leonards-on-Sea and works for an animal protection charity. His most recent poetry pamphlet is *Denizen Disease* (Red Ceilings, 2022). A couple of other spider-related poems can be read at osmosispress.com.



CHARLOTTE HARKER is a visual artist, writer and poet. Her work has been supported by, amongst others, Arts Council England and the Pollock Krasner Foundation. Her practice is grounded in drawing, printmaking and the written word. IG: @charker2001



CHRIS GUTKIND. These are offcuts from a longer project, *Digits After Orph*, some of which can be seen at Datableed, Erotoplasty, theHythe. Books: *Inside to Outside*, *Options*, *What Happened*.

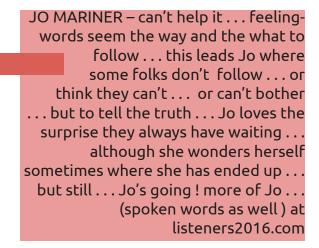


#### jULI JANA received Master's Degree

in Creative Writing & Research from Roehampton University. Ran a monthly poetry event MORE POETRY with Ken Champion in London for 10 years ending in 2018. Has published in various UK and South African Poetry Magazines. Was a featured poet/artist in THE HIGH WINDOW. Has a chapbook, *ra-t*, published by Shearsman.

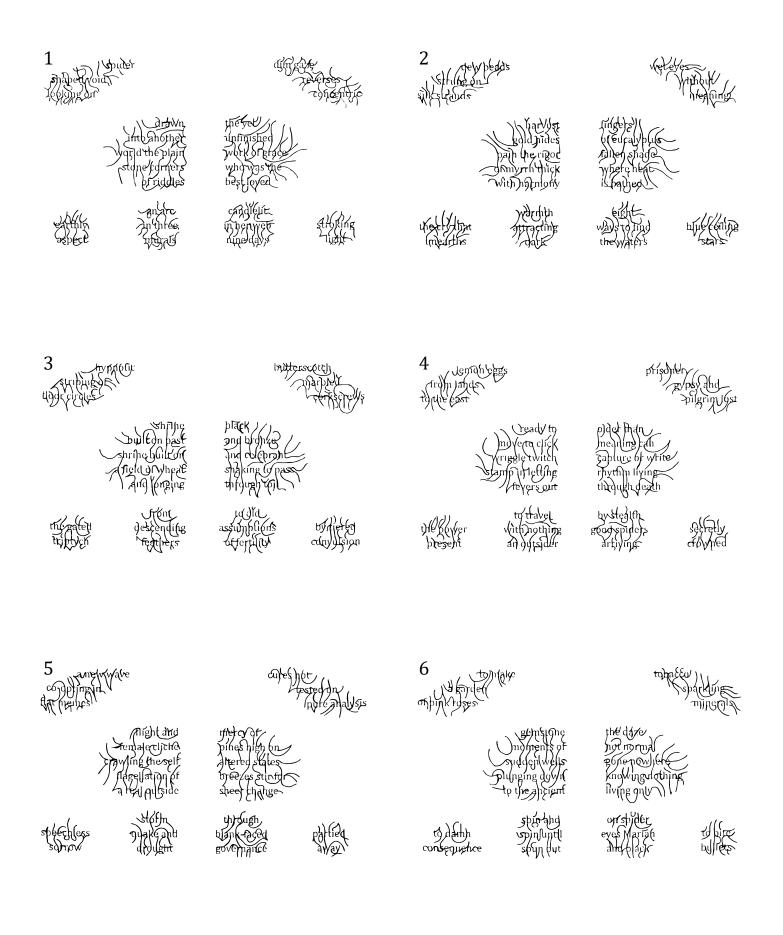
FRANCES PRESLEY was born in Derbyshire, of Dutch-Javanese and English parents, in 1952. She grew up in Lincolnshire and Somerset, and lives in London. She studied at the University of East Anglia. Publications include Halse for Hazel (2014) on trees and their languages; Ada Unseen (2019) on Ada Lovelace, mathematician and computer visionary; her Collected Poems 1973-2020 was published in two volumes by Shearsman in 2022. Presley has written essays and reviews, especially on innovative British women poets. Her work is in the anthologies Infinite Difference (Shearsman, 2010), Ground Aslant: radical landscape poetry (Shearsman, 2011), Out of Everywhere2 (Reality Street, 2015) and Fractured Ecologies (EyeCorner, 2020). www.francespresley.co.uk

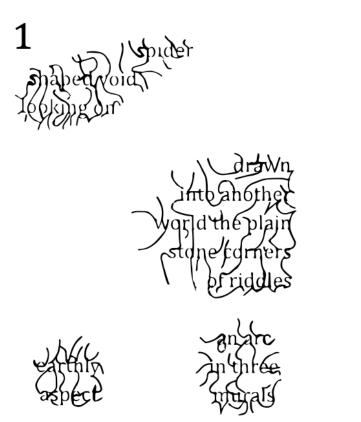






#### Being in spiders' eyes









candielit. in hen web nine day,s

sticking

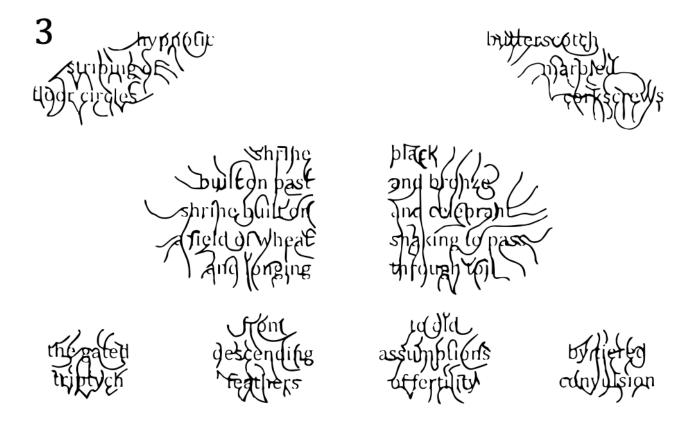


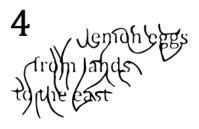




bight . the



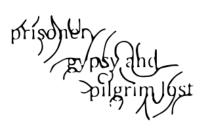






the bever present

to travel with nothing an outsider





bystealth goodspiriters

selfelly



Tight and Temalecticha Tawling the self flagellation of a trai putside



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th) Sugh Iank-Paced

phtie





the daze not normal Bone powhere knowing nothing living gntv

oprspjeler eves Mariah Throback

to bitty

#### Looking out of the spider

in debt to Laura (Riding) Jackson's "Elegy in a spider's web"

spider is only spider in human eyes does not know itself spider by human eyes



in human eyes the spider the spider needs to be seen to be spider



needs human eyes the human idea of spider is only spider from black unknown



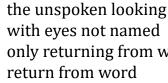
on human eyes unhuman not wanting idea of spider only needing black unknown unspoken spider the spider



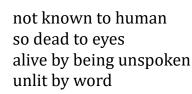
spiders not trapped a web that makes spiders a web of words made from human eyes



to cast idea onto black as human idea the spider when human eye lands on black unknown



with eyes not named only returning from web





denied measure being unseen in no idea can look upon and hold ever let spider be

the best idea of spider no spider can out-spider the spider to the spider looking out

> looking out being a wordless gaze to be spider to look from to be

no human sees in the web of human eyes from the word spider by human gaze

falling on black unknown unknown to be known is truly this spider a reaching tongue

defies its looking back back from black unknown and gaze of no idea to manifest web

to home in spider being retracted from gaze of human being and black unknown

the tongue's ruler the measure kept unknown an idea no idea an idea no spider

a one-word synopsis of each news report and advertisement on page 13 of the London Metro free newspaper issue dated 3 July 2023

> DEATH DEATH SEX BIRTH TRAVEL SEX MONEY VIOLENCE

Two Persons Carry a Sheet of Glass

Two persons carry a sheet of glass across a path to a waiting van or to a picture framers or a glazers specialising in conservatories or to a residence where a conservatory is being constructed **and** 

**Two persons carry a sheet of glass** across a path whilst a piano is being lowered or raised by a pulley system to a first-floor window of a flat above the residence where the conservatory is being constructed or to a picture framers or a glazers expecting the delivery of a sheet of glass being delivered by

**Two persons carry a sheet of glass** across a path whilst a piano is being lowered and to be taken to a workshop for repair or is being raised having been repaired to be placed in a room in the first floor flat using a pulley system because the piano is too big to be carried up or down the stairs to the first floor flat below which

**Two persons carry a sheet of glass** across a path to a waiting van or to a ground floor residence where a conservatory is being constructed or to a picture framers or glazers expecting a delivery by

**Two persons carry a sheet of glass** across a path and a person is opening a manhole cover from the inside which is in the way of

**Two persons carry a sheet of glass** across a path whilst a piano is being raised or lowered above them and a manhole cover is being opened in their way and a jet engine above them is falling down to the path where

**Two persons carry a sheet of glass** whilst a jet engine above them is falling to the ground and a manhole cover is being opened in their way and a piano is being raised or lowered and a person is on the roof of the first floor flat carrying out repairs and has dislodged a section of roof tiles above

#### Two persons carry a sheet of glass across a path where

Two persons carry a sheet of glass whilst a piano is being raised or lowered to or from a first floor flat a manhole cover is being opened in their way and a jet engine above them is falling to the ground and loose roof tiles are dropping from the roof of the first floor flat and a person is being chased around the corner running at high pace and heading into the sheet of glass being carried across a path by two persons who carry a sheet of glass

#### **Middle of Computer**

O middle of computer I'm still caring there but I'm not sure I want to be, or who, or why. Our world's about to end, all you hold dear.

The mind spins its data stuck in feedy cares and personal loves like phones makes Icry. In middle of computer I'm still unherethere,

in-screened doing in-work years into a year, coding my lives on and reloading on our lies, our world's about logon, all your bot'd ears.

The inoutput and twitperts deny end is near, nukes won't be used, seas won't rise into sky, O middly of computer I'm still care of here,

there's no need for us to uncode and unfear, there's just the need to believe your un-die. Our world's about to go, all data you dear'd.

And many, maybe most, will game in tears. No longer will we go all twittly to appsigh in middle of computer: *I'm still unherehere!* Our world's nearly delete, all we love dear.

#### options

line 1: caring ¦ daring + there ¦ here 4: cares ¦ ears ¦ gears 6: untherehere ¦ so unawary ¦ daring there ¦ caring there 9: about logon ¦ near logoff ¦ nearly unlog all your bots dear ¦ your bot'd gear all you bot'd dear ¦ dears ¦ near 12: daring there ¦ so unawares ¦ caring there 13: reface or face fear ¦ decode and defear overcodel your die ¦ code-in your un-die ¦ code over your die 15: about to off ¦ nearly off ¦ gonna unlog all you data dears ¦ all your data dear ¦ gear your data smeared ¦ all data all smear'd 16: on tears ¦ the tear 17: SEE Options in Third to Last Line of Middle of Computer in Pamenar 18: In middle of computer I'm still unhearyhere! 19: nearly ¦ kinda ¦ gonna

#### Ahoy!

I.com love you I really do.com it's.com a lot to ask but will you be my.com you.com one day too?

remember when we fell in.com love but now maybe we really love.com each.com other

our parents.com should know it and maybe when we we.com too they'll know.com it deep4.0 inside

I heard it works like that.com

it's nice.com if.com it's true.com and not just some old tale

see.com later kiss.com upon your neck like you like.com

sleep soft if you rest.com after all this semi com will be.com better next time having more time.com

> can't wait for youcom!

#### COMings

I.com love you I love.com you I love you.com

I.com hate you I hate.com you I hate you.com

I.com buy you I buy.com you I buy you.com

I.com sell you I sell.com you I sell you.com

etc you do more please

#### Black Fens Viral: 7 March 23

in memory of Anthony Mellors

am

i

rusting caravans of the Iron Age, Littleport, I've missed you, I didn't mean to make fun of your corrugation I didn't mean to make fun of your congregation thrown along the trackways for my goodbyes honeycombed black earth ditch shadows shake Littleport, I've missed you I didn't mean to make fun of your corrugationake, your corrugating caravans shake to the Bronze Age tracks rusting caravans of your cohort, I didn't mean to make fun of your corrugage

ii

there will be snow in King's Lynn today good morning stack of bricks good morning gravel ballast held by reeds good morning heartbreak snow swirled as we fell asleep by the stove last March good morning white fleet of coaches good morning white ballast held by reedsar good morning heartbreak relax everything I said as we fell asleep by reedsting there will be snow in King's Lynn today two crows patrol the pony enclosure good morning white enamel bath good morning gravel ballast held by reedsinking good morning heartbreak, relax everything I said starting with your toes as we fell asleep and snow swirled two crows patrol the stove there will be snow in King's Lynn today

iii

magnificent monkey puzzle at Watlington - going to meet you at - *the next station* - going towards lighter brown soil - not wanting to arrive at - insert appropriate name - silt not peat - your lemon drizzle cake - *the next station is* - Anthony, you were always waiting at King's Lynn station

#### pm

iv

three hares in three furrows an Asian woman waves at the train why did he keep that poster of the Chinese Girl? this woman waves from a field end herd of muntjac peaceably grazing three furrows though I have no idea why she is waving or how he kept that poster of muntjac why am I here? why was it so good? he was warm and loving he was exasperating why did he keep that poster of the train? why am I a herd of muntjac the llamas foregather ay he was warm and loving no idea why she is waving at that poster of the Chinese Girl why is she waving at the train from a field end herd of people? why am I here? why was it so good? he was warm and loving he exasperated a lot of people she waves at the llamas foregathered why am I her? why am I here? he exasperated a lot of llamas

v

cumulus clouds mass against blue sky irregular forms above regular fields the land beyond the shadows, Kate said, I love the shadows in the fens like Microsoft Bliss, I almost said but these are the ancient shadows of our trackways and fields today I want the trackless white clouds unfielded unherded directionless a flock of sedentary swans lift and shake the regular forms I almost said, I love the shadows in the land beyond when they lift and shake their wings

#### 5 Scenes (from a Window Seat)

#### Scene 1

verticals direct your eye / horizontals doze / distances make you cry their sweep \ your unmeasured guess

wait another chance

#### Scene 2

empty roads drain away cross directions with purpose you do not know

you think you should try

#### Scene 3

fresh green tries to be what is wanted it is not

your first memory -is it simple / bright? complex / dark ? tart / refreshing ?

is it urgent?

#### Scene 4

little trees planted in rows thirsty as prayer

it's the underside of leaves that breathe

your every hope lies in extend wiggling roots / waving in breeze letting bees in

it is your fate to find what you need in unexpected places

#### Scene 5

never mind if your sigh trails into sleep you will recognise true danger in the middle of the dream a field without stone / yellow predominates episodes wash away

you live in that house / roof still visible floating downstream you can live in that house only its roof visible floating downstream

(is it a dream?)

#### Sequence on Change

light and shadow shift sift silt down soft to cover under shape grows over itself and over again to other start startling resolve / ordinal ordinary certain / uncertain focused unfocused focused un

so the tricky see / saw

tips

balance

the take or NOT / the take to BE the lost in profound seek the wish to be found

/

walk to the looking glass curling curious agog with notice touch cold impenetrable

гeal

reflection gives no giving / no finding no opening to enter / end in what remains -- does not remain

swift and graceful dazzle muffled as the sound of soft soled shoes tip tap tap tip tap tap across the floor

waltz without music

what once was now to new

at each pulse one / two / three again

one / two / three one / two / three

one/ two / three

#### all gone

- London

so many churches gone many accidental fires gone are the box pews gone the church doors pipe organ pews & pulpit under steeples 87 churches burnt in the great fire

pinnacles of sable silver piercing a winter's day gone carefully carved interiors domed interiors steeples of varied height & design lost unusual steeple with lantern topped vase pilastered pyramid towers edging facades no more an once loved choir and steeple demolished in 1611

many Medieval churches lost

screen gift from pre-fire church 1666 lost on the flight of the king a chapel is sacked Roman Catholic chapel 1687 during the reign of James II gone forget the lion

escapees run riot excluded by strategically placed gates hung on long hinges five top-hatted gate-keepers retire in 1893 leaving unguarded five octagonal steps

from 1890 to 1893 in the name of progress 27 of the 47 remaining churches destroyed some roofs burnt & rebuilt then destroyed by direct hit 1940

when not rebuilt warehouses replace churches from 1640 in Anchor Lane Lower Thames Street the following items discarded: gallery flooring boards joists & staircases & doors lead cistern Georgian tiled & plastered gardens & gates some given to Protestant refugees from the Low Countries others sent to dumps some church stones transported to gardens

Sale of Tender Painting go to saloons floorboards carvings a stuffed head & paw tallow candles

where are they to be found? The Fittings of St Matthew's Church the handsome oak alter piece wrought-iron grilles torn from sound arches rolls & and rolls of lead from the roof

seek them in the streets

Christ Church Newgate gone the later Nonconformist church gone notice posted: instead of octagonal place of worship there be none

London County Council demolish many churches Commissioners Church Dutch Church Austin Friars St Peter Regent Square consisting of the whole of the oak panelling complete regular & uniform containing architectural façade counterpoint of form now no more

another 29 churches gone look for All Hallows Staining All Hallows The Great & Less look for where is St Agnes St Alban Wood Street St Andrew-by-the-Wardrobe St Anne St Anselm & St Cecilia Sardinia Street St Bride Fleet Street St Clement Danes Strand St Dionis Backchurch Lime Street St Dunstan-in-the East St Helen Bishopsgate St John Red Lion Square St Lawrence Jewry St Lawrence Jewry St Mary Abchurch St Mary Aldermanbury St Mary Aldermary St Mary Magdalene Old Fish Street St Mary-le-Bow St Mary-le-Strand St Matthew Friday Street St Mildred Bread Street St Mildred Bread Street St Mildred Poutlry St Nicholas Cole Abbey St Nicholas Cole Abbey St Peter Cornhill All Hallows Lombard Street St Stephen Coleman Street St Swithins

men built them men destroyed them

did they ever belong to man?

Reference Survey of London Vol XVIII The Strand, Vol XVI Charing Cross St. Martin intheFields part 1 Reference:Lost London A century of Demolition and Decay. Hermione Hobhouse 1971 Macmillan London



## writersforumworkshop.uk\_