# MINDAY

### MINDPLAY

An Anthology of British Concrete Poetry

Edited by John J. Sharkey

Lorrimer Publishing, London

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Cover Design by Tom Phillips ERRATUM: The poem by Gerhard Rühm on page 13 has been reproduced upside-down.

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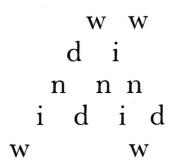
#### INTRODUCTION

'In 1962, the times literary supplement in its number dated may 25 published the historical letter signed e. m. de melo e castro, that entitles him to be regarded as some sort of grandfather figure – it was as a direct result of this letter that ian hamilton finlay & edwin morgan in scotland, & myself in england became the first in these islands to realize the importance & immense possibilities of concrete.' 1 – Dom Sylvester Houédard

The theoretical, historical and literary basis of this new form of poetry had been formulated in Europe and Brazil some years earlier. The British poets recognised its force and clarity, giving them the impetus and excitement to expand their work on a moderately different level, away from the parochialism of the time. Each in their own manner had already been exploring the reduction of syntactical elements in their poetry. This was partly in reaction to the prevailing mannerisms of the 'movement' poets and the verbal excesses of the 'beat' poets, and partly from a feeling of dissatisfaction with their own work. Towards the end of 1964, with the First International Kinetic and Concrete Exhibition in Cambridge, the concrete poetry 'movement' was in full swing in Britain. Magazines and books, paintings and constructions, poem machines and films were being produced by the poets themselves, and a large part of the 'Changing Guard' issues of the Times Literary Supplement was devoted to this world-wide manifestation.

#### **DIFFERENCES AND DEFINITIONS**

Traditional verse forms internalise a poem through its language so that meaning becomes clear when read and assimilated. In this new kind of poetry – concrete or visual – the essence of a poem is inferred through a simple language pattern without necessarily having to 'read' it. For example, compare any poem that begins on the top left-hand corner of a page, dependent upon the subject/verb/object of prose structure for its overall syntax, with the poem *Wind* by Eugene Gomringer.



The fact that he arranged the word on different axes, and that it can be 'read' from many directions introduces a feeling of movement, almost as if the wind was acting upon the letters. I am not suggesting that because a form looks simple and delicate it is necessarily better or worse than a more complex one. However, the concrete poet is concerned with words, not only as language (or meta-language), but also with many of their non-verbal communicative functions. He uses specific words in their most accessible presentation to counteract what Colin Cherry describes as 'verbal habits',² because he feels that poetry should reflect present-day conditions and environments rather than those of the past.

Nearly all definitions of concrete poetry hinge on the polarity of form and content, or the relationships between the structure – its instant visual aspect – and the meaning of the words or symbols. The ideal interaction is defined by Dom Sylvester Houédard as an area where eyeverse and earverse become one, or as M. Weaver puts it, 'the balance between form and content is so delicate that only the best poems avoid falling into grossness'.<sup>3</sup>

#### **BEGINNINGS**

In the mid-fifties, Eugene Gomringer in Switzerland, and a group of poets working together in Brazil, outlined in two important manifestos the main aesthetics underlying the new poetry. Concrete poetry 'begins by being aware of graphic space as a structural agent',<sup>4</sup> so that words or letters can be juxtaposed, not only in relation to each other but also to the page area as a whole. The Brazilians – Decio Pignatari, Augusto and Haroldo de Campos – used the term 'concrete' (recalling Max Bill's austere paintings and sculpture) to create a clear-cut emphasis on the word as a unit in space. For the Europeans the term was understood as the opposite of abstract or something general that has been made specific. The

visual and semantic elements constituting the form as well as the content of a poem define its structure so that the poem can be a 'reality in itself and not a poem about something or other'. 5

Ping Pong by Gomringer and the poem by A. de Campos demonstrate the counterpointing of similar words that are such a characteristic of his poetry. They also show the simple yet complex balance – because of the possibilities open to the poet – between parallel systems of word arrangements. An important liberating aspect of this form is the redundancy of ego-based 'I' poetry with elaborate structures of overt social or personal comment. In concrete poetry words can be presented in their totality. In practical terms this meant that the material itself was a valid source of inspiration and communication, a situation long accepted in other art forms.

#### THE 'MOVEMENT'

A number of critics have misunderstood what the concrete poetry 'movement' means, and some have placed themselves in the difficult position of having to ignore a number of poets because their work seems to lie outside the aesthetic limits of defined concrete poetry. The fact that the theories became more than a necessary extension of a new kind of reductive poetry – of nouns and verbs – and that the writings from Brazil and Switzerland became linked at an early

stage, into an overall aesthetic, helped in the general misunderstanding. The 'movement', as distinct from the poetry, should be understood in its social sense as an almost generative force, creating meaning and excitement to the discovery/work/research by groups of poets from a particular place or time. The importance of concrete poetry for the Brazilians lay in its synthesis of many different ideas, 'a product of a critical evolution of forms'; 6 and they agreed with Gomringer that the 'aim of the new poetry is to give poetry an organic function in society again'. Their interest in language and education was directed towards an evolving social structure, different from his, in which he maintained that 'the purpose of reduced language is not the reduction of language itself but the achievement of greater flexibility and freedom of communication . . . the resulting poems should be, if possible, as easily understood as signs in airports and traffic signs'.8

Similarly when the centre of interest moved to Europe in the late fifties, various groups (in the loosest sense of the word) extended their work through the recognition of the new formal freedoms that had emerged in art and music, as well as in poetry. The Vienna group (Rühm, Wiener, Bayer, etc.) were orientated towards sound possibilities and the 'Darmstadt Circle' (Spoerri, Williams, Bremer, etc.) towards theatre and performance. Others, such as D. Rot in Iceland, Fahlstrom in Sweden, Claus in East Germany, Kolar in Czechoslovakia and Belloli in Italy, were exploring the plastic possibilities of language. The flow of information between individuals or groups of poets continued as each extended their work at its own pace and level. By the early sixties so many people in Europe and elsewhere were exploring the boundaries of language in many different ways under the term concrete poetry, that any notion of a logical aesthetic progress became meaningless. However, a number of magazines, although reproducing an eclectic body of work, were still orientated towards definite ideas and areas of exploration, such as Rot (computer texts); Invenção (semiotics or sign language); Ou (phonetic or sound poetry); and Les Lettres which in 1963 with 'Position I of the International Movement' tried to bring together all of these under a new term - Spatialism - which would include concepts of time, structure and energy. At this point in time, and from such a wide background of texts, ideas and theories, concrete poetry began in Britain.

).irraaan raan raan inci inc inninr 11 11 11 an brancusi brancusi brancusi brancusi brancusi

Jiří Kolář

she loves we she loves she loves

she

**Emmett Williams** 

Gerhard Rühm

#### DIGRESSION I

I have already indicated some of the directions and forms of word explorations that are grouped together, and in general recognised and accepted, as concrete poetry. This outline is of necessity a simplification, because undue emphasis on the social aspect obscures the poetry itself. Paradoxically, the present critical approach, based on the aesthetics of concrete, seems to result in an impasse that clarifies neither the wide range of poetry involved nor the relationships with a changing total structure of visual and verbal expression. The formalist approach to visual poetry, beginning with a number of poems by Gomringer and extending through a series of related work to those of I. H. Finlay ten years later, is deemed necessary by some critics. But it becomes less than helpful when one editor is accused of including 'latter-day bandwaggoners of every nationality'9 in his anthology;10 and another editor divides the élite into first and second generation concrete poets, 'whose aims often differ significantly'. 11 Concrete poetry is dependent upon a visual syntax which evolved from the gradual dissolution of formal syntax from the French Symbolists onwards. This syntactical erosion coincided with, but did not evolve from, the wide range of innovations and experiments in the visual arts. Critical analysis, if it is to be valid, must embrace this fusion of forms and methods of communication, of which concrete poetry is a distinct part.

#### THE 'MOVEMENT' IN BRITAIN

As stated at the beginning of this introduction, poets here were involved in this area but unaware of the aesthetics, concrete poetry or the 'movement'. However, this situation quickly changed during 1963. The wide range of formal possibilities, and the exploration of the material of languages, created a whole new dimension for British poetry. Poets began to expand the relationships between their work and 'the place of this in new kinetic/spatial dimensions of art', <sup>12</sup> and the role of the reader or spectator. The two seminal personalities were Ian Hamilton Finlay in Scotland and Dom Sylvester Houédard, a Benedictine monk at Prinknash Abbey, Gloucestershire. The former published his Wild Hawthorn Press poetry books, the magazine *P.O.T.H.* and a series of poster poems.

The latter worked through correspondence (the biggest address-book in the universe), articles, lectures and the propagation of the Gloucester Group. This title was a kind of joke at the time for those domiciled in the West of England, including Houédard, John Furnival (graphic artist), Ken Cox (sculptor), Richard Longcraine (sculptor) and myself. After 1965, however, the first three began to collaborate on producing texts and mounting exhibitions.

The emphasis on kinetics and the important role it played at this period should not be underestimated. Kinetic art was a new emerging form in Britain – a direct link with the visual arts on the Continent - and, as stated above, gave the 'movement' here a new orientation and an emphasis that were different from all that had taken place in concrete poetry during the previous ten years. The Cambridge show in 1964 was titled the First International Kinetic and Concrete Exhibition, and the organisers edited the magazine Image, which was then mainly devoted to kinetic art. Cox had already been involved with kinetic art, but under the influence of Houédard began to use metal letter-forms as extensions of his motorised constructions. Finlay produced his Canal Stripe series of book-poems in which the poem materialised through the action of turning the pages. Houédard's kinetic texts and weird never-tobe-realised projects; Furnival's large word paintings and constructions; my wall poems and film experiments, all involved the spectator in some degree or other of optical activity that was different from the normal mode of perception and outside the usual relationship with printed poetry.

It was during this early period that another new area of sound or phonetic poetry came into focus. It had been known on the Continent since the Futurists and the Dadaists, but when tape recorders became available after World War II mechanical reproduction, feedback, distortion and so forth began to be used. Both kinds of sound poetry were performed here during 1964–65 by Ernst Jandl and Henri Chopin, whose spoken words were recorded and superimposed many times until a composition was complete. Bob Cobbing's connection with 'Better Books' in Charing Cross Road, London, meant that he was an important link between the two outposts of concrete poetry in Scotland and the West of England and the rest of the world. All new publications were stocked at the shop and there was a performance area for lectures, films, poetry readings

and experiments à *la* Burroughs, Alex Trocchi, Jeff Nuttall, etc. Cobbing's sound alphabet was issued on record in 1965. These poems – in the manner and tradition of Hausmann, Schwitters and Jandl – are abstracts of sound patterns from known words, and through alliteration, rhythm, pitch, association and repetition the tonal structure emerges. The visual composition of one of these poems, page 31, will give some indication of what Houédard means when he says that this is the most complex and sophisticated puresound-poem Cobbing has written.

By 1965 a number of publications, such as Openings, Lisn, Tlaloc and Writers' Forum, had appeared. More and more poets were becoming involved both in Britain and abroad as the exchange of information, magazines and ideas continued on an international level. The second major exhibition in Oxford was largely a poets' affair but contained a very good selection of work and was beautifully presented. Some months later the third international exhibition Between Poetry and Painting opened at the ICA Gallery in London, and perhaps for the first time the news media and a larger section of the British public became aware of concrete poetry. The 'movement' became over-exposed, receiving attention in discussions in the press and on television, and even Mr. Cyril Connolly somehow or other became involved.<sup>13</sup> In fact, this was a blessing in disguise as the period of wild experimentation had ended. However, poets continued to work in their own particular styles within their own areas of interest and to exhibit visual poetry throughout the world, but the fervour and the excitement of the first few years had diminished.

#### DIGRESSION 2

Ian H. Finlay is one of the few concrete poets in Britain with an international reputation who has had complete control over the means, method, presentation and publication of his own work. Since his first collection of supremist and fauve poems *Rapel* in 1963 he has produced his work at regular intervals. He refused to contribute to this anthology and in a letter stated that there was no single reason for this refusal, but itemised three. He feels outside and uninvolved in what is happening now; there are enough anthologies already; and I misrepresented his innovations in an

article on visual poetry and movement. Without going into details, I feel now that it is unnecessary and unimportant as to who did what first. A number of his constructions are related to kinetics but also illustrate a major conceptual shift, in which the poem becomes a functional object in the environment. He has experimented in many different forms – glass, stone, etc. – and even though I think the durable nature of the materials limits the poems, Finlay is exploring a new area of relationships between 'frontage' in architecture and visual poetry, that might have far-reaching effects.

Dom Sylvester Houédard has been one of the most prolific writers in Britain in connection with concrete poetry, over the past five years. The volume of his output - introductions to catalogues, letters, articles, translations, poems and lectures - and his own eclectic and all-embracing attitude towards concrete and innovations in general (which makes him very difficult to categorise) has tended to lessen his status as a poet and a writer. Stylistically, he is one of the few modern writers in Britain who have succeeded in creating a particular mode of language which is as recognisable as that of Burroughs or Joyce. This judgement is obviously open to question, nevertheless the question of his style – however unacceptable – has some relationship to his lack of recognition as a poet. There are several reasons for this state of affairs: Houédard's consistent use of the typewriter as a medium, rather than a machine; his recent use of plastic laminates to enclose and isolate the poem (see page 55); the sheer volume of his output during the last five years; and a lack of critical stance towards his own work coupled with bad reproduction and selectivity by some editors. Furthermore the continual emphasis on his means of reproducing poetry, and their isolation as 'typestracts', have tended to obscure his central involvement, as a poet, with visual or concrete poetry.

#### SPACE/VISION

The notion of a word in a defined space (the page area) is central to the Brazilian concept, and Houédard is one of the few poets who have been explicitly concerned with this concept throughout their whole work. In his poem *Cinema* (page 47) the mirror-image structure, corresponding to a dual relationship of a film's reality/

unreality and that of the poem itself, is further emphasised through its central space. The poem is being pushed into shape by the internal emptiness. His theme of internal and external space to create tensions within the structure of the poem was explored in all directions during this period, until as in *Trip Trap* and *War on Want* the shaped space becomes internalised again as an intrinsic part of the poem's structure. His unique use of permutation to transfer word units back and forth through the poem is emphasised when compared with other poets' works, but again he shows his concern with internal space and movement, as in the 'fish/girl' and 'solus' poems. Houédard has done a number of similar poems on this theme of the sun crossing through the thalamus or bridechamber, and on page 48 is one of the best examples, with its central space, a symbol of the life force, structuring the 'eternal' nature of this process.

Weaver completely misrepresents this poet's work when he refers to the transcendental trap, out of which 'Houédard, mandala-mad, never troubled to climb'. One of the central concerns of Houédard's work has always been to use language as matter rather than a means. For him, mysticism has never been a subject to write a poem on. The 'opening/closing of the mind trip' oscillates kinetically in a three-dimensional impossible drawing that is its own paradox. The floating zen boxes containing space in the typestract on page 51 illuminate the work and attitudes of both artist (Ben Vautier) and poet. Such poems as these should give some indication of the intellect and humour of this poet.

#### SIGN/SYSTEM

Houédard's use of non-verbal structures, as in his 'mantras', is very different from the systematic exploration of the Brazilian poets, who, in 1964, began to substitute one set of signs – semiotics – for another, words, in an attempt to create a new poetic language. The aesthetics drawn up by members of the Noigandres group, as an extension of their semiotic poems (similar in form to Furnival's, on page 41), are now being utilised and further extended in a much more basic manner by another group of Brazilians. Their magazine *Pronto*, run by Alvero de Sà, is concerned not so much with

substitution, but with the use of a series of alternative signs or marks on the page to create a particular set of meanings. Their work has affinities with primitive language structures, and Michael Gibbs' runic poem (page 44) indicates a similar interest, without being overloaded in the aesthetic sense. He shows the basic signs with their modern equivalents, without too much alteration of the prime forms or what they represent. Peter Mayer does the same thing in his shaped, calligraphic poems. The use of a more elaborate schema, implicit in much of Houédard's work, is more obvious in the poem by Bob Cobbing (page 34) – from his 'chamber music' series – and Andrew Rawlinson's *Star Poem*. Here the schema invokes 'a rational totality . . . from which the reader, by using the schema and being guided by the star-pattern, may construct for himself such word-sequences as he thinks fit'. 16

A number of poems in this book illustrate different facets of the chance mechanisms or random elements necessary to the creation of word-systems. On a simple material level, Edwin Morgan's poem The Chaste Town is one of many that were composed by picking word or letter groups from newspapers in which the significant situation had some relation to the typographical elements. McCarthy's use of chance, as in his Vietnam poem (page 63), is much more overt. His inclusion of one emotive word changes the total situation and meaning of the original material. Rawlinson's poem (page 76) and my Cut-up piece visually extend and demarcate the poetic area by attempting to involve the reader in the actual creation of a new work. The texts from Tom Phillips's Humument and Cobbing's Death of Language deal with chance in respect of the original material and also in the methods by which the poems materialise. Both Cobbing and Phillips use destructive means both to minimise and pinpoint the remaining word elements and also to establish a relationship (form/meaning) between these and the overall texture of the poem. On the other hand John Furnival's large painted word screens (page 43) establish this relationship between the delineated forms or shapes and the overall meaning of the complete text. In some respects these works are like visual novels, so that by looking here and there the spectator operates within a choice of alternatives, sparked off by his own preference for certain forms or shapes, and without realising it extends the system of the work through his own interpretation of its meaning.

#### FORM/CONTENT

Houédard traces the beginnings of concrete poetry back to 'the origins of all graphics – cave-paintings, pictographs, ideograms, alphabets, hieroglyphs'<sup>17</sup> – and the ideogrammatic nature of much of this poetry is illustrated here in such diverse forms as Bridgewater's *Tomato Atom*, Riddell's 'flying fish' and Mayer's 'pointing finger'. The ideogram as an inclusive visual gestalt has some affinities with Gomringer's poems *Constellations* but he is more concerned with the idea of metaphysical and semantic word-play. Gomringer's influence on some of the youngest contributors here is obvious, as in the case of Zurbrugg, Gibbs's *Andy Warhol* and several others.

Edwin Morgan's continued use of the concrete form to explore the interplay of verbal humour (from his early work in this form up to one of his latest handwritten poems, *Red* on page 71) illustrates his own particular interest in semantic wordplay. His early *Instant Theatre Go Home* poem owes more to e. e. cummings than Gomringer; nevertheless, his extension of 'the possibilities of humour, wit and satire through concrete means', whether in showing the absurdity of machine-type languages or the pomposity of accepted information on personalities, projects or places, has remained close to the formal practice of concrete. Because of Morgan's literal use of formal possibilities, the polarity of the form/content relationship does not seem to worry him as it does other poets.

The extension of this polarity through an emphasis on social commitment can be seen in some of the poems here. McCarthy's *Vietnam* poem, Ronald Draper's poem (page 37) and some of mine are attempting to reinterpret the poem as having a particular function in society. A number of the Brazilian poets showed their awareness of social problems by poems such as Pedro Xisto's visualisation of hunger in a poor multi-racial society. For them 'to create things really new is to create freedom'. Some might argue that such aggressive poems are unnecessary and they might be if the conditions that they try to illuminate had not brought them about. The same can be said for poems such as *In Memoriam* (page 38) and *Que Viva Che Guevara* (page 89).

pau: stick
pão: bread

Pedro Xisto

#### **POSTSCRIPT**

The aim of this anthology is to show examples from the work of the major poets during the past five years; to give some idea of the work of those who had been involved but are now using more traditional poetic means, and to indicate the concerns of some younger poets and those who have recently begun to use concrete forms. The manner in which some of these poets have assimilated and moved through the innovations and programmatic word explorations that characterise European and American poets has not become the weakness it might have been. As a result the most noticeable feature of the work produced in Britain is an eclectic and non-pragmatic attitude towards formal structure or subject matter. Many of the poets here have moved consistently in their own manner through different modes of expression and they still retain a stylistic identification that is as individual and recognisable as any of the concrete poets elsewhere.

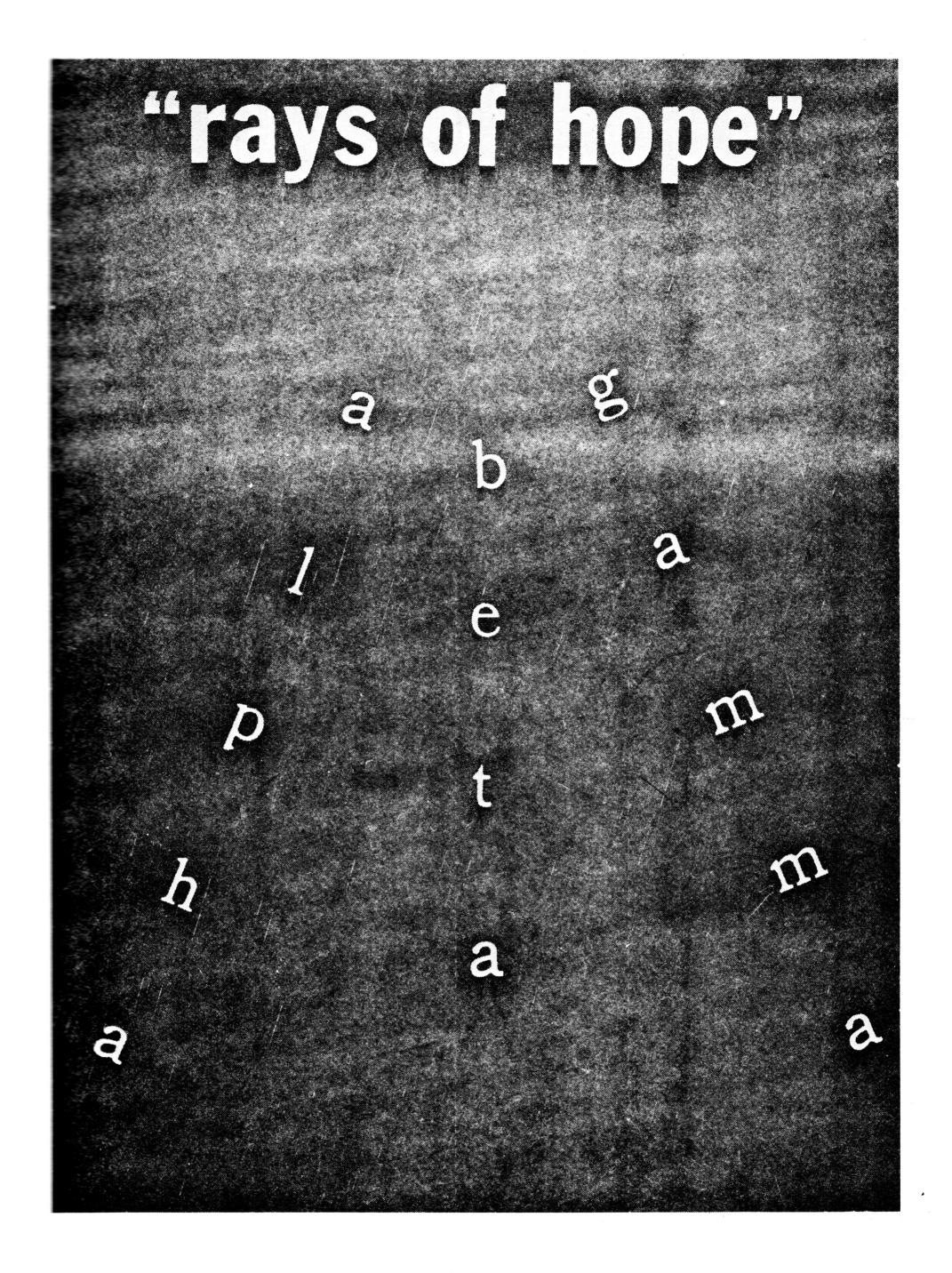
The interest in concrete poetry in Britain today is not centred around any particular group or locality, but it is more widespread than in the past. Exhibitions are mounted with alarming regularity. New magazines are still being produced (see Bibliography), and old favourites such as *P.O.T.H.* and *Tlaloc.* Presses like Writers' Forum and South Street Publications continue to produce magazines and collections of concrete poetry.

In this anthology I have attempted to include only work that has not already been reproduced in any of the many international anthologies that have appeared during the last few years. I have also concentrated on reproducing texts rather than illustrations of art works or paintings. The fact that a minute portion of the work of eighteen contributors is included in this book and that a number of poets have been excluded due to personal preference and limitations of space should indicate the depth of enquiry and language exploration that has been taking place during the past five years in Britain. This is a small but interrelated activity that mirrors similar work by poets, artists and others in Europe, Asia, North and South America. Such increased concern with language and the forms of communication is related on a level of poetry to a worldwide need for closer understanding between individuals. The forms of concrete poetry allow it to by-pass linguistic and national barriers and perhaps justifies its claim as the first real international poetry movement.

#### **NOTES**

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- 2. Colin Cherry, On Human Communication, M.I.T. Press, 1968, page 79.
- 3. Mike Weaver, 'And what is Concrete Poetry?' in Art International, Vol. XII/5, May 1968.
- 4. Brazilian Manifesto: 'Pilot Plan for Concrete Poetry', 1958; in M. E. Solt, *Concrete Poetry, a New World View*, Indiana University Press, 1968.
- 5. Eugene Gomringer, 'From Line to Constellation', 1954. Trans. by Mike Weaver in *Image Magazine*, Dec. 1964.
- 6. Ibid. 4.
- 7. Ibid. 5.
- 8. Eugene Gomringer, 'Concrete Poetry' (introduction to a planned anthology).
- 9. Ibid. 3.
- 10. Emmett Williams, An Anthology of Concrete Poetry, Something Else Press, New York, 1967.

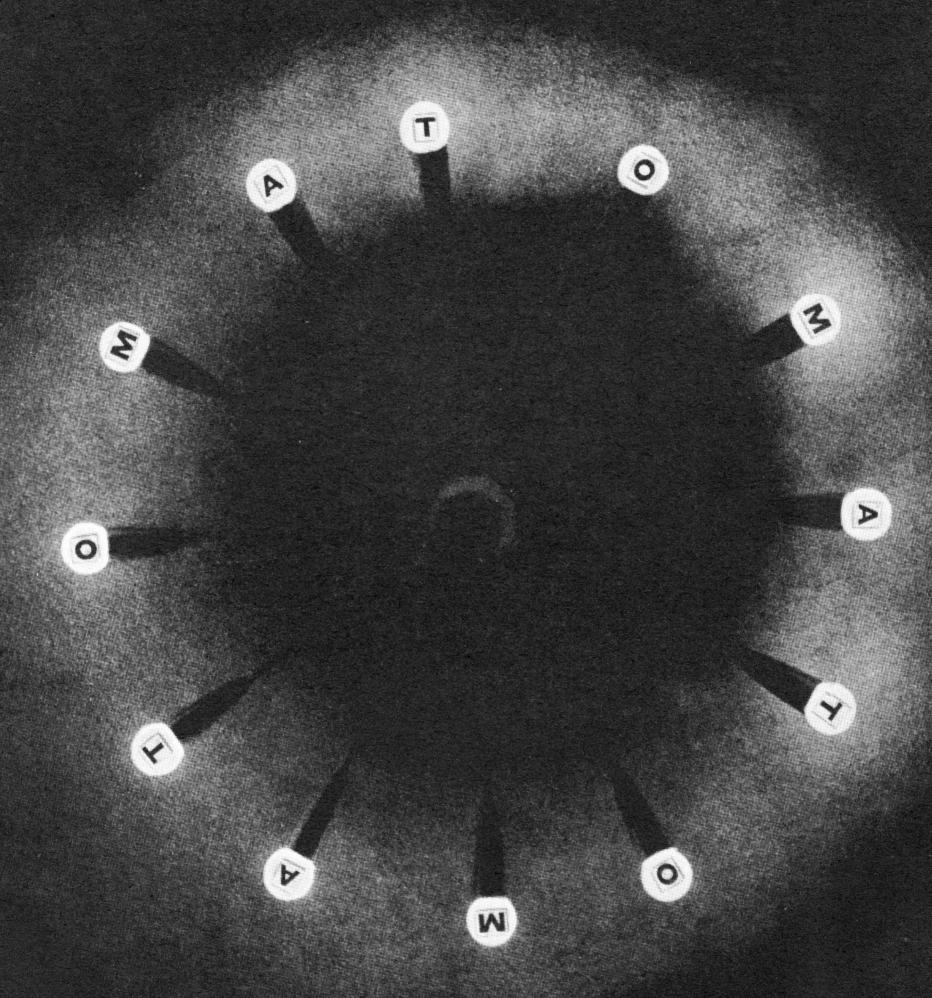
- 11. Stephen Bann, Introduction to Concrete Poetry, an International Anthology, London Magazine Editions, 1967.
- 12. D. S. Houédard, 'Concrete Poetry and I. H. Finlay', in *Typo-graphica* 8, 1964.
- 13. John Willett, 'Concrete Poetry', in the *Times Literary Supplement*, Feb. 29th, 1968.
- 14. John Sharkey, 'An Evaluation of Visual Poetry in Terms of Movement', *Studio International*, Dec. 1968.
- 15. Ibid. 3.
- 16. Jasia Reichardt, 'The Poem as Schema', *ICA Magazine*, Aug. 1968.
- 17. Ibid. 12.
- 18. Edwin Morgan, statement in Between Poetry and Painting Exhibition Catalogue, ICA, London, 1965.
- 19. Decio Pignatari, 'Concrete Poetry', in the TLS, Sept. 6th, 1964.



Rays of Hope

1968

Patrick Bridgewater



river flows runs quick quick quick river flows runs runs quick quick river flows runs quick quick quick river flows flows runs quick quick river

flows

quick

River 1964 Thomas A. Clark

quick

runs

quick

sleep naked among soft flowers

dove growing slowly in you

the folded petals of love

naked among soft flowers sleep

eyes merge in one 2 folded petals of love the

towards
the sun
face turned

merge in one 2 eyes

in you
dove
growing slowly

the sun face turned towards

face turned towards the sun

2 eyes merge in one

growing slowly in you dove

turned towards the sun face

among soft flowers sleep naked slowly
in you
dove growing

petals
of love
the folded

soft flowers
sleep
naked among

in one
2
eyes merge

of love
the
folded petals

z z e n n

n z e n z

n n e z z

z n e z n

z z e n n

Prayer Wheel 1965 Thomas A. Clark

tan tandinanan tandinane tanan tandina tandinane tanare tandita tandinane tantarata tandina tandita

tan tandinanan tandina tanan tanare tandita tantarata tanrotu tankrina tan tandinanan tankrina

tanan tanare tankrina tankrotu tanrita tantarane tanrotu tantarata tantarane tantarane tantarane tantarane tanrita

tan tandinanan tandinane tan tandinanan tandina tanan tanare tankrina tanan tandina tandinane

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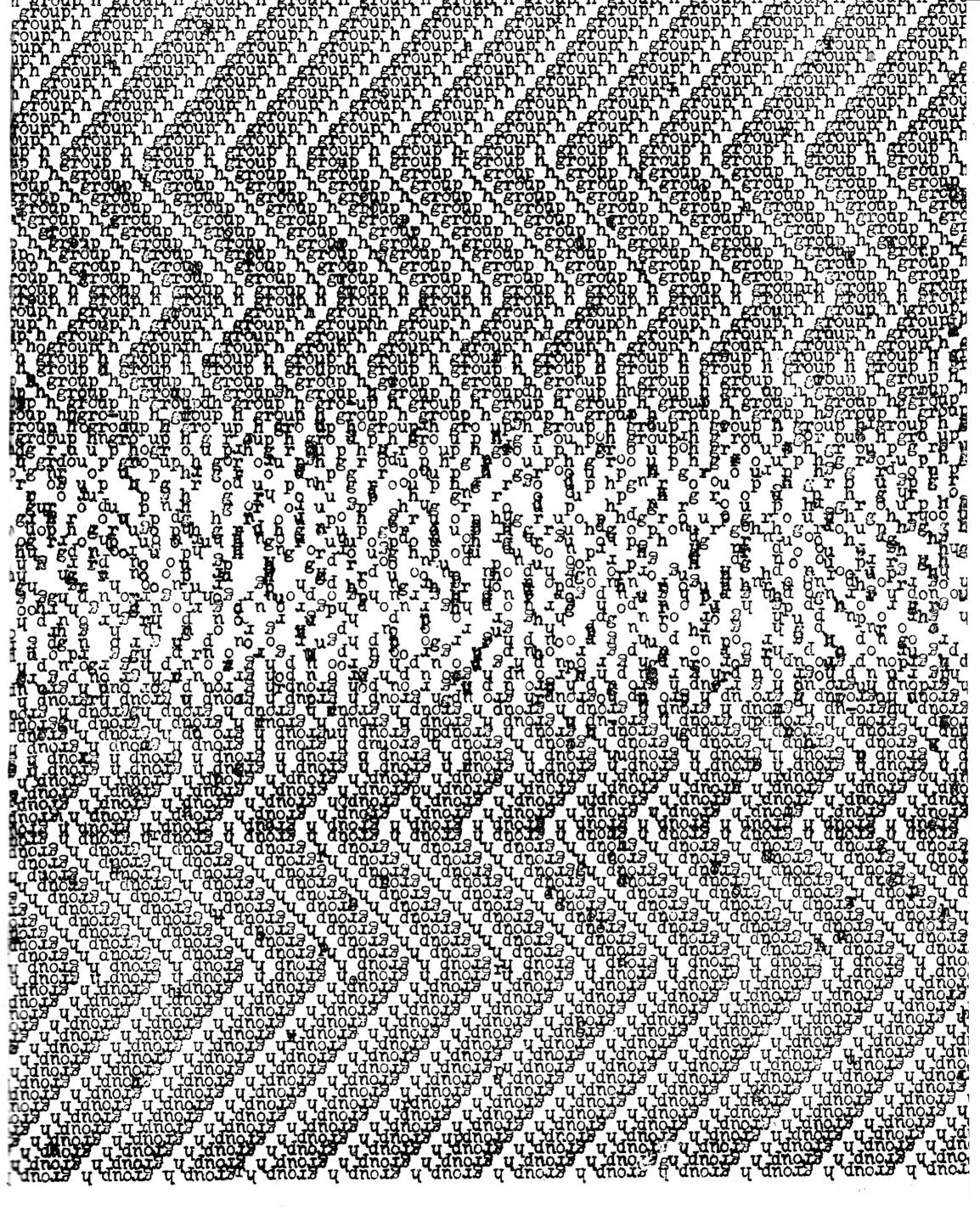
> tanrotu tantarata tantarane tantarata tandina tandita tan tandinanan tankrina tantarane tanrita tanrita

> > 1964

askal canker dranick barfas ehoc girrock frango hump illeck keinak janny lagatta mehal owl pothrick niflin quin silliwhig talver rauner valsen yawn wiggle zart

Alphabet of Fishes

1966



H Poem

1966

another furrow *c*tering blubber lover yo son drunkard thrushes undor sun dove run slumbersuit skull drunk tuft hunter love duck young until thunder numbskull flutters untrue slumber

plunging

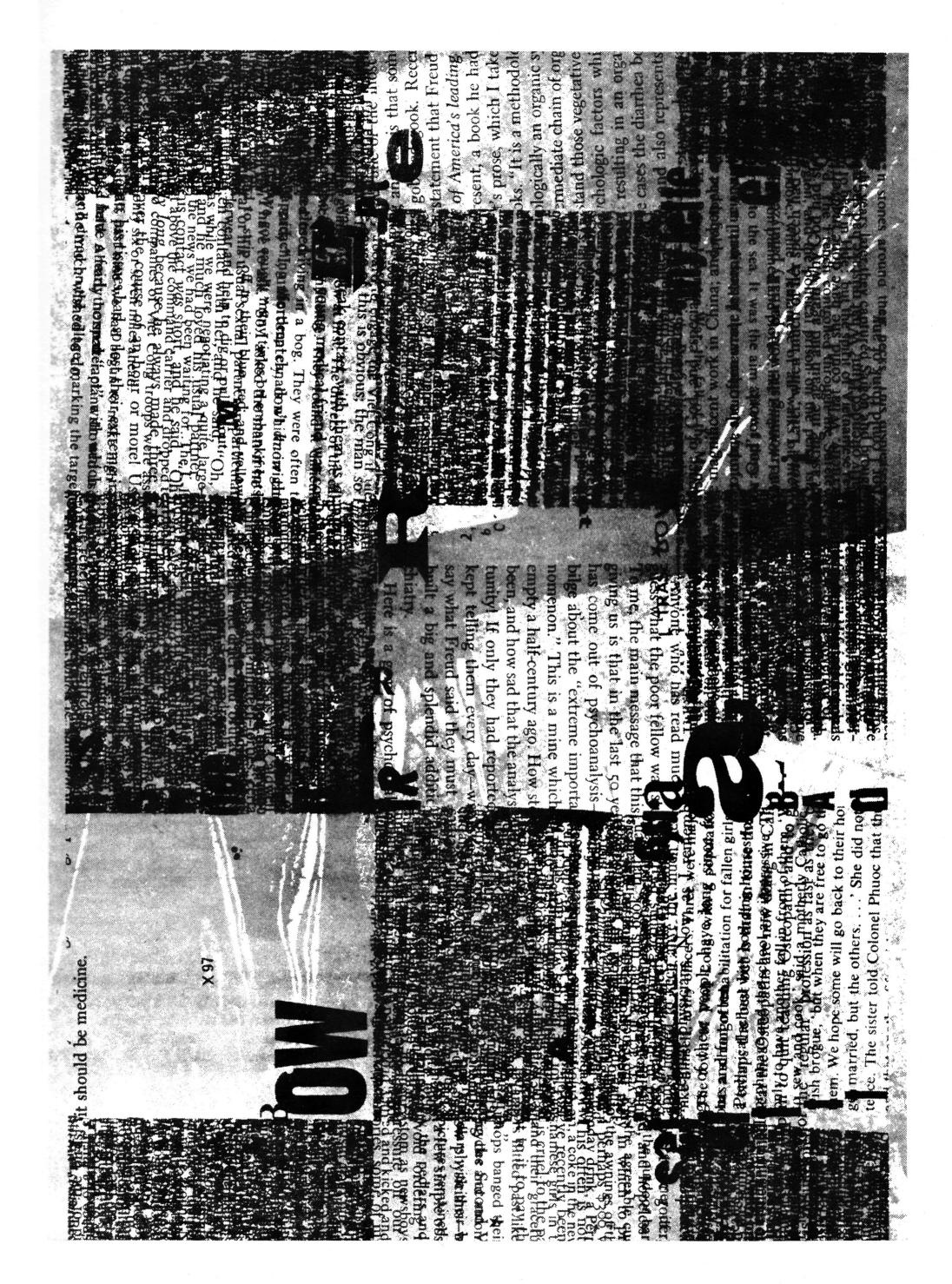
Chamber Music

tremulous

1966

**Bob Cobbing** 

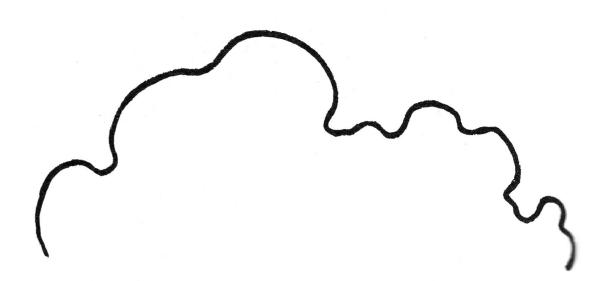
timorous



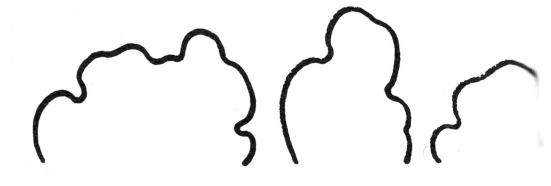
Death of Language

1967

## high cumulus



## green elm trees



Cloud Poem

1968

Kenelm Cox

... JUNUWUU...

Target Practice

Dedicated to both sides

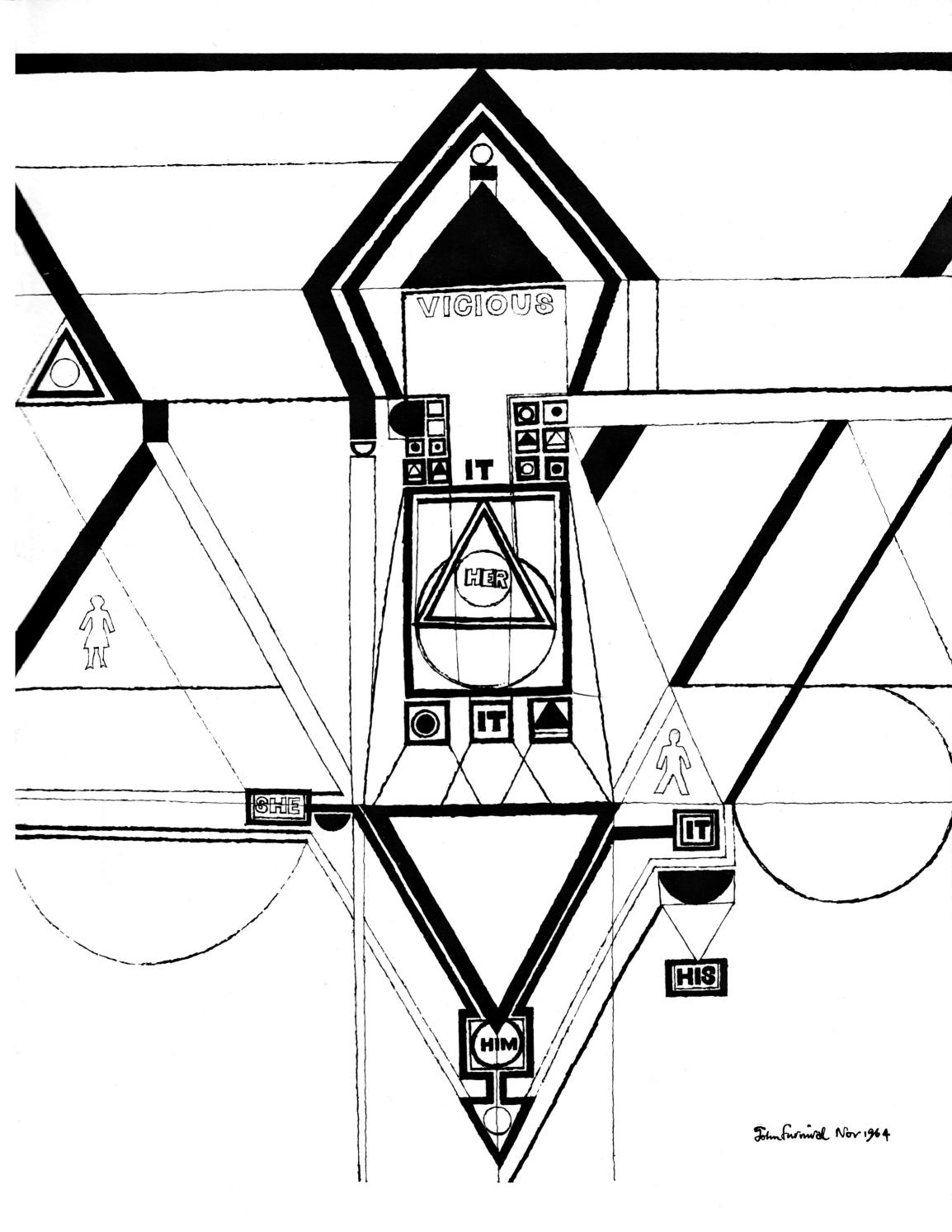
in Vietnam

1968

Ronald Draper

JFKM	LKRFKJFKMLKRFKJFKMLKRFK	JFKMLKRFKJFKMLKRFKJFKMLK	(RFKJFKMLKRFKJFKMLKRFKJF	KMLK
JFKM	LKRFKJFKMLKRFKJFKMLKRFK	JFKMLKRFKJFKMLKRFKJFK <mark>M</mark> LK	(RFKJFKMLKRFKJFKMLKRFKJF	KMLK
MLK				MLK
RFK	K K	K K	K K	RFK
JFK	KK KK	KK KK	KK KK	JFK
MLK	K KKK K	K KKK K	K KKK K	MLK
RFK	KK K KK	KK K KK	KK K KK	RFK
JFK	KKK KKK	KKK KKK	KKK KKK	JFK
MLK	K KKKKKK K	K KKKKKK K	K KKKKKKK K	MLK
RFK	KK KKKKK KK	KK KKKKK KK	KK KKKKK KK	RFK
JFK	KKK KKK KKK	KKK KKK KKK	KKK KKK KKK	JFK
MLK	KKKK K KKKK	KKKK K KKKK	KKKK K KKKK	MLK
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JFK	KKKKKKKKKK	KKKKKKKKKK	KKKKKKKKKK	JFK
MLK	KKKKKKKK	KKKKKKKK	KKKKKKKK	MLK
RFK	KKKKKK	KKKKKK	KKKKKK	RFK
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JFK				JFK
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RFK	KK KK	KK KK	KK KK	RFK
JFK	K KKK K	K KKK K	K KKK K	JFK
MLK	KK K KK	KK K KK	KK K KK	MLK
RFK	KKK KKK	KKK KKK	KKK KKK	RFK
JFK	K KKKKKK K	K KKKKKK K	K KKKKKK K	JFK
MLK	KK KKKKK KK	KK KKKKK KK	KK KKKKK KK	MLK
RFK	KKK KKK KKK	KKK KKK KKK	KKK KKK KKK	RFK
JFK	KKKK K KKKK	KKKK K KKKK	KKKK K KKKK	JFK
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JFK	KKKKKKKK	KKKKKKKK	KKKKKKKK	JFK
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RFK	KKKKK	KKKKK	KKKKK	RFK
JFK	KKK	KKK	KKK	JFK
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RFK				RFK
JFK	John F.	Martin Luther	Robert F.	JFK
MLK	Kennedy	King	Kennedy	MLK
RFK				RFK
	L VDEV JEVAN VDEV JEVAN VDEV	IEVAAL VOEV IEVAAL VOEV IEVAAL V	ADEN TERMINDER TERMINDER TE	IZBAL IZ

In Memoriam 1968 Ronald Draper



The Eternal Triangle Semiotic Version 1964

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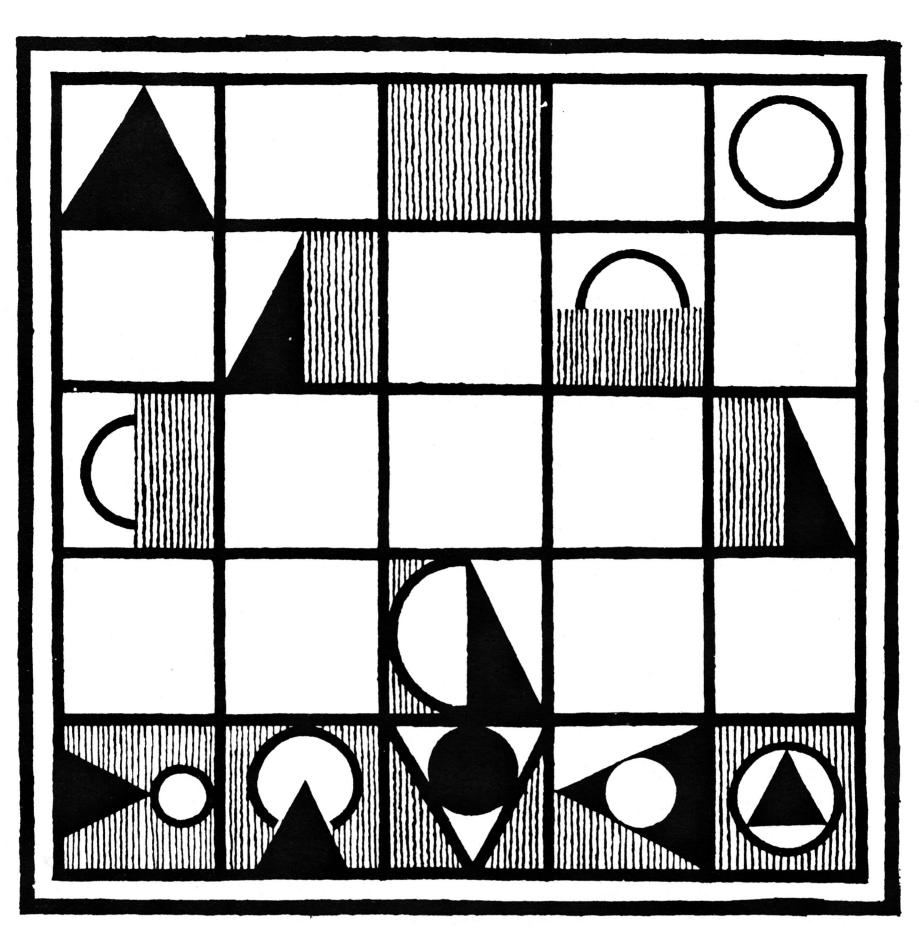
h a

u or

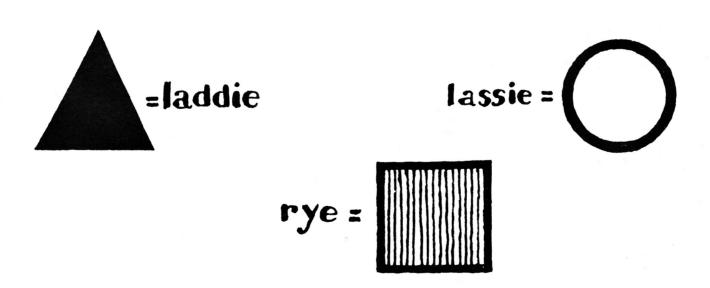
kosmokrator

Bestiary

1964



Lexical Key



## STALEMENT: STALEMATE EYOURE STALE, MATE!

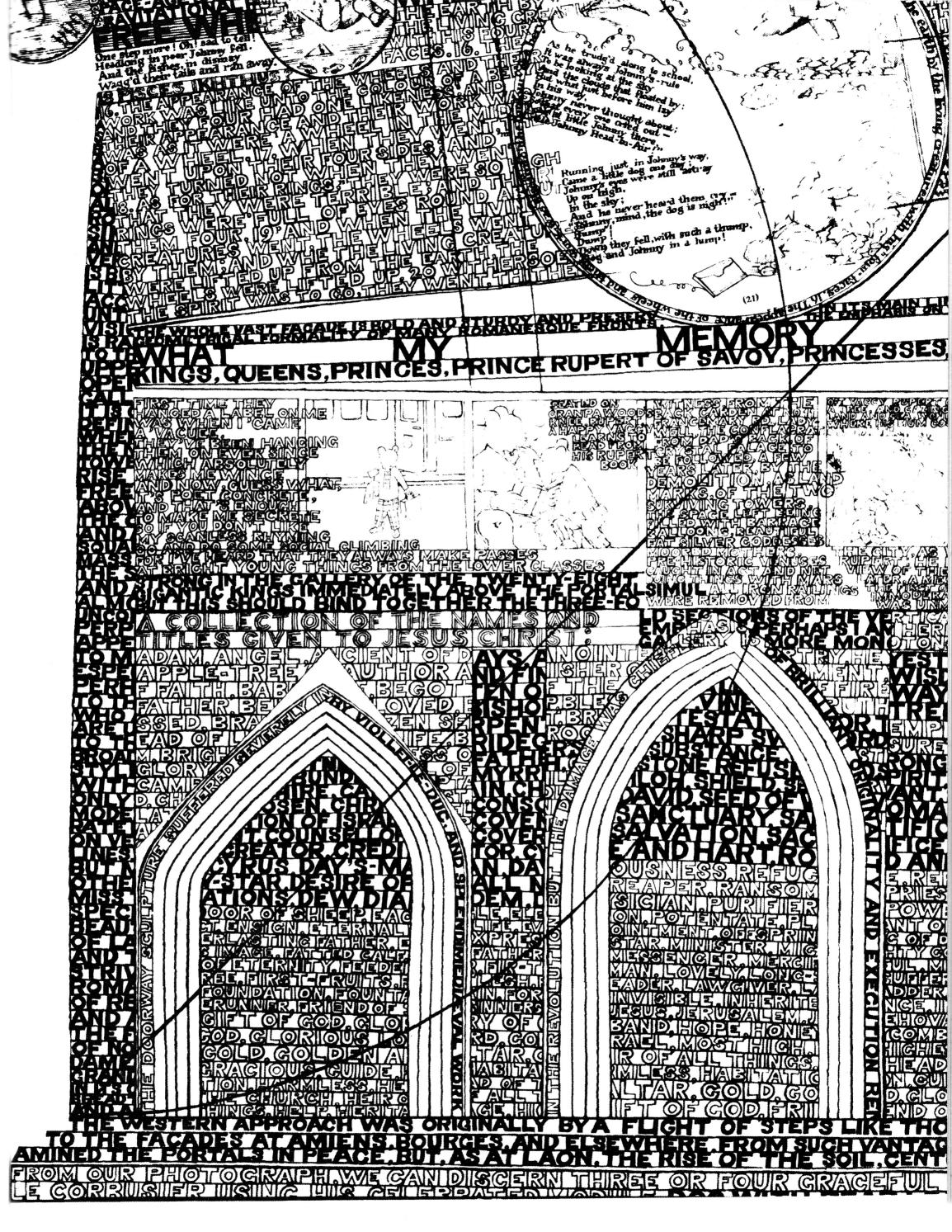
Stating, expression in words, as requires clearer; thing stated, as the ~ is unfounded; formal account of ies & assets, as the Bank issues monthly ~s. f-MENT] Iran resulting from player's having no move available, his king not being in check, (v.t.) reduce player to ring to a standstill.

AUST BE A SENTENCE; SENTENCE MUST HAVE A I FURNIVAL: OBJECTS TO SENTENCES LIFE BIT: BACK TO SQUARE ONE & THE WALL: I

RESIDUE OF ROPACANDA NO ECO NO WORK OF ART, ONLY THE

Personal Statement

1967



Europa and Her Bull (Detail)

1967

EACH YEAR BEAR HEAR EAR

1968

Michael Gibbs

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1968

Michael Gibbs

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andy	andy	andy	andy	andy
warhol	warhol	warhol	warhol	warhol
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warhol	warhol	warhol	warhol	warhol
andy	andy	andy	andy	andy
warhol	warhol	warhol	warhol	warhol
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andy	andy	andy	andy	andy
warhol	warhol	warhol	warhol	warhol
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warhol	warhol	warhol	warhol	warhol
andy	andy	andy	andy	andy
warhol	warhol	warhol	warhol	warhol

Homage to Andy Warhol

1968

Michael Gibbs

KANEMII MENAK KENAMII MANEK KINEMAAMENIK

MANEKI IKENAM
MENAKI IKANEM
MINEKA AKENIM

NAMEKI
NEMAKI
NIMEKA
NIKAME
NIKAME
NEKIMA
NAKIME
EMIKAN

MIKANE ENAKIM
MEKINA ANIKEM
MAKINE ENIKAM

KIMANEENAMIK KEMINAANIMEK KAMINEENIMAK KAMENIINEMAK KEMANIINAMEK KIMENAANEMIK

MAKENI INEKAM
MEKANI INAKEM
MIKENA ANEKIM

NAKEMI IMEKAN
NEKAMI IMAKEN
NIKEMA AMEKIN
NIMAKE EKAMIN
NEMIKA AKIMEN
NAMIKE

MINAKE EKANIM MENIKA AKINEM MANIKE EKINAM

> K I N A M E E M A N I K K E N I M A A M I N E K K A N I M E E M I N A K

Cinema

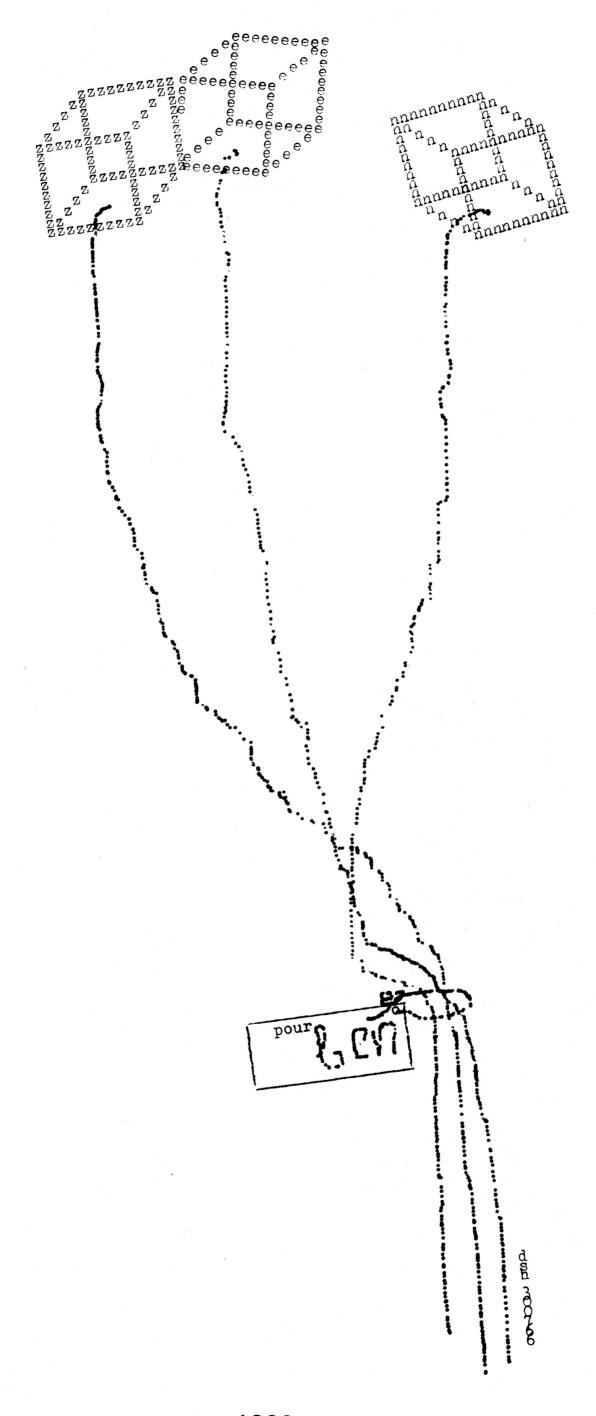
1964

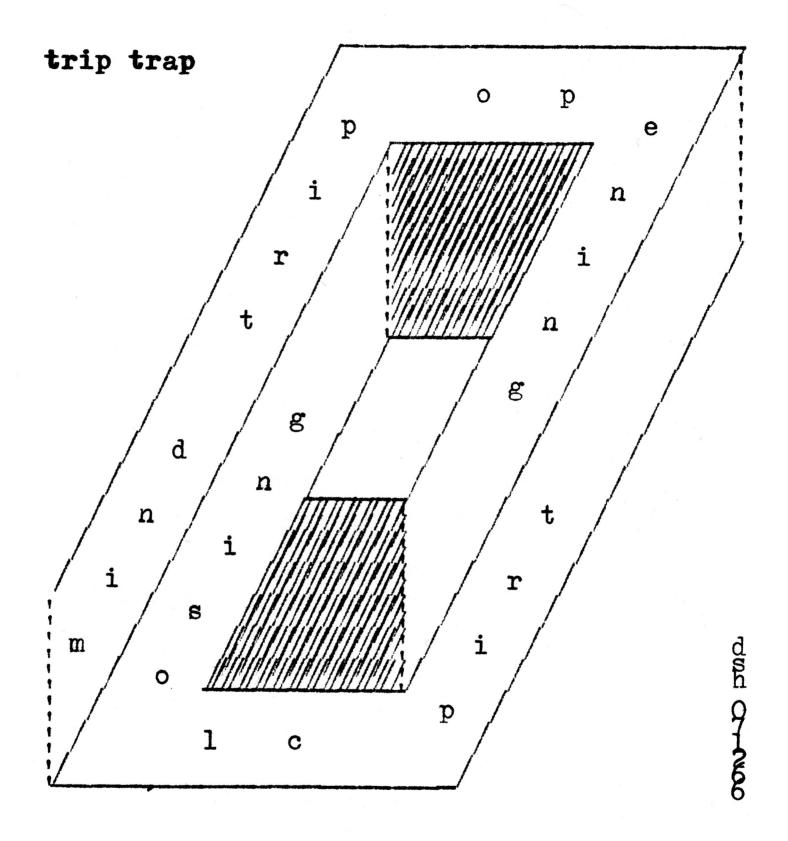
Dom Sylvester Houédard

```
sol thalamusumalaht los
so tl halamusumalah It os
s tohl alamusumala lhot s
t shoal lamusumal loahs t
th saoll amusuma lloas ht
tha sloal musum loals aht
thal samol usu lomas laht
thala smoul s luoms alaht
thalam suos I sous malaht
thalamu ss olo ss umalaht
thalamus solos sumalaht
thalamu ss olo ss umalaht
thalam suos I sous malaht
thala smoul s luoms alaht
thal samol usu lomas laht
tha sloal musum loals aht
th saoll amusuma lloas ht
t shoal lamusumal laohs t
s tohl alamusumala lhot s
so the halamusumalah it os
sol thalamusumalaht los
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                      W D
                            ORM
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                      WROD
    G S
                              RM
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                  ВΙ
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                    WIORRD
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                 WORM
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         FIS WH
                           BI
                              RD
                   ORM
G
   R L
        F I WSOH
                           BI
                              RD
                     RM
G
   R L
        F WIOSRH
                           ВІ
                      M
                              RD
   R L
G
            FOIRSM
                           BI
                              RD
                      H
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   RL
        WO FRIM
                           ВІ
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G
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                           BI
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                        BH
    W L ORM
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    WROL RM
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WORM
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                           FISH
WORM
               G D
                    1
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         ВΙ
               GIRL
                           FISH
         BIRD
WORM
```

ping	ping	tseh	tseh	tseh	tseh	ping
tseh	tseh	ping	ping	tseh	tseh	ping
tseh	tseh	ping	ping	ping	tseh	tseh
ping	ping	tseh	tseh	tseh	ping	ping





Trip Trap

1966

```
get high
   bring the wind
           cloud
get
high & bring
        the cloud
    with the rain
get
   high
&
    pull
the cloud down
& the rain
& the rain
& the rain
rain
                rain
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                  n
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Cosmic Text

1967

let spirals play their part

Y O U

redouble redouble

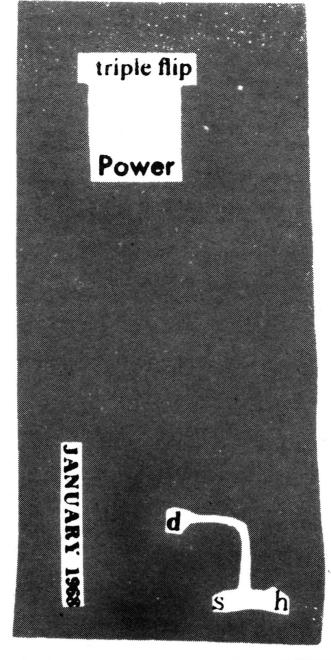
yr effort

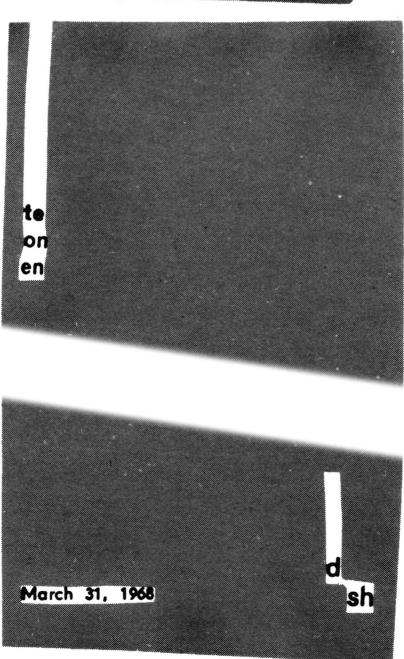
usespirals usespirals usespirals

issued by the royal helicoital society

dsh

War on Want 1966





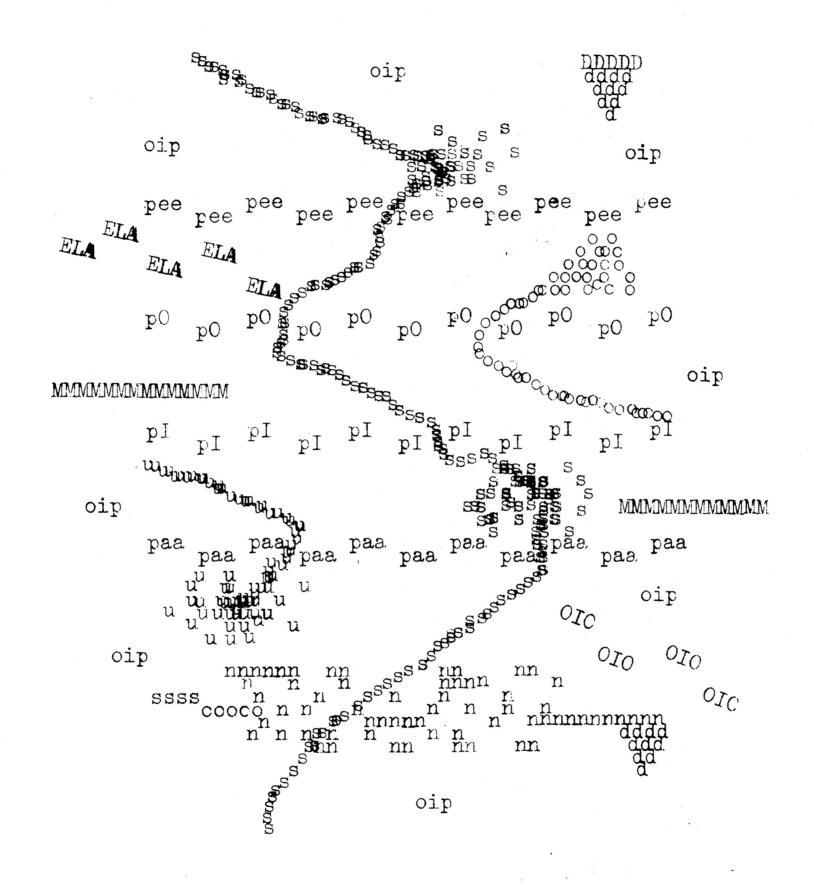
2 Poems

1968

ileavestint e a v e s T I N T i n e a v e s n t i nleavesint SEALleavesi n t i l e a v e s tintleave intileave LINTleaves ntileavest leavesnti e a v e s EVE n nleavesin

1967

Andrew Lloyd



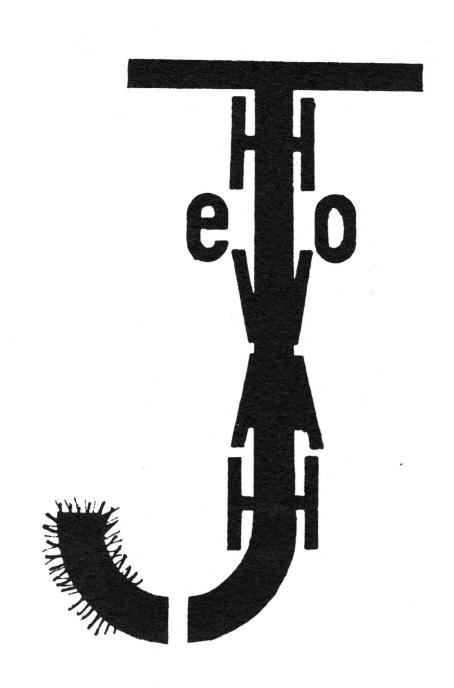
THINGK

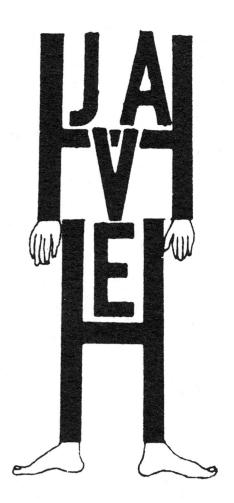
The dialectic sermon of Chi Tsang

t'nsi d<sup>na si</sup>

1968

Peter Mayer





JAHVEH

AH

AI

 $A \sqsubset$ 

AA

AD

AD E

AD M

AP F

AD PH

AD PI

AD AM

JEHOVAH E VA

and God created man in his own image

1968

Peter Mayer



Peter Mayer

_	-	-	_			_		_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_		_	_	_	-	_	-		contract	-		-	-	-	_	-	_		_	-	-	_	_	-	-	_	-	-	
8	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	12	18	16	18	18	18	12	18	12	16	18	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	а -	a	a	a	a	а -	a	a	a
f	f	f	f	f	f	f	f	f	f	f	f	f	f	f	f	f	f	f	f	f	f	f	f	f	f	f	f	f	f	f	f	f	f	f	f	f	f	f	f	f	f	f	f	f ·	f
r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r
i	i	ī	i	ī	ī	i	ī	i	i	i	i	i	i	i	i	i	i	i	i	i	i	i	i	i	ī	i	i	i	i	i	i	i	i	i	i	i	i	i	i	i	i	i	i	i	i
•	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	- :C	) C		0	0	•		) (		0	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	- C
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Cavan McCarthy

## **URGENT**

Special Purpose Telegram Blank No. 74/AG-US Army Form No. AF/7659/82/74/AG

(high)

TO: Civilian Telegraph Section Communication Division Pentagon, Washington FROM: Deceased Personnel Division Civilian Liaison Bureau Pentagon, Washington

## **DESPATCH FOLLOWING IMMEDIATELY** by civil telegraph sistem:

Message begins:		DE I Sy Civil (Cicgraph Siste)	.110
Express delivery			
We regret to inform you	that your son/husband/fa		
was killed in action in_	VIETNA	A M	
onfurther informations as	atatsoon as possible, stop, Un	hours, stop, we will conited States Army.	ntact you with
Message ends.  Form completed by	T.	From DY1746 Report No.	
Date & time completed Telegraphed by Following despatch of telegr		hecked by Pate & time telegraphed passed to Section RG/4965/CV Record &	Office for filing.
(cut here) > US Army Form No.AF/7659/8	2/74AG		
This telegram blank is to be BLOCK CAPITALS and despossible following receipt of No.DY/746 (List of personne)	(low) completed in spatched as soon as a report	Army No. of deceasedBlank completed by	
	at the state of th	The state of the s	

Telegram from Vietnam

1967

Cavan McCarthy

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 niKing gniKing
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   K K K K K K K K K
k
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n
 niking gniking
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HA!If
Ping
PENny
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cantercantercantercanter anteateranteateranteater antencounterantencounter antennareactantennareact antantantantantantant antantantantantantant antantantantantantant antantantantantantant cantcountantcantcountant anaccountantanaccountant anteateranteateranteater eateateateateateateat eateateateateateateat anteatenanteatenanteaten nectarnectarnectarnectar trancetrancetrancetrance \* \* \* \* \* canteatanantcanteatanant anteatercantanteatercant notanantnotanantnotanant \* \* \* \* \* \* \* trancetrancetrancetrance ocontentocontentocontent nocanternocanternocanter

*Orgy* 1964

The Little White Rows of Scotland

1967

Edwin Morgan

THE CHASTE TOWN

## Day can break on maidens in Derby



TEYZA PRQTP ZSNSX OSRMY VCFBO VJSDA

XSEVK JCSPV HSMCV RFBOP OZQDW EAOAD

TSRVY CFEZP OZFRV PTFEP FRXAE OFVVA

HFOPK DZYJR TYPPA PVYBT OAZYJ UAOAD

VEQBT DEQJZ WSZZP WSRWK UAEYU LYSRV

HYUAX BSRWP PIFQZ QOYNA KFDDQ PCYYV

BQRSD VQTSE TQEVK FTARX VSOSQ BYFRX

TQRXQ PVEFV LYZVP HSEPV TFBQP QHYYV

VYUSD TYVVY PVSZZ PCYJP FRDFV QYEVQ

PJQBT CYFES JQSZP QTTQZ DQRQZ VQUSP

TFRWP VCEYJ TZQSR JYEXP QOYFV XCYJP

MCYPV CQSWF AUSVP QTSRM GYYSX VQUSP

generation upon g neration upon neration up n nerat on up n nerat n up n nerat n p n g erat n p n era g n p n g era n n g er n n g r n n g n n

**Archives** 

1968

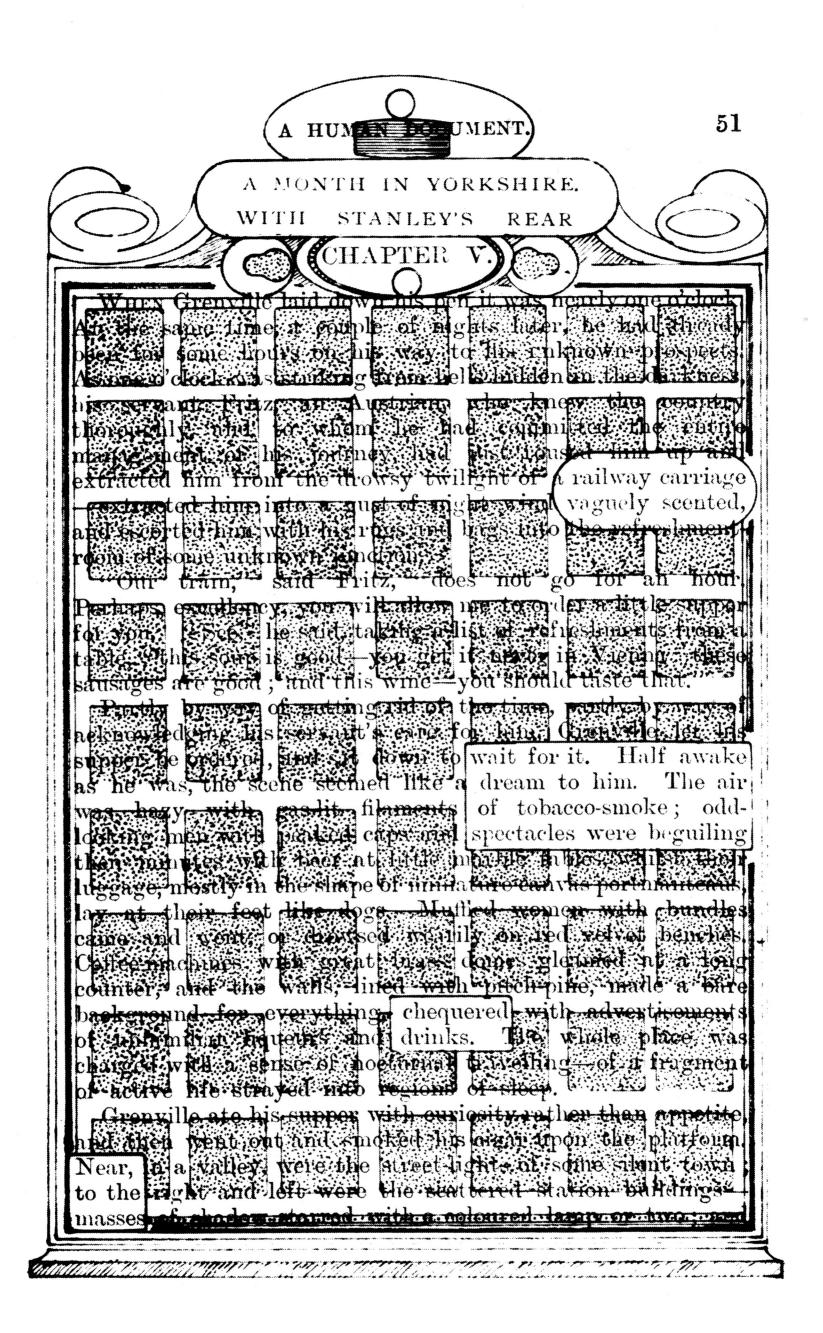
Edwin Morgan

```
heart
garnet
desert
rare
                                           star
              fire port poppy
                        Mars
                           carnelian
                            pillarbox
        Crimson
         lips
Petra
                                   flag
               blood
                 robin
                      alizarin
                         tulip
carmine
vermil
                                vermilion
  guards
                                 fox
                                   scarlet
east
                                             rose
          tongue
caviar
apple
cheeks
coral
                                        square
                      cinnabar
                      claret
                            sun
                            ruby
                                danger
```

Red

1969

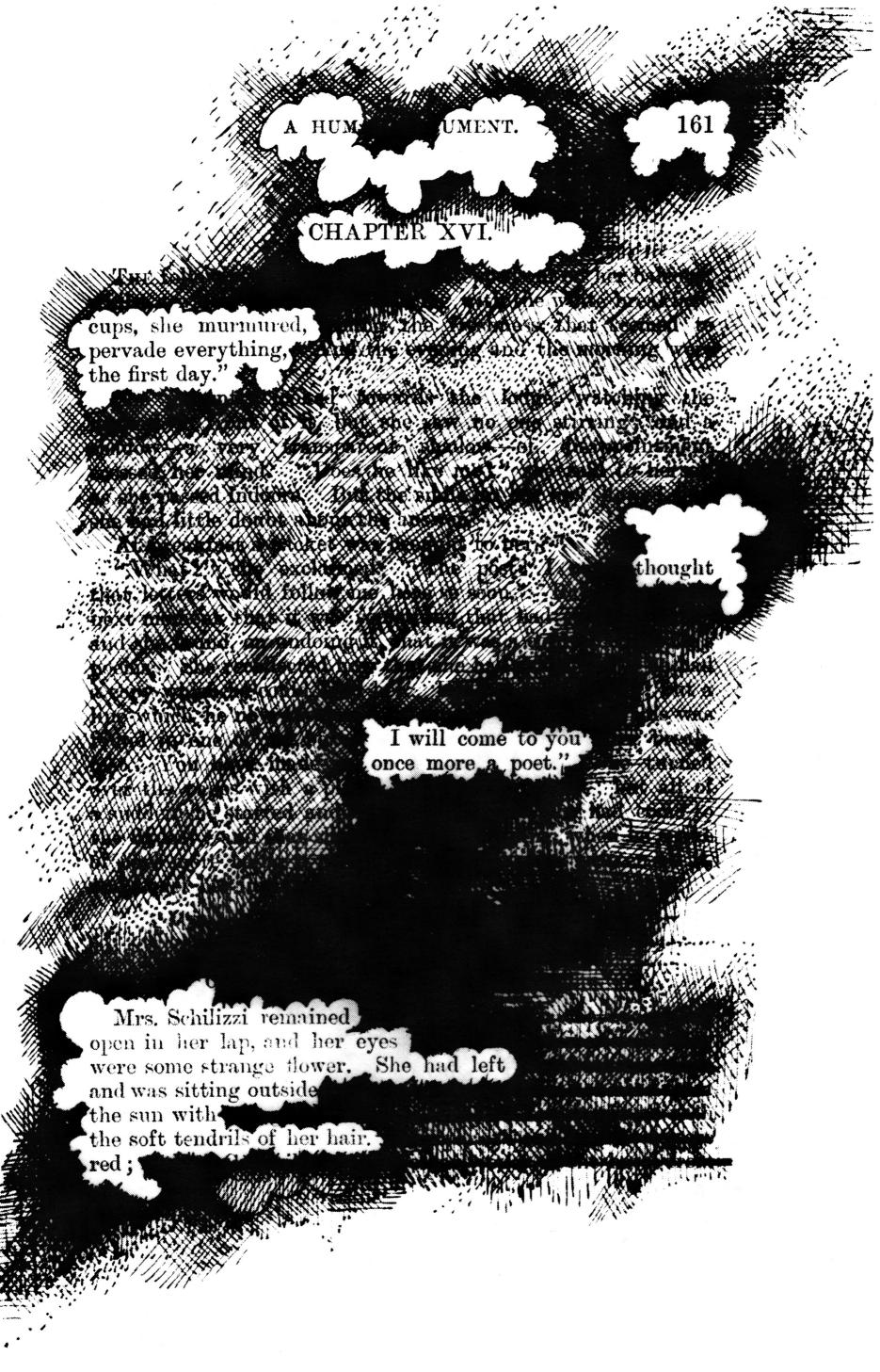
Edwin Morgan



A Humument (A Work in Progress)

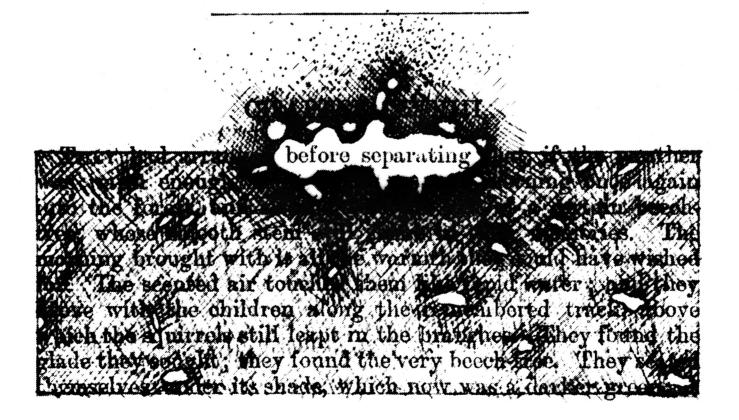
1966/69

Tom Phillips



A Humument 1966/69 Tom Phillips

simples bogeney to be rese a large pale wing sign wing to which the children instantly gave chart fring into the air, and reach, bug their hands towards it. As she watched this incident, Mrs. Schilizzi laughed. The sound with that unconscious ripple which Grenville knew so well turned to her. Her face has bright with a happy and the Fire small like the year's erst snowdrop. "Bobby," she said work must six out too long. You bak so worn and trade Time had helder some in now. my arm; you are not tourprout to I we on the." She closed the relation so as to be partially ught from him She seated hered to sale him on a call him looked at him gravely and in silence. The transfer in the slight move ment towards with Parkh Historia gently was closely like he tendrik of a noiseless plant his grans white about her leck, and less the whispering in her law, from Mischell March Published Andrew Training Actions Hush, hush!" the extrances softly diseagaging and will nessent convergence the same with the me which you but so eather on it very weak shift and not strong



A Humument (For Cornelius Cardew) 1966/69

Tom Phillips

moon peep cloak flutter cold creep

hammer shadow

prey hunt

soft girl lone walk

eye ember fear stalk blood drunk

black leap claw death

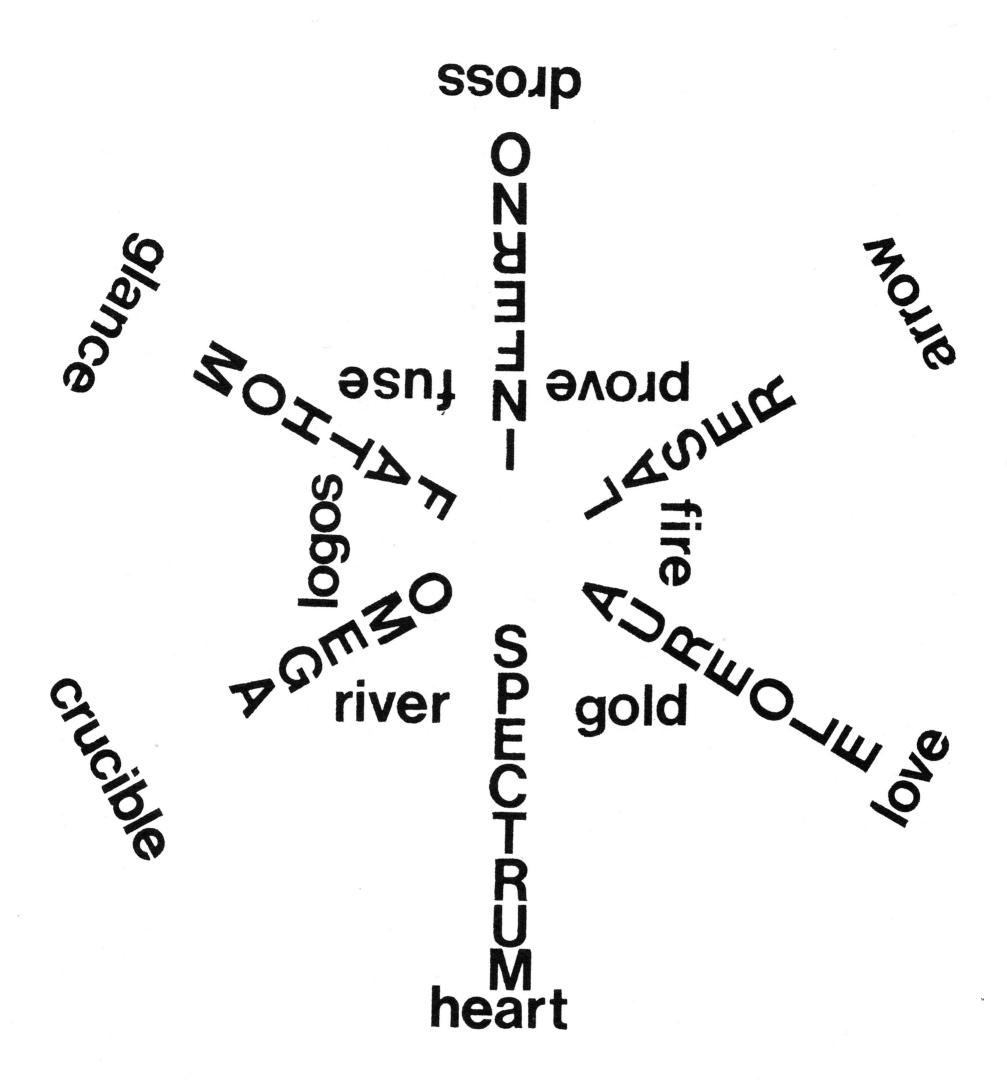
deaf night

Murder Story

1966

Andrew Rawlinson

<b>brain</b> jump <b>free</b>	brain jump omega	brain jump black	brain free jump	brain free omega	brain free black
brain omega jump					brain black omega
jump brain free	✓				jump free black
jump omega brain					jump black omega
<b>free</b> brain <b>jump</b>			free jump brain		free jump black
free omega brain		free omega black			free black omega
omega brain jump					omega jump black
omega free brain					omega black free
black brain jump					black jump omega
black free brain	black free jump	black free omega	black omega brain	black omega jump	black omega free
			1967	Andrew Rawlinson	n



Star Poem

1968

Andrew Rawlinson

flying is hfly in the shelp in

1964

Alan Riddell

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The Patchwork Quilt

1968

Alan Riddell

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1969

Alan Riddell

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John J. Sharkey

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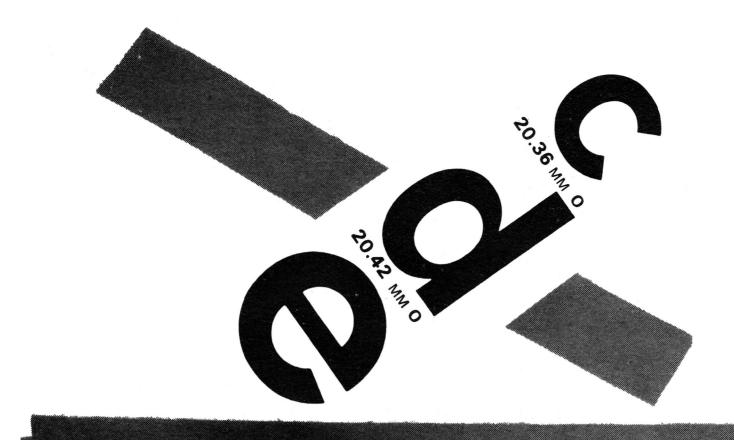
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John J. Sharkey

1966



## RELATIONSHPS



Relationships

1966

John J. Sharkey

## con girl non crete Cut up

CHILD WATER

EARTH B O D Y

MIND S K Y

MOON MOTHER

THIS IS TO BE A POEM FOR ENGLAND

jack england

HIS GRAVE

is poem

**POEM** 

is jack

**ENGLAND** 

jack

**ADAM** 

is jack

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jack on sunday

JACK IS HE COME TO STAY

age old

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finger

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IS JACK HIS GRAVE

1966

Charles Verey

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Que Viva Che Guevara

1967

Charles Verey

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blue sky

green sea

white wave

yellow sand

Seascape (Homage to de Stael) Nicholas Zurbrugg

1968

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Instructionpoem

1968

Nicholas Zurbrugg

## **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

Patrick Bridgewater - Tomato Atom - Openings Press.

Bob Cobbing – Chamber Music – Futura 17.

Kenelm Cox - Cloud Poem - Quadlog Catalogue.

Ronald Draper – Target Practice – ICA Magazine; In Memoriam – London Magazine.

John Furnival – The Eternal Triangle, Semiotic Version – P.O.T.H. D. S. Houédard – 2 Poems – South St. Publications.

Jiří Kolář – *Brancusi* – Kestner-Gesellschaft Hannover (Katalog 1). Andrew Lloyd – *Birdstars Flocking* – Exit 5/6.

Cavan McCarthy - Telegram from Vietnam - ED912 Posters, Milan.

Edwin Morgan – Instant Theatre Go Home, Orgy – Starryveldt; The Computer's First Code Poem – Studio International; Archives – Gnomes; The Chaste Town – Exit 5/6.

Andrew Rawlinson – *Murder Story* – Move; 'brain/jump', *Star Poem* – Theoria to Theory.

Alan Riddell - 'flying fish' - London Magazine.

Gerhard Rühm - 'u' poem - Something Else Press anthology.

John Sharkey – *Popular Cut-up Piece* – Open Magazine; *US-A* – Evergreen Magazine No. 60, Pentacle.

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