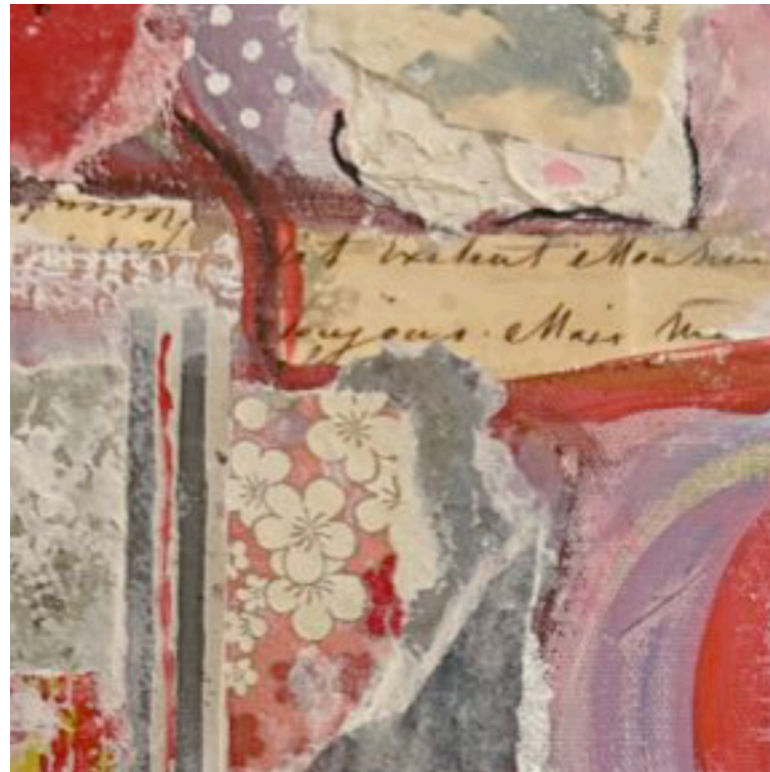


whiptail: journal of the single line poem

issue 9 · february 2024



Pink Noise (top detail), 2023, collage and acrylic on canvas, 6" x 12"

by **Alexis Rotella**

paper making the poetics of wasps

a night real and not real porous owl

ev
ry
bird
a
syl
la
ba
ry

but not always sins and tragedies red canna

hourly shakespeareances in the wind's collage

aspen grove first person singular or plural

birch

sleeve

shed

whole

the

hollow

held

close

its

lost

self

lifting negatives to the light winter beach

ebbing tide da capo starfish

meteors showering outside I rinse stars from her hair

moonbathing under the same sky Mt.Fuji and i glow the pearl white on our brown skin

the blue of the river of the feather of the heron

way other the flowing mirror the in river

moon ribbon the river a girl would wish

along a strand of sleep the wine-dark sea

whose branch at the window are you calling

antarctic misting the world into ganzfeld

dusk crows over architecture left for dead

the (water) way (rock) trees (sky) enfold

through the gate of no gate nanten berries

slant
light
finches
still
milking
the
short
day
thistles

rain squall = $\sqrt{\text{spearmint}}$



Pink Noise (bottom detail), 2023, collage and acrylic on canvas, 6" x 12"

by Alexis Rotella

tree bough broken not carried to earth

blood hush a desert in the belly of your shadow

her lullabies unsung wind chimes

beneath the butterfly scarf butterfly bruise

autumn salvo this rain of forgotten

but then the mistake of letting go of a flowerlike body in this world of shoulds

winter sun the orange not picked

the word a stone in my stream's fluency disorder

trapped in a chair I once

early onset fish market beside the flower stall

alone with my soul canned tuna breath MRI bell tolling

after treatment teeth turned icicles cells diamond drip winterlight

before aware it's a fogbow fades

the
of last
room thought
empty shining
in
the

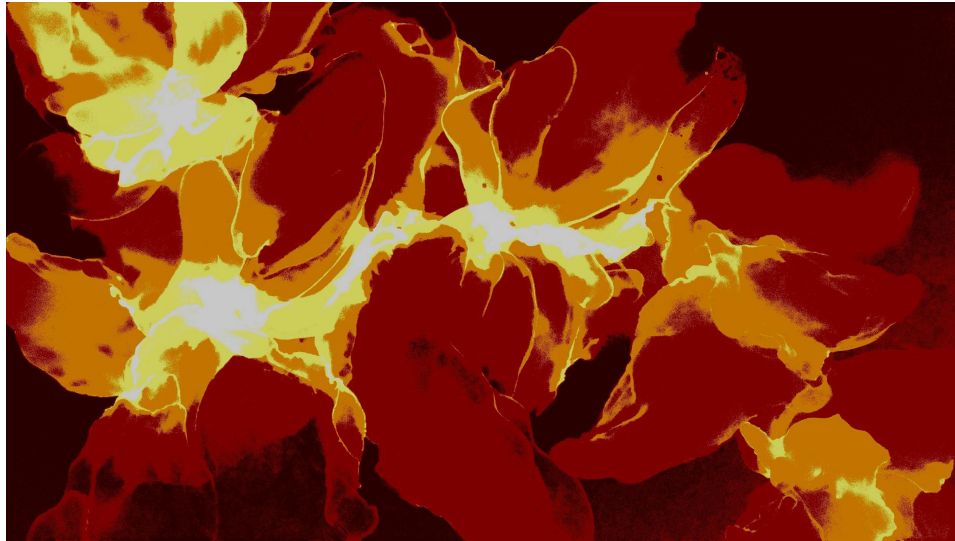
i pick up his walking stick and softly tap in the motionless ward death arrives and leaves a silent note quite naturally

what after a cabbage white after what

in my death poem some happy little trees

the intrusion of verbs in the sweep of snow

returning without you and i the endless sea



bonefury, 2023, digitally manipulated alcohol inks, 9" x 12"

by Jennifer Hambrick

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COVER:

"Pink Noise" (top detail) by Alexis Rotella

PAGE 1:

"paper making" by Marianne Paul

"a night real" by Ella Aboutboul

"ev ry bird" by Melissa Allen

"but not always" by Ernesto P. Santiago

PAGE 2:

"hourly shakespeareances" by Jonathan Humphrey

"aspen grove" by Brad Bennett

"birch sleeve" by Cynthia Hendel

PAGE 3:

“lifting negatives” by P. H. Fischer

“ebbing tide” by Lorraine A Padden

“meteors” by Christopher Peys

“moonbathing” by Lakshmi Iyer

PAGE 4:

“the blue of the river” by Edward Cody Huddleston

“way other the” by John Stevenson

“moon ribbon” by Adrian Bouter

“along a strand” by jim kacian

PAGE 5:

“whose branch” by Dan Schwerin

“antarctic misting” by Jay FriedenberG

“dusk crows” by Rich Schilling

“the (water)” by Kate MacQueen

PAGE 6:

“through the gate” by Deborah A. Bennett

“slant light” by Julie Schwerin

“rain squall” by Joshua St. Claire

PAGE 7:

“*Pink Noise*” (bottom detail) by Alexis Rotella

PAGE 8:

“her lullabies” by Jenn Ryan-Jauregui

“blood hush” by Jennifer Hambrick

“tree bough” by Brian Lavelle

“beneath the butterfly” by Roberta Beary

PAGE 9:

“autumn salvo” by Beverly Acuff Momoi

“but then the mistake” by Richa Sharma

“winter sun” by Eavonka Ettinger

“the word a stone” by a p hywel

PAGE 10:

“trapped” by Pris Campbell

“early onset” by Philip Whitley

“alone with my soul” by Ron Scully

“after treatment” by Ron Scully

PAGE 11:

“before aware” by Chuck Brickley

“room” by Cynthia Hendel

“i pick up” by Lakshmi Iyer

PAGE 12:

“what after” by John Stevenson

“in my death poem” by Susan Burch

“the intrusion of verbs” by Joseph P. Wechselberger

“returning” by Jacob D. Salzer

PAGE 13:

“*bonefury*” by Jennifer Hambrick

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