SPECIAL TRANSLATIONS ISSUE

TED WALKER
PETER LEVI, S.J.
JAMES KIRKUP
LESLIE NORRIS
BARRY McSWEENEY
MICHAEL HAMBURGER
D. G. BRIDSON
and many others

TRANSLATIONS FROM:

French
German
Russian
Spanish
Czech
Serbo-Croat
Portuguese
Italian
Japanese
Arabic
Hebrew
Chinese
Welsh
Persian

Price 25p
SONG OF THE CAGED BLACKBIRD

Dark breath in the green branches,
Blue flowers nod above the beak
Of the solitary,

Its golden flight ended beneath
The olive tree. In drunken flight
The night is soaring.

Dew, the blood of mercy, drips
From the thorn. Tender, radiant hands
Hold the stifled heart.

Translated from the German by Lucien Stryk

Tu Fu

SICK HORSE

I have ridden you long, friend
All along the frontier and through the snows
Life has driven you to the very end
And now I cry at your age and that your health goes.
There is no distinguishing mark to make you seem so fine;
Plain, you have served me and never been bad.
You are noble in your very ordinary kind.
At the end of your road, now, believe that I am sad.

Translated from the Chinese by Robert Temple
Apollinaire, Laforgue, Montale, Pessoa, and Valéry—are discussed at length), and partly because this book could only have been written by someone who in addition to being a poet, scholar and critic of eminence is a distinguished translator. The empathy with other traditions that good comparative criticism requires reaches its high point in this book.

A. R.

NOTES ON CONTRIBUTORS


Arthur Rimbaud (1854–1891). See the Penguin Rimbaud. Octavio Paz. Born in 1914. Formerly Mexican Ambassador in India. See Configurations (Cape), also The Labyrinth of Solitude (Allen Lane) and Marcel Duchamps or The Castle of Purity (Cape Goliard)


D. G. Bridson. Born in 1910. Former B.B.C. Features writer and producer. Prospero and Ariel (Gollancz 1970). The only English poet, apart from Bunting, in Pound’s Active Anthology (Faber 1933). François Villon (1431–1463?) can be found in a complete translation by Galway Kinnell (Signet).

Jonathan Griffin has translated poetry from many languages, all of which will be represented in a forthcoming issue of The Journals of Pierre Mena-


Hafiz (1325–1390?).