

WORKSHOP

Poetry Magazine

No 12

Guest Editor ANTHONY RUDOLF

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

Ted Walker. Born in 1934. Latest book of poems *The Night Bathers* (Cape 1970). *Jules Laforgue* (1860–1887). Poems easily accessible in anthologies.

Peter Levi, S. J. Born in 1931. Many books of poems. Co-translator of Penguin Yevtoushenko. *Ernst Fischer*. Better known as a humanist Marxist critic. Author of *The Necessity of Art* (Penguin).

Andrew Glaze. Born in Alabama, 1920. Author of *Damned Ugly Children* (Trident 1966). *Osip Mandelstam* (1891–1940?). Translations can be found in anthologies. A "Selected Poems" is badly needed. *Blaise Cendrars* (1887–1961). Better known in England for his novels.

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).

Ewald Osers. Born in 1917. Translator of forthcoming Penguin (Nezval, Bartusek and Hanzlik), also Cape Edition of *Ondra Lysohorsky*. *Oldrich Wenzl* (1921–1969). *Antonin Bartusek*. Born in 1921. *Husein Tahmiscic*. Born in 1931. This is the first translation of Tahmiscic in English.

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). *Francois 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 Menard*.

Eugenio Montale. Born in 1896. Penguin selection available. *Fernando Pessoa* (1888–1935). "The most extreme case of multiple personality and self-division in modern literature" (M. Hamburger). J. Griffin has completed translation of a substantial selection of his work.

James Kirkup. Born in 1923. Lives and teaches in Japan. Several books of poems. *Takahashi Mutsuro*. Born 1935. *Paul Valéry* (1871–1945).

G. B. H. Wightman and *al-Udhari* have published *Birds Through a Ceiling of Alabaster* (Dibden Press 1969). *Ibn Assif* (750–809).

Stephen Mitchell. American from Boston in his twenties. *Amir Gilboa*. Born in 1917. Has published many books. A selection will be published in Penguin.

Peter Hoy. Born in 1935. Teaches at Merton College, Oxford. Editor of *Fishpaste*, *Journals of Pierre Menard*, etc. *Francis Ponge*. Born in 1899. Published by Gallimard.

Lucien Stryk. Born 1924, lives in Illinois. Has been instrumental in mediating Zen to America. *Georg Trakl* (1887–1914). *Selected Poems*, Cape Editions.

Robert Temple. American living in London. Born 1945. Translates from the Sanskrit. *Tu Fu* (712–770). Poet of the T'Ang Dynasty.

Michael O'Brien. Born 1939, lives in New York. Translates from French and German. *Guillaume Apollinaire* (1880–1918). See the Penguin *Apollinaire*. *Leslie Norris*. Born in 1921 in Wales. Book: *Ransoms* (Chatto & Windus 1970). *Gruffud Gryg* (1360–1400). *Richard Burns*. Born in 1943. His translations of Aldo Vianello are published by Anvil. *Cesare Pavese* (1908–1950). Poems, journals, letters, novels, published by Peter Owen in England.

Barry MacSweeney. Born in 1948. Several books from the Black Suede Boot Press. *Charles Baudelaire* (1821–1867). Penguin. Also prose poems in Cape Editions, translated by Michael Hamburger.

Michael Hamburger. Born in 1924. Many books of criticism, poetry and translations. Most recently: *Travelling* (Fulcrum) and *The Truth of Poetry* (Weidenfeld and Nicholson). *Paul Celan* (1920–1970). A Jew born in Rumania. Lived in Germany and France. Interesting article on him by A. Friedlander in *European Judaism* (Vol. V No. 1 1970).

John Horder. Born in 1936. Book: *A Sense of Being* (Chatto). Previous guest-editor of WORKSHOP. *Hafiz* (1325?–1390?).