

Stone in the Stream/Roca en el Río



Stone in the Stream/Roca en el Río is a gathering of writers and artists committed to the environment through contemplative, artistic, and activist response. They meet quarterly to share individual work grounded in an eco-poetics and to develop collective projects. This page reflects some of their work. To contact the group, send an email to Jim LaVilla-Havelin (lavhav@gmail.com) or Moby Warren (mobiwarren@gmail.com).

Six Brown Pelicans

Toni Heringer Falls

work the water
just beyond the pier
devastating a school of bait fish
forced to light by predators below.
Great wings

beat the stout wind parents
teaching young. Only these birds
can rise thirty to sixty feet, scan
tumult below—plummet
like stones, splashing the water
wings cocked.

They bob on surface, strain water from pouches
distended with catch—dreadful coffins latched,
lined with ivory satin—soft, smooth.

Note: The brown pelican made a remarkable recovery from near extinction in Texas. From fewer than 40 birds in 1970, populations have rebounded into the thousands. DDT pesticide and thoughtless destruction of nests contributed to the decline, but they now nest along the entire Gulf Coast.

On the Edge of Town

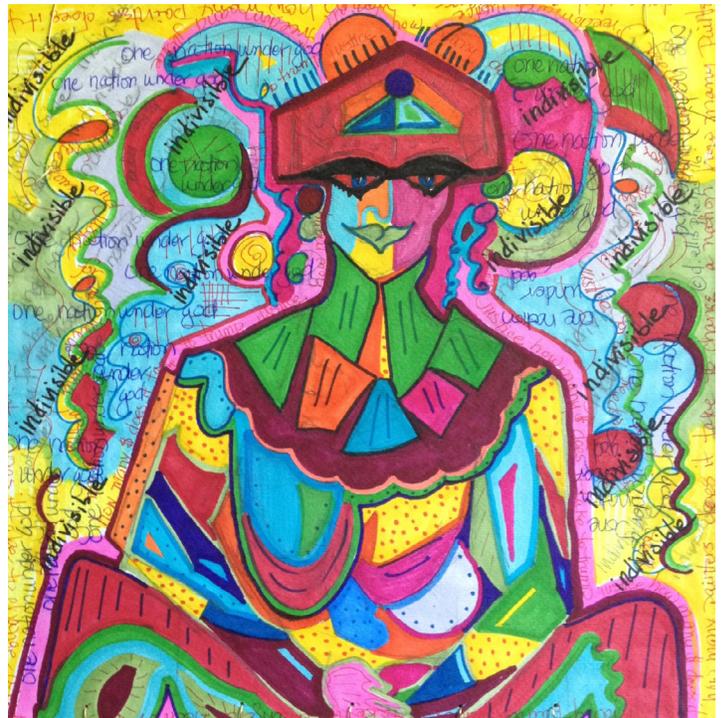
Janice Rebecca Campbell

Wild land
for sale in one-half-acre plots
will no doubt sprout
more mini manors
on the English model
side by side by side
with wide lawns
of non-native grasses
surrounded by pike-topped
wrought-iron fences
and handsome gates
—though to my taste
none so handsome
as a single scented cedar tree
or a motte of live oaks dancing
or a white-tailed deer
testing the wind.

If I Had Attended

d. ellis phelps

if	whirling feet
i had attended	bare &
the workshop	pounding
	~
i would	there
have missed	
this:	—a potter
	throwing clay:
visitation	wild
of cranes	discontent
	~
the way	this is not
they sing	democracy
this religion	dictators
of birds	rage
eucharist	monarchs
of sky	die
	~
how this raven	remove
	these rulers
black	none of them
harbinger	
calls	tell the
	~
these billowing	truth
clouds are mouths	
here	
the earth	
—fuschia skirt	



How Many Painters Does It Take to Change a Nation

d. ellis phelps

12" x 12", mixed media on paper