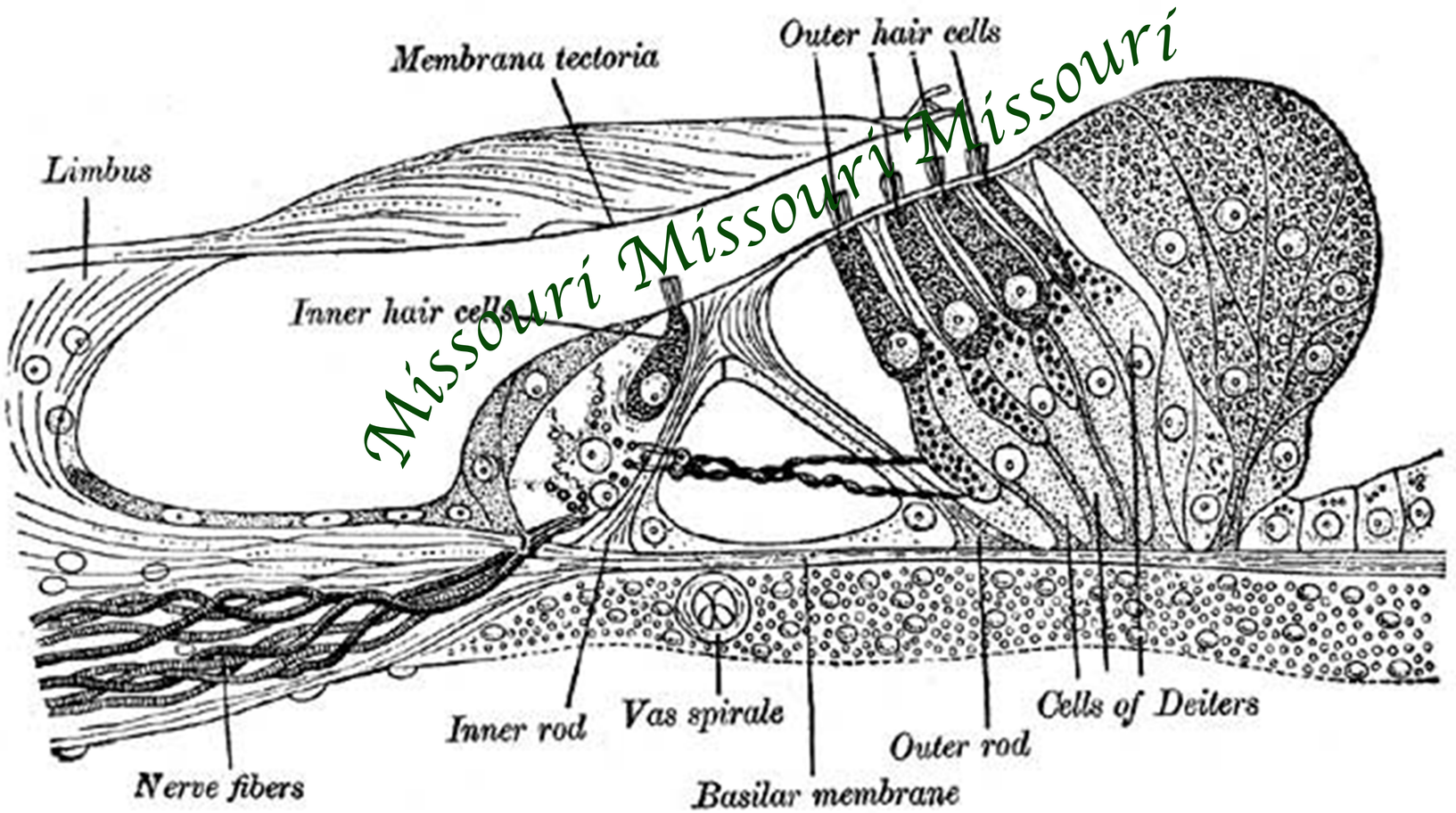
30 Years of Writing with Missouri



Missouri Missouri Missouri

Mike Barrett

Water Towers

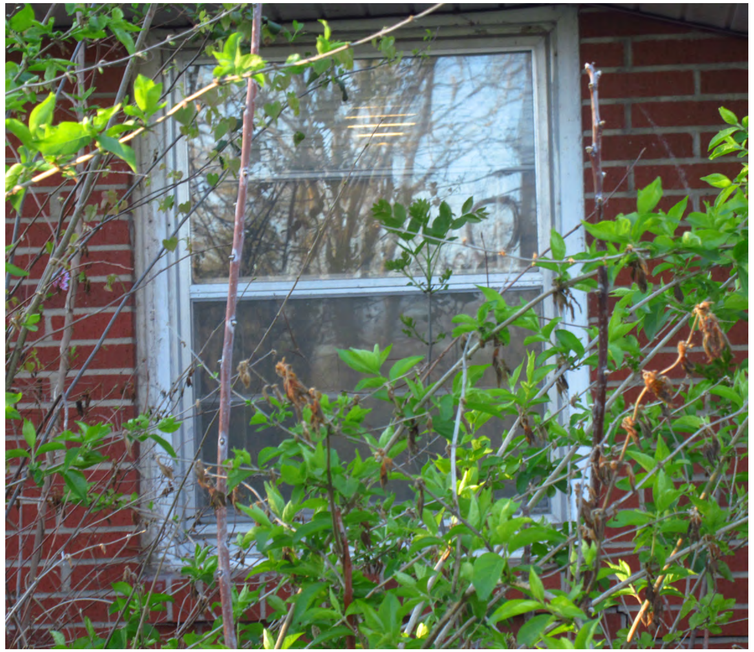
Midway, MO



Woodlandville, MO



Water towers seen from on top of ridge overlooking Beaver Lake, Davisdale Conservation Area.



Outside view of Trudy's writing room



Approximately 4500 pages of fiction written in that room during the time of discussion.





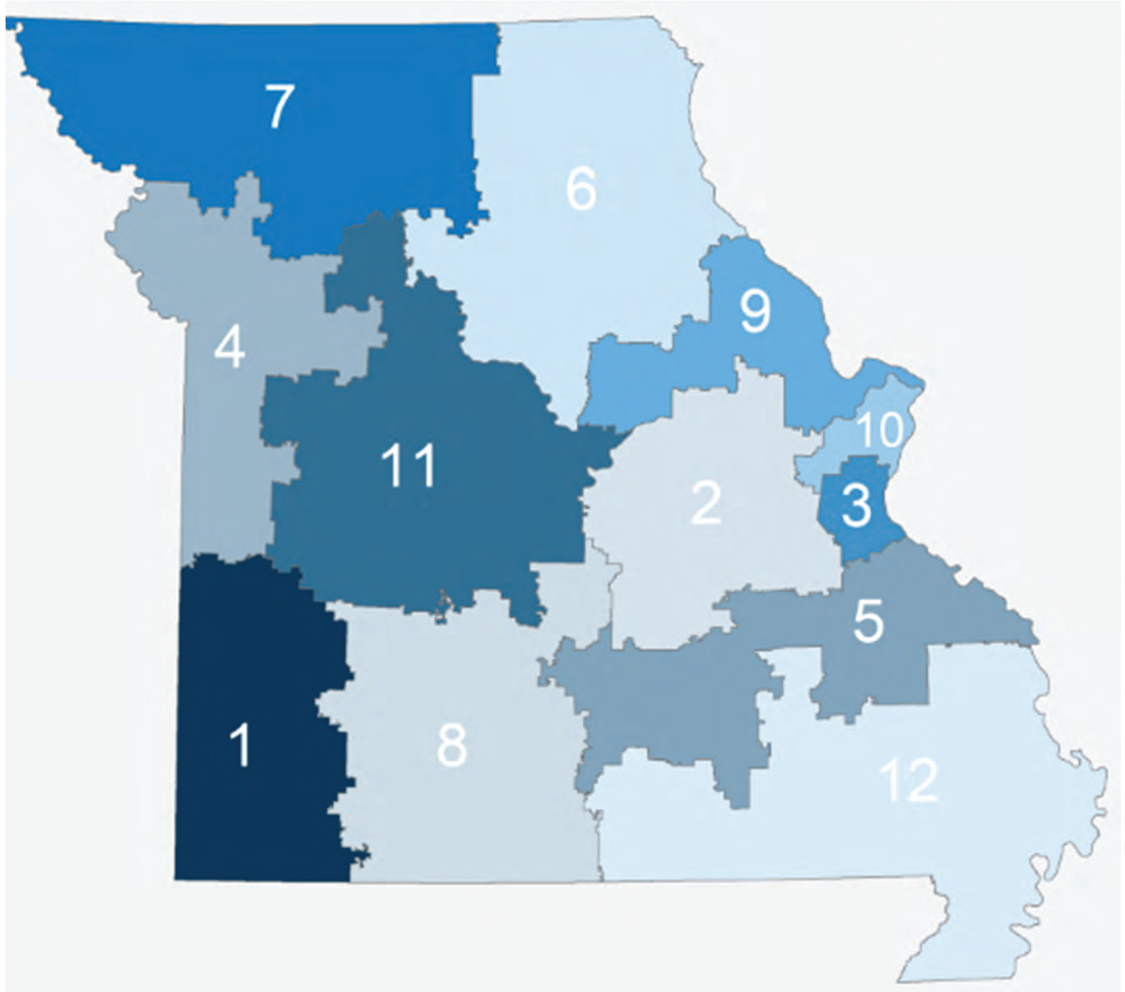

A Year of Missouri Hikes







Blue Thunder Track Club



1	Crowder College
2	East Central College
3	Jefferson College
4	Metropolitan Community College
5	Mineral Area College
6	Moberly Area Community College
7	North Central Missouri College
8	Ozarks Technical Community College
9	St. Charles Community College
10	St. Louis Community College
11	State Fair Community College
12	Three Rivers Community College

Fall 2025 Student Profile

Census Date: *September 26, 2025*

Total Headcount		**5,572**
Male	2,044	37%
Female	3,494	63%
Another Gender	33	1%
Unkown Gender	1	<1%

Age		
Under 18	2,083	37%
18-19	1,737	31%
20-24	957	17%
25-29	284	5%
30-39	316	6%
40-49	137	2%
50-64	47	1%
Over 64	5	<1%
Unknown	6	<1%

Race		
American Indian/Alaska Native	11	<1%
Asian	88	2%
Black or African-American	420	8%
Hispanic	276	5%
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander	2	<1%
Race/Ethnicity Unknown	197	4%
Two or More Races	287	5%
U.S. Non-Resident	51	1%
White	4,240	76%

Enrollment by County Service Region		
Adair	251	5%
Audrain	311	6%
Boone	2,178	39%
Chariton	93	2%
Clark	63	1%
Howard	62	1%
Knox	43	1%
Lewis	68	1%
Macon	140	3%
Marion	350	6%
Monroe	156	3%
Ralls	168	3%
Randolph	399	7%
Schuyler	39	1%
Scotland	50	1%
Shelby	97	2%
Service Region	4,468	80%
Other Counties	1,104	20%

Total Credit Hours		**51,596.0**
Full-time	2,260	41%
Part-time	3,312	59%

Enrollment in Academic Programs		
Associate of Arts	1,503	27%
Associate of Applied Science	371	7%
Associate of Arts in Teaching	175	3%
Associate Degree in Nursing	141	3%
Associate of Science	855	15%
Certificates	127	2%
Non-Degree Seeking	2,400	43%

Subprogram		
Academic Enrollment (AA, AAT, AS)	2,533	45%
Career & Technical Enrollment	362	6%
Health Sciences	277	5%
Non-Degree Seeking	2,400	43%

Average Age	
All Students	20.5
College students (excluding high school)	23.0

Classifications		
First-time freshman	1,109	20%
Freshman	845	15%
Sophomore	1,218	22%
Non-degree seeking	204	4%
Dual enrolled/dual credit	2,196	39%

1st Generation		
1st Generation	1,296	23%
Non-1st Generation	3,935	71%
Unknown	341	6%

There are 54 International Students from the following 25 countries: Afghanistan, Brazil, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, China, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Kenya, Mexico, Mongolia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, South Sudan, Taiwan, Tanzania, Vietnam, Zimbabwe.











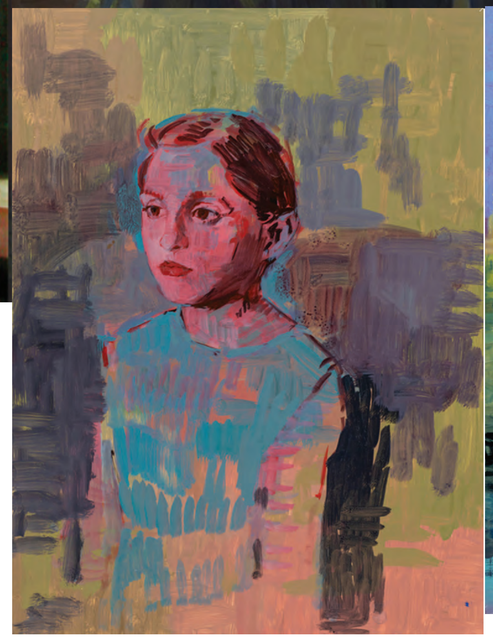
Tom Richard

MACC 1994-1997
University of Arkansas-Monticello
1997-





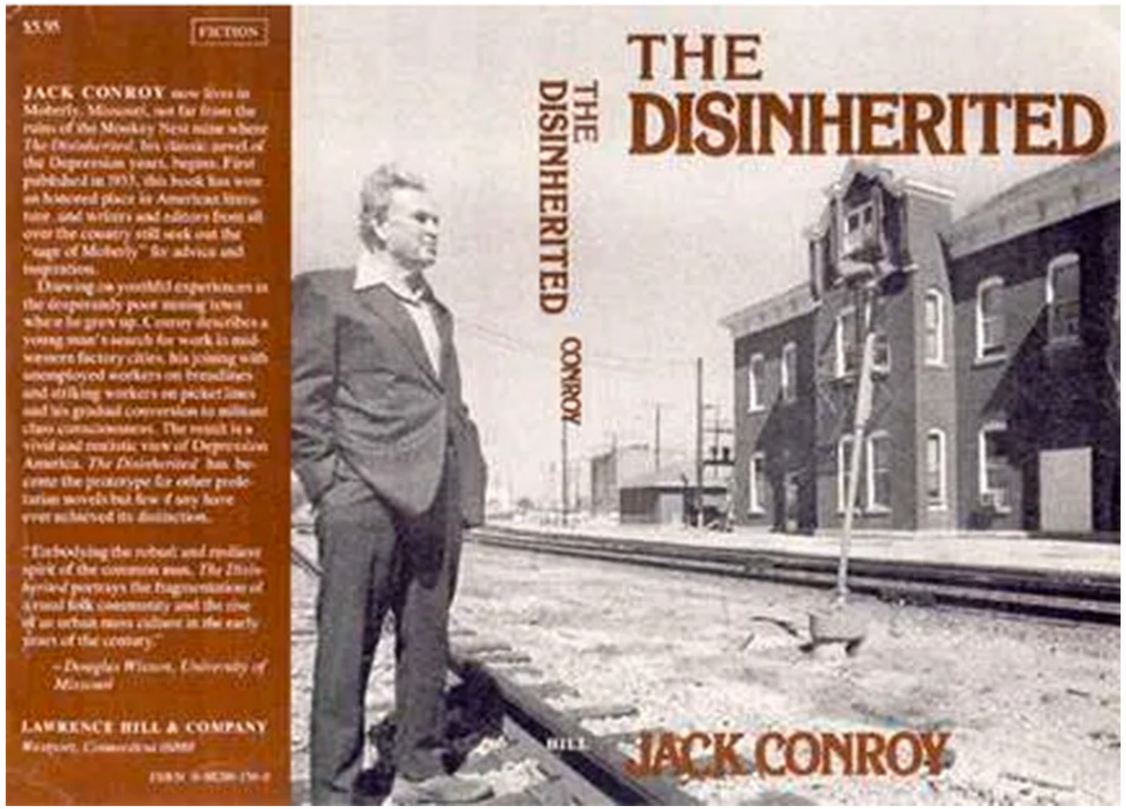


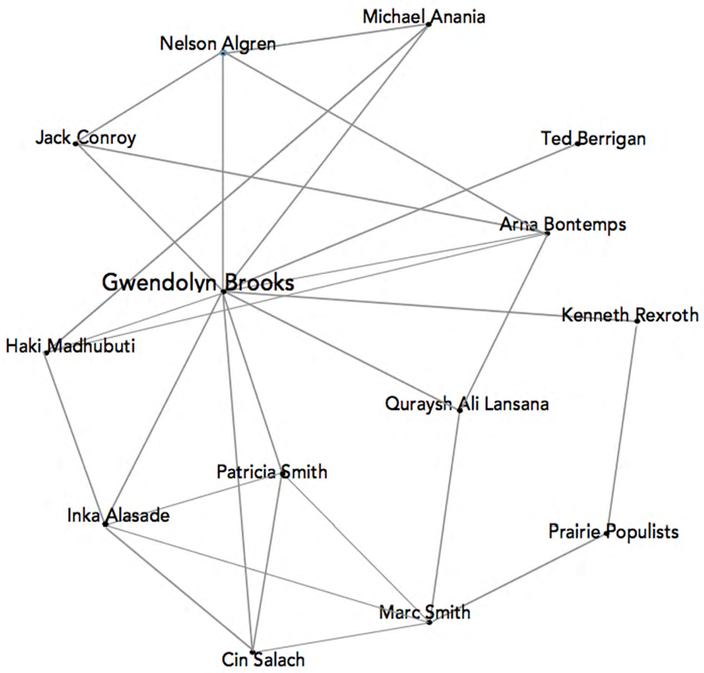




Greg Eltringham

MACC 1997-2003
Savannah School of Art & Design
2003-



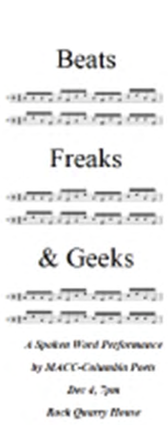


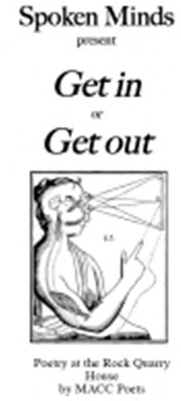
Jack Conroy

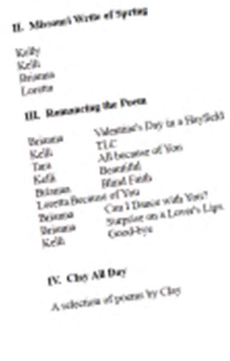
1898-1990


ANVIL & lyre
Volume XIII
Spring 2009
DANGER
ANVIL & lyre
Volume XIX
Spring 2015
mid-MO-drama-rama
ANVIL & lyre
Volume XVII
Spring 2013
Lucky
ANVIL & lyre
Volume XV
Spring 2011
"grown and in them, is eternity"
"eternity is grown, and in them"
"and in them, eternity is grown"
ANVIL & lyre
Volume XIV
Spring 2010
Destruction/Creation
recover
cover
ANVIL & lyre
Volume XX
Spring 2016
animal
spirits
ANVIL & lyre
Volume XVI
Spring 2012
Poetry, Fiction and Essays from Missouri writers
swift, secure flight

homegrown avant-garde





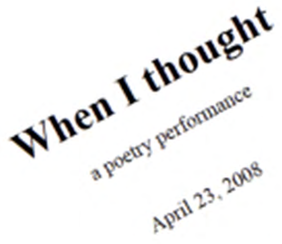






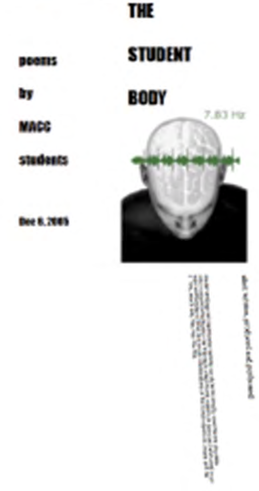










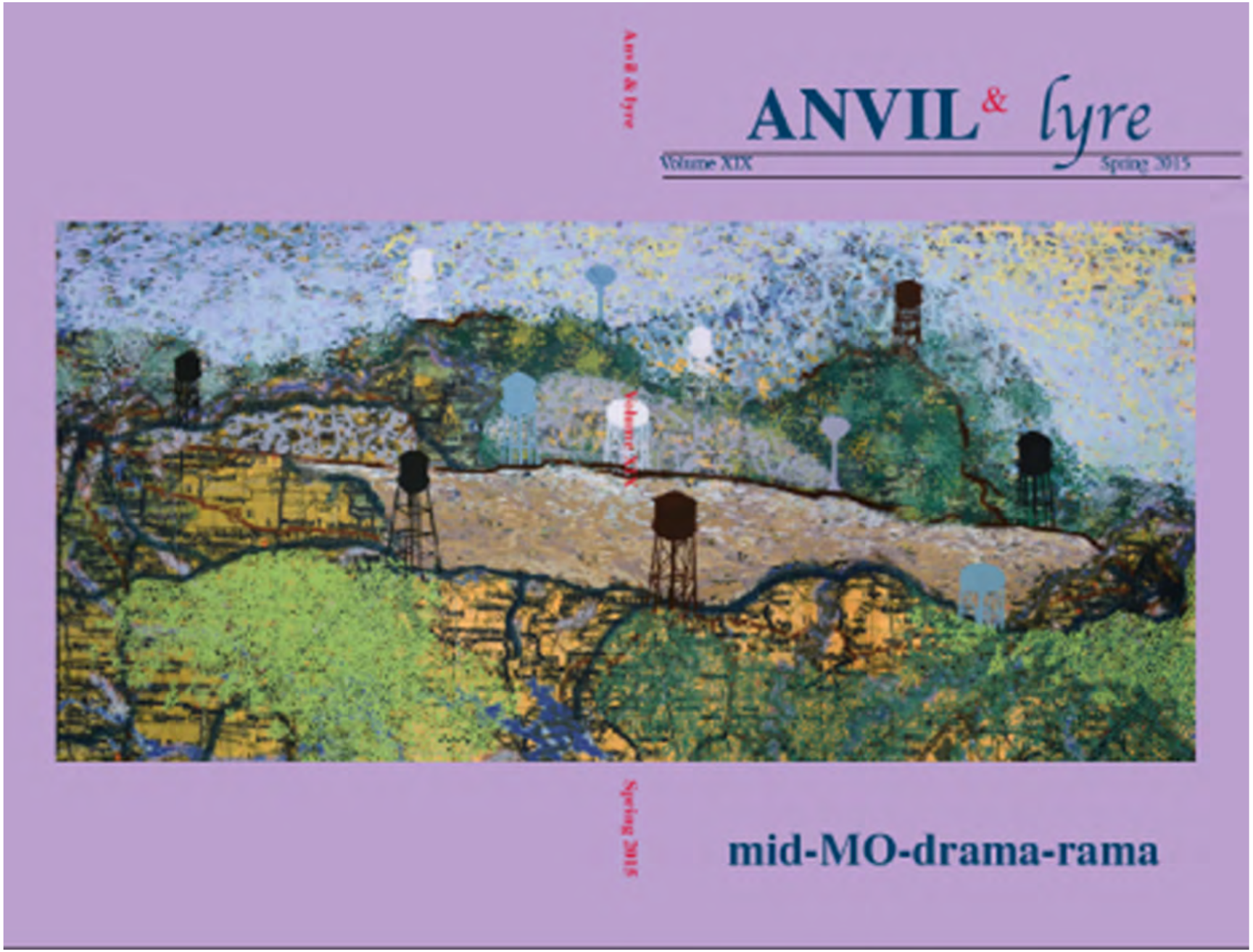












Felicia Leach
MACC 2003-

Place is the Medium; Collaboration is the Message.



Loci or Why Place?

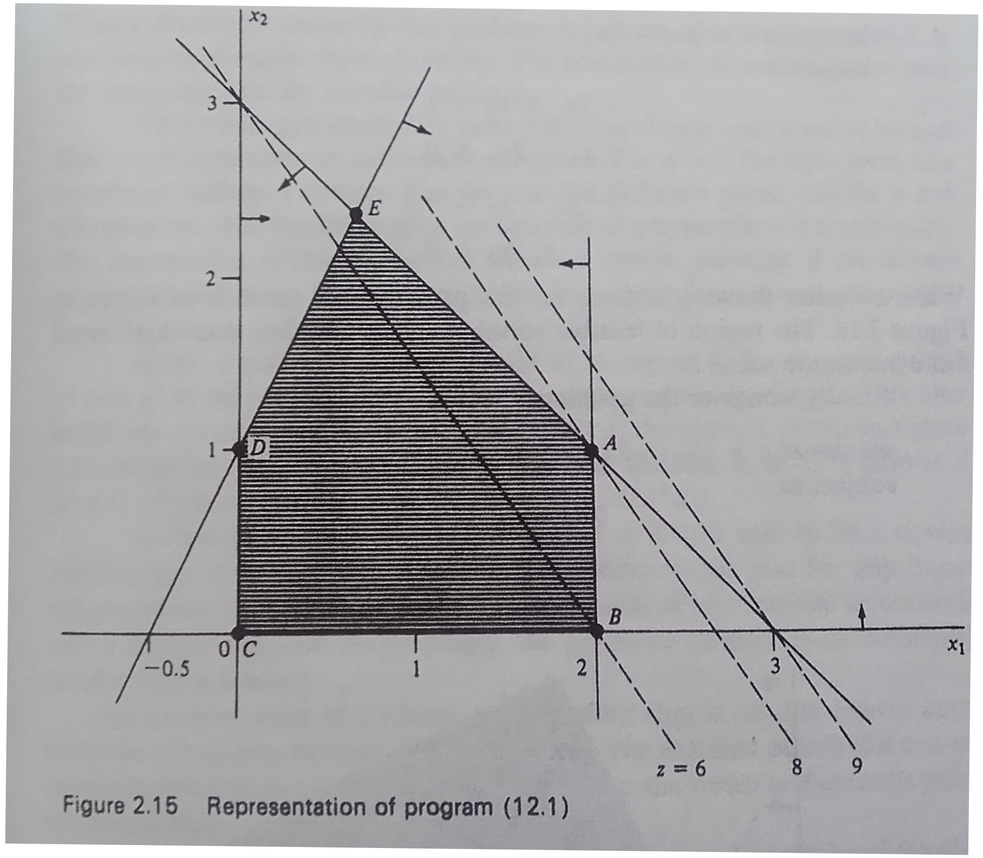
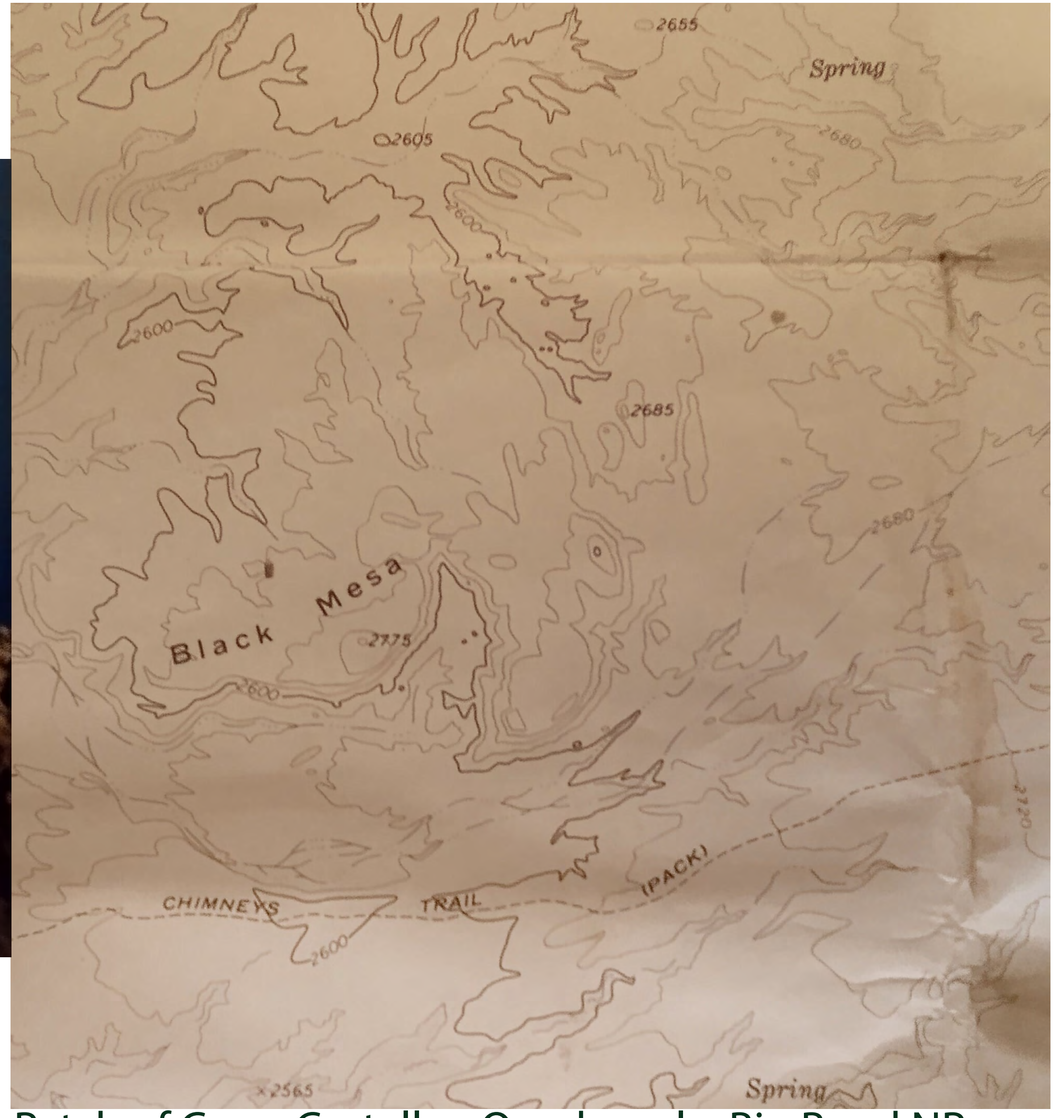


Figure 2.15 Representation of program (12.1)

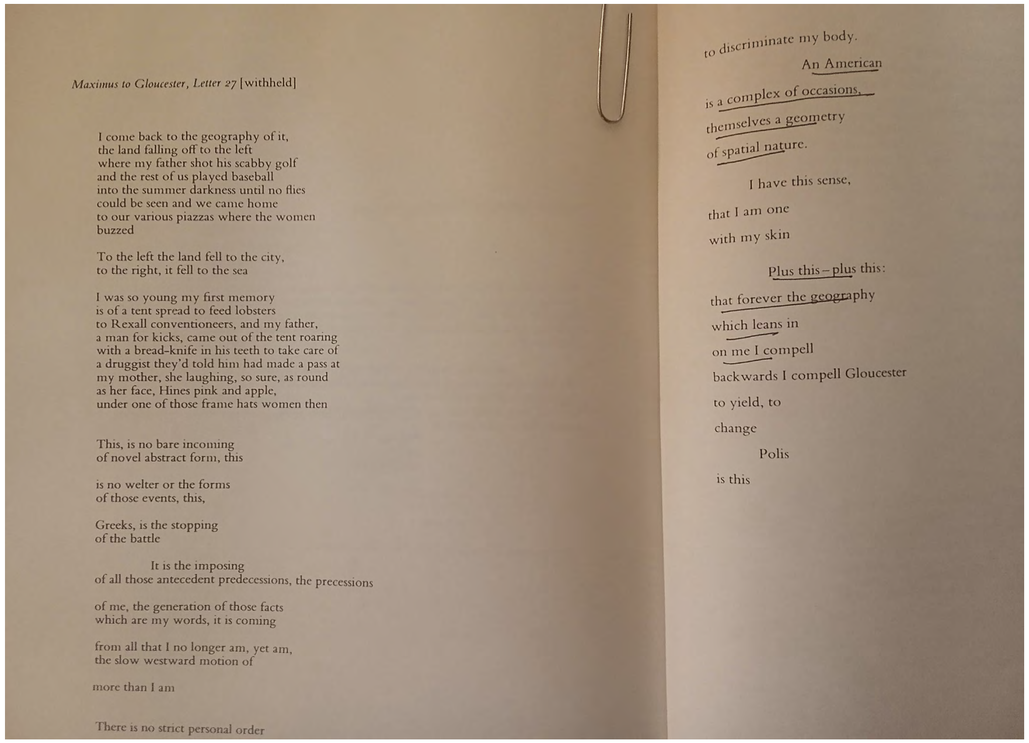
1. Mountains
2. Charles Olson
3. Dasein *is* Spacetime



Looking toward South Teton from Middle Teton summit ridge, 1977.



Patch of Cerro Castellan Quadrangle, Big Bend NP.



Maximus to Gloucester, Letter 27 [withheld]

I come back to the geography of it,
the land falling off to the left
where my father shot his scabby golf
and the rest of us played baseball
into the summer darkness until no flies
could be seen and we came home
to our various piazzas where the women
buzzed

To the left the land fell to the city,
to the right, it fell to the sea

I was so young my first memory
is of a tent spread to feed lobsters
to Rexall conventioneers, and my father,
a man for kicks, came out of the tent roaring
with a bread-knife in his teeth to take care of
a druggist they'd told him had made a pass at
my mother, she laughing, so sure, as round
as her face, Hines pink and apple,
under one of those frame hats women then

This, is no bare incoming
of novel abstract form, this

is no welter or the forms
of those events, this,

Greeks, is the stopping
of the battle

It is the imposing
of all those antecedent predecessions, the precessions

of me, the generation of those facts
which are my words, it is coming

from all that I no longer am, yet am,
the slow westward motion of

more than I am

There is no strict personal order
to discriminate my body.

An American

is a complex of occasions,

themselves a geometry

of spatial nature.

I have this sense,

that I am one

with my skin

Plus this – plus this:

that forever the geography

which leans in

on me I compell

backwards I compell Gloucester

to yield, to

change

Polis

is this

Charles Olson, Letter 27, permaclipped in *The Maximus Poems*.

9. Poem of Place

That spot you stand on
think of it
in the Renaiaissance
Ice Age
Those Halcyon days of amino chains
when the steamy rain down did rain
think of it
as the bottom of a hole in time
think of where you are
that spot you stand on.

Space-time Manifold, Multidimensionality

One of my missions is to remind my students that time, *per se*, does not exist. The reason can be found in physics. Newtonian physics would have us believe that space has three dimensions that "run" along a "timeline"; that is, time is absolute. When Einstein developed his theory of relativity, he demonstrated (and has since been proven by experimental evidence), that time is not separate from space. We do not live in time, but in four dimensions called the **space-time manifold**.

The most suprising aspect of this discovery is that time is relative. In other words, the passing of time depends on your frame of reference. If I went on a space ride on a really fast rocket that approached the speed of light, relative to you, time would move more slowly for me (although I would experience time as I experience it now). This has been proven by some very ingenious experiments. It shows us that time is NOT absolute; in fact, to speak of it as being separate from space makes no sense.

So why is this a mission of mine? Because we live as if time were absolute. Ask anyone what time it is. I'm sure they'll give you an exact answer: "2:11pm". Ask the same person where North is, I suspect it would take more than a few moments before they ventured an answer.

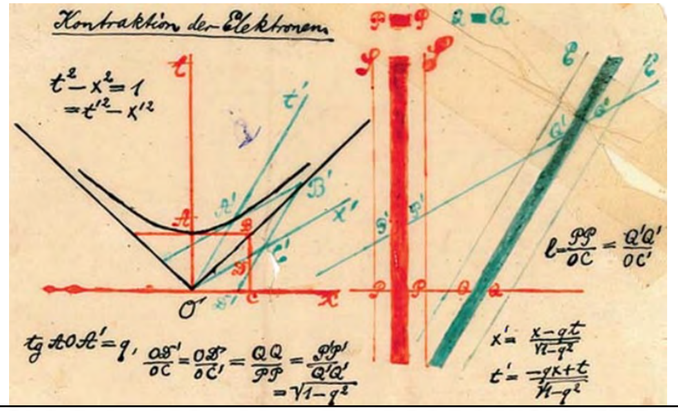


Figure 1–4. Hand-colored transparency presented by Minkowski in his 1908 *Raum und Zeit* lecture

Hermann Minkowski, died 1909 - *Space and Time: Minkowski's Papers on Relativity*, published by the Minkowski Institute.

The Present

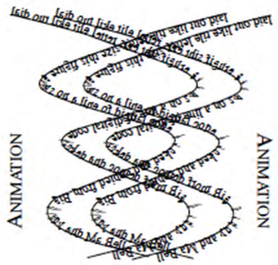
nownow

Spacetime

Dasein

Language Acts in Columbia

bespoken coats for codices
singalongs for information



meditations
with a strong dose of

IMMEDIACY

(5-7-5-7-7)	Tanka	RR, MB
A STRAND OF TEXT	Colette's Pearls	TL
CAGCGGCTTC CAATGGGAGC TGTCATTAAG TGCATGATGT ATTACAAGGA GGCCTTCTGG AAGAAGAAGG	Genophonics #3	TL, TH, RR, MB
FOUND STORY FROM 1899-1900 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE AMERICAN MICROSCOPICAL SOCIETY	Erratum: Insert "r" in Transgressors	TH
BREAD, LENTIL SOUP, PEPPERONI	Neighbors	RR
	Genophonics #4	RR, TH, MB, TL & YOU*

*Participate in the final Genophonics. Listed below is the base pair DNA code for a stretch of the X Chromosome. Choose a word for each letter--A, C, T, G. Read these three strings (for a total of thirty letters) with your words after you hear TH, TL, MB & RR chant in unison, "calling, calling, calling."

GGCCTTCTGG AAGAAGAAGG GTAGGCTGCT

THE END	Peroration	RR, TH, MB, TL

whereupon
Legacy Gallery & Bookworks
Spring, 1999

whereupon

I. Thoughts on Einstein's Theory of Relativity...

Mike Land

II. Ante-Memory

Trae Mustoe
Zebulon Rains

III. Memory Radio

A. Memory Radio

written by MACC students
music composed and performed
by David Purdy
produced by Mike Barrett

B. Choral Piece

written by Zebulon R.

IV. Anti-Memoir, Auntie Em

Trudy Lewis
30 sentences culled randomly from
20 years of journals. (Some names
have been changed)

Zebulon R.
Trae M.

V. Impropositions
(whereupon the elegy is buried)

an improvised set by Mike B.

copyright mike barrett mikebarrettarchive.com

copyright Mike Barrett, Trudy Lewis, Trae Mustoe, Zeb Rains 5

becoming trustworthy
loyal
independent

granted intuition revitalizes cells at the bursting point
of cohesion and adversely reacts with young he

Trae:

He never gets out
Inside the puppet
raising his voice
leaving no choice

Zeb:

plotted snorts and sequential mistaking
all that introduction
shit
below the words of the surface

thought melts
stretching conforms to the number of lines with repeat

performer
keep the title to a different name
forget your story

live it live

V. Impropositions

home

we wear the present

body is sense

Spacetime is home.

We dwell there in the present.

The body is its sense.

Being in it wears us out.

Until the day we die, spacetime is where we are.

Not that it's not
what we think it is;

the is is not
what we think is is.

We are and it's not
what we think.

dimensions

model's model's model models in matter

model's model

Spacetime is multidimensional.

Consciousness is its geometry.

Consciousness is a model of spacetime made out of the same matter.

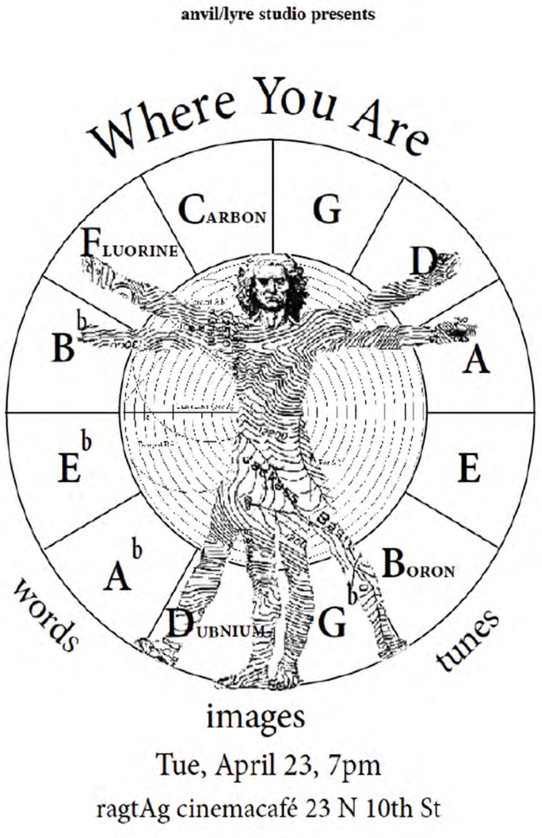
Language is a model made out of the same matter as consciousness.

Poetry is the model's model's model. Poetry gives a language act its form.

Where You Are

Ragtag Cinema
Spring, 2002



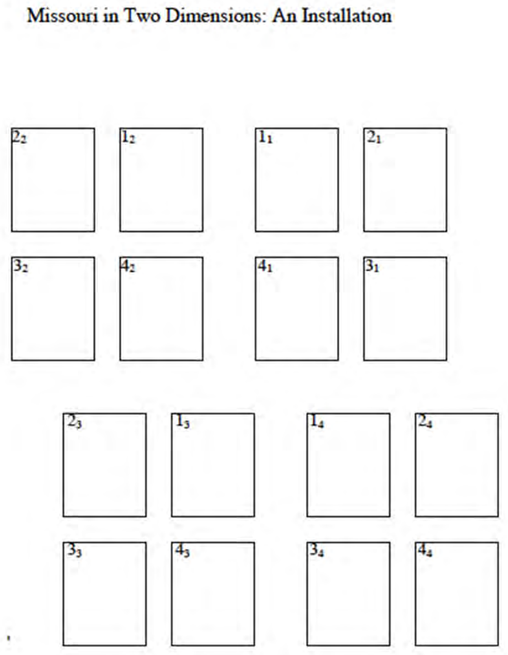


introductory film

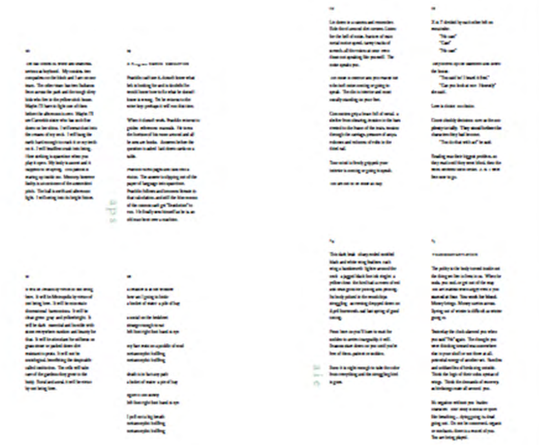
Missouri in Two Dimensions

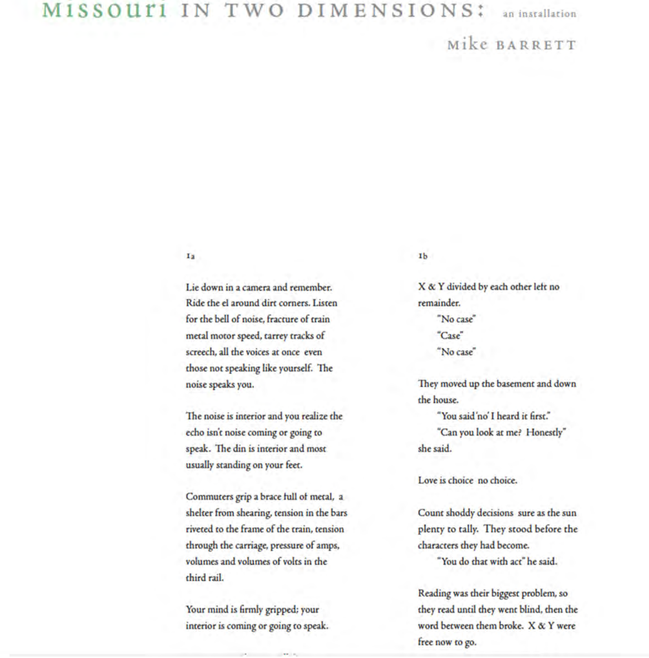
Ninth Letter, v.2

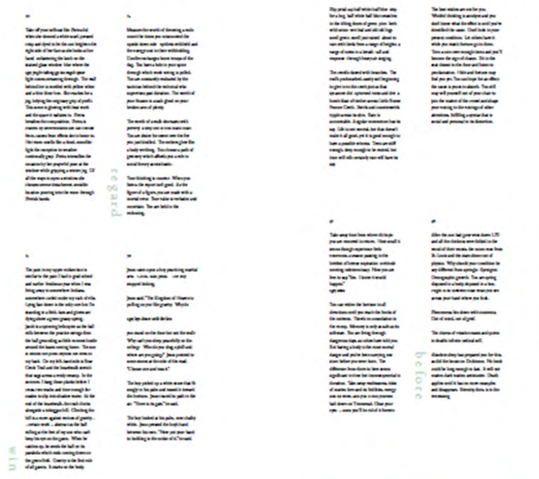
Spring 2004

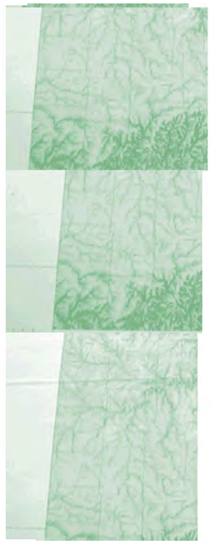






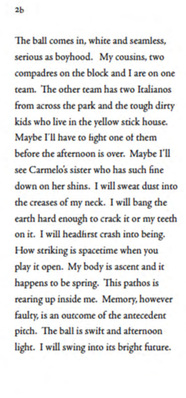








22″ x 32″



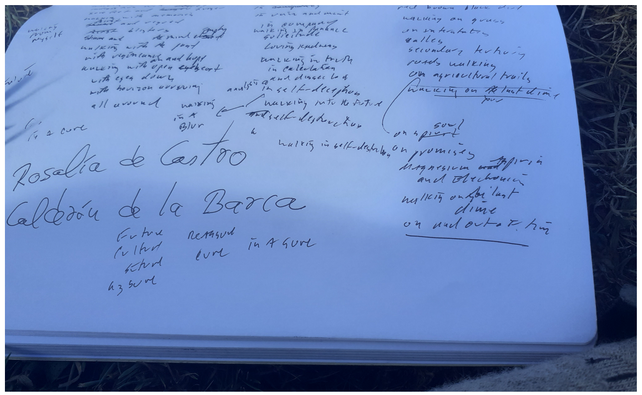
Walking with my Doppelgänger

Summer to Fall, 2019











Rosalía de Castro
1837-1885



“saudade”

Poetry Conservation Area

Green Bay, Omaha Fringe Festivals

Summer, 2025



1. Spoken Word Performance





Jenny Holzer is an American artist known for the public display of subversive slogans.

2. A Short Film Set on the Mississippi Downstream from Hannibal





Dedicated to My Missouri Students.

3. from Montana Triolets





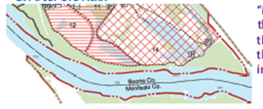
A Triolet is a poetic form with 8 lines of 8 syllables with a rhyme scheme of ABaAabAB

4. Breaking Trail





5. After the Rain

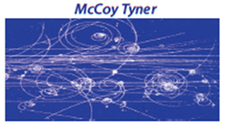


"May we never forget that in the sunshine of our lives, through the storm and after the rain – it is all with God – in all ways and forever."
John Coltrane

6. Dario Beneath the 12 Bens



7. Comings and Goings after McCoy Tyner



8. from Nutz & the Boltzmann Brainz



For any $E \subset \Sigma$, the set of those points x of E for which there exists $N \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $f^n(x) \notin E$ for all $n > N$ has zero measure.

In other words, almost every point of E returns to E in fact, almost every point returns infinitely often; i.e.

$\mu\{x \in E : \text{there exists } N \text{ such that } f^n(x) \notin E \text{ for all } n > N\} = 0.$

Henri Poincaré's Recurrence Theorem tells us our thoughts will recur infinitely, given unlimited time.

Conclusion

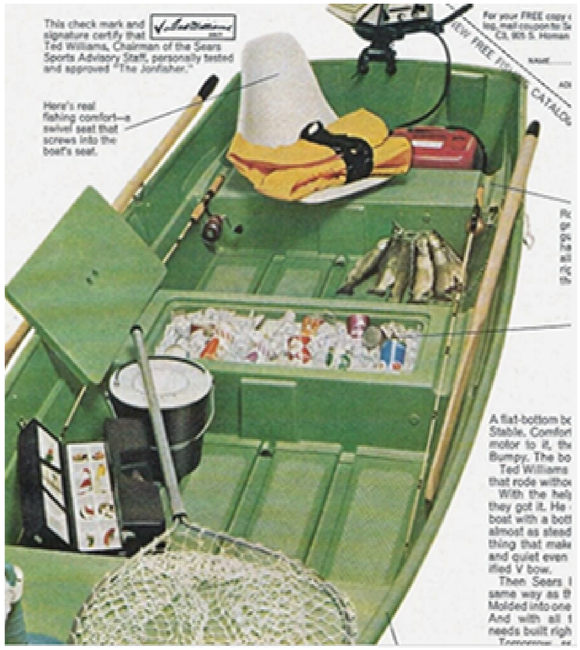


contact: mikebarrettarchive@gmail.com

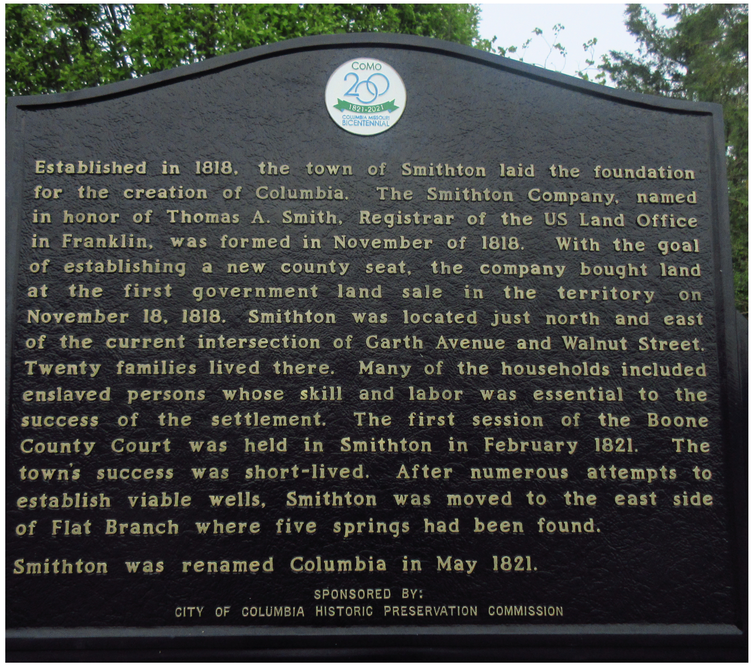
for more work: mikebarrettarchive.com

A Short Film Set on the Mississippi
Downstream from Hannibal





Dedicated to My Missouri Students.


COMO 200
1821-2021
COLUMBIA MISSOURI BICENTENNIAL
Established in 1818, the town of Smithton laid the foundation for the creation of Columbia. The Smithton Company, named in honor of Thomas A. Smith, Registrar of the US Land Office in Franklin, was formed in November of 1818. With the goal of establishing a new county seat, the company bought land at the first government land sale in the territory on November 18, 1818. Smithton was located just north and east of the current intersection of Garth Avenue and Walnut Street. Twenty families lived there. Many of the households included enslaved persons whose skill and labor was essential to the success of the settlement. The first session of the Boone County Court was held in Smithton in February 1821. The town's success was short-lived. After numerous attempts to establish viable wells, Smithton was moved to the east side of Flat Branch where five springs had been found.
Smithton was renamed Columbia in May 1821.
SPONSORED BY:
CITY OF COLUMBIA HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION



conclusion