

Sounds from a formalist ontology

Poetry

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Abstract Sounds from a formalist ontology is a poetry diptych exploring words, literary sounds, thoughts, and images folded within a formalist ontology – an ontology constrained by, and subjected to, form. It stems from the ripples of a poetical anthropological study concerned with form and visual perception, and engages with fiction and fabulation as modes of knowledge and experience.

Résumé Sounds from a formalist ontology (Sons d'une ontologie formaliste) est un diptyque poétique explorant mots, sons littéraires, pensées et images plié-e-s dans une ontologie formaliste – une ontologie contrainte par, et soumise à, la forme. Il émane des ondulations d'une étude poétique et anthropologique s'intéressant à la forme et à la perception visuelle, et entre en relation avec la fiction et la fabulation comme modes de connaissance et d'expérience.

Keywords poetry; ontology; form; perception; fiction

(poems on the second page)

Sounds from a formalist ontology

i. flesh's bones

an
impossibility

of immunity

, from form
, from structure.

Octopi have no bones

but are the matter of genomic structures
– form-ed, structured.

Is
a fold,
a curl,
a tentacle,
a tongue,
a human,
a poem
, free?

, free from subjection to form
, free from structure and structuration?

Is
An excess of skin
, of flesh,
an excess of vision
, free?

Excess,
Madness –

Hallucination,
Illusion –

, free?

ii. I only see ink, now

I cannot see

freedom –
an absence of ontological limitations,
an independence from external control

– is it

an emptiness, an inexistent?

a lure?
a lie?
a deception?
a fable?

Drenched in ink
soaked in seawater,
wet of salt,

I cannot
unsee

my inability to see

freedom

from
form

, my inability to see

.

My eyes are stained
The cephalopod has escaped

I only see
ink
now

and the constraining, restraining, frightening

hold
of form

.

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