

Deakin University

Ella O'Keefe

Two poems

Biographical note:

Ella O'Keefe is a doctoral candidate working on contemporary poetry at Deakin University. She has produced and had work aired on 2SER FM, FBI Radio and Radio National and in 2011 she co-directed the Critical Animals Research Symposium in Newcastle.

Touching brick

a muffled stereo
charts the suburb's
demographic cluster
trace alluvial dust
'close to transpt'.
smoke flume
'light and spacious'

you have two
hundred new
'(english only)'
sunsets
in your inbox

& some
other way of
mapping the shape
of air, a premonition
presses finger
prints in thoughts

collective sighs
cross time-zones
paddocks become
subjects of the
new pastoral
(metaphoric tractor)

but pay attention:
this is how sneezes work
where the shadow falls
in winged ordinary

uncoded parking
tickets tally abacus
beads what's left in
visible water
find ways of
pleasuring deferral

no new-age logic:
creep those palms
back to childhood
places like bread
dough, chlorine,
warm concrete

Zone 1

open-tuned means
picking up wind rattles
 suburbs you move through by feeling
density of shops vs.
 groceries observed
celery or yellow nylon
 durian net views of
 different kinds of lawn furniture
pergolas for future
parties with homemade alcohol
smug pebblecrete/sunday arvo
 tea soft
 footsteps in the good room
unlived mausoleums for
 shepherdesses
 matching porcelain Pekinese
scenes from/seen from
 a vinyl bench with a rip in it
collect imperatives from
 bus stops grown in bottlebrush
fold receipts in scrolls
 a note on a television program
you once enjoyed