

# Bard College Bard Digital Commons

Robert Kelly Manuscripts

**Robert Kelly Archive** 

8-2013

## augG2013

Robert Kelly Bard College

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.bard.edu/rk\_manuscripts

### **Recommended Citation**

Kelly, Robert, "augG2013" (2013). *Robert Kelly Manuscripts*. 265. https://digitalcommons.bard.edu/rk\_manuscripts/265

This Manuscript is brought to you for free and open access by the Robert Kelly Archive at Bard Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Robert Kelly Manuscripts by an authorized administrator of Bard Digital Commons. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@bard.edu.



= = = = =

White veiled face led into long retreat the Lama led her along a balcony above us solemn-quieted we intelligent-intent below.

How much can I know of this this dream it shaped? Is that another world in there whose actors only seem to be ourselves?

**Our loves our needs** just wind in the window

wind's eye it meant

the wind has been everywhere seen everything

always toom for something new.

That's you being honest with the moon.

- A. Word here and there to answer all the questions.
- Q. A car going by.
- Q. Puffballs growing in the shade

like two skulls on the berm.

- Q. A tree with fingers.
- Q. A cry not human in the woods not far.
- Q. Against the evidence of the senses.
- Q. Noises in the house.
- Q. Morning.
- Q. A braided belt lying on the bed.
- Q. A bed.
- Q. An envelope.

And all my life to answer them.

But they are hard require practice didn't they tell you when you were young everything's a violin?

But if we could really tell but never can

and never would.

The untold story rules the world.

Pink flowers in dense green flashing tablet stirs of occult energies sprightly dust from old books

the vision quivers among the complementary colors

do I still have time to notice this?

Sound of a bus idling not far away keep the channels open mercy may yet find a way through

and it's not me paying for the diesel. In the land of small interferences sleep takes the place of wedding bells.

People worry about flowers but everything takes a long time

the woods are mostly for remembering

There came along a man who broke a shadow the shards of it still litter the pavement—

children pick them up and use them instead of school. The trouble with school is you have to go to it

when it should always be right right here in your hand

or like the shadow at your feet.

## THE CLOUDS OF 2013

## A vow binds the future

but the clouds (richer this summer than I've ever seen)

but clouds eliminate future and pasy insist on the present

they are verbless nouns transient absolutes.

Never a summer like this, clouds all majesty whimsy tumult calm all colors of all their kinds all over the sky and sly stratus layed low intricate with streets and entrances and cumulus immense and various domes of Arizona and Tiepolo.

Sometimes a thought or image is so strong it interrupts a broadband wifi signal. Try it sometimes you'll hear.

## 19.VIII.13

# **MEMBRA**

In any political discourse, the interruptions in the speaker's delivery constitute the real text. Listen!
The stammers sing.
I belong to the smallest of all theminorities. And perhaps the strongest.
Because we have bodies we don't need emotions.
Emotions deny us access to our own selves.
Life is an afterthought. What was someone really thinking?

**Catch the glinting wave** and fall.

**20.VIII.13** 

pressure-washing the house next door they are

how noisy clean turns out to be but o lovely dirt you lie there in repose.

# **ECRIRE**

I have a keyboard but where is the doorboard it can unlock into the infinite space beyond?

#### **IRISH**

#### 1.

We're not really about the earth we others, immigrants from the Other Star, Irish, Dravidians, Polynesians who knows else. It is beautiful here often and very strange. **Everything** is hard and every poem is a try to write back home.

## 2.

The Irish in America are only a recent instance of their endless exile.

No climate suits them, the sun is a horror but the least breeze shivers them and they have no lungs at all.

No work is apt for their hands except doodling and scribbling trying to reconstruct what is was like up there.

## **3.**

Home. That imaginary animal who brought them here. Us here. Eventually we too will vanish into the ground like the Little People before us, those huge elves who walk unseen.

## 4.

Then we'll be your dreams at last, and maybe find some comfort in your holy raptures and dewy-thighed sleep, happy shades in your shadows.

## 5.

Because this present compromise can't last, this dailiness. The sun is stronger, the golden chains are firm. I succumb into certainty to call this play my work and give it to you. What else can I do?

Always talking about himself, the man in the mirror cries out How you have changed out there! In here the breath of mercury preserves all images in clarity until they are understood. Do you understand yourself out there? Air ages you don't you even know that?

Specious but overheard voices on bikes flash of thigh pedaling fast boy bark and girl giggle then gone.

How

can I build a world out of this O Lord, or even a morning?

Signs, signs but of what? Who are they really? How can you tolerate how fast they go past?

Or how old everyone is even around the edges

write a word over itself again and again

so many times and no one has to listen

always trying to begin again

Never forget we sit on flesh we walk on bone.