

THE CAPITANO REVIEW



“that one hour, the heart is an accountant.
and the next hour, a bugle boy.
and the next hour, invites children to dance.”

— NORM SIBUM

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The Capilano Review is published four times a year from Capilano College, 2055 Purcell Way, North Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.

We gratefully acknowledge the assistance of The Canada Council, the Capilano College Humanities Division, the Capilano College Student Society, the Government of British Columbia through the B.C. Cultural Fund and Lottery revenues.

The Capilano Review is a member of the Canadian Periodical Publishers' Association and COSMEP. Microfilm editions and reprints are available from University Microfilms International, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

We are always pleased to receive good material, especially from artists we haven't published before, but we cannot take responsibility for unsolicited manuscripts. Manuscripts should be submitted to the Editor, and must be accompanied by a self-addressed envelope and Canadian postage to ensure return.

Printed in Victoria, British Columbia, by Morriss Printing Company Ltd.

Second Class Registration Number 4593

ISSN 0315-3754

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Number 20

1981

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Fred Wah / FIVE POEMS

breathing in the water so much a breath
to make a time times so simple rhythm
early snow mountain peaks body hair finger-
nails the death past 54 measure know
nothing rotten smell histories it like
layers of froth the scarlet letters parts
of our genitals my breathing in the pool
lengths stretched father's parts out

my father hurt-
ing at the table
sitting hurting
at suppertime
deep inside very
far down inside
because I can't stand the ginger
in the beef and greens
he cooked for us tonight
and years later tonight
that look on his face
appears now on mine
my children
my food
their food
my father
their father
me mine
the father
very far
very very far
inside

father it is fall
the leaves turn
the hills
wait for winter again
the river and the town
the cars
reflect the sunlight
movement is in holding
bodies with the years
I am over forty now
they took down the Diamond Grill sign
mother has returned from China

time
is an interference
with work
—music
has shape (splitting birch this weekend)

father
again it is another season
the turning of it all
the spin
is sound
yet soundless at the core
to say this to you is nothing now
nothing
yet

the father grandfather
lineal
grampa's smile
your walk his
smile

the grampa
eyes
your brown
eyes your
serious dark
brow

my shoulders
his watch
your ring
him
thinking me
about this
all of this
all of it
thinking

lineal
face, body
a hemis-
phere

when you die it snows
late september mountain peaks

every time it happens, I see it
and I think of you then

your sister Ethel
she says white is unlucky

it snowed today at timberline
it's never very far away is it

each year
your death makes more sense to me

I can feel more of you in it now

NOTES ON CONTRIBUTORS

NORM SIBUM was born in Oberammergau, Germany in 1947. He has been living in Vancouver, via the U.S., since 1968. His books include *Banjo* (1972, Caledonia Writing Series), *Small Commerce* (1978, Caitlin Press), and *Loyal and Unholy Hours* (1980, Harbor Publishing). William Hoffer's Standard Editions is bringing out *Beggars* this spring.

FRED WAH's *Loki is Buried at Smoky Creek* was recently published by Talonbooks as one of a group of selected writings which also include Daphne Marlatt, bp Nichol, Frank Davey, George Bowering, and bill bissett. Fred teaches in the Writing Program at David Thompson University in Nelson, B.C., and co-edits *Writing* magazine with David McFadden.

GEORGE STANLEY lives in Terrace, B.C., where he teaches English at North West College and where he represents the North for Red Queen, a personage of the Imagination.

BASIA IRLAND teaches in the Fine Arts Department at the University of Waterloo.

AUDREY THOMAS' novels and short stories are well known in Canada, the United States and Europe. She has published four novels and several collections of short fiction. Her work appears regularly in many literary and commercial magazines. Her latest publication is *Latakia*, a novel. She currently lives on Galiano Island, B.C.

PHILIP HUGHES is an ex-professor and ex-salesman who is presently "allowing [his] wife to support the toils of genius" in Brookline, Massachusetts. " 'Mynah' comes from a short story I wrote 23 years ago while growing up in a 'Donnybrook Heights.' The drama came 19 years later. Just when I was thinking that the whole thing might be only a period piece, I met someone just like Fran who does yacht and, believe it or not, delivered the line 'I'm Vice Commodore!' . . . "

\$3.00

ISSN 0315-3754

Coming Next

The winning entries in
The Capilano Review Fiction Contest:

D. M. Clarke, "Above Two Forks:
Sunday, February 11th, 1917"

William J. Klebeck, "White Rabbits"

Mildred Tremblay, "Lily and the Salamander"

together with

comments by the judge, Robert Kroetsch

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