

Poems by Patrick Aura

1836: The Silent Girls

Them noisy critters, them gulls
shall bring us rain
 in time
The hovel's disrepair
 lets it in

He paints His name
 and calls it a tavern,
 fronting laziless political power
 followers falling for His
 grandeur

It's all talk and no work
In factories from
 Lowell -- Kitimat
 Murdochville -- Glace Bay
We'd show you
 Five hundred gals all in silence

Ill-paid to shut the
world where everyone can
 Flourish
 Excess

After all,
We pay 'em for it

2023: The Silent Generation

“I feel very overwhelmed today”
seeking comfort in the shower’s tears

That’s not what they
 quite pay me for

It’s natural to have a voice
Even the job description claims
 In search of creativity

The hovel
got stronger after
 a storm
that lasted until 1974

Creatively
Reinforce SHIFTING superstructural
 morphologies
gracefully

As language
exit stage left

Frozen With Summer in Your Mouth

A tethered (b)a(r)ge on shifting water,
Remnant of a dynamic ice age set to return,
When sedentary extraction eradicates itself.

But for now, we revel in the warmth of summer,

As illusions of still eternity surround us,
Below the surface of meek lily pads.
Follow the stalks to snails on rocks,
Extending to an imagined life beyond
The lake-like blackness that engulfs us.

Yet, what frozen angel lies in its depths?
Waiting patiently for the cycle to turn,
And for winter's icy grip to take hold once more.

Dancing on Mushroom Islands

The tree shade makes the hike endurable,
On the fungi, it made twilight;
Universes emerge in the day and night,
As insects bounce a few rays off their wings,
Like disco balls on a blood-orange mushroom island.

The waxy dance floor brings us closer,
As they dance to a god too small for them to care,
As both their universes burn bright hot.

The rhythms of their bodies guide us,
As we spin and twirl in the enchanted glow,
Lost in the magic of this fungal paradise.

We lose ourselves in the moment,
Drunk on the beauty of the night,
Dancing on mushroom islands under the stars.