

Announcing the release of number 3 in our Dis/Ability Series

Windsock by John Barton

WINDSOCK

JOHN BARTON



cover art by James Gordaneer

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COVER ART

Portrait of T. S. Eliot, 1991
Photo: Alisa Gordaneer
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ON CHRONIC PAIN

Had I known fate presaged ill luck not good
I'd have not turned up on time, the hazards
Unchecked when your clinic door opened, lured
By expecting friendly treatment, the mood

Of what I walked into ill-starred, patients'
Eyes shadowing mine blankly till I sat
The shared chair-arm claimed by a man sitting
Beside me, his elbow restless, face anxious

Repairs we were here for standard issue
Each cut scored through candid muscle practised
What constant OR time rendered simple

Your bell curve a nerve caught in scar tissue
Its arcane autograph I bear, endorsed
With one stroke by a coldly held scalpel.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

John Barton has published 11 collections of poetry and 9 chapbooks, and edited 2 anthologies and a monograph, including *West of Darkness: Emily Carr, a Self-Portrait* (1987), *For the Boy with the Eyes of the Virgin: Selected Poems* (2012), *Polari* (2014), *Reframing Paul Cadmus* (2016), and *The Malahat Review at Fifty* (2017). Anstruthers Press will publish his essay, *Visible But Not Seen: Queer Expression in the Age of Equity*, later this year in its Manifesto chapbook series. In 2019, he will publish his first book of prose, *We Are Not Avatars: Essays, Memoirs, Manifestos*, with Palimpsest Press and *The Essential Douglas LePan*, which he edited for Porcupine's Quill. Born and raised in Alberta, John Barton lives in Victoria.

Published in a limited edition of 100 copies.

Printed on 80 lb. Mohawk Via Vellum.

ISBN 978-1-926948-67-6 34 pp.

Frog Hollow Press - CA\$13.00 incl. s/h