

A BIBLIOGRAPHICAL GUIDE TO SELECTED 'LANGUAGE POETS': (I) PRIMARY SOURCES (1971-1988) *

Manuel Brito

Perhaps the latest solid poetic movement that has appeared in the United States is the so-called 'Language Movement'. The numerous publications of these poets indicate that American poetry is now following the line of renewal marked by Ezra Pound in his famous dictum 'making it new'. In general terms, they are centered around the value and mechanisms of language per se and therefore on the word itself. Their energy is reflected in those poems and essays that have been published since the 1970s in alternative presses such as *Big Deal*, *The Figures*, *Hills*, *L=a=n=g=u=a=g=e*, *Roof*, *Sun & Moon*, *This*, *Tottel's*, etc. In this sense, I think that it's necessary to compile a bibliography at times inaccessible and which would be useful for those interested in examining this paradigmatic movement included within the rich tradition of American poetry. The methodological change in approaching new poetic techniques, as described by Charles Bernstein among others, makes necessary this bibliographical exposition which would serve as a referential tool and help the study of their main characteristics rigorously.

The bibliography that I present here is given in a chronological order and will be complemented in the next issue of *RCEI*, to be published in November, with a second part devoted to the secondary sources that have given attention to the writings of these poets. On the other hand, I am aware that all the poets associated with the theories or processes of the "language method" are not included in this bibliography for reasons of space available. So I have made one selection, perhaps more due to our personal taste, although I am conscious of the importance of David Bromige, Ray DiPalma, Robert Glück, Robert Grenier, Steve McCaffery, Nick Piombino, Diane Ward, etc. But I am quite sure that although there may be inadvertent omissions, those included are highly representative.

"LANGUAGE" WRITING ANTHOLOGIES

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BRUCE ANDREWS:

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RAE ARMANTROUT

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STEVE BENSON:

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Talk:

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CHARLES BERNSTEIN:

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ALAN DAVIES:

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CARLA HARRYMAN

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Percentage (Berkeley: Tuumba Press, 1979).

Under the Bridge (San Francisco: This Press, 1980).

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The Middle (San Francisco: Gaz, 1983).

Vice (Elmwood: Potes & Poets Press, 1986).

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LYN HEJINIAN:

Primary works:

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Her poems have been published in *Action Poétique*, *Alembic*, *Bid Deal*, *Change*, *Credences*, *Figs*, *Grosseteste Review*, *Hills*, *In the American Tree*, *Ironwood*, *Language Poetries*, *Miam*, *The Paris Review*, *Roof*, *Soup*, *Sulfur*, *Tembler*, *This* and *Tottel's*.

Editor:

Tuumba Press (1976-1984).
Poetics Journal.

Talk:

'The Rejection of Closure', Bob Perelman ed., *Writing/Talks* (Carbondale: Southern Illinois University Press, 1985).

Major critical essays:

- 'If Written Is Writing', *L=a=n=g=u=a=g=e*, vol. 1, n.º 3, June 1978, n.p.
'Walls', *A Hundred Posters*, n.º 38, 1979.
'Hejinian', *L=a=n=g=u=a=g=e*, vol. 2, n.º 2, June 1979, n.p.
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'Variations: A Return of Words', Ron Silliman ed., *In the American Tree* (Orono: National Poetry Foundation, 1986), pp. 503-509.
'Chronic Ideas', 80 Langton Street Talk Series.

BOB PERELMAN:

Primary works:

- Braille* (Ithaca: Ithaca House, 1975).
7 Works (Berkeley: The Figures, 1978).
a.k.a. (Parts I & II) (Berkeley: Tuumba Press, 1979).
Primer (San Francisco: This Press, 1981).
The Alps (A Play) (*Hills*, n.º 9, Spring 1983, pp. 5-28).
a.k.a. (Great Barrington: The Figures, 1984).
To the Reader (Berkeley: Tuumba Press, 1984).
The First World (Great Barrington: The Figures, 1986).
Captive Audience (Berkeley: The Figures, 1988).

His poems have also appeared in *The Archive Newsletter*, *Boundary 2*, *Change*, *In the American Tree*, *Ironwood*, *Language Poetries*, *Miam*, *New American Writing*, *The Paris Review*, *Roof*, *Temblor*, *This*, *Tottel's*, *Wch Way*, *ZYZZYVA* and *ZZZZZZ*.

Editor:

Hills.

Writing/Talks (Carbondale: Southern Illinois University Press, 1985).
He co-founded the San Francisco Talk Series (1977-1981).

Talk:

'Sense', Bob Perelman ed., *Writing/Talks* (Carbondale: Southern Illinois University Press, 1985).

Major critical essays:

'On Speech', *This*, n.º 1, Winter 1971, n.p.

'An Essay on Style', *A Hundred Posters*, n.º 24, December 1977, n.p.

'Perelman on Watten', *L=a=n=g=u=a=g=e*, vol. 1, n.º 2, April 1978, n.p.

'A Response to Gertrude Stein's *Tender Buttons*', *L=a=n=g=u=a=g=e*, vol. 1, n.º 6, December 1978, n.p.

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'1-10', *Special L=a=n=g=u=a=g=e Issue of Open Letter*, vol. 4, 1981.

'La narration', *Change*, n.º 41, Mars 1982, pp. 156-157.

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'Exchangeable Frames', *Poetics Journal*, n.º 5, May 1985, pp. 168-176.

'On Kit Robinson's *Windows*', *Jimmy & Lucy's House of K*, n.º 5, November 1985, pp. 65-72.

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'Three Case Histories: Ross's "Failure Modernism"', *Poetics Journal*, n.º 7, September 1987, pp. 118-125.

LARRY PRICE:

Primary works:

Proof (Berkeley: Tuumba Press, 1982).

Crude Thinking (San Francisco: Gaz, 1985).

His writings have appeared in *Boundary 2*, *In the American Tree*, *New American Writing*, *Ottotole*, *Tramen* and *Vanishing Cab*.

Editor:

Gaz Press.

Former Director of the Poetry Center at San Francisco State University.

Major critical essays:

'Harryman's Balzac', *Poetics Journal*, n.º 2, September 1982, pp. 83-87.

'An Axe Is a Predictable Axe', *Jimmy & Lucy's House of K*, n.º 3, January 1985, pp. 1-5.

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'On Charles Bernstein's *Content's Dream*', *Line*, n.º 7/8, Spring/Fall 1986, pp. 200-207.
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KIT ROBINSON:

Primary works:

- Chinatown of Cheyenne* (Armhest: Whale Cloth Press, 1974).
The Dolch Stanzas (San Francisco: This Press, 1976).
Down and Back (Berkeley: The Figures, 1978).
Tribute to Nervous (Berkeley: Tuumba Press, 1980).
Riddle Road (Berkeley: Tuumba Press, 1982).
Collateral (A Play), (*Hills*, n.º 9, Spring 1983, pp. 29-44).
Windows (Armhest: Whale Cloth Press, 1985).
A Day Off (State One, 1985).
Ice Cubes (New York: Roof, 1987).
Covers (Berkeley: The Figures, 1988).

His work has appeared in *Abacus*, *Big Sky*, *Change*, *Gnome Baker*, *Hills*, *A Hundred Posters*, *Ironwood*, *Jimmy & Lucy's House of K*, *The Los Angeles Review*, *New American Writing*, *Occident*, *Poetics Journal*, *The Provincetown Poets*, *Qu*, *Roof*, *Sink*, *Strange Faeces*, *This* and *Tramen*.

Editor:

- Streets and Roads* (1974).
Former Director of the Tenderloin Writers Workshop.
Former Director of "In the American Tree": New Writing by Poets' (a weekly radio program for KPFA fm in Berkeley).

Major critical essays:

- 'Greenwald', *L=a=n=g=u=a=g=e*, vol. 1, n.º 1, February 1978, n.p.
'Untitled', *L=a=n=g=u=a=g=e*, vol. 2, n.º 1, March 1979, n.p.
'French Dents', *Special L=a=n=g=u=a=g=e Issue of Open Letter*, vol. 4, 1981.
'Raising "Collateral"', *Poetics Journal*, n.º 5, May 1985, pp. 123-126.
'On Benson's *Dominance*', *Jimmy & Lucy's House of K*, n.º 4, June 1985, pp. 21-22.
'Song', Bob Perelman ed., *Writing/Talks* (Carbondale: Southern Illinois University Press, 1985).
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'Capillary Action', *Jimmy & Lucy's House of K*, n.º 7, December 1986, pp. 39-40.
'7 Days in Another Town', Ron Silliman ed., *In the American Tree* (Orono: National Poetry Foundation, 1986).

STEPHEN RODEFER:

Primary works:

One or Two Love Poems from the White World (Duende, 1976).

The Bell Clerk's Tears Keep Flowing (Berkeley: The Figures, 1978).

Plane Debris (Berkeley: Tuumba Press, 1981).

Villon (by Jean Callais) (Pick Pocket Series, 1981).

Four Lectures (Berkeley: The Figures, 1982).

A & C (A Play) (*Hills*, n.º 9, Spring 1983, pp. 87-93).

Emergency Measures (Berkeley: The Figures, 1987).

His writings have also appeared in *The Archive Newsletter*, *Boundary 2*, *Conjunctions*, *Credences Downbeat*, *Grosseteste Review*, *Hills*, *In the American Tree*, *Ironwood*, *New American Writing*, *Sink*, *Sulfur*, *Wet* and *ZZZZYVA*.

Editor:

Ferment Valley: A Magazine of the Arts.

Former Curator of the Archive for New Poetry at UCSD.

Interview:

Lee Bartlett ed., *Talking Poetry: Conversation in the Workshop with Contemporary Poets* (Albuquerque: The Univ. of New Mexico Press, 1987).

Major critical essays:

'A Note to Realism', *Jimmy & Lucy's House of K*, n.º 3, January 1985, pp. 87-88.

'Prologue to Language Doubling', *Jimmy & Lucy's House of K*, n.º 4, June 1985, pp. 74-76.

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'Automatic Toll of Criticism', *Ottotole*, n.º 2, Winter 1986/1987, pp. 128-129.

RON SILLIMAN:

Primary works:

Crow (Ithaca: Ithaca House, 1971).

Mohawk, (Bowling Green: Doones Press, 1973).

Nox (Providence: Burning Deck, 1974).

Ketjak (San Francisco: This, 1978).

Sitting Up, Standing Taking Steps (Berkeley: Tuumba Press, 1978).

Legend (New York: Segue, 1980).

Tjanting (Berkeley: The Figures, 1981).

Bart (Hartford: Potes & Poets Press, 1982).

ABC (Berkeley: Tuumba Press, 1983).

Paradise (Providence: Burning Deck, 1985).
The Age of Huts (New York: Roof, 1986).
The New Sentence (New York: Roof, 1987).
Lit., (Hartford: Potes & Poets Press, 1987).

His poems have been published in *The Archive Newsletter*, *The Big House*, *Boundary 2*, *Boxcar*, *Change*, *Conjunctions*, *Cream City Review*, *The Difficulties*, *Flora Danica*, *Hills*, *In the American Tree*, *Ironwood*, *La-Bas*, *Miam*, *New American Writing*, *O. ars*, *Omens from the Flight of Birds*, *Paper Air*, *The Paris Review*, *Postmoderno e Letteratura*, *Qu*, *Roof*, *So & So*, *Sulfur*, *Sun & Moon*, *Temblor*, *This*, *Tottel's*, and *Wet*.

Editor:

'15 Young Poets of the San Francisco Bay Area', *Chicago Review*, vol. 21, n.º 4, Summer 1970, pp. 71-136.
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 'The Dwelling Place: 9 Poets', *Alcheringa*, new series, vol. 1, n.º 2, 1972, pp. 104-121.
 'A Symposium on Clark Coolidge', *Stations*, n.º 5, Winter 1978.
 'Realism. An Anthology of "Language Writing"', *Ironwood 20*, vol. 10, n.º 2, Fall 1982, pp. 61-139.
In the American Tree (Orono: National Poetry Foundation, 1986).

Interview:

'Interview', *The Difficulties*, vol. 2, n.º 2, 1985, pp. 34-46.

Major critical essays:

'Opening', *Maps*, n.º 6, 1974, pp. 72-80.
 'Surprised by Sign (Notes on Nine)', *Alcheringa*, new series, vol. 1, n.º 2, 1975, pp. 104-121.
 'Disappearance of the Word, Appearance of the World', *A Hundred Posters*, n.ºs 14, February 1977, n.p.
 'Ubeity', *Stations*, n.º 5, Winter 1978, pp. 19-22.
 'Breastwork', *L=a=n=g=u=a=g=e*, vol. 1, n.º 2, April 1978, n.p.
 'Louis Zukofsky', *L=a=n=g=u=a=g=e*, vol. 1, n.º 4, August 1978, n.p.
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 'A Response to "Non-Poetry"', *L=a=n=g=u=a=g=e*, vol. 2, n.º 1, n.p.
 'If by "Writing" We Mean Literature', *L=a=n=g=u=a=g=e*, vol. 2, n.º 3, October 1979, n.p.
 'Notes on the Relation of Theory to Practice', *Paper Air*, vol. 2, n.º 2, 1979, pp. 6-13.
 'ZYXT', *L=a=n=g=u=a=g=e*, vol. 3, n.º 1, January 1980, n.p.
 'The New Sentence', *Hills*, n.ºs 6/7, Spring 1980, pp. 190-217.
 'For Open Letter', *L=a=n=g=u=a=g=e*, Supplement n.º 1, June 1980, n.p.
 'Rewriting Marx', *L=a=n=g=u=a=g=e*, vol. 3, n.º 3, December 1980, n.p.
 'Third Phase Objectivism', *Paideuma*, vol. 10, n.º 1, Spring 1981, pp. 85-89.
 'The Political Economy of Poetry', *Special L=a=n=g=u=a=g=e Issue of Open Letter*, n.º 4, 1981, pp. 52-65.
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- 'On Bruce Andrews's *Wobbling*', *Sagetrieb*, vol. 1, n.º 1, Spring 1982, pp. 155-158.
- 'Migratory Meaning: The Parsimony Principle in the Poem', *Poetics Journal*, n.º 2, September 1982, pp. 28-41.
- 'For Charles Bernstein Has Such a Spirit', *The Difficulties*, vol. 2, n.º 1, Fall 1982, pp. 98-114.
- 'Realism', *Ironwood 20*, vol. 10, n.º 2, Fall 1982, pp. 62-70.
- 'Albany', *Ironwood 20*, vol. 10, n.º 2, Fall 1982, pp. 112-113.
- 'Identification, Reference, Mode', *O. ars*, n.º 2, 1982, pp. 132-134.
- 'Composition as Action', *Poetics Journal*, n.º 3, May 1983, pp. 73-76.
- 'Correspondence May 1976-December 1977', *Line*, n.º 5, Spring 1985, pp. 59-89.
- 'Statement', *Jimmy & Lucy's House of K*, n.º 5, November 1985, pp. 17-19.
- 'Spicer's Language', Bob Perelman ed., *Writing/Talks* (Carbondale: Southern Illinois University Press, 1985), pp. 166-191.
- 'A Response to House of "K" Survey', *Jimmy & Lucy's House of K*, n.º 7, December 1986, pp. 51-52.
- 'Language, Realism, Poetry', Ron Silliman ed., *In the American Tree* (Orono: National Poetry Foundation, 1986), pp. xv-xxiii.
- 'Is There, Currently, an American Poetry? A Symposium', *American Poetry*, vol. 4, n.º 2, Winter 1987, pp. 29-30.
- 'Postmodernism': Sign for a Struggle, Struggle for the Sign', *Poetics Journal*, n.º 7, September 1987, pp. 18-39.
- "'My Vocabulary Did This To Me'", *Acts*, n.º 6, 1987, pp. 67-71.
- 'Tight Corners', *The Difficulties*, Vol. 3, n.º 1, 1987, pp. 47-53.
- 'Negative Solidarity: Revisionism and "New American Poetics"', *Sulfur*, n.º 22, Spring 1988, pp. 169-176.

BARRETT WATTEN:

Primary works:

- Opera-Works* (Bolinas: Big Sky, 1975).
- Decay* (San Francisco: This Press, 1977).
- Plasma/Paralleles/"X"* (Berkeley: Tuumba Press, 1979).
- I-10* (San Francisco: This Press, 1982).
- Complete Thought* (Berkeley: Tuumba Press, 1982).
- Total Syntax* (Carbondale: Southern Illinois University Press, 1985).
- Progress* (New York: Roof, 1985).
- Conduit* (San Francisco: Gaz, 1988).

His writings have also appeared in *Alcheringa*, *Boxcar*, *Change*, *Gandhabba*, *A Hundred Posters*, *In Folio*, *In the American Tree*, *Ironwood*, *Jimmy & Lucy's House of K*, *La-Bas*, *Language Poetries*, *Moving Letters*, *Oink!*, *Pessimistic Labor*, *The Paris Review Poetics Journal*, *Project Papers*, *Qu*, *Roof*, *Sulfur*, *Temblor*, *This*, *Tramen*, *Vanishing Cab*, *Volition*, *Wch Way*, *The World*, *Writing* and *ZYZZYVA*.

Editor:

- This*
Poetics Journal
Board Member at New Langton Arts.

Interviews:

- 'Conversation with Clark Coolidge', *This*, n.º 4, 1973, n.p.
 'Conversation with Clark Coolidge', *Stations*, n.º 5, Winter 1978, pp. 11-14.
 'Barrett Watten on Poetry and Politics: An Interview by George Hartley', *Sulfur*, n.º 21, Winter 1988, pp. 196-207.
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Major critical essays:

- 'A Rewritten Statement Coinciding with Charles Olson's *Poetry & Truth* and the End of a Concern', *This*, n.º 2, Fall 1971, n.p.
 'Zukofsky's Catullus', *This*, n.º 4, Spring 1973, n.p.
 'The Maintains and Later Prose', *Stations*, n.º 5, Winter 1978, pp. 7-8.
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 'Writing and Capitalism', *L=a=n=g=u=a=g=e*, vol. 2, n.º 3/4, October 1979, n.p.
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 'Marsden Hartley', *Hills*, n.º 8, Summer 1981, pp. 35-40.
 'L'arrière-fond littéraire', *Change*, n.º 41, Mars 1982, 152-153.
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 'On Explanation. Art and the Language of "Art-Language"', *Poetics Journal*, n.º 3; May 1983, pp. 55-62.
 'The Politics of Poetry: *L=a=n=g=u=a=g=e*, and Method', *American Poetry*, vol. 2 n.º 1, Fall 1984, pp. 69-77.
 'Olson in Language: Part II', Bob Perelman ed., *Writing/Talks* (Carbondale: Southern Illinois University Press, 1985), pp. 157-165.
 'The WYZ of Reading: Negativity (&)', *Poetics Journal*, n.º 6, 1986, pp. 3-5:
 'Method and *L=a=n=g=u=a=g=e*: After Surrealism', Ron Silliman ed., *In the American Tree* (Orono: National Poetry Foundation, 1986), pp. 592-612.
 'Is There, Currently, an American Poetry? A Symposium', *American Poetry*, vol. 4, n.º 2, Winter 1987, pp. 38-40.
 'The Literature of Surface', *Poetics Journal*, n.º 7, September 1987, pp. 157-160.
 'Objectivism' (sound recording) (80 Langton St. Talk Series).