

THE VOICE THROWER

Also by Tim Allen

Poetry

Texts for a Holy Saturday (Phlebas, 1995)

The Cruising Duct (Maquette, 1998)

A Panglossian Sequence of Little Riots

(in the anthology: *In the Presence of Sharks*) (Phlebas, 2006)

Sea Ex/Change (artist's book edition) (itinerant, 2007)

Settings (Shearsman Books, 2009)

incidental harvest (Oystercatcher Press, 2011)

An Anabranch with Slug (Knives, Forks & Spoons, 2011)

Edited

Don't Start Me Talking (with Andrew Duncan) (Salt, 2006)

The Voice Thrower

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on Resonance FM.

The Voice Thrower

A poem in 333 quatrains originally written in the
mid '90s then extended and rewritten 2006—
2008 and Autumn 2009

For my mother,
Nan Allen (née Hannah Lawton)
b.1919 Cobh, County Cork, Eire
d.1990 Portland, Dorset UK

Ruby asteroids throb in the back of the throat Wrist
opens knee opens can of tomato seeds spitting split
stitched climactic warning up steady winded steeds
towards a stable environment where copper hearses gogreen.

Everything's perfect then you hear someone exclaim
what the fuck was that? copper insanely copping it as
a torch song 'bout coping gives outunder copying &
throws voice thrower's voice back calling out *comb my veins*.

Inherit and endure thumped crispdust christens Percy
Thrower in the valeoftears throwing up Patsy Palmer
azif the present is a by-pass passing the buck onto ab
original sightseeing Boomeranged poet What will nature be?

galumphing along the lands of the sea shouting *shoot*
Roddy Redrawn's shoddy horizon it'llbea hoot scatty
crest on a scantily dressed canvas of hoe&hod hoody
gorbled sassy dry by sassenach assassin wept into that black

half of the flag We are here for the show take it away
we've come strung-out straight from a cack retail sur
rogate to weave an adjectival way through aristorat's
eczema to the bar where revamped sunspot descends crowing

as it was dawn galumphing across English glands for
less than a grand Go fill half glasses with bifocals' at
omic chequebk fogflume lawflaw while a callgirl call
ed *calligraph conflagration* tucks the throat of a hack choking

for someone else's art in which Glaswegian witch speak
s German I swear blind *man* this Eric & Ernie won't be
about culture but will be about from flower fifteen 2
flower 4 then be back again in hazy purview compass buzz.

Sleeping sound in a voice box masquerade keeping m
e mum mention free of rushed hoarse Irish palimpsest
test text theatre heater myth eater circumstantial carpet
beater Hannah Lawton polished the furniture until you could

see the sunset in it even though the orb was wobbling
yet up Portland's weird East Weirs in stanching flud
path of boxed-ear sunrise hunted from the frontroom
's one hundred corners of ashen auburn gorged literati Innit?

He read the residue so knew thenew by its helmet hair
cut *and* who he had been to nowhere with wearing 'is
best birthday suit b4 coming back loaded with kaleido
scopic sizzling plastic stones collided with triangular platters

of meat missing season foottrapped in Hades autumn
Arsenal nil auto enigma Georgie-Artaud-Best sprung
untitled from United red slide on icewhite runway of
German strip towards a Liverpool where love was everything.

He avoided her body but couldn't avoid her laughter
Red spirals cracking down to float and blaze-cluster
Her avoided body was a demobbed practical physics
lesson redeemeddead innocent cunningly offcourse ofcourse.

Gravid spectator emptied sozzled antonym into a box
cart spin thru the spinney where her hair snatched at a
spun sun spurting round a humped crow's pumpedup
shadow She delivered him where whisker roost narrows to the

posture of oceanic rootpie epic evilly clubfooting for
ward into scrawn scribbled dribbled garlic deficiency
Temple filament gaolbait sent St. Mike to hoodwink
wankers into barmy army I'm your own definition of identity.

No crisis just a blank passport into purgatory alone to
meown mazement Fresh steak candyfloss bloomed be
tween us and the beasts Professional godz fanninguzz
wiv phaze broom Shy n silent studsigned suburban river tacits.

Drenched in entrenched French Aunty Ancestor fell4
a fullmouth stuffed w needles 4a fullmonth Needless
to say they jet gaga She brings silence to his face but
he customises it Fen congregation rattle all-in fullback to dug

in fells Wewent down the Palindrome every Saturday
nigh danced back2back woefully imprecariou as *are*
intelligence got tattooed by strobe virus butbeblowed
Take that she said *Take that back and shuv it* crawl touch even.

Meshed alley hen fence facilitator or before Anti Eve
pecked her way thru a fevered afternoon in the glassy
white mud of night Exnight towards the end of prude
apocalypse foo hoo Strewn binary isle plasma sampler Fiction

ary of *Death* Sanctum moan vacuumed up Go-get an
annulled rechord The ungrateful health's recycled Cy
clops songcycle rationbook of written-off bacon buys
duty-free ballbearings bag knocking socks off their soft swirl

whirling knockedoff marble bookends drowned inink
powder lusty flashfeather off just to madden me mam
wearing Bob Weir festival underwear Festive asylum
sprint printer pegged 10tents out as the hurricane blew in from

a property under sub-tropical Dartmoor hothouse blister
ter She was a redhead and he was a deadhead Bunche
s Lay did this lay did that lay trashed some driftwood
Autonomous clerk crunched to crack half a relic into lunch.

Shivering chivalry by proxy Guinevere arrives awry
saying wry things wrong like *silknazipervespasmpee*
ved novel streak nurse Nocturnal idyll-dick in Dickie
Bird's Emporium quay Went to Faber & Faber I thought they

were estate agents but no 'twas barroom archaeology
dullard skyblew blub Shift lucre Butt interstice bulbs
Useless tallow stick A kind of zen sacrifice sorts itzz
elf a snazzy kindness Crude ghost in prison doing press-ups

for the press Humus face at the window scraped off
a human noman Orphic orphans dealt random to arm
the rebels before oven bulge bursts ideally letting the
kids yawn had-it loaves Shag shampoo eyesdown wedged a

homemaid hermeneutic toolbox crammed mean with
mangle swoop Wafer sprite twigged off desire for fat
trauma dawn hangs bras from radiator and rain draws
greyscale rose Japchaps strutting up n down the training film.

We 'ad to reverse out of the reservation like the quiet
est twin distributing deviant space traditionallowance
cauterised nerve collision's shallow grave pastel Add
adverse quote to cosmos fascist philosopher's advertisement.

He looked dapper in braid in an autumn artmag flick
though leaving conflict back home beats heartbroken
masses missing Mass on the Staten Island ferry It's a
reversed apron saucy willy house hubby coffee morning

on borrowed time If we're gona vote for reincarnation
who's gona be that worm's grandmother? R.D. Laing
singing *Constant Caving?* Gutgold ark disembarks at
dark park gate from Devonport to Victoria Park where I bark

ed at the flowers as glower floundering amid the mar
ginalia of parklife practising being teacher by teachin
Empson to a kid baptised with Guinness for suggestin
Little Sadie's lovenly *Restaurant Joke* indigestion was solvent

honour slagged off of summoned animals They under
study for allofus outthere it's gotsodall to do with you
mate coarsely grunt written but you analysed anal sky
to stand-in for heavy weather language outthere so what's the

fuss if the bookie in The Square flooded the tide died
braking intheretoo Mayo's Cafe sloshightide barked
in there as well Chesil Garage slop marked evening's
stillwet light A butterfly has 2 wings but 1 wayup it makes a

3 3 years later as in relatively recently I remembered
baby mayo bottle from the café who sat behind me in
the blackboard Amazon asking why Indians cut an A
amazon's breasts off in a Blandford fest bookplate His fans in

the class joked off their pinking shock he called him
elf Yammy so I still think black&white National Geo
graphic plates have yams for breasts I can't help how
meanly memes grant gridelin gridiron to recock a precooked

memory King Lud's last catnap on the throne before
spleen keels him over gives gruesome hotchpotched
mead of narcissism necessary to weedredqueen's pot
latch patch in her garden where wonderful red cabbage grows

from abandoned toilet basin into a topiaried Irish Set
ter munching fistfuls of leaf mould eyeing a dirtpoor
porcelain rabbit burrowing hole into MichelinStar on
a noon moon Dictionary definition: scarlet hare squirts starlet.