



Adrienne Adams
presents:

Watercolour Words: Ekphrasis through Art & Poetry

February

2026

A Workshop By Adrienne Adams Artist and Poet

Part: 1

Drawing The Line: Through Prose, Poetry & Art

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www.adrienneadamsartandpoetry.com

Ekphrasis

noun: **ekphrasis**; plural noun: **ekphrases**;
noun: **ecphrasis**; noun: **ecphrases**

the use of detailed description of a work
of visual art as a literary device.

Ekphrasis works both ways

Exercise 1

Draw a different line in each of the squares on the grid paper

Exercise 2

Redraw a line. In the column beside it brainstorm 5 words to describe the line. In the next 5 columns draw a line for each word. In the last column write additional words that come to mind from your drawing.

Exercise 3

Pick a line series from exercise 2. Write a prose or poetry line describing it using some of the words brainstormed.

Going Further

Copy 5 lines from a neighbour, pass your sheets around. Learn from each other.

Going Further

Do this 4 times until your page is full. If desired fill other pages with lines and words.

Going Further

Make a piece of writing: write a whole poem or flash fiction piece, or paragraph for a larger prose piece using inspiration from your brainstorming.

Interdisciplinary Artists

01. P.K.Page (aka Irwin). Patricia Kathleen
02. Adrienne Adams
03. Derek Beaulieu
04. Helen Hajnoczky
05. Ainsley Louie-Suntjens
06. William Blake
07. Basho + Chinese Court Poets & Courtesans
08. Ekphrasis
09. Judy Garfin
10. Irene Naested
11. Jessica Hiemstra
12. Ted Hughes (other artist's doing art from his poems)
13. Bryce Marden (line and dance) + Honens (piano)

Great Lines

01. "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times." Charles Dickens

02. "Reader, I married him." Charlotte Bronte – Jane Eyre

03. Derek Beaulieu

04. "I draw a circle round my hut, permeable, scar lit" Adrienne Adams

05. " "P. K. Page

06. "I support women's rights, as well as women's wrongs." Katherine Archibald

07. "... a woman must have money and a roo of one' s ownn, if she is to write fiction." Virginia

Woolf

08. " One cannot think well, love well, sleep well, if one has not dined well." VW

Artist Poets

P. K. Page (aka Irwin)



11/2 *Bright Fish* PKIrwin

Bright Fish #11/12

Derek Beaulieu



A-Minor

Adrienne Adams



Untitle Blue



P. K. Page

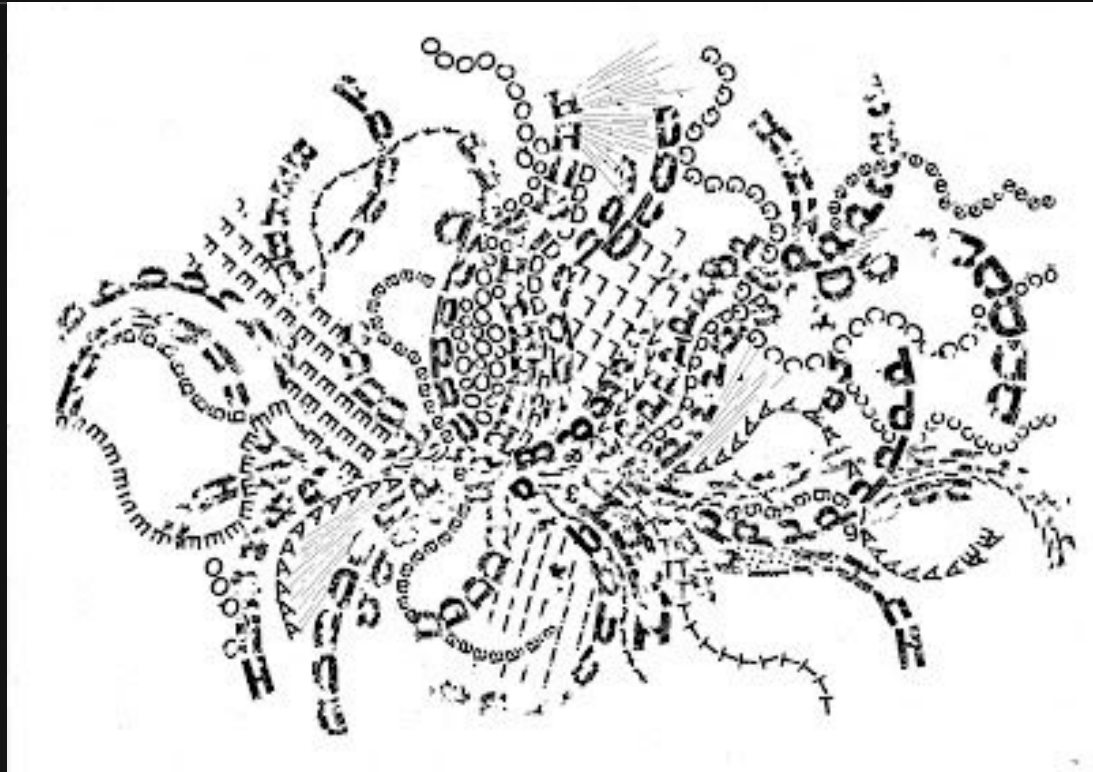


P. K. Page





P. K. Page



Derek Beaulieu



chamber of the felines

mass produce an *a* for when printing
invented gutenberg the language
concerned

monks & other scribes both printed
&

electronic along with arabic to the
content

some theorists think each message
around

letters on clay papyrus

layout is a monitor of literature

engraved deer

a manuscript writer forms & colours
a fine
dark line

delimiting a

over moistened surfaces stencilled
hands

after each use engrave whole
pictures an aid

sketched with reeds filled with
pigment
mechanical details about to be born

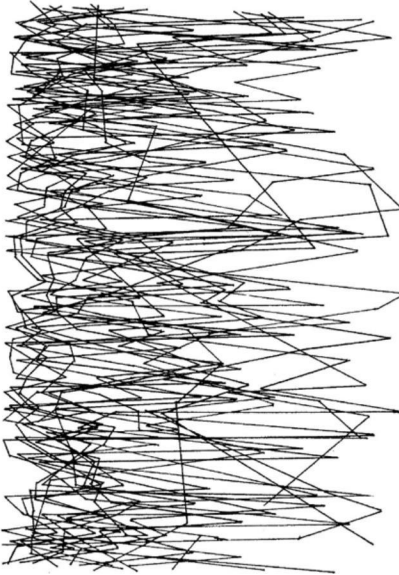
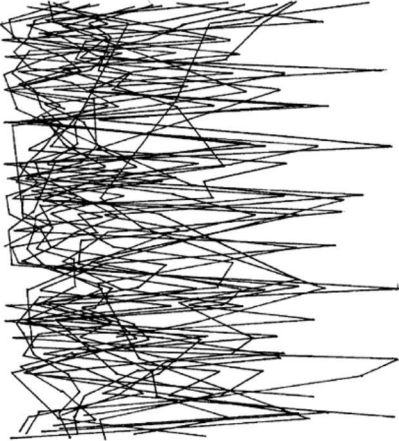
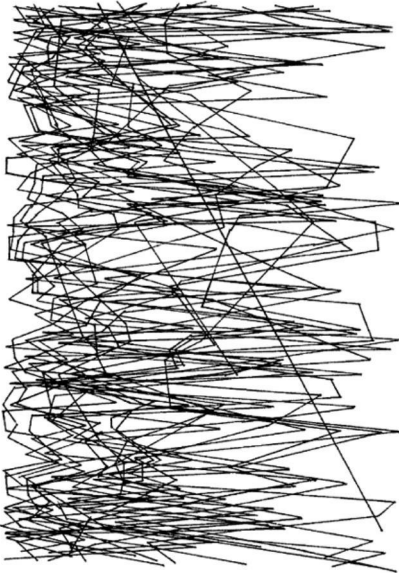
iron oxide & except for vellum
written in
characters mixed with fat

paint with either liquid

extend the pictures to block
occasional lines
of mostly illiterate who discovered
the
pictures of natural forms inventing
letters

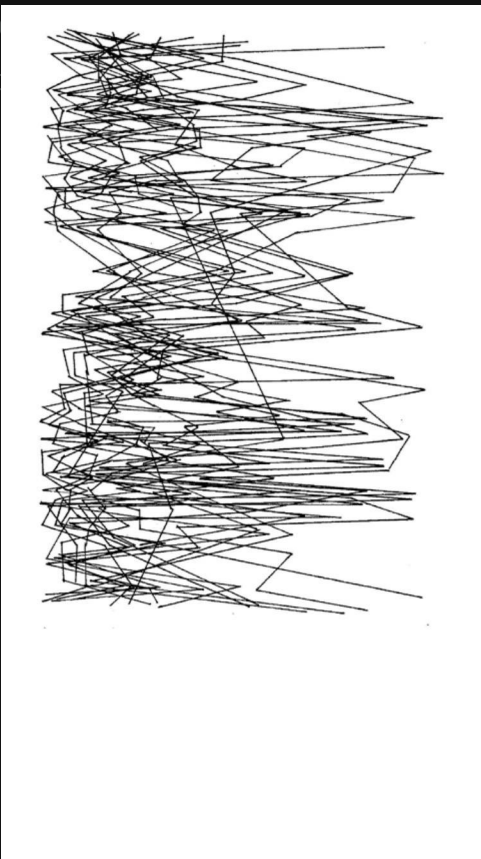
Derek Beaulieu

from *Flatland*



Derek Beaulieu





Derek Beaulieu



from *Local Colour*
(Black & White)

black
White.
white,
Blue
Brown
Brown
Blue
White
Blue
White
Black's.
Blue.
White.
White
Blue
White
Blue
White,
Blue
White
Blue
Blue
Blue

White
Blue.
Blue
Blue
gray
White
Orange
red
brown
Blue
Blue,
Black
Black's

Derek Beaulieu



from *chains*



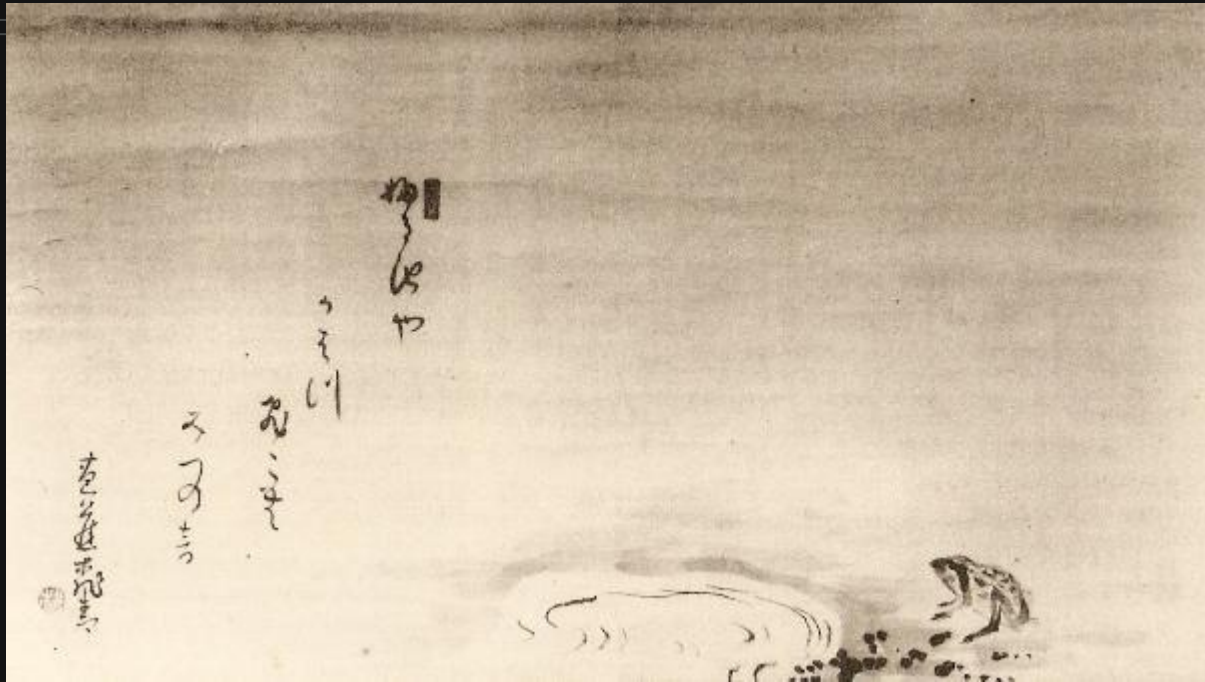
chapter O



june 26 2010



Derek Beaulieu



Old Pond
Frog leaps in
Water's sound

Basho

Old Pond



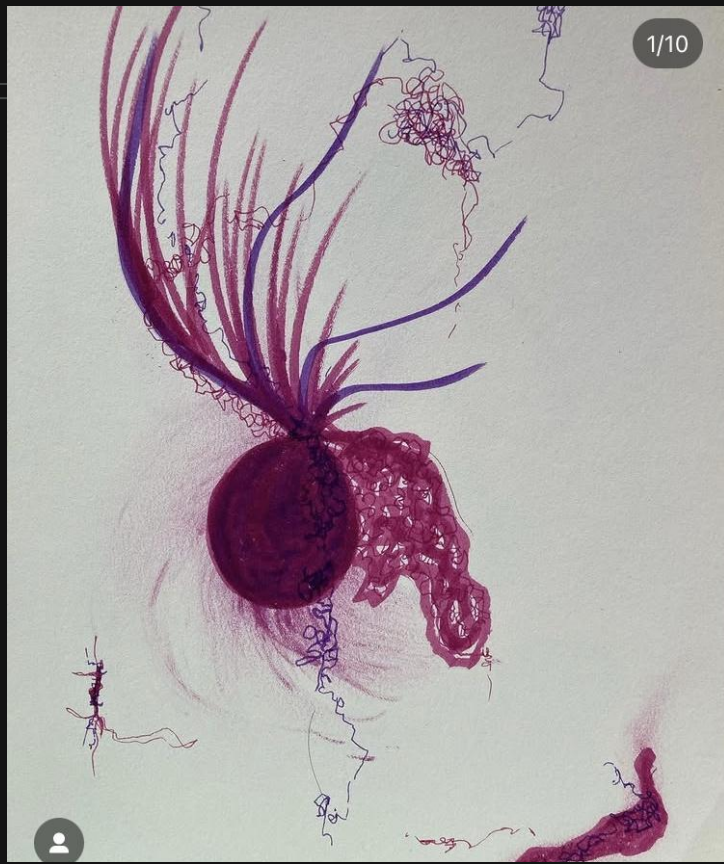
Adrienne Adams

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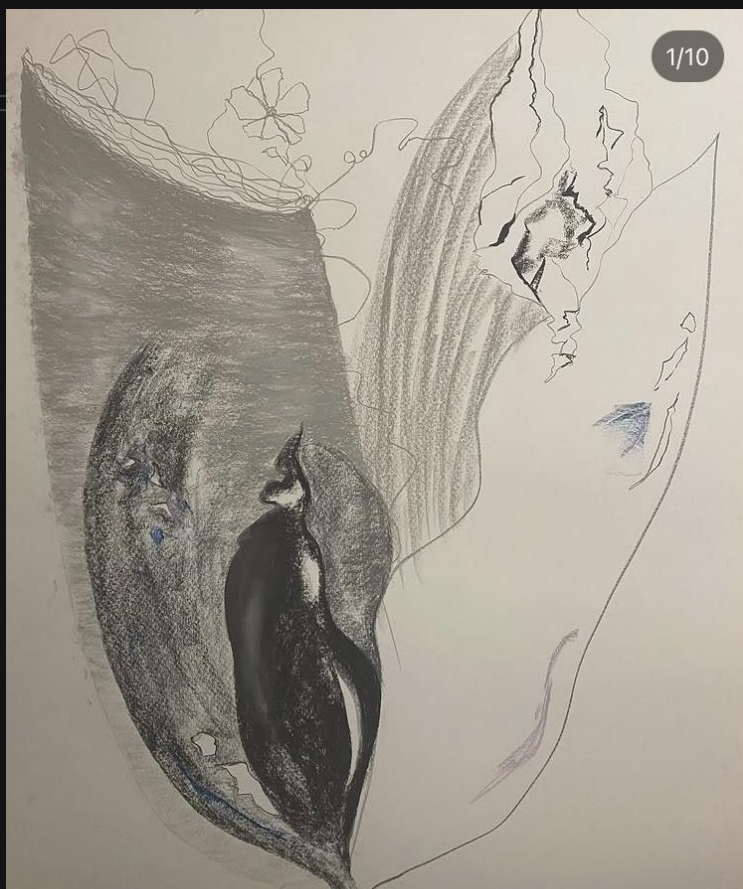
Adrienne Adams

Doodles done in work meetings



Adrienne Adams

Done with Waterbrush felts at The
Alcove Center for the Arts



Adrienne Adams

Untitled: Grey



Adrienne Adams

Red Heads



Adrienne Adams

Red Hood





Adrienne Adams

Table Bones - Spine





Adrienne Adams - Untitled



[View insights](#)



[View insights](#)

Adrienne Adams

Paintings done for Amy LeBlanc's poem
Musca





Adrienne Adams

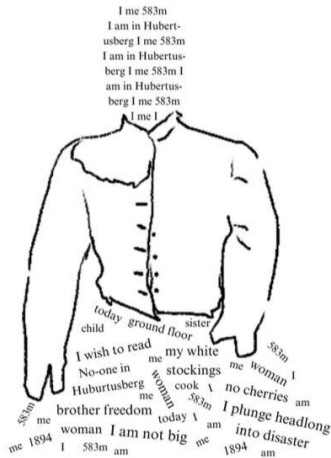
Untitled Blue & Pink

2"

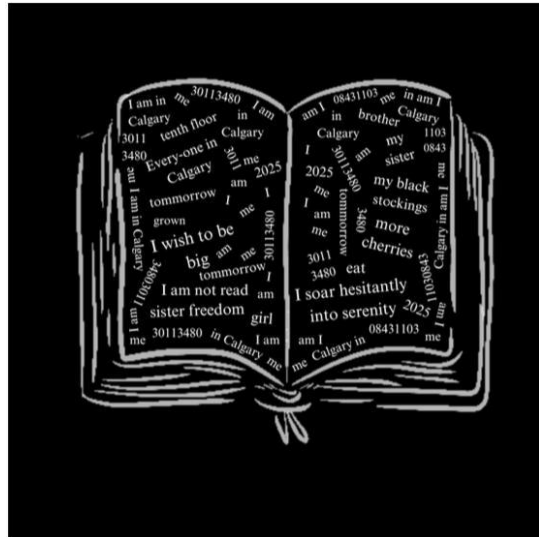


Adrienne Adams

Fire & Reaching: My Mother's Hands:
Potential Drawings for my
Grandmother Calling manuscript



Agnes Richters Jacket



Book

Ainsley Louie-Suntjens
@ainsley.exe



Jessica Hiemstra- Bloodroot

<https://www.jessicahiemstra.ca/>



Part 2:

Watercolour Words: Eckphrasis through Art & Poetry

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Exercise 1

Experiment with the Watercolours and Watercolour Brush Felts.

Exercise 2

Write a poem in response to your painting or one of the paintings in this presentation. Start by making a list or words and/or sentence fragment impressions.

Exercise 3

Paint or Draw a Picture from a poem. Use Google or search through the books provided for inspiration.

Going Further

Write some impressions from your painting down. What do you see and observe? What feelings and thoughts does it evoke?

Going Further

Play with order and form. Try Free Verse, Haiku or Prose Poetry. Experiment with other forms.

Going Further

Paint or Draw a picture from the poem you wrote from the picture you painted or drew from exploring the back and forth possibilities with ekphrasis.

Watercolour Tips

- Watercolour works with the properties on WATER

- Wet on Wet shows properties of OSMOSIS showing colours bleeding and fading into each other and soft edges

Wet on Wet

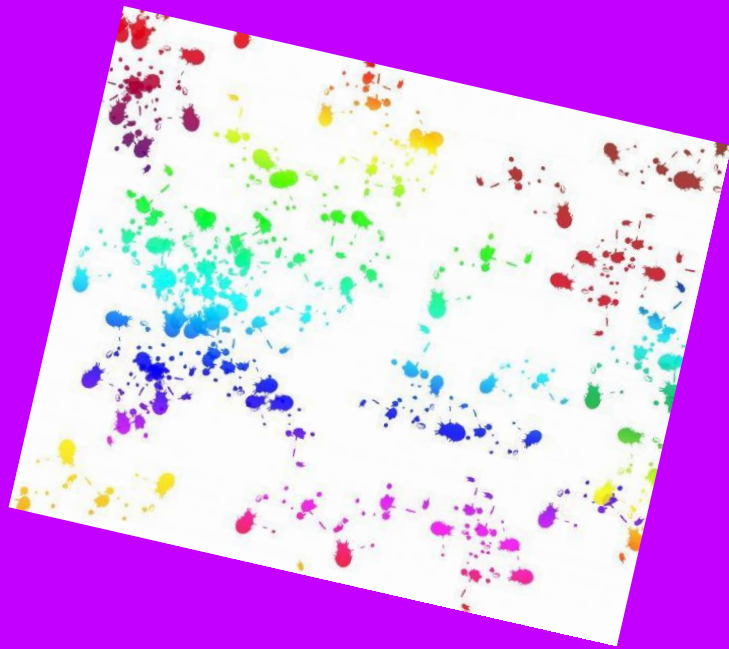
- To get a sharp clean edge let your wash DRY in between layers and before painting right beside it.

- Using a blowdryer can help with this.

Wet on Dry

- Create hair, feathering and air textures by using almost completely dry paint on dry paper

Dry on Dry



THANK YOU!

www.adrienneadamsartandpoetry.com

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Teachers'
Convention
2026