

Libby Hague's

martian odyssey #9

#9

slow

motion

moment



Marianne's story: thread 9

Baby Bee - Things are looking up. I'm cautious and I was afraid to hope but there was a reconciliation of sorts this morning. We could all see the escalation and were afraid of the the next step. In any case, a truce was called this morning. Everyone's bodies have smoothed out a bit. Their shoulders are lower. They have necks. Breathing space as long as no one does anything stupid. This is our chance to leave Baby. I'll collect our stuff and we will go somewhere new tomorrow. I'll teach you things. It will be good.



**“Low ceiling. Sticky air.
Our stillness like the stillness
In Atlantis as the big wave came...”**

Christopher Logue, War Music, Faber and Faber Ltd., pg. 14



First came the promise ...

Busby Berkeley vs Leni Reifenstahl

“Freud divided the forces in human nature between the Eros instinct, the impulse within us that propels us to become close to others, to preserve and conserve,

pg. 158 see also Freud “ Civilization and Its Discontents.

detail from installation from Lennox Contemporary, 2008

and then the broken promise.

and the Thanatos, or death instinct, the impulse that works towards the annihilation of all living things, including ourselves.”

“ ... at the core of ancient Greek culture, is a living tension between on the one hand, a tendency towards order and individual fulfilment (which Nietzsche called ‘Appolonian’) and, on the other, violence and destructive rapture (‘Dionysian’). In this context, Homer was for Nietzsche a creative Appolonian force that wrote his poems ‘in order to persuade us to continue to live’.
Alberto Manguel, *Homer's the Iliad and the Odyssey*, pg. 169, Douglas & McIntyre, 2007



martian odyssey: **slow motion moment**, stone lithography with digital output, 20 x 78 in.

martian landscape image credit: NASA/JPL



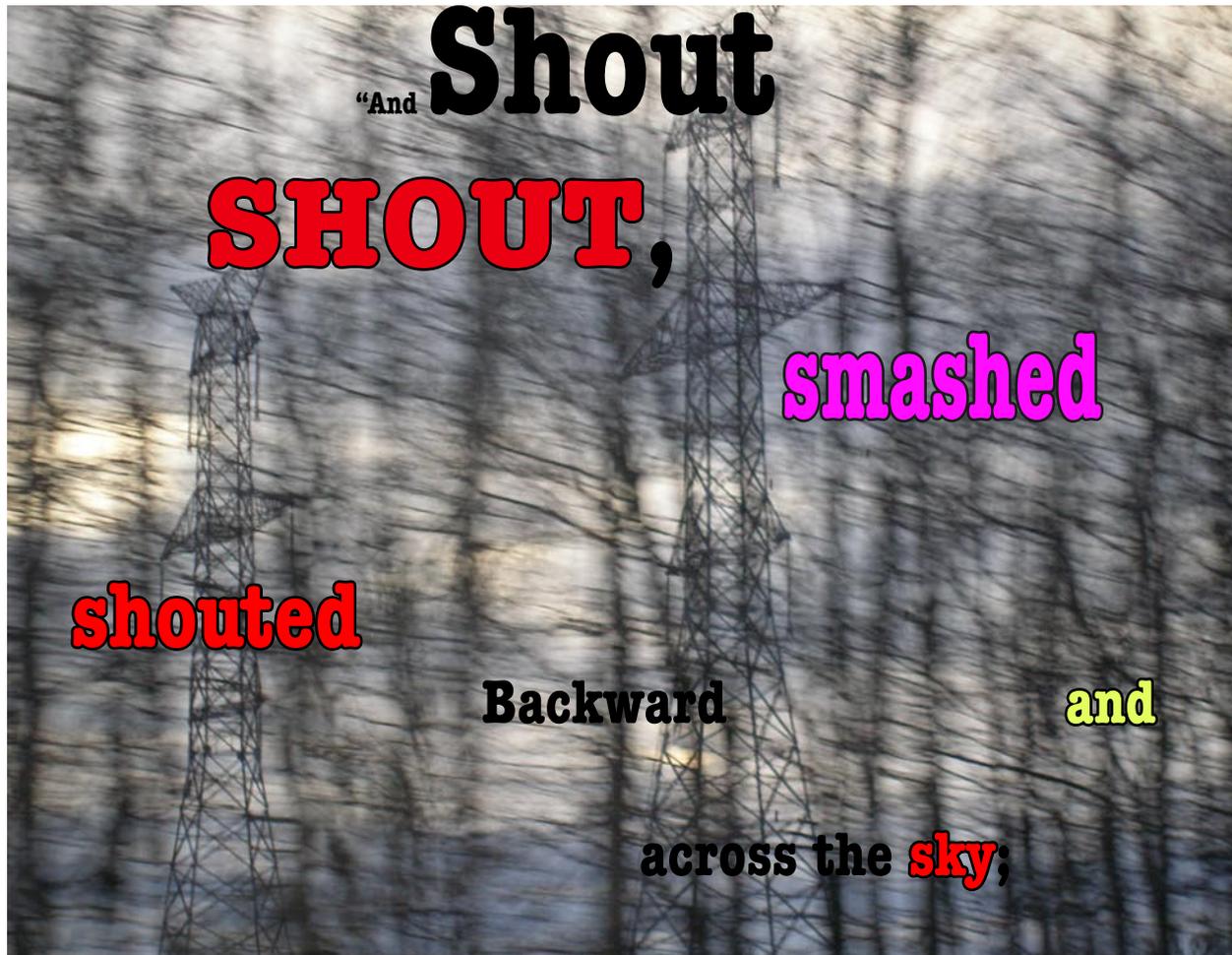
LAIKA: A STORY OF BETRAYAL

a tear jerker for Oscar Wilde
or 1000 years ago this is how people behaved

Laika was sent on a one-way trip on board Sputnik 2 in November 1957. She was a stray dog picked off a street in Moscow and prepared for the space mission in which she would be the first living creature to orbit the Earth. Shortly after launch the Soviets admitted they had not planned for Laika to

return alive and that she would die in space. We were shocked. Believing her to be alive, we waited as the batteries that operated her life-support system ran down and the capsule ran out of air. The Soviets said Laika died painlessly in orbit after about a week but recent evidence proves she died from overheating and panic a few hours after the mission started.

Adapted from Dr David Whitehouse : [tp://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/sci/tech/2367681.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/sci/tech/2367681.stm) and <http://www.spacetoday.org/Astronauts/Animals/Dogs.html>



While
pace
on
pace
the Greeks came
down the counter slope
With
blank,
unyielding
imperturbability.”

Christopher Logue, War Music, pg. 91

? How was the truce broken?

“Athena flashed down to earth
like a shooting star and whis-
pered “Here’s glory, son of
Lycaon - let me tempt you, you
with your archer’s skill! Have
you the daring to wing an arrow
at Menelaus?” ... so Athena fired
the fool’s heart inside him.”

Homer, the Iliad, pg. 148 translated by Fagles



“Everytime you stand at a crossroads of life and death you have two universes in front of you...”

Kenzaburo Oe, A Personal Matter, Grove Press, 1994



“The awful daring of a moment’s surrender,
which an age of prudence can never retract.”

T.S. Eliot, the Wasteland



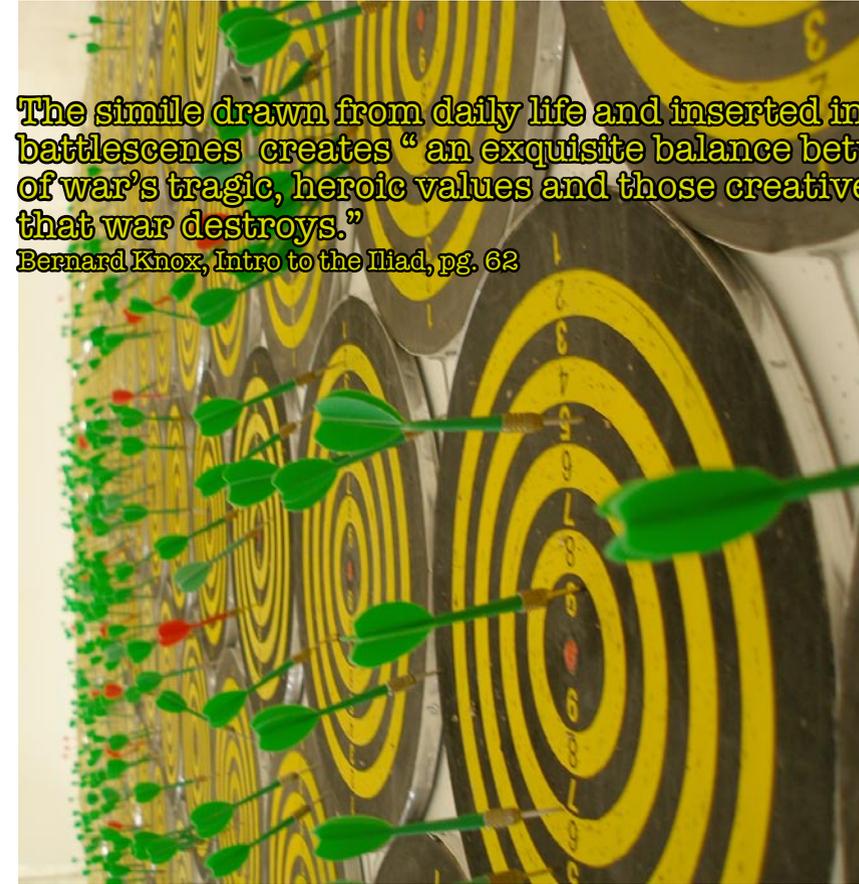


Installation detail from 'Rehearsal for Everything' at the Visual Arts Centre at Clarington, 2008. This piece was a collaboration with the Soper Valley Model Railway Assoc. Photo Jean-Michel Komarnicki



“Moving at speed, but absolutely still,
The arrow in the air.”

Christopher Logue, War Music,
Faber and Faber Ltd., pg.176



The simile drawn from daily life and inserted into horrific, visceral battlescenes creates “an exquisite balance between the celebration of war’s tragic, heroic values and those creative values of civilized life that war destroys.”

Bernard Knox, Intro to the Iliad, pg. 62

Jacob Dahgren, detail of a large and popular installation of dart boards, Nordic Pavilion, Venice Biennale, 2007

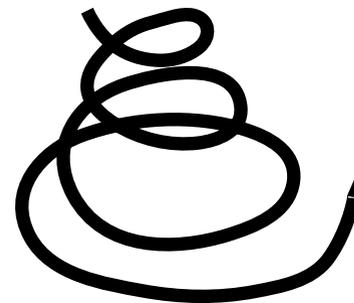


But the tracks had already been blown up and the freight train was rolling this way.

Thanks to:

Phil Anisman
my parents
*Djivan Gasparyan for his song title
Sally McKay, # 6, 8, 10, 14, 15,19, 26,
27, 28, 30, 19, 21,
Harry Glasbeek # 5
Smadar Peretz # 23, 24
Sasha Pierce # 7

and the many authors quoted in these books



**“...She goes,
And time restarts.”**

Christopher Logue, War Music,
Faber and Faber Ltd., pg.20

Brief project description:

This web /pdf edition of 30 booklets, connect and complicate the individual artworks in the Martian Odyssey series previously exhibited at Loop in Toronto. These booklets are intended to serve as a basis for comments on the artwork and their themes. If you want to have your comments considered for a web edition you can respond by sending an email to libbylibby@sympatico.ca with a subject heading of Martian Odyssey. I will be regularly updating the pdf's.

Martian Odyssey titles:

1. luck 2. riddles 3. the animals 4. translation
5. corps de ballet 6. The Girls 7. weave 8. net
9. slow motion 10. Big Bang 11. alouette
12. the wrong boat 13. the disaster
14. RAGE 15. white arms 16. plague
17. amnesia 18. ah.. 19. string theory 20.
laughter 21. dreams 22. Rules 23. justice
24. forgiveness 25. day after peace
26. un-rebuilding 27. blue-sky-blue 28. play
again 29. stars are wide 30. sing

Libby Hague is a printmaker + installation artist exploring themes of disaster, rescue and hope. [full cv](#)

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hang on



web
edition
2008

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