

## Anne Tardos

### The Frisbee Circles, 2021

The frisbee that was tossed to the young dog was expertly retrieved in midair, while at the exact same moment, a giant asteroid crashed into Jupiter's top clouds after a two-year orbit around the planet, just as Charles W. Mills, a U.K.-born and Jamaica-raised philosopher whose life's work was the interrogation and critique of the foundations of liberalism, had died, just as Florida's famous dolphin, "Winter" died of twisted intestines, while muography, a technique used to peer inside nuclear reactors and Egyptian pyramids, can map the innards of hazardous volcanoes, so that back in Egypt, a giant storm forced deadly fat-tailed scorpions out of their nests, stinging hundreds of people, killing at least three Egyptians.

The bleeding brain deals with fragments

Painful shards

Random thoughts

Fearsome images

Rolling down the stripped mountain side

Into glaciers

Where prospects erode

As they dry up

The opossum's prospects are devouring insects, snails, slugs, cockroaches, rats, mice, and the occasional scorpion, carefully avoiding the stinger.

The big news today is a hair-raising hypothesis about rodent hair resembling man-made optical instruments. It's tough out there for a mouse.

Words feel like

change

pockets feel like

words

pocket pippa piglet

platinum pendulums

prison cells

penguins

fidgiting fish families

The robot awkwardly shuffles toward its own robocalypse.

SpaceX's capsule has more interior space than a minivan, but less than a studio apartment, and as far as I can see, I am in a continuous flow of information-processing mode searching for clues in ancient waters

Ancient Waters is also the name of a water recycling plant in Kwazulu-Natal, where the local university's motto is "Stay calm and do your best"

your best

your oddest

your splendidest

your Budapest.

Succulent government?

negligent malignant government?

Elegant cogent convivial government?

accessible easygoing government?  
tenderhearted government?  
well yes  
or maybe

I should mention the two or more fused aromatic rings of carbon

hydrogen atoms  
polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon (PAH)

Natural sources of PAH include

forest fires  
bushfires  
volcanic eruptions

Anthropogenic sources consist of

various pyrolytic processes during  
industrial operations  
incinerations  
vehicular emissions  
power generation.

Other than that, a system of filaments is forming a sort of tunnel around the solar system, along the Local Arm, where we are, which causes optical illusions of lensed galaxies that turn out to be one

not two  
as previously believed.

Buddha

The large friendly dog

knew this all along.

Now he ponders

which public transportation to ride next.

As an honored member of the Turkish Canine Intelligentsia

he receives free food

healthcare

and hugs

We turn

in interstellar circles.

**Anne Tardos** is the author of eleven books of poetry, and editor of three posthumous collections of poetry by Jackson Mac Low. Her work has been translated and published in dozens of anthologies and journals around the world. Tardos pioneered a unique multilingual writing style, often complementing her texts with video stills, photographs, and collages. Her writing is renowned for its fluid use of multiple languages and its innovative forms. She has worked in numerous media, creating performance pieces, radio plays, videos, and musical compositions. Her multilingual and multimedia works have been presented at the Museum of Modern Art, New York; the West German Radio, WDR; the XLIV Venice Biennale; and in many international sound poetry festivals, including Festival La Bâtie, Geneva; text- Ijud Festival, Stockholm; Scene Wien, Vienna; and Zwischentoene, Cologne. Among her grants, fellowships, and commissions are The Ford Foundation, Experimental Intermedia Foundation, Judith Rothschild Foundation, New York Foundation for the Arts, and the Emily Harvey Foundation. Her works have been commissioned by baritone Thomas Buckner and the Dominique Lévy Gallery.