

u s

the european poetry biennale (vi)

US

AN ANTHOLOGY OF THE EUROPEAN POETRY BIENNALE

October 13-14, 2023

Transilvania University of Braşov

Edited by Adrian Lăcătuş and Robert G. Elekes



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foreword	7
răzvan andrei	13
ioan coroamă	17
andro dadiani	25
dumitru fanfarov	35
georgi gavrilov	39
anastasia gavrilovici	49
andreu gomila	57
jeremy allan hawkins	63
aušra kaziliūnaitė	67
cătălin lazurca	77
mitoș micleușanu	83
vlad moldovan	95
radmila petrović	99
dóra mărčuțiu-rácZ	103
alke stachler	111
moni stănilă	115

a piece of the continent, a part of the main

Is it still possible to draw the circle of us? Or is it better to erase it and let the particles move randomly or around each other? Are we drawing it out of love or out of fear? Are we erasing it to let new forms in or to escape old ties?

Like always, we invited 16 European poets, this time expressing modes of redefining our membership to pairs, groups, communities or humankind, new ways to take sanctuary inside them, or sometimes weaponize them. They all offer certain forms of making (or breaking) sense of belonging. They all see how the contour of others passes over the border lines of our skin and stains it black and blue. Their poetry has an outstanding clarity in sorting out the thick noise of social life, track after track, carefully rearranging it to new music.

We illustrate this small anthology with the artwork of Philippe Thomarel, our resident French Caribbean artist whose solo show makes the scenography of the festival. Humans are absent from his paintings, but so overwhelmingly present as bridges, unfinished, unconnected, suspended in mid-air, craving for linking the island to the mainland, for repair.

Adrian Lăcătuș

philippe thomarel, charcoal on paper, fragment, 2023