


KATERINA FRETWELL

Invocation to Mary Wollstonecraft

Mary, Mary, quite contrary
how does your brain explain
the demise of the despised
royal chopped heads’ guillotine’s dread?
Entrained thoughts abstained oughts
Divine Right Male Beyond the pale?

Mary, Mary, quite contrary
your writerly flare lives on a dare
freedom-based words mere hint of swords
the unnatural order to initial disorder
women in the world person-hood unfurled
Divine Right Female A plausible tale?

Mary, Mary, quite contrary
your prescient words construed absurd
no precedent unrepentant
feminist ignored what you first abhorred
lonely oracle begged a miracle:
Divine Right Everyone Our labours just begun …

Katerina Fretwell’s acclaimed sixth poetry collection, Angelic Scintillations, was published by Inanna Publications in 2011. Her poems are forthcoming in The Seventh Quarry, Wales, and in The Prairie Journal Trust, Ropedancer Anthology, and her essay, “Poetic Epiphanies,” appears in the Living Archives chapbook, Epiphanies, from the Feminist Caucus of the League of Canadian Poets.