

and political participation. She is currently a Visiting Scholar at Cornell Law School (NY) and working on an archive of accounts of the war in the north of Ireland.

¹Edited by Biljana Kasic and published in Zagreb by the Centre for Women's Studies in 1997.

²See Rooney (1999) for an earlier version of this article.

³The Agreement between the British and Irish governments endorsed in referenda in each jurisdiction.

⁴This predates the current Intifada.

⁵See, Aretxaga; Moore; Rooney (2000); Rooney and Woods. See Rooney (2002) for a useful bibliography of work on women in the north of Ireland.

⁶See Equality Commission; also Hamilton who shows the complex patterns of deprivation in Catholic and Protestant West Belfast.

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JAN BAILEY

Eileen Among the Lilies

Frail and wizened, too long since she had poked among the lilies, weeding this, replanting that, and for the first few hours she was overwhelmed by their profusion.

Hundreds rolled across a bank that collapsed into sea. This was before she succumbed to their smell, feeling faint; before she let herself languish in their sex; before her head reeled from orange and vermilion.

It was as if nothing else existed – cottage, road and village sucked away like her breath – and she sank, her knees buckling, amid a sweetness beyond the singular, amid so many green stems into a crush of bobbing heads.

All about her face and hair, shoulders, breasts, their amber pollen marked her for theirs, and a soft humming rose, which is the come cry of flowers, as she curled among the lilies until darkness fell.

Jan Bailey is the author of Paper Clothes (Emrys Press), Heart of the Other : Island Poems (Two Fish Press) and Midnight in the Guest Room (forthcoming, Leapfrog Press). A resident of Maine, she is currently Chair of the Creative Writing Department at the South Carolina Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities in Greenville, South Carolina.

MARIE JANICK BELLEAU

Reconnaissable entre toutes

Inoublable
Comme les madeleines de Proust
L'odeur de ta peau

Marie Janick Belleau's poetry appears earlier in this volume.