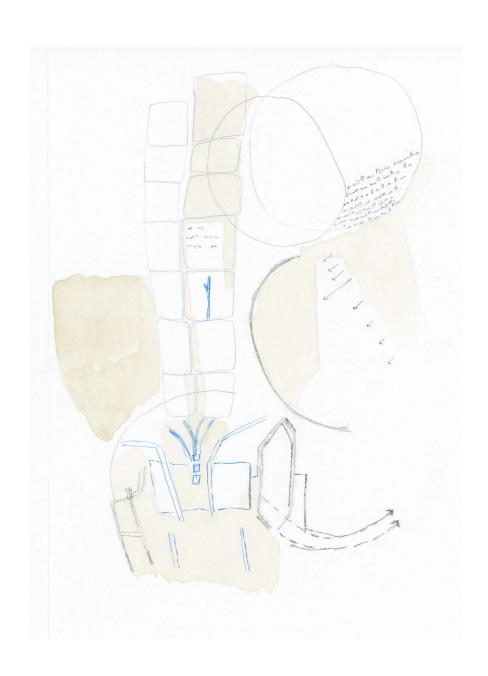
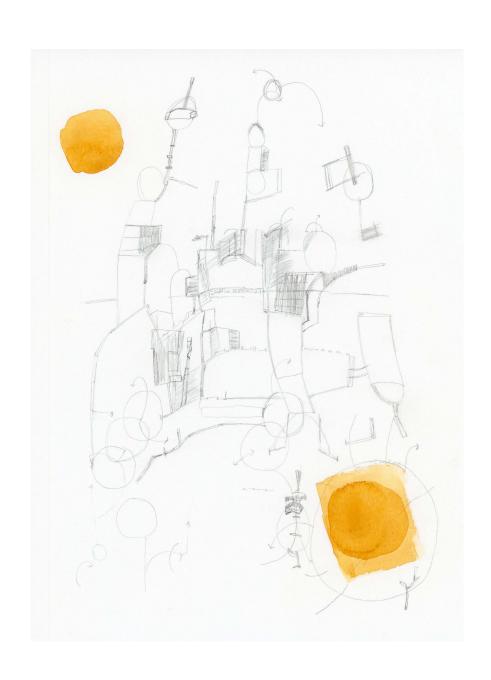
feather the balance Renee Gladman and Nisha Ramayya 26.05.21 Juf













Nisha Ramayya from drinking at the artificial wormhole [an ongoing sequence of drop-off poetry¹]

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page drips
to inquire
with associative
sewage
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"the aromal

fluid" of knowledge exchange

snoticles meet in footnotes twizzle gaily bungee back:

a body since two bearings, frozen in a warm room, yields to your lines

"signs are always triadic"

something which substitutes something for something

shapes oscillate to release this sacrificial logic making a swarm of its perpetual motion clink

~ gain weight in petals ~ ~ revolt sunbeams bridge ~ ~ feather the balance ~

~ ~ ~ wave with all your brains ~ ~ ~

^{1.} This is something I've been trying out recently, as part of a project on oceanic listening, inspired by so many people including Alice Coltrane, Fred Moten, Star Trek, Fernando Zalamea, and Moby Dick. Here's an attempt to describe the practice, from a recent piece on mathematics and love: 'It's a citational practice that's a devotional practice, running circles around the loved one to get their attention, abrading a path in your context that overlaps other paths and other contexts, bringing up clouds of referential sediment that obscure before settling and forming little heaps of thought, maybe as a musical phrase or a poetic tactic or a socialised tic. Sometimes I feel like a barnacle attaching myself to influential writers and texts, clinging on for dear life because everything depends on them, from a single poem to the futures we're conjuring; once attached, we might radiate. Sometimes I drop a quotation into a poem to watch my words and obstructions change colour, scatter, get drunk.' The quotations above are from Charles Fourier, Fernando Zalamea, Ellen Fullman, and M. NourbeSe Philip.

*

say that you are here your feelings over there

to "navigate through pitch relationships"

you might establish an observatory of licks

flang sibling moons eggs moulting in space

shmooshy, from a time before survival, it's still playing out here

unfolding jellyrolls flux stars with wet noses

your feelings respond well to noodles

*

worming against ideas
"legal language that compels" – magically
to cast horizons

take the algal superhighway city elbows waterline a try where you expect a cloud loop back from duration

snip! snap! snorum!

*

Renee Gladman is a poet, novelist, essayist, and artist. Her numerous publications include a series of novels about the city-state Ravicka; a book of essay-fictions, *Calamities*; a poetry collection, *A Picture-Feeling*; and the interdisciplinary artist monographs *Prose Architectures* and *One Long Black Sentence*.

Nisha Ramayya grew up in Glasgow and is currently based in London. Her collection States of the Body Produced by Love (2019) is published by Ignota Books.

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