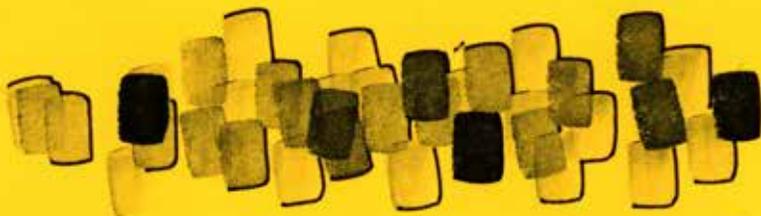




palings E nesia



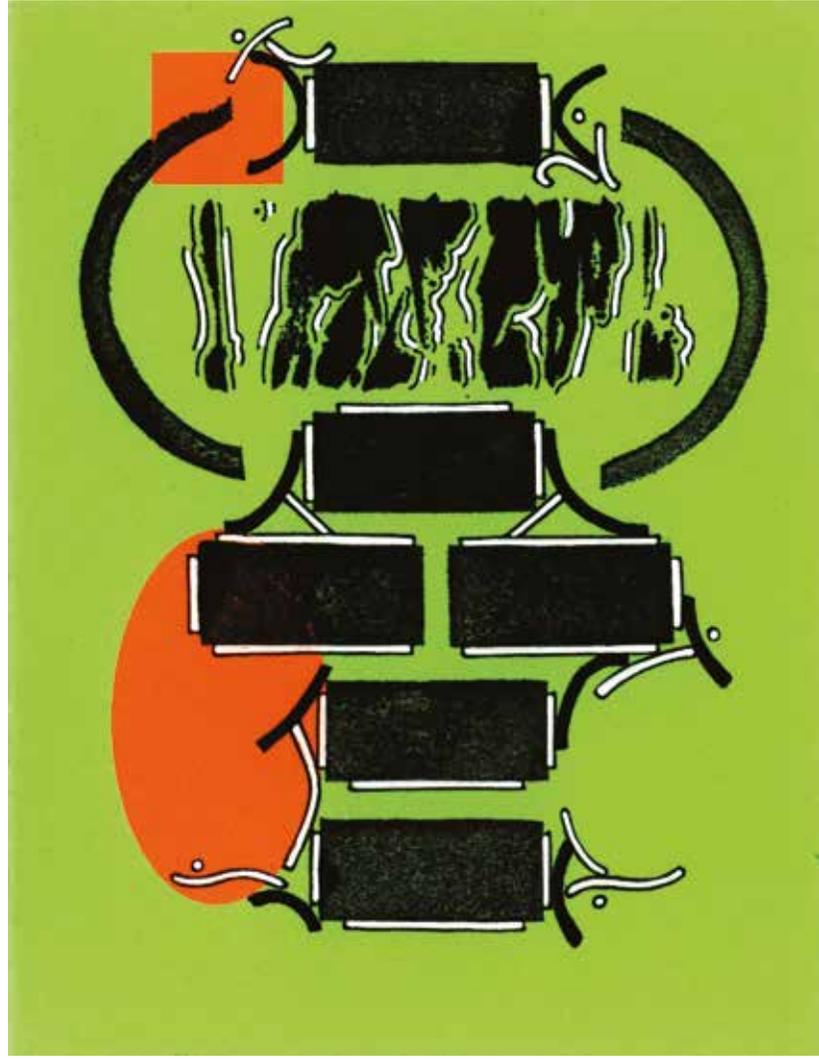
michael L orr

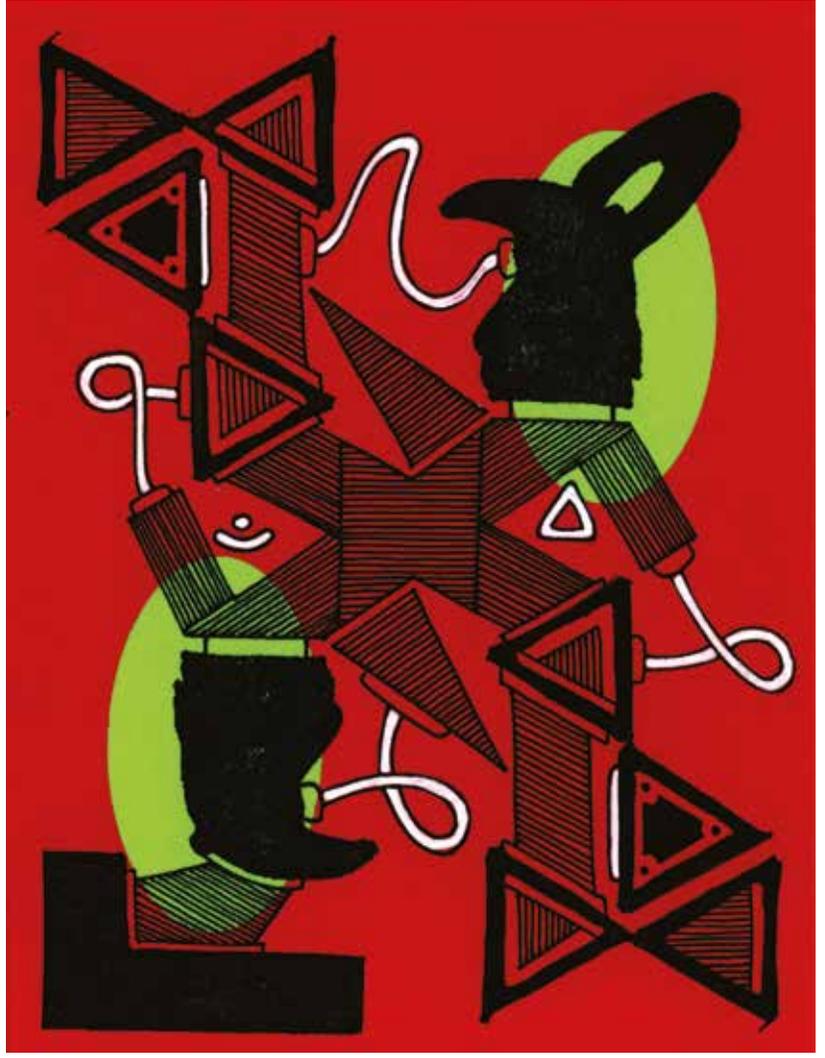
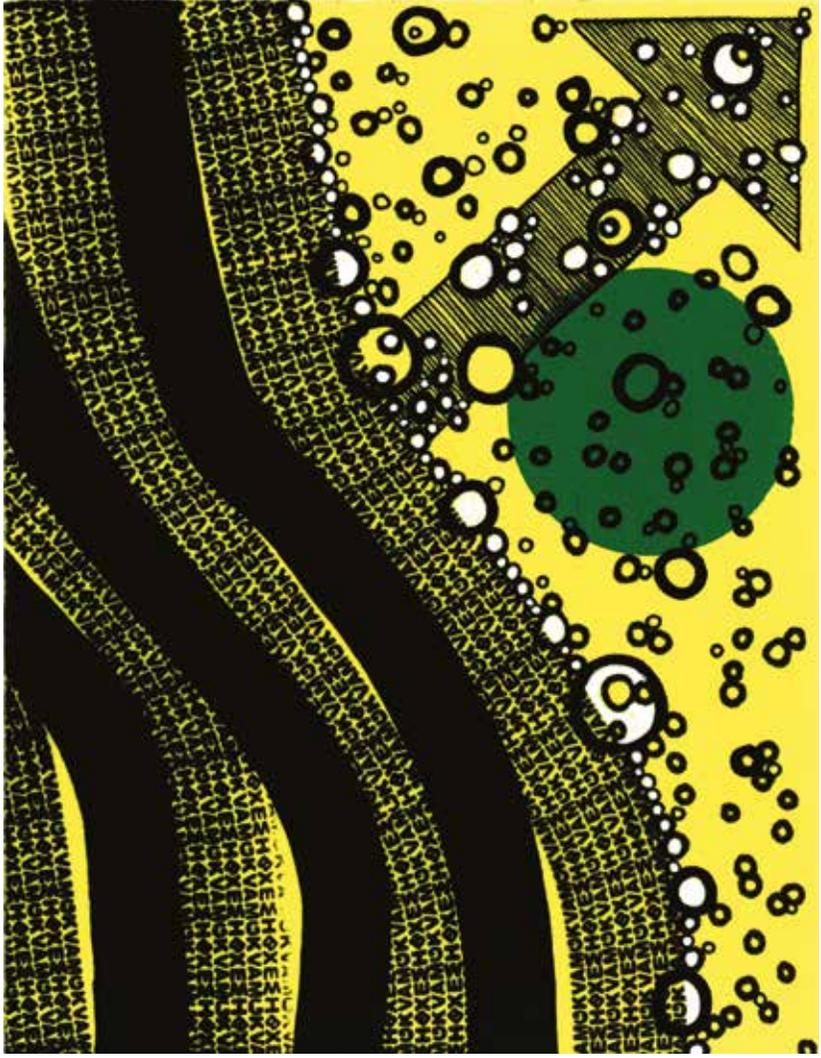
paling **E**nesia

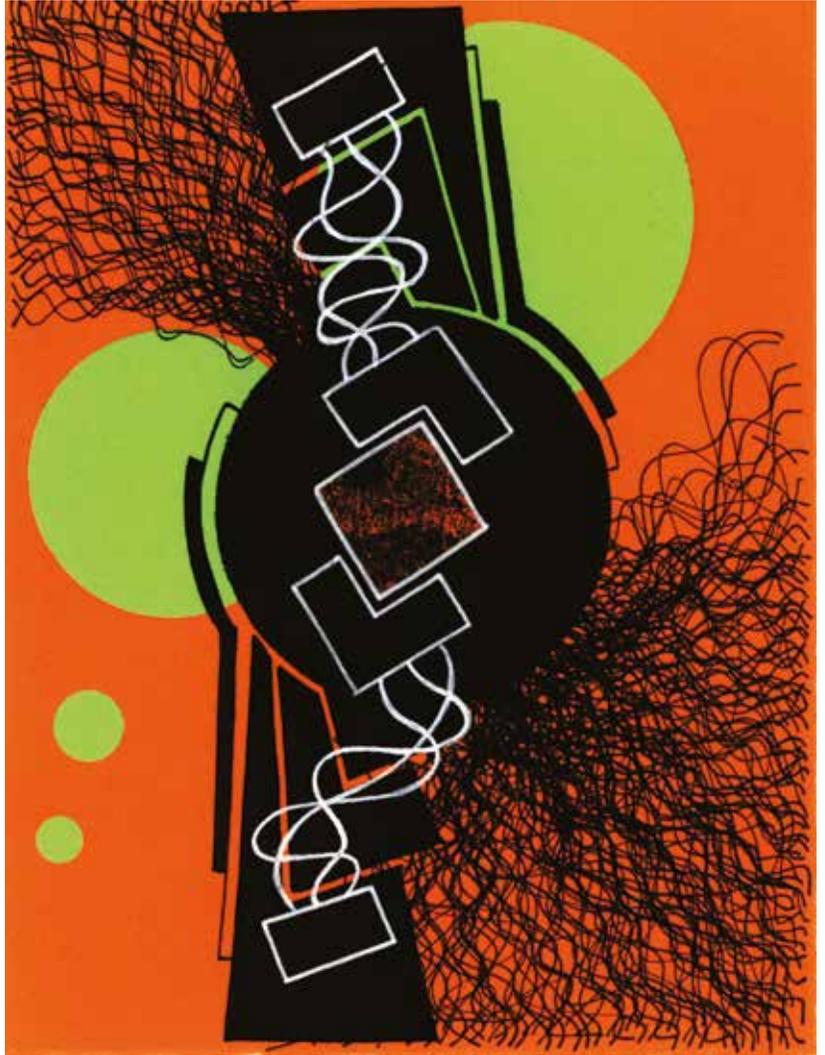
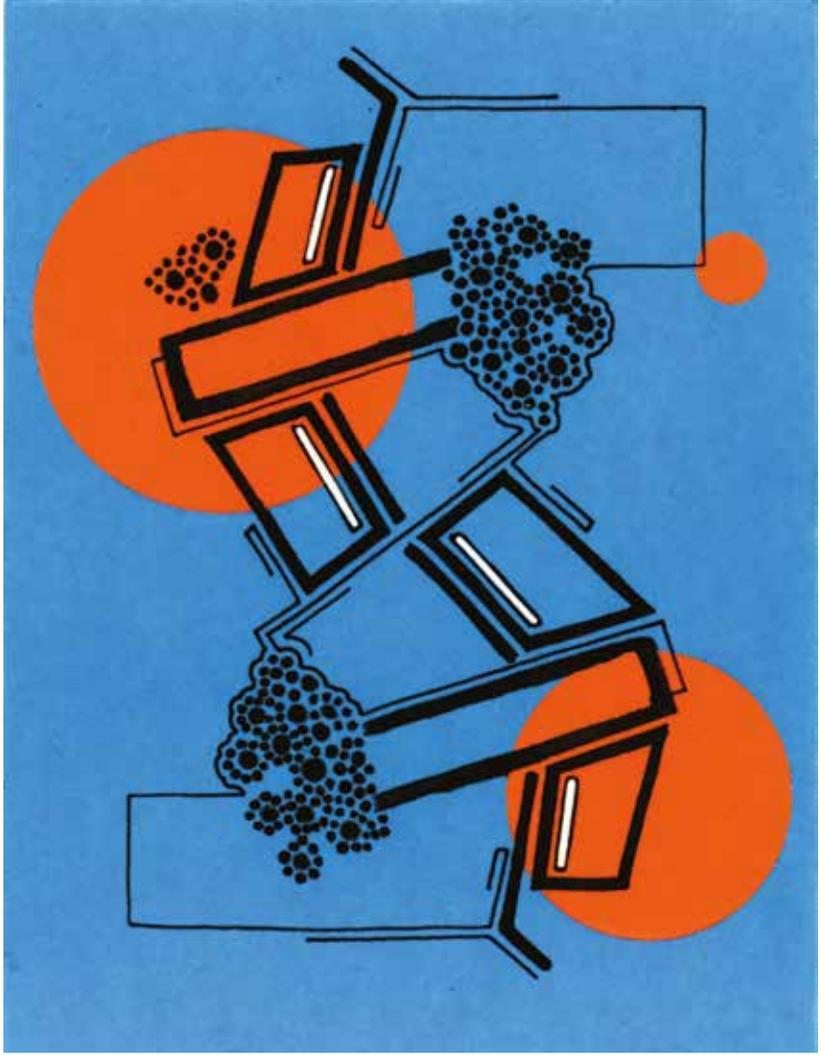
michae**L** orr

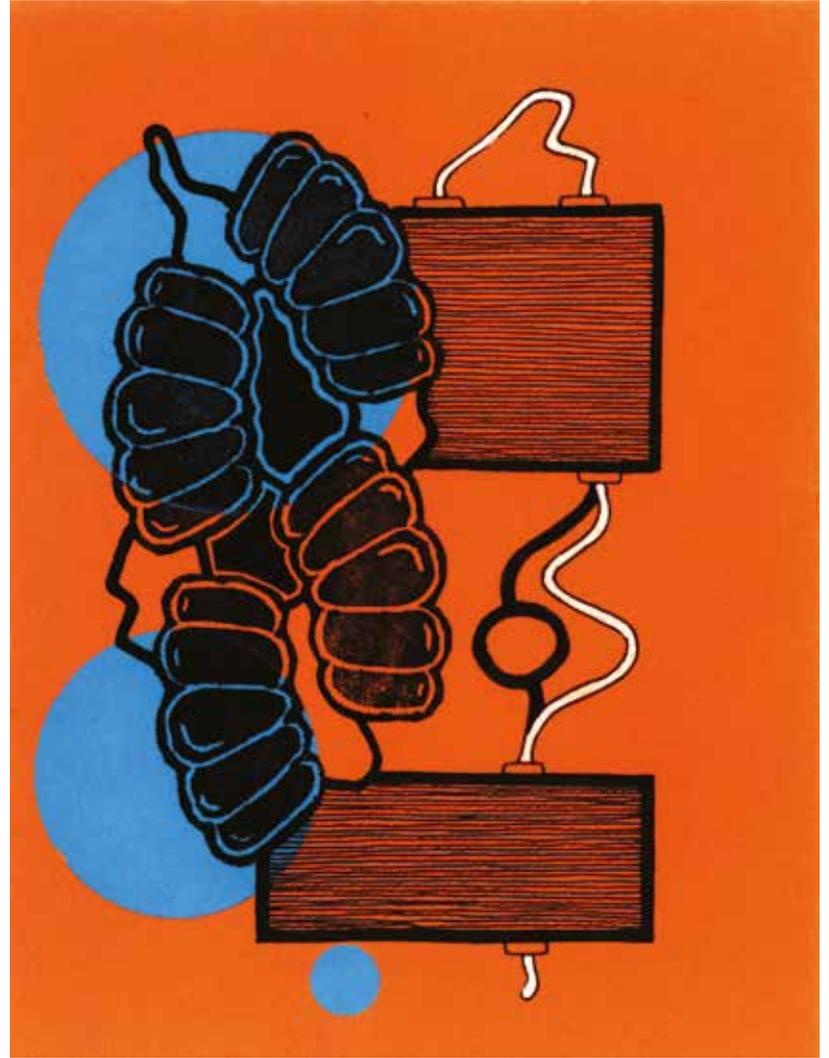
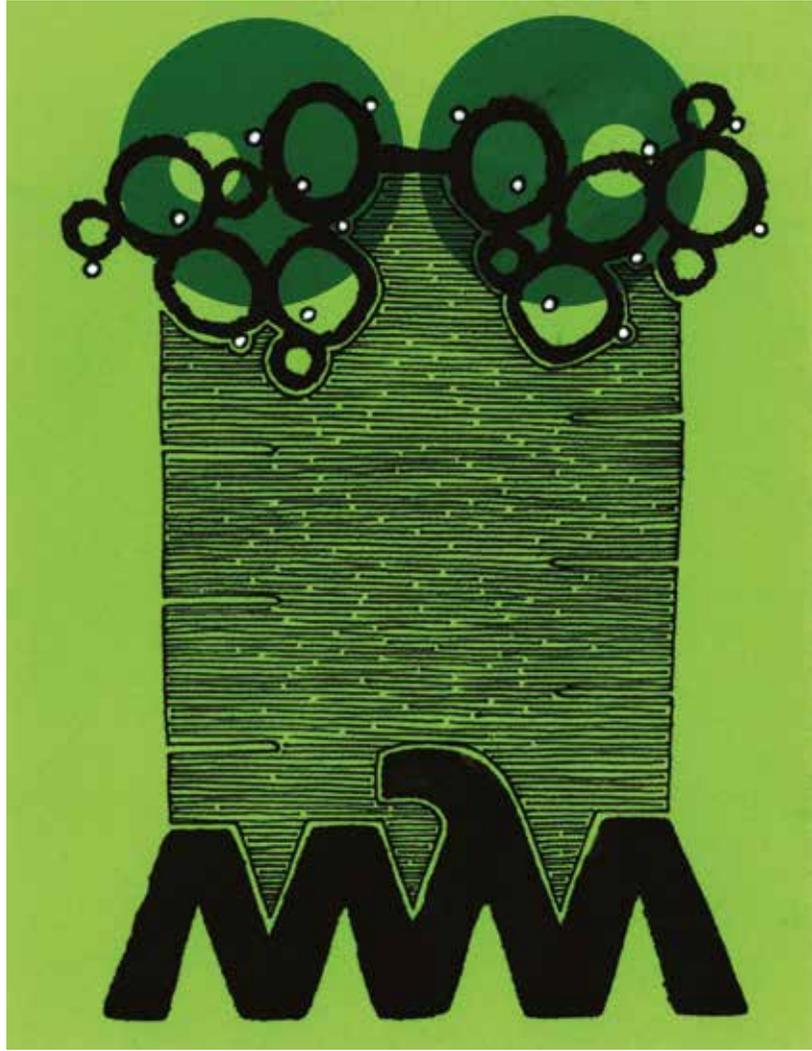
Palingenesis (also *palingenesia*) is a concept of rebirth or re-creation, used in various contexts in philosophy, theology, politics, and biology. Its meaning stems from Greek *palin*, meaning *again*, and *genesis*, meaning *birth*.

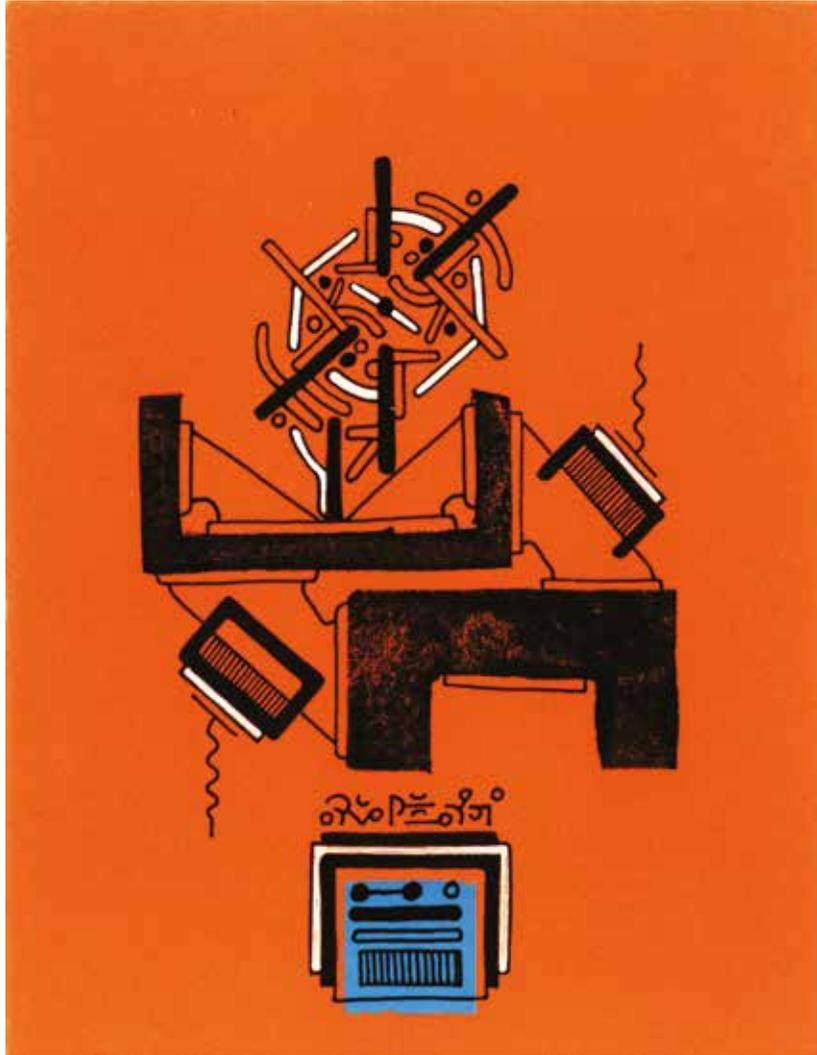


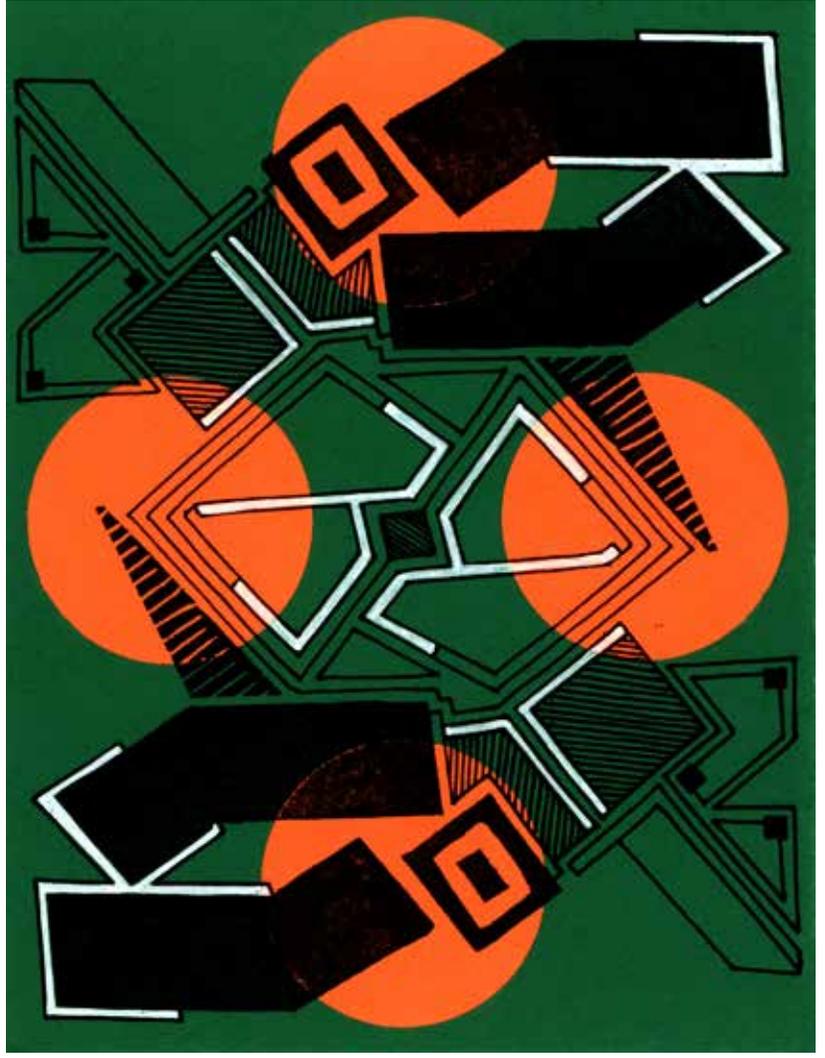
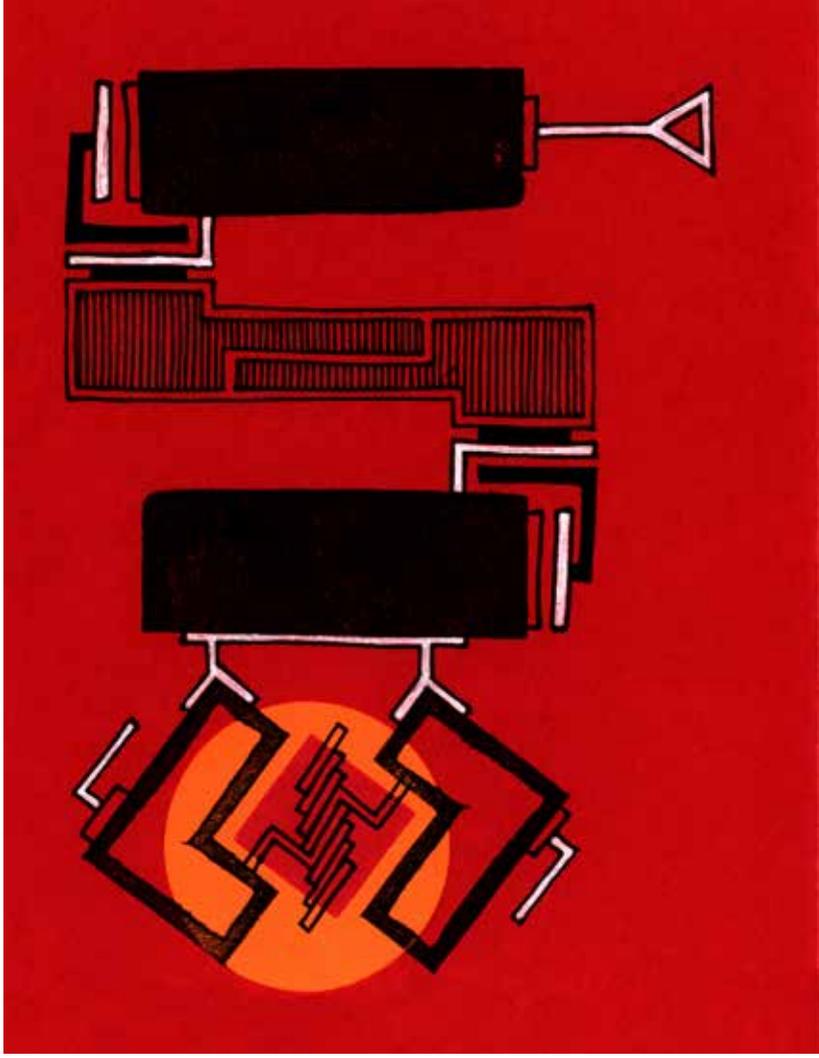


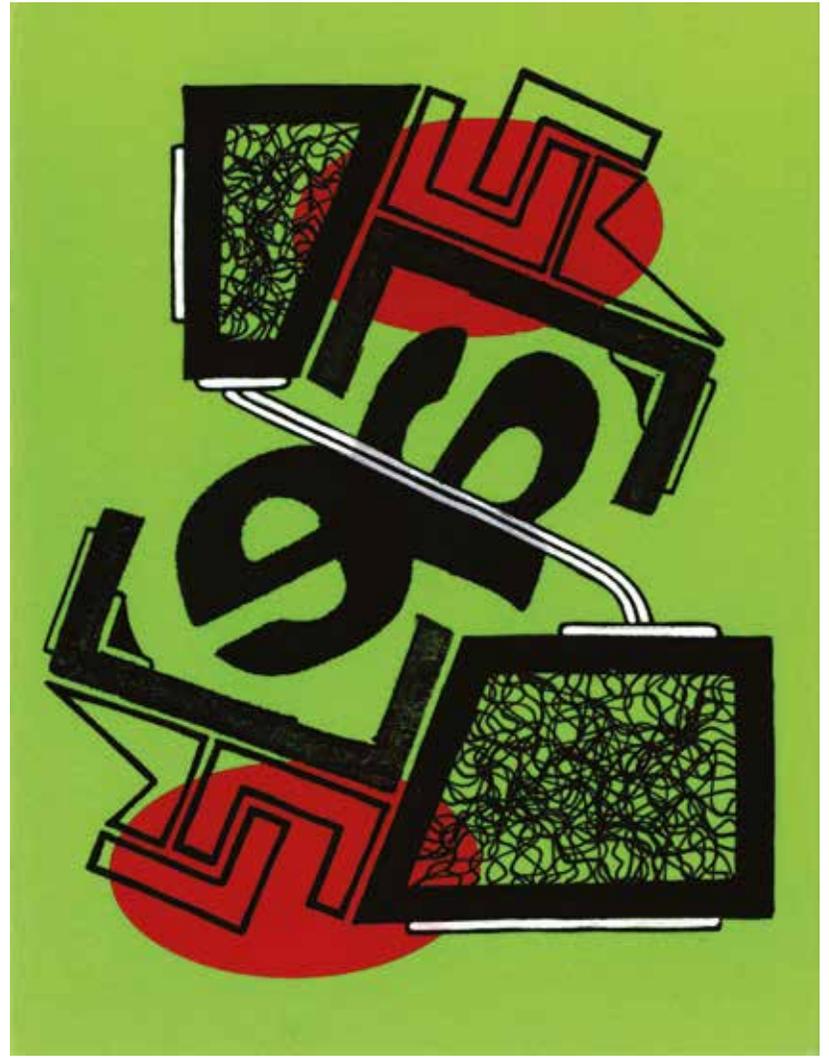
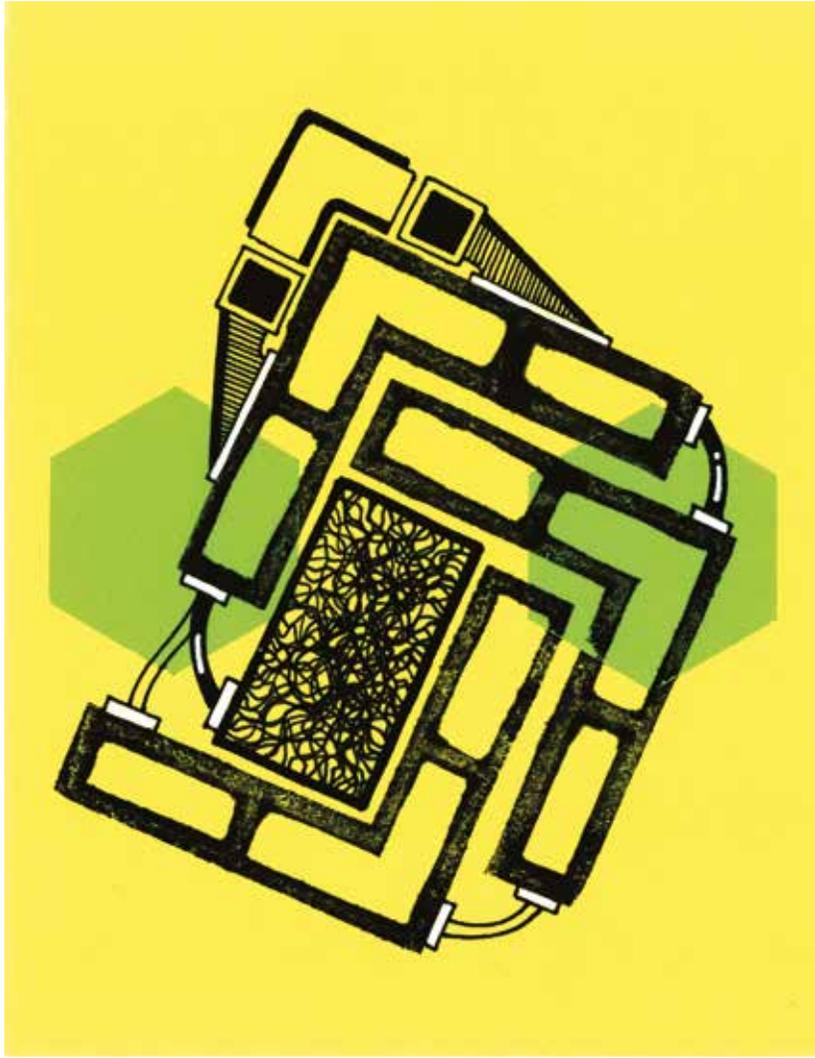


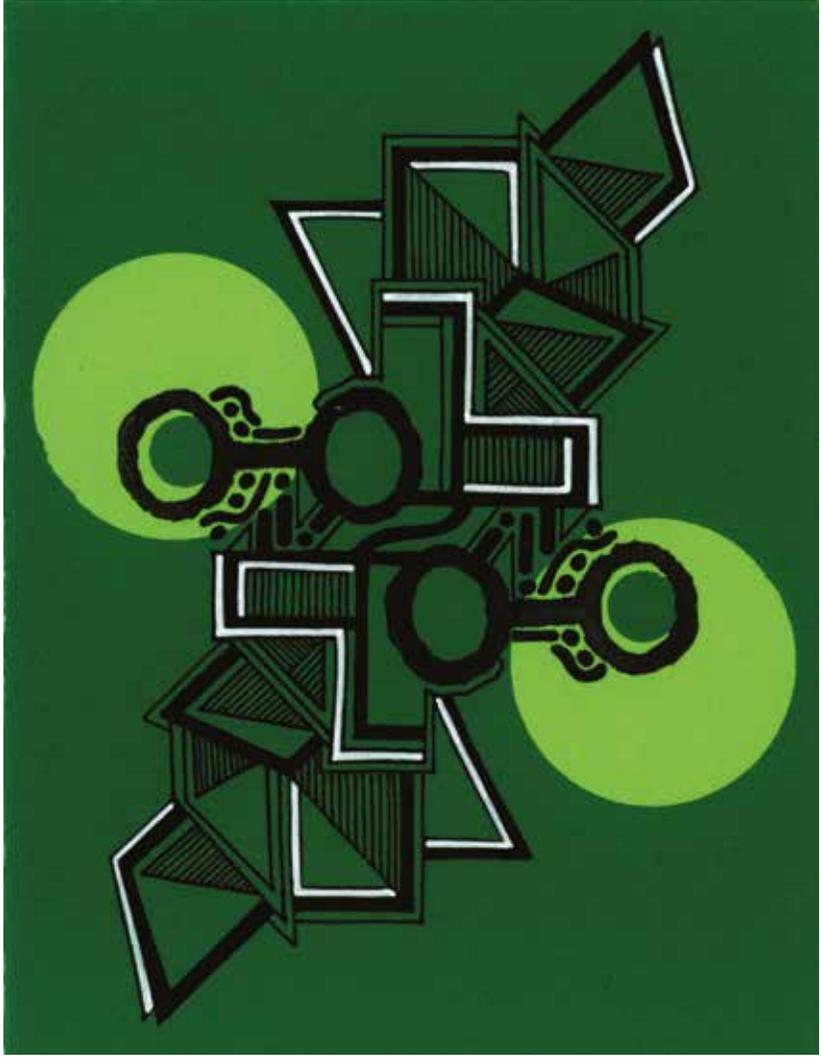


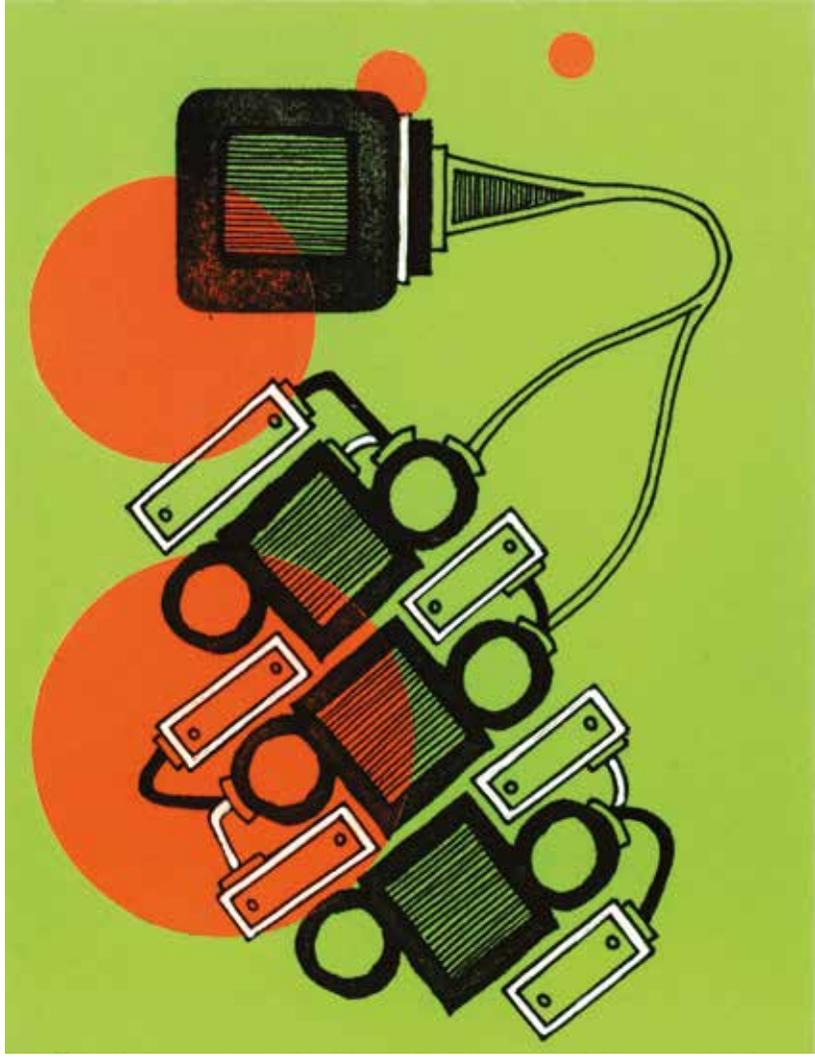
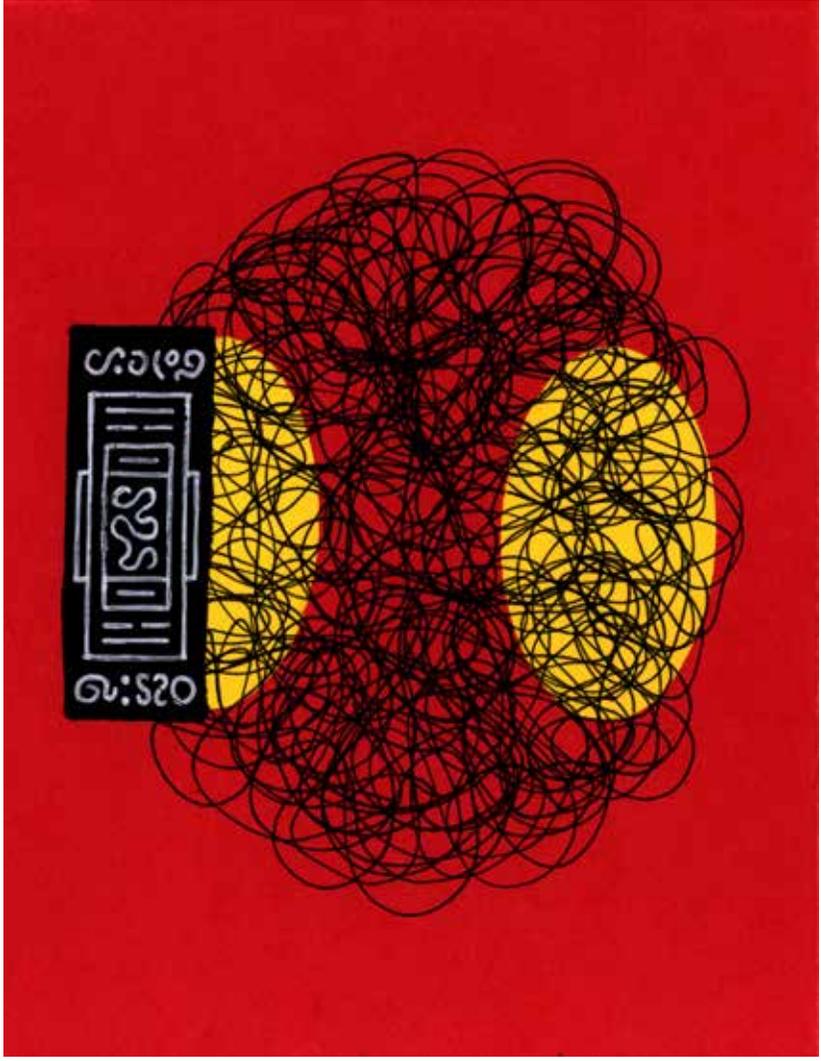


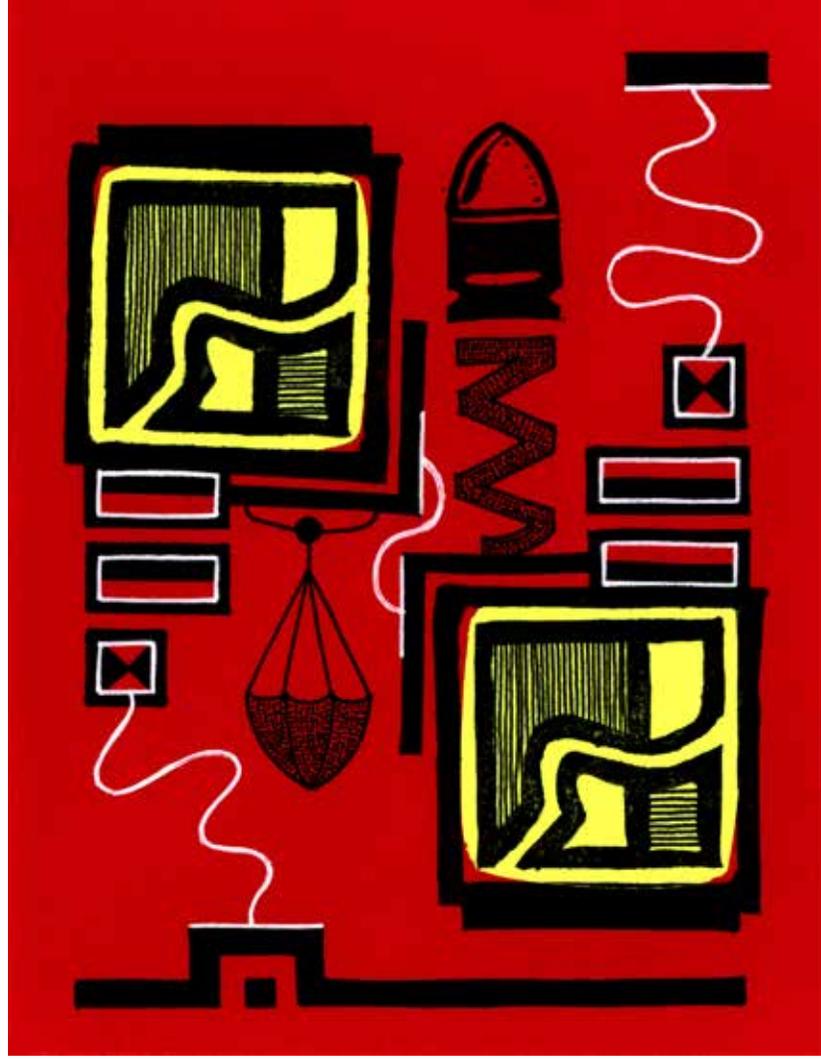












Forms Of Beauty and Intellect

Michael Orr's work is already a distinctive presence in world visual poetry and asemics. Still emerging and evolving as a poet, Orr's impressive body of work thus far suggests new directions and brings fresh energy to visual poetics, a genre that – I believe – is still in its infancy and will blossom in this century.

A genre's theoretical and conceptual possibilities described in prose are forever hollow without those singular, rare individuals acclimated to the challenges of charting inner landscapes of the hitherto unknown through art. Ultimately, it is the poetry and imagery that move us, not the academically inclined rhetoric of a given time that quickly grows stale if not comic.

Michael Orr is a poet of vision, depth and skill who is one such individual capable of fulfilling vispo's promise. The fact that he has already attracted an impressive audience speaks to the expressive magic of his compositions.

The publication of Michael Orr's *palingEnesia* by Timglaset is an event of consequence to Orr's readers, to the entire vispo community and beyond. *palingEnesia* is an exciting, break-through lyric cycle of image-text forms. They display sophistication and mastery transcending Orr's previous work. In short, this book deserves our perusal as part of the new vispo canon.

Michael Orr's background as a visual artist led to the creation of his pieces grounded in design and popcult, notably comics. As a presence in the Eternal Network (international mail art network) this work has received exposure and praise. Just as important, Orr also encountered concrete poetry, visual poetry and asemic writing through the Eternal Network.

Since the days of the original Fluxus group and Black Mountain poets, the Eternal Network has been an international conduit for global visual poetry, including the astounding achievements of Latin American and European concrete poetry.

As a result of his network participation, Michael Orr's immediately likable designs began a process of decomposition. One can witness this birth of a visual poet by tracking his pieces over the last five years online. Unknown languages, glyphs and complex abstraction began to appear. Michael Orr was soon welcomed by the visual poetry and asemic writing communities. (Interestingly, Orr's evolution is similar to changes one can see in Jackson Pollock's paintings as he moved from representation to abstraction.)

The challenge of being a visual poet or asemic writer (I consider asemics a subgenre of vispo) is greater than most might assume. A poet writing conventional sonnets and/or blank verse, for instance, uses the medium of language solely. The visual poet must be adept in the realm of the "poetic tradition" and the visual arts. The image-text is still a discourse of paradox, contradiction and complexity without guardrails.

Having created a personal asemic system and visual syntax, Michael Orr's *palingEnesia* offers larger visual-poetic structures to contain the elements. These are forms of both beauty and intellect. *palingEnesia* will be of interest to those seeking the experience of lyric vispo as well as those with interests in linguistics, semiotics and the abstract structures of language and poetry.

He has an individual style and uses sources that breathe life into vispo, a needed counter to much of the minimalist sterility that plagues the genre. In *palingEnesia*, Michael Orr attains maturity as a poet and enriches the body of visual poetry and asemics.

De Villo Sloan
August 15, 2019
Elbridge, New York, USA

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Michael Orr's *palingEnesia* escapes easy definitions. Are these works blueprints for 'pataphysical machines? Innovations in rubber stamp art? Secretive messages in a new visual language? They are all that and much more. *palingEnesia* represents a new kind of synthesis between visual poetry, abstract comics and collage art. Completely analog in origin, *palingEnesia* interrogates the boundaries between the literary and visual arts in a unique and deeply personal way.

Michael Orr's *palingEnesia* balances visuals and textuality in an array of exceptional concrete imagery. He creates a semiotic study that helps us scrutinize our personalities and cognition. With exceptional delicacy, Orr summons us to every page to witness his experimental poetics and conception of beauty.
- *Bibiana Padilla Maltos*

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