

Cultural Daily

Independent Voices, New Perspectives

Susan Tepper & Digby Beaumont: Two Poetry-Visual Art Collaborations

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Reaching for the Light

Some decent wine
 half wheel of cheese
 small silver knife
 corkscrew
 & two stem glasses
 towed in a basket.
 We both took a handle
 stumbling down
 the bank to the river.
 Stories were shared
 all day and
 under a sliver moon.
 You moved into my place
 I moved into yours.
 Each day brought a different flower.

*

Platform Sandals



Faded red birds dart in & out
 of the brush
 a few feet ahead of
 where you trod solitary
 A path that changes abruptly:
 smooth to cragged.
 Seems a gift of friendship
 this following by
 creatures you can't properly name.
 All appear faded by the elements

some to rust. They're chirpy
and they make you smile
with their prancing company.
Someone gave you shoes
of this same shade.
You wore them out
dancing 'til your ankles gave way
sinking into softness that
may be what it feels like
to bury yourself in clouds.

The collaborations are by:



Susan Tepper is the author of nine published books of fiction and poetry. Her most recent titles are *CONFESS* (a poetry chapbook by Cervena Barva Press, 2020) and a funky road novel *WHAT DRIVES MEN* (Wilderness House Press, 2019) which was shortlisted at American Book Fest. Tepper has received eighteen Pushcart Prize Nominations, and a Pulitzer Prize Nomination for the novel *What May Have Been* (Cervena Barva Press, 2012) which has been adapted for the stage to appear Off-Broadway when the theatres re-open. To know more about Susan and her work please visit www.susantepper.com



Digby Beaumont is an artist and a writer. In his art, as in his writing, he is always exploring the idea of how best to produce some emotional response to the work. He is a self-taught artist. An interview with him about his art plus a showcase of some of his portraiture feature in the November 2019 issue of the online journal, *Tupelo Quarterly*. As a short fiction writer his work has been published in numerous print and online literary journals and anthologies. His collection of flash fiction, one-page stories, *Dancing Alone and Other Lessons*, was released in early 2020. Digby has also published numerous English language textbooks with Heinemann and Macmillan, including international bestsellers. He lives by the seaside on the south coast of England. You can see more of his work on his website: <https://digbybeaumont.com/> or on Facebook.

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