

## **/'(h)weTH**

A call and response presupposes the participation of (at least) two parties. But our breath also calls us, as do our own voices. An interrogation is a call and response, as is a published decree. Silence is also a kind of call, as well as a response. Multiple participants may answer the same question differently, our timing may slip, we may be preoccupied and answer not the question asked but some deeper query whose answer we didn't know we sought. It might all happen at once, while someone is sleeping. A coverup is also a call and response, even if rectified later. To voice, as in an opinion, holds hands with to try, both legally and personally. Neither requires a body, but the body - body politic, embodied being-- helps either endeavor. Sometimes we can throw the voice; it enters another object, an instrument or image, for a brief time before finding its way home. Sometimes we are such an instrument, entered by history's homeless ghosts to tell a version of the story.

**Lauren Redhead** is a composer from the North of England. Her work has been recognised internationally and performed by, amongst others, Ian Pace, Rhodri Davies, the Nieuw Ensemble, Trio Atem, Philip Thomas and Edges ensemble, and rarescale. Her opera, *green angel*, was premiered in January 2011 with the support of the Arts Council of England, and she has been commissioned by Huddersfield Contemporary Music Festival, Yorkshire Forward, and Making Music. Lauren is also a performer of British experimental music for the organ and has premiered works by many composers including Chris Newman, Caroline Lucas, and Nick Williams, a performer with the experimental vocal group Vocal Constructivists, and a musicologist writing on the aesthetics of contemporary music.

**Rebecca Armstrong** is an artist and writer based in New York and Ghent, Belgium, where she is currently a candidate laureate at the HISK (Hoger Instituut voor Schone Kunsten). She has been awarded residencies by the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council and the Vermont Studio Center, and has shown or performed work at Winkleman Gallery, Performa09 as a WritingLive Fellow, WeDaPeople's Cabaret at Harlem Stage, and others, including the solo show *if you have a body when you get here* at The Ocean/The Waves Gallery in New York. Her manuscript of poems *Phrasebook for the Unrequited Country* was shortlisted for both the Walt Whitman Award from the Academy of American Poets and the Beatrice Hawley Award from Alice James Books; poems from the manuscript have appeared or are forthcoming

in various literary journals including *American Poetry Review*, *Agni* (online), and *Post Road*.