

International Lyric Festival features Martine Bellen in Frankfurt

April 28, 2007.

audio file Martine Bellen reads a poem about her cat

...and this is the last poem that I'll read from this series, it's called "All Beasts are Driven to Pasture". And this - my little kitty-cat, who's no longer with us, Buddha Bear is the star of this poem. I used to drag him from the city to the country. And this poem is a tribute to that journey back to his old tiger-self that he had to take on weekends.

Buddha Bear, sea lion on surface, sleeps in the sink,
Slinks under city drain pipes. But weekends allay
Hibernation of the vestigial tiger, and the Buddha
Rubs snout to grass, limb extends limb. Stalks
Deer and wild turkey. Devours flying dragons.
Bottled in muscle for flight, my beast chases bee up a tree.