



Also by Maurice Scully:

Poetry

Love Poems and Others (Raven Arts Press, 1981)

5 Freedoms of Movement (Gallop Dog Press, 1987)

Prior (Staple Diet, 1991; tel-let, 1992)

Certain Pages (Form Books, 1992)

Over and Through (Poetical Histories, 1992)

The Basic Colours (Pig Press, 1994)

Priority (Writers Forum, 1995)

Prelude, Interlude and Postlude (all Wild Honey Press, 1997)

Steps (Reality Street Editions, 1998)

Etruscan Reader IV

(with Bob Cobbing & Carlyle Reedy: Etruscan Books, 1996, 1999)

5 Freedoms of Movement (revised edition, Etruscan Books, 2001)

Tree with Eggs (hardPressed poetry, 2004)

Livelihood (Wild Honey Press, 2004)

Numbers (Coracle Press, 2006)

Sonata (Reality Street Editions, 2006)

CD

Mouthpuller (Wild Honey Press/Coelacanth Press, 2000)

Children's

What Is The Cat Looking At? (Faber, 1995)

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T i g

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STEPPING

[BLESSING THE ANIMALS]

then

the spring-born population stays put
in its region of birth
the Great Lakes of North America.

then

of the autumn-born population
 $\frac{1}{3}$ hibernates
while the remaining $\frac{2}{3}$
set out southwards
on a narrow unwavering route.
it's a journey of 3000 kilometres
down to south Texas/northern Mexico.

on arrival they gather in one or two
valleys on particular conifers
in their millions
& rest there till spring
& mate.

then this immense blizzard of wings
begins to move northwards
travelling in a more leisurely way
feeding & laying their eggs along the route . . .

the train's shadow
flickering over the fields

the Monarch is a long-lived butterfly
each individual surviving approximately
one year.
their migration pattern is as follows

a child nearby
at a window

(migration pattern is as)

where the world
tracks past a

very young child
so happy so

taken aback
she

sings. (follows) & it beats
disclosing enclosing

flash! fold *flash!*
close slit show shock

blind shock black
shock/light exuding

over the visible
light intruding

on the visible
light corroding

the leaves leaving
only the light.

their

dispersal patterns

are as follows.

map.

stop.

count.

then

immense

upsurge

white

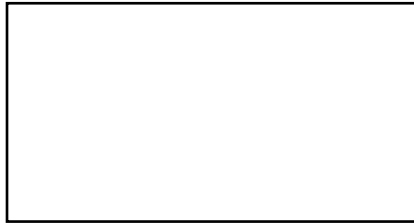
red

amber

dark

the need for flattened bark-dwelling insects
to get away from predators on tree-trunks may
well have provided the selective pressure that
led to the evolution of wings – between rains
we lay listening lay waiting – you know me . . .

rain on glass to the side of yr face



a door shut in a corridor

[BACKYARD]

so that.

when the
leaves
stiffen
flare

disconnect

& quietly
fall detached from
their place at

each point (exact) landing in even
circles anding at different
times the

different

on flat green grass & (echo – tussled hair –
handshake) litter collect
that

different (or) touching a windowpane where
drops gather () difference () &
or different

() colours even. stopped outside a fruitshop
on a corner
warmer

than December remember hands
pink that weigh/&/
gilt scales

splinters of pieces of vivid
boxes shelves
fruitsmell

in passing talking to I was
talking to
you were

saying quick/shadow-flash
(pigeons) quick
past

sunlit walls then (pattern)
then gone/look.
what?

stunned/back from hospital
on the way back too
back to the wall

my old dead
father in
shadow

in the Shadow of
hearing for
sure

its articul
ate whis
per |

core to granulated
crust my
dull

moves & days/
thunder-
clashes

& a train overhead.
it is porous
&

dangerous it is
porous/it is
pour it.