



WE ARE NOT GOING AWAY

MICHAEL VANDER DOES

We Are Not Going Away

Michael Vander Does

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Locofo Chaps is dedicated to publishing politically-oriented poetry.

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MAKE JAZZ, NOT WAR

War is combative, jazz is collaborative

War kills, jazz lives

War hates, jazz loves

War regiments, jazz improvises

War sucks, jazz blows

War imposes, jazz resists

War shouts, jazz listens

Make jazz, not war.

My Lai - Song My - Baqouba - Haditha

Haditha wings - Haditha wings to fly

Haditha wings - Haditha wings of an eagle

Haditha wings - Haditha wings of a dove

Haditha wings - Haditha wings to carry us over

Over the green zone

Over the orange alert

Over the red mist

Over the blue of peace

My love and I

Make jazz not war

Bombard with joyful rhythm

Fire fusillades of riffing rifling scales

Send bass players and drummers on commando missions

change iron heel into shaking bootie

Deploy myrmidons of wailing trumpets, violins, guitars,

saxophones, flutes, trombones: a wall of impenetrable

sound flattening tanks and bombers and aircraft carriers

Make jazz not war

Build bridges and levees and roads

Not bombs

War fails, jazz succeeds

War divides, jazz communicates

War is celibate, jazz is conjugal

War oppresses, jazz frees

Make jazz, not war.

LEAVING THE SHTETL

I was a tatter.
I knitted lace.
Where is my lace?
Gone
my wedding veil
gone
the pillow cases
gone
the cradle cover.
Gone.

I was a tatter.
Where is my needle?
Where is my shuttle?
They were nothing special,
but they fit in my hands
in some way
that became more and more knit
with every knot
the metal melding into my skin
the shafts moving more surely
more swiftly
as beauty came ever more easily.
My tools.
Gone.

I am a tatter.
Without my tools
my knots come undone.
I lose my definition.
The chain does not link.
My threads shred and fray

and I could blow away.

I feel

blown away.

I left.

Stitches disappeared.

Knots dissolved.

I had to leave.

The core thread could not be found.

I am blown away.

My health?

I have no health.

Where are my needles?

Where is the picture of my mother?

Where is my father's lamp?

Where are my pots and pans?

Where is my will?

Where are my knives?

Where is my lace?

They have burnt my life.

I have nothing.

I have said good-bye.

My health?

NOT GOING AWAY 2017

“WE ARE IN THE MIDST OF THE GRAVEST
CONSTITUTIONAL CRISIS IN THE HISTORY OF THE
UNITED STATES.”

The great civil rights attorney, Arthur Kinoy, said that often.
He was correct each time.

We're marching in New Orleans ...

and in Washington the tweeterheads' head tweeter spews
the lies of his truths and the truths of his lies keeping on
with his faux pas faux news faux paws faux paws faux pokes
cowpokes cowpies which brings us back to our so-called
president and he's telling us “you are not welcome here”

We're marching in Seattle ...

meanwhile the so-called president and his henchmen are
marching to the neo-fascist puffer-pop strains of Dieter's
Industrial Dance Dicks pissing a rain of swastikas and
bloody six-pointed throwing stars and singing the same old
song

If you're brown, don't stick around
if you're a refugee, get away from me
if you're disabled, you've been tabled
if you're a Jew, we don't want you
if you're queer, get out of here
if you follow Islam, you better scam
if you're a migrant, go piss on a hydrant
If you're gay, just go away

BUT WE ARE NOT GOING AWAY

We're marching in Chicago ...

reichsmarshal in his mind Bannon is plannin' and his plans
are real. They WILL turn into bullets. Some of us will die.
WE WILL NOT GO AWAY.

We're marching in Texas ...

From the music and the mountains, from the filmmakers
and the farmlands, from the deserts and the dancers, from
the sonnets and the cities and the poets and the ports and
the parks, Our song shall rise.

We're marching in Columbus.

still Dieter and his dance dick fans
chant their mantra:

If you're black, go away and don't come back.

WE ARE NOT GOING AWAY

Michael is a JazzPoet filmmaker from Columbus, Ohio. His work has always been overtly political. He performs on trombone and poetry with The JazzPoetry Ensemble. *Make Jazz Not War* has been one of the JPE's signature pieces for many years. *We Are Not Going Away 2017* is a massive rework of a piece the JPE performed frequently after Ohio voted to ban gay marriage. It is now and for at least the near future will be their closer. Michael has been published here and there. Favorites include *The Croton Review*, *Negative Capability*, *Connotation Press*, *Istanbul Literary Review*, *Carbon Culture Review*, and *Tryst*. They have released three CDs: the most recent are *Thanamattapoeia*, with Edward "Kidd" Jordan, and *Motherless Acoustivore*, with Kidd and Hamiet Bluiett. More can be found at www.makejazznotwar.org. For the last several years, the JPE has been performing with avant-garde jazz greats like Kidd, D.D. Jackson, and Bluiett. Michael's poetry is much informed by this music. He has received a few awards from the likes of the Ohio Arts Council and Puffin Foundation West. He is active in the community, presenting and promoting modern poetry, avant-garde jazz, and civil rights. He has a colorful all-yard garden also informed by avant-garde jazz.

Locof Chaps

2017

Eileen Tabios – *To Be An Empire Is To Burn*

Charles Perrone – *A CAPacious Act*

Francesco Levato – *A Continuum of Force*

Joel Chace – *America's Tin*

John Goodman – *Twenty Moments that Changed the World*

Donna Kuhn – *Don't Say His Name*

Eileen Tabios (ed.) – *Puñeta: Political Pilipinx Poetry*

Gabriel Gudding – *Bed From Government*

mLEKAL aND – *Manifesto of the Moment*

Garin Cycholl – *Country Musics 20/20*

Mary Kasimor – *The Prometheus Collage*

lars palm – *case*

Reijo Valta – *Truth and Truthmp*

Andrew Peterson – *The Big Game is Every Night*

Romeo Alcala Cruz – *Archaeoteryx*

John Lowther – *18 of 555*

Jorge Sánchez – *Now Sing*

Alex Gildzen — *Disco Naps & Odd Nods*

Barbara Janes Reyes – *Puñeta: Political Pilipinx Poetry, vol. 2*

Luisa A. Igloria – *Puñeta: Political Pilipinx Poetry, vol. 3*

Tom Bamford – *The Gag Reel*

Melinda Luisa de Jesús – *Humpty Drumpfty and Other Poems*

Allen Bramhall – *Bleak Like Me*

Kristian Carlsson – *The United World of War*

Roy Bentley – *Men, Death, Lies*

Travis Macdonald – *How to Zing the Government*

Kristian Carlsson – *Dhaka Poems*

Barbara Jane Reyes – *Nevertheless, #She Persisted*

Martha Deed – *We Should Have Seen This Coming*

Matt Hill – *Yet Another Blunted Ascent*

Patricia Roth Schwartz – *Know Better*

Melinda Luisa de Jesús – *Petty Poetry for SCROTUS' Girls, with poems for Elizabeth Warren and Michelle Obama*
Freke Rähä – *Explanation model for 'Virus'*
Eileen R. Tabios – *Immigrant*
Ronald Mars Lintz – *Orange Crust & Light*
John Bloomberg-Rissman – *In These Days of Rage*
Colin Dardis – *Post-Truth Blues*
Leah Mueller – *Political Apnea*
Naomi Buck Palagi – *Imagine Renaissance*
John Bloomberg-Rissman and Eileen Tabios – *Comprehending Mortality*
Dan Ryan – *Swamp Tales*
Sheri Reda – *Stubborn*
Aileen Cassinetta – *B & O Blues*
Mark Young – *the veil drops*
Christine Stoddard — *Chica/Mujer*
Aileen Ibardaloza, Paul Cassinetta, and Wesley St. Jo – *No Names*
Nicholas Michael Ravnika – *Liberal elite media rag. SAD!*
Mark Young – *The Waitstaff of Mar-a-Largo*
Howard Yosha – *Stop Armageddon*
Andrew and Donora Rihn – *The Marriage of Heaven and Hell*
Reshmi Dutt-Ballerstadt – *Extreme Vetting*
Michael Dickel – *Breakfast at the End of Capitalism*
Tom Hibbard – *Poems of Innocence and Guilt*
Eileen Tabios (ed.) – *Menopausal Hay(na)ku For P-Grubbers*
Aileen Casinetta – *Tweet*
Melinda Luisa de Jesús – *Defying Trumplandia*
Carol Dorf – *Some Years Ask*
Marthe Reed – *Data Primer*
Carol Dorf – *Some Years Ask*
Amy Bassin and Mark Blickley – *Weathered Reports: Trump Surrogate Quotes From the Underground*
Nate Logan – *Post-Reel*

Jared Schickling – *Donald Trump and the Pocket Oracle*
Luisa A. Igloria – *Check & Balance*
Aliko Barnstone – *So That They Shall Not Say, This Is Jezebel*
Geneva Chao – *post hope*
Thérèse Bachand – *Sanctuary*
Chuck Richardson – *Poesy for the Poetus. . .Our Donaldcito*
John M. Bellinger – *The Inaugural Poems*
Kath Abela Wilson – *The Owl Still Asking*
Ronald Mars Lintz – *Dumped Through*
Agnes Marton – *The Beast Turns Me Into a Tantrumbeast*
Melinda Luisa de Jesús – *Adios, Trumplandia!*
Magus Magnus – *Of Good Counsel*
Matina L. Stamatakis – *Shattered Window Espionage*
Steve Klepetar – *How Fascism Comes to America*
Bill Yarrow – *We All Saw It Coming*
Jim Leftwich – *Improvisations Against Propaganda*
Bill Lavender – *La Police*
Gary Hardaway – *November Odds*
James Robinson – *Burning Tide*
Eric Mohrman – *Prospectors*
Janine Harrison – *If We Were Birds*
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