

Haikus of Peril

León De la Rosa Carrillo

I [Bolas y Nido, Romero]

Un ni-do mo-ther
a-ni-da me-tá-fo-ras,
mi-grant sus-pi-ros.

II [Evaporation, Olgúin]

All wa-ter boiled, gone
ca-da cri-tter mud made tracks.
So-mos soil for-lorn.

III [Crossing Signs, Fragua]

Have we read the signs?
So-mos ve-hí-cu-los off
road, e-ne-mi-gos.

IV [Interrupted Ecosystems, Elder]

Ra-í-ces man-gled
clouds when up-roo-ted like kites.
Vi-da y va-por.

V [(Be)Longing, Luger]

If you can see through,
en-ton-ces las cos-ti-llas
son mo-nu-men-to.

VI [The Creation, Gross]

In-va-so-res, rats
ren-dered hu-man, act of god.
Nos me-re-ce-mos.

VII [Its vitality comes through fluctuation, Bryson & Moore]

Nie-ve en ju-nio.
Co-tton-wood es á-la-mo.
La de-rro-ta, ours.

VIII [Affective Cartography, Santos]

Let's be ho-nest in
el de-sier-to to-do es
a tri-umph of sed.

IX [Simplified World, Davidoff]

In a flat e-nough
mun-do de co-lor ma-rrón,
all things tall will fail.

X [Biota, Chavez]

¿Cuán-to per-cen-tage
does it take to make num-bers
re-fle-jos of self?

XI [Silvery minnows, past; Tsiongas & Owen-White]

Ca-da mi-gra-ción
tra-ces a map, co-lum-na
ver-te-bral for life.

XII [521, marquez]

Ca-da vai-na es
sy-mme-tri-cal mi-ra-cles.
Ba-lan-ce, de-bris.

XIII [Binary Codex, Berman]

So long a ri-ver
in-dis-pues-to ves-ti-gio.
A-dios al rí-o.

XIV [brotante, Quezada]

En ca-da tam-bo
hay un-ex-plored depths and hope.
Siem-pre o-ja-lá.

XV [Lotic Possibilities, carlson]

Gra-ba-dos som-bra
me-ji-llo-nes left a-drift,
ill-fa-vored, vul-gar.

XVI [Axis Mundi, Delgado-Trunk]

Pa-pel pi-ca-do,
pa-pel de muer-to; ri-tual.
The myth is un-done.

XVII [There must be other names for the river, Demarco, McLaughlin & Zeglin]

But if the name is
un-fit pa-ra des-bor-dar,
will we get to drown?

XVIII [Electronic textiles, Terrazas]

Do co-lors dream of
e-lec-tric fi-bras, ca-os?
We own our de-mise.

XIX [Illustrations, Peña]

Gol-den pa-chu-co
za-pa-tos en-tre lo-do.
All a-gainst the wall.

Commissioned by 516 ARTS and the UNM Art & Ecology Program
for the **Species in Peril on the Borderlands** public forum,
celebrated on 11.15.19 in Albuquerque, N.M.

