

船隻粉碎之歌  
彼得·科爾

SONG OF THE  
SHATTERING  
VESSELS  
PETER COLE



香港國際詩歌之夜 *2015*  
INTERNATIONAL POETRY NIGHTS IN HONG KONG

編輯 Editors

北島 Bei Dao

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## 香港國際詩歌之夜 2015 International Poetry Nights in Hong Kong 2015

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**彼得·科爾**  
**Peter Cole**

## Of Time and Intensity

Is Time a dispersion of intensity?

For epiphanists, maybe, but not for me—  
for whom Time is a transposition  
of immensity into a lower key.

## 時間與深刻

時間能磨滅深刻嗎？

對頓悟者而言，也許如是吧。

我卻認為，時間最能

把浩瀚化為低調。

(何麗明 譯)

## On Being Partial

I'm partial to what's possible,  
he thought—not the ineffable,  
distant, devoid of insistence  
and temperament that tampers,  
or tramples

Not the impersonal,  
but that which hovers here  
between the “I” of the opening  
and the “us” of your possible listening  
now, or in the imperfect  
tense and tension of what  
in fact articulates the eternal  
That abstract revelation  
and slippery duration  
to which, it seems, I'm given  
and because of which I'm never  
finished with anything, as though living  
itself were an endless translation

## 談偏愛

我對有可能發生的特別偏愛，  
他想——不要說不出的，  
冷淡無情，易於放棄  
及按捺怒氣或蹂躪  
性情的

不要客觀的，  
要那徘徊於這裏的，  
位於「我」的開端  
與「我們」聆聽之間，  
或是於未完成  
時態與張力中  
表達永恆的  
抽象的揭示  
及含糊的時間  
這一切我都擁有  
亦正因此我永遠  
難於完成任何東西，生活  
猶如是永無止境的翻譯

(何麗明 譯)

## Song of the Shattering Vessels

Either the world is coming together  
or else the world is falling apart—  
here—now—along these letters,  
against the walls of every heart.

Today, tomorrow, within its weather,  
the end or beginning's about to start—  
the world impossibly coming together  
or very possibly falling apart.

Now the lovers' mouths are open—  
maybe the miracle's about to start:  
the world within us coming together  
because all around us it's falling apart.

Even as they speak, he wonders,  
even as the fear departs:  
*Is that the world coming together?*  
*Can they keep it from falling apart?*

The image, gradually, is growing sharper;  
now the sound is like a dart:

It seemed their world was coming together,  
but in fact it was falling apart.

That's the nightmare, that's the terror,  
that's the Isaac of this art—

which sees that the world might come together  
if only we're willing to take it apart.

The dream, the lure, isn't an answer  
that might be plotted along some chart—

as we know the world that's coming together  
within our knowing's falling apart.



## 船隻粉碎之歌

要不這個世界結合

要不這個世界分裂——

這裏——現在——字裏行間，

刻在每顆心臟的心壁。

今日，明日，普天氣下，

終結，開端，快要開始——

世界不可能的結合

或是極有可能的分裂。

現在情人的嘴張開——

也許奇蹟將要發生：

我們的內心緊緊結合

因身外的全在分裂。

在談話之際，他心想，

即使擔憂逐步遠離：

世界真的在結合嗎？

他們可以讓它不分裂嗎？