

錫洗盤

萊斯·馬雷

THE TIN
WASH DISH
LES

MURRAY



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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萊斯·馬雷，著名澳洲詩人，生於1938年10月，1965年開始發表詩歌，至今出版超過16本詩集。他居住在新南威爾士州本雅鄉的農場，即是他出生的地方。馬雷的詩曾被翻譯成德文、荷蘭文、丹麥文、挪威文、瑞典文、法文、意大利文、斯洛文尼亞文、馬其頓文和西班牙文等，在世界各地出版，並贏得許多國際詩歌獎，包括「格蕾絲利文詩歌獎」、「皮特拉克詩歌獎」、「英國皇后詩歌金章」、「T.S.艾略特詩歌獎」、「意大利蒙德約國際詩歌獎」等。在馬雷的作品中，衝突的主題多出現於早年他在城市時寫的詩，回歸鄉野後，他嘗試抵抗都市題材的誘惑。

Les Murray, born October 1938, is a prominent Australian poet who has published 16 poetry collections since 1965. He lives on a small former farm at Bunyah, the rural district in which he grew up. Some of his collections have been published in translation, notably in German, Dutch, Danish, Norwegian, Swedish, French, Italian, Slovenian, Macedonian and Spanish, and he has won notable prizes in several of the listed languages. Prominent prizes in English that have come his way home have included the Petrarch Prize, the T. S. Eliot Prize, Queen's Gold Medal for Poetry and the Mondello Prize in Italy. Conflict is a diminishing theme in his writing, and plays a lesser role now than in earlier years, being set aside very largely by subjects of rural life and the Lord. He has tended to resist urgings to concentrate on urban subjects.

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中文翻譯：宋子江

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萊斯·馬雷

Les Murray

Kiss of the Whip

In Cardiff, off Saint Mary's Street,
there in the porn shops you could get
a magazine called Kiss of the Whip.
I used to pretend I'd had poems in it.

Kiss of the Whip. I never saw it.
I might have encountered familiar skills
having been raised in a stockwhip culture.
Grandfather could dock a black snake's head,

Stanley would crack the snake for preference
leap from his horse grab whirl and jolt!
the popped head hummed from his one-shot
slingshot.

The whips themselves were black, fine-braided,

arm-coiling beasts that could suddenly flourish
and cut a cannibal strip from a bull
(millisecond returns) or idly behead an
ant on the track. My father did that.

A knot in the lash would kill a rabbit.

There were decencies: good dogs and children
were flogged with the same lash doubled back.

A horsehair plait on the tip for a cracker

sharpened the note. For then or twelve thousand
years this was the sonic barrier's

one human fracture. Whip-cracking is that:
thonged lightning making the leanest thunder.

When black snakes go to Hell they are
affixed by their fangs to carved whip-handles
and fed on nothing but noonday heat,
sweat and flowing rumps and language.

They writhe up dust-storms for revenge
and send them roaring where creature comfort's
got with a touch of the lash. And that
is a temple yard that will bear more cleansing

before, through droughts and barracks, those
lax, quiet-speaking, sudden fellows
emerge where skill unbraids from death
and mastering, in Saint Mary's Street.

吻鞭

卡迪夫城，聖瑪麗街邊
情色舖林立，你能找到
一本雜誌，叫《吻鞭》。
我常常假裝自己在雜誌上面發表了詩歌。

《吻鞭》。我從未見過。
我可能曾經見過熟悉的技巧
畢竟我是在牧鞭文化中長大。
祖父還會用鞭抽起一條黑蛇的頭，

史丹利能用鞭隨意抽打蛇身
還抓著馬繩跳下，跑圈顛簸！
蛇頭被擊中，鞭準下嗚咽。
鞭身是黑色的，編結得不錯，

猶如叉起手臂的野獸，突然活躍起來
從一頭公牛身上抽出人食的肉條
（毫秒間回頭）或休憩中抽斷
蟻隊中螞蟻的頭。我父親就幹過。