

**RICHARD KRECH**

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**Where Bangkok Came from, or  
Visiting the Ruins at Sukhothai**

Lotus blossom  
green algae.

Turning my back  
to the road

provides a calm invigorating vista.

Sukhothai,  
old palace once held intrigue.

The seat of power  
has moved

on down the Chao Phraya  
to its mouth.

To speak to the world.

## **Vision of Ted Joans on the Other Side of the Wadi Draa**

By the Wadi Draa  
at the end of the road  
just outside M'Hamid  
the sign said "Timbuctu 2000 Km."  
And beyond it the endless Sahara.  
In Arabic it means desert.

On that day in the oasis  
2000 km. away Ted lives.  
He walks by the banks of the Niger,  
a wind blowing from the North  
makes palm trees bend  
to its force.  
The sounds of this city  
much like they have been for  
millennia. The university there is  
2000 years old. The tea houses even  
more ancient.

The cat from America  
reads poetry in the desert.  
In English it means sahara.

**Valerie Solanis and Enver Hoxha  
in Real Time at the End of the Last Century**

Valerie and Enver just  
remnants of a fin-de-siecle era.  
“We want it now!” we chanted  
in Selma in 1965. Still  
wanting it now.

We look back  
from whatever time it is;  
our vantage point by definition  
the most current possible.

Its obsolescence pre-ordained  
like nothing else.

## **Premeditated Deliberated & Intentional**

After three days the jury came back  
with its verdict: guilty of murder  
w/ special circumstances.

A month later  
we sit here again,  
waiting for the penalty phase verdict.  
The jury not only deliberating  
my client's fate this time,  
but their own as well:  
will they too be guilty of murder?

Premeditated murder this time.  
Not the rash impulsive act of a teenager  
but the sober calculated decision  
of 12 adults:  
a teacher, a fireman, a nurse . . .  
Not my client's peers  
by any stretch of the imagination.

The prosecutor having removed all blacks  
from the jury  
over my objection  
and w/ the court's blessing.

Will they cast the second stone?