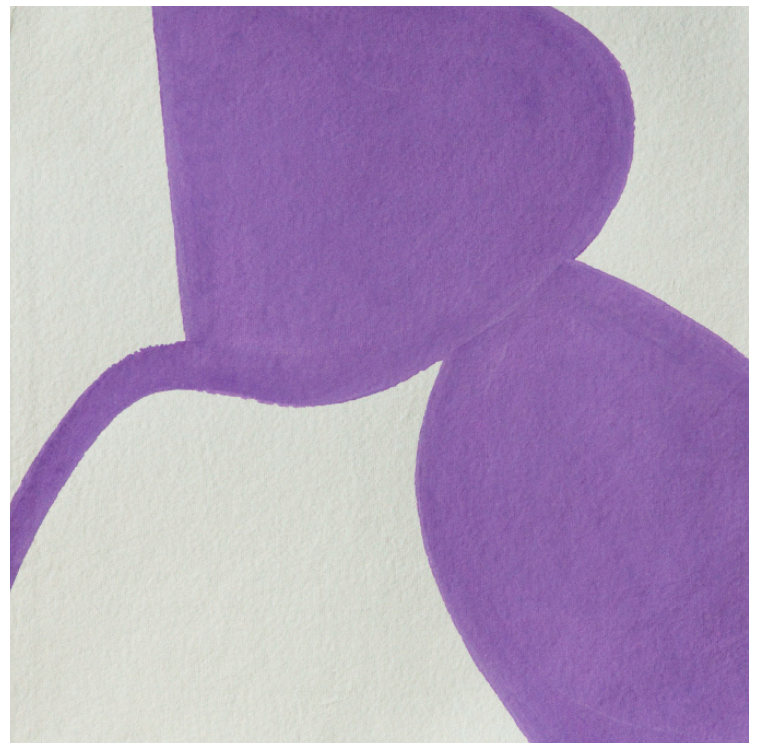


FIRST PROOF

MARINA ADAMS & NORMA COLE
New Alphabet



MARINA ADAMS & NORMA COLE

THE DREAM I HAD ENDED

“NOW
I’M
FREE
OF LOVE
AND OF POSTERS”

—Mayakovsky

6.VI.1924

going back to an absent source,
between object and score
brushing away flies with my thoughts
the size of postcards burning
“three beautiful women from Prague”—
I thought he said “burning”
talking about the picture

realism:—war is kind is the title of a
poem the guy told me, a shell in the kernel,
those fluttering flags at the top of the tower,
shadow of an arc
against the wall, sun spots on shadow
wars

a woman looks at the toe of her boot
inventing the present and
presuming
a kind of accuracy or at least
theatricality, tensions between elements
almost implausible, a fugue, a kind of
authorial sampling, funnels

of forms of violence “evidence-
based”—



"A GREEN WINE I LOVE"
—Raphael Rubinstein

Missing something? Twenty more years
to see & smell the Mediterranean again
(perhaps). White hair. Beautiful white heart
on the froth in the bowl of café au lait this
morning. C. C. in her vest and white shirt.
I have just set my cigarette on fire. A book
just flew over. Next time you are in town,
we'll meet. Did it say more oil or mere oil?
Then it was too short. How could I have
missed it?

"WE'RE ALL GUESTS OF
EXPERIENCE"

says Pasternak. Step away when the song
is about to fall into the air. Everything gets
short like those old etchings. Complete in
your mind the balcony of history. Her white
blouse untucked in this heat, car keys glit-
tering in his hand as he walks away. A man
falls onto the deck, hit but not sunk. He sits
on the chair, looking over at the other chair.
When we consider history—be quiet! Re-
deemable, we will get you a new dream. My
memories, I leave them to you.

*Page 4 and 5: Marina Adams, from New
Alphabet, 2010, gouache on handmade
Indian paper, 12 × 12 issues. All images
courtesy of the artist.*

*Marina Adams is a painter living and work-
ing in New York and Parma, Italy. Her work
has been exhibited in the US and Europe. She
had a one-person exhibition at Magazzino
d'Arte Moderna in Rome and a recent solo
exhibition at CUE Art Foundation in NYC.
She is a visiting art professor at Rhode Island
School of Design. An installation shot and
individual images of New Alphabet can be
seen at marinaadams.tumblr.com.*

*Norma Cole's most recent books of poetry
are Where Shadows Will: Selected Poems
1988–2008 and NATURAL LIGHT.
A book of essays and talks, TO BE AT
MUSIC just appeared from Omnidawn
Press. Cole has received awards from the
Gerbode Foundation, Gertrude Stein
Awards, Fund for Poetry, and Foundation
for Contemporary Arts. She teaches at the
University of San Francisco.*