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tredition

Deep Gazes Into the World

Haikus

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Haikus

Poetic Responses to the Global Pandemic 2020-2021

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Tucson, Arizona



Scare is everywhere,
blindness strikes, and so despair,
but what have we lost?

Deserted desert,
No one knows the direction,
Woke up from a dream.

I thought of nothing,
my books at home gave comfort,
lonely in a cell.

My words and myself
play and live in unison
and create meaning.



Recycling weekly
people take dogs for a walk
what is going on?

I must keep writing
otherwise I would despair
my words console me

Wings of new virus
quietly cover the land
I do not give up

Evening setting
the moon rises behind clouds
spare me my dreaming



Fernweh I tell you

Heimweh I also feel much
at home and abroad

Local pantry here
a long line of hungry mouths
all humanity

Give me all your love
I'll take it with me yonder
Together in flight,
True, I do not fear
my time is much too precious
We are here to live



Finally, sunset
what will tomorrow bring us?
there is always hope

The past is with us,
we cannot escape from it
painful memories

The bell is tolling
the morning is not waiting
pack your stuff and go

Cacti blooming fresh
none of the dying matters
life keeps going on

Hunger knocks on doors
needs no keys or my welcome
human suffering

(I also compose in German)

Oh haiku haiku
du musst wandern durch die Welt

gibst Trost und Segen

Javelinas trot
at night through the neighborhood
they are not concerned

The first pistachio
proudly displays its first leaves
the others will follow



Medieval Black Death
flight, no other remedy
and now, any change?

Darkness awaits us
daybreak arrives, rest assured
it's all a rhythm

Do not trust the head
he does not know anything

oh, bombastic fool

Day by day, we live
birds and sunshine remind us
let's get back to work



Sing a song with me
the chorus always sounds good
we will achieve much

Does the virus smell?
How do the Acacia smell?
You choose what you like

(Again, back to my mothertongue)

*Fern sind die Freunde
wir denken jetzt stark an sie
einsam ist keiner*

So much doom and gloom

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virus, we are not your prey

let's fight, drink, and write



Do not give up hope

there is so much more to do

life is way too short

It's tough, we all know

but we are tough as you know

let us win the war!

Moon and stars wonder

where have all the people

gone alone in hiding

City silhouette

morning sunshine fills the streets

there is no traffic



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Wild flowers now grow
from every crack and hole
no one there to weed

No stopping of time
we all must grow and pass on
one chance, one life, now

And the moon rises
bright and clear above our heads
what only has changed?

Countless viruses
here on lonely Mother Earth
nine billion people

Why, if I may ask
why has this happened to us
life is contingent



Getting up at dawn
working until evening
routine and structure

St. Christopher
pray for us in our need
we hold on to straws

Quirky internet
remains quiet, no e-mails
a pause in the world



If the Jesuits
had known of the pandemic
they might have stayed home.

Some politicians
failed to lead in this crisis
no actions, our death

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The cat on the roof
has chased all the birds away
gazing down to us

Counting weeks and days
the world is changing quickly
and we change along



Windswept treetops sway
dusty breezes swirl us up
Spring in the desert

Dusk, less and less light
the filigree of the branches
profiles the essence

Life has slowed us down
times passes at a new pace
fear and hope so close

Comfort stifles us

Corona enforces change

Evolution now



Moon so full and bright

the earth turns quickly and wanes

where does that leave us?

Fill your glass at night

befriend the red drink divine

and write a new verse

Cold space is empty

life on earth in abundance

look, listen, live, love

Some trees so naked

others burst forth in colors

we wait warily

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Old death is passing
all cacti bloom carelessly
Spring is here to stay

Pick up the old book
wisdom is never aging
we learn from verses

Moon in the dark sky
sun in sapphire clothing
the flowers wake up

I just can't help it
my words tumble forth in Spring
verses in the air



Taking their pictures
does not bother the cacti

quietly they bloom

Sonora, I'm back,
I know, you waited for me
take my flowers, smell

Celebrate Easter
the earth has turned east again
promise of new life

God's old clockwork
stopped time unexpectedly paused
we woke up again

The peacock appeared
his royalty of all birds
what are you proud of?

Old Portulan maps
near useless for sea captains

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Rhumb lines across space

After the last rain

flowers and poppies burst forth

cacti follow close



Some clouds stay behind

April sun sweeps clear the sky

breath sighs of relief

Let's shed our jackets

let's bathe in the sun and shout

welcome, life is back

Oh friends, happy birds

Oh colleagues, you ants and bees

Oh pollen, we sneeze

Ocotillo blooms

cereus greets the mild news

laurels smile in blue



Stroll during the dusk
bats with echolocation
night life starting now

Moonshine calls again
Star constellations guide us
the night takes us in

Mountain ridges gaze
down upon us panicking
ants pursue their tasks.

Corona crisis
silver line: we all will learn:
scito te ipsum



Palm fronds are falling