

Thin Hardcover Artbook

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David Estes



For poetry can only be a partial approach, which substitutes for the object a simple image and for (our feelings) a verbal expression—thereby losing the intimate experience.

On the other hand there is nothing before language, for there is no consciousness, and therefore no world, without a system of signs. In fact, it is the speaking-being that has created this universe, even if language excludes him from it. This means that we are deprived through words of an authentic intimacy with what we are, or with what the Other is.

We need poetry, not to regain this intimacy, which is impossible, but to remember that we miss it and to prove to ourselves the value of those moments when we are able to encounter other people, or trees, or anything, beyond words, in silence.

Yves Bonnefoy

## **The Grackles**

I step out back to grab a bite and see the grackles  
have been here;  
The feeder is empty and the two chipmunks don't  
even bother to  
Chase the other away as there is more than enough  
droppage and  
Then the man (he must be a neighbor) walks by in  
a hurry and I  
Consider hurrying down to say please don't flick  
your cigarette  
Butts in our yard but instead I write this and then  
go back inside.





## **Portrait of Two Men in 1982**

On my first day, I was pulled aside and  
told that

Matt did not like facial hair; he shaved  
twice a day.

Apparently, I did not get the message  
but at

the time life was like my tie, always a  
bit askew.







## **Mary Boone**

Thought of you after watching the video that my brother-in-law just sent; driving down so early to pick me up at LaGuardia and then into the City where we found easy parking near Tompkins Square Park

but Life Cafe was closed  
so we had our coffees at a bar  
on St Marks.

We strolled the sweltering streets before galleries opened in Soho where soon we were perplexed by Frank Gehry at Leo Castelli but amused by Eric Fischl at Mary Boone and instead of dropping me off at Penn Station

you drove me home just so we could spend more time together.  
We discussed how there was tragedy in the world and whether or not we could do anything about it.



David Estes received his BA in History from Cornell University and MFA in Sculpture from California College of the Arts. He has recently become interested in poetry and how it relates to making images; and vice versa.

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