



POEM FILM

Sarah Tremlett: MPhil (UAL), FRSA, SWIP. Artist, Videopoet, Poetry Filmmaker, Curator, Theorist; Co-Director, Workshop Creator and Online Editor of Liberated Words CIC (2012–present).

Qualifications: MPhil, UAL Fine Art 2014; MA, Bath Spa University, Creative Writing, 2001. TEFL qualification 2010.

Research Areas: the **philosophy of poetry film**; the relationship between ‘**visual philosophy**’ poetic text and the moving image; text and relational subjectivity (*matternal philosophy*, Springer, 2009); and **contemplative poetry films** – she has been known since 2005 for researching and defining the term, developed in her thesis on *Graphic Poetics, Audio-Visual Rhythm and Poetry Film* (2014). She is cited in *Who’s Who in Research: Visual Arts* (Intellect, 2012) and has shown and presented her videopoems and poetry films worldwide.

Judge for: Liberated Words, Newlyn PZ Short Film Festival, LYRA, Bristol, and Light Up Poole.

Selected Screenings: ZEBRA, Berlin; The Poetry Society, London; O’Bheal, Cork; The Film and Video Poetry Symposium, Pasadena **presentations** include: VideoBardo, Buenos Aires, Argentina; Tarp, National Gallery of Art, Vilnius, Lithuania; The South Bank Centre, London; Encounters Film Festival, Bristol; ZEBRA, Berlin; REELpoetry, Houston and The Geopoetic conference (online).

Liberated Words CIC: In 2012, she co-founded Liberated Words poetry film events with poet Lucy English to screen international poetry filmmakers alongside films from lesser heard voices in the local community. As editor of Liberated Words online she provides a locus for poetry film research, whilst the Facebook group generates further discussion. She organized the Liberated Words festivals and accompanying publications between 2012 and 2015. She has created innovative projects for adults with dementia, teenagers with autism and projects in schools between English, Media and Dance students.

Current Leading Publication: *The Poetics of Poetry Film* – a scholarly reference work on the subject (with over 40 contributors) will be published by Intellect Books (March 2021). As author and editor of this 120,000-word work, Sarah Tremlett aims to identify how both the content and formal aspects of the poetry film genre combine within a lyric aesthetic and a framework of connective ethics.

Recent Commissions:

- **2017 Commission by *Filmpoem*** (Alastair Cook) film for one of the commended Poetry Society 2016 National Poetry Competition poems Sam Harvey's 'Claire Climbs Everest' <https://vimeo.com/228666910>.
- **2018 Directed three poetry films for *The Book of Hours*** by Lucy English – *Mr Sky* <https://vimeo.com/251826023>; *Solstice Sol Invictus* <https://vimeo.com/266275739> and *Summer Solstice* Summer Solstice <https://vimeo.com/290230463>
- **2020 Commission by the Visible Poetry project**, New York (April 2020 online) pairing filmmakers and poets for National Poetry Month. In *Selfie with Marilyn* (April 25th) she chose to be paired with American poet Heidi Seaborn.
- **2020 *Bird Poem*** a collaborative family history poetry film with poet Dr Helen Johnson. A commission from the Centre for Arts and Wellbeing, Brighton University (June 2020).

Recent Presentations:

- **ZEBRA Poetry Film Festival, Berlin, December, 2019**
Invited speaker on British poetry films and part of the colloquium on workshops and teaching poetry film.
- **Reel Poetry, Houston, Texas, January, 2020**
Invited speaker presenting *Uprooted* – a curation of poetry films on migration and the refugee crisis. Also screened at: North Cornwall Book Festival, October, 2018; Bath Spa Empathy Conference, November, 2018; Bristol Poetry Festival, April, 2019.
- **VideoBardo, Buenos Aires at Bristol Poetry Institute, February, 2020**
Sarah Tremlett was instrumental in bringing Marisol Bellusci from VideoBardo, Buenos Aires, Argentina to Bristol Poetry Institute, co-hosted by Dr Rebecca Kosick of Bristol University. Bellusci spoke about the role of video poetry in Latin America. Tremlett wrote a bilingual interview with Marisol for *Liberated Words*.
- **Poetry Films on the Environment, LYRA, March 2020**
co-curation and panel discussion with Lucy English Bristol Poetry Festival.
- ***Solstice Sol Invictus*** poetry film selected by ZEBRA poetry film festival for the online joint event The Festival of Hope – subtitled The Versopolis Global Virtual Poetry Festival, April 2020.
- **Judging poetry films at Newlyn PZ short film festival and presenting *Paper River* (2019)** as part of a talk on poetry films and environmental issues, April 2020.
- **Presentation of *I Swallow*** poetry film to Technology for the Arts Learning Circle convened by Maskwacis Cultural College and Mary McDonald of Pinnguaq (Canada online), August 2020.
- **Presentation of *Firewash***, poetry film from *Tree*, family history research and poetry project for **Geopoetry 2020**, October 2020 (online). On editorial team for the printed and online *Geopoetry 2020* Anthology.
- **Presentation of *Bird Poem*** a collaborative family history poetry film with poet Dr Helen Johnson. A commission from the Centre for Arts and Wellbeing postgrad group, Brighton University.
- **Lockdowning – [co]video notes**, eight videopoems in eight days on the COVID-19 crisis, month by month; an online Facebook poetry challenge (October 2020).

Selected Writings:

- **‘Maternal Philosophy, Female Subjectivity and Text in Art’**, 2008. *New Realities: Being Syncretic*, Springer Wein, New York, 292–296. Consciousness Reframed Conference IX.
- **Some Everybodies – Design and non-dualist filmic experience**. 2009 in: *Experiencing Design, behaving media*, Consciousness Reframed Conference X, pp. 99-100; and *Technoetic Arts: A Journal of Speculative Research*, Intellect Books Ltd, Vol. 8 (2), pp. 139–147.
- Stage play:** *The Forger* commissioned and produced at Wilmington Opera House, Delaware, 1998.

Poetry published:

- ‘The Last Green Mile’ an ekphrastic poem on Peter Lanyon, in *Transitional: Otter Gallery Poetry Anthology*, Chichester University, 2015.
- ‘Firewash’ poem and poetry film on a mining ancestor and site (visited) from the 12th century, from *Tree* for the Geopoetry 2020 Anthology.

On Poetry Film see www.liberatedwords.com for latest interviews and essays:

- **Selfie with Marilyn in ZEBRA 2020 – Representing Identity (now and then)**, Heidi Seaborn and interview with Sarah Tremlett by Dr Meriel Lland, (October 2020).
- **Rebecca Hilton, a New Generation of Poetry Filmmakers**, 2019.
- **Mix Conference**, July 2019 – *Experiential Storytelling: poetry film meets profiling and the panoptic gaze – Unseen Forces and the Protagonist’s Point of View* (ZEBRA presentation comparing six British poetry filmmakers, December, 2019, and www.movingpoems.com).

Other publications:

- **Contextual Essay Valerie LeBlanc and Daniel H. Dugas** for *Video Poetry* (Small Walker Press, 2020).
- **‘Exploring Contemplative Effects in Text-based Video Poems’** – abridged essay as online multi-site publication at: Moving Poems, Atticus Review, Poetry Film Live and Poetry Film Kanal (June–August 2017), from the forthcoming *The Poetics of Poetry Film*, Intellect Books.
- **‘Finding a New Approach to Interpreting Family History Research as Creative Narrative with Poetry and Poetry Film’**, essay, poetry film and field notes on ‘Paper River’, chapter on the First World War at a Devon paper mill, from *Tree*, for *The International Journal of Creative Media Research*, Bath Spa University, October 2020.

Future presentations / writing:

- **Selfie with Marilyn**, poetry film at ZEBRA poetry film festival, Berlin, November 2020.
- **VideoBardo (Buenos Aires)** online festival, November 2020.
- **The Poetics of Poetry Film** publication at REELpoetry, Houston, February 2021 (online).
- **The Poetics of Poetry Film** publication, LYRA poetry festival, March 2021.
- **curated poetry film screening** on ‘connections’ theme for LYRA with Lucy English.
- **MIX conference 2021** ‘Amplified Voices’ presentation and screening (online).

Selected Conferences / Exhibitions:

- **MIX, July, 2019** – Experiential Storytelling presentation, screening and reading of *Paper River* (2019) from *Tree*, online geopoetic and mythopoetic family history poetry film novel <https://vimeo.com/344068197>. Creative interpretations of family history through research, poetry, prose and poetry film, where toponymic identity, place and trees feature. *Paper River* (2019) the first film in the collection, centres on an incident that happened at a paper mill during the First World War, and how the pollution of the River Culm through papermaking, has created its own stain on ancestral identity.
- **Scottish Centre for Geopoetics, June, 2019** *Paper River*, reading and screening.
- **2017 Commission by FilmPoem** (Alastair Cook) film for one of the commended Poetry Society 2016 National Poetry Competition poems Sam Harvey's 'Claire Climbs Everest' <https://vimeo.com/228666910>.
- **Presentation, North West Universities Poetics and Poetry Network Symposium**, January 2017 Invited by Dr Judy Kendall of The University of Salford to present on the theme of poetry film.
- **2014/15 Liberated Words III** Organiser of *Reflections and Memory* poetry film festival, commemorating the anniversary of the 1914-18 war at The Arnolfini Art Gallery, Bristol; including Marc Neys' workshop at The YMCA, Bristol. Sarah hosted an international poetry film discussion and screening on poetry film and form at Encounters Short Film and Animation Festival. There was a second screening of *Reflections* at The Little Theatre, Bath, 2015 with workshops from schools and older patients suffering dementia.
- **2015 TARP, National Gallery of Art**, Vilnius Audio Visual Poetry Film Festival, Lithuania, September Talk and presentation on ten years of the artist's minimal videopoems at the National Gallery of Art, and premier of two new haiku videopoems.
- **2014 The South Bank Poetry International Festival** (Festival of Love), July. Invited presentation: *Re: Turning – rhythm and poetry film*, graphic poetics, contemplative poetry film and visual philosophy.
- **2013 e-Poetry conference**, June, Kingston University – *From Prosody to Moving Prosody*, presentation of paper and overview of historical poetry films.
- **2012 VideoBardo – For The Earth** – symposium/screening, Buenos Aires, Argentina. Invited speaker; 'The Word as a Leaf' paper; screening of video *She/Seasons/Contemplating Nature* and *AMAM/AMMA*.