

Gerald Dawe

**ANOTHER  
TIME**

POEMS 1978-2023



Gallery Books

*Another Time: Poems 1978-2023*  
is first published  
simultaneously in paperback  
and in a clothbound edition  
on 7 September 2023.

The Gallery Press  
Loughcrew  
Oldcastle  
County Meath  
Ireland

www.gallerypress.com

*All rights reserved. For permission  
to reprint or broadcast these poems,  
write to The Gallery Press:  
books@gallerypress.com*

© Gerald Dawe 2023

The right of Gerald Dawe to be identified as Author of this  
Work has been asserted in accordance with Section 77 of the  
Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988.

ISBN 978 1 91133 855 0 *paperback*  
978 1 91133 852 9 *clothbound*

A CIP catalogue record for this book  
is available from the British Library.

*Another Time: Poems 1978-2023* receives financial  
assistance from the Arts Council of Ireland.



## Contents

### PART ONE

#### *Another Time* (New Poems, 2023)

1969 page	15
As Luck Would Have It	16
Come What May	17
Authenticities	18
Revenant	
AS BEFORE	19
THEIR WEDDING PHOTOGRAPH	19
FLASHBACK	20
Body and Soul	21
All Things Considered	23
Reprise	24
Echo's Bones	25
Make Believe	26
The Lost	28
Worry Beads	29
The Tower	30
Only Son	31
Level Crossings	32
Portrait of Man in Bath	33
Another Time	35

### PART TWO

#### from *Sheltering Places* (1978)

Sheltering Places	41
Names	42
Memory	43

#### from *The Lundys Letter* (1985)

Secrets	44
A Question of Covenants	45
The Desert Campaign	46

Responsibilities 47  
Resistances 48  
Morning Start 49  
The Lundys Letter 50  
The Clock on a Wall of Farringdon Gardens,  
    August 1971 52  
Translations 54  
Spoils of Love 56  
Solstice 57  
Three Sisters 58  
*from* In the Country  
    ZOOM 59  
    LAND OF OUR FATHERS 59  
    THE TRIBUNE 60

*from Sunday School* (1991)  
    Little Palaces 61  
    Dead Men's Shoes 62  
    Sin 63  
    Saturday Night 64  
    The Just 65  
    The Likelihood of Snow/The Danger of Fire 66  
    Quiet Farm 68  
    The Water Table 69  
    To James Joyce 70  
    Straws in the Wind 72  
    Safe Houses 73  
    Good Night 74  
    The Messages 76

*from Heart of Hearts* (1995)  
    The Aunt's Story 77  
    Middle Names 78  
    Child of the Empire 79  
    Heart of Hearts 80  
    The End of It 81  
    Wonders 82

Refugees 83  
The Journals 84  
Waves 85  
*from* The Nick of Time  
    SOON 86  
    MUSE 86  
    ABOUT THE HOUSE 86  
Moving 88

*from The Morning Train* (1999)  
    The Minos Hotel 89  
    The Break-up 95  
    Oxfords 96  
    Quartz 97  
    Kristallnacht, 1938 98  
    The Old Jewish Cemetery, Lodz 99  
    In Ron's Place 100  
    The Morning Train 102  
    Human Wishes 103  
    Summer Journal 106

*from Lake Geneva* (2003)  
    Midsummer Report 108  
    The Interface 109  
    Laughter and Forgetting 110  
    Snap 112  
    Text Messages 113  
    The Jazz Club 114  
    Synge's Distraction 115  
    Pet Days 117  
    Night and Morning 118  
    Lake Geneva 119

*from Points West* (2008)  
    Points West 124  
    The Pleasure Boats 126  
    A Shower of Rain 128

The Moon-viewing Room 129  
Pied-à-terre 130  
Some Nights 132  
Argentina 133  
Fellow Travellers 134

*for Dorothea*

from *Mickey Finn's Air* (2014)

Déjà-vu 137  
For Sale 141  
Leave-taking 142  
Every Dog Has His Day 143  
Serenade 144  
Crossing the Sound 145  
The Bells of St Nicholas 146  
Mickey Finn's Air 147  
Shortcuts 148  
Another Country 153

from *The Last Peacock* (2019)

East Pier 157  
House of Fiction 158  
To Richard Ford Beyond in America 159  
The Last Peacock 161  
Cold-blooded Moon 162  
Land of Dreams 163  
Elegy 165  
A Visit 166  
The Good Suit 167  
Home Again 168  
Selfies 169  
The Wound 170

*Acknowledgements* 172

## *Names*

They call this 'the Black North',  
black from the heart out.  
It doesn't matter about  
particularities when mouths  
mumble the handy sayings  
and day-in minds tighten.

I've been here having thought  
nowhere else was possible.  
A condition of destiny or what  
the old generations only fumbled  
with: conceit, success, a fair  
share of decent hardship.

In this extreme, perched  
on the edge of the Atlantic,  
you feel to look down  
and gather around the details,  
thinking to store them away,  
bundle and pack in the exile's way.

Line up and through the turn-  
stile, click the ticket  
and wait till you're clear of it.  
You need never recall  
the other names.

## *Memory*

*for Bridget O'Toole*

It is a desert of rock  
the rain has finally withered  
till we are left black  
dots on a shrinking island.

We come like pilgrims  
wandering at night through  
the dim landscape. A blue  
horizon lurks behind whin  
bushes and narrows to pass  
the pitch-black valley.

We are at home. A place  
as man-forsaken as this  
must carry like the trees a silent  
immaculate history. Stones  
shift under the cliff's shadow;  
nearby the tide closes in,  
master of the forgotten thing.

*Kristallnacht, 1938*

Observe the distracted faces of these men  
who are Jews, attempting to march and look casual.  
See, too, the shoddy uprighteousness  
of those who are leading this forced march,  
  
but do not miss the woman's shy smile  
and the three men under the trees  
who look in different directions all at once.  
This shot is seen through the eyes of a smiling woman.

*The Old Jewish Cemetery, Lodz*

Tabernacle, opened book, theatrum,  
dove, headstones topsy-turvy,  
till six unfilled pits  
take back from the atrocious silence  
the caretaker's sleeping dog,  
the nondescript side door of exit.