

Tanaka Fuego | Limbs To The Wind

this broken piece of yard

AIN'T WE ALL JUST SOMEWHAT FALLING MID AIR, AND SOME OF US JUST LEARNED HOW TO GIVE IN FASTER THAN OTHERS?

LEARNED HOW TO STRIKE A POSE, AND SHAKE IT OFF WHILE FEAR PARALYSES PEERS.

AIN'T WE ALL JUST FALLING?

DYING TO BE SAVED.

BUT UNTIL THEN, KNOW THAT I'M HAPPY I'M GETTING THE CHANCE OF FALLING NEXT TO YOU.

ii. Since freedom ain't ideal let's find it in each other.

Hold me,

Like tomorrow might leave today.

As if yesterday raced us out, and we are trying to find our feet.

Hold me.

Please.

Because to crave, is to want what you have had.

But to need,

Is another.

This body craved a breath. So I thought to cut it a smile, and let salvation run.

A fleeting, I pray for. But even on my best days, Heaven's gates refuse me entry. "Fuck an institution, They give us more pollution, I'm telling you the government is pure illusion."

I see some of us in every Stormzy video. Some of us on road. Some of us in morgues. But yet we have no home.

"You're from where?"

"I'm from there."

A place where the TfL ain't got nothing on a combi. But place me back, And I'll still take my Oyster card everywhere.

Call it a 'habit', I call this a false sense of security.

To be black with a passport stained with my ancestor's blood. Oh the irony of freedom.

"I NEVER ASKED TO BE HERE!"

But I am oh so grateful.

Tanaka is a slam winning, multi-published, international spoken word performer. He is a black, queer artist whose poems cross leaps and boundaries throughout his identity.

This commission is part of LUX's 2021 programme *this broken piece of yard* developed by Cairo Clarke.

this broken piece of yard invites a constellation of creative practitioners to contribute to a year of co-intentional slow, ambient programming. Centering learning through practice and embedding Black feminist futurity at its core. Together we honour forms of knowledge production and dissemination that slip between the cracks, are formed on unstable ground, and take on multiple temporalities. Offerings are drawn from strands of theorising taking place in autonomous spaces, inserting the speculative into the present and holding space for the mess. this broken piece of yard was born out of exploring the history of LUX (formerly the London Filmmakers Co-op); navigating the lived conditions of Covid-19 and global uprisings in defence of Black life - together culminating in asking "what do we want from arts organisations now?" and "what do we want to bring into being?"

Through writing commissions, audio projects, digital interventions, activities in nature and working groups *this broken piece of yard* is an experiment towards an entangled communal practice. We take exhaustion as a point of solidarity, slow-walking together, leaning on one another, collectively shaping *this broken piece of yard*.

Cairo Clarke is a curator, writer and founder of SITE projects. She is currently LUX Curatorial Fellow 2020/21.

Design & layout by Joshua Woolford.

