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URBAN BLOOM

An Artist's Response to Living Beneath Concrete

October 2010 Issue



On the Back of the Northern Wind: Speculations on the "Windy City"





he was wrapped in furs, and he reared
all day about the garden, and blew
the chimney-pots down.







only the plucky nerve of the eating-house keeper rescued the useful seats from a journey to the "windy City".







*"oh!" she cried, "he has taken my hat
and given it to the sea."*



The artists featured in this issue are,

Anna Gorman	4,10
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Walking through the city you can find small remnants of a natural world that does not need a human hand to exist. The imprint of a leaf in once wet cement, the sound of water hitting the shoreline near a river that runs the wrong way, an occasional falcon making its way through sky scrapers and giving the illusion of scraping the sky. We have spent so much time harnessing the natural world rather than embracing it. We tare down trees and natural growing beds of perennials in order to instill a park equip with grass and annuals that are not native to this land. But as we sleep at night, nature slowly sneaks back into every nook and cranny of our existence; Subtly at first, unnoticeable, then making bolder moves like raining on the day of the thanksgiving parade or tearing out windows of the Sears Tower with a gust of northern wind. And despite our noble intentions, our struggle is only self-taxing. The battle will never end.

The intention of Urban Bloom is not to place judgment on our own kind but to act as a reminder of a love that we are each conditioned with. Children are always infatuated with animals; their soft fur and the way they can take on human qualities in folklore. We all have a curiosity towards this unknown world that once, not long ago, we were a part of. There is something curious about the way a dog can look at you, and for an instant, their eyes look as if they could be your own. At the end of a long and stressful day, something about basking outside in the sun can be more rejuvenating than sitting on the sofa in front of the T.V. Noticing a star in the sky from the subway at the end of the day can be so out of context it almost takes your breath away. We have all had a moment like this. It is inevitable that at some point or another, we will all question where we came from and where we shall go. What is nature? How can we distinguish anymore between what is natural and what is manufactured. After all, plastic is made from the polymers of natural gas. Perhaps it is not worth defining. Maybe this definition has been the problem all along. Trying to distinguish between our world and the world of nature only creates a barrier between the two realms. Finding a way to live harmoniously is possible and inevitable.

The Theme for November 2010 is,

Scavenging and the art of decay



Welcome to Urban Bloom. We are an online periodical created by artists, managed by artists, designed by artists but read by anyone.

We seek to bring consciousness to what is often overlooked in the big city, Nature. There is a menagerie of hidden flora and fauna thriving in the city, we humans among them. We are a voice for the city's biological forms.

How it works:

At the beginning of each month we will post the current theme. Then we will begin accepting submissions through our email,

Urbnbloom@yahoo.com

This works similarly like a call for entries for a traditional gallery show. We will review the submissions that reach us before the 20th of each month and curate them together. Make something that exemplifies your own style. This is a great way to show people what your practice is all about.

Shortly before the publication we will post the names and information of everyone that will be included in the periodical that month and then the last day of that given calendar month we will electronically publish a pdf. with the magazine on our blog.