Several Gravities by Keith Waldrop

Edited with an essay by Robert Seydel

This beautiful hardcover book is the first published collection of Keith Waldrop's radiant collages, revealing an essential aspect of his multi-faceted oeuvre. Like his collage poems, his images are enveloped in ghosted impressions, quiet tensions, and fragments of dream. Traces of memory gesture toward the absent and invisible, evoking a vivid, mesmerizing world rich with contradiction and ambiguity. Several Gravities features a substantial selection of collages in full color, an incisive essay by editor Seydel, as well as a new serial poem and an essay by Waldrop that enunciates the relationship betwen his distinctive visual and poetic practices.

This juxtaposition of prose commentary, verse and collage is a fascinating and illuminating work in itself. Several Gravities also serves as a bright window onto the landscape of Keith Waldrop's poetics and creative life. It is suffused with his ineffable mix of gentle irony, humor and incisiveness, a tonal palette I have much admired across the decades of his deeply imaginative engagement with poetry, prose, drama, and the visual arts.

-Michael Palmer

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