



## Pause For Poetry: Michael Hawkes /34

### Description

## Demonstration/Confession

A poem by **Michael Hawkes**

October 1, 2021

I demonstrate by not attending.  
I cogitate instead.  
At the height of remonstrations  
I'll be caught up in my head.  
I just don't have sufficient steam  
To want to let it off;  
Although I share the peoples' dreams  
Perhaps I do not care enough.

If I thought things could be changed  
By every fervent shout,  
It might not seem so strange,  
To see those banners waved about.  
I appreciate the worthy cause  
And rue the state we're in;  
I feel the horror of the wars  
And despise the lies and spin;

Alas, beyond the demonstrators' din,  
Deep in their redoubts,  
Intransigent and full of hate  
The perpetrators celebrate,  
Assign more bombs for future raids  
And wait the fervor out.

Then sure enough it wanes,



Retreats into the peoples' hearts,  
Where no doubt it still attains;  
While all over in those fractious parts  
Where dichotomy remains,  
Despite the ache in righteous hearts  
That manifests in fits and starts,  
Rank confusion reigns.

20/5/21 – Hawkes

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## Poetry reading at CAS on October 2



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The **Centre des arts de Stanstead** is pleased to present a poetry reading

in English with **Virginia Konchan** and **Mark Abley** taking place **Saturday, October 2** at 4 pm on Zoom. They will both read alternately during an hour-long event with host **Shelley Pomerance**. To join the event click on the [Zoom link](#).



**Michael Hawkes** is an 80-year-old survivor of all the world's wars. He learned (and loved to rhyme) by torturing the hymns he had to sing at school. A retired West Coast fisherman living in Montreal since 2013, he is an unschooled Grandpa Moses writing an average of five poems every week.

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- 1. Demonstration/Confession



2. Michael Hawkes
3. poem

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