so-called playground likely to be still alive institutional diaspora very likely they were collected and taken away paper dolls representing leave things as they are chattels of men
well their assets should be seized
broadening the focus I would love
to hear more to put it mildly living
conditions and practices unpalatable
widened beyond not-too-distant
collective past the fallout even
remotely related less than a
generation since  Langan Joseph 05/12/1937 6 mts
Are you in this photograph? Do you recognize anyone?
and for what I knew they were there at the heart of the desecration of lies the demonization of chill of local gossip dogmatic slumber we balk at Tuam uncovering harsh regime the fact it was a sewage area
somehow deflecting attention
get down on the floor to eat it
McGowan Edward 11/04/1943 10 3/4 min
About the Poems
The St Mary’s Mother and Baby Home was run by the Bon Secours Sisters on behalf of the Irish State to house unmarried mothers and their children. The location of the graves of 796 infants and children who died in the Home between between 1926 and 1961 is unknown, though local knowledge, the research of local historian Catherine Corless, and recent excavations point to a field near the old site of the Home, as well as the likelihood that some children were illegally adopted. International media attention in 2014 led to the Irish government’s Commission of Investigation into Mother and Baby Homes, which is still underway.

MOTHERBABYHOME is a 796-page ‘report’ comprised of conceptual and visual poetry (published by zimZalla Avant Objects). An excavation of voices, the poems are composed entirely of text taken from historical archives and contemporary sources related to the Home, including files given to me by Catherine Corless. Each page includes the name, age and death date of a child. The 796 poems will be printed on transparent vellum and held in a handmade oak box. MOTHERBABYHOME will also be published in a hardback Reader’s Edition in April 2019. Kimberly will give a reading of the entirety of MOTHERBABYHOME at Oonagh Young Gallery in Dublin on April 24, 2019.

Kimberly Campanello’s poetry publications include Consent, Strange Country and Imagines (both on the sheela-na-gig stone carvings), and Hymn to Kālī (her version of the Karpūrādī-stotra). MOTHERBABYHOME, a collection of 796 conceptual and visual poems on the St. Mary’s Mother and Baby Home in Tuam, Co. Galway, is forthcoming from zimZalla Avant Objects in 2019. In 2017 a selection from MOTHERBABYHOME was published in Laudanum’s Chapbook Anthology Volume Two alongside work by Frances Lock and Abigail Parry. Her poems have most recently appeared in Poetry Ireland Review, Poetry Wales, and Banshee. In 2018 Kimberly joined the University of Leeds and the University of Leeds Poetry Centre as a Lecturer in Creative Writing.

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