

so-called playground and likely to be still alive
in 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 03/12/1937 6 mts

Mannion James 22/02/1945 7 1/2 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 mts

encroaching on the
encroaching on the
encroaching on the
encroaching on the
encroaching on the
encroaching on the

Heneghan Kathleen 01/01/1942 25 days

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 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 *Karpūrādi-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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