PAUSE
BREATHE
RECONNECT

POETRY & DISCUSSION

THURSDAY, APRIL 29TH 2021
noon - 1 pm
VIA ZOOM WITH UCSF LIBRARY

GRAPHIC RECORDING BY FARAH HAMADE
INTEGRATION in a time of DISINTEGRATION

ICD10 codes... reducing a woman (her beauty, her aspirations...) to
K70.31 - Alcoholic cirrhosis of liver

SHARON PRETTI

IN RETROSPECT gave me a way to travel back to an uncertain time.
Brother Brain's pancreatic cancer
I chose pink, a cluster of carnations

THE WHIPPLE PROCEDURE (for Dr. Kimberly Kirkwood)
I got lucky

TUBES CROSSED LIKE HIGHWAYS

15 years after his death...
"memory is like water"

"what are the parameters for leaving?"

UNDERSTAND THE PACIFIC, no knowing how far I'll be carried

KATHLEEN MCCLUNG

YOUR GOOGLE SEARCH DOES NOT EQUAL my medical degree

SHARON PRETTI

DOES HEEL HAVE 7 RINGS?
OR MORE?

I'M HERE to SMOTHER DOUBT

THE NEAL MURRAY
A HOUSE OF MIRRORS

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PEGGY TAHIR

my tears ran into my ears

I’M IMPRESSED!

far into my bones

MICHHELLE-LINH NGOYEN

(reading from)

THE BOOK OF DELIGHTS
by ROSS GAY

a burden
one can manage solo

a poem for each radiation treatment

MEDICINE (the system) IS A MACHINE (a white room)

COMPASSIONATE DOCTORS make all the difference

HUMANITY

+ It felt intimate. + made space, even over zoom. +

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DARK WAVES UNDER A LEMON PEEL MOON

SHARING A BAG

The breast you desire
floats in and out of your dreams

I WORDER IF SUCCESS IS NOT WHAT I THINK OR ENDURE

my cells renewing, filling with light

awkwardness and joy

captures the

of re connecting
Ladan (Ladi):
I’m reminded of this line from (Roque Dalton’s) poem...
"Like you... I believe the world is beautiful and that poetry, like bread, is for everyone.

Leopold Avallone:
When you face a LIFE CRISIS (a malignancy) IS EARTH SHAKING.
"1 Phone call can change things."

Sarah Velez:
"NO GESTURE IS WASTEFUL.
"Nectarines from BEkeley Bowl."

We BUILT the SYSTEM
WE CAN CHANGE IT too

Michael Peters:
Medicine can be very STERILE.
Finding ART in the middle of HUMAN MUCK.

Alya Ahmed:
POETRY ALLOWS us TO SLOW DOWN.
"the power of the IMAGINATION"
sharing pain with your loved one.

As a health care provider, I understand... It’s tiring.

It’s the small gestures that make a difference but they get lost in the fold.