

Autumn

愛するも生くるも難し 私も染めしめ賜へ紅葉の色に

how can I
live and love?
everywhere
is Autumn
color me too, please

熟しゆく秋の静けさ淡淡と微睡む月の乳色のもと

under
the pale milky
moon . . .
the ripe silence
of Autumn

わが内に暗き虚あり晩秋の光る水面に何をか探す

what am I
looking for ?
the last glow
of Autumn —
a dark hollow of
me

香煙が暫く吾に留まりぬ二千二十年コロナウィルス禍

incense
smoke came
to me
and stayed for a
while
Covid-19, 2020

Mariko Kitakubo

Mariko Kitakubo (a tanka poet/tanka reading performer) was born in Tokyo (4, Oct. 1959). She lives in Mitaka-city, Tokyo. She has published six books of tanka including three bilingual ones, "On This Same Star", "Cicada Forest" and "INDIGO". She has also produced a CD of her tanka titled "Messages." Mariko is an experienced performer who has presented her poetry on at least 234 occasions, 177 of them overseas (as of Sep. 2019), and in 51 cities around the world including in the United States, Canada, Australia, France, Germany, Portugal, The United Kingdom, Tanzania, Switzerland and Bulgaria. She hopes to encourage more poetry lovers worldwide to appreciate and practice tanka. Visit Mariko on the web here: www.en.kitakubo.com

