

Mercator Projected
selected geographies

Mark Young

Half Day Moon Press No. 9

front cover image Weilmoringle

Copyright © by Mark Young

Published by Half Day Moon Press

www.halfdaymoonpress.com

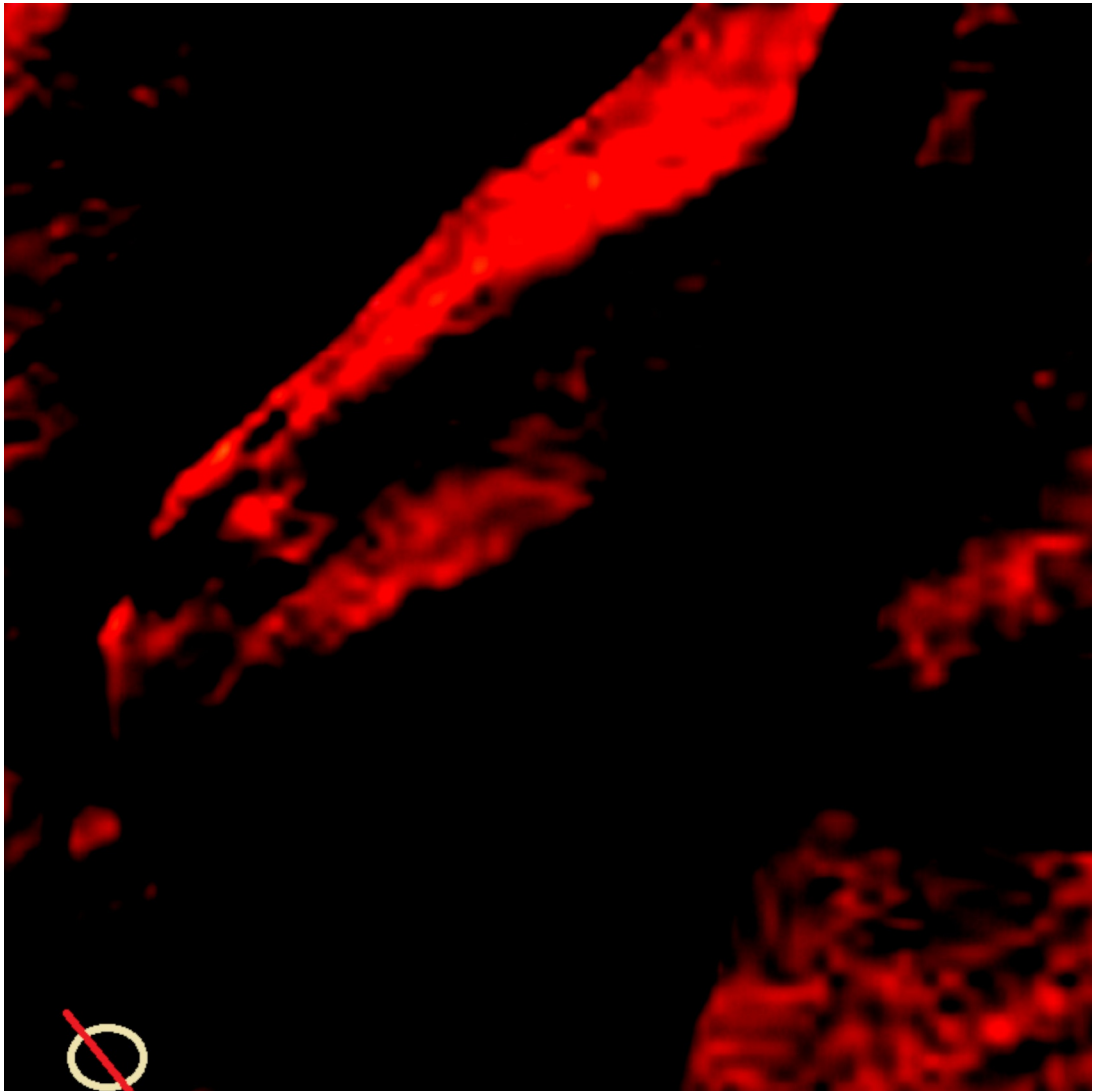
ISSN 2992-9571

Aknowledgements

Some of these poems first appeared in:

*A New Ulster, BlazeVOX, former People, Half Day Moon Journal,
No Placebos, otata, Rasputin: a poetry thread, Scud,
Sonic Boom, Synchronized Chaos, & The Curly Mind.*

My thanks to the respective editors.



Bemm River

Peoria, IL

My steel-cut apple risotto is shaped from a single template which is a mix of a wedding event site & a car mechanic business. Both are on the National Registry of Historic Places. There are 1000s of Illinois historic & pre-historic locations that have been designated as important resources worthy of preservation. I'm so hoping my risotto will join them.

Bratislava

The oligarchs of the Little Carpathians offer redemption in the form

of chocolate-topped donuts covered in rainbow sprinkles. They ask only

for a sum of money to be donated to ensure the efficacy of their ministrations.



Mannibadar

Haute-Normandie

In a naive homage
to the theory of
cyclical recurrence
so popular in
Victorian times

& in the belief
that it would make
his product much
more sellable, the

young Flaubert
downsized the
rôle of Madame
Bovary in his screen-
play adaption of the

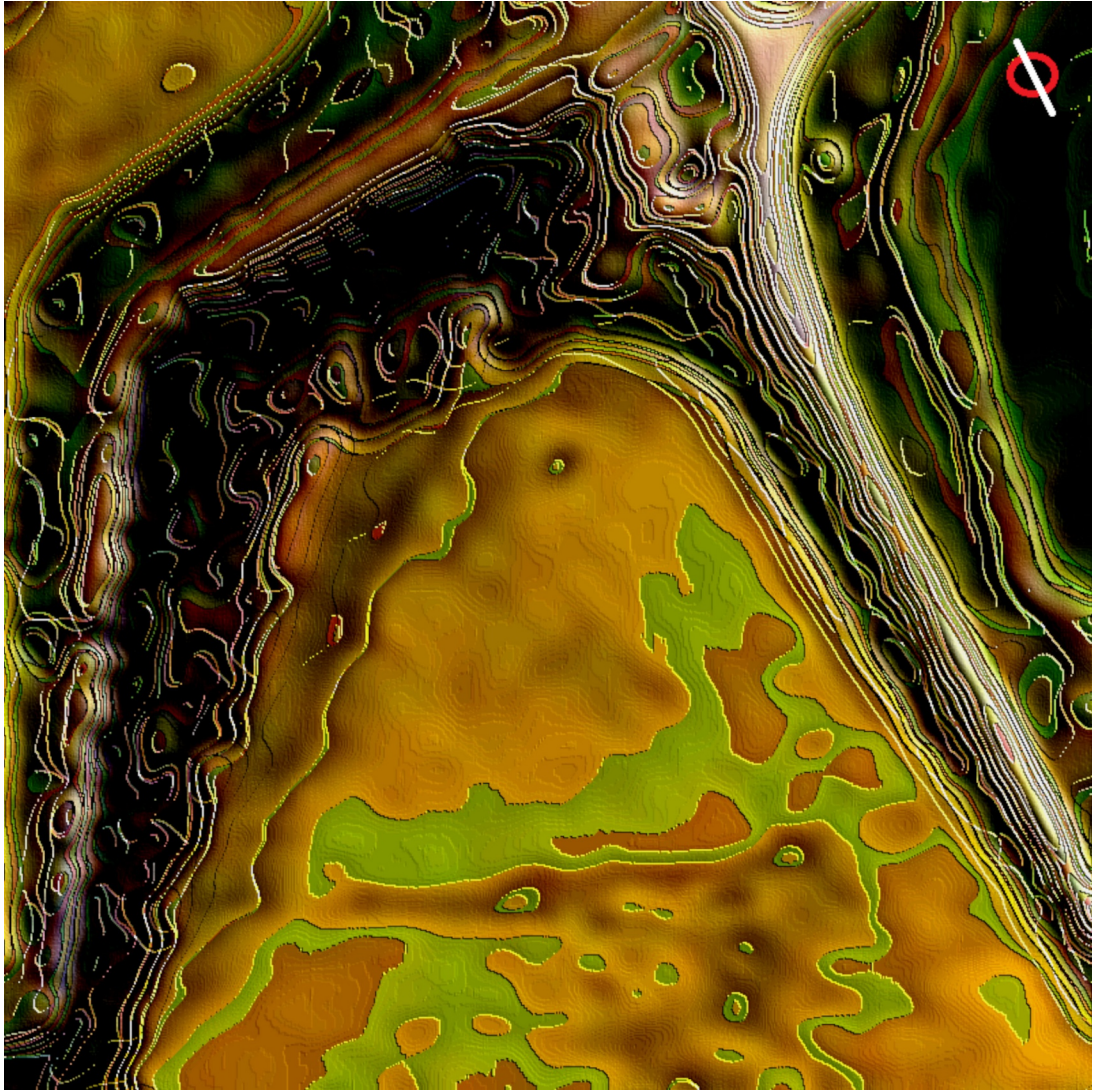
eponymous book
& made the lead a
black lesbian vampire
with a PhD in nano-

technology who
dreamt of fame
as a soul artist
through funky
interpretations of

polemic poems by
ancient Etruscans
on the necessity
of eternal conflict.

Stellenbosch

The Red Ants are demolishing
trauma counseling, replacing
it with nativity sculptures in
recycled paper & precious Italian
marble. Nobody else gets a look
in, except for a boy playing with
his ball, & an oxygen mask that
is also used as a sharpening tool.



Durham Ox

Sacramento

What Is Your Spirit Animal? You've asked an interesting question; but due to unsteady aerodynamic loads on pitching & plunging wings, the California State Rules of Court say three separate motions are necessary before it can be answered.

Kampala

It was only after the city's cooked-to-order breakfasts were washed away by floods

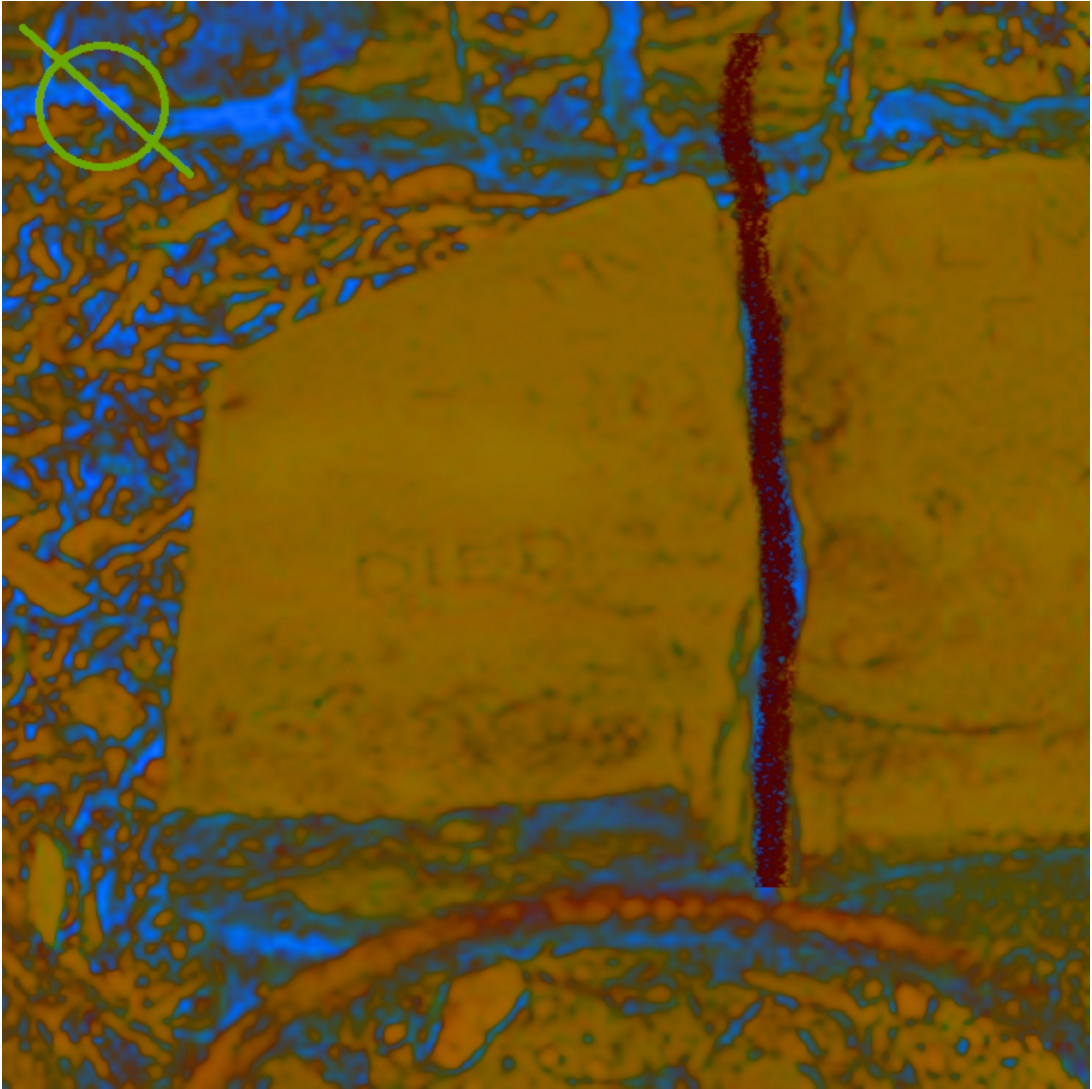
that the mayor decided to pass the law banning the giving of money or food to

children living on the streets. Gifts of bottles of water were still permitted provided they

bore the label of those multinational companies who could easily move all profits overseas.



Laharum



Wedderburn

Jezqazǵan

A quick snack is all the guide-books say you can find here. They suggest you go somewhere else, to a nearby city perhaps, if you're looking for memorable moments. Maybe that's why the Soyuz rocket of expedition 49 landed near-

by, to relax "in a remote region in Kazakhstan" after the hustle & bustle of space. It was my 75th birthday. If I'd known they were going to be around, I would have invited them along.

Norrköping

Nothing of the medieval remains today. The pasta in the walls has melted. The mural once used to hide that has turned its back — & the vendor is uncertain when more will be available that are right side up. Gunfire echoes off the walls of Science Park, awakening the alligators, replaying Newton's Third Law in $\frac{3}{4}$ time. The textile industry is in decline.

Palembang

Scotch whisky — or was it Irish? Or both? — is said to be enhanced by distilling it over burning peat. Here peatland fire is given as a reason why not to visit the city. Not

always so. Yijing, a 7th-century Chinese monk, came back from a six month stay excited by the plethora of electronic billboards, & how they scraped the sky. Little heard from him after that.

Rumor has it the Dutch East India Company obtained his silence by promising him the royalties from any future use of that sky-scraping word along with a speaking part in the upcoming *Blade Runner* movie.



Quambatook

Saint-Saturnin-des-Ligneris

In a single-pass sequence
derived from a single
complementary DNA (cDNA)
clone, she built a catafalque
in the crypt under the
Capitol rotunda. All
brown ink, with gray wash,
over traces of black chalk,
adhering to the sequence
in keeping with strict military
protocols. International
customers are welcome.

Yamoussoukro

Crocodiles fill the lagoon of
the former Presidential Palace. Late
on Thursday afternoon — the
best time according to experts —
they posted a YouTube video
warning about counterfeit
products from China (& how
you should NOT buy/sell
them) plus what it means to be
holistic advisors. My browser
is unable to play this video.

Bloomington

Even though it's in its name, only Indiana amongst the states doesn't have some type of embedded DNA. Instead, it uses a sparse Bayesian regression method

which, in subsequent iterations, creates a silhouette, a gray-level image made up of motion pixels from the final scene of *Wozzeck*.



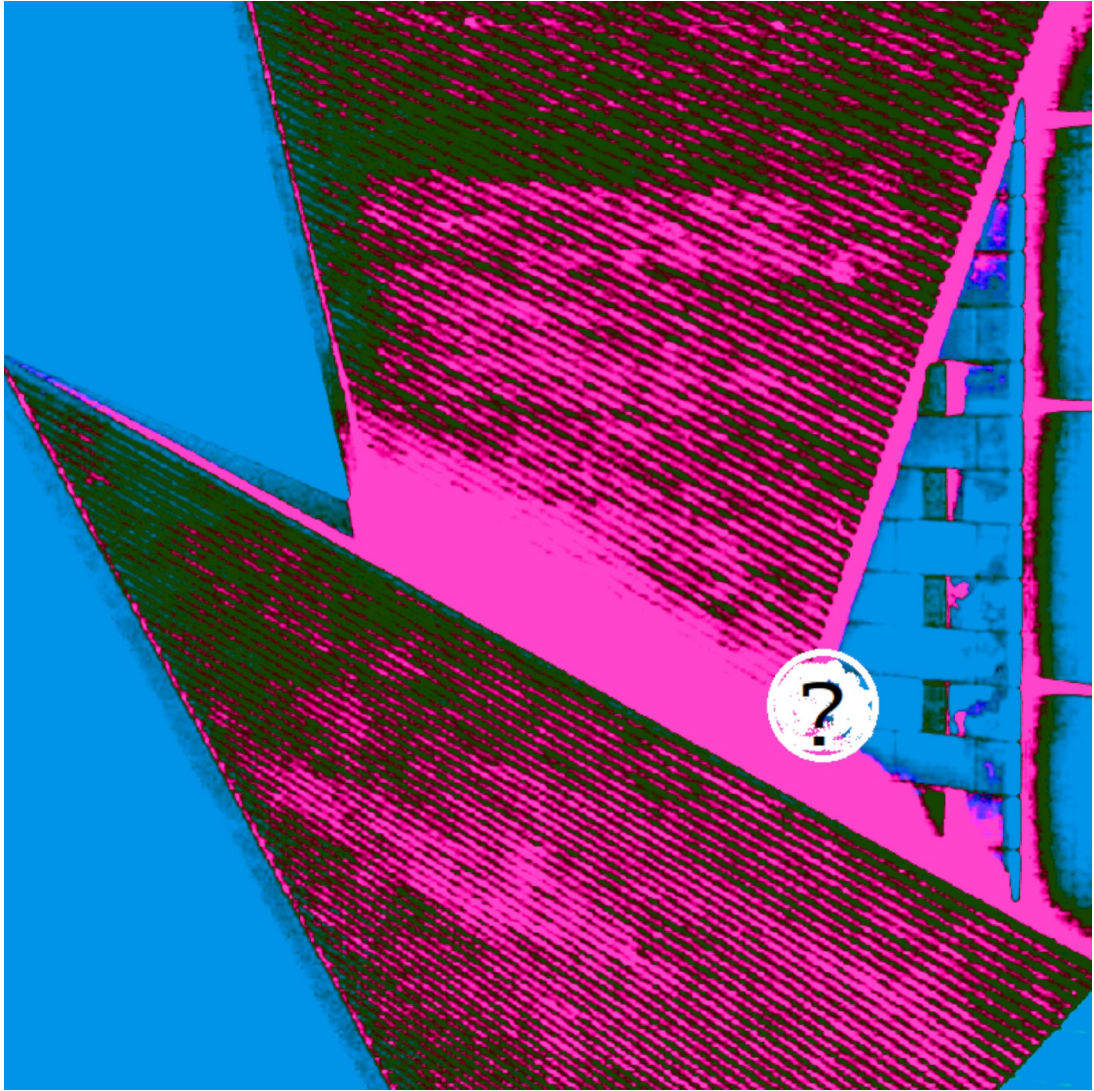
Cohuna

Santarem

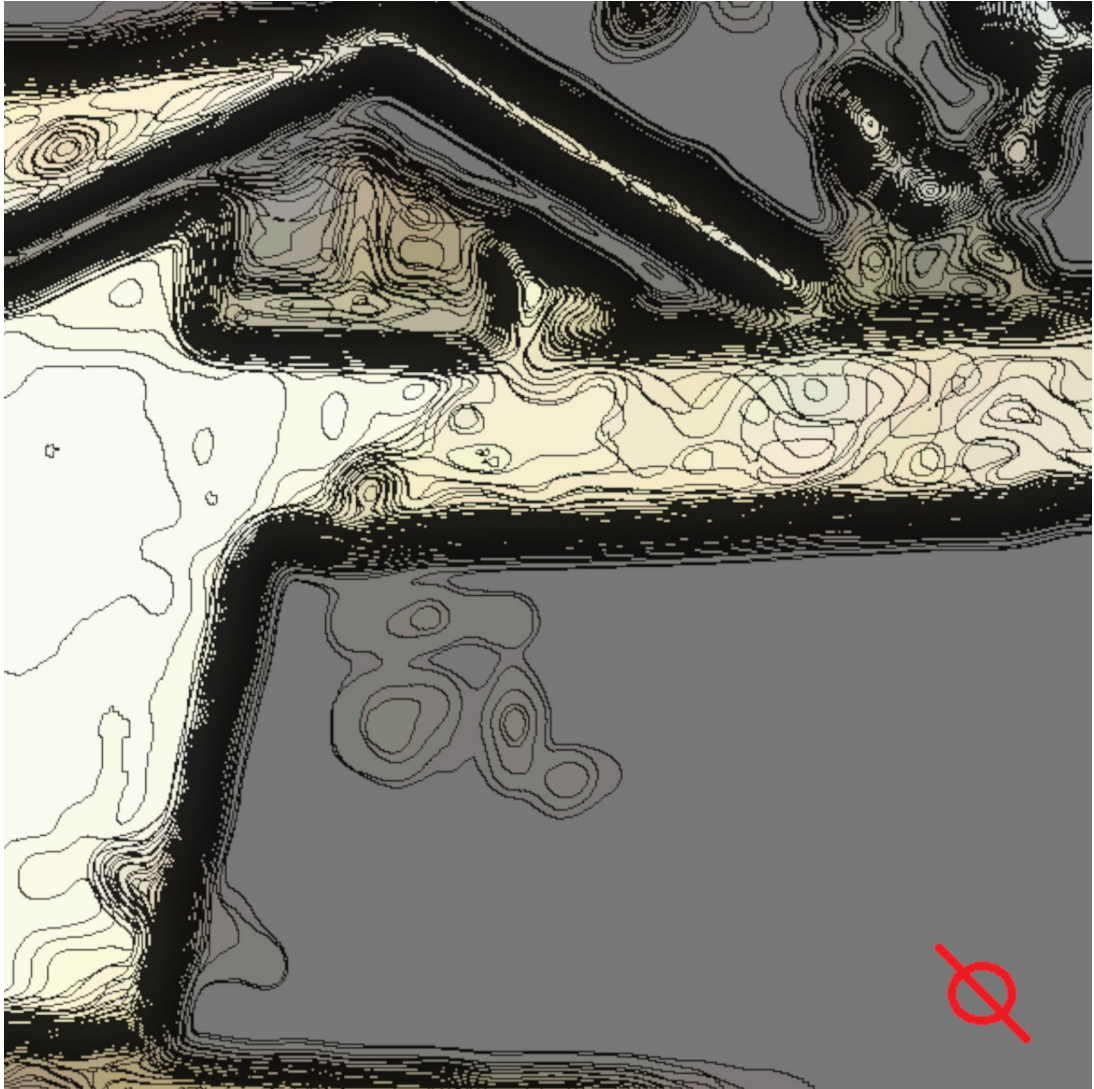
Scalabis rolls easily off
the tongue. Is a name, however,
that never quite had the
cachet required for the final
resting place of that murdered
virgin Visigoth whose strangely
uncorrupted body was rescued
from the nearby river where
she had been dumped. Out
of such events often comes, in
either order, a martyr's canon-
ization, a revision of place names.

Clermont-Ferrand

The volcanoes of Auvergne
congregate in the evenings
at a bistro in the Rue du
Séminaire to discuss the day
just passed & whether any of
them has heard anything
new about their recent petition
to be allowed to stand for the
municipal council. "Only a few
rumblings," said the oldest of
them, "& most of those were mine."



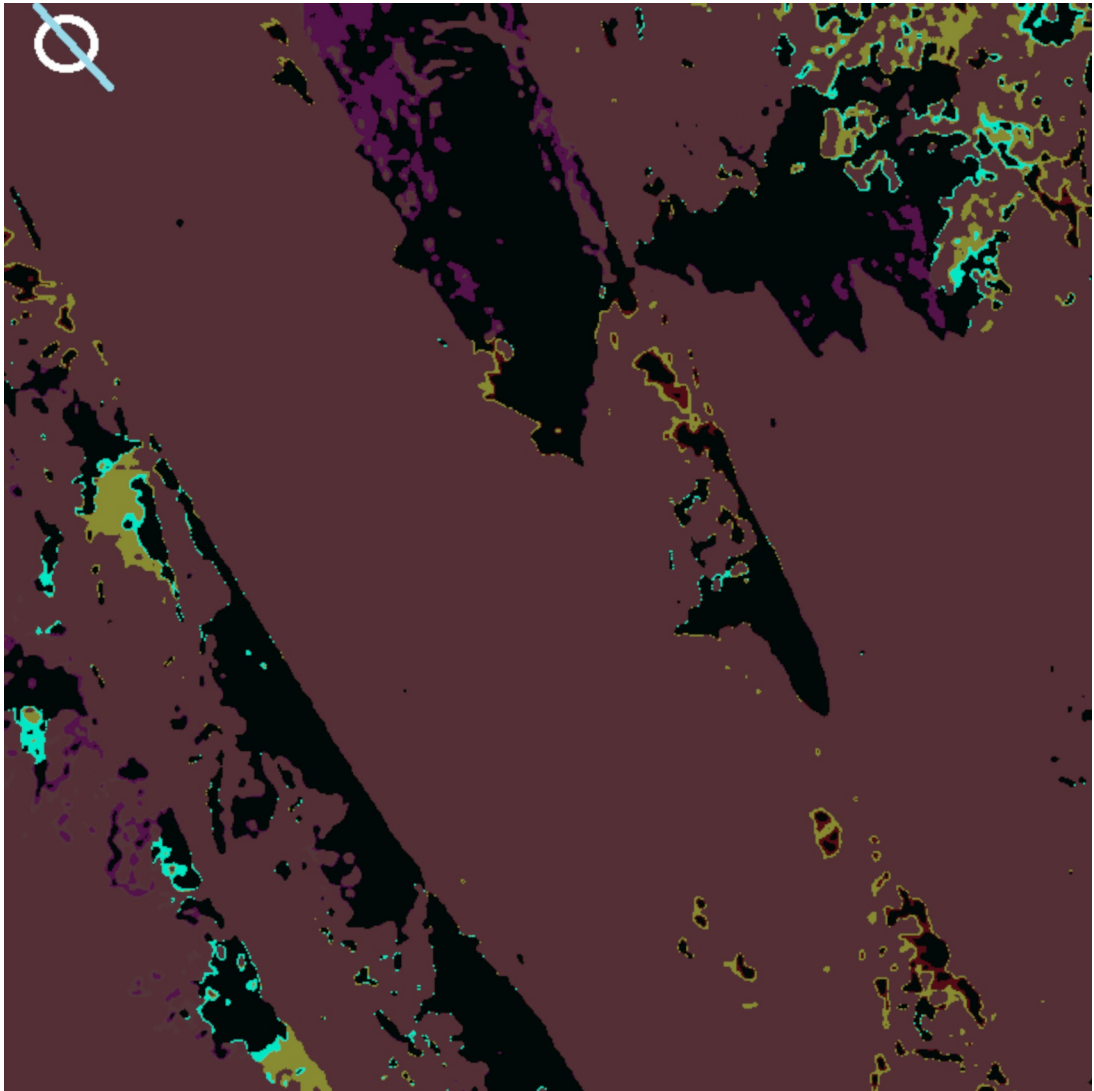
Katamatite



Garoke

Columbus, Ohio

No longer do you
need to put up
with that cramped
hallway feeling. If
you're one for
leather over lace or
remember the 1913
Paris opening of
Le sacre du printemps
then condom-
inium living in
one of the two new
UNESCO World
Heritage sites
in central Ohio
is the choice for
you. It's a water-
shed in American
historiography.



Mitiamo

Gabès

Candy may be hard
to find in the fast-
food franchises built
by the former colonial
government in the
airport terminal, but,
thanks to the U.S.
military intelligence
supplying them in
an electronic format,
pretzels are plentiful.

Bercy

The aesthete dis-
dains artifice unless
it's served with
a demi-glace or white
wine velouté or is
currently underage.

Nieuwerkerk aan den IJssel

Later, when howls
started coming from
the nearby polders,
he would consult his

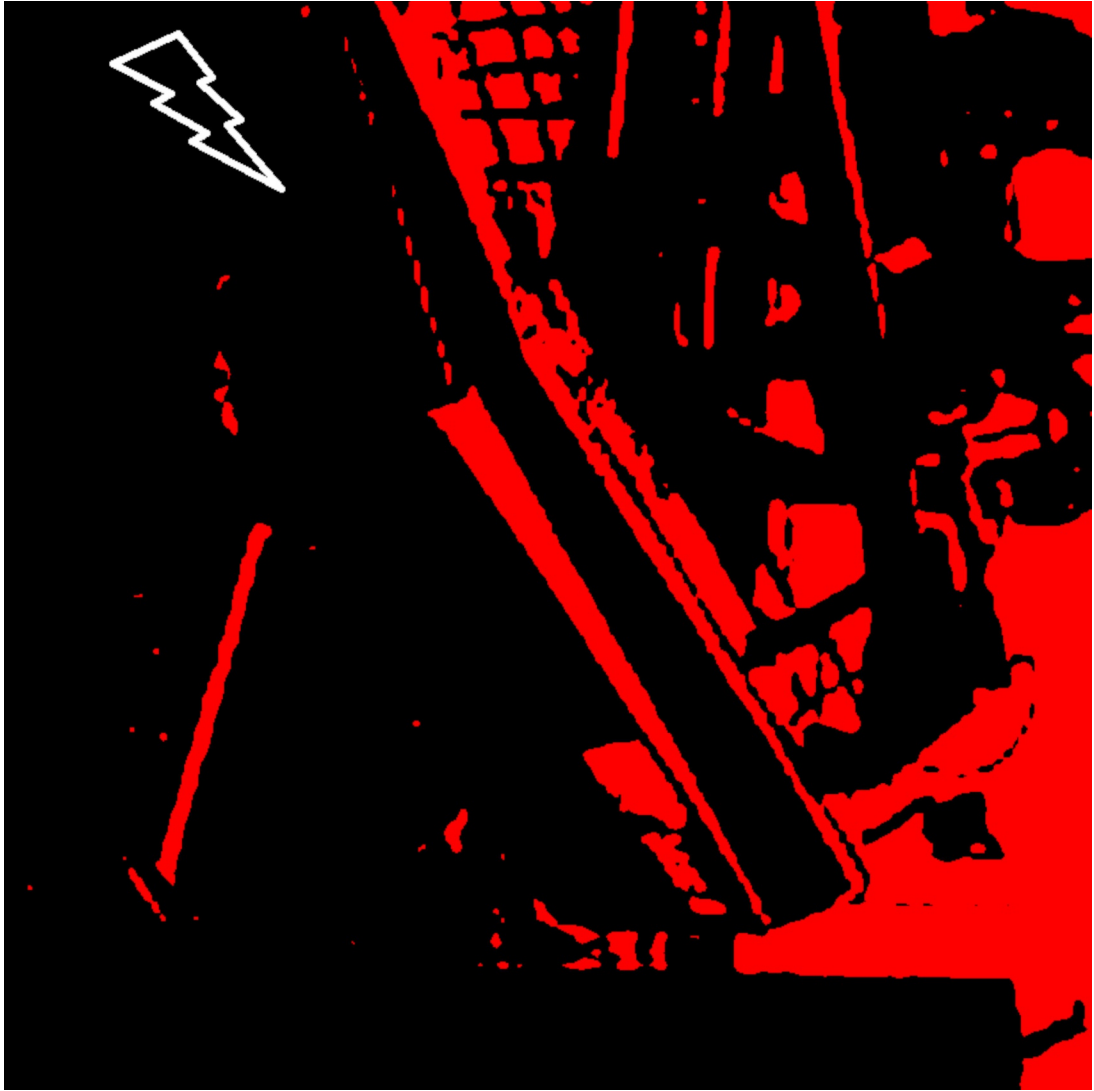
local guide book to
try & identify who or
what was generating
the sounds, only to

become so confused by
the similarity in names
of the potential culprits
on the relevant page that

he became the one howl-
ing over aardvarks, advo-
caat, & advocates, on up
to avocados & axolotls.

Tashkent

Was to be found hauling
his concertina up Shota
Rustaveli Street. Swallows
swept beneath his feet, in
some kind of toccata &
fugue pattern, dispensed
in the pitter patter plague
proportions that would
later come to be so well
known as the signature
intro to every performance
given by Johann Sebastian
in his Lovin' Spoonful days.



Invergordon

Himachal Pradesh

Namaste, all. Kelp
is a fun & easy
way to find that the
official web site for
inputs used in inter-
state sales out of
Yerala is a low-
power television
station licensed to
a nun living in sin
in Garfield, Texas.

Albuquerque

The timed-exposure, processed photo
made the brewing of premium
craft beer seem easy, especially to
those of the Confederacy who
would be later be unsuccessful in
their venture here. A shortage of
hops is one of the reasons given
for the retreat. Another was the
Union Army musicians playing
their instruments well into the night.



Strathmerton

Auckland

& as I leave the
men's loo at the Inter-
national Airport

an interactive board
asks me to rate today's
washroom experience.

back cover image Underbool

