

NATIONAL POETRY DAY

4TH OCTOBER 2018

Crith-Thalmhainn

Tha cian nan cian a-nis bho thàinig
gainneamh a Sahàra a Ghlaschu,
is tha creagan Leòdhais tòrr nas sine
na Tursachan Chalanais,
ach fhathast, chan eil sinn air ar glasadh
ri moiteach is cladach,
no ann an taighean-prìosain
nam bailtean:
's tha crith-thalmhainn
gar sgapadh
gu rannan-ruadha an t-saoghail mhòir
's ar cainnt 's ar dualchas gar leantainn.

Earthquake

It was many years ago
that the sand of the Sahara reached Glasgow,
and the Lewis rocks are much older
than the Callanish Giants,
but still we are not confined
to moor and seashore,
nor to the prisons
of the cities:
and an earthquake
scatters us
to the far edges of the great world,
with our language and our tradition going with us.

Ruaraidh MacThòmais / Derick Thomson

