



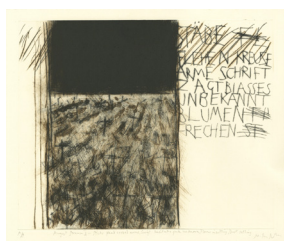
Georg Trakl I



Georg Trakl II



August Stramm I



August Stramm II



Giuseppe Ungaretti I



Giuseppe Ungaretti II



Umberto Saba I



Umberto Saba II



Eugenio Montale I



Eugenio Montale II

## The Poets, 2021

Twenty 2-plate drypoints in black and sepia  
 Printed on Somerset Velvet soft white 300gsm  
 Edition: 8 plus 2 Artist's Proofs, 1 Publisher's Proof  
 Plate: 34 x 41.5 cm  
 Sheet: 37.5 x 45 cm

## Please enquire

[pca@prattcontemporaryart.co.uk](mailto:pca@prattcontemporaryart.co.uk)

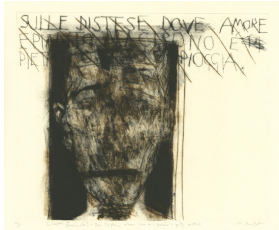
## The Poets

Recently, when Rees Roberts was reading the verse that Giuseppe Ungaretti wrote during the First World War, he was struck by its conversational simplicity. He then explored the work of other Italian and German poets of the same generation.

The British verse of the First World War, with a few exceptions, is formally conservative in terms of the regular verses, rhymes, and scansion. What the Italians and Germans were writing at the same time is so different that it is conceivable that the British might not have regarded it as poetry at all. The language is compressed; the rhythms are angular and awkward; thoughts are disconnected. The verse of the Germans, with Expressionism still new, is violent, passionate, fragmented. That of the Italians is distilled and enigmatic. Both share a sense of dislocation, of never quite belonging, of the poet finding himself in a world which is godforsaken.

All the poets in this series of drypoints are more or less contemporaries. Although two – Paul Celan and Giorgio Caproni – were born slightly later, their verse fits very well with the others.

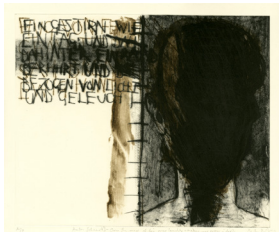
Rees Roberts did not want to make portraits of the poets (apart from Georg Trakl), nor did he want to illustrate lines from the poems. These are prints that stand alone, inspired by the verse, but not of it.



Salvatore Quasimodo I



Salvatore Quasimodo II



Anton Schnack I



Anton Schnack II



Bertolt Brecht I



Bertolt Brecht II



Paul Celan I



Paul Celan II



Georgio Caproni I



Georgio Caproni II

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