

*chris hall*

# selected poems 1

a shaft v light within a summer glade

a singing waterfall beside th lake

a waving tree along a rustic path

an ancient figurine upon a church

a sudden thought across a troubled mind

a cap, a cup left at a seaside place

a distant atoll morphing into dream

a journey's end in sight v long-lost hills

## Dewi's Stone

this is a place  
v eesa  
    terrific knowledge  
not that  
    gleand from mouths  
v wayside preachers  
or parabalists  
  
nor scrawld in censure  
by stern nd unforgiving scribes  
on epistolatri  
    didactic scrolls:

it is a place  
beyond theologies  
or litanies that rest upon  
    salvations  
    certainties  
    defining signs

a site  
v pagan magick nd v fishermen  
where stone stands transient  
yet f eternity

nd where th chancel brims  
with salt nd cataract  
nd from th eaves  
sing chuff nd  
    kittywake nd  
    gillymot

nd out there on th slope  
sometimes in rain  
sometimes in splendrant shine  
i have found  
th Dewi Stone  
beside th house v Non

whilst there below  
out where wind nd wave  
converse; cavort; collide:

    petrel plunge  
    nd cormorant display  
    on rocks whereby  
    th Bitches ride  
    nd silkies lurk  
    lovli with sheen  
        nd splendid in their  
        swimfest revelries

nd if there are  
cathedrals v th soul as well as stone  
let them hymn their praise  
t Christ th pantheist  
n not th puritan

proclaim there be  
no disparate pathways  
leading to  
th Halls v Hades  
nd th Gates v Heaven

and  
like all true dialectic  
th journey's close  
will end  
no doubt  
in synthesis  
nd begin  
yet again

with newfound liberations  
sung  
as ever  
long nd often  
in those other fields

## **a question v recall**

remember th simple epiphani  
in a random alley during th quiet rain  
a mild reproach midway between  
th midnight chimes n th desperate dawn

remember too  
never t play canasta  
with a demon in an alcove  
with a stranger on a train

## onithografi

out there  
what cacofoni  
what sheerbrill songfest  
    wingy tweetwarbl  
        n beaken concertante  
            carillon v chirp nd chirrupchant  
n th whole sprung symphony  
v birdborne avianity  
crest n call  
trill n wren nd rusti robin

here within  
snug n smug nd fireside warming  
    sublime artifice  
        resounding round th room  
        Bruno Walter's brimming Beethoven  
            Pastoral symphony number six  
            movement two

brookscene  
waterflow nd lapping stream  
flutingale  
oboe quail  
cuckoo clarinet

yardwise  
open air beyond th pane  
featherflutter flight aflap against th winter chill  
ravenous n raucous  
frantic in th line v sight          finch  
titmouse  
redbreast

on th eyeline  
within earshot  
fortissimo molto

th real thing



## lost in lucca

lost that is  
rather than abandoned:  
abandoned that is  
rather than unregulated

accidental separation  
providing an unfathomable fund  
v endless material  
to perpetuate  
ever-persistent arguments  
nd point-free debates  
as t whether  
you be or i be given  
t fundamental misunderstanding  
concerning who it was  
was going where

leading to  
a conjunction  
v apparent disappearances  
th only possible outcome being  
with no shadow v doubt  
that you it be  
who must have grasped  
th cane's  
erroneous conclusion

as it seemed  
perfectly evident  
that i myself had surely fathomed  
with perfect clarity  
my declared intention  
to proceed forthwith  
with unerring accuracy  
toward th agreed objective

whereas you  
by demonstrabl misconception  
had undoubtedly veered off  
off nd away  
on a path heading  
th wrong direction entirely

i suspect  
ultimately  
we must agree  
as ever  
to disagree  
regarding th random nature of th accidental  
nd th inexorablility of the inevitable

as we meet at length

on a sunny day  
in these white streets  
and their long shadows

near the house of giocomo

cio san

scarpia

mimi

nessun dorma

that year

it was on  
th thirtieth v february  
that year  
katerina concluded  
as a result v empiricl evidence  
(outcome v controll'd experiment)  
that everything that had been  
hithertofor  
considerd correct  
was erroneous

## Mahler's 9<sup>th</sup> Symphony

at length

(lastli nd lasting)

strings alone

sponded on limpid air

pent n pending

transmorphing t silence

ceasing not dying

**wetland**

osmosis

th membrane

netherplace

(nether naether  
ether aether)

chime

peal

garner

a resoundant tolling

tide

tide nd time

let me be  
let me be there

sated

no longer emergent

mystified

explosiv

and th tale  
nd th teller

flying

wingless

random

guilty

lost

tumbling

redeemd



over sea  
over canopy

tundra

th sanstone shaddos  
nd in th wetland depths

riding th rime

wading th wayward waters

fathoming sublimiti