

## Two poems for the catalogue...

# On the 60th anniversary of the death of Melvil Dewey (1851 – 1931)

*Quote: Decimals have been used as servants not as masters.*  
Melvil Dewey, 1926

by *Jellie Wyckelsma*

*Sixty years on and within his Sistem  
each subject is said  
not wilfully put to use  
on a decimal procrustean bed.*

*Would Melvil looking in quietly  
wonder how his brainchild  
grew and grew so gracefully  
or, has he always known  
its own immortality?*

*See us play with different concepts  
struggling with his original intend,  
would he like to now rejoin us, and  
change the Sistem, lend once more  
a helping hand?*

*Or, would he chuckle and watch  
books bungi jumping  
towards an exciting destination,  
landing behind some safe decimal point -  
bungi jumping not beyond his own imagination?* □

# Passing Order

by *Juliet Risely*

*Enter now  
this old world order  
of knowledge so defined  
and placed to read by number  
my fingers creep to find.  
Please speak to me the Keeper  
of all that will enfold,  
Purvey this raw phonology,  
longevity trapped, in Gothic Bold.*

*Enter now  
this new world order  
of knowledge so refined  
and placed to read on disc  
my eye to see is blind.  
A Juggler's hand will take you  
through the silvered-maze entwined,  
And mutely it will be there  
on a crystal screen to shine.*

*Oh, call to me  
The Keeper  
of this revered iconic age,  
console me first, then  
help me turn  
a final fragile page.* □

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