

Dom Sylvester Houédard

Life and work

- 1924 Pierre-Thomas-Paul Joseph Houédard born in Guernsey, Channel Islands, on 16 February.
- 1942-49 MA Modern History, Jesus College, Oxford. Early published poems.
- 1944-47 Army intelligence. Posted in India (Bangalore), Sri Lanka and Singapore.
- 1949 Joins monastic life at Prinknash Abbey (Benedictine), Gloucestershire.
- 1951-54 PhL, Sant'Anselmo, Rome (Thesis on liberty in Sartre).
- 1959 Ordained priest
- 1961 Literary editor of the Jerusalem Bible, first published in 1966.
- 1962 Co-translated *Office of Our Lady*
- 1964 Participant at the (1st) *International Exhibition of Concrete and Kinetic Poetry*, St Catharine's College, Cambridge,
Appears in avant garde magazine *Signals*
- 1965 Work featured in survey '*Between Poetry and Painting*', organised by Jasia Reichardt, ICA, London.
Exhibitions also at Better Books and Signals, London.
- 1966 *Concrete/Spatial Poetry*, Midland Group Gallery, Nottingham.
Destruction in Art Symposium (DIAS) co-organiser (member of the 'DIAS Honorary Committee') and participant.
- 1967 Collaboration with David Medalla's *Exploding Galaxy* (collaboration results in *12 dance poems of the cosmic typewriter*, published in 1969).
Antonio Sena, Dom Sylvester Houédard, David Medalla, Lisson Gallery, London.
June exhibition, Lisson Gallery, London
Appears in Stephen Bann (ed.), *Concrete Poetry: An International Anthology*, London Magazine, London [anthology].
Appears in Emmett Williams (ed.), *An Anthology of Concrete Poetry*, Something Else Press, New York [anthology].
- 1968 *Ken Cox, Mira Schendel, Dom Sylvester Houédard*, Lisson Gallery, London.
- 1969 *Mostra di Poesia Concreta*, Biennale di Venezia, Venice.
- 1970 *Peter Joseph, Ian Hamilton, Dom Sylvester Houédard, Hove Dara and Others*, Lisson Gallery, London.
Konkrete poëzie, klankteksten, visuele teksten, Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam.
- 1971 *Visual Poetries*, Victoria & Albert Museum (V&A), London, solo retrospective exhibition. Exhibition catalogue introduction by Guy Brett.
- 1972 *Concrete Poetry*, Museum of Modern Art, Oxford.
Dom Sylvester Houédard, Laing Art Gallery, Newcastle, solo retrospective.
- 1975 *Begin Again*, LYC Museum and Gallery, Brampton, solo exhibition.
- 1976 Collaboration with Derek Jarman, including contributing to the Latin dialogue of his first feature film *Sebastiane* (1976), and theological and historical advice for *Caravaggio* (1986).
- 1978 *The Finding of Saint Stephen's Body at Caphar Gamal in 415 AD*, s.n., Prinknash.
- 1979 *Cratylus*, XV Bienal de Sao Paulo. (*Cratylus: The English Artist and the Word*).
- 1980s 'Gateless Gate: The Wider Ecumenism; An Inherent Element in the Tradition of Abraham', paper for ecumenical conference at Bad Nauheim, 1985.

- 1992 Dom Sylvester Houédard a.k.a. dsh dies on 15 January, age 67.
Funeral sermon by Dom Stephen Horton.
Obituaries in *The Independent* (Stephen Bann, 16 January; Marina Warner, 22 January), *The Guardian* (Guy Brett, 29 January).
- 2000 Included in *Live in Your Head*, Whitechapel Gallery, London, and *Force Fields*, curated by Guy Brett, Hayward Gallery, London / MACBA, Barcelona.
- 2009 Included in *Poor. Old. Tired. Horse*. ICA London.
- 2012 *Dom Sylvester Houédard and the Cosmic Typewriter*, one-day creative symposium, South London Gallery, 2 December.