

Poetry: *Two poems* by Ouyang Yu

q/a

Ouyang Yu

what r u?

an artist who only thinks

u don't ever paint or sculpture?

refer to my answer 1

u r no good then as an artist or r u a fake artist?

i like that dub

dub?

Label

tell me what ur latest work is?

a gun that shoots at the sky

sorry?

a gun that shoots at the sky

u mean that is art?

it's a chengyu

how did u mean?

a chengyu: chaotian kaiqiang

i'm totally lost

maybe it's time u left this gallery

Ta

Ouyang Yu

When the West lives next door to the east
Their communications become virtual
virtually virtual
virtually impossible
virtually non-existent

The only thing possible is when the East lives inside the West
and the West lives inside the East
both becoming a mutually simultaneous movement

Ouyang Yu came to Australia in mid-April 1991 and has since published 146 books of poetry, fiction, non-fiction, literary translation and criticism in English and Chinese languages, including his award-winning novels, *The Eastern Slope Chronicle* (2002) and *The English Class* (2010), his collections of poetry, *Songs of the Last Chinese Poet* (1997), and *Terminally Poetic* (2020), which won the Judith Wright Calanthe Award for a Poetry Book in the 2021 Queensland Literary Awards. He was shortlisted for the Writer's Prize in the 2021 Melbourne Prize for Literature and won the Fellowship from the Australia Council in late 2021 for writing a documentary novel. His sixth novel, *All the Rivers Ran South*, is coming out in mid-2023 with Puncher & Wattmann and his first collection of short stories, *The White Cockatoo Flowers*, is forthcoming in 2024 with Transit Lounge Publishing. His book website is www.huangzhouren.com and his bilingual blog is youyang2.blogspot.com