

Seattle City Council

**Public Safety, Government Relations, and Arts Committee Meeting**

Tuesday, 2:00 PM, February 6, 2007

**Words' Worth**

The Poetry Program of the Seattle City Council

Curated by **Brian McGuigan**

Today's poet is **Kathryn Lebo**

**Kathryn Lebo** was raised in southwest Washington State by two Iowans and a cadre of vigilant daycare employees. Her poetry, prose, and reviews have appeared in *KNOCK*, *Jeopardy*, the *Willamette Week*, the *Vancouver Voice*, the *Prague Post*, and in *Rivet Magazine*, for which she is a senior editor. She graduated from Western Washington University in 2005, and now works as the Front Desk & Volunteer Coordinator for Seattle's Richard Hugo House.

**Rainier Maria**

*after Kary Wayson*

gray I need you gray.  
I need your gray  
goose in the fat  
morning, sawclouds,  
morgan loons,  
shopping cart atwist  
on the curb. gray,  
greet the hollow  
in my handshake.  
be my concrete cataract,  
my shoestring heart attack,  
and gray if you must be stormy  
I want my own storm.  
give me your wool perfume,  
your cheap room, gray  
I want your oatmeal.  
I want your sandy eye,  
your railroad tie, the glitter  
in your intersection, bitter  
snort of booze, your soup  
kitchen funnel-capped floozy  
refusing the cream of mushroom.  
gray I say Maria.

I say god flood, cozy mud,  
give me your best  
emergency. say  
your lamest joke,  
bucket laugh braying  
gray I hear you  
gray, a mossy raincloud  
boredom. I mean your steel  
at garbage time, I mean  
I need your buck.  
gray I need your candor  
in the clover of my luck.  
gray I need you gray,  
I need you gray,  
I need a towel.  
gray, please wipe the wet  
from your crooked  
hairpin  
smile.

-- end --