Vasilisk Gnedov Alphabet for the Entrants

Alphabet for the Entrants is the first stand-alone volume of Vasilisk Gnedov's poetry in English translation, bringing together selections from his early books and later poems. If not the most prolific, Vasilisk Gnedov stands out as one of the most radical poets of Russian Futurism, and a central figure of the Ego-Futurist movement. His early work is characterized by colloquialism, experimental language, and an exuberant confidence, while his later poems are marked by strong lyrical subjects and terse observation.

The joyful energy and bewildering chaos of Gnedov's futurist poetry truly comes to life...

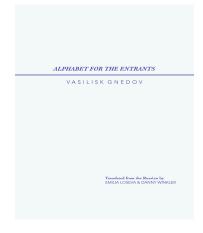
— CRISPIN BROOKS

II Gnedov's lyricism is every bit as magical as his *nom de plume* (the chimerical Basilisk) implies: in place of Kruchenykh's dark sarcasms and Khlebnikov's folkloricism, what we have here in the impressively playful English versions of Loseva and Winkler, is the sheer, unalloyed musical pleasure of folksy patois and child's babble.

— ALEX CIGALE

We may finally have arrived at the future when the unique literary interventions of Vasilisk Gnedov — the most radical poet of his generation — can be fully recognized and fairly evaluated.

— CRAIG DWORKIN



Chapbook
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Vasilisk Gnedov (1890–1978) was one of the central poets of Russian Futurism who experimented with new devices aiming to create a new content. A precursor to the absence of text and its replacement with the elements of gesture, he was often quoted and misinterpreted.



Emilia Loseva is an independent author who writes and translates poetry, essays, film scripts and conceptual texts for multi-disciplinary events. She has translated an anthology of Futurist poets, "Futurosis", and is currently translating the experimental poetry of Willy Melnikov.



Danny Winkler (1976–2014) worked with experimental photography before completing postgraduate Visual Anthropology studies at Goldsmiths College in London. He was involved with anthropological projects, documentary scripts and freelance writing.