

Jena Osman

Motion Studies

Motion Studies consists of three essay-poems that begin as meditations on 19th century science and end firmly as research into the present. From chronophotography to algorithmic surveillance, from phrenology to fMRI brain scans, from Victorian specimen collections to the bleached bones of the Great Barrier Reef, each poem in this collection explores technologies of knowing each other and the world we're in.

// A tour de force of documentary, speculative fiction, film criticism, and lyric jump cuts, *Motion Studies* plies surveillance, pseudoscience, and the commodification of the living into three long works that drive further Osman's vital decade-spanning investigation of power, human displacement, and erasure. Like dead coral and wreckage sedimented on a seabed, a violent record is legible in this layering; Osman reminds us of this. Plus, she recasts a bird as the lead in Spielberg's *Minority Report*. That's got to move you.

— DOUGLAS KEARNEY

// Jena Osman's *Motion Studies* measures, dissects, and dissects the dissector whenever it wants. It marvels, it studies, it makes a weaving of science, poetry, and testimony. It is a study of instruments and torture, of the unraveling of a question; it is a defense of the heart's electromagnetic intelligence, and, in its most secret moments, it is a novel of days. Brilliantly conceived and rendered.

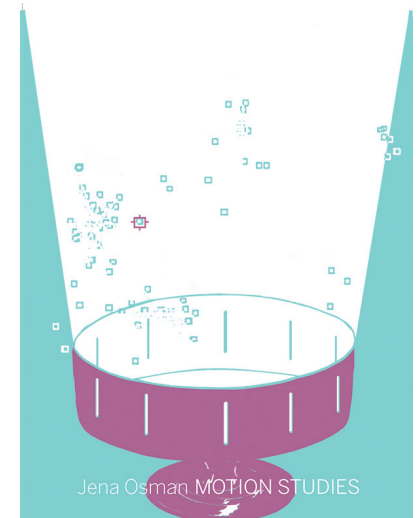
— RENEE GLADMAN

// With keen dispassionate patience, Osman traces the genealogy of data-mining, and while doing so, she slows us down and rehabilitates our attention span, leading us deep into her surfeit findings. *Motion Studies* is a book of endurance rewarded with absolute revelation.

—CATHY PARK HONG



Jena Osman was a 2006 Pew Fellow in the Arts, and has received grants for her poetry from the National Endowment for the Arts, the New York Foundation for the Arts, The Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, the Howard Foundation, and the Fund for Poetry. Her books of poems include *Corporate Relations* (Burning Deck), *Public Figures* (Wesleyan University Press), *The Network* (Fence Books, National Poetry Series selection), *An Essay in Asterisks* (Roof Books) and *The Character* (Beacon Press, winner of the 1998 Barnard New Women Poets Prize). She co-founded and co-edited the literary magazine *Chain* with Juliana Spahr from 1994-2005.



Trade Paperback

Poetry | \$20

6" x 8" | 144 pp.

ISBN 978-1-946433-23-7

Dossier Series

Distributed by:

Small Press Distribution

Inpress Books (UK)

Raincoast Books (Canada)

Release Date: May 1, 2019

NYC Book Release:

Wednesday, May 1, 7:30 PM

Greenlight Books, Fort Greene

In conversation

with Cathy Park Hong