

## CHILDREN, HELPLESS STATUES

*UNICEF press release (October 27, 2023): Child casualties in Gaza are, "increasingly, a stain on our collective conscience"*

Children, helpless statues,  
Listen with the eyes of a horse  
The booms of barbarism  
That flood with blood  
The debris of their doorway.

Little paper boats,  
Shipwrecked adrift  
In the ocean of grief  
Under the black scythe  
of the eternal tempest.

Yesterday candid cherubs,  
Today children of cursed peoples,  
Martyrs in the longest night  
Of the harshest winter  
In a ghostly world.

Broken toys,  
Hope without future,  
Flesh of our flesh,  
Trapped in the mud of geo-politics  
And the trompe l'oeil of globalization.

**"For the eternal dust of the roads" (2022 -)**