

## Frederico Garcia Lorca (1898 - 1936)

### CASIDA DEL LLANTO

He cerrado mi balcón  
porque no quiero oír el llanto  
pero por detrás de los grises muros  
no se oye otra cosa que el llanto.

Hay muy pocos ángeles que canten,  
hay muy pocos perros que ladren,  
mil violines caben en la palma de mi mano.

Pero el llanto es un perro inmenso,  
el llanto es un ángel inmenso,  
el llanto es un violín inmenso,  
las lágrimas amordazan al viento  
y no se oye otra cosa que el llanto.

### CASIDA OF WEeping

I have closed up my balcony  
because I do not want to hear the weeping  
but through the grey walls  
nothing can be heard but weeping.

There are very few angels who might sing  
there are very few dogs who might bark;  
a thousand violins sit in the palm of my hand.

But the weeping is an immense dog,  
the weeping is an immense angel,  
the weeping is an immense violin;  
whose tears have muzzled the wind  
and nothing can be heard but weeping.

There are many translations of this poem but the one I most prefer is the one printed above.

### A Conversation with Lorca

My 'conversation' with Lorca is only one of a series of responses to his work by artists, poets, dancers and musicians living/working in Gloucestershire. This collaborative venture was initiated by artist Carlos Ordonez who, together with poets Jeff Cloves and Philip Rush, facilitated exhibitions, screenings and a broad range of events which contributed to the 'Spoken Word' (part of Site 11 arts festival, Stroud). The 'conversations' travel to Cheltenham Festival of Literature in October and will form part of the Cheltenham Festival of Poetry in April 2012. We are also in the process of arranging to take the works to Lorca's birthplace, the village of Fuente Vaqueros, Granada, Spain as part of an event in the village in celebration of the poet's life and work.

### *In correspondence, a discovery* (2011)

My 'conversation' with Lorca takes the form of three images, a sound work and a short artist film. All works were a direct response to Casida del Llanto and created especially for the Lorca festival in June 2011.