

KALANI ENGLER

Savage Garden XIX, 2020
Oil on canvas, 48 x 48 in



COURTESY THE STUDIO SHOP GALLERY

ANA MARÍA SHUA

Escampa

—Translated from the Spanish by
Eugenio Polisky and Zack Rogow

My second-grade reader said, *escampa*:
“It stops raining.”
I know how that goes,
and I know all the tricks: it said the word
to lead us right to the dictionary
so we would remember the order of the letters,
which was stable.
Back then, nothing could shake that up.
Escampa.
And after the rain,
after forty days and forty nights
more or less,
we verified
that once again it was not the flood,
that we are still here (with sorrow, with relief)
smearing the face of the earth.

Ana María Shua (1951–) has published over eighty books in numerous genres: novels, short stories, poetry, drama, children’s fiction, books of humor, Jewish folklore, anthologies, film scripts, journalistic articles, and essays. She has received numerous national and international awards, including a Guggenheim Fellowship, and is one of Argentina’s premier living writers.

Eugenio Polisky authored the poetry collections *silencio en la nada luz* (English version: *silence in nothingness light*); *Quimera Bulevar* (English version: *Pipe-dream Boulevard*); and *desde el fondo* (*From the depths*). Polisky has translated poetry by Irene Gruss, Liliana Díaz Mindurry, Daniel Freidemberg, and Hugo Mujica into English, as well as poetry by Anne Carson and Dan Bellm into Spanish.

Zack Rogow is the author, editor, or translator of more than twenty books and plays. He has received the PEN/Book-of-the-Month Club Translation Award and the Bay Area Book Reviewers Association Translation Prize.