

## DONALD REVELL

# Aphasia

*Herr! . . . Herr! . . . Herr! The Saint John Passion*  
Opens, triumphantly, gates rampant and gates  
Weathered green by early love. In no other  
Animal but the steed of human music  
Does allusiveness bite down the bridle,  
Breaking memory into splinters and shards,  
Sowing the bits at speed to become forests,  
Arias, and the folly of dead poets.  
I must remember as quickly as I can.  
On the far side of darkening waters  
Frost blooms and thistle forecasts thunder.

**Donald Revell** is the author of fourteen collections of poetry, most recently *Drought-Adapted Vine* (2015). He has also published six volumes of translations from the French, including collections by Apollinaire, Rimbaud, and Verlaine. A former fellow of the Guggenheim and Ingram Merrill Foundations, he serves as professor of English at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, and Black Mountain Institute.

## MELISSA WEST

*Figures In the Forest, 2012*  
Monoprint with linoleum block figures, 8 x 10 in



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