

ZARIA FORMAN

Waipi'o Valley, Hawaii, No. 2, 2015
Soft pastel on paper, 44 x 60 in



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MARIAN KILCOYNE

Possession

Searching for shells on a winter-ruffled beach, her eyes scan left to right reading the close-packed grains. Perfection the measure of her mind every time.

A one-winged seabird appears in the surf broken and listing, damage its strange new veracity. She mirrors it, trying to see how that would be.

Here, with Clare Island a slub on the horizon, a gamut of birds alight; whirling dervishes all. Here is where she is not owned, borrowed, retrieved. Not even rejected.

Here, on a day so clear the mountains are blades cutting the eyes. The ocean draws and swoops, gulping itself in. Here, now, and maybe never again—she is the thief of her own life.

Marian Kilcoyne is an Irish writer based on the west coast of Ireland. She has been published or is forthcoming at *Prelude, The Louisville Review, Poetry Salzburg Review, Crannog, Ofi Press, Frogmore Papers, Cyphers, Apalachee Review, New Contrast, Quiddity, Right Hand Pointing, Grey Sparrow Journal, Off The Coast, The Galway Review, The Liner, Into The Void, Roanoke Literary Journal*, and others. Marian has recently been shortlisted for the Dermot Healy International poetry competition 2017.