Ephemeral

ephem·er·al \i-ˈfem-rəl, -ˈfēm-, -ˈfe-mə-, -ˈfē-\  adjective

: lasting only one day <an ephemeral fever>
: lasting a very short time <ephemeral pleasures>

As applied to small press poetry publishing, related terms may include: rare, scarce, coterie, uncommon, unusual, unread, little-known, legendary, strange, precious, prized, mythologized, unfamiliar, elite, limited, cherished, respected, special, exceptional, odd, eccentric, extraordinary
Hello darkness—are you blue?
BLACK STEEL

Joe Frazier and Muhammad Ali
BY GWENDOLYN BROOKS

...strive with each other
not for power or the
accumulation of paper
but in joy create for
others... the game
of athletic beauty.
—Dudley Randall
the night doesn’t stop
the stars.
—Don L. Lee

The one hand is your Language.
The other hand is your Art.

You ripen toward the center of the ring!
You startle into steel!
You bust and hit and hurt!

It is your roaring-thing.

The Uttermost of Warriors in the world!
The Vigorous Valiant, the Dazzle of them all.

But
when the last bell’s business dulls away,
know that the echo’s message is black love.
Pick up the pieces of the Brotherhood.
Let:
black love survive the Calculated Blaze.
Let:
black love survive the Challenge and the Blood.
SEWING A DRESS

The need
to move before you
these closed-in days
smooth-draped
and color-elated
in a favorable wind

LORINE NIEDECKER
I have no objectives, no system, no tendency, and no plan.
I have no speech, no tongue, no memory, no realm.
Because nothing matters, I am consistent, committed, and excited.
I prefer the definite, the bounded, the repressed and the weak.
Not objectivity but neutrality of being.
Not spontaneity but panic.
For only seeing believes and only the body thinks.
For success is common to those who fail.
For the world’s beauty is fading because the world is fading.
For the best narrative is always oblique.
For thought only thinks—all has been foretold.
For without cruelty, there would be no beauty.
For kindness is always a little bit tragic.
For the mind’s progress is zig-zag stabs at every tree.
For the best art makes things disappear.

Poetics
Paul Hoover
After Gerhard Richter, 2002
An Underwood Poetry Broadside
THE RED WHEELBARROW

WORDS BY WILLIAM CARLOS WILLIAMS

So much depends upon

A RED WHEEL BARROW

Beside the white chickens

Glazed with rain water

H2O

Top Edge

Barrow

Front Rim

Bar

Axel

Wheel

Right Handle

Left Handle

Head / Mound / Fire

Kid

Eye People

Hand / Sphere

Nose

Arm

Wheel Face

Foot

Glaze

Sky

Green

Blue

Vermin

Egg
Rain Towards Morning

The great light cage has broken up in the air, freeing, I think, about a million birds whose wild ascending shadows will not be back, and all the wires come falling down.

Elizabeth Bishop
I, too, dislike it.
Answers In Progress

Walk through life
Beautiful more than anything
Stand in the sunlight
Walk through life
Love all the things
That make you strong,
be lovers, be anything
For all the people of Earth.

You have brothers
You love each other, change up
And look at the world
Now, it's
Our's, take it slow
We've a long time, a long way
To go,

We have
Each other, and the
World.
Don't be sorry
Walk on out through sunlight life
and know
We're on the go
For love
To open
Our lives
To walk
Tasting the sunshine
Of Life.

Imamu Amear Baraka
(LeRoi Jones)

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JIHAD PRODUCTIONS
SAY IT IN METER?
I HARDLY KNOW HER.

[Signature: Janis Joplin]
Moondial

I tried to show you
Fire and fire is useless
Fire is just
A fingernail away
And so it was two
In the morning
In the phone booth for no reason
Should this feel right
A horse emerging
From an accident
While we shared a mitten
To this day I’m finding
Your cloth in black dirt
A stone tablet curled
On a hill of first kisses
The moon stitched
Poorly on
My flat white tongue

—Graham Foust
I Saw Delight

An Alternative Press Bumpersticker by Robert Creeley
Anna Banana, Mail Art Stamps, 1989-2005. YCAL MSS 254 (postage stamps)


_Bumpers_, [Victoria, Tex.]: Cuneiform Press, 2011. 2012 Folio 197 (bumper stickers)


_Signature Series Number One: Washington, D.C._, Pyramid Atlantic, 1997. Za1 997 Si263 (postcards)

_Buzz Spector, Memories_, c1976. Zab Sp318 976M (pencils)

_Streetfare Journal Transit Broadsides, 1980s_. 2010 Folio S46 (bus and subway posters)