

ANN FISHER-WIRTH

Mouna

(Sanskrit, *silence*)

Why do you think you must have something to say?

The clouds do not speak. The water spreads
nearly to infinity

with its ragged hem of dark trees, and those grasses
there in the corner of your vision, the wind

moves them or does not move them,
they stretch forward into the light.

Lake, trees, sky—
Look, everything is breathing.

You could put your fingers through these clouds.
Piled high above the lake, they're wet air, silence—



ABOUT ANN FISHER-WIRTH

Ann Fisher-Wirth is the author of four books of poems, most recently *Carta Marina* (Wings Press 2009) and *Dream Cabinet* (Wings Press 2012), and is the co-editor, with Laura-Gray Street, of *The Eco-poetry Anthology* (Trinity University Press 2013 & 2014). Her poetry has appeared in *The Southampton Review*, *Prairie Schooner*, *Diode*, *Terrain.org*, *Cutthroat*, and elsewhere. She teaches in the MFA program and directs the environmental studies program at the University of Mississippi and is a fellow of Black Earth Institute, an international think tank. She lives in Oxford, Mississippi. Online at annfisherwirth.com.

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