

UCLA

Ufahamu: A Journal of African Studies

Title

Renga

Permalink

<https://escholarship.org/uc/item/8c99q4vg>

Journal

Ufahamu: A Journal of African Studies, 3(3)

ISSN

0041-5715

Author

Hale, Sondra

Publication Date

1973

DOI

10.5070/F733018299

Copyright Information

Copyright 1973 by the author(s). All rights reserved unless otherwise indicated. Contact the author(s) for any necessary permissions. Learn more at <https://escholarship.org/terms>

Peer reviewed

RENGA*

in tribute to Amilcar Cabral

The stillness of dawn,
Crashing between the branches,
A world of revolution.
Paradox and expectation:
Justuposed in terrifying radiance.

One half century
They had you among them.
Perhaps that was enough;
Perhaps a sequence of poems,
Once begun in *renga*
Will never end.

Still, it is hard
Not to feel cheated,
Knowing that you
Might have been with us
Another half century,
Linking the poems
Of generations.

(*The Japanese *renga* is a sequence of poems in which unequal links of three and two lines are written by two or more poets. Any given link of the *renga* must form a poem with that which precedes it, and this poem must be different from the one it forms with the link following it.)

Sondra Hale

Sondra Hale, one of the founding editors of this journal, is completing a Ph.D. dissertation on the Sudan for the Anthropology Department of UCLA. In 1964 she published a volume of poetry, *Goodbye, Sudan*. She lectures, part-time, at Cal State, Northridge.