

2: An arbitrary moment,  
 3: named by men  
 1: and inscribed by machines  
 2: a movement from nines to zeros,  
 3: from fullness to expectation,  
 2: from fear of facing the future  
 to a grand unknowing

3: An accidental moment,  
 1: this Sabbath of our century,  
 3: as we watch a decade's sunlight fade,  
 2: and look forward to the morning  
 1: blessed by these computers  
 to which we give our stewardship,  
 2: or by their hidden code betrayed,  
 3: glancing at our oracles,  
 2: as if each bit, each pixel tells  
 1: of omens of a future  
 3: for whose imminence we wait.

2: We wait,  
 the hopeful by the fireplaces,  
 1: the fearful in their shelters,  
 3: the watchful by their monitors,  
 2: the vengeful hovering by the controls  
 1: of their devices  
 3: of their destruction

2: We wait  
 3: for the dropping of the ball  
 1: for the waves of midnights  
 to sweep across the planet's face  
 3: for the possible end  
 of everything we know  
 1: as Luddite fantasies spin their fate  
 across this electronic world  
 2: as planes fall from the sky,  
 3: banks explode from overflows of cash,  
 2: and two-headed calves roam the aisles  
 of looted, gaping Stop and Go's,  
 3: speaking of apocalypse  
 1: to anyone whose VCR  
 has not eaten them in shame,

# Dancing on the Mi

by Joseph Zitt

(after a title by Tim Wood)

1: And it came to pass  
 that it was the morning of Chri  
 and I was on a plane  
 and I slept  
 and I awoke  
 and -- this is true --  
 the pilot said,  
 2: "For those of you from Texas  
 we have just crossed the R  
 and have entered the Prom

1: We who have gathered here,  
 3: we poets,  
 2: players,  
 3: voices,  
 2: and listeners,  
 1: come together now  
 2: to speak and not to speak,  
 3: to sound and not to sound,  
 1: drawing beauty from our sur  
 2: and, we hope,  
 returning beauty to it,  
 1: as we move  
 3: about,  
 2: within,  
 3: between  
 1: these cities  
 2: in this week of sounding,  
 1: dancing on the millennium's  
 3: as we look ahead and beyc

2: Listen now:  
 this is an extraordinary momer  
 3: Listen now:  
 this is an extraordinary momer

3: And when none of this happens,  
2: when the world does not collapse,  
1: when life goes on pretty much as it was,  
2: when, after a hiccup,  
1: flights continue to leapfrog timezones  
2: and the Net continues to expand,  
connecting the essential and the trivial,  
3: we will look back  
2: and wonder about this moment,  
1: and what it was we worried about,  
3: and remember how we celebrated this moment,  
2: when it seemed so much  
would end or would begin.

1: But here, but now,  
in this extraordinary moment,  
we have gathered,  
2: drawn by voices,  
3: drawn by friends,  
2: or drawn by chance,  
just happening to be here,  
1: we speak,  
3: sing,  
2: play,  
3: and listen  
2: for the spirit of the present moment,  
1: at the edge of our imaginings,  
in this dance  
3: of our becomings,  
2: of probabilities.

1: We are here,  
2: dancing on the millennium's edge,  
3: between word and music  
2: between content and form  
3: between times that passed  
and times that will come  
1: between the sacred,  
2: the sacred and  
3: the sacred,  
2: between meaning and effect.

1: We are here,  
2: dancing on the millennium's e  
1: spinning webs with our  
voices,  
3: words,  
2: and machines,  
1: reaching out and reaching in  
2: watching left and right dissol  
3: perhaps into new dichotom  
2: perhaps themselves to disa  
1: hearing accelerating orbits  
2: transmuting East and W  
3: from the klezmer bands  
2: to the zendos of L.A.

1: We are here,  
2: dancing on the millennium's e  
1: and no words can say  
what we need  
2: and no sounds portray  
what we mean  
1: and no dance,  
3: save the dance of probabili  
2: within this hidden future,  
3: within the electron's shell,  
can display  
2: what we see,  
3: what we feel,  
2: what we believe,  
1: except this:

2: Listen now:  
this is an extraordinary momer  
3: as is the next,  
2: as is the next,  
1: and when you leave here,  
keep on listening,  
3: gently,  
2: deeply,  
3: constantly.  
2: dancing at the millennium's ec  
1: toward all the extraordinary  
moments to come.