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SERMONS AND LECTURES BOTH BLANK AND RELENTLESS

the new collection by poet
Matt Hart

“Sermons and Lectures is an absolute joy.”
– Jordan Dreyer, La Dispute

**“I woke up
this morning to a world cataclysmic
in the ordinary ways.”**

And this world in Matt Hart’s *Sermons and Lectures Both Blank and Relentless*, operates in stereo. In its right speaker: the melody of a male vocalist who feels literally beside himself, constantly observing each of life’s interactions while also ferociously experiencing them, yelling Emerson and Whitman and Kant into the mic. In the left blares the bass lines of Jawbreaker, Alice Cooper, and the yawps of Patti Smith. “One can’t be out-of-control-in control,” writes Hart, and with a righteous blending of pulpit fervor and mosh pit frenzy, these poems feed upon the friction of life’s contradictions and our hunger for absolutes, setting up the reader to discover “nothing is perfectly nailed to the wall.” *Sermons and Lectures Both Blank and Relentless* is an epic call for magnificence and truth from a remarkable poet at his finest.

Also available:

- * a special, limited edition, letterpress box set with book extras
- * a full-length album from TRAVEL, inspired by the book.

For more information, including a book trailer, author interview, and touring dates, please see:

www.typecastpublishing.com/matthart

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See reverse for more

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“Matt Hart’s poetry is both inspiring and insightful, meditations on life pulsing with the heart of the punk rock it so often references. *Sermons and Lectures* is an absolute joy.”

—**Jordan Dreyer, *La Dispute***

“You already know Matt Hart can make you move, that his poems are a potent combination of velocity, tenacity, and human love. But nothing can prepare you for this. With *Sermons and Lectures Both Blank and Relentless*, the amplifier connects directly to the source of it all in poems so agile, so intimate, so dedicated to searching and declaring and exploding, that they completely redefine how we feel on the page and what we know in our hearts.”

—**Nate Pritts**

“Do poems have insoles? With which to absorb their own shock? I don’t know, but reading Matt Hart’s new book led me to consider the ways in which our ideas of genre have been broken and fantastically reformed. These poems (sermons? lectures? a rock concert?) will leave the reader crash-landed and dazed, but muttering tiny sweet things under his breath: ‘how nice it is to be entangled in all the ways we are.’”

—**Mary Ruefle**



Matt Hart

is the author of three previous collections of poetry: *Who’s Who Vivid* (Slope, 2006), *Wolf Face* (H_NGM_N, 2010), and

LIGHT-HEADED (BlazeVOX, 2011), and several chapbooks. His poems, reviews, and essays have appeared in *The Awl*, *Big Bell*, *Coldfront*, *Gulf Coast*, *H_NGM_N*, *Harvard Review*, *jubilat*, and *The Lumberyard*, among many others. Hart is a recipient of fellowships from both the Breadloaf Writers’ Conference and The Warren Wilson MFA Program for Writers.

A longtime musician, he currently also plays in the poetry/noise band Travel. Music from his previous musical projects has appeared on MTV and in major motion pictures, including Kevin Smith’s *Mallrats*. In 2011, he co-edited the reissue of the late Paul Violi’s first major collection of poems, *In Baltic Circles*, for the H_NGM_N BKS Reissue Series. A co-founder and the editor-in-chief of *Forklift, Ohio: A Journal of Poetry, Cooking, & Light Industrial Safety*, he lives in Cincinnati where he teaches at the Art Academy of Cincinnati.