

**Duncan Richardson**

**YOU**

1. Like your great-grandparents a hundred years before  
you're sliding in on the cusp of a century  
lucky oblivious to the hysteria of numbers.
  
2. Seeing you generalised in a TV embryo  
webbed feet and gills magnified  
belief impossible,  
of all emotions  
alien-fear was the least expected.
  
3. Then your translucent skin shone with arc-lights  
for the pur-blind TV  
but on the ultra sound  
you were like radar blips  
of bombers coming home.
  
4. When the doctor's cliches  
pattered on our ears  
you threw up your hands  
and I thought  
you'd better get used to it.