

## VOLKER WOLF

Hans Volker Wolf was born in 1947 in Mosbach, Baden, West Germany. He obtained his M.A. at the University of Heidelberg and, having won a scholarship to study Australian literature, came to James Cook University in 1976, where he was awarded the degree of M.Lit. After this he travelled widely within Australia before returning to Germany where he now lives.

He was particularly interested to see how Australian life and society was reflected in the work of Patrick White and took the opportunity while here of immersing himself fully in the community. His experiences in Australia inspired a small collection of poems both in English and his native language. We have selected five for inclusion in this issue.

### GUMS

wo der gelbe pfad  
zitronen bricht  
für die sinne,  
im herbst  
sie bewahrt  
von knusprigen blättern,  
versteckt  
der kalyptus  
bleich  
seine vielfalt

### SONN URBIA

die straÙe ist  
kein ausweg;  
verklammert  
durch private  
abnehmer  
erstreckt sie sich  
in die küchen,

verschleißt hautnah  
was sie meilenweit trennt,  
erinnert sich  
den sonntagen  
als trostloses isolierband,  
feucht von prostatistischer  
grasspflege,  
zu kurz  
eine rollbahn für träume,  
gaschoren  
vom rasenmäher,  
kastriert  
durch yahweh zeugen  
mit wachtürmen im sack,  
eine gemeinheit,  
orchestral bemalt  
vom fingerdruck  
elektronischer ignoranz

#### RAVENSWOOD/BEECHWORTH

When you listen  
to the past  
you can still hear them  
dig  
the acoustics are bad  
down  
the  
shafts  
drowned by the floods of  
alluvial clay  
but the sorrow  
is distinct  
slowing the pulse  
emaciating the limbs  
listen  
to the song  
of birds  
perching  
on the needles