

# **Disco Naps & Odd Nods: the politix of sex**

**Alex Gildzen**



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Disco Naps & Odd

Nods:

the politix of sex

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Locofo Chaps is dedicated to publishing politically-oriented poetry.

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**from the 1960s**

**IN SILENCE, IN SPRING**

**Starting again**

**not sure if May might bring snow  
I cuddle in the corner of your eye  
hiding from the wind.**

**from the 1970s**

**THE SEARCH FOR MUSK**

**It's the hankering that drives us  
the memory of tongues**

**in a room that remains the same  
we repeat the scenario  
shut off another kind of moon**

**fingers find jungles  
for fainted eyes to rest in  
sweat collects in culs-de-sac  
ragtime lullabies rock us**

**yet we snort the wet night  
grunting after the ox  
biting into flesh**

**the taste of ourselves  
always shocks**

**from the 1980s**

**SWIMMERS OUT OF WATER**

**a tyke astairing across living room**

**decades before his first tux**

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**myself**

**unwilling Tobias**

**earlier cat**

**pleasure in my recreation**

**tango with Dowell**

**remember**

**another man**

**I still dance by**

**or with an**

**who unlike an**

**takes no**

**of Nureyev's**

**the last time I**

**dancing with**

**was two years**

**ago in a cellar**

**off Via Veneto**

**I was drunk again**

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**(from a novel begun in 1977 & abandoned  
in 1978)**

***The two fingers of gin in Boyd's glass  
refracted the silver blue shimmer of the  
revolving globe above the dance floor  
turning it into the hideous drink that  
had been the Fire Island favorite a few  
seasons back. But the blue water  
didn't last as long as the song. Boyd  
steadied himself against the bar. It  
was the summer of disco and young  
men dipped and dove across the slick  
floor like swimmers out of water.***

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**he invited me  
to a dance  
I didn't know**



**at an Akron bar  
near where Hart Crane  
sold chocolates**

**the tyke taught  
to lead in school  
tried to follow**

---

**dancing with Jean-Claude at  
Stonewall  
Ned at the Firehouse  
Jay at Studio One  
Ira at 12 West  
Gerald at A House  
Steven at Parade  
Thomas at Les  
Jardins**

**those 1001 nites we danced  
& drank away  
I want back  
& the boys who  
thrashed beside me  
lost at sea**

**from the 1990s**

**NIJINSKY'S UNDERWEAR**

**threads that held him  
slide across my lips  
burning me with the fire  
in his leap**

**sniffing the ash  
keeps the dance alive**

**from the 2000s**

**there are men  
we meet in the nite  
who shine like gems  
then are gone forever**

**as I grow gray  
memory makes  
a bracelet of them  
which I wear to bed  
so that their shining  
brings dreams**

**from the 2010s**

**naked by pool  
as birds chatter morningsong  
& dark sky lightens  
I walk to edge  
to watch reflections of palms  
gyrate like druggd gogo boys**

**waiting for sun to burst  
I release my biography from exile  
every wrinkle on my face  
is a poem  
& every spot  
memory of an ecstasy**

**wank in Ian's car on King's Rd  
shag in front of Chicago fireplace  
knife in Manhattan nite  
& too many kisses to catalog**

**this is bliss to remember  
mouth of dancer long dead  
vibrant as yesterday's**

**nibbling of a piercd ear**

**all my men**

**assemble to guide**

**this pen across this pad**

**all my lads**

**lead me to leap**

**that comes next**



(photo by Tony Mataras)

**Poems by Alex Gildzen have been appearing in magazines for nearly a half century. His major collections have come from two publishers. North Atlantic Books issued The Year Book (1974) and The Avalanche of Time (1986). Otoliths published It's All a Movie (2007) and The Arrow That Is Hollywood Pierces the Soul That Is Me (2011).**

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2017

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Charles Perrone – *A CAPacious Act*

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Donna Kuhn – *Don't Say His Name*

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Gabriel Gudding – *Bed From Government*

mIEKAL aND – *Manifesto of the Moment*

Garin Cycholl – *Country Musics 20/20*

Mary Kasimor – *The Prometheus Collage*

lars palm – *case*

Reijo Valta – *Truth and Truthmp*

Andrew Peterson – *The Big Game is Every Night*

Romeo Alcala Cruz – *Archaeoteryx*

John Lowther – *18 of 555*

Jorge Sánchez – *Now Sing*

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