Seattle City Council

Culture, Civil Rights, Health and Personnel Committee Meeting
2:00 p.m. Wednesday, September 23rd 2009

Words' Worth
The Poetry Program of the Seattle City Council

Curated by **Felicia Gonzalez**

Today's poet is **Rebecca Hoogs**

Rebecca Hoogs is the author of a chapbook, Grenade (2005) and her poems have appeared in Poetry, AGNI, Crazyhorse, Zyzzyva, The Journal, Poetry Northwest, POOL, The Florida Review, and others. Before joining Seattle Arts & Lectures in June 2004, she taught English at the University of Washington, where she received her M.F.A. in Poetry and an M.A. in English. She is the Director of Education Programs and curator for the Poetry Series for Seattle Arts & Lectures, and, in 2009, the co-director of the Creative Writing Program in Rome through the University of Washington. She is the recipient of fellowships from the MacDowell Colony (2004), Artist Trust of Washington State (2005), and Jack Straw Productions (2008).

L'Oeuf
by Rebecca Hoogs

The *zero* has an eggy form,

and so in France, they call it *l'oeuf*,

which is *love* to our oafish ears.

We mishear love all over—

multiply it like loaf to loaves,

like fish to fishes.

Me, I've seen lots of l'oeuf—

then none. Some miracle

that was. I was left

with a small omelette.

with l'oeuf on my face,

a little yolk on my sleeve,

my shell. I'm broke—

a Humptey lover.

Love is a brunch, a racket.

It know it means nothing,

barely worth the oofing

before the offing, but still

I load up my basket

and watch them hatch:

chicklets of zip.

Good l'oeuf!

we're fluff birds.

-- *end* --