

## Sylvia Plath's Eternal Buzz in the Sky

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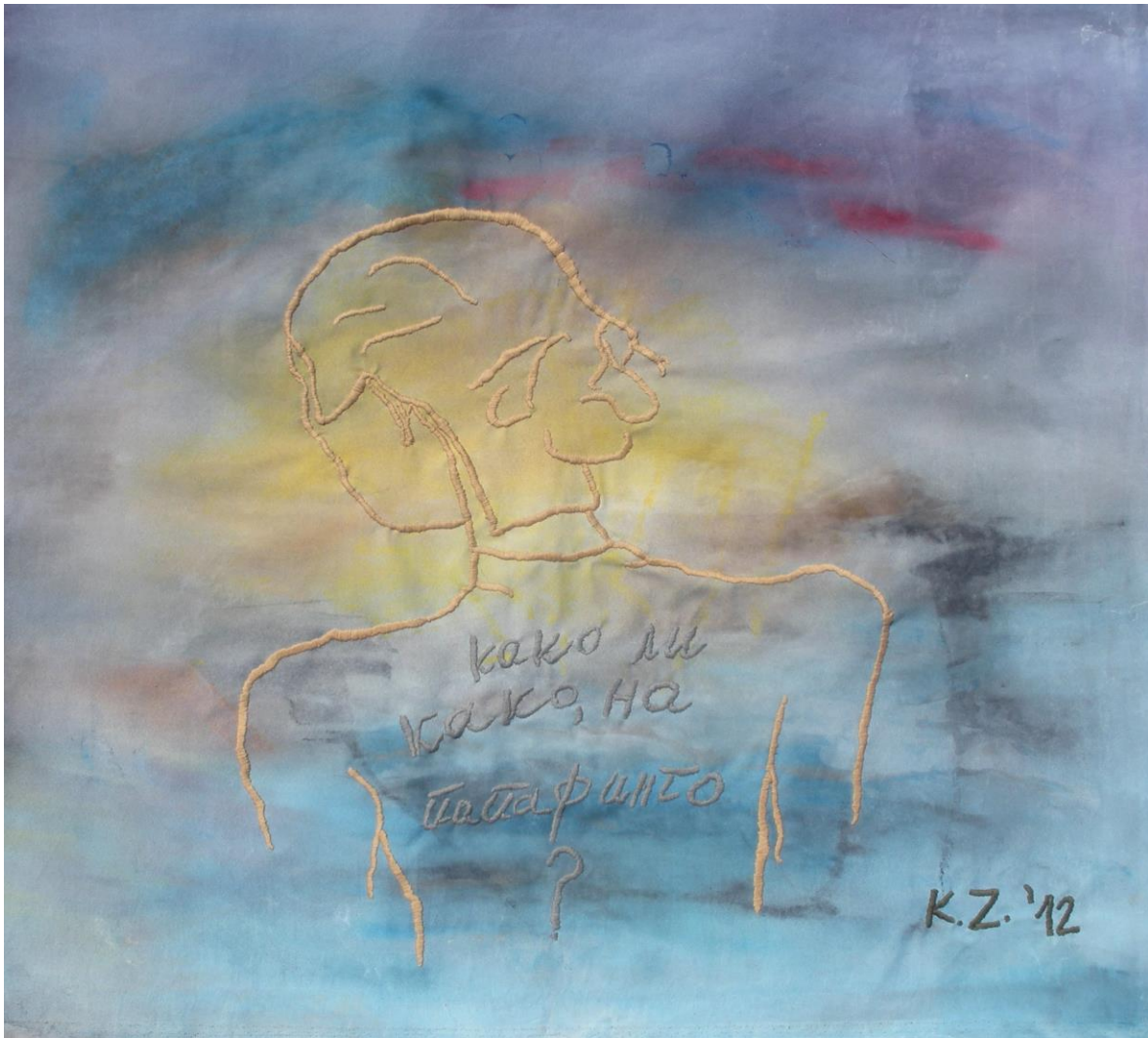


*Hot Sting in the Sky.*

Mixed media on canvas (acrylic, horsehair, embroidery), 50 x 60 cm, 2012. On Sylvia Plath's poem "Stings."



Detail close-up from *Hot Sting in the Sky*.



*The Ambition Bird.*

Mixed media on silk (acrylic, glue, embroidery), 71 x 79 cm, 2012. Inspired by Sylvia Plath's notion of the fig tree blended with Anne Sexton's poem "The Ambition Bird." The Macedonian language inscription reads "How oh how, on the topgallant?" The trick in the present work is the Macedonian word for 'topgallant mast' used in a number of dialects.<sup>1</sup> It is essentially an Italian borrowing (*pappafico*) originally denoting a singing bird species - 'the fig-pecker.' Specifically, the borrowing is a compound consisting of two stems (*pappare* plus *ficco*) meaning 'eat, gobble' and 'fig' respectively.

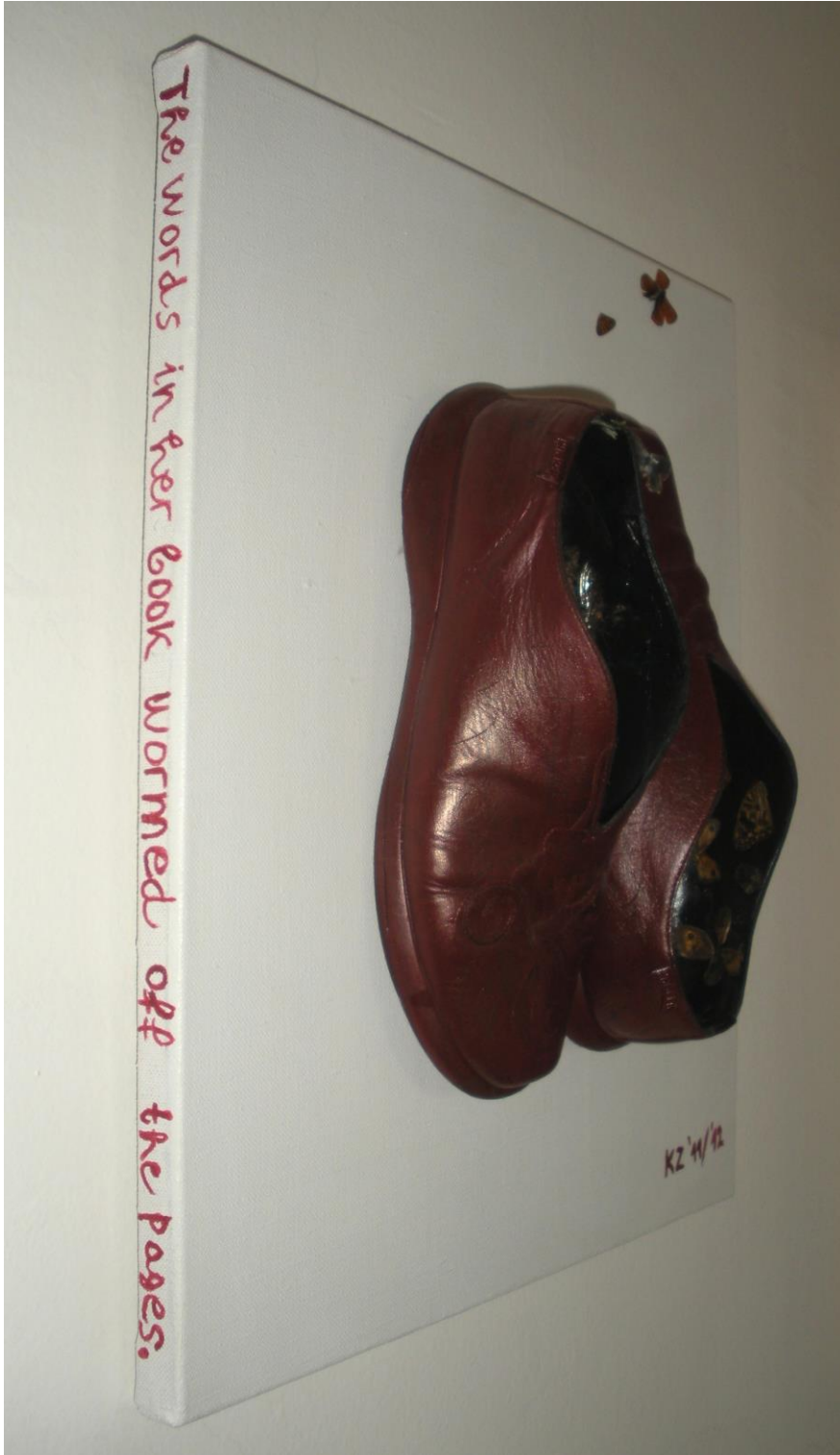
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<sup>1</sup> I am indebted to Ognen Cemerski from the English Department of Ss Cyril and Methodius University in Macedonia for bringing this word to my attention.



*The Pretty Red Heart is Through*

Mixed media on canvas (acrylic, enamel, leather shoes, butterflies, dragonflies), 46 x 38 cm, 2011/2012. Inspired by Sylvia Plath's poem "Daddy," lines from which are scratched all over the shoes— themselves epitomising a human heart.



Detail from *The Pretty Red Heart is Through*. The frame sides contain slightly altered lines from the poem "Suicide off Egg Rock," and they read: "And her blood beating the old tattoo / I AM, I AM, I AM... / The words in her book wormed off the pages. / Everything glittered like blank paper."



Detail close-up from *The Pretty Red Heart is Through*.