



flipped eye publishing

PRESS RELEASE

flipped eye announces upcoming Bella Cox début.

Published by flipped eye in October 2023



***Sikiliza* by Bella Cox – 5th October 2023 (Poetry)**

flipped eye publishing, one of the UK's leading independent publishers of compelling literature that matters, is thrilled to announce the release of **Sikiliza** (5th October 2023), a debut poetry pamphlet by British-Spanish poet, performer and producer, **Bella Cox**.

Sikiliza is both a call to action and a pledge to journey through the intricate web of connections that bind together the constituent elements of one's identity, woven intricately through voices from diverse continents. It speaks of a self both defined by and defying traditional notions of Womanhood, sisterhood, love and queerness. A self versed in the languages of scalpels and flowers, that howls, soothes and sings off-key. A self that's unapologetically here, wherever here may be.

Bella commented, "Writing poetry for me has always been, in part, a method of unravelling emotional knots, laying out the threads and discovering what beauty can be woven from my experiences. In this collection of pieces written mainly between 2017-2021 I have gained fresh perspectives through which to view my loves, my losses, my life. I hope that reading these creations serves as a kind of passing of the needle/pen/mic, so that readers may untangle and explore their own weird and wonderful tapestries too."



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Jacob-Sam La Rose, Senior Editor at flipped eye, who worked with Bella on this pamphlet shared his thoughts on this début saying, "So many of us spend so much of our lives searching for places we can belong to; Bella Cox has constructed and carved out such a space for herself in her poetry, and the various different worlds her poetry inhabits— the worlds in which the work she does through poetry has tangible impact. I've seen Bella continue to challenge herself over the years, and it's wonderful to see her bring this début into being. It's a manifestation of her dedication, her ambition, and her commitment to doing the work that needs to be done to produce something that feels true, in all the best senses of the word."

Publishing original poetry and ambitious prose on a not-for-profit model since 2001, flipped eye is a lean, reader-focussed, writer-loving support system for culture that matters. Founded by editor and award-winning writer Nii Ayikwei Parkes, flipped eye has won global critical acclaim since its inception, launching the careers of writers such as **Roger Robinson, Inua Ellams, Malika Booker, Miriam Nash, Nick Makoha** and **Warsan Shire**.

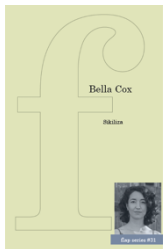
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Notes to editors



Sikiliza by Bella Cox

Published by flipped eye's **flap** pamphlet series

Poetry: £4.99

ISBN: 9781905233823

5th October 2023

About flipped eye

Founded in 2001 by Nii Ayikwei Parkes, an editor and award-winning writer, flipped eye publishing has won global critical acclaim, playing a key role in developing poets of note.

Always at the forefront of innovation in the publishing world, they were one of the first publishers in the world to have a regular subscription mailing list (in 2005) as well as a regular podcast – the hugely popular Poem of the Week Redux, with readings from the likes of Roger Robinson, Warsan Shire, Inua Ellams and Malika Booker – in 2010.

Through their diversity and commitment, they have been one of the most imitated small presses in the UK for years. Their *mouthing* poetry series – a ground-breaking, goal-focussed chapbook collection – revolutionised pamphlet publishing in the UK. Launched in 2004 with the first book released in 2005, it was the first time that a series was dedicated to developing writers with a slant towards transposing the energy of the stage to the page. The goal-focussed approach has since been imitated by the likes of Tall Lighthouse and Faber, but what remains



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unique about the *mouthmark* series, is that it was run on an incredible budget of £300 per title, and sold on at an affordable price.

Their writers are Latinx, Queer, White, Intersex, degree holders, graduates from the school of life, Black, Gay, old, young, Asian, Straight ... and they all feel heard and at home with flipped eye publishing, expressing themselves with freedom, creating affirming and challenging work.

About Bella Cox



Bella Cox is an internationally acclaimed poet, performer, workshop facilitator, event host and producer. She is a three-time Barbican Young Poets alumna, twice nominated as Young People's Laureate for London, and has co-founded two regular London poetry performance events. She has fulfilled commissions for institutions such as the Barbican Centre, HSBC and Westminster Abbey, and has been featured at TEDx Pretoria, Sköll World Forum and the Malta Mediterranean Literature Festival. Her writing has been published in *The Sol* Plaatjie European Union Anthology (2016), the *Anti-Hate Anthology* (2019) and *Articulations for Keeping the Light In* (2022). Her debut pamphlet *Sikiliza* showcases her proudly queer and feminist perspectives. Bella currently lives in London, where she continues to write and perform regularly.
