

GREEN INTEGER

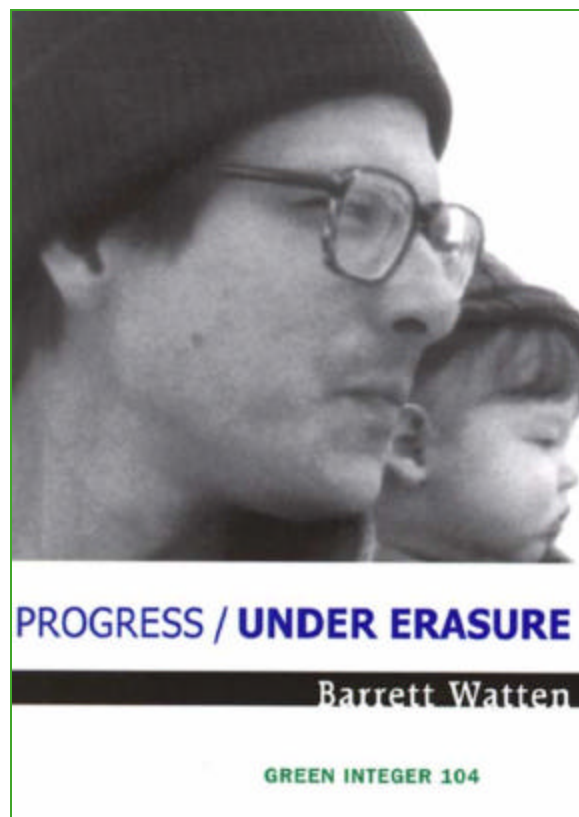
ANNOUNCES PUBLICATION IN A NEW, COMBINED EDITION

PROGRESS/UNDER ERASURE

BY BARRETT WATTEN

Progress/Under Erasure re-presents in a new edition, with a new preface, two innovative long poems by one of the best-known poets and critics associated with “Language” writing. Upon its original publication in 1985, **Progress** was greeted with enthusiasm and public debate. Its linguistically charged, emotionally relentless, and culturally reflexive nonnarrative form was pitched against the media saturation and political banality of the Reagan era. If **Progress** is a nonnarrative directed toward the end of history, **Under Erasure** (published in a limited edition in 1991) was written during its purported realization at the end of the Cold War, an event it records.

On the original publication of **Progress** in 1985, Ron Silliman wrote: “Deeply pessimistic about the concept of progress itself, the poem is, in many ways, a direct descendant of Allen Ginsberg’s classic of the ‘60s, ‘Wichita Vortex Sutra.’ Although **Progress** is a much longer work, the range of the two poems, their density and overall sensibility are remarkably similar. “



All information ends in a book.
Blindness,
write anything
And arrange to follow sound
As an imitation of zeitgeist....

I see two letters in every key,
Antiphonal,
labeled objects
Of content before any use.
Pushbuttons argue to be pushed....

A string of flares thrown down
On Merritt Parkway,
enough
To send city into collapse,
Matching witness to spectacle....

■ ■ ■ ■

Barrett Watten is author of **Frame (1971–90)** (Sun & Moon Press, 1997), **Bad History** (Atelos Press, 1998), and **Zone** (in progress), editor of **This**, and co-editor of **Poetics Journal**. His collections of critical essays on modern and contemporary poetics appeared as **Total Syntax** (Southern Illinois University Press, 1985) and **The Constructivist Moment: From Material Text to Cultural Poetics** (Wesleyan University Press, 2003), which was awarded the 2004 René Wellek Prize. He teaches modernist studies and poetics at Wayne State University.

ISBN 1-931243-68-9; **\$12.95 paperback**. Individual orders: **Green Integer** (www.greeninteger.com) or **from the author** (6885 Cathedral Drive, Bloomfield Twp., MI 48301; add \$2 domestic/\$4 foreign for mailing). Trade distributors: **Consortium Books**, 1045 Westgate Drive, Suite 90, St. Paul, MN 55114 (U.S./Canada); **Turnaround Publisher Services**, Unit 3, Olympia Trading Estate, Coburg Road, London N22 6TZ, U.K. (U.K./Europe).