

The Shape of Light is a work in process and has been workshopped through residencies at MassMOCA and VCCA in spring and summer of 2021.

Spoken word text:

**before I was born, my mother swam alongside fish
before the Yucatan had much electricity,
before the reefs were killed by overuse**

**when I was a teen I got contact lenses,
and could now see this fluid world of color and pattern
appear as parrot and angel fish, ray and barracuda.**

we snorkeled together she, I and the sea, until shortly before her death.

**from her, I learned that spirit is in these watery blues and greens,
in the motion of waves as they covered our feet
as we found treasure in their wake.**

**I was born a fish
with the horns of a ram**

**in the year of the cocoon
house, home, body and bone
became one**

**each house a color
each body a tone**

**what is the color of being caught?
what is the color of release?**

**in the year of the cocoon
house, home, body and bone
are one**

**each house a color
each body a tone**

**in the blue house
is an aquatic embrace**

**between slippery sea
and wet sky**

**in the gloaming, in the bluing of the day
cobalt swallows all color from light
in its act of transgression**

**When the froth of day, or its jaggedness
ruptures sleep
breathe contours of blue to blur,
if just for a moment, into spaciousness.**

**I dream in sapphire blue
deep enough to bathe the stars.**

**in the year of the cocoon
house, home, body and bone
became one**

**each house a color
each body a tone**

**what is the color of being caught?
what is the color of release?**

**The answers are sewn into
the porousness of our skin.**

**Suzy Sureck
VCCA 2021**

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