

Poetry Series

**Brian Routh**  
**- poems -**

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## Brian Routh(9th March 1948)

I am an artist and I have lived in the USA for 25 years. Mostly in Los Angeles with some years spent in San Francisco, Chicago, New York and on the Russian River.

I moved to London when I was 12 and lived in Munich and Berlin for a time. I became a performance artist in 1972 and worked with a partner and we became the Kipper Kids. Since 1980 in addition to the Kipper Kids I have performed as a solo artist. I have also performed and collaborated with many other artists such as Karen Finley, Tony Labat, Eric Bogosian, Ian Hinchcliffe, Genesis P. Orridge, Public Image, the Sex pistols, Joanna Went, Henry Rollins and many others. I have performed all over Europe, North Africa, Canada, North America and the UK.

Since 2008 I have been working in collaboration with artist Patricia Wells who is creating animations for which I am creating the sound and music for...see here:

# Ancient Relic

Lost in earthen ware jars,  
Thrown to the tide and the dust storm,  
Forever I rearranged myself and started across town.  
The streets were deserted,  
I wandered aimlessly, looking this way and that,  
Expecting to see the shroud in all its splendour.  
Too much as I rambled on at length,  
Hoping to see the new dawn and the brilliant primroses.  
Aghast! My head and heart had swollen to immense proportions.  
I let myself drift in this sea of cacophonous swirling and abstractions.  
I hoped to stay and linger forever on this orbiting slab of debris.  
To watch awhile longer, the frenzied comings and goings of the twisted populace.  
To feel the sensations of blood pounding in my head  
And the animalistic mechanism of the heart pumping its oil around this aging  
body.  
Oh joy!  
Tomorrow is a bank account of my life.  
I look foreword and wait.  
Expecting to what tomorrow will bring.  
The past is my record.  
No longer in the top fifty.

Brian Routh

# Art And Books

art and books  
negative hooks  
they're phony they're fake  
they make my head ache  
although i don't read  
i sing 'til i bleed  
don't waste my time  
cause reading's a crime  
painting's much worse  
a lie and a curse  
it's all just pretentious  
it makes me contentious  
i'll fight to defend  
my ignorant friend  
all culture is sad  
it just makes me mad  
no use in thinking  
i'm better off drinking  
ignorance is better  
i don't need no letter  
as i sit in the drain  
i'm drowning my brain  
the books might be right  
but they're blinding my sight  
i'll set 'em on fire  
and quench my desire  
art is no fun  
go get me my gun  
i'm soon gonna crush  
the man with the brush  
i'm free of all learning  
i'm angry i'm burning  
you've come far to late  
i'm strangled in hate  
i don't need no heart  
no books and no art  
now i lay in my grave  
i'm too late to save  
you can all go to hell

i'll ring my own bel

Brian Routh

# Consumed With Talent?

Jack the hack, a writer  
worked as a waiter  
he used to be a fighter  
he used to be a hater  
eating made him fatter  
sleeping made him lazy  
complaining made him natter  
worry made him crazy

one day he ate himself  
which gave him indigestion  
consumed all his health  
and swallowed all his questions

Brian Routh

# Dazed

I was stunned by the sound  
I forgot reason and jumped to safety  
I was followed by a demon  
'hold up your head to the light' he said  
I said I didn't know  
he said that there was nothing in it  
I was confused but escaped and found freedom  
the soil has missed me  
I remained in balance  
quite steady  
they told me I'd have difficulty in moving  
I found my feet and walked  
'what kind of vision do you want? '  
'I'll er take that one there er, is that alright? '  
'yeah, go on, Ill wait here for you'  
'I might be awhile'  
'that's alright, I'll just sit here and think a bit'  
'right, I'll be off then'  
I stumbled over the debris  
trying to piss  
but only striking the ground with my head each time

Brian Routh

# Death

This body must decay and die.  
I look at these arms, these legs,  
The smell of my body,  
Perhaps for the last time, everytime.  
I awoke as if from a deep sleep.  
A jolt of bells,  
A bolt of light.  
I looked at my hands in fear and wonder.  
Adieu! Sweet fingers,  
Farewell! Fond thumbs.

Brian Routh



# Dirty Dolly

Dirty Dolly lost his lolly  
dropped it while he rode the trolley.  
the lolly melted on the floor  
the lolly stick fell through the door.

Dirty Dolly slipped on the juice  
as he fell his trousers loose  
dropped down around his knees  
in his pocket he found some cheese.

He took a bite as he hit the floor  
and the cheese made his stomach roar  
he farted such a mighty fart  
it was so loud that it made him start.

Lying there he had a thought  
'a cuppa tea and apple torte'  
he raised his pants and zipped his zipper  
changed his socks and ate a kipper.

He blew his nose down the drain  
then he ran to catch the train  
he got there late and caught the bus  
squeezed a spot and popped some puss.

when he got to the other end  
he'd driven the driver round the bend  
singing songs and burping loud  
farting farts of yellow clouds.

But people liked Dirty Dolly  
just because he was so jolly  
he had no fear of being smelly  
or dropping food onto his belly.

He didn't care if people laughed  
if all who met him thought him daft  
He loved to play and make a mess  
show his bottom to the press.

He liked to swear and play the fool  
pee and fart right in the pool  
Dirty Dolly was a smarty  
who ran amok at every party.

People thought him very bad  
because he loved to make them mad  
He pulled a prank at every turn  
lit his farts and made them burn.

He raises hell and creates trouble  
farts in the bath to make it bubble  
laughs and burps right in your face  
stinks the room up in your space.

Never give a sticky lolly  
to the that naughty Dirty Dolly  
you'll soon regret your act of kindness  
and realizes it's total blindness.

Cross the road and walk away  
see Dirty Dolly another day  
wait until he's sleeping sound  
that's time to come around.

That's the time to wash his clothes  
but wear a clothes peg on your nose  
sneak away before he wakes  
before his farting starts to quake.

he won't thank you for being clean  
he'll burp and fart and act real mean  
when he's in a better mood  
covering himself with food.

when he's back to being jolly  
back to being Dirty Dolly  
he'll sing and burp and make you grin  
with lumps of food stuck on his chin.

for all his naughty little ways

he'll make you smile throughout each day  
just because he is so jolly  
that dearest little Dirty Dolly.

Brian Routh

# Ecstasy

I am in ecstasy  
I am in joy  
The angels have spoken  
they speak in words that are not of this world  
they speak in the language of the soul  
but you and I know what they say  
they speak and sing  
the sounds that fill us with the tears of joy  
this is real  
this is REAL  
oh I am so moved by this  
I will hold you  
and when I do the vibrations will shake our foundations  
we will feel the earth move  
this is REAL love  
this is you and me  
this is the real language of our souls  
this is our hearts singing together  
this is OUR love  
Oh Darling I am engulfed in the feelings between us  
I am in awe of you  
I am you and you are me  
this is REAL love darling  
REAL love

Brian Routh

# Fields Of Love

As we walk hand in hand through the fields of yellow corn  
Our voices singing with the innocence of childhood.  
We talk of castles and grand things.  
The wind carries our words to the clouds.  
The sun warms us and fills us with Divine energy.  
We are as if born anew into a new world  
Of magic and of wonder.  
We laugh and play and fall into each others' arms.  
Lying together in the tall grass we make love  
With such passion and such deep love  
That the Angels gather to ward off any dark spirit  
That should dare to enter into our sanctuary of pure joy.  
Tired from our lovemaking we lie in each others' arms  
And sweetly dream the same dream.  
A dream of flying through the white clouds hand in hand.  
Oh what love this is  
To have found you after all these years.  
Searching the sands of time for you my love.  
You are my twin soul.  
I love you more than ever now.  
To kiss you and feel you in my arms  
Once more is a gift from God to me.  
The Heavens opened up and beamed you into my life.  
You and I are in perfection together now.  
I love you.

Brian Routh

# First Embrace

Rain pours down from the darkened clouds  
We huddle together under the shelter in the field.  
Thunder rumbles in the distance  
Lightning cracks and zig-zags across the sky.  
Our hearts entwined beat together  
Our eyes meet and love flows between us.  
Time stands still and all is silent  
As though the entire world were waiting for our first kiss.  
Our arms wrap themselves around each others' bodies  
And I pull you towards me  
Our eyes still locked together.  
I look down at your mouth and you at mine  
Our lips part and we smile.  
I put my lips on yours and you surrender to me  
We kiss deeply and passionately.  
The energy and love flows like liquid between us.  
Still kissing, our hands run through each others hair.  
The kiss becomes more passionate  
We lower our bodies to the floor.  
Quickly we undress one another  
Naked I fall into you and I am lost in the passion of you.  
We make love slowly and deeply our eyes still locked together  
Our words and sounds urging us on.  
Oh my love this is heaven here.  
I am inside of you and I am lost within you  
You call out my name so tenderly and sweetly  
'I am yours my darling' my voice replies.  
Our lovemaking intensifies  
I above you and you above me  
Faster our bodies move in and out of one another  
Sweat pours from us.  
We move together faster and faster.  
Our voices uttering words of love and tenderness.  
'I am going to come my love! ' I shout  
' I love you! ' we call to one another  
'I am coming! ' your words sing out  
We reach the first ever climax together  
We are as liquid melting into each others' bodies.  
'Oh my darling this is so wonderful.'

I say as  
You fall onto me  
Your head against my chest.  
Now we have made love for the first time  
Now we have connected our hearts, souls and bodies.  
This is the beginning my darling  
This is our first sweet embrace.  
We will be this way forever now  
I am yours and you are mine.  
I love you my angel.

Brian Routh

# Forever My Love

In every dream there you are.  
From every corner your eyes seek mine.  
Our hearts beating as one.  
The waves of passion running through us.  
We play and laugh in the ocean of love like twin Dolphins.  
Together we are you and I.  
Eternally dancing are our bodies.  
In our lovemaking entwined.  
I am yours and you are mine.  
Forever my love.

Brian Routh



# Free?

Hilda was blue  
Betty was two  
Jenny was red  
Clare was dead  
Joan was three  
but who is free?

Brian Routh

# Girl In Nyc

There was a girl  
in New York City  
Whose flashing form  
was light and pretty

She drew me in  
to her love and charms  
And held me tight  
within her arms

Her bed of roses  
did I smell  
As She wrapped me in  
Her magic spell

I long to hear  
Her voice again  
To feel the the beat  
charge through my veins

To touch Her  
and whisper soft  
To kiss Her  
and hold aloft

All the wonder  
of this world  
Spinning fast  
within this girl

Brian Routh

# Hero

I dream't that  
I was in body  
flowing coolly  
through the shoddy  
streets of shame  
and vagrancy  
with a name of luck  
and poignancy.

If life is death  
and death is life  
getting old  
is getting bold  
and youth is a burst  
a flash a thirst

that is quickly quenched  
and in temporal  
sweetness drenched

there were hills  
to climb  
and pills  
sublime

eternity a game  
love a frame

the art of suffering  
turned on and off  
at responsibility  
I would scoff

to die in glory  
with fame  
and story

to be a hero for the  
world to follow

and now I see that  
all is hollow

the unfading light  
within my soul  
burns forever bright  
and makes me whole

there is no fame  
there is no name  
there is no game

the pain of life is real  
to be a hero  
is to be alive  
and to feel

Brian Routh

# Hey Hey!

don't go back to sleep  
don't go back to bed  
don't sleep on your feet  
don't close up your head  
hey hey!  
hey hey!  
don't slip on your shadow  
don't fall down that hole  
don't drown in the shallow  
don't forget your soul  
hey hey!  
hey hey!  
music's pouring through ya  
beauty's in your heart  
sing the halleluja  
ride the golden cart  
hey hey!  
hey hey!

Brian Routh

# Ho Ho Ho!

I wonder what I should say to start the blood rolling,  
To keep the energy high,  
The level even up-upper.  
Not too much in the clouds  
Or flopping in the centre of our existing pleasures.  
Far from cries of hunger and loneliness.  
Just the whimpering in sunlight for the desire to lash out in all directions.  
To keep the ventricles free and the head light to boot.  
I am ready right now.  
I am ready right now.  
I am at the start.  
The preface and the coda.  
The epilogue and the legend.  
Oh-Ho Ho!

Brian Routh

# Holy Man

I am a Holy man in deep cover  
I have no father and no mother  
No fortune and no fame  
No history and no name  
I have no future waiting to unfold  
No pearls of wisdom or pots of gold  
I have no pleasure to cover my shame  
No culprits in which to blame  
I have no crutch on which to lean  
No heaven on which to dream  
I have no robe in which to hide  
No doctrine in which to glide  
I am a Holy man in deep cover

Brian Routh

# I Died On This Day

forever i run  
down the steep slope  
i'm carrying a gun  
i'm all out of hope  
my mission is clear  
i have to kill me  
i have no more fear  
now i can see  
i died long ago  
before i was born  
and now i do know  
my soul is all torn  
my tired existence  
is over and done  
it's only insistence  
on ending all fun  
my journey was long  
my feelings were pure  
a blind endless song  
that chanted my cure  
as i fall down the hole  
my limp body crumbles  
as i detach my soul  
my thoughts become mumbles  
i don't turn to see  
i just keep on going  
i fly away free  
a cloud of unknowing  
there's nothing behind me  
there's nothing in front  
i'm no longer lonely  
i'm no longer blunt  
the person i was  
has faded away  
all this because  
i died on this day

Brian Routh



# It Is Time

It is time to move amongst the bushes  
to isolate the rooms  
close up the gaps  
out from the lapse.

forget the clouds that gloomily hang  
around the centres  
stopping the breath from freely passing.  
to be alone as we all must be  
in birth and death  
no holding of hands  
or clinging to mother.

it is time for me to be  
to check myself alone  
within the spaces of walking  
through the avenues of trees  
that bend their branches  
their children leaves richly green  
drinking mother's milk  
detaching themselves and falling to the ground.

agonising moments of heart's despair  
in air  
on ground  
to breathe a sound  
alone in darkness  
hollow sound  
echoing back to sender.

remember the passion  
of the garden dreams  
wearing ceremonious garments  
the making of vows  
God, esteem and glory  
out from it  
away  
free  
has to be

all will wither  
no more sound.

Brian Routh

# Left Brain Right Brain

You put your left brain in,  
Your right brain out,  
In out-in out,  
You shake 'em all about,  
You do the hocus pocus  
And you turn around,  
That's what it's all about!

Oh! hocus-hocus pocus!  
Oh! hocus-hocus pocus!  
Oh! hocus-hocus pocus!

Knees bend! Arms stretch!  
Ra! Ra! Ra!

Brian Routh

# My Princess

I call you my Princess my love  
Yet the day shall come when you will my Queen.  
I am but a humble Knight who returns from the hermitage  
To champion your cause.  
If I may presume to say  
I shall one day be the King to your Queen.  
It gives me such tender, sweet pleasure to serve you until my life shall end.  
This is a poetic pledge to your heart and soul from the very depths of me.  
The soft and tender hooks of love are buried deep within you and I.  
We are betrothed eternally to one another.  
The sweet, sweet comfort and passion doth flow between us  
I am yours my love.  
Your laughter like sacred and joyful music echoes throughout my being  
Your eyes haunt me wherever I roam.  
On this earth we are wrapped together in a charm of wondrous light  
We stand and hold each other in absolute stillness  
As the world spins about us.  
Ah my love this is magic indeed.  
This is sublime and true love.  
You are my muse  
I have known you all my life  
You have always been in my heart.  
I have looked for you for many a year and now I have found you.  
Our hearts and minds connect on many levels.  
God has brought us together to love and to work,  
To weave his magic and great love so that we may share it with the world.  
This is a great blessing  
To be given this sacred and wondrous chance to serve such Divine energy.  
Ah my love you have awakened me from such a deep and long sleep.  
Your magic presence has beamed into the very core of my being,  
I am on fire with your passion and your tenderness.  
This is indeed an honour to be loved by you.  
This is indeed a pleasure to love you.

Brian Routh

# My Rose

when I look at the sun  
your heart shines  
and showers me with yellow rose petals.  
your sweet scent engulfs me and fills me with the fragrance of love.  
your eyes fill me with wonder and awe  
your energy flows into my soul.  
I am floating under the Willow tree  
with you in my arms.  
our boat is pulled along by angels  
their song is from heaven  
it echoes throughout the chambers of my being.  
our love shields us from all  
we are complete.  
we are two souls and hearts that beat as one drum.  
in a trance we move through the clouds  
and hold each other in tender and sweet embrace.  
you are my rose  
you sparkle and glisten in the morning dew  
your thorns do not prick me but protect us both  
against all adversaries.  
I am in your mind  
your thoughts and dreams roll out around me  
like tapestries of ancient fabric.  
their images carry us to a far away island  
where alone we are in constant love play  
we sing together as one music  
the song is our mantra.  
the mantra of perfection and love.

Brian Routh

# Oceans Of Time

will you walk with me my love  
through the fields of sunflowers.  
through the rain and thunderstorms  
in the warm morning sun.  
hand in hand we go you and I  
love protects us from the cold.  
our souls are as one shining light  
our hearts are intertwined.  
I am yours forever my love  
you are deep within me.  
twin dolphins we are you and I  
deep within the oceans of time.

Brian Routh

# Ode To My Muse

her hair is like fire  
her essence is blue  
her eyes are sapphire  
her soul a green hue

music pours from her  
like hymns from the heavens  
poems of silver  
and biblical sevens

immense words of power  
flow from her being  
in her dark tower  
her eyes are all seeing

she wrenches free  
from the pain in her heart  
just like a tree  
with leaves torn apart

she's sent here to heal us  
to free us from pain  
she sings to remind us  
again and again

she is just here  
for a short time  
to free us from fear  
with magical rhyme

her words all gushing  
throughout your brain  
messages rushing  
to keep you all sane

next time you hear her  
sit up and note  
always remember  
to let yourself float

down to the river  
out into the sea  
there she'll deliver  
your soul to be free

Brian Routh



# On Fire

we are on fire!  
we burn and yet there is no heat  
nothing is burned  
the flames engulf us and yet we do not burn  
this is the violet flame  
the flame of heaven that pours down on upon us  
do you know how blessed we are?  
this is truly a wonderful thing  
this doesn't happen to everyone  
you and I are really, really blessed  
this goes beyond any religion  
this is a once in a lifetime experience  
we are in the love of the heavens  
this love we feel is so pure  
this love is Divine  
oh what joy  
we are on fire with the flame of purity  
the flame is our soul fire  
the stars in the heavens are fragments of you  
like pieces of glass they blind me  
and mesmerize me  
you have taken me and weaved a magic spell around my heart  
I am your lover of eternity  
my princess  
my angel  
my love

Brian Routh

# Performance

Firecrackers  
water pistol  
ukelele  
fresh air spray  
kneel  
pray  
record over head  
turd ceremony  
incense  
glitter  
record over head  
chant  
gong  
pack up  
stink bombs  
leave

Brian Routh

# Pondering The Madness

I pondered forever on the theme of madness  
to be ever in the debt of life  
in the ways of the world  
the struggle for supremacy  
the throws of exquisite existence  
the emblem rising  
heavy breathing on the theme of doldrums  
why is it that I have not the strength  
to seek the magic  
the wonder that is my obvious inheritance  
I writhe and seethe  
whine and complain  
the lot of a man too sick and filled with vomit  
it's pungent odour of decay  
filling the air  
it overflows from my mouth  
it streams down the outside of this aging body  
in love I am with energy and recognition  
of that dream that life is  
never ending streams of consciousness  
like flowing turds through the sewers of my soul  
passing through velvet passages  
of turbulent wonder  
I love this life  
this spot of blood bubbling on the surface of the desert  
left behind by kings and queens of old  
the almighty seeketh me to begineth where I endeth  
Ah! solitude, sweet solitude  
poetic effusion seeketh thee out  
the page and friends of thy nature  
the future, a trifle to be fixed with points of reference  
architectural design of blood cell massed in incredible confusion  
explanation of disgusted apathy  
vision of self doubt  
defecation of civilisation written as history  
we learn through remembering  
the lies created



# Prayer For Life

In the golden sunlight  
I lifted up my head  
The golden eagle landed  
To tell me I'm not dead  
The golden calf is worshipped  
By sacrificial hosts  
The golden coins of rich men  
Are building Holy Ghosts

Electric Bolts zap me  
Eclectic music raps me.

I am in the fog  
I am lost  
I cannot see  
My wires crossed.

My bodies dissolve  
My chakras revolve  
Spun out of control  
Away from my goal

Where was I going  
Before I came here  
Where did I come from  
Before I appeared

What is my name  
This time around  
Are those my bones  
Under the ground

How can I laugh  
With so much gloom  
Hidden away  
In some darkened room

I have traveled through  
So many lands  
Lived many lives  
In so many sands

Of time that is no time  
In space that is no space

The river flows on  
I sit on her banks  
Watching the battles  
Guns and tanks

War after war  
They do not cease  
Endless violence  
No more peace

Humanity hurtling  
At breakneck speed  
Faster and faster  
Paying no heed

To the terrible suffering  
The dreadful pain  
Millions dying  
From lack of grain

Worshipping objects  
Ignoring the heart  
Love is absent  
And kept apart

Separate we live  
Separate we feel  
Together we fight  
With blades of steel

God, can't you see

Your children are blind  
Deaf and dumb  
Falling behind

Why can't you stop us  
From killing each other  
Help us to love  
Our sisters and brothers

Wake us from  
This terrible dream  
Ease us back  
Into the stream

Of innocence, wonder  
And delight  
Please restore to us  
Our sight

I beg you sweet Lord  
Help us to be well  
Ring the bell loud  
Free us from Hell

Stop the machine  
That has become our lives  
Help us to feel  
To love and to thrive

Brian Routh

# Princess Of The Skies

she is the princess of the skies  
she is where my heart doth fly  
my love is floating in the clouds  
making my heart sing out aloud

where she goes I will follow  
through the forest into the hollow  
along the cliffs to the sea  
in her heart there I will be

I am lost within her spell  
to the sound of her haunting bell  
it rings throughout my soul  
it makes me feel so whole

she is the princess of the skies  
she is the voice of all the wise  
her words call me into her womb  
freeing me from my eternal tomb

she charms me to do her will  
filling with her fiery thrill  
I am lost to her forever  
swimming in her flowing river

I will follow her throughout time  
our lives tangled in love sublime  
her eyes burn into my soul  
within her heart I am whole

together we live like in a dream  
locked in love's perpetual stream  
Angels guiding us along  
singing love's eternal song

she is the princess of the skies  
using love to mesmerize  
I am deep within her spell  
at the bottom of her wishing well



we dance in love together  
our passion flowing now forever  
oh my love I am yours to hold  
you have revived me from the cold

in your warmth I do sleep  
in your heart I do weep  
let us laugh and play and shine  
I am your and you are mine

she is the princess of the skies  
she is the princess of the skies

Brian Routh

# River Of Love

Our love guides us and the creative energy flows through us  
like a deep river of endless depth.  
We are to be together my love.  
Our hearts join together in a song of the soul.  
We embrace and the electrical life force shoots and crackles between us.  
When we kiss there is ecstasy that melts us down into pure love.  
Making love we are entwined and lost in each others passionate embrace.  
As we gaze into each others' eyes we drift in to other worlds of love and magic.  
I kiss you and make love to you deeply and slowly and you engulf me with  
spasms of ecstasy and kisses.  
this is our special love my darling.  
the flames of passion have set our hearts and souls ablaze.  
You are mine and I am yours.  
we are in love for all eternity.

Brian Routh

# Room And Board

Where is the gold I've spun  
Where is the love I've won  
Where is the life to live  
When will I learn to give

Unite the promises  
of passions bold  
And the dreams  
I've born of old

The cross and pains  
of emptiness  
The rose and thorns  
of eternal bliss

All I ask of you  
sweet Lord  
Is love and light  
and room and board

Brian Routh

# Routes

Exacting as it is  
it takes the route to end all routes  
I see and stop and pause to breathe and wipe my brow  
which did I hear before the dawn broke  
did I get to it  
did it collar me fast  
I dream of eternal sucking and blowing  
I whiz with barely time to wipe my ass  
hanging onto pipes  
here and there  
getting my bearings  
which tunnel takes me where?  
my eyes red and watery  
my glasses frosted with ice  
my arms and legs numb  
my heart speeding  
loud sounds  
my heart the loudest  
visual oasis  
bombed out buildings burn't black  
the blue sky  
on the other side of the wall  
outlet  
inlet  
hatch  
exit  
escape

Brian Routh

## Seeing God

Only my hand was visible from out of the mud of my soul.  
Another hand grabbed mine,  
Lifted me up and sent me hurtling through space.  
I was filled with a tingling joy  
That shook the stars out of my head,  
And the hooks out of my heart.  
I knew what to do.  
All the pieces of the puzzle,  
The dark ones and the light ones fell into place.  
I was in the darkest place in the forest.  
Now I am in the clearing with the sunlight blasting me  
With it's golden trumpets.  
The birds sing out.  
The Kings walk and the Queen's eyes shine brightly.  
My heart is making music.  
The tree from which I came from  
Is now at my back,  
It gives me strength.  
The saints spin and God sits upon a throne  
And rules the roost.

Brian Routh

# Step Up

I was lying on my back thinking about this and that when suddenly a voice told me to move.

I listened and held my thoughts still and held my breath.

Again I heard the voice directing me to move.

Directing me to push up with my hands.

My arms moved freely.

I felt a faint breeze brush against my face carrying with it a sweet fragrance.

I thought of the sea.

A faint whisper directed me to push and step up.

Push and step up.

Step up, out into the awaiting world, the ominous sky.

I thought of my mother.

I thought of my father.

A small light played in my eyes.

A heartbeat resounded in my skull.

A faint whisper, a faint laugh, someone crying.

My face was wet.

Push up, step up.

Push up, step up.

A soldier waiting on the edge of the battle.

The final battle.

From in the depths of my soul came a shriek.

A piercing scream.

A flood of energy surged through my bones.

I was hurtling through space.

My arms pushed out in front of me.

My legs seeming to walk.

I stepped up and out through a door.

Out of the soil.

I paused.

Standing still, quite numb, in a state of shock.

My left arm lifted its wrist towards me.

A watch ticking.

The second hand moving.

The minute hand moving.

The hour hand moving.

I turned and faced a door.

I walked and stepped through.

I put the kettle on.

I stepped into an oblong box.  
I switched on a light and stood quite still.  
The walls were covered with small holes where the light poured through.  
I stepped out and filled the teapot.  
I poured a little milk and added a little sugar.  
I poured the tea.  
I lifted the axe high above my head and let it fall  
Again and again.  
The china flying in tiny pieces.  
The teapot flying in tiny pieces.  
The sugar and milk everywhere.

I was hurtling through space  
Screaming and screaming and screaming.  
A suitcase hit me,  
Its contents one Coldstream guards peaked cap,  
One baton.....  
'Left-right! Left-right! '  
'Smarten up lad! '  
'Get those stomachs in! '  
'Shoulders back! '  
'You there! '  
'Stick that bayonet into your foot! '  
'Shoot that man next to you! '  
'Fire! Fire! '  
They lined up their guns and fired.  
I hit the ground and I knew I was dying.  
I looked at my watch.  
The hour hand moved.  
The light faded.  
The cold began to get to me.  
I knew I was dying.  
All the faces looked down at me.  
All the hands lifted me and carried me  
And lowered me down into the soil.  
I saw the door closing down on me.  
I saw the light fade out.  
I felt the ice and the insects  
And I knew I was dead.

Brian Routh



# The Angel

The angel has kissed me  
I am awake with my spiritual sword in hand  
ectoplasm bubbling inside me  
thoughts provoke me  
I move  
I am moving  
drifting  
fighting to grab the controls  
to steer the ship  
I have no chart to follow  
I am a blubber bag  
large and awkward  
gangling my limbs  
twisting my head  
siphoning off poison  
the gasses escaping  
no chance of melting here  
in this wasteland of logic  
a voice within rings out  
resonating reason  
my sky is blue  
my spirit new

Brian Routh

# The Beast

The endless games  
the pointlessness of worlds  
the strivings of egos and vanities  
the desparation of permanence to fix itself  
in time and space  
hands are around my throat from the inside  
the beast is inside me  
I am no longer myself  
I am everything good and bad  
solid and fluid  
actual  
imagined

Brian Routh

# The Birds Of Heaven

I was asleep  
the birds came to sing me from my dreams  
they sang a song from you  
it sang into my heart  
oh my love how I miss you in the depths of me  
where are you I cry?  
the birds gather in strength and watch me with tears in their eyes  
they they know the the joy in my heart  
they know the pain I suffer without you  
the blackbird sing his mournful lament  
as he watches me through my window  
he knows that my heart aches for you  
his melody is haunting and carries off to a canyon of dreams  
where your echoes call me from everywhere  
where are you my darling my heart cries out  
it is a the half light before dawn  
and the dawn chorus explodes through me  
it stirs my soul  
where are you my love?  
everywhere I look there you are  
and yet you elude me  
your hand is always in mine  
your lips always touch me  
and yet where are you my love?  
I am filled with your majesty  
and your spirit  
Oh my darling I long for you  
my whispers sing out to you  
your laughter like bells rings out through me  
oh my darling where are you?  
the nightingale sings to me  
she tells me your love also cries out for me  
she sings your song of longing  
your song of great love for me  
I am moved deeply by your message to me  
oh my love where are you?  
I am your lifelong love  
I am in your blood  
that flows into my veins

oh my love you are here at last inside of me  
oh my darling we are together now  
we sigh a sigh that says it all  
my love I am your now.

Brian Routh

# The Funeral

I could smell the sweet, acrid, pungent, sickly smell of death  
the smell of flowers, coffee, cake, mourners and tears  
lavender hung in bunches about my vision  
shadows seemed to grow and spread an icy gloom across the world  
I shivered in the cold but had no body to hold  
I felt in the grip of some mighty gush of wild uncontrolled energy  
far greater than I have ever felt before  
it was raining and the trees in the cemetery were bending and rustling  
the wind howled and whined  
the mourners like shadows hung in space  
as a great shadow began to make its way from the east  
everything was still and silent  
the people standing there so still, quiet and fixed in some other world  
I could hear their hearts beating  
and their shallow breathing  
a bell tolled and a dog barked  
oh! what a strange feeling to be among the dead  
what a tragedy to have died  
to have lost my body  
my memory fades  
I was amongst the mourners  
I had no physical power  
no way to make my presence known  
their grave faces frightened me  
their expressions tired and fraught with suffering  
their faces distorted and twisted  
blue and red lines of light shimmered around their eyes  
their breath hissed from them in gray, green, purple steam  
speckled with silver flashes  
thunder rumbled  
the rain fell in solid sheets of water  
lightning zig zagged through the clouds  
a mighty battle had begun  
with guns exploding and voices violently screeching  
a flaming, smoking, gale force wind poured from the mouth of a gigantic dragon  
it appeared and circled in the sky  
the mourners did not notice me  
did not see me  
they are lost and concentrated on the same spot on the earth

I wander alone with heavy chains that weigh me down  
they clang and disturb the stillness but no one hears

Brian Routh

# The Ghost

Unfolding the parchment from it's hook  
Lengths lengths  
Evergreen the holy face fresh tingling pine  
Present  
Alone the magical muse  
Uncanny spurning  
Sparkling glowing

Seeming alone in the house with the Ghost  
Always present  
Always there  
But where?

Why can't I touch Him?  
Why can't I feel Him?  
Why can't I love Him?

I want to see the ghost  
Deep in the web  
Lost in the strands  
Their ways so fine  
Taking me through strange places  
Marching looking waving singing trailing  
Sailing plane flat up the mound and down again  
He leaves more bored than puzzled  
Fighting the situation that would be right for some  
The window open  
Rapping with the exciting wind  
Running wild  
Not knowing where to turn  
Caught in the classical noise  
That ends at the waters' edge  
Where the mighty sea begins  
Waves crashing bashing smashing thrashing splashing  
The sharp explosion  
The ovation loud wild blind tears  
Cheers cheers yells screams  
In it's full glory beside the ice flows  
The rivers that freeze

Brian Routh



# The Last Machines

Strangled in my youth  
gulped shut  
silent nerves shaking

don't try to tell them  
leave them be  
to be  
in consequence  
the last machines

running naked  
breaking bottles  
sirens blazing  
guns popping

live and learn  
die and forget

Brian Routh

# This Is Us

This is us my love  
This is you and I  
We are ringing as bells together  
The sound continues for longer and longer periods.  
We sing our love together  
The music of our beings winds in ever increasing harmonies.  
The sky seems so close  
Our heads piercing the clouds.  
Have we grown so big I wonder?  
Are we giants now?  
The love between us increased us  
We are tall and expansive  
And our hearts roar like thunder together.  
Our eyes are like moons that shine into each other.  
We take refuge with each others' love and passion.  
This is us.  
Yes, truly it is.  
We sit up and talk throughout the night  
The birds giving us pause to listen to their morning music.  
We bathe together and laugh and play like two children  
This is so joyous my darling.  
Wrapped together we flow like a heavenly wine into one another.  
Oh my love this is us.

Brian Routh

# We Have Arrived

We placed all of our love into a heart shaped basket  
For the Cherubs to gather up  
And take to the poor in spirit.  
We offer our thanks and our blessings  
to those that suffer.  
Thank you God for restoring our souls.  
For giving us this great love to share with the world.  
We love each other and our love beams out  
As a lighthouse to the darkness of the lost and sick.  
It is a blessing to all.  
Our passion is the stuff of Divine greatness.  
The food of souls.  
The force of Goodness guides us.  
We are two Dolphins that swim the ocean of consciousness  
Together.  
Our chatter is the music of the Gods  
And fills the sea with warm sunlight and love.  
All the fishes gather around us to hear  
Our songs of love and beauty.  
Ah! they say, this is such fine music to tell our children.  
The whales spread our song throughout the great oceans of existence.  
We surf the waves of passion laughing joyfully as we ride the high mountains  
Of water.  
This is our home now my love.  
Finally we have arrived.

Brian Routh

# When

When to say it  
when to do it  
when to touch it  
when to hear it  
when to want it  
when to taste it  
when to sing it  
when to wing it  
when to sling it  
when to hop it  
when to chop it  
when to stop it  
when to dye it red

Brian Routh

# When Love Comes Knocking

when love comes knocking at my door  
I open the door and let it in  
I welcome it  
I offer it refuge  
I give it my all  
I offer it my soul  
My thirst is quenched by it  
My life is revived by it and it digs deeper and deeper into my heart.  
The longing begins  
The pain begins as well as the bliss and joy.  
I want to run and hide from it.  
I want to shrink from it and lose myself in some distraction  
for fear that it will destroy my mind.  
And yet I am hooked by it and I cannot move.  
The sheer joy and wonder of it has lifted me up and freed me from the prison of  
my self  
I must face it and embrace it no matter what  
No matter what.  
Even though at times it is a hardship.  
Even though we bump into one another in clumsiness. and awkwardness at  
times.  
Even though our anger and irritability surfaces and we hurt each other.  
We are deep in this feeling and experience.  
We are so close now.  
We cannot tear ourselves away from each other  
Because the good things are many and we are in this great love together now  
and forever.

Brian Routh

# Where Has The Time Gone?

Where has the time gone?  
Cobwebs in the corner of soul.  
I look at this aging lined face in the mirror.  
Someone has destroyed this portrait.  
No more innocence.  
I look at this great ship halfway through its voyage.  
I see how neglected it is.  
I feel shame.  
I have allowed this vessel to decline.  
I have put off `til tomorrow for too long.  
It sinks away into the ocean.  
Gone forever.  
Lost in the darkness.  
Sleeping on the ocean bed.  
It no longer waits for the bliss of sunlight.  
It sleeps too deeply to be conscious of itself.  
Now it can only be awakened by the kiss of God.  
Until then it will be unconscious of what, who and  
where it is.

Brian Routh

# Who Am I?

The wind blows  
Across my face  
My shadow moves  
From place to place

My heart beats  
Slow and fast  
My life flows  
Into the past

I ask The Cosmos  
Who am I?  
I ask my reflection  
As it heaves a sigh

The warrior's sorrow  
Fills my soul  
From life to life  
From goal to goal

Melancholic rapture  
Pulls me deep  
As I learn to fly  
Within my sleep

Love and goodness  
Guide my life  
Peace and stillness  
Calm my strife

Abandon hope  
The Buddhists say  
False illusion  
Blinds the way

Where is desire?  
In all this?  
Where is passion?

And eternal bliss?

Where is woman?  
In my heart?  
How does romance  
Play a part?

Content to live  
A life alone  
Gnawing idly  
On my bone

Is this it?  
Is this all there is?  
No more bangs?  
No more fizz?

Must I live?  
Without embrace?  
No more kisses  
On my face?

I hold a torch  
To light the way  
Through the darkness  
Of each day

I wander lost  
Into the mist  
Fading fast  
The loves I've kissed

The magic presence  
Thrills my spine  
Starry passion  
Pours like wine

Drunk I am  
Full of wonder  
My mind a swirling  
Mass of thunder



Lightning flashes  
Through my eyes  
Rain is pouring  
From my skies

Who am I?  
I ask once more  
A giant face  
Looks through a door

A face that glows  
That pours out love  
Is this face me?  
I ask a dove

As she flies with stillness  
Through my soul  
Her silent answer  
Makes me whole

Now this body drifts  
Into the past  
I leave its shell  
Free at last

I'm flying now  
Free from matter  
No more noise  
And human clatter

A new formed body  
Carries me away  
Reborn to live  
Another day

Another life  
Another name  
Different strife  
And a different game

A newness that fills me  
With new wonder

More new lessons  
And more new blunder

On and on  
The wheel I go  
Who I am  
I'll never know

Brian Routh

# You Say

you say collaboration  
i say procrastination  
you say let's speak  
i say next week  
you say work together  
i say how's the weather  
you say make the time  
i say that's a crime  
you say let me help  
i say let me yelp  
you say it can be easy  
i say it makes me queasy  
you say let's make art  
i say lonely heart  
you say keep it growing  
i say it's slowly going  
you say we've got it made  
i say it's bound to fade  
you say don't give up  
i say it's broken up  
you say let's work on this  
i say give it a miss  
you say can't you see it  
i say i can't be it  
you say my music's great  
i say it's far too late  
you say i've got greatness  
i say i'm just a waitress  
you say feel the power  
i say is that the hour

Brian Routh

# Your Mirror

Look in your mirror and there I am  
I am in the reflection of your soul  
My image burns into you  
Look my love here I am in your eyes  
Do you see me  
I see you  
I am here  
I am there  
Look deeply  
Do you see me  
I am in you  
The mirror tells you  
I am here  
In your heart  
Give me your hand  
Here, hold it here  
On my chest  
Feel my heartbeat?  
There that is you  
The beat is us  
Oh darling  
You fill me  
Can you feel us?  
This stirring?  
Yes that is US  
We are on our paradise island together  
Oh love, can you feel me?  
I am not lost with you inside of me  
You have found me  
I thank God you have found me  
I thank God for your love  
I am grateful to you  
You have woken me from a hundred year sleep  
I slept so deeply  
thinking I would never see you again  
Oh my love do you know what I am saying?  
I cannot say it enough  
You have found me  
You who loves me

We have followed each other through all that time  
We have searched for each other for ever my darling  
And now I rejoice in you  
Oh thank you God!  
Thank you  
You have brought my love to me  
It is my life's long wish fulfilled  
Oh God my love  
At last my love  
You know what I feel  
You the longing that is in me  
You feel as I do my darling  
Thank you for not giving up  
Thank you for loving me  
I am so happy now darling  
YOU have made my life complete.  
Oh my love!

Brian Routh