

## Poetry and Mapping

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On 18 November 2015, King's College, London hosted an event in [Gilbert Scott's Gothic chapel](#) off the Strand as part of a series of free poetry readings, aiming to demonstrate 'the power of poetry to connect across boundaries and disciplines.' Chaired and introduced by Ruth Padel, Poetry Fellow in the Department of English, the event brought together a historian of cartography and a poet, who, each in his own way, set out to question the dominant ideology of mapping as a scientific enterprise.

Jerry Brotton, Professor of Renaissance Studies at Queen Mary University of London, drew on his book *A History of the World in Twelve Maps* (Penguin 2013), [reviewed in this issue of LMR](#) by Jeremy Crump, and which also served as the inspiration for Andrew Motion's recent poem 'Discovering Geographies', [also in this issue](#). In his presentation Jerry Brotton read a number of poems, from John Donne to Elisabeth Bishop, which explore the map/territory relation and suggested why it was of such interest to poets.

[Extract from Jerry Brotton's talk.](#) (On Vimeo)

Kei Miller read from his award winning collection *The Cartographer seeks a way to Zion* (Carcenet 2015) in which he stages a confrontation between a rastaman and a western cartographer. The book is reviewed in this issue by Phil Cohen.

[Extract from Kei Miller's reading.](#) (On Vimeo)

Livingmaps Review would like to thank Ruth Padel for permission to film the event, Jerry Brotton and Kei Miller for agreeing to us publishing these extracts, and Mitchell Panayis for filming the event and editing the video.