

## Tribes and Totems

by quill *Saturday, Feb 18 2012, 10:25am*

international / poetry / post



practical needs  
gave birth to magic  
the first etched images  
on cave walls  
depicted beasts 'captured'  
prior to the actual hunt

cave-dwelling inscribers  
had killed the beast,  
long before a spear had pierced its hide;  
it was consequential, inevitable;  
the soul of the beast belonged  
to the hunter that magically rendered its essence  
on a wall.

thus began a long tradition of art  
and magic which survives today

today's hunters  
etch in text and image  
their human prey  
before the hunt --  
the efficacy of the method verified  
over thousands of years

criminal financial elites  
constitute the prey;  
bankers, servile politicians  
and nefarious corporatists are  
the quarry dispatched

by the skills of modern hunters

they are sung to death  
by lyricists  
brought to ground by  
composers  
paralysed by digital inscribers;  
the method  
proven effective over  
aeons of time

tonight i use charcoal  
on cartridge to depict  
naked dancing nymphs  
and priapic youths  
celebrating over a kill --  
images that ensure  
the constant flow of power

another successful hunt  
is anticipated for tomorrow  
empty bellies  
are no longer the prime concern  
the tribe has been dispersed,  
alienated one from the other,  
the hunter returns them  
to the safety of the circle  
and slays the forces that disperse.

<http://cleaves.zapto.org/news/story-3013.html>

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Underground Oz Poetry. <http://ozpoetry.lingama.net/news/poem-220.html>