**HURVITZ, YA’IR** (1941-1988) Ya'ir Hurvitz was an Israeli, Hebrew-language poet and translator. The transformations of his style were a reflection of his own psychological struggles, in parallel with the short history of Israeli poetry. Hurvitz was born, raised, and spent most of his life in Tel Aviv. The death of his father when Hurvitz was 8, and his own lifelong heart disease, made mortality and transience frequent topics of his work. He was closely associated with the poets Meir Wieseltier and Yona Wallach and the poetry school Achshav. Hurvitz died in Belgium at the age of 47 while waiting for a heart transplant.

Hurvitz’s poetry provides example of the diversity of modernism within the work of a single poet. His early work was more conventionally linear in its narrative line; his later work, however, was increasingly concerned with the depiction of mental states, often characterized by loss and desperation, through finely honed, verbally igenious objective correlatives. Perhaps his most quoted lyric encapsulates this tendency: “Hayom ani omer/Hashira hi dibur/bemakom sheleolam/leolam ein bo khibur”, or, roughly: “Today I say/Poem is a speech/In the eternal location/Forever without connection.”

Hurvitz produced 13 collections of poetry during his lifetime. His Collected Poems were published posthumously in 2008.

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