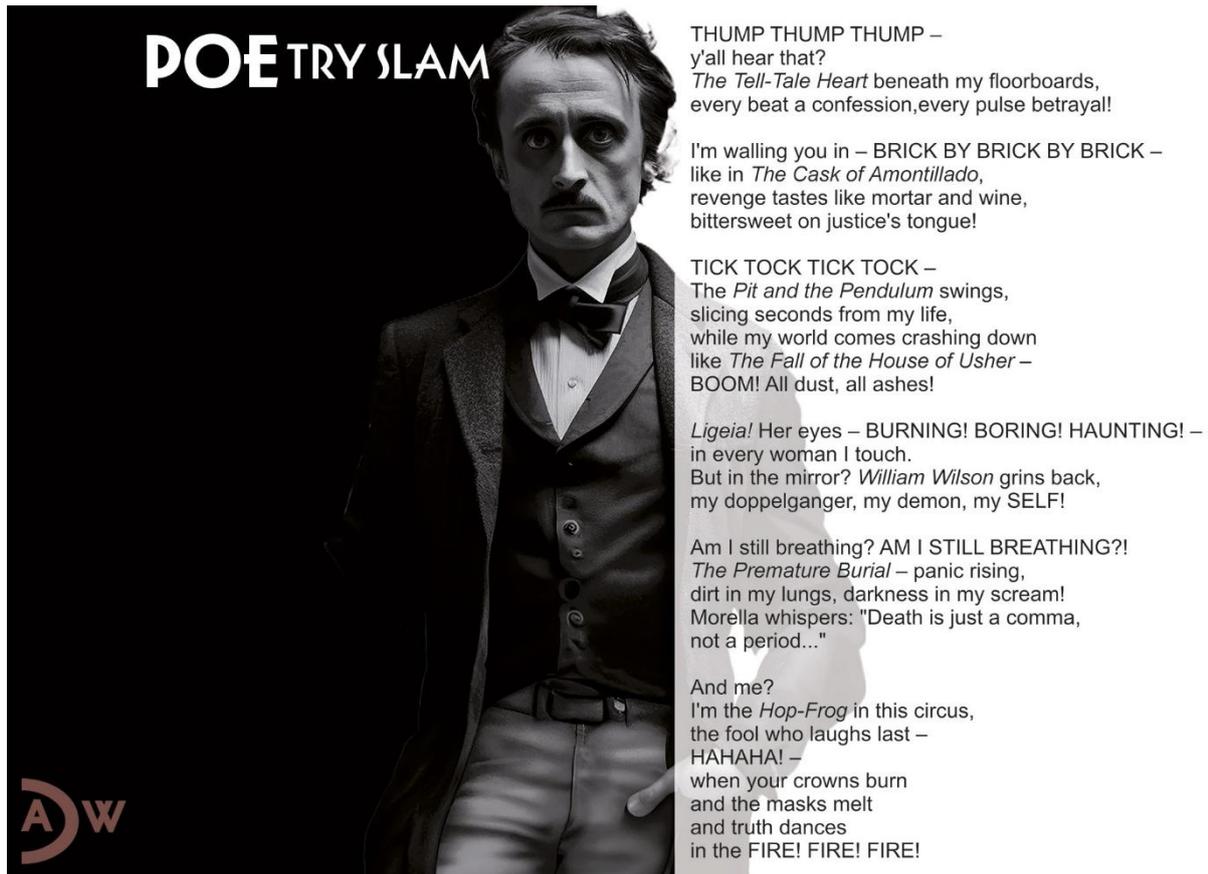


POEtry Slam

Gothic Horror Meets the Live Stage— A Tribute to Edgar Allan Poe

by Arslhogo



Arslhogo, "POEtry Slam", Digital composite, 4961 × 3508 pixels, CMYK, 300 DPI.

This digital artwork is a fascinating fusion of classic literature and contemporary performance art. Artist Arslhogo creates a multilayered tribute to Edgar Allan Poe that impresses both visually and textually.

Visual Composition

The monochrome design with Poe's faded portrait in the background creates an eerie atmosphere that perfectly matches the author's dark romanticism. The transparency of the figure gives the work a ghostly quality—Poe appears like a phantom hovering over his own literary legacy. The "POETRY

SLAM” typography in cool, modern letters creates a compelling contrast to the poet’s Victorian appearance.

Textual Brilliance

The performance text is a masterpiece of intertextuality. Arslough skillfully weaves references to Poe’s most famous works—“The Tell-Tale Heart,” “The Cask of Amontillado,” “The Pit and the Pendulum,” “The Fall of the House of Usher,” “Ligeia,” “The Premature Burial,” and “Hop-Frog.” The rhythmic structure with its onomatopoeic elements (THUMP THUMP THUMP, TICK TOCK TICK TOCK) echoes Poe’s own mastery of sound and repetition, particularly evident in “The Raven.”

Modern Transformation

What makes this work especially striking is how it transforms Poe’s Gothic horror into the modern poetry slam format. The dramatic exclamations, the caps lock (“BRICK BY BRICK BY BRICK,” “BURNING! BORING! HAUNTING!”), and the direct, confrontational language translate Poe’s psychological terror into the energy of live performance. The artist manages to capture the essence of Poe’s madness and obsession while recasting it in a form that speaks to both the 19th and 21st centuries.

Critical Analysis

The handwritten signature in the bottom right corner adds a personal touch to the digital work and emphasizes its performative character. However, one could argue that the density of literary references sometimes overshadows the contemporary performer’s own voice. Yet the work’s strength lies precisely in this tension between reverence and reinterpretation.

Arslough’s “POetry Slam” challenges us to see Poe not as a dusty museum piece but as a living, pulsing part of our cultural DNA—simultaneously a bow to a master of horror and an independent statement about the timelessness of fear, madness, and poetic expression.

Medium: Digital Composition