



# 2021 Broadside Series

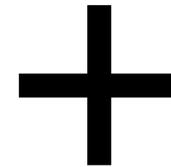
Poetry: All forms & styles



CYCLING AROUND LAKE DAVIS

A POEM BY

LAURA OHLMANN



*THE EMBRACE (LIEBESPAAR II)*

AN IMAGE BY

EGON SCHIELE



*The Embrace (Liebespaar II)* by Egon Schiele

Laura Ohlmann

CYCLING AROUND LAKE DAVIS

It doesn't surprise me when my husband stops  
in the middle of the road, during  
our late-night ride, to lift a frog from the gutter  
with a discarded "BUY NOW" street sign.  
But he does it again, for a second, third, and finally  
a ninth frog, and I think about him at home,  
flat on his back, penis jutting, while my head lowers,  
enclosing it with my lips, like I might summon  
life from it—  
until we move towards the slick place that  
he enters from behind, carefully, the way he lifts  
the ninth frog over the curb's lip. I think of the sperm cells  
entering, leaping towards the open-palmed eggs,  
and how lucky we both are  
that he might become a father. On the ride home, we are silent,  
aiming our handlebar lights towards the street, searching  
for what could be found in the egg-dome of light.



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celebrating the 2019 publication of Lind's poem and Pott's photograph.

**About the writer:**

Laura Ohlmann is an MFA graduate from the University of Central Florida. Her work has appeared in *The Maine Review*, *GASHER*, *South Florida Poetry Journal*, *The Rumpus* and others. She enjoys sleeping in her converted Honda Element and biking up mountains with her partner and dog.

**Image:** [\*The Embrace \(Lovers II\)\*](#) by [Egon Schiele \(1890-1918\)](#). Oil on canvas. 39.3 x 66.9 inches. 1917. [Public domain](#).