12 Powerful Poems In Memory Of Daphne Caruana Galizia Released On Her Birthday



By Tim Diacono (https://lovinmalta.com/author/timdiacono/)
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Several tributes have been paid to Daphne Caruana Galizia on what would have been her 57th birthday, but few are quite as powerful as the several original poems released to mark the occasion.

PEN Malta, the Maltese branch of the global writer lobby group PEN International, issued a call last May for new poems to be added to its online poetry memorial (https://pen-international.org/app/uploads/Daphne-Memorial.pdf) for Caruana Galizia.

Twelve new poems have now been added to the memorial, with renowned Maltese poet Immanuel Mifsud saying PEN Malta was humbled by the response.

Here are some of the new poems.

The Calling – by Karina Fiorini

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The Calling

© Karina Fiorini

Hard news these days.
At desks some unravel narratives
of child rape, human rights abuse,
supply chains' paths and urban planning
tweaks as fast as the sharks plot to reknit the
lies, to belittle their truths.
Others probe brownfields,
track euros siphoned out of coffers,
take the piss at drafters' cheap talk,
stoke crackstituents,
climb fences, firewalls placed by corrupt
crooks assailing unarmed Hebdo drawings,
Caruana Galizia and Kuciak lines.
So what if they trespass limits?
So what if they graft some meaning
in the patternless journeys,
the ticketless trails,
the homeless norms?
When all is asleep, they're awake,
watchmakers calibrating word and image
to stir us. Firing incandescent flares in blogs
and vlogs, they redefine the battleground.

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kif tagħlaq ħalq xi ħadd – by Leanne Ellul



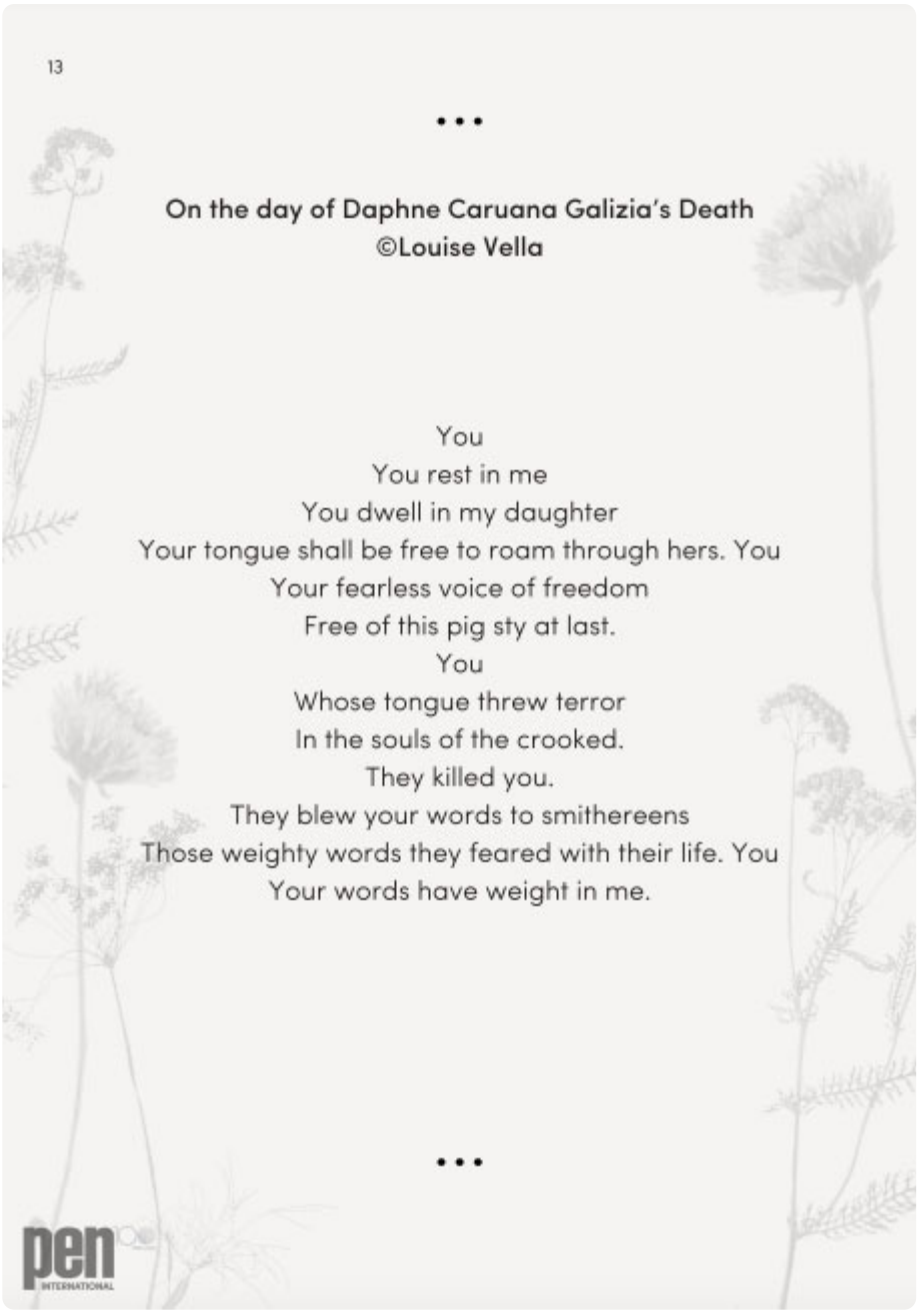
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tgħid "agħlaqlu" sa ma ssir agħlaqlu
tpoġġi jdejk ma' widnejk u tagħfas
sa ma s-saħħa terħik

tista' wkoll
tagħmel bomba tonda u mhix,
tisplodieha
u tmur tpappiha

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On the day of Daphne Caruana Galizia’s Death – by Louise Vella



Dirt – by Akuma the Poet



Fanal – by Marisa Abela



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Fanal
© Marisa Abela

Għażiża Daphne
Hemm rajtek
Bilwieqfa fuq xifer l-irdum
Fanal, raġġ ta' tama
Fuq baħar sewdien
Għajnejk jarmu l-leħħa
Fuq wiċċek leqqien.
B'kitbietek mogħnija
B'kuraġġ in-nirien
Li jfittex jistagħna
B'tas-sorsi l-għarfien.
U b'dehnek ħabrieki
Bi kliemek mirqum
Wassalt ħsibijietek lill-poplu maħkum. 'Mma l-mewġ ried
joħonqok

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pen INTERNATIONAL



"Daphne Caruana Galizia would have been 57 today," PEN International President Jennifer Clement said to mark the release of these new poems.

"PEN International's poetry memorial is a tribute to her courage and her fearlessness. As we continue to honour her memory and bravery, we are reminded of the shocking and relentless harassment and threats she and her family have had to endure, which continue to this day."

"Daphne Caruana Galizia was targeted because of her work, because she dared to express her opinions, because she refused to be silenced. She stood up against the highest levels of corruption and paid the ultimate price. Her legacy lives on. We stand alongside her family in their fight for full justice and accountability."

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Tim is interested in the rapid evolution of human society and is passionate about justice, human rights and cutting-edge political debates. You can follow him on Instagram or Twitter/X at @timdiacono or reach out to him at timdiacono@lovinmalta.com