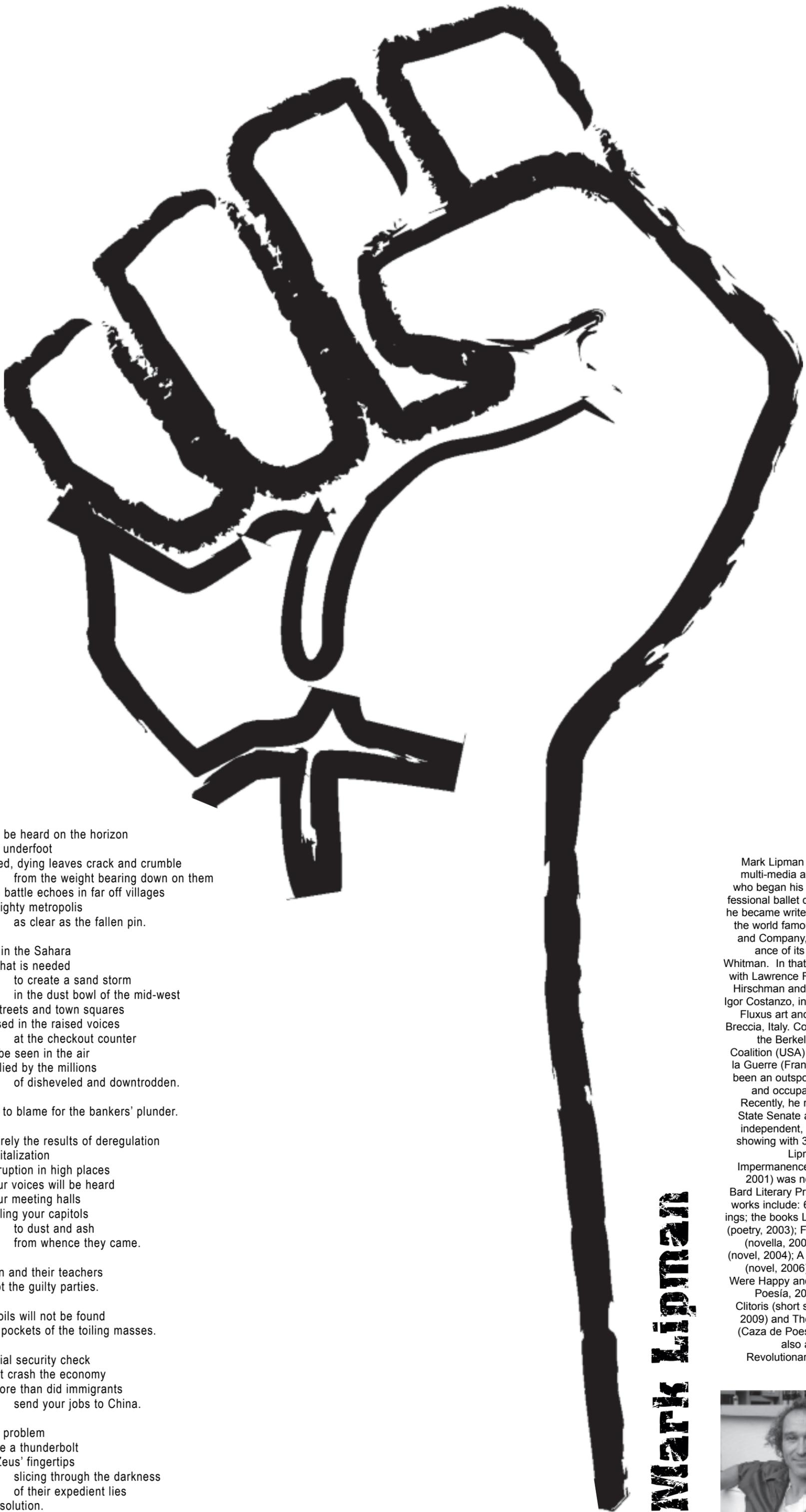


# A stirring Underfoot



A rumbling can be heard on the horizon  
A great stirring underfoot  
as dried, dying leaves crack and crumble  
from the weight bearing down on them  
The march into battle echoes in far off villages  
and mighty metropolis  
as clear as the fallen pin.

A wisp of wind in the Sahara  
is all that is needed  
to create a sand storm  
in the dust bowl of the mid-west  
Unrest in the streets and town squares  
amassed in the raised voices  
at the checkout counter  
And a fist can be seen in the air  
multiplied by the millions  
of disheveled and downtrodden.

No, we are not to blame for the bankers' plunder.

We, we are merely the results of deregulation  
of capitalization  
of corruption in high places  
and our voices will be heard  
Vibrating in your meeting halls  
crumbling your capitols  
to dust and ash  
from whence they came.

Greedy children and their teachers  
are not the guilty parties.

The excess spoils will not be found  
in the pockets of the toiling masses.

Grandma's social security check  
did not crash the economy  
any more than did immigrants  
send your jobs to China.

We are not the problem  
but like a thunderbolt  
from Zeus' fingertips  
slicing through the darkness  
of their expedient lies  
We will be the solution.

Mark Lipman is a writer, poet, multi-media artist and activist, who began his career as a professional ballet dancer. In 2002, he became writer in residence at the world famous Shakespeare and Company, under the guidance of its founder George Whitman. In that year he worked with Lawrence Ferlinghetti, Jack Hirschman and the Italian poet, Igor Costanzo, in Back to Beat, a Fluxus art and poetry event in Breccia, Italy. Co-founder of both the Berkeley Stop the War Coalition (USA) and Agir Contre la Guerre (France), Lipman has been an outspoken critic of war and occupation since 2001. Recently, he ran for California State Senate as a progressive independent, making a strong showing with 3.5% of the vote. Lipman's first novel, Impermanence (Sophia Press, 2001) was nominated for the Bard Literary Prize in 2003. His works include: 60 original paintings; the books Love and Politics (poetry, 2003); Fire in the Desert (novella, 2003); Tumbleweed (novel, 2004); A Smuggler's Tale (novel, 2006); Because They Were Happy and Free (Caza de Poesía, 2009); I Found the Clitoris (short stories, M Press, 2009) and The Dirt of Despair (Caza de Poesía, 2010). He is also a member of the Revolutionary Poets Brigade (RPB).



**MARK LIPMAN**