

# Destined to Be Unfinished

Cobalt Poets Series # 148 ~ November 13, 2007 - background photo by Brett Meliti

Sitting on a bedspread  
Banging on a six-string  
Using a coin for a pick  
And instead of a song  
Belting out a sermon starting:  
Rhyme and Reason are gone, man  
Rhyme and Reason are way gone

The Drip-drop droning of the jigsaw  
Puzzling the mind of a jackhammer  
Jacking through the concrete  
Through the night  
Through the silence  
Through the dreams of a car alarm  
Waking up and singing Christmas songs  
Into the night  
This silent night  
This holy night

This night filled with holes  
From the beat of a jackhammer  
Beating the click-clack-clip of an old horse  
Pulling a carriage down the trail  
From race track into dog food  
And hearing the calling of a car alarm  
Calling for a sing-along  
Calling for a trip to the drive-in  
Trip to the drive-thru

Anywhere where the night is living  
And the light is dying  
And the engine hums in time with a streetlight  
Shining on a carriage horse  
Walking down a bidden course  
Blinders high and hiding the sidewalk  
Hiding the present and the past  
And the closed-down drive-in  
Sleeping in weeds  
And living in the dreams of a car alarm  
Broken like the streetside under a jackhammer  
Working like a trained horse  
Walking by a drive-in  
Under the hum of the light  
And the jigsaw calls for a STOP!

## Jonathan Knell

Jonathan Knell could best be described as the reluctant poet. He started writing plays as an extension of his theater and improvisational background and, thanks to a lucky roommate selection at the CalArts California State Summer School for the Arts, he was introduced to the joy of public poetry reading. For years after he built up a collection of poems and a reputation for demanding not to be called a poet, a claim that he gave up once he released his first self-published anthology – *The Book of Jon: Genesis/SNES*. Jonathan, now a copywriter for a large toy company, is celebrating his first feature at the Cobalt and his first spoken word CD – *Commuting With Nature*.

