## WEB ONLY

## Creative construction: Read the 12 poems being considered for imprinting in the Monroe Street sidewalk

Nick Heynen | Wisconsin State Journal Apr 10, 2018

The Madison Arts Commission will be reviewing these poems for imprinting into the sidewalk along Monroe Street as part of the massive reconstruction project this summer.
"Poem for Jordan" by John Tuschen

## Poem for Jordan

Best friend, cosmic baby,<br>your river name<br>is my passageway<br>to joy<br>and nearly<br>freedom.

by John Tuschen

# An excerpt from <br> Paris Morning 

what question,<br>or worry, buried<br>in memory,<br>could not be eased in the stillness<br>of this morning?

by John Tuschen

"THE SUN AROSE" by Andrea Musher


## THE SUN AROSE

## The sun arose when we weren't aware. The sun is a rose. The sun is a rose. How can we fail? <br> How can we fail to love? <br> How can we fail to love the light!

by Andrea Musher



An excerpt from "A Tinker's Prayer for Madison's 150th Birthday" by Andrea Musher

## An excerpt from A Tinker's Prayer for Madison's 150th Birthday

# Something sacred is always being paved over Something ancient is always returning to teach us if we can learn 

by Andrea Musher

"Lightening Girl" by Fabu

## Lightening Girl

> Struck with power
> standing wet under a solitary tree
> in a wide green pasture.

Even electric bolts
didn't scare her, slow her down none just bothered her some.

Flashing out of her mouth for the rest of her life
were words that shocked and stunned.

by Fabu

"Cuando El Niño Tiene Un Buen Crecimiento" by Fabu (Nydia Rojas)

## Cuando El Niño Tiene Un Buen Crecimiento

## Es un maravilloso tesoro de incalculable valor ver cómo el entendimiento despierta suavemente dentro del alma de un niño ver como fluye hacia fuera, puro y brillante reflejado en ojos grandes y brilliantes.

by Fabu (Nydia Rojas)

"Summer's To-Do List" by Sarah Sadie Busse

## Summer's To-Do List

# Wade in clear water. Pick fresh fruit. Plant flamingoes. <br> See one outdoor movie. Get caught in rain. Go dancing. Learn a new constellation. Cheer for the moon. Collect what my pockets can hold. Laugh. 

by Sarah Sadie Busse

"Little Dance" by Sarah Sadie Busse

## Little Dance

# Step left. Step right. <br> Breathe. <br> Step right. Step left. <br> Turn. <br> Step left. Step right. <br> Laugh. 

Step right. Step left. Leap.

by Sarah Sadie Busse

"neighborhood repair" by Wendy Vardaman

## neighborhood repair

# failure risks include settlement, root damage, insufficient slab thickness, inadequate expansion gaps, lack of drainage, cycles of freeze \& thaw, heavy loads. ask me <br> to map the patched cracks in my concrete. tell me about yours. 

by Wendy Vardaman

"ode to sidewalk chalk" by Wendy Vardaman

## ode to sidewalk chalk

strike what's written
in sunset. bring a neighbor.
orange wide stripes. purple
a winter lake, a dog's spots. drag fuchsia down the edge of everything
in waves \& dot it with lavender \& lemons.
cover the colorless. make your mark.
by Wendy Vardaman
"Monroe Street 900 years ago" by Oscar Mireles

## Monroe Street 900 years ago

# walking towards the direction of Lake Wingra, <br> it was a sea of reeds and wild rice <br> one had to bypass several effigy mounds that not only celebrated death, but life <br> a reminder that history never gets lost as often as it seems we try to bury it with progress. 

by Oscar Mireles

"Monroe Street History" by Oscar Mireles

## Monroe Street History

> Ken Kopp's grocery store Dardanelles Restaurant
> Edgefest
> Monroe Street Fire Station
> Dudgeon Elementary School
> Mallatt's Pharmacy
> The past... sometimes ...
> no other words are needed

by Oscar Mireles

Nick Heynen | Wisconsin State Journal
Nick Heynen is the online editor for the Wisconsin State Journal and manages the newspaper's social media accounts. A Maryland native transplanted to Wisconsin, he joined the paper in 2007 as data reporter.

As featured on


Madison Arts Commission set to select poems to be stamped on Monroe Street sidewalks The commission will look over 12 poems submitted by Madison's current and former poets laureate at its Tuesday meeting.

