diaspora somnet

A secret: we see through the center of our
arrangement, an aperture through which
a small amount of space is preserved. We
can look out from the same opening
through which we are seen. The same
folded immediacy engenders affinity.
My anxiety is that special kind of
overwhelm that is euphoria and paralysis
at once. Addiction and ascetism, a
loudness others are shaken by in an
understandable inability to decipher
intent. Fear is my love of
cats, dogs, donkeys, kids, and the lonely fact
that I can't make friends.

José Felipe Alvergue

José Felipe Alvergue was born in San Salvador, El Salvador, and is the author of three books, *gist : rift : drift : bloom* (2015), *precis* (2017), and *scenery* (2020), which won Fordham University Press's Poets Out Loud Editor's Prize. His fourth book, *en el norte / soy del sur* will be released with Omnidawn.