

John Rogers – Haiku

Haiku is a Japanese verse form of seventeen mora, in three lines of five, seven, and five. In Japanese a mora is a sound unit, much like a syllable, but not identical to one.

I like haiku because it is a good exercise to distill your thoughts and emotions. When faced with a choice, try writing haiku about the Pros and Cons – if it will help to focus your thinking.

While working on these verses it occurred to me that a Japanese haiku writer needs to be concerned not just with the meaning and the sound but also with the appearance – as Japanese is pictographic. So, I decided to attempt this by putting the English verse in different fonts.

Japanese haiku traditionally evoke images of the natural world. I have tried to string together a few to trace our voyage including some about humans and their works.

Southern Royals

Rulers Of The Winds

Aflight To Gammig Gambol

Soar Turn Gside Dive Woosh

Macquarie Island

Digesters Silenced

Elie Piles, Penguins Everywhere

What Five Meter Rule?

The Great Whales

Misty Blow Excites

Power Majesty Size Awes

Two Million Ghosts

James Clark Ross

Four Years Of Danger

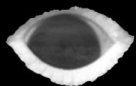
By Sail Breaking Unknown Ice

Erebus Is Named

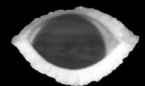
Monochrome

White Ice Drapes Black Cliffs

Silver Clouds Shine In Pale Sun



Bright Adelie Eyes



Cape Royds

Fifteen Hunker Down

Stout Strong Lion-Hearted Men

We Toast Their Spirit

Cape Evans

Shadows Of Lost Men

Stable Table Blubber Beds

Silent Stories Told

Amundsen

A Boy Greatness Dreams

A Man Learns Plans Drives Achieves

At What Price Glory

Scott

Twice Leads To Unknown

Discovery Then Mourning

What An Awful Place

Killer Whales

*So Strong Smooth Sleek
Spying Singing Coming Close
? Can We Have A Chat ?*

Emperor 1

*Shuffling Huddling Egg
Step Cold Dark Step Wind Gust Step
Nature's Crazy Dance*

Emperor 2

Slide In Pop Out Glide
 Trumpet Toboggan Waddle
 Grin Chortle Chuckle

Emperor 3

Winter Night Brings Life
 Tall Tough Graceful Beauty Grows
 Color Of The Sun