

[1]:00:15:10 *Aneta (inner voice animated-text on screen)*

I have so many dreams. I want to travel all over the world. I want to meet all sorts of people.

[1]:00:33:06 But the communication is the key...

[1]:01:41:14 **ID** - *Peter Cook, Renowned ASL Poet*

[1]:01:47:04 *Peter Cook (signing – animated graphics)*

WORD

[1]:01:53:05 **GRAPHIC SLATE**

ASL (American Sign Language) Poetry? What is it?

[1]:01:55:15 *Peter Cook (signing and animated graphics)*

Take the 5 components of a sign

[1]:01:57:24:24 *ANIMATION with text (Mona Lisa)*

Palm Orientation

Location

Hand Shapes

Movement

Facial Expressions

[1]:02:14:08 *Peter Cook (signing and animated graphics)*

Put them in a pot. Make delicious ASL Poetry.

[1]:02:19:13 *Animated GRAPHIC SLATE*

Want to be a Poet?

Show up after school at 3pm every Monday

Room 2-311

Come work with Special Guest Artists

[1]:02:26:13 *Manny (signing with subtitle)*

What is your expectation for the workshops?

[1]:02:31:07 *Aneta (signing – with subtitle)*

I come from an all-deaf family. So I like to tell stories. ASL is connected to everything. Music, the beat, you know what I mean. That's why I'm here, to share my spirit.

[1]:02:55:20 *SLATE*

Lexington School for the Deaf is a K-12 School in Queens, NYC.

[1]:03:01:08 *SLATE*

ASL Poetry is not part of the regular curriculum.

[1]:03:06:17 *Liz Wolter (voice)*

The camera will video tape.

[1]:03:08:22 **ID** LIZ WOLTER, ENGLISH TEACHER & INTERPRETER

The camera will video tape. If you mess up the first time, you can do it again.

[1]:03:18:22 *ID (Aneta signing and subtitle)*

A-N-E-T-A

This is how I perform my name.

[1]:03:23:12 **ID** - MANNY HERNANDEZ, ASL STORYTELLER

[1]:03:26:17 *Aneta (signing and subtitle)*

Wait...let me start over.

[1]:03:30:02 *Aneta (signing)*

A (graphic indicating the handshape A)

Dress up

[1]:03:31:27 *Aneta (signing)*

N (graphic indicating the handshape N)

Look at me

[1]:03:34:00 *Aneta (signing)*

E (graphic indicating the handshape E)

I'm cool

[1]:03:35:08 *Aneta (signing)*

T (graphic indicating the handshape T)

Walking in high heels

[1]:03:36:16 *Aneta (signing)*

A (graphic indicating the handshape A)

A stumble

[1]:03:41:18 *Manny (signing)*

So?

[1]:04:03:44:02 *Joshua (signing)*

Gum!

[1]:03:45:21 *Manny (signing)*

She got attention from her gum. I like it.

[1]:03:49:20 *Joshua*

When she signs with gum, she looks like a hearing girl.

[1]:03:55:05 *Aneta (signing) (graphic text)*

I am using the number 2 handshape.

[1]:03:58:01 *Aneta (signing)*

Trimming

[1]:03:59:20 *Aneta (signing)*
CUSTOMER: It looks funny!

[1]:04:02:06 *Aneta (signing)*
HAIRDRESSER: Close your eyes.

[1]:04:03:29 *Aneta (signing)*
Trimming

[1]:04:06:19 *Aneta (signing)*
CUSTOMER: Rolls her tongue.

[1]:04:13:14 *Manny (signing)*
We'll give you the tools to express yourselves. As for the content of poetry and storytelling, be free. There are no rules here.

[1]:04:31:24 *Liz Wolter (voice)*
Absences, Don't Be absent.

[1]:04:36:07 *Liz Wolter (signing, no voice)*
We want your poetry to be really, really strong.

[1]:04:55:11 *Interpreter Liz (voicing for Terrylene)*
Why all the movement? You want to know?

[1]:04:56:06 SLATE <VOICE OF THE INTERPRETER>

[1]:04:57:16 Liz voicing for Terrylene (off screen)
Because this is not hearing people's poetry.

[1]:05:01:02 *Terrylene (signing) (Liz voicing for Terrylene)*
It's not word and sound based.

[1]:05:02:13 **ID** *Terrylene Sacchetti, Actor/Artist*

[1]:05:02:18 *Terrylene (signing) (Liz voicing for Terrylene)*
Ours are special. ASL poetry uses the body, lots of movements.

[1]:05:20:13 SLATE – Graphic
Did you catch he just rhymed in 4 different ways?

[1]:05:24:23 SLATE (*animated graphics*)
Same facial expression patterns

[1]:05:25:24 SLATE (*animated graphics*)
Same hand shapes

[1]:05:26:28 SLATE (*animated graphics*)

Same location

[1]:05:28:02 SLATE (*animated graphics*)

Same downward movement

[1]:05:29:23 (*Students & Manny signing*) (*Animated Graphics*)

A car

hits a BUMP

a car hits a HOUSE

a naked woman inside!

Airbag

windshield wiper

headlights go off

water rising

[1]:05:53:05 *Joshua* (*signing*) (*Liz voicing*)

I'm cool, that's cool. This is "shit I'm stuck." I forgot, damn it.

[1]:06:19:07 *Robert* (*signing*)

The new girl and I are on the same bus.

[1]:06:04:26 *Robert* (*signing*) *Liz voicing for Robert*

This special girl is named W-A-N-D-A

[1]:06:10:14 *Wanda* (*signing*)

My lover, R-o-b-e-r-t!

[1]:06:15:03 *Robert* (*signing*)

That's me and I am shy.

[1]:06:19:00 *Aneta* (*signing*)

Deaf people work hard

[1]:06:23:09 *Peter Cook* (*signing*) *subtitled*

I don't want "words." I want to see "images." I challenge you!

[1]:06:30:17 *Peter Cook* (*signing*)

WORD

(Chop up Word)

(Grate it down to dust)

[1]:06:47:23 **ID** - Deaf Beat Summit

Allen Ginsberg reads "Howl"

[1]:07:05:22 *Allen Ginsberg* (*voice*) (*Interpreter signing*)

Listening to the crack of doom

On the hydrogen jukebox

So, what's a hydrogen jukebox in sign language?

[1]:07:01:22 *Patrick Graybill (Interpreter voicing off screen)*
Let me try.

[1]:07:02:15 **ID** -PATRICK GRAYBILL, ASL POET

[1]:07:05:08 *Patrick Graybill (signing) (subtitle)*
signs "Hydrogen Jukebox"

[1]:07:12:07 – *Peter Cook (off screen signing) subtitle*
That's what I learned from Ginsberg.

[1]:07:14:02 *Peter Cook (signing with subtitles)*
Put aside the words. Just pictures – think in images. Cinematic images – what do you see?
Visually, OK?

[1]:07:30:19 *Terrylene (signing) Liz voicing*
You're the artist and ASL is your medium. It's a way to express yourself in the world. I want you to find your inner voice. If you don't bring it out... the audience will start yawning and picking their nose. If you do bring out your inner voice, the audience will embrace you.

[1]:08:14:04 *Terrylene (signing) Liz voicing*
Tell me, what is your most accomplished moment?

[1]:08:00:15 *Aneta (signing) Liz voicing*
In cheerleading ... This year, we had all these competitions. But we kept going to a National hearing tournament. It was here in New York at Madison Square Garden. There was a huge audience. And they realized that we were Deaf. We were the only Deaf school. "Deaf?! Deaf? impossible!"

"How could a Deaf school be in this kind of a tournament?" And we did it! We felt positive. We did all the yells, and the screams, and jumps. We worked really hard. We started clapping, the whole audience was clapping with us. And they announced we were the Champions. Lexington!

[1]:08:44:23 *Aneta (inner voice animated-text)*
I always had to fight for myself. When I was a kid, other kids wouldn't play with me because I'm deaf. I really wanted to play. One time I picked up a pipe, and said, "Do you want to fight?" Growing up, I fought a lot. It's just how things were.

[1]:09:25:23 *Aneta and Brother (signing)*
It looks cool.
-Yeah.

[1]:09:33:02 *Aneta (inner voice animated-text)*
I love feeling the beat and vibrations. But I wish I could understand the voices too.

[1]:10:02:14 *Aneta's Brother (signing)*
Seems interesting, but I can't hear the voices.

[1]:10:53:07 *Aneta (inner voice animated-text)*

I was happy when my brother was born deaf. Hearing people say “Sorry” when a deaf child is born.

[1]:10:08:02 *Terrylene (signing) Liz voicing for Terrylene*

Does your family accept you as a deaf person?

[1]:10:11:26 *Aneta (signing) Liz voicing for Aneta*

My parents are deaf. I was born deaf. They accepted me. It happened - no problem.

[1]:10:16:10 *Wanda (signing) Liz voicing for Wanda*

My Mother accepts my deafness, not my father. He wants me to have a cochlear implant. I say, “no – I don’t want it.” I’m proud of being Deaf the way I am.

[1]:10:25:10 *Robert (signing) Liz voicing for Robert*

My family is all hearing. They are all communicating, and I’m stuck. I’m behind the news. I miss a lot of conversation at home.

[1]:10:32:12 *Terrylene (signing) Liz voicing for Terrylene*

Next question. Let me ask you. What do you love about being Deaf and what do you hate about it?

[1]:10:39:13 *Aneta (signing) Liz voicing for Aneta*

Hearing people have lots of people to choose from. There’s a whole variety of people. Hang out with different people every night. I’d like to hang out with more people. I’d like to hang out with more hearing people too. But communication is the key, and I can’t do it with them. They say “hah, I don’t have the time.” Here at Lexington it’s a small world. It’s just too small.

[1]:10:57:16 *Shiran (signing) Liz voicing for Shiran*

I love deafness. It’s peaceful. Airplanes go by – I don’t hear them. Lot’s of noises in the street, I sleep through it. I love sign language. It’s beautiful. It’s a culture. It’s a language. With Hearing people, it’s boring.

[1]:11:11:25 *Aneta (signing) Liz voicing for Aneta*

Communication in the world- I struggle. I want to hear music.

[1]:11:14:21 *Shiran (signing) Liz voicing*

Why be negative? You can feel the beat.

[1]:11:16:17 *Aneta (signing) Liz voicing*

No not negative

[1]:11:17:28 *Shiran (signing) Liz voicing*

stop saying can’t

[1]:11:18:26 *Aneta (signing) Liz voicing*

But I don’t fit in.

[1]:11:20:10 *Shiran (signing) Liz voicing*
you CAN!

[1]:11:21:01 *Aneta (signing) Liz voicing*
But I can't speak, and I can't sing, in the future – ever, WILL I?

[1]:11:43:28 *Shiran (signing) Liz voicing*
Talk to hearing people. work together. Be assertive.

[1]:11:46:25 *Aneta (signing) Liz voicing*
But I can't. No, They say NO to me. Deaf Power. Yes.
But after High School, I will be in the real world. Then, do what?

[1]:11:41:20 *Aneta (inner voice animated-text)*
I started coming to Lexington school when my family moved here from Israel. I was 7 years old.

[1]:12:07:11 *Aneta (inner voice animated-text)*
All my close friends are deaf. Some have been at Lexington since they were 4.

[1]:12:55:14 *Manny (signing)*
Friday. You'll work on techniques, on stories. All of you will be here Friday, right?
Only three are coming?

[1]:13:08:17 *Liz (voice)*
You're not coming Friday? You're not coming Friday?
I don't think you understand the commitment for this project.
We made it all clear. It's not a choice.

[1]:13:24:23 *Shiran (signing)*
I feel like I want to quit here.

[1]:13:31:04 *Shiran (signing)*
She saw what I said. I take that back. I don't mean it, okay?
Hello. What's up? I'm good.

[1]:13:40:04 *Liz (voice)*
They're clearly not recognizing the opportunity here. This project is- completely supporting ASL. This is where their language, their culture is treasured. In their school environments it's not happening. That's where their ASL and their .. their cultural growth and identity is oppressed.

[1]:14:11:04 SLATE
IN UNITED STATES SCHOOLS
52% OF DEAF CHILDREN LEARN
SPEECH ONLY.
36% LEARN SIGN WITH SPEECH.
11% LEARN SIGN ONLY.

[1]:14:41:08 *Terrylene (signing) Liz voicing for Terrylene*

We're giving you a chance – to stand up and say something to the world, to your audience.
-Make the world pay attention to you. Here you're not thinking about school. This is a poetry workshop.
Anything goes. It's your place right here. That's what poetry is for.

[1]:15:00:02 *Aneta signing (Animated Graphics)*

I'm
SICK
Of cops treating
DEAF PEOPLE
like
SHIT!
I'm **SICK**
of
THAT!

[1]:15:05:29 *Joshua signing (Animated Graphics)*

I'm
SICK
Of
PREJUDICE
FUCK YOU! FUCK YOU!
Stabbing
people
in the
BACK!
Finished with that!

[1]:15:13:09 *Danny signing (Animated Graphics)*

I'm
SICK
of being
THIN.
I want to be
BIG
like
Joshua
and
feel good.

[1]:15:17:19 *Semion (signing) (Animated Graphics)*

I'm
SICK
of you trying to
CONTROL
my life.
I'm
SICK

of
YOU!

[1]:15:20:22 *Shiran signing (Animated Graphics)*

I'm
SICK
Of
PEER PRESSURE!

[1]:15:25:04 *Wanda signing (Animated Graphics)*

I'm
SICK
Of gangs,
ENOUGH!

[1]:15:28:03 *Aneta signs (Animated Graphics)*

I'm
SICK
Of parents ignoring
Children's NEED for them.
WHERE are the parents?
I don't know
who I am.
I'm
SICK
Of THAT!

[1]:15:43:10 *Manny (signing)*

Slam, slam, slam!

[1]:15:46:24 *Aneta (signing) (Animated Graphics)*

SLAM! SLAM! SLAM! SLAM!

[1]:16:03:20 *Street Vendor*

Yeah, what's up?, yeah. Barbershop right here ya'all

[1]:16:28:21 *Danny (signing)*

W-E-I-R-D-O
Run!

[1]:16:42:12 *Aneta (inner voice animated-text)*

Shiran and I grew up together. We got close in middle school... becoming very close after she lost her mom. She had already lost her Dad in Israel even before we met.

[1]:17:12:12 *Terrylene (signing) Liz voicing for Terrylene*

Do you have something written?

[1]:17:32:09 *Shiran (signing) Liz voicing for Shiran*

Do you want me to tell you everything?

[1]:17:14:09 *Terrylene (signing) Liz voicing*
Tell me about your parents.

[1]:17:18:11 *Shiran (signing) Liz voicing for Shiran*
nah, I'm not ready to comment about my parents.

[1]:17:21:20 *Terrylene (signing) Liz voicing*
no, not a story about your parents. What about your love for your parents?

[1]:17:28:27 *Shiran (signing) Liz voicing*
nah, like what?

[1]:17:32:18 *Terrylene (signing) Liz voicing*
It's part of your inner voice, isn't it?

[1]:17:37:18 *Terrylene (signing)*
I need some privacy here.

[1]:17:56:13 *Shiran (signing) (Animated Graphics)*
I'm confused.

Trees.

Everything

Is mixed up.

Daddy-

where's daddy?

Nowhere.

In my

heart, he talks to me.

he loves me.

he saves me.

Don't worry, my father

Is next to me.

My heart is both

father and daughter.

Nobody has

what

I have!

[1]:18:39:17 *Shiran (signing)*
I didn't want to cry. I held back.

[1]:18:41:18 *Aneta (signing)*
I know.

[1]:19:03:23 *Manny (signing)*
Why do you want to tell that story?

[1]:19:05:15 *Aneta (signing)*

I want to thank my parents for bringing me into this world. Only one sperm got in an egg, and I was born. That means I am a winner!

[1]:19:29:27 *Aneta (inner voice animated-text)*

I always accepted my family's Deafness. Yet, I didn't always accept myself fully as a deaf person.

But sign language is who I am.

[1]:19:52:03 *Wanda signs (Animated Graphics)*

I walk
up the
stairs
with
Robert
My eyeflashes
Flutter.
I tap
his
shoulder.
one
more
kiss?
I smile
Robert waves goodbye
We part
My heart floats and flies away...

[1]:20:18:16 *Robert signing poem (Animated Graphics)*

We wrestle,
Challenging...
Deaf
Wins!

[1]:20:51:24 SLATE
THE DAY OF THE ASL
(AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE)
POETRY PERFORMANCE

[1]:21:03:16 SLATE
350 NEW YORK CITY DEAF STUDENTS
ATTEND THE PERFORMANCE

[1]:21:11:16 *Liz (voice)*

Ok, Everybody go to places. That means the group needs to go back in their lines back to the auditorium.

[1]:21:34:12 *Manny (signing)*

We're having a poetry jam!

[1]:21:44:17 *Aneta (signing)*

I am A-N-E-T-A. What goes in one ear comes out the other.

[1]:21:49:25 *Shiran (signing)*

I am S-H-I-R-A-N. I AM DEAFFFFFFFF!

[1]:22:02:26 *Danny (signing)*

I am D-A-N-N-Y. I'm friendly!

[1]:22:42:18 *Aneta (signing) (Animated Graphics)*

One! Two! Three!

SPERM RACE (GRAPHIC TEXT ANIMATION)

SPERM ARE STUCK- SPERM, SPERM, SPERM

CAN'T GET IN

SPERM COMPETE

ONE PENETRATES

AND ENTERS THE EGG

BABY PUSHING

THE WATER BREAKS

BABY CRIES

BABY AND MOTHER'S EYES MEET

THE BABY SMELLS THE MOTHER

EVERYONE LOOKS DOWN

AND KISSES THE BABY

THE BABY FEELS LOVED

[1]:23:43:05 *Aneta (signs) (Graphic text)*

That's me. I made it through. Y'all too.

[1]:23:52:13 *Aneta and Classmates (signing)*

A – S – L, ASL! POETRY!

[1]:24:33:01 *Manny (signing)*

I want to let you know that I am proud of you. You did good work but I want to see your signing really become poof! Splitting hair sharp!

[1]:24:47:04 *Manny (signing)*

Love you!

[1]:24:53:07 *Aneta (signing)*

Oh my lord. He's so horny, that's why.

[1]:25:00:03 *Shiran (signing)*

What are you talking about?

[1]:25:01:19 *Aneta (signing)*

My summer fling...

[1]:25:23:09 SLATE

IN ANETA'S JUNIOR YEAR-
THE ASL POETRY WORKSHOPS
OPEN UP TO ALL NEW YORK CITY
DEAF TEENS AND MOVE
TO MANHATTAN.

[1]:26:13:07 *Urban Word poets (voice)*
on with the Christ, free style like it's me and Jay Z...

[1]:25:56:24 SLATE
THE ASL POETS SHARE SPACE
WITH URBAN WORD NYC.

[1]:25:57:07 *Urban Word poets (voice)*
You're crazy. Thinking I'm a big lip dude. Like Zeke

[1]:26:00:13 SLATE
URBAN WORD IS AT THE FOREFRONT OF
THE YOUTH SPOKEN WORD MOVEMENT.

[1]:01:26:01:09 *Urban Word poets (voice)*
No, I'm freezed up Matter of fact, it's not luck
I'll be dammed if my ad libs
Oh, I have to go – Yup! No, no sir, I'm having an ulcer. I'm having the bad battle with the -
badness of a cul-ture.

[1]:26:11:10 **ID**
DIRKSEN BAUMAN
Deaf Studies Prof.
Gallaudet University

[1]:26:22:17 ANIMATION SEQUENCE
KNOW YOUR HISTORY
1864 Gallaudet University for the Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing opens.
From 1880 -1960
SIGN LANGUAGE IS BANNED FROM SCHOOLS.
ORALISM IS PROMOTED
SIGN LANGUAGE GOES UNDERGROUND
DEAF CLUBS GROW
THE 60'S CHANGED EVERYTHING
IN 1964 CONGRESS ISSUES THE BABBIDGE REPORT.
ORALISM IS A DISMAL FAILURE
SIGN LANGUAGE IS ALLOWED BACK IN SCHOOLS.
1970'S SIGNED POETRY BLOSSOMS.
BUT ONCE AGAIN ASL IS THREATENED.
COCHLEAR IMPLANTS
NEW TECHNOLOGIES
DEAF SCHOOLS CLOSING
MAINSTREAMING

KNOW YOUR HISTORY

[1]:27:17:24 *Dirksen Bauman (signing)*

Alexander Graham Bell, anyone know him? He invented what?

[1]:27:46:26 *Dirksen Bauman (signing)*

Thank you – yes, telephone. He married a deaf person. He didn't want to have more deaf children in the world. He wanted to have a perfect race. And that went to Hitler later. But it really started here in America.

[1]:27:44:07 *Millie (signing)*

If Alexander Bell came here this year, he'd die of a heart attack.

[1]:27:51:09 *Dirksen Bauman (signing)*

A.G. Bell's spirit is still here today. But instead of kicking people out, now it's more about genetics. "Oh, Deaf, we found the gene to isolate deafness. Let's get rid of it." Will it go away? No, never. But it will be reduced, it will be oppressed. And it will explode. How will it explode? Through the talking hands! Your voice!

[1]:28:23:05 Peter Cook (signing) (*Liz voicing for Peter*)

New York has had cockroaches and we are sick of them. We've tried to get them out of the house. Spray them, bomb them, anything. You can never get rid of them. You can't get rid of Deaf people. They will never get rid of them. We are like cockroaches.

[1]:28:38:10 **ID BRIANNE BURGER**, Deaf Advocate

Brianne (signing) (*Liz voicing*)

To me, if you offered me... a choice to become hearing... I think you'd be surprised to see how many would admit they would become hearing. Yes, they would. You say "Deaf can't be wiped out" but, look at how many would take it. If there were a medicine to make us hearing – you would do it.

[1]:29:16:25 Peter Cook (signing) (*Liz voicing*)

It's not about being Deaf or Hearing. It's about being a signer.

[1]:29:00:21 **ID ROBERT ARNOLD**, ASL Professor

Robert (signing) (*Liz voicing*)

Maybe forget the ears. Leave the ears out of the sign for Deaf. Something about culture and language. Sign is part of our culture (period).

[1]:29:11:07 *Dirksen (signing) (Liz voicing)*

I have a question. Do the students who are really familiar, really know what's happening – In the spoken word movement? I think they need some help to really SEE.. ironic, not just see through an interpreter. It's really hard to really SEE spoken word. to blow people's mind through language. I don't think the students really realize the power of that. What language can do.

[1]:29:39:20 SLATE

EVERY YEAR OVER 500 POETS BETWEEN
AGES 13-19 TRY OUT FOR THE
FIVE MEMBER NYC SLAM TEAM.

[1]:30:04:18 **ID**
URBAN WORD NYC
Teen Poetry Slam

[1]:30:09:01 *MC for Urban Word Slam Competition (call and response with audience)*
URBAN, WORD, URBAN, WORD, We got poets, poets, poets
Let's give a round of applause already!

[1]:30:16:07 *Poet in competition (voice)*
"although I ruined your day I still gotta keep shining, so even though no matter what happened,
You always let me down."

[1]:30:22:05 *Poet in competition (voice)*
"Begin the biracial organizations and biracial communications to stop teenage minority
probation and get us through High School graduation!"

[1]:30:34:20 *Interpreter (signing to students)*
He has a strong voice.

[1]:30:39:19 SLATE <VOICE OF THE INTERPRETER>

[1]:30:39:19 *Robert (signing) Interpreter voicing*
I want to be up there too. I want to express something about Deaf people. I wish I could go up
there and express my emotions.

[1]:30:45:04 *Wanda (signing) Interpreter voicing*
I wish I could hear their voices. I wish I could hear their emotions.

[1]:30:49:28 *Aneta (signing) Interpreter voicing*
It's interesting. A lot of people in the world have so many different experiences. I don't know
about their experiences. And I'm learning what they are going through. It's good for all of us to
learn about other people's viewpoints, personal lives. Even if we have nothing in common, I
can get their vibe.

[1]:31:25:27 *ABIODUN OYEWOLE, (voice)*
I want to be, what I can be

[1]:31:06:26 **ID**
ABIODUN OYEWOLE
FOUNDING MEMBER OF THE LOST POETS *(voice)*
I want to be, what I can be
To be proud, healthy, and _ FREE!

[1]:31:12:03 *Aneta (signing) Interpreter voicing*
It's important for the Deaf community to be a part of this.

[1]:31:35:01 *ABIODUN OYEWOLE (voice)*
I'm not going_ DOWN! I want to do what I can do to make all my dreams come_TRUE!

[1]:31:21:36 *Peter Cook (signing)*

Your goal is to be involved in slam competition. We're talking about taking poetry outside school. A club performance type of thing, people can come and watch. People will be interested. That's hot. Slam poetry in ASL has never been done before. You'll be making history.

[1]:31:46:14 *Millie (signing)*

Slam poetry!

[1]:32:56:18 *Tahani Salah (voice)*

The sky is made of wool.

[1]:32:00:03 **ID**

TAHANI SALAH

SPOKEN WORD POET *(voice)*

waiting to fall down on your neck. Like a tsunami?

[1]:32:06:10 *Urban Word Poet (voice)*

Like a Tsunami. We're from the Middle East. We don't eat salami words in my unborn Mommies. Freestyling.

[1]:32:16:20 *Aneta (signing)*

a flag – red, white and blue stars and stripes, bird flying

[1]:32:22:08 *Tahani Salah (voice)*

I don't do freestyling.

[1]:32:23:17 *Kesed Rasheed (Urban Word Poet - voice)*

You don't do freestyle?

[1]:32:24:18 *Tahani Salah (voice)*

Nah, my heart is left to the pen and the paper.

[1]:32:26:06 *Kesed Rasheed (Urban Word Poet - voice)*

My heart is left to the pen and the paper.

[1]:32:28:22 *Aneta (signing)*

I was explaining about my life.

[1]:32:30:16 *Hinda (signing)*

You're like a bird who moved to America and then you see the flag waving.

[1]:32:36:29 *Aneta (signing)*

I'm like a little bird with curly hair?

[1]:32:41:04 *Manny (signing)*

I love the way you did the flying movement.

[1]:32:44:18 *Aneta (signing)*

My parents don't know English. I help the family, I work to help feed them. That concept, "the bird," it's a metaphor. Because I feed them with food and education.

[1]:33:00:02 *Aneta (inner voice-animated text)*

I'm scared that I may not be able to get a job when I get out of school. How many deaf people do we know working menial jobs?

[1]:33:23:17 *Cashier at McDonalds (voice)*

Coke? Coke? What kind?

[1]:33:35:03 *Hinda (signing)*

You have to watch us?

[1]:33:38:24 *Hinda (signing)*

Eat! This is a deaf way of eating.

[1]:34:51:27 *Shiran (signing)*

I have a list of colleges that give scholarships. I might go to Gallaudet or RIT (Rochester Institute of Technology). I don't know. Harvard? No, no, no, no.

[1]:34:04:15 *Aneta (signing)*

What if they accepted you?

[1]:34:07:08 *Shiran (signing)*

My ACT is 24 and that's too low for Harvard.

[1]:34:11:24 *Aneta (signing)*

But if they accepted you? Wow!

[1]:34:14:03 *Shiran (signing to Aneta)*

I'd rather not go. I prefer to be with my deaf peers at Gallaudet.

[1]:34:31:20 *Aneta (inner voice animated-text)*

All my friends are seniors this year... and going off to Gallaudet in the fall. But I've got one more year to go...

[1]:34:56:02 *Liz (voice and signing)*

Ok, part of the reason we're here is because we need to talk about the schedule for the rest of the Spring. Please, find some time to work yourselves on your poetry.

(signing) If you are interested in being on the Urban Word slam team, you're going to have to work really hard. It's really competitive.

[1]:35:22:00 *Shiran (signing)*

But hearing people can't see it. There's the translation, repetition, slow motion...

[1]:35:30:01 *Shiran (signing)*

Will hearing people understand? The deaf poetry world is different. It's visual...

[1]:35:35:25 *Liz (voice)*

I know. It's not going to be easy to interpret. But at least it will be seen.

[1]:35:51:27 *Aneta (signing)*

I used to be like 'ASL poetry, ok and so?' I kept ignoring it. Time went by. Now I am one of the ASL poets. It's important to become an ASL poet... I don't want ASL poetry to die out.

[1]:36:03:27 ASL Poetry Timeline *Animated Graphic Sequence (Photo Captions)*

1970's

Patrick Graybill, Ella Mae Lentz, Robert Panara, Clayton Valli, Eric Malzkuhn, Dorothy Miles, Bernard Bragg

1980's

Peter Cook, Ayisha Knight, Douglas Ridloff, Debbie Rennie

[1]:36:18:04 *Aneta (signing)*

ASL is so expressive...we should spread it to the world. Hearing people have been doing this. But our poetry is so different.

[1]:36:38:15 *Aneta (signing)*

"The master shouts with his roaring voice – C-O-M-M-U-N-I-S-M

[1]:36:44:00 *Manny (signing)*

Communism in China?! That's off the point. Why China? It has no relation to you. You need to speak from your own experience.

[1]:36:54:07 *Aneta (signing)*

Right I understand, but...How I feel about the Chinese people and Communism relates to all people, all oppressed people.

[1]:37:14:02 *Aneta (inner voice animated-text)*

My family has been waiting for the immigration papers to come through for over 10 years. Gallaudet University has no financial aid for non-Americans. I don't know if I can pay for college next year.

[1]:37:45:13 *Aneta (signing) (Animated graphics)*

POINTY HATS

Pulling

out a

Sword

The master

shouts with his

roaring

voice.

C-O-M-M-U-N-I-S-M

WORKERS IN THE FIELD

Sees a bird

fly away

a boat

sails away

WORKERS IN THE FIELD

The lightening
Inside her echoes
The lightening overhead
And she will
speak out

[1]:38:28:18 *Peter Cook (signing)*
No, the hand is punished - oppressed

[1]:38:33:12 *Aneta (signing) (Animated Graphics)*
No, you must
not speak
everyone looks, is talking
pushed back
and then beheaded

[1]:38:46:05 *Judy (voice)(Liz interpreting – to sign)*
So, Saturday night is a big deal. It's the Urban Word Semi Finals. As you know, Aneta and Hinda are competing. It's the first time that Deaf teens are going to be in the Slams!

[1]:38:58:07 *Hinda (signing) (Liz voicing for Hinda)*
How are the hearing people going to perform? Are they going to have signs? What are they going to do?

[1]:39:02:08 *Judy (voice) (Liz Interpreting to sign)*
Hearing people will voice,

[1]:39:08:00 *Judy (voice)*
But we need to have an interpreter.

[1]:39:23:24 *Aneta (inner voice animated-text)*
How can you translate ASL poetry to spoken language?

[1]:39:45:14 **ID**
GINA BIVENS
ASL INTERPRETER
(voice)
Ok, I get it.

[1]:39:48:21 *Gina (signing to Aneta)*
Do you want the exact word?

[1]:39:53:17 *Gina (signing to Aneta)*
Let me see first.

[1]:39:55:23 *Gina (signing to Aneta)*
Let's practice what we'll do later.

[1]:40:04:16 *Aneta (signing)*
Will people understand me?

[1]:40:05:27 *Aneta*
Do you think they will?

[1]:40:08:20 *Gina (signing off screen)*
-We'll see...

[1]:40:09:03 *Gina (signing to Aneta)*
Metaphor!

[1]:40:15:16 *Gina (signing to Aneta)*
Doesn't matter if we don't sync. I will follow you.

[1]:40:35:24 *Aneta (signing)*
Ready – what?

[1]:41:37:19 *Aneta (signing)*
No! I'm still practicing. Five more minutes?

[1]:40:48:27 SLATE
FOUNDED CIRCA 1973
BY MIGUEL ALGARIN

[1]:40:51:17 SLATE
THE NUYORICAN POETS CAFÉ WAS THE HOME TO THE FIRST NEW YORK CITY POETRY
SLAMS.

[1]:40:56:04 *MC (off screen)*
Hello are we ready to slam?

[1]:40:59:00 *MC (off screen)*
This is the 7th annual New York City Team Poetry slam. Give it up for all the poets in the house.

[1]:41:05:02 *MC (off screen)*
You're going to see about 35 of the hottest poets in New York City tonight.

[1]:41:08:21 *MC (off screen)*
It's going to be all different styles, voices, backgrounds.

[1]:41:16:22 *Aneta (inner voice –animated text)*
I'm not having an interpreter voice for me.

[1]:41:20:08 *Aneta (inner voice- animated text)*
I want the hearing audience to focus on my signs, not on listening.

[1]:41:28:26 *Aneta (inner voice- animated text)*
I will force them to look in my eyes.

[1]:41:37:23 SLATE
URBAN WORD SEMI-FINALS

[1]:41:37:20 *MC (voice)*
Bridget Novay

[1]:41:40:43:08 *MC (voice)*
Without further adieu. Let's get it going for Jose'

[1]:41:47:18 *MC (voice)*
Give it up for Nicole LaCosta!

[1]:41:49:15 *Slam Poet (voice)*
I know more than what this test book asks. I am a growing awareness of history's mask.

[1]:41:54:24 *Slam Poet (voice)*
upper class, wealthy philanthropists just gaining more green to define the difference between the rich and the poor.

[1]:42:01:16 *Slam Poet (voice)*
I was one of those who were raised in the dark with one chance to blast and one reason to live. I want to be the one to pass one lit torch to the kid.

[1]:42:14:29 *MC (voice)*
I see people not clapping over here.

[1]:42:19:18 *Slam Poet (voice)*
Those hands, and those hands, and those hands, and those hands are all hands.

[1]:42:36:18 *Wanda (signs)*
I'm bored.

[1]:42:47:01 *MC (voice)*
So straight up y'all. With that said. Let's keep it going. Next poet on the mic - Give it up for Aneta!

[1]:43:10:00 *Aneta (signing) Gina voicing for Aneta*
I'm going to sign my poem in ASL in its purest form without being voiced. The theme of my poem is communism. Before I start, I want to tell you symbolism to look for. When I sign grass, it's a metaphor for people. Cutting grass means communism kills people. Water means famine. Boat means escape. Bird means freedom. Worker is represented by a pointed hat and robe means slave master.

[1]:44:42:27 *MC (voice)*
Alright y'all, put em up for Aneta. Y'all. Let's do it!

[1]:44:50:15 *MC (voice)*

What I'd like to do right now is to have all the poets who rocked today come up here, get up close. The Future!

[1]:45:02:12 *MC (voice off screen)*
Cynthia

[1]:45:04:08 *MC (voice off screen)*
Melissa, Dean

[1]:45:12:03 *Hinda (signing)*
I didn't expect to win.

[1]:45:14:09 *Aneta (signing)*
But you feel disappointed.

[1]:45:15:29 *Hinda (signing)*
Yeah.

[1]:45:17:29 *Aneta (signing)*
Because if hearing people knew how to sign like you, Gina, they'd probably understand more. But I accept the situation, and it was a good experience for me.

[1]:45:38:06 *Wanda (signing)*
I cried...

[1]:45:44:28 *Danny (signing)*
Hello Robert! R-O-B-E-R-T - my best friend forever.

[1]:46:04:09 *Aneta (inner voice-animated text)*
I feel a little...

[1]:46:09:24 *Aneta (inner voice-animated text)*
I feel heart broken...

[1]:46:14:06 *Aneta (inner voice-animated text)*
what am I going to do without my friends.

[1]:46:32:11 SLATE
FUNDING FOR THE ASL POETRY
WORKSHOPS ENDED.

[1]:46:59:18 *Aneta (inner voice-animated text)*
When I feel upset, I create poems.

[1]:47:07:16 *Aneta (inner voice-animated text)*
I feel free.

[1]:47:12:29 *Aneta (inner voice-animated text)*
Free from my thoughts.

[1]:47:25:28 SLATE
ANETA IS INVITED TO COLLABORATE WITH A
POET FROM URBAN WORD FOR HER SENIOR YEAR.

[1]:47:34:08 *Tahani (voice)*
I've seen you perform at the Nuyorican. I talked to one of the judges after and he said, he really really liked your poem. and that he wished you had made it to the finals.

[1]:47:44:12 *Aneta (signing) (Gina voicing for Aneta and translating into sign for Tahani)*
Thank you.

[1]:47:46:20 *Aneta (signing) Gina voicing*
Ok, so I'm curious. What are your interests? What do you write about in your poetry?

[1]:47:50:27 *Tahani (voice)*
I write a lot about politics and you know - middle eastern issues of violence.

[1]:47:57:13 *Aneta (signing) Gina voicing*
Where exactly is your family from?

[1]:48:00:10 *Tahani (voice)*
Palestine.

[1]:48:02:03 *Aneta (signing) Gina voicing*
Oh, Ok, I'm from Israel. What do you want to do?
-be a teacher or what?

[1]:48:06:01 *Tahani (voice)*
a lawyer.

[1]:48:07:04 *Aneta (signing) Gina voicing*
So, you want to be a lawyer in criminal justice?

[1]:48:11:00 *Tahani (voice)*
International Relations.

[1]:48:16:20 *Tahani (voice)*
This is a copy of the poem that she has heard me read before.

[1]:48:21:03 *Gina interpreting for Judy (off camera)*
"no she didn't hear you."

[1]:48:22:16 *Tahani (voice)*
Oh - sorry.

[1]:48:24:14 *Steve (off screen voice)*
No, she did at the slam.

[1]:48:26:26 *Gina interpreting for Judy (off camera)*
She didn't HEAR it Steve.

[1]:48:26:26 *Steve (off screen voice)*
Oh, oh, oh, yeah, yeah.

[1]:48:28:18 *Tahani (voice)*
This is one.

[1]:48:31:28 *Tahani (voice)*
Do you want to write a whole new poem - together? or... Do you want to take parts of each of our poems- and create one poem together?

[1]:48:45:17 *Aneta (signing) Gina voicing*
I think we should put both our poems together.

[1]:48:54:12 *Aneta (signing) Gina voicing*
My poetry isn't written. It's just signed. If I translated it into a written poem first, that will be much easier.

[1]:49:02:12 *Aneta (inner voice animated-text)*
I want to see something new everyday- new excitements. When Shiran and the others graduated, I was able to see myself more clearly. When I became a senior, things did not stop. I kept going.

[1]:49:41:11 *Tahani (voice)*
Bonafide, Bonafide Yo, Dude, pero I'm working here. Ok, can you keep it a little low? Thanks.

[1]:49:52:18 *Tahani (voice)*
Yeah

[1]:50:03:27 *Tahani (voice)*
she'll never hear the somber voices of children...
she'll, never...
hear... the...
music

[1]:50:11:18 *Tahani (voice)*
Tahani: "Can we keep that?" Yeah? Ok.

[1]:50:13:28 *Tahani (voice)*
she'll never hear the somber
voices of children
she'll never hear...

[1]:50:22:02 *Tahani (voice)*
Bomb?

[1]:50:23:18 *Tahani (voice)*

You can feel it.

[1]:50:24:28 *Aneta (signing)*

You know, feel it.

[1]:50:30:01 *Tahani (voice) Aneta (signing) subtitle*

Hot.

[1]:50:40:16 *Aneta (signing) subtitle*

It's not grooving, they don't fit.

[1]:50:47:10 *Tahani (voice)*

this is a home for my people...

I think we should change it to –

I want there to be a homeland for OUR people. and - I should say it, and you should sign it at the same time.

[1]:50:58:28 *Aneta (signing) Gina voicing*

that's beautiful.

[1]:51:06:10 *Gina (voice - off camera)*

she started

[1]:51:07:24 *Tahani (voice)*

She started?

[1]:51:10:28 *Tahani (voice)*

Oh, wait. Sorry.

[1]:51:13:18 *Gina (voice and signing numbers)*

1, 2, 3

[1]:51:15:23 *Tahani (voice) and Aneta (signing)*

a Muslim girl representing Satchett Street in Brooklyn. A Jewish girl living... Yeah, I'm good. a Jewish girl living in Rego Park, Queens. A deaf girl from a deaf family. Moved from Russia to Israel. You ask me what do you stand for? So this is my answer. I stand on a battlefield on which I have not chose to stand on.

[1]:51:49:21 *Tahani (voice)*

I'm at Columbia right now. Being in school to being a structured writer following the beat poets and the Ginsbergs. I write in images. And the beat poets have always excelled in doing that. That's where I fell in love with that kind of poetry. And ASL has that! I mean specifically you're describing a picture - through sign.

[1]:52:13:29 SLATE

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

[1]:52:15:18 *Tahani (voice)*

Slam poetry is sort of like my dirty little secret at Columbia. No one really knows.

[1]:52:21:10 *Tahani (voice)*

I really try to keep it on a hush, hush basis. Only cuz – I feel like that’s my haven. That’s who I am. But, it’s not as accepted at Columbia.

[1]:52:31:09 *Tahani (voice)*

That’s the library.

[1]:52:35:27 *Tahani (voice)*

That girl’s in my class. She’s really mean.

[1]:52:39:29 *Tahani (voice)*

I have no friends. No friends. No friends, here.

[1]:52:45:22 *Aneta (signing)*

Me too.

[1]:52:49:06 *Tahani (voice)*

Are you planning to go to Gallaudet?

Or, you don’t know yet.

[1]:52:53:20 *Aneta (signing) Liz voicing for Aneta*

Soon, I will mail my application I will. But, I don’t know if I’m going to go because of my immigration situation.

[1]:53:01:00 *Tahani (voice)*

That’s a hard one.

[1]:53:04:26 *Aneta (signing) Liz voicing for Aneta*

It’s impossible at Gallaudet because it cost like - \$30,000. But Deaf students pay only \$10,000 because of federal subsidies. They’ll look at me and say well I’m not a citizen... My parents can’t pay for me, so..

It will have to be some place here in New York with my own money. Some place that’s cheaper.

[1]:53:23:11 *Tahani (voice)*

How would you go to school? They would have to take special courses? I know they have special courses for “hearing-impaired” people

[1]:53:34:00 *Aneta (signing) Liz voicing for Aneta*

They have interpreters, note takers. People would type up the notes, and pass out the notes for me.

[1]:53:43:11 *Liz (voice - off screen)*

Should we get back to the poem?

[1]:53:44:14 *Tahani (voice)*

Yeah, that would be good.

[1]:53:45:27 *Liz (voice)*
Again, that part.

[1]:53:53:14 *Tahani (voice) Aneta (signs)*
10 fingers, one hand?

[1]:53:56:09 *Aneta (signs)*
10 fingers.

[1]:53:58:15 *Tahani (voice) Aneta (signs)*
10 toes.

[1]:54:03:10 *Tahani (voice)*
your life is what you choose.

[1]:54:08:08 *Tahani (voice)*
No?

[1]:54:11:29 *Tahani (voice) Aneta (signs)*
Your life is what you choose. Peace.

[1]:54:19:01 *Tahani (voice)*
That was close, man! That was so close.

[1]:54:21:18 *Tahani (voice)*
I'm thinking about my hands. I have to stop thinking about my hands.

[1]:54:47:09 *Liz (voice off camera)*
Well you can. When people are signing, and they're angry –

[1]:54:27:23 *Liz (voice and signing)*
“What the hell do you think you're doing?”

It gets big and your arms are tense.

[1]:54:33:13 *Aneta (signs) Tahani (voices)*
Your life is what you choose.

[1]:54:36:20 *Tahani (voice)*
After that we start break dancing and spinning on our heads.

[1]:54:45:07 SLATE
ANETA AND TAHANI ARE INVITED TO SHOW
THEIR “WORK-IN-PROGRESS” AT GALLAUDET AND COLUMBIA UNIVERSITIES.

[1]:54:50:11 *Tahani (voice)*
What are you doing?

[1]:55:01:19 *Aneta (signing) Liz voicing for Aneta*

I'm ordering some music. But, I'm having a struggle ordering this music I see in this magazine. I'd like to order this song. "L-A-F-F-Y T-A-F-F-Y"

[1]:55:05:12 *Aneta and Tahani together (voice & sign)*
Shake that Laffy Taffy, Laffy Taffy

[1]:55:09:03 *Steve (voice off screen)*
 You can't hear it.

[1]:55:12:04 *Aneta (signing) Liz voicing for Aneta*
Yes, I can hear the vibrations, not the words really. But I can hear the music parts.

[1]:55:16:28 *Aneta (signing) Liz voicing for Aneta*
But I have to get the beat first. The beat is the really important part. I'd have to read the lyrics and listen to it over and over to try to figure out what they are saying.

[1]:55:27:12 *Tahani (voice)*
 I've been questioned so many times in my life, I started to question myself.

[1]:55:31:16 *Tahani (voice) Aneta (signs)*
 But this is one question you asked me, and

[1]:55:38:18 *Tahani (voice)*
 It's my Dad. Hello. What's up? We're in ...We're in Baltimore?
 (off camera) We're in Maryland. Ok, I'm going to call you back, in like, 20 minutes. Ok, bye bye.

[1]:55:53:18 *Tahani (voice) Aneta (signing)*
 A Muslim girl representing Sachett Street in Brooklyn.
 A Deaf girl moved from a Deaf family
 moved from Russia to Israel.

[1]:56:00:23 *Tahani (voice)*
 She's also Jewish, we forgot – or I did.

[1]:56:04:00 *Liz (voice off camera)*
 Start again.

[1]:56:05:00 *Tahani (voice) Aneta (signs)*
 A Muslim girl representing Sachett Street in Brooklyn.

[1]:56:08:00 *Aneta (inner voice animated-text)*

Growing up in Israel, I saw many Muslim people everyday. I didn't feel any connection to them. But with Tahani I feel the connection.

[1]:56:25:18 *Aneta (inner voice animated-text)*
 I didn't realize how the Palestinians feel about their homeland.

[1]:56:33:00 *Aneta (inner voice animated-text)*

It's the same feeling that Israelis feel about the land of Israel.

[1]:56:40:09 SLATE

WASHINGTON, DC

[1]:56:56:06 *Aneta (signing)*

This is Tahani.

[1]:56:56:28 *Aneta (signing) Subtitle*

Shiran – Tahani.

[1]:56:58:24 *Shiran (signing)*

You're performing here right? It's through here, to the right...

[1]:57:07:20 *(Voice of Interpreter for MC Janice Cole)*

Hello, and Good Evening.

[1]:57:09:11 SLATE

<AN INTERPRETER VOICING
FOR THE HOST, JANICE COLE>

Why don't we say hello to everyone in the audience now?

[1]:57:13:03 SLATE

REVOLUTIONS IN ASL CONFERENCE

[1]:57:13:22 *Voice of Interpreter*

People behind you, people in front of you. Tonight you will see ASL literature making an impact.

[1]:57:22:09 *Tahani (voice)*

Bear witness to the destruction. We have all seen the faces of war

Turned and said I feel sorry for them. But that doesn't erase faces. Bear witness to our children...

[1]:57:31:01 *Tahani (voice fades) Aneta (signing)*

staring at the sky, the moon, the sun...

[1]:57:46:00 *Ryan Commerson (signing)*

Slam poetry in ASL..

[1]:57:47:11 **ID** - RYAN COMMERSON, LEADER IN DEAF ADVOCACY (signing)

Slam poetry in ASL... It's a really good vision. That's a new concept. I haven't seen a lot of that.

[1]:57:55:13 *Aneta (signing)*

It's got a fast rhythm.

[1]:57:57:09 *Ryan Commerson (signing)*

You've created a new genre of ASL literature – slam poetry. And you have to think fast on your feet. That's awesome.

[1]:58:08:00 *Tahani (voice)*

Democracy has fallen and it's up to us to catch in all her glory.

[1]:58:10:24 **ID** - COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

[1]:58:10:10 *Tahani (voice)*

I've stood on the mountain tops of hoods watching the men and women of my society drift off into acid rain. Waiting for hollow floors to turn solid again. So don't tell me I don't know right from wrong. I've gone both paths and here I stand defending what I truly believe in –

[1]:58:23:25 *Tahani (voice) Aneta (signs)*

Love, Life, Truth

[1]:58:25:21 **ID** - BOB HOLMAN, VISITING PROFESSOR & POET

[1]:58:30:04 *Bob Holman (voice)*

Wow, their a slam poem. But boy, if you heard the gasp when you hit the signs. You know, together.

[1]:58:38:23 *Tahani (voice)*

"Your life is what your choose"

[1]:58:41:17 *Tahani (voice)*

took me like a month to learn

[1]:58:44:28 *Bob Holman (voice)*

Here is a language that cannot exist in a book. It is the ironies of ironies. That the perfect example of orality is from a language that isn't oral.

[1]:59:02:02 SLATE

FOUNDED BY BOB HOLMAN, THE BOWERY POETRY CLUB IS A GATHERING PLACE FOR THE WORLD OF ORAL TRADITIONS.

[1]:59:07:27 *Bob Holman (voice)*

Is there a way for American Sign Language Poetry to find it's place in the great dialogue of all the poetries that are going on in the world right now. How important that is for the Deaf? That the Hearies know what's going on. With American Sign Language you get right into the cochlear implants and the real questions of survival of this group of people. Survival of a language is the survival of a culture, is the survival of a people.

[1]:59:51:23 SLATE

BOB HOLMAN INVITES ANETA TO PERFORM AT THE BOWERY POETRY CLUB.

[2]:00:03:07 *Liz (voice)*

Should they just drop them on the floor?

[2]:00:05:10 SLATE
ANETA AND TAHANI PREPARE TO DEBUT
THEIR COMPLETED POEM.

Judy (off screen, voice)

They can, right now anyway.

[2]:00:08:23 *Tahani (voice)*

No, at the thing. How is she going to be like.....Oh, oh, oh, wait a minute...

[2]:00:14:29 *Steve (off screen voice)*

-drop them (the papers) on the floor

[2]:00:17:23 *Tahani (voice and signs)*

I know. They don't know.

[2]:00:18:23 SLATE

FLYING WORDS PROJECT

PETER COOK & KENNY LERNER

[2]:00:20:10 *Peter Cook (signing) (Liz voicing for Peter)*

You guys ready?

[2]:00:23:10 *Aneta (signing) Liz voicing for Aneta*

We're kind of experimenting. We're finding it. We are finding our way together here.

[2]:00:27:26 *Peter Cook (signing) (Liz voicing for Peter)*

Good, you're going to be fine. Your eyes are going to shine. You'll be good.

[2]:00:34:17 *Tahani (voice) (Aneta speaks)*

Let's do this.

-Okay.

[2]:00:37:18 *Tahani (voice) Aneta (signs)*

Love, Life, Truth. Your life is what you choose.

[2]:00:43:02 *Tahani (signs) Aneta (speaks)*

Peace.

[2]:00:44:22 *Liz (off screen voice)*

Wait, wait – End?

[2]:00:46:02 *Aneta (speaking)*

Peace

[2]:00:46:21 *Tahani (voice)*

That's it. I don't say it.

[2]:00:49:00 *Liz (voice)*

She says peace but you have one more line that you're still saying?

[2]:00:53:15 *Aneta (signing) Liz voicing*
I want to emphasize that deaf people can talk.

[2]:00:57:01 *Liz (voice off camera)*
Say it again.

[2]:00:57:27 *Aneta (speaks)*
peace.

[2]:00:59:29 *Liz (voice off camera)*
Well, we get the "P" sound. But, you're going to have to do something to impact the audience.
Take a beat.

[2]:01:06:18 *Together: Tahani (voice & signs) Aneta (signs)*
Love, Life, Truth

[2]:01:08:27 *Tahani (voice) Aneta (signs)*
Your life is what your choose. Isn't it?

[2]:01:12:12 *Tahani (signs) Aneta (speaks)*
Peace.

[2]:01:13:02 *Liz (voice off screen)*
much better

[2]:01:15:01 *Aneta (signing) (Liz voicing)*
If we are successful, then what are we going to do next?

[2]:01:19:14 *Tahani (voice)*
go on tour

[2]:01:21:17 *Aneta (signing) (Liz voicing)*
Cancun

[2]:01:23:07 *Tahani (voice)*
Mexico

[2]:01:25:14 *Liz (voice off screen)*
No, maybe you'll be going to Palestine and Israel.

[2]:01:30:07 *Aneta (signing) (Liz voicing)*
I wish.

[2]:01:32:21 *Aneta (signing) (Liz voicing)*
Passport – gotta have a passport first.

[2]:01:35:15 *Tahani (voice)*

I've never been there.

[2]:01:39:20 *Aneta (signing) (Liz voicing)*
"I've lived in Israel for 5 years," says Aneta.

[2]:01:43:16 *Tahani (voice)*
You never visited Palestine?

[2]:01:46:17 *Liz (voicing for Aneta)*
Never, I've never been there. It would be nice if I could go there. I'd like that.

[2]:01:51:00 *Tahani (voice off screen)*
and me, Israel.

[2]:01:53:02 *Aneta (signing) (Liz voicing)*
Yeah, both of us.

[2]:01:56:27 *Bob Holman (voice)*
You're at the Bowery Poetry Club for a historic evening

[2]:02:02:09 *Bob Holman (voice) Liz (signing on stage)*
of ASL poetry! We even have a few unfortunate people who talk with their mouths.

[2]:02:10:14 *Bob Holman (voice) Audience (boo)*
Boo, Oh, it's okay.

[2]:02:14:04 *Urban Word Poet – Kesed Ragin (voice)*
School lunch make me fat.
2 percent milk make me shit. Smokin duchess make my lip black. But being Black make me spit.

[2]:02:18:24 *Kesed Ragin (voice) Liz (signs)*
"Continuous exposition like the Everlasting Gob Stopper Running from the coppers
Top Shotta, Jamaican Don Dada, the bad man to blood cleet"

[2]:02:29:10 *Liz (signs)*
WOW! That was slow?

[2]:02:39:12 *Kenny (voice) Peter (signing)*
Lust

[2]:02:44:12 *Kenny (voice) Peter (signing)*
A little bit of musk,

[2]:02:47:15 *Kenny (voice) Peter (signing)*
she sends out. A little bit of musk.

[2]:02:59:06 *Kenny (voice) Peter (signing)*

His heart, and every nerve on his entire body – Detonates! Eyeball pops out smoking. Wipes it off and pops it back in.

[2]:03:25:17 *Tahani (voice) and (Aneta (signs)*

I've been questioned so many times in my life,
I started to question myself.

But this is one question you asked me, and I felt as if I had to answer.

You asked me what do you stand for?

So, this is my answer.

I stand in a battlefield in which I have not chose to stand in.

[2]:03:41:03 *Tahani (voice) and (Aneta (signs)*

She's a Deaf girl. She'll never hear the somber voices of children.

Never hearing the bombs drop on the sand of our holy land.

She's a hearing girl. She'll hear the somber voices of children.

hearing the bombs drop on the sands of our holy land.

There has been conflict between both worlds

but how many pop popped bodies does it take for them to understand?

That this is not a just war!

[2]:04:00:29 *Tahani (voice) and (Aneta (signs)*

I stand for a young girl
in a story I once heard.

My dream, my desire,
my body had been stolen.

My head flew and still
the angry words flew out.

I spied a white dove passing me.

My eyes fell into other eyes.

My soul, my heart was
stopped stopped, stopped.

Like the world was stopped stopped, stopped.

My dream, my desire, my body had been stolen
but not my WORDS

[2]:04:25:29 *Tahani (voice) and (Aneta (signs)*

I wanted there to be a holy land for my people.

But if a Jewish girl from Queens and a Muslim girl from Brooklyn

can understand one another, even though they speak two different languages.

Then peace is possible. And what are YOU standing for?

Ten fingers, ten toes.

They stole my legs, my arms, my brain.

A huge wave like a tsunami danced around us
watching the men and women of my society drift off into acid rain.

[2]:04:50:19 *Tahani (voices & signs) Aneta (signs)*

Love, Life, Truth

[2]:04:53:15 *Tahani (voices) Aneta (signs)*

Your life is what you choose

[2]:04:39:19 *Tahani (voice) and (Aneta (signs)*

[2]:04:56:08 *Tahani (signs) Aneta (speaks)*

Peace

[2]:05:05:16 *Bob Holman (voice)*

Aneta Brodski

[2]:05:14:13 *Bob Holman (voice) Liz (signs)*

Two languages, two cultures, one poem

[2]:06:14:16 *Aneta (inner voice animated-text)*

How do you define “deaf”?

[2]:06:18:00 *Aneta (inner voice animated-text)*

“can’t hear”?

[2]:06:29:00 *Aneta (inner voice animated-text)*

I want to change the definition in the dictionary.

[2]:06:48:00 *Aneta (inner voice animated-text)*

“Can’t” has a negative connotation.

[2]:06:54:10 *Aneta (inner voice animated-text)*

I think we should say “don’t hear”.

[2]:07:22:24 *Aneta (inner voice animated-text)*

A different perspective.

[2]:07:31:24 SLATE

INSPIRED BY ANETA’S PERFORMANCE

BOWERY POETRY CLUB NOW HAS ASL POETRY NIGHT

ONCE A MONTH.

[2]:07:45:11 *Aneta and Lauren Ridloff (signing)*

Signers and non-signers, please join us!

[2]:07:52:19 *Lauren Ridloff (signing)*

So, tell me about yourself.

[2]:07:55:01 *Aneta (signing)*

I go to John Jay College, studying International Civil Justice. I want to work as a deaf advocate traveling around the world. I already know four languages including international signs. I want to work for Deaf human rights to gain better interpreters for Deaf.

[2]:08:19:10 *Girl on the Street (voice)*

Are the words on the screen behind it? No, OH –

[2]:08:24:05 *Girl on the Street (voice off screen)*

That is hot. We'd kind of be lost but that's not the point. I can say, hi - my name is.

[2]:08:32:01 *Man on street (voice off screen)*

That's a good start. Gotta start somewhere.

[2]:08:42:16 *Aneta (inner voice animated-text)*

Sometimes in my dreams I sign and everyone understands me. Everybody is signing.

Closing Credits