Sophie Herxheimer

London

Not zo mainy Dais zinz ve arrivink.
Zis grey iss like Bearlin, zis same grey Day
ve hef. Zis norzern Vezzer, oont ze demp Street.
A biet off Rain voant hurt, vill help ze Treez
on zis Hempstet Heese vee see in Fekt.
Vy shootd I mind zat?

I try viz ze Busses, Herr Kondooktor eskink me ... for vot? I don't eckzectly remempber; Fess plees? To him, my Penny I hent ofa – He notdz viz a keint Smile – Fanks Luv! He sez. Oh! I em his Luff – turns Hentell on Machine, out kurls a Tikett.

Zis is ven I know zat here to settle iss OK. Zis City vill be Home, verr eefen on ze Buss is Luff.

© Sophie Herxheimer

'London' first appeared as no.22 in a series of concrete poetry broadsides from Brazil, called POW, subsequently appearing in Jewish Quarterly and Long Poem Magazine, and was also made into a <u>film</u>.