

*Tell Me Something I Don't Know*

there is no such thing  
as an intellectual

it's a fake word created by society  
to segregate social gathers

to make the guest list  
impressive to the neighbors

anyone can be an intellectual

I am one  
my dog is one

hell,  
I have had better,  
more enlightened conversations  
with my dog than I have  
with most *intellectuals*  
I've met

they are people  
full of opinions  
rather than facts

judgments  
rather than  
observations

carrying with them  
their own self-entitlement  
as if it were carry on luggage-

and I'm not bashing intellect  
or the practice of bettering yourself

nor do I think intellectualism  
is an elitist statement  
to ridicule  
people of lesser intelligence

not one bit

the problem lies  
within the name  
(as most things do)

people hear a name  
that describes a group of people they want to be like...  
and *wah-lah*  
they're now apart of it

polluting  
an otherwise  
unblemished group  
of well established people  
delighting in stimulating conversation  
over a game of othello-

to go a step further,  
I honestly don't know  
when people's feelings  
began to matter

mine certainly never did,  
not to the women I've been with,  
not to my family

and all of a sudden  
I'm sitting there  
chewing on an artichoke heart  
and I have some professional opinionator  
telling me his thoughts on immigration

as if I thought  
it was important

well,  
I didn't

no one cares  
why you voted for *so and so*

no one cares what

you think about organized religion

no one cares

you are speaking to an audience  
of dead people,  
only pleasing the ears of one,  
yours

Now,  
if you really want to speak your mind  
stop hiding behind the title of intellectual  
and get yourself a typewriter

because  
in here  
I scream as loud as I want to

then at parties  
I let people enjoy their food.