

During the Can Serrat residency, Ching-In Chen finished *recombinant*, a hybrid book of poetry and prose inspired by the global history of Asian laborers within a speculative framework. *recombinant* examines the challenges of reconfiguring communal history and memory by juxtaposing voices from various diasporic and indigenous communities. In this way, Chen aims to create a transatlantic diasporic poetics that considers multiple modes and voices within the single location of a page. *recombinant*, published by Kelsey Street Press in 2017, won a Lambda Literary Award for Transgender Poetry in 2018. For more information, <http://www.kelseyst.com/publications/recombinant.htm>

In preparation for Can Serrat's Open Studios, Chen collaborated with Cassie Mira Nicholson to create a projection of "which selves built up from image," a series of projected poems and prose in conversation with migration, gender, identity and loss. (To view, autoplay for 10s: <https://prezi.com/kzpxwfy3e4oi/which-selves-built-up-from-image/>)

Two of the poems – “a lit ghost” and “diagram: early coroner’s songbird” – were published in *recombinant*.

**a lit
ghost**

winter made me 18 shots a January city ghost no trees become clear of immigrant

don't tell me who contracts the
dawn

no fingerprint speaks to risk the sun with all their

whistle-up boys

don't tell me who shot the
drought

with all their

flash- thin voices

don't tell me who clears the
coming

with all their

pigskin sold stories

who smooths their cheeks who
turns out to break the news

**diagram: early coroner's
songbird**

island where these ghosts a
salt dress shorn a body
chrysalis turned to bullet and
dance twist and shout your
last name could be mine
could be a moor

printed on your anklet