chains

derek beaulieu
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Cover: untitled, for Natalie & Jeremy, by derek beaulieu.

Page 92: Portrait of derek beaulieu, by kevin mopherson eckhoff.

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derek beaulieu is the author of 4 books of poetry and conceptual writing. In 2005 he co-authored, with Gary Barwin, *fragments from the frag pool: haiku after basho*, a book of playful translations. His work has been featured in magazines, galleries, readings and conferences internationally. In 2006 he co-edited *Shift & Switch: new Canadian poetry* to wide acclaim. *Alberta Views* recently referred to beaulieu as a “mad scientist of visual poetry”, and *FFWD* referred to his 2006 volume *fractal economies* as having “the potential to be like Miles Davis’ *Kind of Blue*, which taps the vein of jazz for many listeners and musicians. Never read a book of concrete poetry before? This might be the one to hook you.”
With *chains*, derek beaulieu once again turns his attention to how “language regards itself, stalks itself, begins, slowly, to eat itself” (Canadian Literature) in a series of graceful abstractions made entirely from antiquated dry-transfer lettering. In *chains*, letters gather in elegant arrangements, architectural constructions and sinews of meaning.