



The Iowa Review

Volume 45
Issue 2 Fall 2015

Article 15

2015

On Anne

Shawn Wen

Follow this and additional works at: <https://ir.uiowa.edu/iowareview>



Part of the [Creative Writing Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Wen, Shawn. "On Anne." *The Iowa Review* 45.2 (2015): 42-43. Web.
Available at: <https://doi.org/10.17077/0021-065X.7577>

This Contents is brought to you for free and open access by Iowa Research Online. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Iowa Review by an authorized administrator of Iowa Research Online. For more information, please contact lib-ir@uiowa.edu.

On Anne

Anne Sicco was a nineteen-year-old fan who wandered into Marcel Marceau's dressing room. He was approaching fifty.

First Camille was born. They married. Then Aurélia was born.

In old photographs, Anne was slender in a white tiered dress. Her blonde hair was tied in a long braid.

In time, she came to teach experimental theater at Marceau's mime school. For years, they kept residence in Paris. In the evenings he read, listened to music, and painted, speaking little to Anne.

Anne said, "It's a silent sort of exchange."

Anne. Perhaps the only one who understood.

Anne said, "He has silent cries."

She's smiling from behind a camera. Her lens pointed at the leathery face of an old man.

She was more interested in looking at him than in looking at herself.

Anne: she had the same name as his mother.

Anne, who gave birth to daughters.

In 1984, they divorced.

In 1985, she stopped teaching at the school.

In 1986, she founded her own company.

After a long journey, Pip returns only to see that Estella has aged. She is thinner, sadder. Loose wrinkles hang where her hard scowl once was. What was all that energy spent for? Women are not worth striving for. The reward is too fleeting, and then the reward is too much.

He said, "My personal life has been very difficult. I have been married three times. They all failed. It's hard to be a family man in my position. When you're traveling all over the world you can't have your wife wait-

ing for you, like Penelope. Now one of my ex-wives is teaching in my school in Paris. We have become very good friends. In this sense, my life is not a failure.”

In interviews, he referred to her as his *former wife*. Why then did the obituary notices print “Survived by his wife Anne Sicco Marceau”?

Their younger daughter Aurélia was about to go onstage when she heard that her father had died. Anne was the director. She canceled the performance.

Anne said, “Je ressens une immense douleur.”

She said, “C’était un homme qui me fascinait.”

“Nous sommes tous bouleversés.” We are all shocked.