

# Spirit of Bosnia / Duh Bosne

An International, Interdisciplinary, Bilingual, Online Journal  
Me?unarodni, interdisciplinarni, dvojezi?ni, online ?asopis

## Common Places

Saša Skenderija

We've changed? Hardly, not  
significantly. The world has changed.

I've stayed the same: I live  
in constant change  
and I know all about you,  
all that can be known,  
all but your address, the city you live in,  
your children, the language you fill out forms in,  
where you go in the morning and who  
you come back to in the evening,  
that I don't know but I can guess  
(I can see it all  
with frightening clairvoyance).

You  
live unchanged,  
a witness to changes.  
And you know almost all about me,  
all that you need to know.

We have not changed.

And what about those of us who didn't make it?

But how can we talk at all  
about what they've changed into?  
It is the world that changed  
by their not being around,  
we have stayed the same.

Far from each other,  
obsessed with the same world.

Small as we are,  
insignificant.

---

*Translated by Wayles Browne – © 2008 Wayles Browne*

The preceding text is copyright of the author and/or translator and is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivs 3.0 Unported License.