

# The Events of Election '08

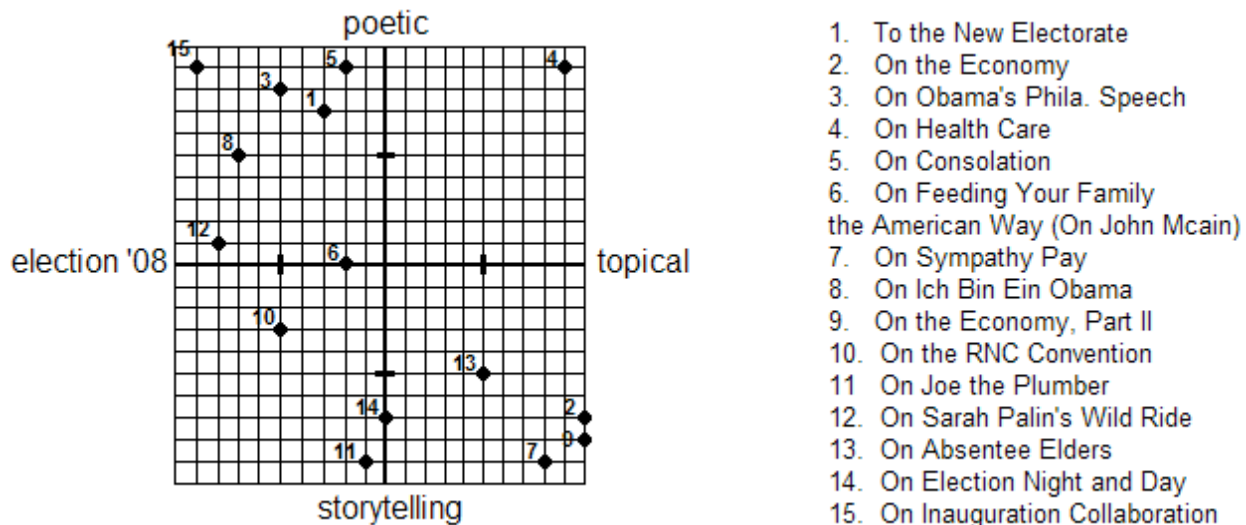
*The Events of Election '08* is a series of orations by Mike Varley written and recorded over twelve months, from January '08 to '09. Thirty-four were written in all, pared down to fifteen for this collection. They cover issues both election specific and topical, told in both storytelling and poetic styles:

**Election content** – These focus on particular events and characters from Election '08. People like Sarah Palin and Reverend Wright and events like the GOP Convention and Obama's summer trip to Berlin.

**Topical content** – These involve issues relevant to our times but not Election '08 specific. Examples include health care, the economy, and Iraq.

**Storytelling style** – As the name suggests, these pieces are written in a less abstract, more narrative form. Generally, they act as fictional backstories for true life events and characters, such as Election Night celebrations or the man called Joe the Plumber.

**Poetic style** – Pieces written in this manner are harder to follow logically. They're aiming for a different type of truth – the kind you might find inside a graceful melody. In this way, I cover things like Hillary Clinton's defeat (“On Consolation”) and Obama's Inaugural Speech.



Each one of these pieces tells a very specific, complete story, but if you were only to pick a handful to judge the collection by, I would suggest “**On Joe the Plumber,**” “**On Sympathy Pay,**” “**On Election Night and Day,**” and “**To the New Electorate.**” Warning: some pieces contain adult language and content. For more information, including text for each piece and performance videos, please visit:

[www.theeventsofelection08.com](http://www.theeventsofelection08.com)