

Karine Polwart, Can't Weld A Body

You crafted and caressed her with a careful hand
But the lady didn't understand
And you riveted and plated her til morning
But with a coil or a careless spark
Or a tumble in the dark
She'll leave her mark upon you without warning

You can float a boat of steel upon the ocean
You can fix it up with nuts and bolts and toil
But you can't weld a body when it's broken

The lady she's as fair as Desdemona
She swallowed you up just like Jonah
And there the air inside her belly ailed you
And no-one saw you fall
And they did not hear your call
And your breath it faltered just before it failed you
On a cruiser that was fitted by your father
You anchored in San Carlos harbour
But the lady at the helm she was not for turning
And in your bell bottoms blue
In April 82
You bid adieu and watched all you knew burning