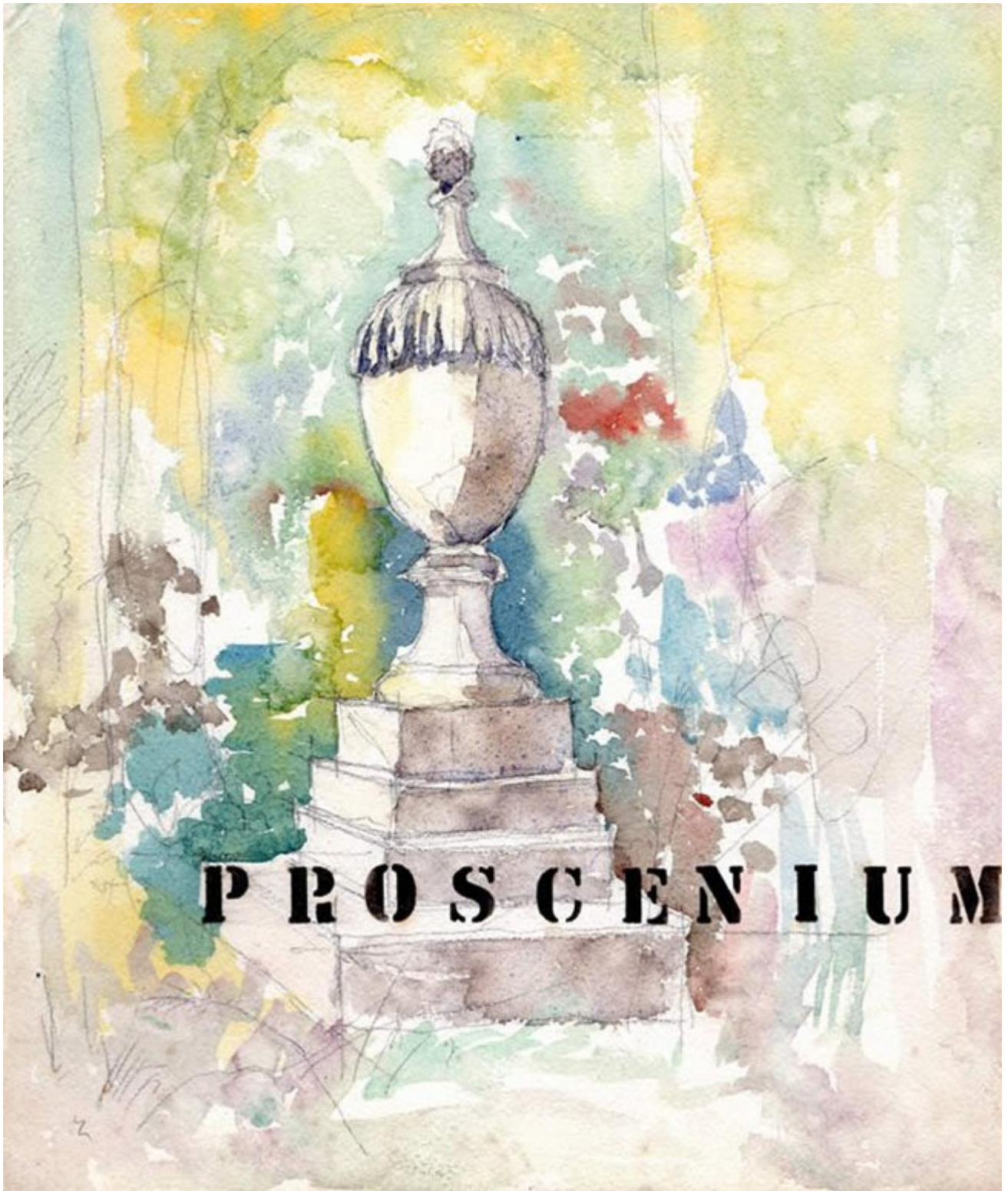


# Ave atque Vale

*In Memory of a Lost Garden and All  
that was Within It*

by [James Stevens Curl](#) (September 2022)



*Broken Urn in an Overgrown Garden, James Stevens Curl*

You stood atop the broken stair,  
aghast, beside a shattered urn,  
with sunshine caught within your hair,  
a question forming in your eyes,

upon a point of no return,  
a bitter, final, wild surmise  
that shimmered in the thinning air.

And so you turned, with final sigh,  
through screening wall of yellow flowers,  
disturbing petals passing by,  
on beeswinged shards of yesteryear,  
forgetful of the many hours  
we shared, so far, and yet so near,  
but never knew the reason why.

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Professor James Stevens Curl is the author of many books, including *The Oxford Dictionary of Architecture* (with Susan Wilson, 2015, 2016), *Making Dystopia: The Strange Rise and Survival of Architectural Barbarism* (2018), and *Freemasonry & the Enlightenment: Architecture, Symbols, & Influences* (2022).

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