

## **Dance of the Last Rhino**

*Thom Sullivan*

to lumber  
out of the  
tree-line  
with those

small birds  
attending  
you : &  
where will

they alight  
after all  
this is over :  
small flock

of birds  
that will  
not land :  
& here

we are :  
tourists  
dressed as  
tourists :

on the  
forestage :  
before  
the curtain

Poetry: *Dance of the Last Rhino* by Thom Sullivan

goes up :

in smoke,

i mean :

in smoke :

**Thom Sullivan**'s debut book of poems, *Carte Blanche* (Vagabond Press), won the 2017-18 Noel Rowe Poetry Award and the 2020 Mary Gilmore Award. His poems have been published in *Australian Book Review*, *Australian Love Poems*, *Australian Poetry Anthology* and *The Best Australian Poems*. He lives in Adelaide.