

ED SMILEY

Blooming Buzzing Correlations, 2013

title based on the phrase “blooming
buzzing confusion” by William James;
computer generated fractals, acrylic
and acrylic transfer on canvas, 30 x 24 in



courtesy the artist

FARNAZ FATEMI

The Edge

*Voyager Probe Hits New Region at
the Edge.... About to Become the First
Man-Made Object to Leave Solar System*

—NASA.gov, 2012

Thirty-four years go by.
Voyager One reaches a zone demarking
the end of our solar system—
an undocumented membrane NASA calls
the heliosheath.

On Earth, these were the decades
I became the people
I thought I might remain—
years of skeptical mirror studies.

The probe detects “disorder,” “aimlessness”—
interstellar gasses aren’t only blowing
one direction anymore.
What had seemed like a clearly marked path
gives way, in this new nowhere.
The solar wind slows
to a pace we cannot comprehend.

I will always be
taking notes on my life
from years behind.

Farnaz Fatemi’s work has been included in the anthologies *Let Me Tell You Where I’ve Been: New Writing by Women of the Iranian Diaspora* and *Love and Pomegranates: Artists and Wayfarers on Iran*, as well as other journals and magazines. She also composed the libretto for the opera *Dreamwalker*. She writes, edits, and teaches at the University of California, Santa Cruz.