

a poem is a mirror walking down a strange street

e.e. Cummings (1894 – 1962)

Genuine poetry can
communicate *before it is*
understood.

T.S. Eliot (1898-1965)

**A poem is a painting.
A poem is a painting that is
not seen.
A painting is a poem that is
not heard.**

Phoebe Hesketh

“If I feel physically as if
the top of my head were
taken off,
I know that is poetry.”

Emily Dickinson

“The primary function of poetry, as of all the arts, is to make us more aware of ourselves and the world around us. I do not know if such increased awareness makes us more moral or more efficient; I hope not.

I think it makes us more human, and I am quite certain it makes us more difficult to deceive, which is why, perhaps, all totalitarian theories of the State, from Plato’s downwards, have deeply distrusted the arts. They notice and say too much, and the neighbours start talking.” W.H. Auden (1938)

Poetry is the art of employing
words in extraordinary ways.

Dictionary definition: