

**DEMOLITION FEDORA**

Also by Vernon Frazer

POETRY

*Free Fall* (Potes & Poets 1999)

*Sing Me One Song of Evolution* (Beneath the Underground 1998)

*Demon Dance* (Nude Beach 1995)

*A Slick Set of Wheels* (Water Row 1987)

FICTION

*Stay Tuned to This Channel* (Beneath the Underground 1999)

RECORDINGS

*Song of Baobab* (VFCI 1997)

*Slam!* (Woodcrest 1991)

*Sex Queen of the Berlin Turnpike* (Woodcrest 1988)

# **DEMOLITION FEDORA**

**by**

**VERNON FRAZER**

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*To S. Michael DeRosa  
for a lifetime of friendship*



## **Admirable Constraint**

the pentecostal fury of lemmings  
knows no tell-tale badger's libido

limited though it might seem  
to the unannointed masters of destiny  
drenched in penny-pinching flurries  
of modular polarity

their clandestine stentors tense  
the silence about blatant nodules

as rumor, as theory, as truth  
transcends the furry unknown  
whose pastors recite chapters perverse  
to primate storage stations

safely rations currency  
of the hybrids in their midst

## After the Hanging

pontifical encomiums ensue  
the weary stuffed eerie harmonies in picture frames  
where the mirror lies

intersection bids  
the dance of inert palettes pirouettes  
the vision tricyclic

wheels skid farewell  
to dainty wind chimes dancing  
concerts of air

wherever the motion  
lies flat or sharp the same temper  
frames its dis-

lines accrue  
graphs skew their charteng  
impugn its spin

wall hangings  
synaptic to the gallery's spread  
of dips

chip the mode  
its nodule dips then leaps  
canvas tents

in miniature  
spread the lunges of breath looking  
eye to eye

politely speak  
sensory modes shifting neuroleptic  
transmissions

leaping across  
the rumor's suicidal drawbridge  
lifts medium

## A Lessoning of History

hung sung duet offset the coker's snore  
years before the attenuation of faculties  
bestowed the gift of attrition the contrite  
cowed the crows in the nation's field

where all slumber enumerates the transient  
all particular variables cannot consist  
nor their insistence conclude the foregone  
insinuations of the deeply permitted

deviance the norm of essentials  
in vines of veritas whose numbers  
enervate the season of its living  
the persistent emulate their decrees

a reason freezing the fortitude  
of logistics pensioning numerical  
storms for the very bidding forms  
a consensus of disinformed intent

numbers content on sensations of self-  
referentiality forgiving the numbness  
of transgression's wit amid the recycled  
retainers of attorneys overpowered

litigious slumbers snore transient jokers  
before motifs breed their muted indigence  
muffled against the shuffling old  
and their hordes of leathered pigeons

the malcontents climb the store  
inventory breeds itself with conjure  
disdaining the bold the stuffy  
pertaining to dissidents of stations

unserved amid the horded influx  
of trampolines insurgent in their springs  
resurgent in their urgent modalities  
scuffling against the pain of weather  
and parallels marching down

the sentries of time's centurions  
guarded in their geometric mists  
amid songs of seedy fortitude

## Ancient Secrets

Indigo laughter withers the sphincter petals  
under the hyacinthine moors. The bloodletting  
ensues,

bright with chicory's plunge across the jerkwater estuary,  
a statue white with providence, its yield tumescent. Past  
of futures unforetold await hieroglyphic ruins riddled with  
sphinxes.

Hyenas peddle their tragic girth  
amid chimerical manors, borne  
on weightless flurries

or the moment  
of its whim.

In hateful fury indigent peddlers speak  
moons of flowered begetting. There, let-me-nots  
abuse

light's explicable lunge against a staring lurk,  
incandescent in its omniscient flow. Beneath its  
cast sutures stem the obsidian ivory's glowing bone.  
Withholding sundials begets desire among coded  
fields.

The myrrh of inkblot offerings  
roar shock at the least unwieldy  
perceptions scurrying

heavily to weight its  
hymn to momentum's

dromedary feast. The water rises, the flood  
planes its red bevel. The devilish humor of deserts  
prevails

dry with the lure of rain. Its glare stems  
the bud that nips its barren heels, trips its  
fast future over a slow sundial, meridian with  
haste.

Plotting stock exchanges  
diatonically, the greedy correct  
blossoms with

sediment & omens  
that stem its climb

beyond the melodies of the sun. Forgetting  
its own mystery, the secret reveals itself to historic  
rubicons

unlettered with decay. Its pure strain  
seals the depth of runic privilege, locking  
alien vertebrae in time capsule chambers  
arid

& spotted with red moss  
dried brown. Its blood steeps  
sentiment at its

bottom where myth &  
time seal all momentum.

## Apocalypse Later

photosynthetic Sufis whirl neon umbilicals  
barbarian cries stare down triangles value face  
crypto-voltaic messengers crown the one  
true breathing through motor ellipses

and prophets shall fare their brushes

motorcades stream spinning leather  
sycophants emerge granting full authority  
to purging measures of dispute irresolute  
and unrequited

there the hair shall assail

womblike predicates  
acerbic natal union suits  
first national then fine asked  
effervescent shops to stop

the flow

of nutrients

over

purple protocols impassioned  
with tincture where grooms distinctly  
bridle instinctive tuxedo showers that hide

the secrets of Rue Nee

## **As Moving Sound Thinks**

Somnambulatory vouchers past due  
seal your floor praise your stealing  
excessive days mount candles like mares.

Stay.

Inches flinch contiguous  
ambiguities defiant riot fluidities  
hot wax eels lock doors open.

Praise thumbs.

Mumble certainties stumble  
space erases mores the vacuum abhors  
with triplicate replication of

dextrous leaps gone digital

## Balancing Axe

Metastatic cattle pry their prodding wedge.  
It multiplies their plodding battle, dries the  
flurrying cells cursing the edge of orange  
with teeth benighted. Alluring folds tell covens  
of furies, animistic with primal grief. Cold  
ovens bake mornings fresh with liquid sun.  
Taste relief in the form of prattle. Baste  
eclectic belief systems with carcinoma's  
ecstatic flay. Cinema verite's simplistic  
lens folds the coptic nerve against retro-  
spective foresight. An old swerve upends  
the mantis praying brief pistons dance  
against the wind. Rescind the suture.

Of its own kind there can be no other. Without regard for the high-  
est the mist shall dangle past rewards in the space of the other.  
Facing the wind's back braces no returns. Nor the taxonomy of ruin.  
Spacious in its lamented fist breeds ospreys. For the difference of  
autonomy no dependents yield. The perspicacious tax unseals its  
musty womb, revealing musty tunes of splendid rancor. Intuit uncom-  
mon mummies tracing leathered flesh in the music of band aids. Or  
the unkind angle shall deny among the last throes its humid lover.

In the static battle cry the trodding pledge.  
It panoply scares rotting cattle, belies the  
hurrying swell cursing the alleged storage  
of beliefs uncited. Telluric folds swell love  
in buried antihistamines with timed belief.  
Old lovers ache boring flesh, quit the one  
haste unleashing the storm of battle. Taste  
electric briefs, their pistons stiff aromas on  
a plastic tray. When enema verifies implicit  
blends hold synaptic verve against hetero-  
sexuals cold, upright as old nerves intend  
the antics betraying grief. Sisters, stance  
defends their kin, the sins of lurid future.

## Call and Response Under Crystal Lake

*for the Middletown Creative Orchestra*

ambient crystal shakes the floor's  
electrostatic convulsion of chickens  
roosting home the tenor lays  
where groundwork

says the sly eagle

safe in the nuance of ecstasy its subtle intent emerges  
a classic cacophony caffeined to its first utterance  
mindsurge omen momentous becomes kind urge  
entranced with the nape of jurassic kittens

their incessant declarations

tin-pan tympanis synth with cumulus accretions  
accrue syntactic betrayals sympathetic to time  
and monied nations immolating their successes  
no madder than short the time

its call to dissuade

the others obscure its truth with nurtures  
of motherly pensions procuring fruited loons  
in traces of accident the doctors seed  
beyond lectures of intensity

protests of plurality

conjunctions engage the sweated ones  
pythons of their own configuration or stature  
while melodies linger in stations  
the music of

clinch the unabatted

## Circling Bushnell Park

The foregone occlusions that ossify traffic  
include barter as a means of crossing the arterial  
hem, its stationery target a pencil for alms. The poor,  
palms outstretched as their suffering rows,  
emote sanctity and exhaust.

The patience of mufflers in winter,  
open doors to lean, transported protrusions of sclerotic nuance  
against infusions of statutory denial

wherever popcorn sheds  
its name, decries the military rank of gasoline. Towed fumes  
tame their octane with virile aspersions of natural gas

breeding sameness among all the nameless that apply  
their visceral truths to virtual emblems, silencing the somber music  
of cyber-punks wearing air guitars and shoulderstraps  
under the hood of the

oil-burning discourse of lamplights  
frozen to honorariums on horses in traffic circles staring madly  
at passers buying unsightly memorabilia:

aquariums without fins,  
purchase untamed by Everest, unnamed winds in the slurred  
face of coherence dribbling its winter chin across capsules

of unsightly gelatin brandishing its purpose  
for the statements of the unyielding plurality. Chromosomes  
chant mercurial blather pent with flurry. Wishing  
for fish and pentium futures

bid sundials on the wave  
of the concourse. Frayed trials stray on course. Off the  
projected savings a bitter trajectory

breeds denial  
in the airspace of the afflicted. Handwritten tomes declare  
the moribund more abundant in their preservation

of the vacancies

that only the cross-town

traffic can utter

## Circling the Horizon

Coruscating the dentally premature  
gives tooth to acts of generic dissidence  
fluent in their distant entirety. In places where  
the squeamish scream their druidic intent  
the dissonance of invention flourishes:

less begun by the fathers the prairie seekers  
want horizons in their midst /

a circling of wagons  
trained toward the future's

circular ledge.

Where Hell in its meatless preambles  
drives mothballs to sample furs the cloth falls  
over naked pistons of the damned. Not even  
novocaine can help their turgid pleas, their  
concrete theories of prudent restoration; despite

the sheer force of its ambiguity. The preambles  
dismiss the naked pledge as.

Hortatory galvanization  
musters all in the call of its dreadful sweep

of pillars

## Country Life at Sea

1.

rural backroad benign  
the plural manifests its leaves  
trenchant smoke detectors climb  
in the distance

the vessels steam lumber in midriiffs  
autumnal harvest reaps its roosters  
claim delays to sustenance approved

softness humbling itself  
to deities bereft of culted rumors  
in relaying the aboriginal truth  
to multiple vectors

where insects conjugate satin verbs  
dens howl their cabalistic majesty  
coven bakes root in pinetar sex

2.

where opposites retract  
prehensile tethers amidst their tragic glow  
its branches shift more abundant  
pleasures of infant jest

inside the chests of barreled sailors  
insurgent shore leaves displeasured  
roadsides in the wake of the unspoken

amnesty attractive bargains to be sure of  
when no uncertainties know bounds  
or leaps to faith in cattle measured heaps  
dwindling with stargaze

the mighty weeps astounding crossed prairies of day

light in the sky pounding rare electrodes of transients  
foreign to the gluttonous heaps of wool & mollycoddle

3.

the sweep of praying mantises weeps its enchantment  
the influx of essence deflorescent is its weighty sleep  
whose existence replays the antic tonnage  
across apothecary fields of rustic intent  
where the indentured pray for treatment

in suites of fullness  
imbued with clippers  
autonomous sledge  
of cruelties bestowing

the tribune's edge  
rips open its gravel sea  
towing foremost streets  
casualties behind them

where quarries of the damned  
oscillate their fibrous tissue  
ants sing the yeast of algae

## Demolition Fedora

Transpire the lucubrating offset.  
The curmudgeons undertow their  
lugubrious lament. Instantaneous  
the flow of rivers

and content expressing  
its cement bulge in the navelry of orange.

Without its purview  
the scope of dopamine cannot  
discharge its aura, nor stir in it  
horrible contempt for the turn-

styled. Masses  
spur its awful genus. To the stylus

of fair played in its  
moribund vinyl stack, whose very blackening

asserts the tribe's  
striation as a statement of a sovereign nation

eating the heads  
of its guillotine dismembered in honor of the

Nor the equity  
its horses unchained where nectar plumb

leads its scary seed  
to breed in the moist crevice of the inanimate

chosen by the masters of decree  
in postulate entry, oozing pus in  
trees barren of paper. The rape  
was well accounted for,

the papers said  
behind the fonts of readers

dreading the hope  
of the many for they threw, their  
sentries run the pencil of orgasm,  
thin as slumber, naked as deluge,

or its messianic tint  
invidious in its dapple sway & ointment.

For the conjoined translucents  
panicking with flutes, loins & goat hooves

to bare their momentous downroll  
up hills where they top prophecy with acorns, declare

the militance of furriers  
abjurious to the naked forerunners

in their sharkened tint. The night  
before the ostentation stark in its  
rude appeal turns sanguine at  
the sun, instant

bides its time  
as distance of the cowering gray.

Where the hovels  
snatch the blue teeth of night to scratch  
at crucial sediments, ignite raw density.  
Intent in its sentiment: who to demolish

the catwalks of the towering shovel

## Eulooming

languid epistolary nuanced l'amour  
seeded beside the jerkwater sill  
betrays need with vertiginous wants

daunting in its pallor  
the subtle disorientation  
fugues its haunting memories

distilling the vapor of pastel

pentacular in its gravity  
memory its multiple birth

impaled on the pit of memory  
its thoughtful pith instilled

through traces of wanton magic

her lesson delayed its quickening lesion for the participle of its lingering  
frenzy all tips anointed with the tragic of sway foretold in forests of  
ancient enchantment secrets calling gold a misled alchemy weighted  
with her forbidden name falling cold upon death's ears weaving  
the worldly sabbaths of weir as the words of the wary foretold

breath quickening behind the thicket  
of sensory diminuendo its innuendo

common knowledge among the certified  
density of begotten lore

the raven's approach

delayed the bloodletting dialogue

of healing leeches soporific  
getting under kin

increasingly alabaster

Poe's prophesy

of fragrant skin

turned old

## Fetch a Calling Star

a gaseous transience has befallen  
the ascetic platitudes rent from  
audacity's multi-faceted scream

intransigent in the amorous flow  
the latitudes course the teeming wedge  
of mendacity's aesthetic

horses stream the river's crossing  
while the hedge traces its placid fortitude  
across remuneration's bathetic sea

where compensatory overtures  
masticate the many from the chew  
and the courses deliberate

their fumes laboriously intent  
upon pathetic displays of entry  
where forces recourse their doom

and switches rush the Moses bull  
masticating with matador's lambent  
dosage climbing the seaward

star gazing at the plummet  
rent from the face of the sundry sky  
its resources well deployed

each surface razing flames  
from the sameness meant to cloy  
the ploys from the steaming ledge

## Fire and Water

Filamental fire needles evergreen  
eats the millstone cannery  
tossing albatrosses causing  
photosynthesis among aluminum follicles  
of mass hysteria. Where wisteria tombs  
the Mongols horde rooms of purple. Hazes  
amaze the protons of their watchful  
neutrality. Plurality beckons reckoning  
purity, its allure fleeting sail oats.  
Doting on the albacore of happenstance  
the neutron eats inertia, heats  
triangular rescue missions.  
Tissues erupt with wine tentacles  
mentally imbued, a stew of pixels  
grown ticklish in the light. The sticklers  
sight demands cancellation. Its laughter  
peels layers of night off leather metals.  
Elemental desire hardens the void  
where annoyance trains supreme tracking  
backs of reverse to myriad pilgrims.  
Diverse reckonings beckon allure annoyed  
hoarding purple, they graze. Cattle and sheep  
sleep in the pit of nectarine diplomacy,  
their cordless umbilicals mumbling  
pecuniary concerns. The liniment turns  
the quest on a maze: where from go, we here.

## Going Hollywood at Home

The stench of pedicure & fingernail polish  
collages fetishes & mother's wishes  
to whom the dreary need apply  
scarlet legends of terra cotta in winter.

Hinterland starlets expire in terra cognita,  
wrenched from edifice to attrition. Warily  
they try the justice arbitrarily scaling their skin  
with instruments of skintight percussion.

The non-arrivals exude preclusion  
as a means of identification, oven-baked  
buck naked exhibitions on morning talk shows  
tearing at the blank screen's crevasse.

Moreso the fusion of silent musics  
withholding consent & taxing intent  
of spurious fashion. The attraction takes  
hold of cold water's first hot flashes,

their bold leaps notwithstanding  
the empty auditorium, the leeches  
of glory emanating persuasive dim  
innuendoes that pass for wit. Forward

the words march, meaning themselves  
into neon others dreaming passion's  
steam from vessels emptied of voice,  
their noise glowing coldly in the dark.

## Heavy Mettle

pyrite portmanteau  
ghouls fold glimmers  
swim to bottom's surface  
among the surfeit lies

true to formlessness  
despite ultimatum's criteria  
for trying rhapsodies

dyes pupae of purple  
sweaters aluminum crinkles  
winks its scaffold eye  
at butterflies cocooning

thistle embryos  
so goes the process  
recessive in its thinking

## Hoarse Latitudes

particles emotive lost to saws  
betray the cause of sassafras  
the jaws yield to their peculiar

currency among lost minds  
articles promote dead fields  
strewn with cost overruns

all projections its trajectory  
in sight offers new particles  
array the ruinous motive

toss the crawfish a tide  
the night directions bred  
horses proffer demoted

blades detonated aside  
injections offer the most  
profligate days ahead

of tight reins accosted  
inflections draw the wish  
of hush-filled coffers

## Home Entertainment

Artfully the breathing  
stops armchairs in their stream  
a delight

only the wicked can  
esteem.

Interiors do not gossip tapestries

where furniture abounds.

Central

to the integer

of place lies geometry as bed of concrete  
muscle to shore, then inland, a sequence  
of no germane order to the lawn in its  
personal configuration,

though the polyester servants  
master the inanimate in delusory  
fashions of control, the which breathe

numeric necessities

as summaries of a season forever remembered  
by doilies in their pain.

Wherever the couches end  
the plunge must remain severe & the arm ledge  
a terror to a still-laced domain

where furniture impounds

the polyester masters  
so numerous, in their fashion  
every delusory breath

a necessary integer

at

center

## Homeward Winds

smithies awash the candlestick's snore  
intrusive the more unwashed it gets elusive  
beset aside the full moon tide begets striding

manly indifference chugs its tugboat pipe  
going down for the yardage first its throws  
frame inference astride the lugs of brown

reclusive substance the integers of chance  
eat its crown grow exponents intentionally  
sweeping the rug under its fractious number

of udders cannot refill the utmost tank  
dillying anvils across the sea so dizzily  
spewing angoras of Catskill radiance

redundant with canine effortless its tail  
of abundance draining the sail fool blown  
in his own wind seeking reprobation

its homegrown subsidiaries despair  
the fluvial stadium of cost control  
lost to the current of air unknown

## **In Process**

prevaricate  
stretch limos in triplicate nylons  
the purple undoing

heroic aerobics shun  
the untamed one etches intricate  
pilings renew

ingots stamped margins  
their largess ensuing vipers  
variant of doing

form stretches  
intimate wheels in flux  
four arid etchings

set almost  
to mewing of crystalline molasses  
stretches true

sticklers along  
misconstrued pundits of the blue-blood  
masses heap

carob blessings  
turning form into contest reviewed  
harum-scarum

diplomats declaring  
cloisters of nunneries in snake's nests  
free of all

shame blaming  
those in process to baring the naked monologue  
under review

## **In Pursuit**

Gentle danger  
hawk the sky  
stalk leaves  
trail behind

walk deliberate  
futons trembling  
dissemble feet

save distance  
interest accrues  
while you face  
water Stall

flight's stumbling  
neutrons collect  
electric nuance

free the fleeting  
stew renew the seed's  
faintly rumble

## **In the Places of Nature**

swan down where  
neo-con bulbs hold their sway  
inordinate  
their staying power

triplicates diverse  
as influence bestowed where  
nuances  
unfold fraying tendrils

there but for  
the grace of playing fawns  
coordinates  
meet their vectors

insurgent their dance  
primitive praying rites delayed  
autumnal  
stayed to cower

defacing the visage  
betraying the vengeance of rain  
duplicitous  
powers distant traces

## Issues of Theme

banshee wails trumpet  
the weevil's evil synchronicity  
with Hamlet's revenge

its field of non-sensory picking  
vibrates against fields of rudder  
wooden in their alacrity

plots  
as the wheel of color  
turns

purple with midnight nectar  
ocarinas divulge the fence howls of cats

lost oils emerge  
knots channeled through the dyes  
enclothing indigo night

its lavender of black  
safe in the sudden pluck of sky  
from cloud on down

nimble fingers  
snatch color, snatch soul  
from the berries of gin

## Moon Tide

Empty the wind  
seeds. The down below  
solicits all blue tidings

wherein those derided call their know / its sequence  
deny the factor of implicit shame. Its victory seeding

illicit temptation  
to and fro elicits the ball  
bounce / added to the yard

indicate of same yet never in its stead.

Force, its true equivalent,  
blindly leads its swaggered might  
blithe to the spirit's wiggling

toe, disregards  
its stately purpose.  
As declared

among the rhetoric of the dead

the harrow must try  
all vividness aside  
to wheel its spectral tray

to the south. The locus demands spraying, irately  
proposing its truisms aside, where neatly the transposed

follow  
the warming trends allowed out of season  
-s allayed

by the shortage of prophecy.

Allow the cyclical sequence its  
beginning, its myth of continuity disposed  
on the reefs of shallow waters

corals snake. Its purpose  
hoarded among natives  
in their foreign lands

seeks neither fortitude

nor certainty in the allowance

of forbearing  
horse rides concurrent with the dappling  
moon mares

holding captive the midnight sky

## On Alienation

the occlusion of dawn's sediment  
transports the weary wind to a diaspora unknown  
to those of its own kind

foreign to the other's touch  
alien to the sense of weather

akin to igneous recluses  
the abstruse cabal elicits the fall  
of donors grown on soil

filtered through photosynthetic modalities  
prototypes for oaths against the sun

& its rising spears  
cumulonimbus loincloths  
the warrior's shield

blue colors the terror within

## One Steppe at a Time

1.

over the flow the ottoman wails  
the injustice of armchair cossacks

steppes across the plane

of knowing

the juncture shredded below  
the hassocks of the threadbare  
dare to tread

their ingrained depth

showing righteous dread

of hubcaps in the hardwood fist  
of right-wristed rumors left to the sinister  
instead of the mightily before them

or behind

the closet shelves its declarations of interest  
in favor of intestate principal

bestowing amazing lace

on the doilies of the disenchanting

2.

the automanics below disdain  
the Siberian trolley's arctic flowering

their towering vessels over-slung

with ancient curricula

disjunctures breed octuplets of discontent  
meant strictly as dodecaphonic polyphony  
angling cassocks against

the orthodox waging

aging in their distance

way before the wooden frontage  
stakes draculian effect for the right  
to deface its naked claim against

the front

of hickory reparations tailored  
to dickering principle

remiss in its dutiful transience

past the brooding merchants chanting

3.

dolor has its concrete center here  
fiscal in its duodecimal splendor of austerity

gaping chairs in equatorial

tundra in the wake of nomads

spouting sheep the cold sleep rumors  
its free delivery to the isolation  
of victims

lurid in their tenacity's

fervid garden

where hardened hucksters soil  
the primrose lava with ambidextrous  
duties appointed

with caribou feathers

protection against the birdseed  
of inclement forecast

weathered against

the mammoths breaking moody through their thaw

## Opposing Seats at the Old Cedar

The young mark fresh from dream  
chants current fashion against tired poets

opposes  
the weary modernistic yoke:  
elementary stanza

rhythm  
verse  
rhyme.

Late poets, worn out  
from middle school distinction, reflect  
against the new-fashioned young:

high  
school  
stress.

Modern young adults  
in college throb new-sprung animal seminary:

poets against pulsation.

Neoteric form  
peculiar to poets  
versus cadence:

additional call,  
fresh vibration...

holler about  
opposing tattoos.

The current mantra:  
modernistic carols, minstrels  
against measure's supplementary sing.

The bandwagon starts at muse.  
Further numbers fasten persuasion,

beginning with troubadour

fronting tempo

extra couplet characteristic

of possession's poignant pulse.

The original harness,  
an inclination peculiar to authors,  
passionately stresses  
disparate buckle marks outside of cogitation.

Notwithstanding accentuation,  
the unseasoned hayseed's appearance  
starts at dream, withstands the bluster

of a dissimilar young character

peculiar to street singers:

the Anterior Sentinel

## Palabras

palaver forever  
the end of widows peaking  
across endless amplitudes  
longitudinal in their sympathetic  
displays a way, from windows  
eking out gritty triplicates.  
In feathered drawers filled  
with boas

constrict the lessons  
of lesions unlearned  
paper. Scraping squeaks  
its metallic tint  
leaking over generic  
bubbles.

Or, as  
the colloquia say:  
idiomatic staying power  
sways hulas in the wheeze  
of wedlock's oars. Deep  
as the dread keeps, solarity  
unlocks replete squalls  
in restaurants of the thinking:

a cunning

of brutal specificity

## Prophecies of Matters Past

Leaner transplants accrue  
the immortal dust, its foliage meaner  
than lances.

That boil the artifact of presence  
ensues, a participle in the. Losing  
its essence to graying pontificators

the oracle spreads  
the instance of its meaning  
to other.

Incidents into intent  
of vice into versus  
the animal plots its

flow pagewise, desiccating arrows  
flush with context, devoid of cement.  
The necessary intrusions belie

underneath its salted web  
mere tonnage. Mortified mummies gasp  
their infants

grasp maternal rage, eternal  
verities stricken with oxide plumes.  
A fuming dissonance depletes

its range.  
Smothers its berth with carriages  
of Miss Demeanor

and her mannered few,  
the vagaries of insouciance  
abetted by razor clams.

Nor can the empty assuage their relief  
among those stricken with intent  
(the form that follows its looming

apodictic. Along the sainted path  
to scented apocrypha the fumes of lost incentive  
gain. Words to describe their histories

forward in the name of trajectory  
assaulted suede. Those delayed  
responded with fits of glossolalia

incorporated  
into charters of the vast.  
Undertaking

coffins as effort,  
the fluent respond  
with life or death

tangents. Their plangent plumes  
feather the gloom in their midst  
with olives twisted to dickens

charmed with feats unfold-  
ed in the innards of the dead  
merchants of venison

rife with miscellaneous allusion  
a protrusion into the foregone  
mysteries

of

conclusion

## Rocky Ground

The liquid outbursts  
of the unconfrosted igneous  
affront public sediment

layered its obsequious  
strands arrest the seat of disquiet  
amid lava's ubiquitous flow

belying its turbid intent  
to ossify the slow sentiment  
still flowing inside

bestowing juncture  
on rafts of petrified fossils  
seeking a phylum

from the octagonal mist  
rocking ashen feats of closure  
across the orange sky

## **Route 44 West**

The Cantonese of Avon  
bark inscrutably white.  
Bagels hamper steadfast  
guardrails. Trains ensue  
trans(limits of)gression,  
expression's black skin  
in Latin. Pigs, all of them.  
Claim the stop. Pop the  
summer's picnics. Illicit  
sexless Stepford Wives  
await dairy farms explicit  
in their ambivalence.  
Exquisite in their  
equivalence the rains bare  
the burden of crossing.

## Sargasso in C

fiscal endorphins leap  
the luminary's gradient  
enamored

of cockle's muscles

in the dark

the savage flies unbrowned  
in its incessant grilling its steam  
purported for the mammals  
of the Western Ledge

no purpose unfilled  
proposes roses in hunches  
uncloseted

delight roars its clamor

in protest

water ripples & churns  
its idle waves a dream recumbent  
on bellies of sawgrass  
turning tidal at the tangent

guiding the path  
outside itself the ruins of Atlantis  
pivot on the mollusk

memory conceals the opus

in the mist

the waters feel calcified pain  
draining its ambitious personifications  
on the moss of camels abetting  
the primal need for stasis

wild things grow  
acclaimed in the longitudinal  
myth deriding

amplified silence underscores

its dragnet of fish

## Sunday Ware

frayed cuffs chalk the cote melange  
its nether spice weathered in the lain  
niceties of sea tracks the stalkers heft  
under moons bereft of walk rough  
legends of cursive pageantry

the glitter bestows its presence  
seeds the encumbered frown  
betrayed to the fixity of its own  
vexation

the vain where admirals bare their tread

slate becomes its shadowed presence  
walks the girth of waists unbound  
by tremors in the earthen night  
nor sound of cloven birth

enough to spread its gaunt-  
let treasure found the galleon  
haunted among the fossils  
of fluorescence

detailing  
the travesty that derails its majesty

through ciphers of tragic wants

there the pain of initiative waits  
to punish the travails of nomads  
dead inn there

wake the subtleties of tirade  
instead

unfailing

in its endless dread of narrative

bed or breakfast in its nuisance

or flow beyond the  
needs rippling the water  
with terse in chased

error its hot pursuit

the chair beguiles the tragic

its nuance unrequited

the gray suit of terror

once again meets with the hunger hurried

to best

another airy station in position  
the diatribe of hunger ensues the plaintiff  
measured in reactive bounds untethered stinting  
emotion flourishes under shaded plots of basil nourishes  
the trickery of the unencumbered seed laid to rest at the latest ruin

no sequence more for any torn  
dry goods elaborate the frame  
incipient fluidity proffers

netting another with its cache  
afraid to walk the coat or flange  
needy foot pedals of their music

remote the challenge of its offing

silent in umbral magic its timbral tragic hue

the tufts that greet him under strange gray

## Techno Wash

loquacious lint  
balls dry automatic cotton  
technocrats ensure

ribald hosts forgotten  
chances clench the unsure  
cinch with calls

of pure impact  
debasing wet silk tracing  
its satin string

alluring voice  
springing the lurid dance  
of triplicate matter

into the turgid grasp  
of strangled metamorphoses  
turbid in their demented

technologies of the weary  
forgotten in the languor of opium  
dons the bleary spring

rains falling over raw  
tufts of data metempsychosing  
inside the dryer's spin

## Thanksgiving with Frankie Laine

Is tan bull  
in constant  
in opal

turkey lurks

if con stanton  
no pal then its  
tambour

gets the works

instant pull  
of constant ennoble  
then ids

stand full  
of constantine  
opiates

stem pull  
of cons standing  
noble

turkey quirks

## The Archaeology of the Present

1.

Stark raving sane  
the words inflame the vestibule.

Fools of inner light  
curse the autumn wind and rain

remain lucid through  
all crimes as rescinded as portals

to those craving  
the wisdom of purple madness.

2.

The flies disincline the tertiary of substance,  
a remonstrance not soon forgotten. Its chastening  
revokes the pledge

of foregone eras  
saving green stamps of post-mortem passage.

To assuage the threat of  
unseamly demeanor cloth sews its vesicle shut-

down at the plant. The crisis  
of herbal necessity grows  
tales of naked haberdashery

in hunters of primordial lassitude.  
Verbal precocity rises, its stance  
a thoughtful grow among the neon

ferns. Days glow and ties die,  
the climate insubstantiates the inveterate  
of their clothing

a strip mauling  
its discounted patrons in the terminal.

3.

Collages juxtapose  
the archaeology of the present  
ruin  
its nascent trajectory spacing time.

Ruin  
embraces what colleges oppose:

the fossils grew in the caustic night  
portends  
acidic their constituencies a gloom  
portends  
visions of arid tautology in its arc  
juxtaposes collage

port

ends

ruin

4.

The metaphysics of duct tape

denote the unassailability

of fluidity's flossed virtue.

Where, with all, not with standing  
its per, mutations deride the flux  
alone. The stone, when seated  
fails to rise promptly at beckon's call.

The fall of electricians from grace

braces its availability

on triggers haired from horses lost

5.

Sequence bestows the measured call  
with trade-offs from jackknife fecundity.  
The errant nights moon the sun. In this  
respect their nuance unfolds crystal

waters unfurled their flagging vapors  
ingesting pedicures free of acrimonial  
substance. One foot washes an other.  
Disclosures of unity reveal separate

lotions. The treasured fall will grow  
jaded within its jarring dissonance,  
or magic will raid tragic maypoles,  
diminishing their faded sustenance

as trinkets wrinkle and sag. Distance  
patrols the intimate. The inanimate toss  
their bulge. Raided animus profligate  
indulges its pre-carcinogenic disarray.

6.

Sharks pave inane  
frames of bloody ventricles with saw teeth.

Collages tame fools  
whose juxtaposing tentacles deny their claim.

Tracing lines shape  
visions of the blind with tinted glasses.

Staving pain saves  
portaled masses from the weight of decision.

## **The Downs of Feathered Joy**

dance their scapular shells  
tidy with uncombed nails and nutrients  
saturated marble fat heaps its globes

tethers nails concurrent shut  
rope at the nether ends of coral  
sputter through oral storms of hiss

dismissed schools of darkness  
huddle amid weathered tentacles  
skeptics breed their ruination

selves of others swell humble  
diversions of inverted pride  
divergent on all contractual terms

of endearment while cannibals  
feed on vegetable omelets no egg  
remains intact in its intractable

essence which came first  
shall also come last as hinges  
ductile on the circumspect

aboriginal muster of the opiate  
indeeding tactile approvals of the  
circus spectral in its aim

## **The Hard-Shell Approach**

the carapace of fruition  
knows the seed of wanting  
its gauntlet run to nylon

ampersand molecules spit neon  
convergent amber in the dusk  
smug in its tawdry thrill

stocking oscillations  
the bunkers declare their visibility  
orchid on the half-shell

stealing their hard-sell hunkers  
the casualties of ossified bawds  
instill the favor of centipedes

husking free the vapors of trust  
they exceed no unknown bounds  
to leap their expert lineage

or tall buildings with single  
crustaceans lounging by the pool  
or stream of thought

tinkered with a dam  
of crescents rendered obsolete  
by moons under pistachio

## The Landlocked at Sea

The igneous trigger of lava floes  
fizzles the sloe gin with its number.  
Inconsequential frigates boom and sizzle,  
glow. Descends the night.

Pits of darkness overall heed slumber  
its depth of ruin healing standard tunes  
of their metrical splitting. A midriff

of continental stasis appends the setting  
to weddings of gaseous fusion

elemental in the candid secret  
of pineal flux. The row progresses slowly

to rumble static pavements of yellowed brick.  
The foresight of tomatoes continues unabated,  
the magic of its tricks snickers.

Gratuitous threats.  
Discharge the tumble seating there.

Engorge the spirit dismal in its flux,  
in the suction of prism light:

the consequence of numbered schisms  
exulting in the netting gain no prophet sees

but grossly. After its taxing dividends  
the fortunate squander their jigger of rocks.  
In their quivers the bows denote: tension  
grows. Slow delight:

ensembles of digital fortitude caress  
the wilderness of discount pottery

and clams:

the hard sell of their half-shell approach,  
the trickery of the open face

spams networks of indecision  
with forks stalking the multitudes  
talking in tongues

with their mouths full. The crudity of oil  
slippery in its deceit

fouls the quandary  
of lewd butchers sweating in the shoreline

jungle of furs. Tripping over sedimentary masts  
of centuries past their lapidary futures cannot hold  
the tortures of the insane. The will stirs triggers  
in the sharks above the cistern chapel.

Where Atlantis seeds its holy fluid  
the desert awaits its stark menu.

## The Last Word

admirable frictions peruse  
the truth endlessly seeking interdiction

a sequence of what was that ensues

present grows tense  
in the grammar of physiognomy

its lexicon demure  
&  
passive

in confrontation with  
weakening desperate equivalents

sense denies its other

trial seeks its own  
jury among the self-serving summons

of judges

engaged in massive  
deliberations of accidental

trysts enticing laundromats

voyeurs dicing squid  
on tables at the backs of railroad cars

the clack begets its sow

amid the franchise  
the disenfranchised grow antic

with semantic concerns

the frantic darts of  
ignominy dominate the frenzy

of the unmeaning

## The Mollusk Follicle

Crying bells await the caller  
who hurries his name in dandruff  
waking. Field of orange smut  
away from mollusk invention  
intent on its propensity, starting,  
senses a bird bent on its pray  
this autumn day where fairs linger  
and turnstiles gray.

In the silence of the loudmouth  
only the dollop can complain.

Shells abound hating balls  
found wallowing. In distant hairs  
of field each waking to steam  
the misanthrope's wet intention  
of dream, to be misread like texts  
of the druid telegraph. The punch  
dines on fast faces lasting beyond  
the call, all this for the sake.

In the dolor of dreams  
surely a mountain must contain

burdens. Tether most weathering  
get here to place instead the leather  
of thought's first buckle.  
Insistent on the truth of liniment  
cosmically aligned as through each  
and each signs reach inclines  
to knuckle. Under water dreaming  
the sun's first beam of hair atones for  
staring at its porcelain root

where the slalom of screams  
devours its heart with a plantain

## The Ova of Blue Necessity

Imbroglia the chicken hatches  
broil the surmising slug coiling its lugubrious intent  
cementing the truisms of fiction  
where hatchers dare

their spurious spawn.

Beware the sagacious,  
their treasures mute. Their pleasures,  
invidious as they seem,  
denote the enmity of tangents

in fury drawn, or content.

Their sentiment broods at junctures of the bowel  
precipitate in their waste. In their case, to reciprocate  
the enemies, transients accrue.

Statements of purple dread,  
chaste as nicotine berated, for its salmon glow  
the ashes below. The tundra multiply

slow as ice in rapid transit:  
the glacial epoxy. Dilapidated  
wan tons stew, grow nicely

where chamber pots summon  
the humbled among us. There they flow  
their thickening brew to

whomever their intent.

A secret yield: the glottis  
shields its myriad silence with unwieldy

truisms. Jihads for the ambient  
schisms wield delirious

prawns protesting

the intransigent fury of cement, its trenchant discontent  
a matter fixed in form of passing comment. The latter  
an unlikely place to climb

over matters under review,  
the ova of blue necessity's neon blink  
erasing the trace of ruined embryonics.

In muting their anticipation  
the farragoes of beaten retreat  
seek solace in the libraries

of the dead. Their harrowing  
farrow of dread intangibles stares, intent  
with coils of transmitting

data unremitting

in its propensity for jugular  
containers drawing blood of regents unborn,  
an immensity committed against  
the fertile eggs

quietly emitting

intangible futures

to their distrust

## The Poets on Super Bowl Sunday

Invidious  
the tentacles of fallacy chatting in the vestibule

exhibiting pinkies upthrust with purple disregard.  
Myth discards the oval trenchant with hammers.  
What matters with cards is the slope of mirrors,

the stammer notwithstanding its crux,  
assiduous

in the rain the chard swims, vegetable hope  
canards its ruin. Yet wrenches demand fixity,  
aplomb the rune of our ledge, a tomb dies

rigorous  
in the wake of prohibiting deities

vigorous in their flux. The next successor  
vibrant with the seed of amoebic discourse  
disguises resourcefulness with clamor

insidious as the steak choking the smoke alarm.

## The Political Is the Personal

Fried Chernobyl chicken soup  
tears alchemy behind the eyes. Automobiles  
beget the gratuitous attacks of mirrors  
projecting fearful reflections of three-mile interiors.

Wastelands of words and wantnot  
snowshoe tracks wheel across the treaded steppes  
of tie-dyed years to attack the myriad foregoners

weeping their invasion. In the mist  
coastal waterways demand transfusions  
of sand. Their atmospheric midst sheds

no daylight.

The gray sun laughs my last illusion  
past confusion returns the present

The tundra soup of the turgid soul  
melts fingers, melts minds, melts Reubens  
by the hand, smelts iron ore sanity.

Interior acid brightens autumnal folly  
leaves fall ashen, perennial arctic shade  
over the shredded vanity of Pittsburgh.

When calamity hits  
land war mines one's Russian ego  
begins its baking powder  
calumny a recipe

for government shortages.

Encouraging fossils need apply.  
Reckless danger meant sending winds to caution  
the petrification process of faulty perimeters:

radio activist alarm clocks march  
intently off borders of Dali paintings.

Flat Earth theory drips the interior's cutting edge.



## **The Sacrificial Lam**

wanted posters want  
nothing over exposure  
to blue clerks

nor its trajectory  
seeking missile-to-heat surfaces  
whatever depths may reveal

unwanted toasters post  
frayed warnings in black trouser cuffs  
against boxing ears

wary their varied pursuits  
pinstriped with largess and vermicelli  
as they always do

who should haunt  
mirrorless reflections dissecting  
the other's elf

holiday vampires  
ambient as spiral scare chases  
mad hatters of blood

## The Syntax of Futures Tense

Choruses of lateral cries Suez  
accordingly. The disposition rises  
batter a broken record tracing  
vinyl histories redux. The influx  
of surgical memories posits  
deflorescence among its

mysteries of humors to chance a position erasing  
tumors defacing histories of rumored surgical staples  
of life among

Elephantine mollusks ordain  
the postulates of the mummified  
few. If any. The moreso retracts

didactically the flatter of the two,  
humors the subcutaneous intent inherent in the unwilling  
whose test their fingers

To disdain the limits of lingering content  
adrift in empty vesicles seminal in their  
drain. A fluidity that masks the task of the

Process itself begets the many of the few  
so large in number as to prevent the continuity of discord  
and its related

Harmonies clash. The trash of sound  
smashing particles adrift in the sea  
of meaning, the rift uplifting the leaning

tide shifts. Inside the salt swell  
a Morton's umbrella continues

to smell detergent muffles ruffling  
the torrid green, its turgid flow  
boring the earth's core

to bovine slumber it goes, kneading modules of infinite plastic  
elated with elastic that chews the very fat plating its nodules.  
Recording its

rash of innocence through dissonance  
the assonance passes its mustard to myths  
of near meaning. The word invents.

Its spleen. Paces its venom  
with a cobra's neck among the coral  
snakes abound across a/the

lawn tennis courts. The mission aborts.  
The captain tugs his boat. Attrition cuts  
short tradition. Long before the after

### The Third Ultimatum

Interlocutory degrees heat rooms made for sweeping  
meat's revenge from the obfuscation of clarity.  
Only the needless unfortunate show charity known  
for its leeway and panty-hose. To free the rampant  
of highways rage stages roads replete with coaches  
and wells pennies wish for Fargo at bottom sand.  
It's a dollar hill to climb on, solid footing  
of summer ice---a trap perhaps to those above  
the butchery. Its legion speaks to all concerned  
such as the remnants of the silo hills much adored  
by the frenzied wrenches entrenched in sidelong tombs  
of terminal hassle germinate speed rings cylinders  
pistons whistle protons thistle electrons eat the  
very heart of plumbing fixtures, gestures of vanity

while rotors rite the roots of dismay affirmed  
contumely praises obsolescence in its own name  
never to be repeated. Its retreat an advance  
on the chance treated as mettle scores settle  
stores advance consuming propaganda cows papal bull  
grand pastures full of concrete hand thicken  
in the breach. Gestures preach sanity among the unforgiven  
ingots cradle hardscrabble telephone jacks babbling  
electronic cattle over clothespins laundry ropes  
of electric fences prodding words plod the ramp  
make twist and turns of sensory deprivation  
in think tanks of the misbegotten,  
mooning the misconstrued with acts of public recency.  
What four the weight? Who will carrion the freight  
of calamity Jainists seeking the one true gear  
among the four-in-the-floor of everyday nuance?

A natural transition to be sure,  
full stockyards calling spin-dry weather remains.  
To be scene the rubble bubbles to the rain  
its vamp an endless variant doubling its space  
scores in haste of chaste remnants across the field  
just in case the music of precautionary eight

measures bar doors against the lumberjacks  
invasion of the decidedly indecisive raging  
derisive jumbles jumping off the syntactical ledge  
into slay of grapefruit. Sally forth, they treasure  
galleries of sonic utensils cusping the want-nots  
whose sculleries brace the incipient evasion  
with tactile embassies lowing at manure's invidious  
plop, each drop a sacred moment in citric history,  
sonic dystopias raging silent harmonies against  
the date of an upright sty. How else to measure  
their good fortune of button-down innuendo?

As others wish at water's bottom, so may  
the rays string guilts strich by stitch against the weary  
barely aware of the scary possibilities  
their unconsciousness implodes, the mother lode of all  
culinary products notwithstanding the lust of the many  
for the wary pew. Insurgent rivers amass the flame,  
diverge as same, divulge the crass differential  
of the axis in secret fluids of worship  
rite below the others poking through their wells.

Interlocking sweeps degrees made for rooming  
to saintly bottoms wet with dessert. Cream  
dreaming supplies protean gerbils savagery's last  
protein screams serenity's ultimate secret: the diet  
of post-histrionic surfaces angling sly traces  
of nicotine, earth as a dangling eye races  
against the nuts of bolting Upanishads.

## **The Unquestioned Answer**

have you ever

if so

then

if not

have you never

if when

or not

ask why the why cares

## Tide Untimed

Effluvial in their imprecocity  
waves heighten the censor's sartorial flux.  
The crux of the martyr  
transforms its arterial lightning  
to juxtapose the senseless  
with all due intensity.

The fever eclipses sons,  
daughters leave their brood  
of sullen photos on the back porch,  
family portraits  
of the Laws of Physics.

Trains mute insensate glory  
in refrain. The nectar breeds its hold.  
The lute sings cold electric suns below the sky.  
Wonderment beholds  
the opposed intent, upholds dissident persuasions  
The influx of incident brightens.  
Bold staves of silence  
creed the rector's arterial ducts.

Its sartor regards us  
as heightening cholesterol  
with numinous magic at the sight  
of prophetic's bulge.  
The sentence divulges the other,  
presumes its disregard and cards it at the door.  
The brother stands at the ready photo op  
inaugurates its pledge.

Bravely the catechism erupts  
perspicacious in its hectored ruin  
while squandered nations abut their heads  
issuing disclaimers  
of all subsequent knowledge.  
Foregone delusions irrateded

the hooded sentinels withhold their thrust  
against pencilled flayers intent.  
The glossolalia of graphite  
declaims its songs against the sky  
where sentiments have no intrusions  
but sediment's aggressive layering.

## Unfounding Rumors

clandestine murmurs augment the seal  
of blood the stake whose uptakes resound  
farflung the moment of addendum's truth  
surrounding the tortured heal of wounding

redounds with utmost fervor  
the myriad glisten of the lake  
sounding the bottom's air

intensifies the rippling intent  
of mussels standing in the breach of epaulets  
configured with luminary's

disdain rustling coattails

in the red heart of NO EXIT signs

a passion only upstarts command

astride the heat of the paddling liver  
the rakes berate the wound of insolence  
insatiable in their hunger for the stable  
ozone whose sound sings river's bed  
while dreadlocks coil the purpose

for giving vapor bounds  
under listening treasures the list  
surrounds the flat key

the moment rebounds  
to stretch the wretched film of elasticity  
its instant measure

airs red intentions with all due dismay

to reveal the flapcoat's rarified absence  
today with absinthe clocks

the rock unfolds its heel

walls feel its closing pressure

emboldening dead inventions

## Urban Dawns

Radio alarm clocks ring  
the entire city. Entities arise,  
birds cry truculent drivers.  
Reverse pieties endure perverse  
coagulations of a nation in turned moil.

Oil sings ballads. String saves  
yarns from boring well. To cling  
raves bring run to magnets distract  
attraction's finest momentum.  
Sting love's inert body with hasty

wishes paste waste devoid of sound  
geometry. Startlings die in ale,  
trails of ancient descent bent dry.  
Their stinging flies duped fins again  
whenever the mass of flailed failings

try yet again to bring.

## Weekends at the Lab

penumbral Sundays unspent  
the intuition of inertia's costly means  
energy budgets

for the dissipation

of caterpillars

gardens unreached tend  
toward the sabbatical especially  
interfacing

with the animation

the will withheld

august emissaries protest  
the assumption that all things being  
equals a sun

stationed among cartoons

figures fill the accord

plants with animal mix  
genetic engineering breeds its grain  
intellect surfaces

its polyurethane trellis

still in its shadowed yield

## Widening the Gyros

never the twain  
shall mark the meat  
butchery  
is its foregone sweep

racing against steak  
the plummet cries

its pained shark  
sweet to the touch  
so much so that  
the sty may live

unherald its coming  
tuesday's armaggedon

weep for the massive  
who know no better  
or share the gambol

## Yet Another

this time the line  
shrapnel the time's effluvia  
in porcine haste

no flavor to extract  
distraction's comely bid  
or center its off

limes leaves its pine  
sent to the nearest customer  
off the cusp

love greets its trilogy  
with mirrored reflections  
seeking same-

ness of difference  
in secrets bulging divulgence  
knickers thighs

convenient lies  
telling truth directions  
of repetition

## Outmoded Surrealistic Structure No. 1

'twas the night before Artaud  
& all through the cat's lumbago  
hotspur jackals evinced their semen  
in vats of germinal concern

in her apocryphal tower Nadja weeps  
*por nada en espanol*

navel juxtapositions eat fish  
over the broken bred of Aragont poets  
trifling with the truffles in their  
fists posing over notes to be penned  
in the cages on the backs of manuscript pages

Nadja weeps towers of *nada*  
in her apocryphal *espanol*, *por* her

secretions delete all grief  
numbered sequentially for their ruin  
intrepid integers of formalistic pursuits  
retread their horrible entities  
raise the dead with automatic

*weeps en espanol por nada*  
in her tower of apocryphal Nadja

over deletions intrinsic to bleeding  
watches the Dali she cradles in her  
melting watches a maternity of tabloid  
pursuit consistent with the manifestoes  
of Mayan glyphs riffing cliff-held artifacts

*por nada en Nadja's espanol*  
her apocrypha weeps in tower

## Outmoded Surrealistic Structure No. 2

It all began in Ernst  
when Dali Maximized Venus  
in her breast drawer closet  
or so Antoine are told

no man can expect head  
from a Venus without one

limbic rage pursues its equivalent absence  
in the lumbar regions where Pluto folds way  
among the dungeons of the languid  
and their primary interceptors

skepticism breeds its own content  
in the guise of form

exhorted on a boys night out  
gawking down topless runways  
featuring exotic plantains to go  
bananas over light

strobing the play of darkness  
the sculptress needs her sew

to darken the impenetrable delay  
with facile nurturing of mothers' hooves  
the stag parties its anticipation  
ramming delayed gratification

its ramifications self-serving  
the undeserving ramparts

leaps the turbaned sky  
its crescent arc demands  
restitution for prostitution  
of past justices milking

in the bark tower  
of the savage noman

### **Outmoded Surrealistic Structure No. 3**

Nepenthe the curmudgeon calls  
bricks his backyard sticks prunes  
into the tithes of asphalt

adventures of falling dentures  
need not apply to all the carping winners  
of atrophy gold on the white-haired

disco chest pursuing dudgeons  
friskily betraying the fiscally fit  
laying their investitures on the side

a privilege of orifice undaunted  
by the bludgeon of oral monikers  
physical in their nominative cases

of beer for picnics of plastic mustaches  
cheering their own exhibit of their un-  
conscious mastery of conquests

driven by trophy statues without arms  
to keep abreast of while leering at  
the fields leaping over their sheep

## Sonnet

the technocracy of uproarious glissando  
perpetrates stories of glorious bliss and though  
the missing protest perpetuates the ancient stories  
through boring reckonings twist its fate

delight among the measured  
knows no pleased bounds of distention  
speaking forensically of course  
treasure demands its right to salvage

hulls wreck no glories nor blow gales  
creaking masts intrinsically stale bread below  
the hold of untold ballast seeks dimensions  
beyond electrodes of distant enemies

bold crackles assert invidious silence  
intent with tracks of insidious measure



## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Vernon Frazer received his B.A. in English from the University of Connecticut. He has studied creative writing with Rex Warner, James Scully, and Brendan Galvin, string bass with Bertram Turetzky and music theory with Ran Blake.

Frazer's poetry and fiction have appeared in numerous magazines, as well as in book form. His non-fiction has appeared in *Poets & Writers*, the *Hartford Advocate* and the *Hartford Courant*, *Batteries Not Included*, *Coda*, *Cadence* and *Jazz Hot*.

A part-time bassist, Frazer fused poetry with music from 1988 to 1994 with the Maynard G. Krebs Memorial Ensemble, the Vernon Frazer Poetry Band and the Vernon Frazer-Thomas Chapin Duo. In addition to releasing three recordings, Frazer's poetry-music combos performed at the Nuyorican Poets Café and the Knitting Factory, as well as numerous other venues throughout the northeastern United States. In 1994, saxophonist Thomas Chapin commissioned "Put Your Quarter In and Watch the Chicken Dance" for his *Menagerie Dreams* CD. The piece later appeared on *THE JAZZ VOICE*, a CD compilation of vocalists and poets co-sponsored by the Knitting Factory and the *Village Voice*.

Frazer lives in East Hartford, Connecticut with his wife, Elaine Kass.



## ARTISTS STATEMENT

Throughout my writing I've explored the relationship between literature and music, particularly contemporary jazz in its most innovative forms.

If improvisation, the primary tool of jazz musicians, enables me to maintain a sense of freshness while I'm writing, revision allows me to smooth the rough edges inherent in improvisation while retaining a sense of spontaneity in the work.

My attempt to understand the free improvisation of Ornette Coleman, Cecil Taylor and many other noteworthy practitioners persuaded me that their idiom was, in a sense, as much a "literary" form as a musical form. The metric and harmonic freedom of free jazz matched the flow of free verse more than it did the structure of standard tunes, the basis of most modern jazz. My fusion of poetry with music rested on this understanding; I tailored the bass lines that guided the movement of the instrumentalist's improvisations to the poetic text. In effect, I applied the harmolodic theories of Ornette Coleman to the fusion of free verse and free improvisation.

*Demolition Fedora* explores poetry as a form of free improvisation, using sound and syntax in ways that defy conventional meaning, and the computer as an "instrument," much as the typewriter was for Charles Olson. The improvisational aspect of literary composition (and necessary revisions) involves fracturing conventional meaning with words that jar the reader/listener's ear toward a different perception. Sound takes precedence over sense.

Removing the poem's traditional intent to "mean" enhances its ability to "be," i.e., a perception in process open to the reader's interpretation, although I doubt that Archibald MacLeish would agree.

