
POETRY | FALL 2017

Bruits

By Martin Seneviratne

Give me a glabellar tap
she said to the drummer
and a one two gallop beat
lub dub, lub dub
but more syncopated
it's a blues club
lub ba dub dub
smooth but calculated
regular except for the occasional ectopic
and then the strings arrive
vesicular
floating gently over the surface
and the polyphonic harmonic
trumpet wheezing
in the mid zone
just hear the moan
of the singer
a turbulent vibrato
bluesy incantado swinger
as the cymbals click
mechanically open shut
slick pacemakers
perched above the tympanic drums
radiating through the airwaves
with their Cheyne Stokes crescendos
a symphony in systole!
The glasses in the audience tinkle
lashings of high-pitched laughter and
crepitations of conversation
that couldn't wait for after
fine, sophisticated types
and coarse ones too
intermingled at the bases of the room
murmuring between themselves
"This is just noise", barked one
regurgitating his drink back into its vessel

But the music was everywhere

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