

# **Ephemeral = Permanence**

**Ravi Shankar and Lena Kallergi**

Each reading of your palm a different road  
verging from soil and forking into possibilities  
in a wild and foreign ocean  
no vaster than the line it makes with the sky  
changing with touch  
to resemble a soap bubble's rim—  
how it trails, surfaces illusion,  
peppers translucence with lids  
of water underneath the skin  
layered with centuries of silt and smelt—  
sea of the past, rivers of tomorrow  
branch backwards in tributaries that  
cannot be named and will not stay.  
I know no secret that won't sail away  
so come with me, where  
no knot not nautical in nature  
binds us like twisting sheets to a cleat.