

Definitions and Assignments

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Sculpture was memory.
Desire was observation.
History was an almanac.
Music was a screen.
It all made perfect sense to me at the time.

What is poetry? a medical student asked.

The first assignment was tropes,
although according to Aristotle
the art of metaphor cannot be taught.
Second assignment: Q and A.
Third assignment: laws of life and death.
Fourth assignment: tell a story.
Fifth assignment: speak as from the edge.
Apostrophizing whom?

Then out into the April evening
from the subterranean seminar room.