

Six Shorts



Klezmer on Royal Rooster, Yossi Stern, mid-20th C

On Lorin Sklamberg
Klezmer Vocalist

His voice, the shape of an Acacia tree
Delineated in an oud's rosette,
Maintains us with the steadiness that we
Expect of Dad & God, but never get.

I Rage

My angers grow as specific
As the bodies of the young,
Even as my own body grows

Indistinct as platitude.

Because They Can

A human life's an order of events.
Most are terrifying because
They cannot be anticipated;
The rest, because they can.

Here Goes Nothing

If you believe in Salvation, alas,
There's always something left to lose.

Homesick

I'd rather be hated for reasons I know
Than loved for reasons I don't.

The Graces

Substantial with blood, she will not be ignored.
Addiction transforms a young girl into some
Peremptory High Roman patriarch. Lord,
Accord me the graces that nullified Rome.