

Rewriting the history of literature  
as various forms of intellectual theft  
from plagiarism to appropriation

trying to reconcile the necessity  
of putting the nonpoetic into the poem  
with some sense of aesthetic propriety

back and forth from text to context  
restructuring chronologies and traditions  
events as discourses rather than facts

a realistic pragmatic approach to action  
against the stink given off by romantic nostalgia  
and solipsistic postures of the poet it leads to

a problematic individualism  
failing to translate art's aesthetic order  
into actual political order

manifesting patchwork poets playing  
perplexed Hamlets in closet masquerades  
to be or not to be of the people.