1967

Paris

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Cover Page Footnote
Appeared in the issue: Volume 12, Number 1, Autumn Winter 1966-67.

This poem is available in The Angle: http://fisherpub.sjfc.edu/angle/vol1967/iss1/3
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Paris,
Your pictures flatter you!
You do yourself no favor
to whisper nasally
'mid concertina strains
seductive summonses
to those who court you
from afar!
Dame of heat and show
you are;
facsimiles, reports and dreams
be ye content to give
your lover
from afar . . .
forbear to bare your countenance
as you've uncovered it
to me,
sallow
in ummysterious hautier
overcompensatory
profaning penury in
unprivy promiscuity
bohemian bluster,
libidinous luster . . .

Small wonder
the face of
Notre Dame
is sombre
steeped in shadowed sorrow,
her prostrate gothic corpus
straining
in vain
to crawl
on weary buttresses
away
from your embrace
in seine
insane . . .
If there is truthful beauty
in you,
despite your nakedness
— 'au naturel'
—and bold protestations
of Gallic frankness,
I have not seen it
but Eiffel phallies only
and vaginal arches
whose frequent bedding
begets but a
boorish brood
of
exhibitionists
triumphant!


clarence amann