

Tristan Tzara - Approximation

Appendix 4: Tzara poem arrangement

from "L'Arbre des voyageurs" (1930)

trans. Mary Ann Caws

"you come you eat you swim"
sometimes
the clear boundless
sometimes

"you dream you read"
"you chase"
why of your acts
you wonder
whence you came "so lonely"
correctly dressed
and illegible like the song's appeal
with the awkward hour heavy
in your sleep

you sometimes wonder
"what tomorrow will be"
soaked in the salt
liquor
of the air wedged between
the lands

you never
"what you are"
in this instant
which could not await your
and flees

wonder

answer

do not be the dupe of the sounds' attractions

playing at
doubt and cloud

"in your echo"

on the other
incalculable margins

"you shall descend the steps of time

to lose

the gradations

of usurious shadows
on the freshly brushed beach,

in the alternative pockets of the almos

dug at the threshold
of the harsh

well-nourished

waves"

"already the bagpipe"

wounds

"the worthy simulacre of our reasons"

laden with

"the prairies' spasmless stretch"

and

their

"livid gravity grape-clustered"

lingers

mediocre

along the twilight and skin.