Lee Slonimsky

ART AND WORDS

We paused in the Museum
Afternoon,
the streets of Florence were bathed in light.

"A kind of creamy yellow light," you said of a painting:
"mid-April smooth, with a hint of breeze as mild
as an orange flower's petal-touch."

"Alone," the painting's name.

And in it, seen from black woods,
the moon was impressive, silver scimitar,
low-hung as if a ready tool of war
for lovers, nations, divided selves.

There needs to be a soaring bird," you said,
black and moonbound, so that trees may stare upward."

Said so swiftly, I could see the bird.

Lee Slonimsky's work has appeared in *Best of Asheville Poetry Review, The Carolina Quarterly, Connecticut Review, Measure, The New York Times, New Ohio Review, North Dakota Quarterly, Per Contra* and *Poetry Daily* He has received seven Pushcart Prize nominations and one for Best of the Web. His fifth collection of poems is *Wandering Electron* (Spuyten Duyvil Press, 2014). He is also the co-author, along with his wife, Hammett Prize winning mystery writer Carol Goodman, of the Lee Carroll Black Swan Rising trilogy from Tor Books in the U. S. and Bantam in the U. K. As a day job, he manages a hedge fund with a special interest in companies that hire the developmentally disabled, Ocean Partners LP.