

# Gerburg Garmann

## Alto Rhapsody

No longer counting the bars' turns, the song leaps  
in stitches in, over, and around the tongue's willingness.

The voice chord's deeper vibrata quiver from seahorse to  
stallion and back teaching the ravens a lesson in alto.

Not hard to understand that. Shredding skins isn't the order  
of the day but planting sunflowers with mouths wide open

and anticipating the kernels that soon will fall. You've returned  
the goods, blessed be thy name. The hollow of your mouth helped

produce the notes of silky-rose petals, of white running  
stems turning dark, of indefatigable geese, storks, and cranes.

They meet in spring feeding on each other's merits and gliding on  
the tips of their tongues in rhapsodies of galloping praise.

Illimitable sound dressings.  
It's beautiful to meet in spring.

**Gerburg Garmann**, a native of Germany, teaches German and French at the University of Indianapolis. Her scholarly publications appear in both German and French in international journals. Her poems have appeared in various magazines and anthologies around the world. Her recent publications include "Danse Macabre" in *Dichtungsring 39, 2011*, and "Should The Quintessential Prerequisite of Poetry Be A Window" (including its German translation) in the 2010 March edition of the German journal *Die Gazette. Das politische Kulturmagazin*. She recently received a commendation for her poem 'Eliza's Bird' from the British art magazine *Aesthetica*. Her poem "Nocturne" was published in the June 2011 edition of *The Criterion*. "Evening Hymn" is forthcoming in *The Foundling Review* and "I am happy to report" is forthcoming in the *Tipton Poetry Journal*. Her art publications include "Orange Morning", "Dancer", "Klee's Woman", "Weites Feld", "Größenordnung", "Durchblick", and "Crazy Chess" in *Dichtungsring 39, 2011*. "Stepping forward", "Love IV", "Song For Her Children", and "Life's Essentials" are featured in the 2011 summer issue 13 of *Avatar*. "Ars oblivionalis", "Aurora", "Desire", "The Month of Haymaking", and "Die Nachtigall 2" are featured in issue of *Dichtungsring 40, 2011*. "So You Stole My Cherries Too" is featured in the summer 2011 issue of *The Midwest Coast Review* and "Living Quarters" was published in issue 6 (2011) of *BRICKrhetoric*. Her paintings are collected locally and internationally.