

John L. Gronbeck-Tedesco

the fullness that surrounds the heart

so o.k. . . .

the fullness that's supposed to surround the heart

—like a thick milkshake always and forever going down—
went missing drained away sloughed off . . . I don't know . . .

maybe it was on a tuesday

or on the day I realized I no longer do well naked in front of a mirror lit by morning

—not even with a smile made of brand new implants
over a two-buttoned shark skin underpinned by
gabardines well planted over a pair of salvatore ferragamo calf skins—

. . . but . . . yes yes

there's hope anyway still . . . because the void at the center waits

—spacious, roomy, though yet unfurnished—
maybe it waits for you

John L. Gronbeck-Tedesco's poetry, translations and plays have appeared in *Tuck Magazine*, *Scintilla*, *Better than Starbucks*, *MonologueBank*, *Angry Old Man Magazine*, *Madness Muse Magazine*, *Outsider Poetry*, *San Francesco*, *la rivista della basilica di San Francesco d'Assisi*, *The Kansas City Fringe Festival*, *Business Casual Productions (NYC)*, *Karamu House (Cleveland, OH)* and The Cleveland Public Theatre.