

Linda Haviland Conte

A Posthumous Visit to Her Studio

We travel through rooms of her relics
brushes, palettes, cloths, and clothes
A flower bares its intimacies from the canvas
This is where the artist suffered
This is how the colors show her raw emotion
This is how she squirmed on the cross
of her particular persona, begging for water
This is how we make our pilgrimage
spilling our brimming buckets never quenching
the glowing embers of her fire

Linda Haviland Conte is the author of *Slow As A Poem* (Ibbetson Street Press, 2002). Her poems are included in the anthologies *City of Poets: 18 Boston Voices* and *Out of the Blue Writers Unite*. She is Treasurer of the New England Poetry Club, and has participated as a panelist at the Massachusetts and New Hampshire Poetry Festivals (2017). Linda won a Cambridge Poetry Award (Best Short Poem), and a third prize honor from the Connecticut River Review (2018). A graduate of Connecticut College, she was a founding member and occasional editor for Ibbetson Street magazine.