

## **M.J. Iuppa -- Two Poems**

### **East River Ferry**

My mind, a dark sea sky, wild  
scatter of sequins in lofty  
altitudes— soundless glitter of

a city's constellation— see how it  
comes and goes— uncharted  
distance above this worldly traffic

that doesn't yield to a tugboat's  
sudden horn in twilight's fog—  
my wakeful mind has no bottom

or top—far flung thoughts lost  
in the wide ribbon of white foam,  
wanting sighs of cascading

bubbles to carry me— here.

### **A Stone's Throw**

This morning's winter sky  
catches wind— clouds steeped  
in a wash of amethyst  
set sail for a wilderness beyond  
rutted dirt roads, where a  
thought

waits in a field of thistle, ready  
to stick to the  
unassuming

ones who pass by . . .

It takes courage to pluck  
seeds

stuck to fur & wool, and spoil  
attachments that  
seem

to keep this  
world  
behind barbed wire.

Like the winter sky, ever-  
changing,

there's a gap            in the  
seam

between wild            & wilderness  
night's ashes            still warm  
in the woodstove . . .

**M.J. Iuppa** lives on Red Rooster Farm near the shores of Lake Ontario. Most recent poems, lyric essays and fictions have appeared in the following journals: *Poppy Road Review*, *Black Poppy Review*, *Digging to the Roots*, *2015 Calendar*, *Ealain*, *Poetry Pacific Review*, *Grey Sparrow Press: Snow Jewel Anthology*, *100 Word Story*, *Avocet*, *Eunoia Review*, *Festival Writer*, *Silver Birch Press: Where I Live Anthology*, *Turtle Island Quarterly*, *Wild Quarterly*, *Boyne Berries Magazine (Ireland)*, *The Lake, (U.K.)*, *Punchnel's*, *Camroc Review*, *Tar River Poetry*, *Corvus Review*, *Clementine Poetry*, *Postcard Poetry & Prose* and *Brief Encounters: A Collection of Contemporary Nonfiction*, edited by *Judith Kitchen and Dinah Lenney* (Norton), among others. She is the Director of the Visual and Performing Arts Minor Program at St. John Fisher College.