

***Krikor N. Der Hohannesian***

## **Outside the Window**

A blue norther rattles  
the panes, outside  
the world whirrs on,

three dopplered blasts  
of the Downeaster's whistle  
at the grade crossing  
ride an icy gust.

A jackhammer butchers  
the macadam, exploratory  
surgery for a ruptured main.

Blue diesel smoke  
trails the #80 bus  
growling down the avenue.

The campanile at Saint Raphael's  
peals evensong, the call to Vespers  
plangent in limpid air, cloudless.

I stare at this white screen,  
black words stare back,  
grey meaning.