

# Warm and Informed

oh echoing ghost  
who rides so close to my heart  
where did you learn to carry that melancholy oboe?  
how is it that such sadness illuminates in beauty?  
the kind that reverberates in my teeth

oh echoing ghost  
did anyone toss coins into your cup?  
is there enough for us to eat tonight?  
i will cross the street  
and sing across to you  
so even the lonely neighborhood  
will feel like dancing  
slowly but with casual smiles

oh echoing ghost  
pull your truth more snugly around you  
against the windy misnomers flung upon us  
by the impacted hooligans of atonal angst  
we may shiver just now  
but the sun will rise on our faces again

oh echoing ghost  
i carry you close to my melodies  
so that you will stay warm and informed

echoing ghost i am sorry  
but i have fallen in love with a new band  
and they are singing to me right now  
they do not know your fears but they do  
and they know which tune befits them  
just you wait and see

trust me echoing ghost  
i could not leave you truly alone

here  
on the asphalt dance floor  
call my name  
and my hand will enter yours  
call my name  
and we will breathe together

call my name, echoing ghost

and i will call yours

## David McIntire



David McIntire is a working class hero. Well...he's not a working class villain in any case. He's been writing and performing his poetry for close to thirty years in and around Los Angeles, including some time spent as part of an all improvisational band named Paper Bag in which he spontaneously composed words while the band simultaneously created music to accompany. His favorite poets are Dr. Seuss, Joe Strummer and Lenny Bruce. Dave recently released his third chapbook, Other and is currently working on his next one which will probably be called Exit Wounds. Along with his beautiful wife Cat, he also hosts the monthly reading known as Poetry Stew in El Segundo.