

1972

# From "Some San Francisco Poems (1969-1971)": The Translucent Mechanics

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<sup>11</sup> Interview, p. 166.

<sup>12</sup> *This in Which* (New Directions/*San Francisco Review*, 1965) 20. Copyright 1962, 1963, 1964, 1965 by George Oppen. Succeeding page references, unless otherwise noted, are to this volume. All quotations are by permission of New Directions Publishing Corporation and the *San Francisco Review*.

<sup>13</sup> Interview, p. 163.

<sup>14</sup> Recall the Hegelian idea of Sense-certainty (footnote 3, above).

<sup>15</sup> Interview, p. 172.

<sup>16</sup> *Of Being Numerous* (New Directions/*San Francisco Review*, 1968). Copyright 1967, 1968 by George Oppen. References are to section numbers. All quotations are by permission of New Directions Publishing Corporation and the *San Francisco Review*.

from SOME SAN FRANCISCO POEMS (1969-1971)

### The Translucent Mechanics

Combed thru the piers the wind  
Moves thru the clever city  
Not in the doors but the hinges  
Finds the secret of motion  
As tho the hollow ships moved in their voices, murmurs  
Flaws  
In the wind  
Fear fear  
At the lumber mastheads

And shouting fetched a message out of the sea again

Say angel say powers

Obscurely 'things  
And the self'

Prosody

Sings

In the stones

to entrust  
To a poetry of statement

At close quarters

91 *Criticism*

