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To the Actors

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To the Actors

Throw away acting;
nothing is for keeps.
Throw away speech.
Have you thrown away?
Throw away when you've thrown away.
Throw it away when it is yours.
Throw away applause.

Laugh the laughter being thrown away;
express the expression being thrown away.
Let sorrow belong to sorrow;
let action belong to action;
let speech belong to speech;
let each be each's.
Then, peace may be with you,
even if sorrow stays,
even if death gives back to you
action and speech . . .
then, and yet, then, and yet . . .

Translated by Uchang Kim

GUILLERMO SANCHEZ / PANAMA

Confession

In memory of Vicente Huidobro

I saw the spheres
felt the edges
and soiled my hands with eternity
Driven from the world by silence
I can now listen to the dead's endless gossip
in the symmetrical peace of cemeteries