

“Untitled”, by David Swartz

An old man
with a small voice
and a long train of journeys
into the history of hopes
dragging behind
shaved off his wrinkles
and walked into the future bakery
where he saw your sparkling eyes.

To himself:
I was searching wild
for the present time
where the long spent past
finds the doorway to the future
opened wide,
and I found it right here
right now
in a waking vision
of a life saving smile
from out the portals
of your gracious soul
that filled my heart
with the momentary joy
of present bliss:
perpetual and eternal
is moment like this!

Originally from Toronto, Canada, David Swartz has resided in Lisbon, Portugal since 2013, where he teaches English at the New University of Lisbon (NOVA). Concurrently, David is writing a PhD thesis at NOVA on Shakespeare’s Sonnets. He has recently completed a translation of Nuno Júdice’s 1982 novel *A Manta Religiosa* which will be published by New Meridian Arts in March, 2020. He has kindly contributed to *The Grove* on request of the Editor with the above poem.