

Winners of the 2015 Gaudy Night Literary Competition

Judge: Richard Greene

1st Prize: Robert Johnson, Senior Fellow, History

Oh, a wise guy!

Who would dare be wise

When Larry, Moe and Curly

Stick their fingers in your eyes

For being so, and yet

In spite of all the yelling

True wisdom can be found

In listening, not telling.

If wisdom is a journey

Across unsolid ground

The wise course is to ask questions

And not to expound

Some combination of

Half-truths and speculation.

Perhaps the greater wisdom lies

In silent meditation.

Wisdom has its setbacks

Like Sisyphus's boulder.

But sometimes wisdom, like beauty, lies

In the eye of the beholder.

2nd Prize: Marcin Kedzior, Senior Fellow, Alumnus, Architecture

Sapere Aude: We Are Always in the Middle



We are always in the middle.
A Universe is in a pond,
And the universe, but a pond.



"Let bodies, buildings, and borders
Expand!" So skin, bricks, lines, cultures



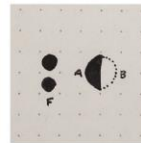
Allured, glowing hearths we trespass
Hither, hither, gather, gather
Toasting ghosts and casting shadows.



Dare to know their mingling middles.
What is hidden? What is breathing?



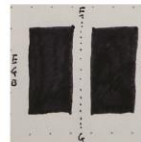
Swimmingly, fast, dock at the port.
We drink, we think, in-the-middle.



Only dark pupils reflecting
What surrounds and what is seething.



We—in the narrow sense, aren't we?



It is always other people
That are born, and others that die.
We live and dream in-the-middle.

3rd Prize: Maud Rozee, Junior Fellow, Law

"Procunctis tuis benefactum"—God help us

TO BEGIN BoLdLy:

Massey College? Mass! SEE (the Truth.)
CALL Ege(-gar Allen Poe?)
Quoth the Master, Nevermore. Black gowns, Raven wings.
Speak out? SNUFFed out.
Print shop—pressing our minds. Paper-making kitchen—swallowing the printed lies.
Since the DON of Time, how many died in the spice cake mines?????

Pull Back the Gown to Reveal...

V Houses. Ondaatje's Pentagram, complete.
Vin-scent. It's in the wine. Red or white? Sailor's delight. And at the bottom of the pond?
Davies' Jones' Locker.
Ron Thom <-> Moth Nor. Flicker flicker to a flame.

.....Dare to be Wise.