

REFLETS DANS L'EAU: FONTAINEBLEAU

Enlarged and restored by men of taste
In no awe of symmetry
This palace climbs from a terrace
With a statue in a fountain.
Around the foursquare shaft from which
Medusas rig steady water
Discs dazzle green slime where coins lie
And duller discs show where coins lay.
With that vain stillness of Roman
Copies of Greek originals
Freedom wears the Phrygian cap and hurls
The discus across the lake.

Across the lake colonnades and stairs
Realize a figured bass
To chimneys and eaves: all recommend
Themselves to ears of the eye.
When the lark sights sunlight he carols.
Carp wrestle in boils for bread.
A dappled percheron carts to plant
About wild boxwood: flowers.
The moles sniffle blackness and hark
Under rich lawns which offer up
Their reiterated prayer: Prière
De ne pas MARCHER sur les PELOUSES.

Michael Lebeck