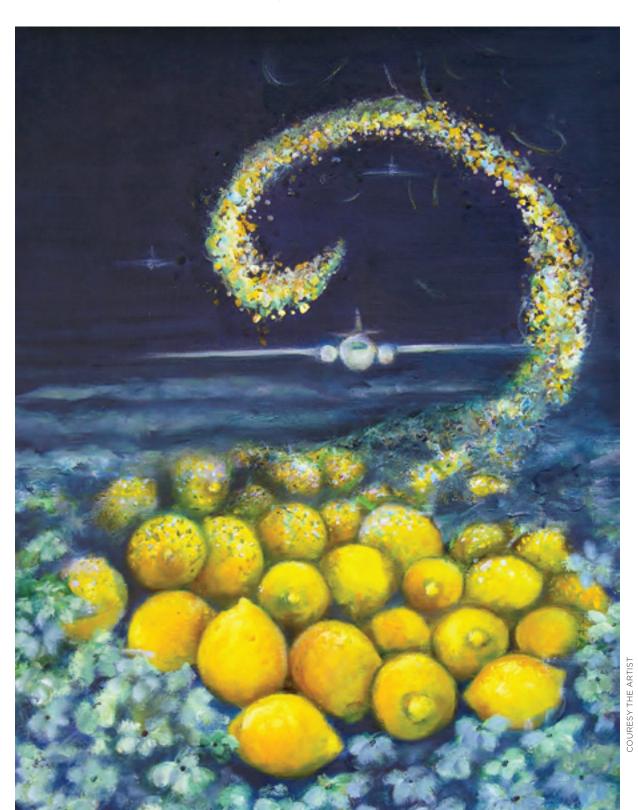
## TATIANA GORBACHEVA

Approach, 2011 Oil on Canvas, 14 x 18 in



## PETER NEIL CARROLL

## Destiny

She did not know what she was thinking during the dark hours she waited until her husband began to snore.

That gave her permission. Slipping from bed, she grabbed her hooded coat, fur-lined boots, unlocked the storm door to face the icy stars.

She had no intention, swaying on the rope swing, hoping a comet would burn up the sky.

When that didn't happen she took it as an omen anyway, certain she would perish in the cold Midwestern night if she didn't leave at once for California.

That's the first story she told me. I knew at last where I'd wind up.

Peter Neil Carroll's third collection of poetry, Fracking Dakota (Turning Point), will be published in 2015. Earlier books include, A Child Turns Back to Wave: Poetry of Lost Places (Press Americana, 2012) which won the Prize Americana from the Institute for American Popular Culture and Riverborne: A Mississippi Requiem.