

## DIXIE SALAZAR

# Plenty

Our table holds plenty—  
lace draped old oak laden  
with fruits fallen from the  
red skies of October—  
pomegranates, sour green  
apples, persimmons, shine  
with life that also holds  
plenty of pepper-sized  
creatures crawled in from the  
cold, trying to survive—  
specks, some invisible  
they dance ecstatically  
seeking warmth as we all  
do. And yet . . . a warm hearth,  
scarlet rubies bursting  
and splattered Pollock-like—  
staining lips with juice and  
Bonnard reds—puckered for  
fruit kisses ripening  
on a cobalt plate—feast  
for eyes and mouths, we fill  
ourselves and yet . . . it is  
never enough. We need  
more invisible wings  
blending ochre and wild  
red, primary couplings  
that feed the gaps in us—  
as old as the stories  
of hot yellow bile and  
cold black, and the old need  
to balance the humors  
to hold dark in one hand  
light in another and  
know that plenty alone  
can never be enough.

**Dixie Salazar** has published five books of poetry: *Hotel Fresno*, *Reincarnation of the Commonplace* (National Poetry Award winner), *Blood Mysteries*, *Flamenco Hips and Red Mud Feet*, and *Altar for Escaped Voices*. She has also published the novel *Limbo* and *Carmen and Chia Mix Magic*, a young adult fantasy novel.

## PHYLLIS PURVES-SMITH

*Breaking Mist*, 2011  
Oil on linen, 17.5 x 16.75 in



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