

IVAN DE MONBRISON

Power Figure, 2011
Mixed Media, 16 x 12



courtesy: the artist

RICHARD SILBERG

The Music Party

No Mom in her room No Mom in the dayroom
They tell me she's on an upper floor at a music party
with Yoko Getting off the elevator I can see
she's cracked wide open front and center
gossiping with animation directing traffic
My mother has loved music all her life
married a piano player been a show business wife
though she can't access that anymore Now
she's right now pouring herself forward
orchestrating receiving Yoko Usually my arrival
is a big deal She claps her hands like her horse
just came in But today I'm only a gleam in her eye
as she sings to Yoko's electric piano "Irene
Good Night" Other patients ring bells beat drums
My mother is streaming light as though her
frontal lobes her mind had only been a filter
her smile so wide her features stretch almost
to vanishing the sun of her skull shining through

Richard Silberg is associate editor of *Poetry Flash*. His latest books of poems are *The Horses: New and Selected Poems* and *Deconstruction of the Blues*. *This Side of Time* is his most recent cotranslation of the South Korean poet Ko Un.