Luke Sawczak (Etobicoke, Ontario Canada)

# Spring Haiku

Light starts as a tree.

Leaflets flourishing, detaching, dissolving to gold.

Starry night responds to thought in rain falling on a new trampoline.

Rain slicks off her hair – the water goddess, who asks nothing in return.

## Easter Monday

After an entire day inside
I take the kitten's litter out.
The yard in disarray: bags strewn, rake beside the brick wall fallen, garbage hutch exploded, open.

After having washed my hands and come back out, now several real things: water squelching under boot, the yard a marsh; cool 'soon April' breeze; sonic accumulation, metal chimes.

Big Dipper still up there burning all these billion years, and only sometimes have my eyes been there to meet a little of its light.

But somebody's may have, and that's a comfort.

God, thank you for these things and for the small responsibility of passing on as questions whose answers somebody may know whatever You might show me.

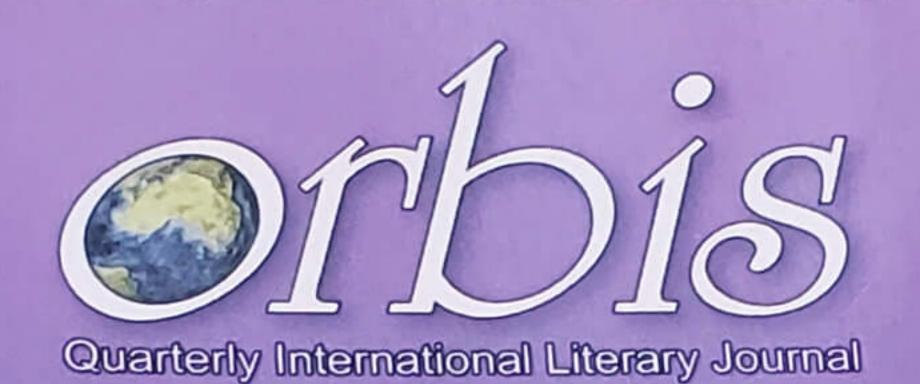
Niels Hammer (Oras, Horby Sweden)

### Marsyas

The silent stars – the unstruck notes; the soul soothed by coherence.

A shade of shadows, word-smithed echoes hoping the debt to Nature would lessen by trying to trip along in her wake.

The wind sings in the empty skin – revealed in the myth about the way illusions are fated to end.



#207

Summer 2024

£6 (Overseas: £12/€14/\$16)



Tanya Nightingale The Terror; The Baby Carriage; Life Grew For Grandpa; Volcanology; Entropy; Echo and Narcissus

#### Poems

Özge Lena Mussels

Emmaline O'Dowd The daily round

Francesca Pridham He came to them, walking on the water

Gareth Roberts John Ever-Afraid

Luke Sawczak Spring Haiku

Sam Smith Low shouting

Martha Stainsby What The Metaphysician Said

### Prose

Charlotte Gringras An Element of Surprise

Denise McSheehy Parallel Lives

David McVey When The No. 25 Didn't Turn Up

## **Translation**

Stephen Capus A Fragment by Miklós Radnóti

.... Artwork: 'Bird House Mosaic' by Sharon Cummings; sharoncummingsart.pixels.com

Editor: Carole Baldock

Associate Editor (Book Reviews): Maria Isakova-Bennett