

REAL ROSES AND OTHER POEMS

By Frank Jousen

I'm laying down my pen –
instead of praising them
I'm going out to see, feel
and try to smell the roses.

I'm leaving my desk –
instead of putting it down in writing
I'm going to laugh, love,
and try to enjoy my life ...

before another unique picture
painted by nature
urges me to
freeze and to frame it once again.

SOUL SEARCHING

the artist's soul
doesn't live continuously
in one place
the artist's soul
lives simultaneously
in various cracks
of reality

the artist's soul
can never be whole
until every one

is seen as different
and every thing
is seen as one.

TIGER IN THE RAIN

Now for all your bravado,
your beautiful strength,
you feel like a tiger in the rain
suddenly alert to the danger –
the villagers are close,
too close to your clearing,
the rain having veiled their footsteps,
diluted their smells.

When they round you up,
their hated, hunted beast,
your lifelong wit will lead you nowhere
for this may well be their turn
at long last.

Bio

Frank is a German teacher and writer. His publications include two selections of his poetry, one of them being a bilingual collaboration with Romanian poet Ana Cicio. He has edited two international anthologies of poetry/fiction in India. His poems and short stories have also been published in a variety of literary magazines and anthologies in G.B., Ireland, Germany, Romania, Malta, the U.S.A., Canada, India, Thailand, and have been translated into German, Romanian, Hindi and Chinese. He is currently working on a second international family anthology.