

## 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.