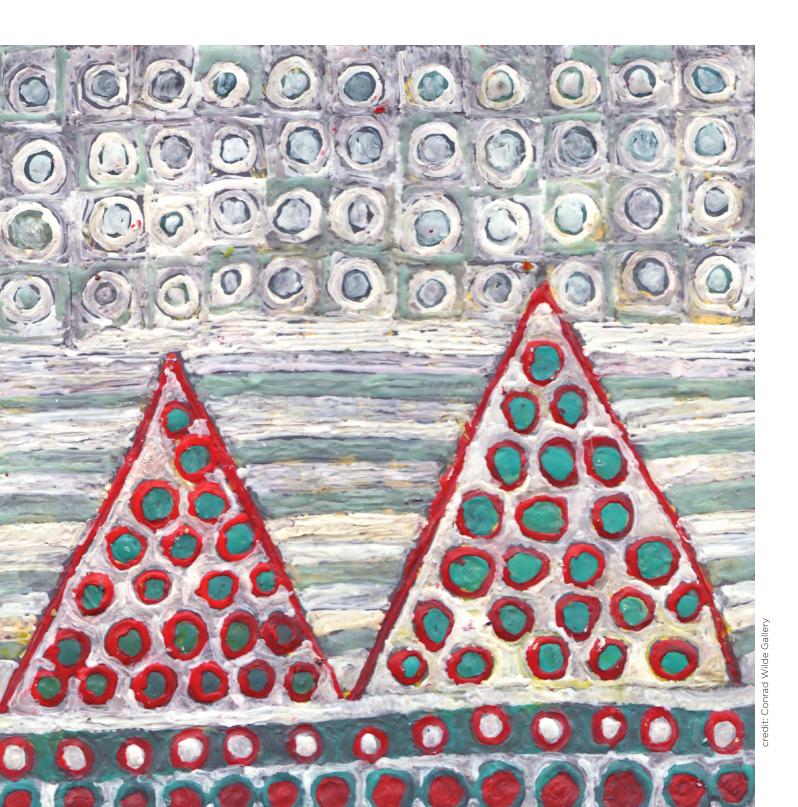
FANNE FERNOW

The Litany of Saints: Nimbus Eight, 2012 encaustic on panel, 8 x 8 in



LINDA PASTAN

On Installing Anne Bradstreet in the Cathedral of St. John the Divine: Poet's Corner

What would Mistress Bradstreet think of this stony urban cathedral incense prickling the nostrils,

misting the eye—of these golds and scarlets, gilts and velvets, this so ceremonial ceremony?

And what would my grandfather think, leaning on banks of cloud as on extra pillows Passover night,

watching from his strict Jewish heaven as I follow a priest and his crucifix down the lengthy, exacting aisle?

I am celebrating Poetry, installing our sisterly muse the way Wordsworth and Lamb

were installed in Westminster Abbey, across that turbulent ocean Anne herself once bravely sailed.

Still, I'd rather think of her beside the dear and loving husband she desired (more ardently than her prickly Puritan

minister required or would have condoned) kneeling together in a plain wooden church the white of a New England winter.

Linda Pastan's latest book is *Traveling Light*. She received the Ruth Lilly Prize in 2003 and is a former poet laureate of Maryland. New poems are, or will be, appearing in The Atlantic, The Paris Review, and Five Points.