ROBERT THOMAS

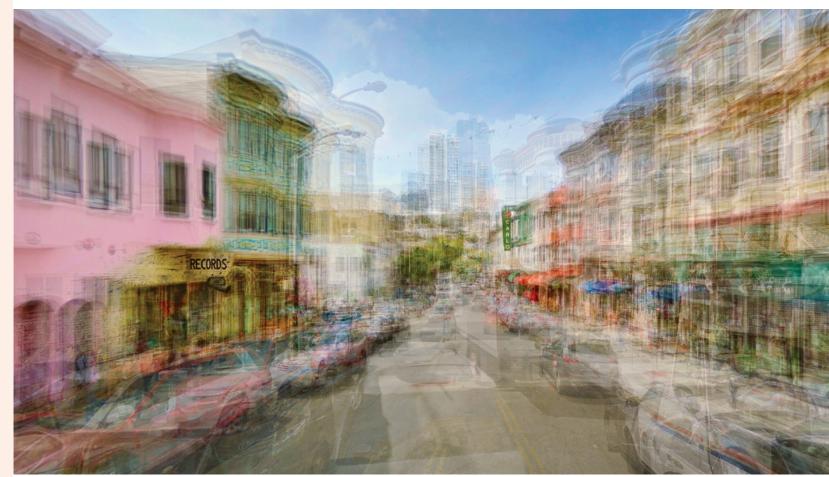
Sonnet with Taqueria and Fishtail

What one person can offer another what I can offer you is so silly I make a mean burrito but nothing like what's in two dozen taquerias in the Mission what did Bob Dylan call Jerry Garcia a muddy river that screams into the spheres that burrito I can't get close not to mention the grace of the jaguar or the slow explosion of hydrangeas and that ramshackle tramp in the bar's backwaters who jury-rigs his bones into a man asks you to dance spins you in turns so flawless and snazzy fishtail sugarpush whip—Lord what am I

Robert Thomas's recent book, *Bridge*, is a sequence of lyrical stories published by BOA Editions. It received the 2015 PEN Center USA Literary Award for Fiction. His first book, Door to Door, was selected by Yusef Komunyakaa for the Poets Out Loud Prize and published by Fordham University, and his second collection, *Dragging the Lake*, was published by Carnegie Mellon. He has received a poetry fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts and a Pushcart Prize. He lives with his wife and their three cats in Oakland, California, and is a proud banana-slug graduate of the University of California, Santa Cruz!

PEP VENTOSA

Records, from the series Street Rhythms, 2015 Archival print, 29 x 52 in



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