

CHARLOTTE O'BRIEN

Sunset

Layers of fire,
layers of fog,
layers of rust.

Summer,
Dolores Park.

On a hillside
among a city of strangers,

we sat in the sunlight's last rays,
daylight scraping our shoulders,
downtown glinting wildly,
the Victorians fading.

We saw ourselves:
collective,
we were somewhere,
we belonged to something,

we called it home.

Charlotte O'Brien studied poetry at Charles University through the USC program of Professional Writing and completed the Master Poetry Class at USC in 2003. Her writing has appeared online and in journals such as *Aperçus Quarterly*, *Cider Press Review*, *The Lake Rises* (Stockport Flats, 2013), *L.A. Melange* (Sybaritic Press, 2000), and *Beyond the Valley Of The Contemporary Poets Anthology*, and elsewhere.

GOLI MAHALATTI

Innocent, 2020
Acrylic on canvas, 30 x 40 in.

