

Formes de l'ombra. Poesia 1966 - 2002

Suddenly...

Suddenly a Gorgeous Youth Appears, Provoking an Understandable Agitation in Certain Shy and Excessively Analytical Spirits

Like a god rising
new-skinned amidst agitated waters,
you calm the eyes and summon other,
inner storms, within a blood surprised
at keeping a body so different from yours alive,
for yours seems the only body moving upon
the earth. Oh absurd knowledge!
The skin rises, outer boundary, the flesh
which clothes the bones and gives each movement tension,
internal processes, assimilations,
precise secretions,
and are life, subtle soul,
the deep mystery of a gaze.
And then, for consolation, we reflect
that works and action are enough for us.

But the blood, beyond any excuse,
not knowing why, wants beauty.

Translated by Christopher Whyte