

MARBELIZED CHEESE

to be a cell of marble stone - smooth and beautiful,
but tight constricted, only the upper sections
breathing and dying;

air corroding. Tight skinned, jagged stoicness,
movement in milliseconds beneath the ground,

earth's motion, a dance in eternal metronome
syncopation of moisture, heat, expansion, erosion,
arid air and cold contraction,

life's cycle reduced or amplified to sensuous motion
advancing in the vastness of an in-finite turn around
the sun.

Spin again, winding, spiraling, circling voluptuous
roundness, mass Spin to yield your name on a string
with Swiss wholly cheese

at one end, like the treasure sought by mice and men.
We have it all at our beckon call.

Cheese and Seran Wrap escape the tumultuousness of the
heavens undetected as criminal evidence on the case of
adulterations

of nature and habitats unsafe for human consumption,
no longer viable resources.

A murky grime on the edge of the rivers can be a
pleasant sit if life were to dwell there. But the
Styrofoam noodles and the bubble wrap

tap out the new songs of progress. And our lady is
our discarded society.

CARMEN VEGA



Carmen V. is a Los Angeles-based performance poet. She has presented her Poetic Interludes at the Southwest Museum, the Armand Hammer Museum, Barnsdall Art Park, and many other venues. She presents solo and has worked with musicians such as Big Black and Danny I's Shango Rhythm Esteem Ensemble, and others. Her endeavor to merge her poems with Barnacle's rock-n-roll sound resulted in La Poeta Con Rock, a CD which is available now. In Theater, her solo Spanish Ballads by the Sink was nominated Best Production by the NOHO Valley Theatre League. "Poetry is my Passion." Her poems can be found in various publications and anthologies including the Austin International Poetry Festival 2001 Anthology, the Southern Anthology, and the Onyx Spoken Word anthology, and her bilingual book called Reflections from the Well