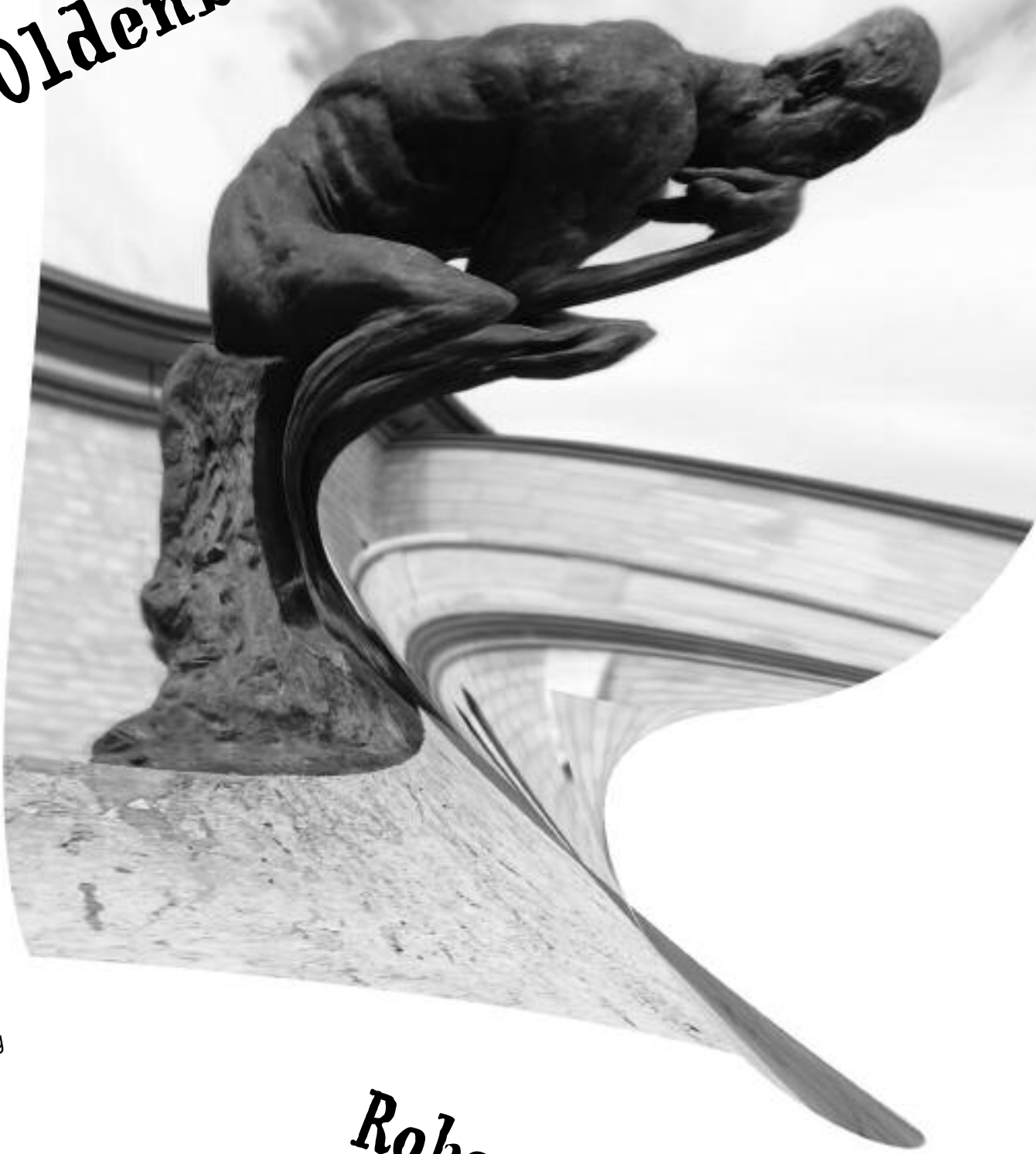


Claes Oldenburg's "Soft Thinker"



His face sinks
into his hand
until the sagging
nose fuses

with the right wrist.
Left arm drooping
to his ankles,
he leans

so far forward
he'd fall off
that small perch
if not for

epoxy's resolve.
Even his hair
inches downward:
vinyl succumbing

to its own weight.
No way to know
if he's been mulling
the same thing

all this time
or exploring
a variety of topics,
but it's clear

his brain has become
too heavy for
his slick shoulders.
He's sliding slowly

into the future.
His feet press
against the flat earth
harder each year

but they are no match
for time.

Robert Wynne

Robert Wynne earned his MFA in Creative Writing from Antioch University. He is the co-editor and publisher of Cider Press Review. He is the author of 5 chapbooks, most recently "Imaginary Ekphrasis" (2005, Pudding House Press), and "Wasted Lands" (w/Robert Arroyo, Jr., 2005, Nightgaunt Press). He has won the Grasslands Review Editors Prize, the Masters Poetry Prize, is a two-time recipient of both the Academy of American Poets College Award and the Poetry Super Highway online poetry contest, and has been nominated for a Pushcart Prize. His poetry has been published in numerous journals, including Solo, Two Rivers Review, Poetry International, Trestle Creek Review, Rattle, Bayou Review, DFW Poetry Review, and in several poetry anthologies in North America, England and India. He lives in Fort Worth, TX, with his wife and daughter.

