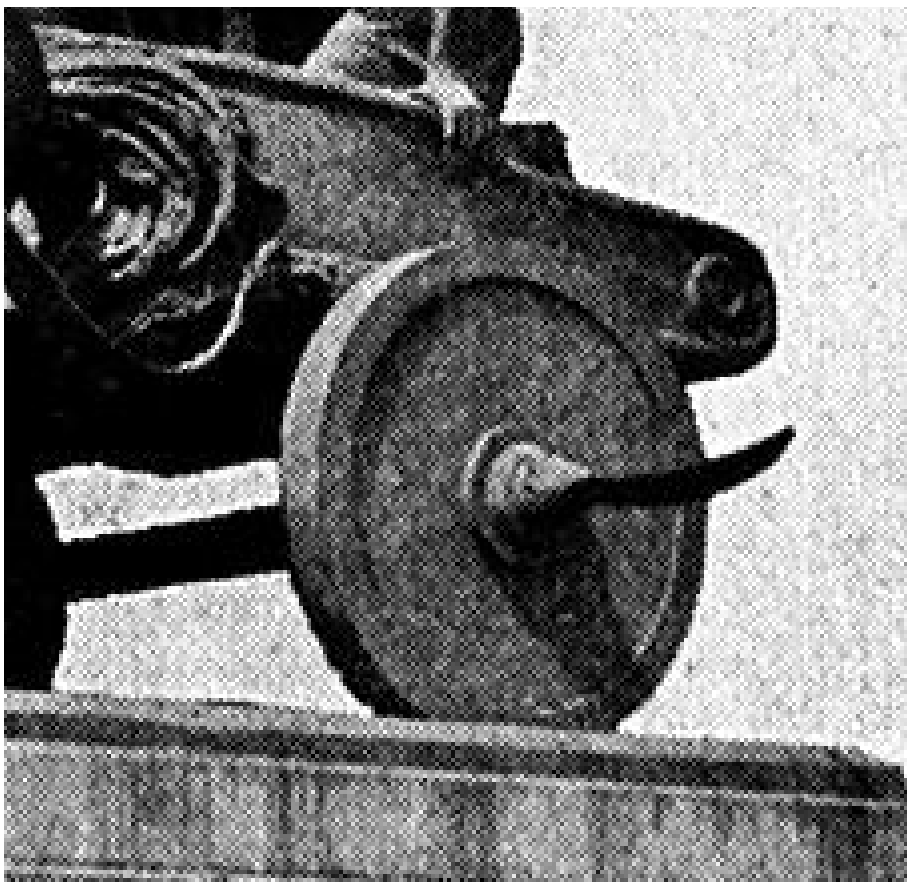




Chariot



Jamey Hecht



Green bronze, mortal, twin-wheeled, the chariot rolls on.

The driver crouches in the cracked replacement seat,

pouring his attention down a newly open lane, diagonal

Blind because the sun is gone, the hot wind full of dust,

both mares are angry, scared, then mad again;

they go; they gather the rest of their spirit and run.

Above the axle of the giant rims, the shaking tiny car

seats two. One rises tugging on the reins, leans over

to the burning eastern yard, blood flashing in the dark:

a tent hit by a torch, dogs running from a wall of liquid fire.

The driver pivots frightened, angry, westward; the spearman

half unconscious at the right wheel's twisted guard, wakes up.

The chariot comes on, the night is torn, death rises for them:

Both of the chariot's men, and one of its two young horses.

Jamey Hecht is the author of four books: *Plato's Symposium: Eros and the Human Predicament* (Twayne, 1999); a translation, Sophocles' *Three Theban Plays: Antigone, Oedipus the Tyrant, Oedipus at Colonus* (Wordsworth, 2004); Bloom's *How to Write About Homer* (Chelsea House, 2010); and a collection of poems, *Limousine, Midnight Blue: Fifty Frames from the Zapruder Film* (Red Hen Press, 2009). His poetry, criticism and journalism have appeared in some 30 publications including *Black Warrior Review, Tikkun, Free Inquiry, Massachusetts Review, American Short Fiction*, and *E.L.H.* He studied poetry at Brandeis with Allen Grossman and Frank Bidart in the early 1990's (PhD '94). www.jameyhecht.com Blogging at: <http://poetrypoliticscollapse.blogspot.com/>

