



Kirby Wright

Vienna 2012

Sudden goddesses unleashed from pedestals,
 Jeans and leggings cross Walfischgasse in boots:
 Meine Fräuleinen strut The Ring statuesque.
 Einbahn: one way. Fahrradspur: bike lane.
 Bodies trapped in granite—loinclothed slaves

Support second-floor verandas. Mercedes taxis
 Park parallel. Corner cart pretends to be a restaurant.
 Aroma of sausage, nutmeg, fresh-brewed coffee.
 Cold blows from Graben Strasse pedestrian mall.
 Crosswalk light halts us at Starbucks.

Hands warm in pockets. Mittens on cells.
 What will be carried in dreams through winter?
 Man in emerald coat secured with wooden toggles
 Watches red-lipped blondes share a cigarette.
 Behind PK's gold-framed glass, a gunmetal jacket

Flashes with matching skirt, pumps, sequined
 Purse. Rail-thin mannequins drowning in fur.
 A 6-foot vase oozes poppies, hop buds, garlands
 Of wheat. Nun jaywalks with black habit, gold crucifix

Bouncing off hip. Beard in purple robe and

Burger King crown dances around a boom box
Mumbling funk. The light greens: woman with pewter
Horse pin gallops past. Bags of shoppers swing:
La Prairie, GR, BIPA, Nespresso, Corso, H&M.
The breath of life halos our heads.

Kirby Wright was a Visiting Fellow at the 2009 International Writers Conference in Hong Kong, where he represented the Pacific Rim region of Hawaii. He was also a Visiting Writer at the 2010 Martha's Vineyard Residency in Edgartown, Mass., and the 2011 Artist in Residence at Milkwood International, Czech Republic. He is the author of the companion novels *Punahou Blues* and *Moloka'I Nui Ahina*, both set in Hawaii.