Martin Robertson

Fair Exchange

Everything we love puts on features of all that we loved before, and perhaps of all that we ever shall. We love a landscape or a picture or a face —person, thing and place, though we may love it for (it seems) its own unique self—yet they partake of one another and the others of their kind.

Sex is everywhere as Freud made us aware, and he was surely right but wrong surely to say the traffic is one-way. Sex lends her delight to every joy, her stress to all our wickedness, yet's as much taker quite as giver—throws upon her basic monotone scents, colours, notes, the whole dream-treasury of the soul.

This poem is reprinted from Now and Then, the website devoted to the poetry of Martin Robertson, at http://rtnl.org.uk/now_and_then/