

Martin Robertson

La Fontaine et le Déluge

“Some food, for pity.”

“Why? What did you do
in summer?”

“I sang.”

“Then dance the winter through.”

The courtiers of King Sun enjoyed the wit.
What did their children’s children think of it?
thin-legged and mocked, in London or in Lyme
timelessly scraping gay unheeded time
to guide in draughts and grease (rooms over shops)
rude Master Tom’s and prim Miss Betty’s hops.