

## *Triptych on the Piano*

### I. Estampes, L. 100: Jardins sous La Pluie

child pedals to mother's song.  
the first flowers of memory begin  
to bead and bud and blossom.

### II. Improvisation on a Blues Scale

uncle hunches over the black  
and white,  
an old catfish whiskering  
sweet  
sounds from the reeds of  
the bayou.  
nephew watches with  
bubble-eyes  
and tight-lips - he won't let the  
water in.  
but uncle isn't afraid: he salts the  
keys.

### III. Piano Sonata No. 14, 'Moonlight', in C-sharp Minor, Op. 27, No. 2: I. Adagio sostenuto

lover is not lover anymore - she plays the  
Beethoven slower; holds the notes longer  
to listen to the quiet between them;  
feels the ghost of a duet brush the  
beauty from the board. hear it,  
the silence trembling either  
side: like atmosphere,  
like a rib cage,  
like breath.