

ANDREW DONALD

*THE VIRGIN MARY AS A CHILD*

a painting by Zurbarán (1598-1664)

Enchantingly detached  
you are caught in a moment of prayer,  
a finger pricked by the needle  
from your sewing.

The cool pale skin,  
the cold snows of vermilion robes  
burn my eyes,  
and my oceans carry me toward your gaze:  
    cold within the will  
    passionate and cold.

CEZANNE

Landscape

The face of the cliff  
explodes sunlight  
fallen red and yellow  
on blue rock.

I see edges  
flat and sharp as flint.

I am cut beside you.