

i never much cared  
for icing  
as a kid, but as far  
as you're concerned

i've already tasted your sweet  
outer layer  
and must restrain myself  
when wondering  
about the culinary  
delights

which lie  
inside  
you.

IAN HUGHES

hey, that's how to say it:

when i'm with you, trying  
to speak

i can see hitler  
cursing

as his heavy amour  
is bogged down

in another  
frigid russian

(winter).

IAN HUGHES

## INFLUENCES - A CELEBRATION

They were granite blocks  
inside me  
fitted together  
Shaw Neilson, Judith Wright,  
Bruce Dawe,  
and Stevie Smith,  
and others,  
like a pyramid,  
and at the zenith,  
the keystone,  
Voznesensky -  
not so much a pyramid  
as a sword  
cutting an umbilical cord.

PETER ANNAND