

BRUCE ROBERTS

YOUR POSTER

'Now is the time of the furnaces,
and only light should be seen.' — Jose Marti

Is it enough to hang his portrait,
another poster on your wall?
Flattened paper pinned on plaster
to yellow, fade with all the others.
—Hey listen! Have you seen 'Che'?
I have Guevara on my wall.

A 2-D picture maintains the legend,
the man, Bolivian colonels killed
and did not know ideals
lived through death as well.

Oppression

spawns

revolution;

abstract bloodied jungle, gunfire in the rain.
Withdraw into the quiet of your room
and know the enigma of your poster.

It is you and I who bear the pain
of his capture, torture, death/mutilation;
yet on your poster these years later
there is still no blood—no wound:
Guevara entero
sombre eyed? or eyes of fire?
In fear they burnt his body!

I know I'd prefer his ideal
pinned in my mind than on your wall.