Christopher (Kit) Kelen, "Dorian Gray"

DORIAN GRAY
ON TOP OF THE WORLD

tankha is mirror
picture of the striving self
the Buddha you will be

pinch yourself — be here
be sunk
be these your depths
reflected

everyone can haggle
for tankha
the kind mechanically made
authentic peasantry's devotion
authentic bourgeois decoration

the drum in your temple
beats against
time's irrelevance

tankhas come with silky covers
so that the devotee
need not be frightened
by the mirror
she makes
of desire