

Well Hall

A villanelle for Mary Briggs and John Krzywicki  
Pinewoods Early Music Week, 2007

We turn to this from what we were by chance,  
Transforming who we are by what we choose.  
Our life is given meaning in the dance.

Seeking the music's momentary balance,  
The counterpoint's inwoven, mystic clues,  
We turn to this from what we were by chance.

In this small space, we find a large expanse;  
Turn single, turn together. It renews  
Our life to study meaning in the dance.

In times when fate has thrown us on the slants,  
Unsure of what to hold and what to lose,  
We turn to this from what we were by chance.

Before, we saw each other in a glance;  
Now, we see by deeper, older cues  
As life is given meaning by our dance.

We breathe together, keep the time, take hands;  
The music starts; who knows what then ensues?  
We turn to this from what we were by chance:  
Our life is given meaning in the dance.

Nicholas Jones  
Oberlin, Ohio  
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