

### **les saltimbanques**

"here we come here we come trooping our hosiery  
rouge everywhere not to mention paint  
or that nice german Mann and...  
wasn't there one called Maria  
we are the jolly symbols of 1888  
and when they came we were already out of date"

give us a redemptive rose  
and sleep again beneath those stars

but if instead your brain is quite minute  
you were at least like comets  
on the streets of fortinbras,  
trickling down to us the stricken stream  
uncleaved  
we pick at those dead floating feathers  
inaudibly hearing you  
"troop on troop on my gay devotees  
are still some buying flags!  
then send them flowers all dearie".