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Landscapes: perceptual motion *by* Lawrence Upton

Coming down into Peraskin, I found
each westward rocky wave scintillating
between the expected blue -- the story book,
the picture card, library illustrations --
and a potent green, as if liquidised woodland
were being squirted into the porth quite fast;
and framed off from pale sky overhead
by a thick gold band of reflected light
clouded over from land; horizontal;
refusing to be horizon; chance-made
artificiality, uncanniness
too shiny for real; yet clearly so.

Looking east, on the left, at Beady Pool
and out into the sea beyond close land
blue had been poured to a deepening sapphire,
was being, and was aggressive in colour
beside the patchy growth between the bays,
the porth reddening strongly towards the shore,
what had been momentarily bluest ocean
energetically overflowing purple,
a reasserted line between west sky
and sea, breaking before quite established,
wind roughly lifting thin vegetation!
Askin west green, the hue of summer ponds
and the ocean eastward rolling a bright squashed plum.

Scilly, September 2010

Note: Peraskin is the local name for Porth Askin, St Agnes, Scilly

Lawrence Upton is a Research Fellow, Goldsmiths College, University of London. He is a solo and collaborative poet; a sound & graphic artist & performer; and occasional story-writer.