

Athanase Vantchev de Thracy

Paris, ce jeudi 25 janvier 2007

Glose :

Bruce Guernsey : un des plus remarquables poètes américains de nos jours. Il est Professeur Emérite de l'Eastern Illinois University où il a enseigné pendant vingt-cinq ans. Il fut envoyé comme lecteur au Portugal et en Grèce. Bruce Guernsey et sa femme Victoria Woollen-Danner partagent leur temps entre Charleston, Illinois et Bethel dans le Maine. Ils sont les heureux parents de cinq enfants.

Viride (adj.) : du latin *viridis*, « vert ». Vert, frais, vigoureux **Nox viridissima** : nuit très verte, nuit pleine d'une exceptionnelle fraîcheur, nuit débordant de vigueur et de jeunesse.

ENGLISH (My translation into English) :

NOX VIRIDISSIMA

To Kevin

« *Your hand is love* »

(« *Ta main est amour* »)

□□□□□□ Bruce Guernsey

You will come very late when the young green night

Will have put its vigorous head on the whiteness of the pages,

Holding against your heart a sheaf of wild flowers,

You, more delicate than a dream,

More beautiful than a verse of Ovid!

Notes :

Bruce Guernsey : one of the most important American poets of our days. He is Distinguished Professor Emeritus at Eastern Illinois University where he taught for twenty-five years. The recipient of Fulbright Lectureships to Portugal and Greece, he has twice sailed around the world with Semester at Sea. He and his wife, the artist Victoria Woollen-Danner, divide their time between Charleston, Illinois, and Bethel, Maine. Together, they have five children.

Nox Viridissima : from Latin *nox, noctis*, “night” and *viridis*, “green, fresh, vigorous”. *Viridissim*
us, *viridis*
sima,
“very green, fresh and vigorous”.