Spirit of Bosnia / Duh Bosne

An International, Interdisciplinary, Bilingual, Online Journal Me?unarodni, interdisciplinarni, dvojezi?ni, online ?asopis

Ulysses

Amir Brka

When he's,
usually after midnight,
returning home,
the cold concrete of the staircase
is waiting for him,
and he,
such as he is,
cannot control
the tidal wave of ontology:

what is when what is he's what is returning what is home what is what ...?

In front of the entrance, he starts shaking empirically and sees himself as Ulysses if he manages to get through that jungle.

If not – he realizes he's not.

(1999)

Translated by Stephanie Krueger and Sasha Skenderija © 2013 Stephanie Krueger and Sasha Skenderija

Amir Brka (b. 1963 in Tešanj) is a Bosnian poet, prose writer and cultural historian. His prolific and diverse opus has received quite unique critical acclaim in Bosnia and the West Balkan region. His poems and stories have been awarded the most prestigious Bosnian literary prizes and translated into several European languages.

The preceding text is copyright of the author and/or translator and is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivs 3.0 Unported License.