



cleveland haiku

michael ceraolo
scars publications
2003 chapbook

*They can be considered
'experimental' in that, though
they all contain
seventeen syllables, very few
are 5-7-5; also, many are on
'non-traditional' subject
matter and incorporate
poetic devices such as
metaphor, alliteration,
assonance, and even rhyme
on occasion.*

85

Decorative plants
sit in windows
in front of security bars



86

A few trees compete
with power poles
for the available sunlight



87

Office space abounds-
companies play the game
of abatement hopscotch



88

Using a walker
meant it took longer
for him to get to the bar



89

Economic empowerment zone-
the first business:
a funeral home



184

In Slavic Village
houses crowd behind
each other
on the same lot



185

Pierogis and onions
fragrantly frying,
soon to swim in sour cream



186

Chamber of Commerce
absurdly close
to a wine and martini bar



192

Whether knowingly or not,
in October
the insects sing death songs



193

Numbering in the hundreds,
the streets cry out:
Return our real names



194

Political Statement
or Perversity? :
coins glued to the sidewalk



195

The barbed wire fence
doesn't enclose the property:
peace of mindlessness



196

The college's new building:
a giant parade float
of the Tin Man



197

Autumn leaves:
some in a hurry to die,
others are more resistant





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