

## Ivan C. Lalić

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### Looking Glass

The disk is a little husky, from a long love  
With the sapphire needle; each sound has shifted  
Into its audible shadow, but the whole stays  
Intact;  
    music too has the power  
Of adjusting insensibly, as has  
The face which fixes me every morning  
From the mirror, shifted into  
Its tomorrow's shadow; a face already lined  
By a long love with light in air  
But even more  
By a long thirst for light in the blood –  
Now, perhaps, Duke Ellington is chatting  
With Mozart (who listens not only for  
Politeness' sake), and so the night shifts  
Into the pleasant space of some potential fate  
Made to the measure of this music.

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*The Passionate Measure*

Translated from the Serbo-Croat by Francis R. Jones  
London, Anvil Press Poetry, 1989: 64