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JOAN RETALLACK

reach up with
net, and shown
by other
not to catch flying
jeweled insect

LESLIE SCALAPINO

PRINTED ON OCCASION OF THE INAUGURAL LESLIE SCALAPINO
MEMORIAL LECTURE IN INNOVATIVE POETICS. EPIGRAPH AND
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counter factuals

the world is full and doesn't ask for more

I'd like to know better than to claim a song of songs

or the illumination of things by human minds

a late 19th century author wrote

Niagara Falls is nature committing suicide

yes no the quest for a statuesque naturalism

goes far beyond even that

far beyond the German Alpine film

know what I mean

neither a saffron anecdote nor a whispered truth

the didactic impulse can be violent and not so brief

less what it teaches than what it makes you want

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