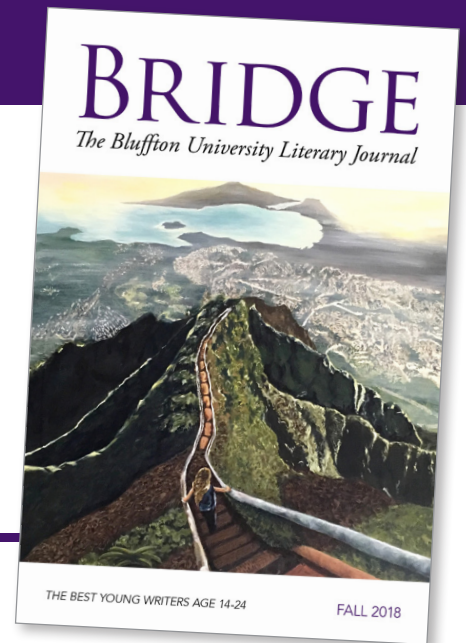


# BRIDGE

*The Bluffton University Literary Journal*



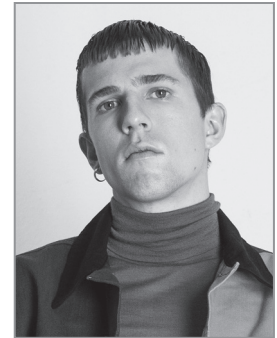
## BATHTUB VENUS

**Patrick Kurth**

the past is running out with the bath water  
lemon skins and laurels surf the pipeline copper  
you stand on the shore conceded by this sea  
garland round with rosemary  
lustrous as our lady, mother of pearl

day daubs your breasts with sun-wrung oil  
and the yolk-drop gaze of angels passing by  
dawn hunts the dark as stars keep vigil  
jag of want heat round pearls of sand  
and pink your mantle with petals of dew

come, let the zephyr kiss your collar dry  
come, feel your sheets cool with whispers



### **PATRICK KURTH**

writes mostly from the benches of Berlin's train stations and is learning to use his poetry as a way to encounter newness. He recently earned his first publication credit, in the latest issue of "*The Watershed Review*," with more poems forthcoming in "*Red Flag Poetry*."