

## **Michael Stone – Two Poems**

### **She talked**

She talked in sheets,  
like pelting rain.  
Talk hovered over  
the table like  
thick cigar smoke.

It was nice talk,  
good talk,

it bubbled,  
it almost frothed.

It was full  
of thoughts and  
views,  
of memories  
of travel abroad,  
of libraries seen,  
of people.

Wary, though,  
not much of herself  
came through the talk.

### **Magicked into Gold**

Great gusts of wind  
roared up the valley  
shook the cypress.

The palm fronds  
rustling wildly  
beat on the window  
frantic to come  
inside.

Rain slanted sideways  
splattered the glass  
magicked into gold  
by the orange light  
outside.

**Michael Stone** was born in England in 1938. His family moved to Australia in 1941, where he received his schooling, up to the completion of his BA (Hons.) degree in 1960. He holds the degrees of PhD (Harvard) and DLitt. (Melbourne). He was appointed to the Hebrew University of Jerusalem in 1966 and became Gail Levin de Nur Professor of Religious Studies and Professor of Armenian Studies in 1980. He is now retired. He lives in Jerusalem with his family. He has published poems in numerous literary journals. His poetic translation of *Adamgirk'*, a medieval Armenian epic about Adam and Eve in 6,000 lines appeared with Oxford University Press in 2007. He has published three books of poetry *Selected Poems* (2010), *Orange Light* (2016) and *Armenia Views* (2019). His story of his travels in the Sinai Desert has been published, *Uncovering Ancient Footprints* (SBL, 2017). He is recipient of the Landau Prize for Contribution to the Humanities. He is a Member of the Israel Academy of Sciences & Humanities and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.,