

KEYBOARD

Beethoven's daringly
spaced notes
turn upon themselves
as if Chubby Checker
had walked into the room
and said let's eat

Louie Van echoes
—we'll recapitulate
after the feast
but I tell you now
we'll move between
twos and threes

shaking our booties
and twisting again
like we did last summer
—Louie, Chubby says
where did we meet
you were older then

—Chubby, Louie Van replies
they all try to cheat
us be wise shall I play something
and goes to the piano
in a grand mode
fingers several Lydian glides

up and down the keyboard
as Chubby sways while humming
—like we did last year
and Louie Van says
—you know I can't hear
but I feel it coming