

Illinois Wesleyan University

From the Selected Works of Michael Theune

November 21, 2008

Try to Change the Mutilated World

Michael Theune, *Illinois Wesleyan University*



Available at: <https://works.bepress.com/theune/42/>

Try To Change the Mutilated World

by Michael Theune

Try to praise the mutilated world.

—Adam Zagajewski

Try to change the mutilated world.
Of course, you feel powerless.
Of course, you wonder how far
Your voice will go. Of course, you despair.
Nothing changes until it does.
You must change the mutilated world.
Of course, you want to live in peace.
Of course, good yourself, you believe
The world is our spotless source, but
Ask those profiled, tortured, cleansed, slain,
And they will tell you: It is not.
You should change the mutilated world.
Of course, you are not blameless.
Of course, you are privileged.
Of course, you are too proud.
Of course, you like to sing, not demonstrate.
But you must change the mutilated world.
You have no choice: you must
Love and suffer and prophesize and act
Or else mutilate.