

# At Play in the Fields of the Lord

*by* Gary Hardaway

Monet painted the haystacks over and over,  
in different light, from different vantage points,  
as if to discover and record  
every haystack ever raked.

Rothko explored horizons,  
blurring figure and ground  
by omitting the figure.  
No peopled landscape there.

After thirty, Bach concluded the Variations.  
He could have pictured the shared notes  
another hundred ways  
and not exhausted the possibilities.

Closest to God, the artist,  
who knows how many ways  
the simplest elements can re-arrange themselves  
but lacks the time and devotion to capture them all.

