

# Nineteenth Century Noise

*by Gary Hardaway*

The virtuoso tortures a violin  
in homage to Paganini.

The brief festival of Romantic era  
excess pierces and agitates

Baroque sensibilities of the  
hearer trapped in a small car

on a rush hour freeway.  
Thank God Paganini wasn't

a drummer, drum solos being  
the most obnoxious stretches in music.

