

# london walking (empty streets)

*by* C. Thomas Murray

the rain fell heavy

clinking against the abstract sculpture

in broad fanning waves.

south bank, separated by the somber thames

st. paul is steeped in fog.

mist and rain make the north side a grainy

faded photograph, almost timeless.

the bridge that spans the two halves

is iron, dulled beneath the weight of the weather

as if the atmosphere has pressed the scene and muted

every color. in a city so busy and populated and vivacious

i walk through empty streets. as if the weather has caused a rash  
of disappearances.

the streets are empty and lonely.

walking through the financial district,

past closed offices, banks, stately and ominous government  
buildings

there is a sense of closure. but it is only temporary, only now.

closed for sunday. there is something calming about the whole  
scene,

things resting. the empty streets are silent, but i understand  
what they are saying.

