Little Song of the Maimed

Benjamin Peret

Lend me your arm To relace my leg The rats ate it for me At Verdun At Verdun I ate lots of rats But they didn't give me back my leg And that's why I was give the *Croix de Guerre* And a wooden leg And a wooden leg

Trans. David Gascoyne

Agony

Giuseppe Ungaretti

To die like thirsting larks gainst the mirage Or like the quail the sea once passed in the first bushes because it has lost the will to fly But not to live on lament a blinded finch

Trans. Charles Tomlinson