

GLENN HOLLOWAY
913 E. Bailey Road
Naperville, IL 60565

STUDYING JOHN CIARDI'S BRIDGE

He tried to look at love with inner eyes,
he wrote of marriage-- his poetic school
was never founded on blue iris lies
or pap composed atop a barroom stool
where others go to inundate their sighs.
He learned to steel resolve, forgive the fool,
to make commitments strong as trestle ties--
and realize that listening is the tool.

graceful, lyrical
{ loudly and early grasped
allusions.

The strength is where the arch is pressed together,
east bearing west, west bearing east, all weather.

The strong load-lifting span relieves the aches
as trust anneals the iron with indigo.
Such allied power rises, lifts, and makes
a love postmoderns seem afraid to show.

--Glenna Holloway