

# POETRY PACIFIC

a literary e.zine for true lovers of words & wisdom

Tuesday, 5 November 2013

1 Poem by Michael Stone

## It's Gone

Its gone, the fishing village,  
wrapped around the bay,  
with a lighthouse,  
and small, dirty, working boats,  
nets, and fish merchants.

Now it has upmarket restaurants,  
a fair with colored tents  
where they hawk  
organic stuff,  
Lebanese food,  
baklava, fossil fish,  
and Guinness T-shirts.

By the breakwater  
half-tame seals beg  
for crusts of bread.

Each time I've been back,  
it grew more so, till  
at lunch today,  
in a fake-old pub,  
with fake evening gloom,  
fake fire burned in the grate.

I cannot go there again,  
the village I used to visit  
is gone.

## Bionote

Michael Stone was born in England in 1938. His family moved to Australia in 1941, where he received his schooling. He lives in Jerusalem with his family. He has published poems in numerous literary journals as well as translations of medieval Armenian poetry. Poems by him have also been anthologized in a number of collections. His poetic translation of Adamgirk', a medieval Armenian epic about Adam and Eve in 6,000 lines appeared with Oxford University Press and his Selected Poems with Cyclamens and Swords Press.

He was professor of Armenian and Religious Studies at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem until his retirement in 2007. His academic activities have been devoted to two different disciplines, Jewish literature and thought in the period of the Second Temple, including the Dead Sea Scrolls, and Armenian Studies. His research and academic publications have been divided between these two fields.

Posted by [Changming Yuan](#) at 08:04

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