**Negative Space**

Sandra Lindow

The Japanese call it Ma.

the empty space between objects.

 It is the absence that becomes central,

 At Tai Chi, I fight the shape

 of an invisible opponent:

 the dissolution of your warmth,

 the grief that rises out of an Arctic infinite.

 Press of pain, yield of air,

We know each other well now;

 the dance, not dance goes on.