

GRACE NICHOLS

Shostakovich (Tate Gallery)

for Aubrey Williams, Guyanese artist

Springing from the heart
of your own dynamics,
the painting explodes—
apocalyptic as Shostakovich,
musical bars booming through
time and space like comets.
But behind the sensuous beauty,
your rhythmic symmetry
impales like a knife, Aubrey.