

## Suddenly the City

I live in seems interesting  
as if I were on vacation here  
and feeling indulgent  
towards the human race, its way of  
living in cities and  
tearing up roads so the traffic has to be  
re-routed around a collapsing white mesh barrier  
as in this intersection here.

The people of this city  
walking back and forth on the sidewalks  
each one having gotten up and dressed this morning  
look like this, this  
movie, almost, of people crossing the street.

The questions,  
*is this scene in any way rewarding to look at?*  
*e.g., architecturally, in terms of city spaces and human interest; and*  
*are things diverse enough here? and*  
*are these people, in general,*  
*older or younger than I am?* are just now  
in abeyance. In their absence is this  
pleasant sense that there are many cities in the world  
and this is one of them.

It rained earlier. I think I'll go see the monks  
make a sand mandala on the Esplanade; and  
who knows --

later I might get a sandwich.