

Ateneo de Manila University

**Arch̄ium Ateneo**

---

Filipino Faculty Publications

Filipino Department

---

10-2011

## Pagharap sa Salamin/Facing the Mirror

Michael M. Coroza

*Ateneo de Manila University*, [mcoroza@ateneo.edu](mailto:mcoroza@ateneo.edu)

Follow this and additional works at: <https://archium.ateneo.edu/filipino-faculty-pubs>



Part of the [Poetry Commons](#)

---

### Custom Citation

Coroza, M. (2011). Pagharap sa Salamin/Facing the Mirror. *Becoming after Seoul: Korea-ASEAN Poets Literature Festival*, Riau, 75.

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Filipino Department at Arch̄ium Ateneo. It has been accepted for inclusion in Filipino Faculty Publications by an authorized administrator of Arch̄ium Ateneo. For more information, please contact [oadrcw.ls@ateneo.edu](mailto:oadrcw.ls@ateneo.edu).

## Pagharap sa Salamin

Maaga tayong tinuruang humarap  
sa salamin upang maging bulaklak  
sa mata ng bawat makakadaop-palad.  
Inaayos natin ang ating sarili  
nang ayon sa panlasa ng nakararami  
pagkat ito ang aral ng lahat ng ina,  
nagbasa man o hindi ng Urbana at Feliza.

Pag kinakati tayong ayusan ang sarili  
sang-ayon sa ating hilig at deskarte,  
halimbawa'y lagyan ng hikaw ang ilong,  
palawitan ang tenga ng upo o talong,  
tulad ng ating ina, ng mga tsismosa,  
ng guro, ng pulis, ng pastor, o kura,  
ang ulirang salamin ay napapamura.

Inuulit-ulit ang sinapit ni Narciso  
na umibig, nagnasa sa sariling anino,  
ikinukubli ang lamat ng pagsisinungaling  
sa tuwi nang siya ay ating haharapin;  
may nabubunyag nga sa tulong ng liwanag  
ngunit hindi ang sarili ang nakakaharap,  
sadyang salamin lamang ang ating minamalas.

## *Facing the Mirror*

*We were taught early to gaze  
At the mirror and become flowers  
In the eyes of all that we will encounter.  
We align ourselves to the tastes  
Of the many, because our mothers  
advised us to be like that, whether  
they have read Urbana at Feliza or not.*

*When we are itching to remedy the body,  
Fitting it into our desires and demeanors,  
Like the shiny piercing of a nose ring  
Or a dangling eggplant in the ear,  
Like our mother, the gossip, the  
The teacher, policeman, priest, and pastor,  
The forgetful mirror starts to swear.*



Philippina - Sound of Hope  
Michael M. Corzo