AMIL CABRAL

a threnody

The vultures danced all night
The mass of shadows mourned
on the Wailing Wall -
Blood curled in ferocious voices
Calling to the Youth of Africa:
A death desperate with Optimism
Charts in silence
A continent stained with treachery.
Children of Africa
Children of the world -
Freedom unites and furthers History
Written on the vast
Contours outlined by
Vietnamese corpses
Brazilian cadavers
In the face blighted by Imperialism.

So, regain the fallen gun
And defend the cause.

Ntongela Masilela

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Ntongela Masilela is a South African living in exile. He is currently working towards an M.A. in Sociology at UCLA and will soon have a volume of his poems published as Suicidal Notes of a Dying Son.