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Ode to Cavafy

"Teen me, a monotony
merrily monotony"
We are the Greeks
of the diaspora
We are the
Phil Hellenes
the Poseidonians of our Tyrrhenian Gulf.
Cavafy is our hero.
"Hope your road is a long one," recites the elegant businessman.
"Hope your road is a long one," recites the schoolboy.
Who is afraid of C. P. Cavafy?
He was not of the age of Pericles.
I heard he was a homosexual,
a drinker and a gambler.
What Rubbish!
Bespectacled by candlelight
He sat
etching poems patriotic
with pointed quill pen.
Now 2013, the Year of Cavafy:
Come barbarians, rejoice and recite,
Be bored not by rhetoric and speech!
"Teen me a monotony."
For we are not
without Cavafy.
We are the Philhellenes,
dizzy and tired
resting our head
on the café table.
For you,
Dear Cavafy
We build our walls,
For us, Dear Cavafy,
Greeks vanquished by Greeks
You are a kind of solution.