

# The Catch

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## The Spirit of the Marsh

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## **The Spirit of the Marsh**

— granite sculpture by Lise Becu 2011

Enveloped in the heron's plumage, she  
looks out with half-closed eyes beyond the gates;  
serene, as though resigned to her sad fate  
to be landlocked, to never feel the sea  
stream through her tresses, mournful elegy  
(surely destined to replace that late  
siren song acclaimed by Wilde and Yeats)  
accompanied by the wind in minor key.  
With softest feathers he absorbs her grief,  
with large wings gives strength to her resolve;  
both eyes open to marsh, river, sky,  
settling sometimes on trees bare of leaf,  
nudging with his long bill to involve  
her in new life, embedded, as they lie.