

**Late to Madrid**

I will go to Madrid  
But I will be late.  
Too late to see Maria's haunts,  
Her special places, beside her.  
Too late to recall college days  
How we laughed and learned  
I will go to Madrid  
And trace her spaces  
Her apartment  
A favorite café  
A well-walked *calle*  
A well-loved *museo*  
I'll remember the photographs  
Maria shared, while waiting  
Waiting for me  
To come to Madrid.  
I will go to Madrid  
And I will be late.  
But not too late.  
For our friendship  
Had long ago been affirmed  
My respect and thanks given  
My love spoken  
And accepted  
By her full and open heart.  
I will go to Madrid,  
Even though I am late  
And Maria is gone.