



unctures
The Journal for Thematic Dialogue

14: peace

July 2011

HEATHER MCPHERSON

Chasing the god particle...

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Chasing the god particle...

(*New Zealand Herald* headline, September 2010)

And what will you do
when you find it

Sir Particle Scientist
Astrophysicist Large Hadron
Collider manipulist

since splitting the atom
has given us

what anyone can do

with a president's jab
or a general's thumb or an ill-timed
tsunami quake

I mean blast us all apart

This divine blob
Sir will it give us
longer mortality
a deity more just

even a home maybe
on stilts with wings or gills
in sinuous global
scans

This particle
you call god Sir
will it Stop Press
countermand
confuse defuse or fuse

split atoms
and family body-bits

we wipe off our bloody hands

October, 2011