

MATTHEW NIENOW

I Am Not Building an Ark

not out of salvaged wood a ship
for anything more than to see
its backbone its stacked timbers joined
its scarves and tenons its carlins
its frames white oak its staves of cedar
its ballast keel and borrowed wind
it could go anywhere on any waters
but is not for saving what may
be drowned by the rage of what I do
not believe in
but this
 these shapes the water
makes so easily a space for