

Flâneuse

by Susana H. Case

The poet Gérard de Nerval strolled with his pet lobster,
Thibault, on a blue silk ribbon-leash, argued
a lobster was no more ridiculous than a dog.
You are a botanist of the sidewalk, Baudelaire would say,
if he were rambling beside me. Crowds
by the river—a trumpet covered in polka dots, a straw hat
with Carmen Miranda bananas and cherries catch my eye.