

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN ART AND SCIENCE

for Jorge Calado

From this Munch painting
of someone pained on a bridge,

hands held to ears, the observer
could scrape an orange

micron speck. He could
mount it on a slide, fine-tune

the fast beams that circle
under parking lots and football

fields, prodded on by magnets'
handless shove, focus, for that

is his craft, the probe particles
(fancy calibrated stones)

to jarring graphed impact
in the paint. The search

is for the force of the scream.
But the particles' pry is

too strong - they shock loose
the paint molecules, in sound

demonstration of the uncertainty
principle. The painting hangs;

Norwegian sky and harbor
pick up the scream, beam

it into the observer's skull.
There, echoing, effect change.