The Drag Ball
By Marisa Mercado

This poem captures a moment of student life at CSUMB from the perspective of a subculture immersion experience at a fabulous annual party at the Black Box Cabaret.

The Drag Ball

An April night at the Black Box
In 'stache, suit, and tie
Opened me up
To a nub of macho understanding

A mind bender gender blender
Masked and unwritten
Sexy backs
Spaghetti straps
On the patio I offer one my jacket
Compelled by instinct to shield, give protection
Now I comprehend the male impulse
The perception of fragile birds
Shimmering yet shivering