SUPERNATURAL

by Laura Theis

mist is water
without surface
and yet it will not

only swallow the past but
bring it up again too
if it feels in the mood

let me tell you how
it steps through the vapour
towards you now

not like a twin trapped
in a mirror reaching both hands
towards you through the glass

or a pinniped
coming up for air
from the unsounded deep

not like a sleeper breaking
through a dream's stillness
into the clang and dry of the waking

no it emerges
composed and unhurried
moving backwards like a riddle

a girl wearing not so much
a dress as a violent
blaze of chenille

determined to make you
say that you now
believe in ghosts

R rattle

Image: "Into Thee" by Susy Kamber. "Supernatural" was written by Laura Theis for *Rattle*'s Ekphrastic Challenge, March 2021, and selected as the Artist's Choice.