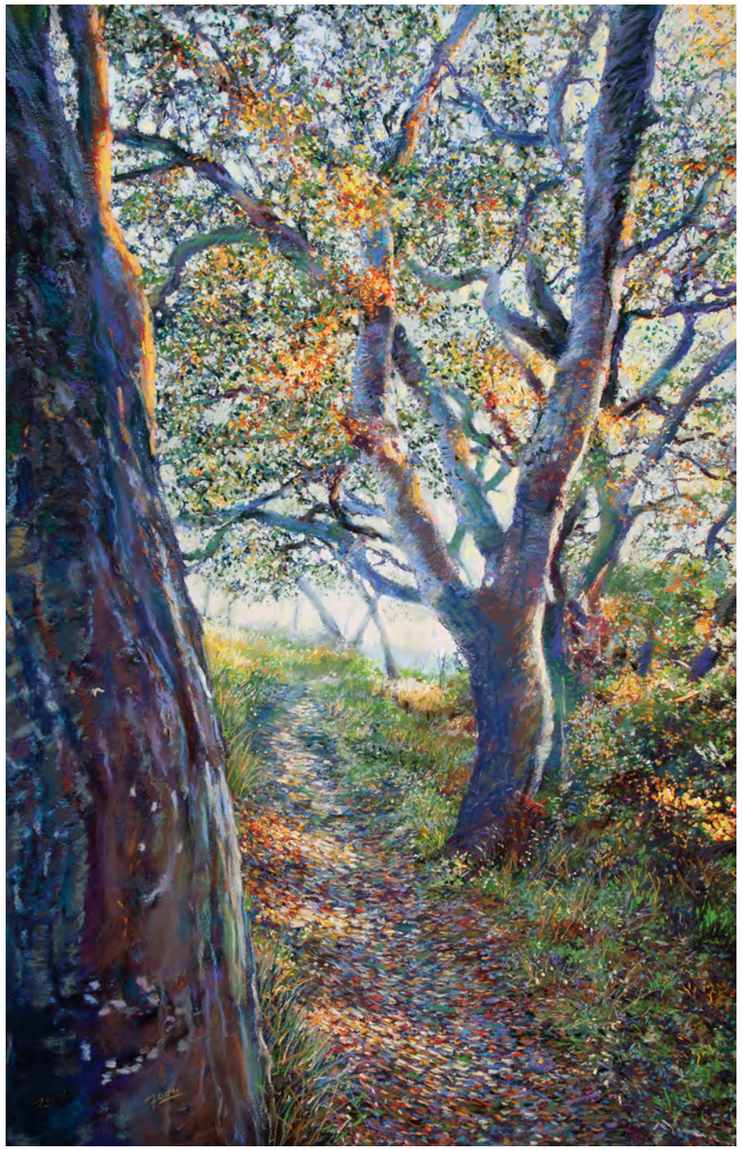
PAUL FORTIS

Zane Grey Trail, 2014
pastel, 38 x 18 in



PEDRO XAVIER SOLÍS

Don't Go Down There

Don't go down there. Let your mind sail on with its deep fretwork.
Don't let the murky abyss of harsh humors undermine your head.
Don't sink into the absence that obsesses you
And sways you in that war against yourself.
Look in the dark at the shiny mirror, I insist at your side
Like a soldier set to find another fallen man wounded in battle.
Rediscover my voice muted to the level of your decline.
Let me keep you company in your labyrinth of mist.

—Translated from the Spanish by Suzanne Jill Levine

Pedro Xavier Solís, grandson of one of Nicaragua's most famous poets, Pablo Antonio Cuadra, lives in Managua. A poet, essayist, and fiction writer, he serves on the boards of directors of the Nicaraguan Academy of Language and of the Granada International Poetry Festival.

Suzanne Jill Levine's recent work includes her poetry chapbook *Reckoning* (Finishing Line Press) and her five-volume Penguin Classics edition of Jorge Luis Borges. The director of Translation Studies at University of California, Santa Barbara, and recipient of many honors, she received in 2012 her third PEN prize for translating José Donoso's *The Lizard's Tale* (Northwestern University Press).