

CLAIRE KEYES STUDENT AWARD–RUNNER-UP

Robert F. Auld

"PRIMAVERA, 1984"

after a photograph by Duane Michals

The man has a freckle on his shoulder, flowers
both in and out of his mouth, both painted and
pictured, a peculiar grace, a peculiar
face, hand raised eyes glazed or is it
the glare of light in the Peabody Essex? Does he
choke on the petals, each boy a blossom
swallowed? Does he sing? I sing. It is
the only thing I do with my petals.