Jean-Roger and Paul Gauguin Have a Chat

Samuel Jay Keyser

D’où venons-nous?
Why ask such questions, vieille peau?
What does it matter
where we came from?

Où allons nous?
What does it matter? If the next stop
and the last stop are the same stop,
either way one has to get off.

Qui sommes-nous?
Now that’s more like it, old skin.
Like your fine Maori cup,
we can get a handle on that.
Jean-Roger Vergnaud. Photograph by Antonio Nava.