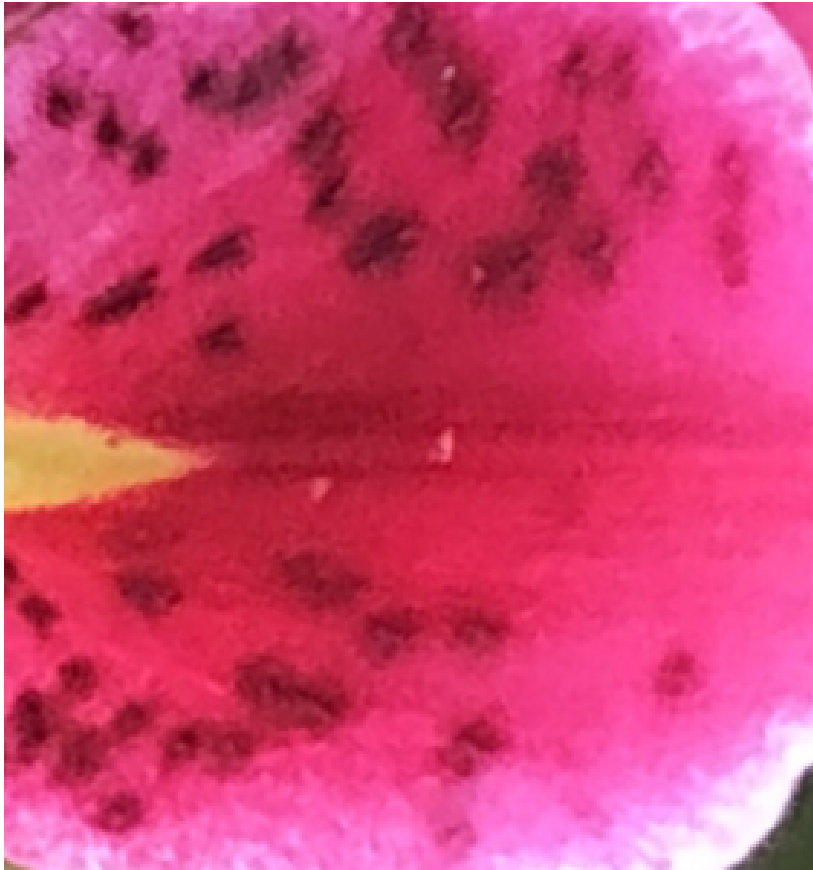


New Poetry by Maggie Harrison: “Clutch and Bless”



MY RASPBERRY HEART / *image by Amalie Flynn*

CLUTCH AND BLESS

my heart is a raspberry
juicy yet taut
fragile

temporal
eat it now
 before it degrades and
leaves a tasteless
piece
of itself
smeared on the basket.
my raspberry heart lives in the moment
 but not my gut
my gut dreams
 unpredictable
 digesting whatever latest bout
 I've consumed
 pandemic fear
 fear of white supremacists
 indignation
 incarceration
 playacting colonization with real guns on the
range
 a night in jail to protest police violence
 hope for change
 the audacity to hold it
all of this roils
 my gut
 terribly
tangled in the past
 it's what I ate yesterday and am now
 transforming
 to expel in the future
my raspberry, my beating heart
 crush it, suck it through your teeth, and savor