

Slides

Let's see: there was that Saigon
saboteur, at Tet; that crowd
of students in pre-Bangladesh;
Biafran rebels, tied to stakes;
& our assassin; sundry suicides;
& falling angels out of fiery
buildings, quick-collapsing towers.

We've seen these many die,
and more, over & over again.

Don't tell us, then, we lack
our ancestor's close looks
at death (for want of deathbed
scenes, at length, at home); we've
learned, instead, to store & file
whole massacres: truth's moment
mounted neat & square on films.

— *John Ditsky*