Minstrel in the Gallery

Jethro Tull

The minstrel in the gallery
Looked down upon the smiling faces.
He met the gazes observed the spaces
Between the old men's cackle.He brewed a song of love and hatred,
Oblique suggestions and he waited.
He polarized the pumpkin-eaters,
Static-humming panel-beaters,Freshly day-glow'd factory cheaters
(salaried and collar-scrubbing).
He titillated men-of-action
Belly warming, hands still rubbingOn the parts they never mention.
He pacified the nappy-suffering, infant-bleating,
One-line jokers, T.V. documentary makers
(overfed and undertakers).Sunday paper backgammon players

Family-scarred and women-haters.

Then he called the band down to the stage

And he looked at all the friends he'd made. The minstrel in the gallery

Looked down on the rabbit-run.

And threw away his looking-glass

Saw his face in everyone.

Songwriters
IAN ANDERSON, MARTIN BARREPublished by
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