

Elegy for Leonard George

To act is not only to make pretend;
To act is also to make a difference,
To make change, to reform, and to amend:
It is to teach governors *Governance*.

Leonard George defined *Action* doubly well:
To act on camera, to dramatize roles,
To document *Resistance*, to excel
Also at inspiring a people's souls.

His Tsleil-Waututh Nation has prospered,
According to his vision, joining *eco--*
"Nomics" and *"logy"*: Neither word's absurd
When both prescribe how a nation should grow.

North Vancouver activist Leonard George
Had no peer: The original broke the forge.

--George Elliott Clarke
7th Parliamentary Poet Laureate (2016-2017)