

School of the South

Now I must warn you
That everyone will say I work too fast!
Don't you believe it, it's just emotion
Sincerity of feeling for nature's heart!

Emotions may be strong
Inspiration may be high
Continuity of work may
want to pass me by
But for the moment it will not!

This life that I have forged
Too hot to cool my cause
I will strike some more
While the iron is hot!

Nowhere have you seen such brilliant colours
Meadows full of very yellow buttercups
Ditches that are full of pretty irises
Nowhere have you seen so bright a sight

A little town among the fields of yellow and
purple flowers
The pale grey willows, the deep blue sky
All seem to glow beneath this golden light
Does it not seem like a Japanese dream?
We've gotta start my School of the South!

While in Antwerp and in Paris
I lost my heart to Japanese ways
Such brilliant colour
So clear the outline
So great a contrast to my Holland days

What an attitude to nature
As simple as they breathe
So great it seems
In a few sure strokes you see a Japanese dream

Why go to the East when Japan is in the South?
For here you'll find no brighter sky
I'll start a School in the South
Bring in artists from Paris
The simpler view of life
will cure over-educated minds

This Japanese dream will bring a quality of life
The nerves become finer: The feelings simpler
Before long you'll have a Japanese eye
Scientific reasoning will be soon left behind

Does it not seem like a Japanese dream?
We've gotta start my School of the South!
Does it not seem like a Japanese dream?
We've gotta start my School of the South!

