

Tony Trigilio

Heart-to-Heart Daytime Programming

The fingernail brings heart-to-heart daytime programming by industrious filmmakers. It begins in early November, coinciding with this year's evocation of the pundit's deadbeat fetter: three kettle drummers astride their thrill-provoking finches and wisecrack dogs. We admire grass roots in their eggshells. We admire agnostics willing to tailgate Sunday scrimmages. Their only misunderstanding—pessimists and ex-project managers. In other words, does there exist an absolute between war of position and passive revolution?

The Passive-Aggressive Specter Fastened to a Ventilator

The passive-aggressive specter fastened
to a ventilator swore a vow of kindness.
His mustache directly overlooking the center,
the summer-house bonsai is cuckoo
with receipts. *Enjoy the woodsmen*, he said,
and your sophistry. If this assertion were true,
then the determining matrix of history
would be the kitchen and revolutions

would coincide with radical changes
in diet. The northern prowler released
military commerce, which was translated
by the grown-ups. Our browsers
penetrated their foul and camphor.
Frost advanced toward the clairvoyant.

How Do You Shingle Yourself

How do you shingle
yourself against neighbors
who withdraw to the geeky
telephone, the padre-

sniffing metropolitan?
This exemplifies
the theoretical problem
posed in *The Poverty*

of Philosophy of how
dialectic must be understood—
but now that you've gone
witch-hunt, your news-flash

dazzle stays bronze through
resin out by the roadside.