

Fernando Pessoa

**A classic is a man who expresses himself; a romantic a man who...**

A classic is a man who expresses himself; a romantic a man who has a lot of self to express and expresses that but no more. It is astonishing, for instance, how much of Shelley is only what Shelley could have been if he had been somebody else. But it is all unfiltered, unsublimed, a splendour of the virtual, a luminous verbalised possibility.

s. d.

"Erostratus". in Páginas de Estética e de Teoria Literárias. Fernando Pessoa. (Textos estabelecidos e prefaciados por Georg Rudolf Lind e Jacinto do Prado Coelho.) Lisboa: Ática, 1966: 218.