

# Williams, The Great Figure

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[english.emory.edu/classes/paintings&poems/greatfigure.html](http://english.emory.edu/classes/paintings&poems/greatfigure.html)

## The Great Figure

William Carlos Williams

Among the rain  
and lights  
I saw the figure 5  
in gold  
on a red  
fire truck  
moving  
tense  
unheeded  
to gong clangs  
siren howls  
and wheels rumbling  
through the dark city

Charles Henry Demuth (1883-1935), *I Saw the Figure Five in Gold*

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Oil on board, approximately 30 inches x 36 inches. Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York City.

