

Carrie Etter

Photograph of a Man

and a woman, who is not captured
here as a woman but the blue heron
or a brass coatrack.

There is nothing about her
to claim femininity for that
tight stance, pursed lips,
graying hair in its own yoke.

There is nothing here that defines
for fear of iconoclasm that defies
any title of subservience.

That would keep him from carrying
this picture in his wallet for show.