



# The Ecco Anthology of International Poetry

*Ilya Kaminsky (Editor) , Susan Harris (Editor)*

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In this remarkable anthology, introduced and edited by Ilya Kaminsky and Susan Harris, poetic visions from the twentieth century will be reinforced and in many ways revised. Here, alongside renowned masters, are internationally celebrated poets who have rarely, if ever, been translated into English.

## The Ecco Anthology of International Poetry Details

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# **From Reader Review The Ecco Anthology of International Poetry for online ebook**

## **Vincent says**

I'm a bit partial, as I helped with its creation (in a small way-- this is the only time my name will appear in the same book as Anna Akhmatova's), but still... it could be better. I love just about every poem in here, but do we need that much Milosz republished? It's not like he's an obscure figure.

Bottom line: great intro to world poetry with a few surprises.

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## **Sacha says**

I hoped there would be more Asian content, but alas, it was mostly European - which is also good, just not as balanced as I'd hoped.

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## **Margo Berdeshevsky says**

What a generous collection. It holds most welcome place on my shelf-- I will return to it often.

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## **Nicola says**

Ja. Haan. Da. Ken. Si. Na'am. Oui. Tak. A wonderful, eclectic, refreshing collection--wonderful to slowly pour through over many months. Made me realize how amazing images and ideas must be if a poem is to be translated and still have power. I also responded to the directness of many of these voices. Though I got a little tired of anaphora, it had its efficacy too.

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## **Steve says**

So many great poems by poets I'd otherwise have been unaware of. It's a travelling book for me now. I can open it up anywhere and begin to read. Here's one by Maria Negroni I opened on just now translated from the Spanish by Anne Twitty.

The Baby

He who has nothing to hide,  
has nothing to show  
---Marguerite De Hainut

My baby is playing in the bath, delighted. I begin

to wash his head and spend some time at this.  
Then he begins. When I start to rinse his hair, I  
can't find him. I turn around, and there he is  
again. I don't understand what is happening, and  
grow stern. I scold him. I don't like what he's  
doing. The baby laughs, more and more amused,  
glimmers for an instant, and vanishes again. My  
impatience only makes things worse. he disap-  
pears more and more quickly, doesn't even give  
me time to protest. Through layers of uneasiness,  
I glimpse his mischievous glance; my blindness is  
his victory, my jealousy his passion. For a while, I  
go on resisting: I don't know how to welcome  
impotence. The baby just wants to play. The  
game is dazzling and lasts a lifetime.

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## **metaphor says**

When your thoughts  
don't take you too far  
and you are silent  
as you tremble  
and gaze  
at the trellis of your hands.

When the chariot of your imagination  
does not lead you into tunnels  
lit up with apprehensions  
and lightnings  
as you remain silent  
and tremble  
gazing at the smoke twirling  
around your wrist.

When the woman who lets  
her scarf fall  
through the evening's emptiness  
greets you, and you don't  
acknowledge  
her greeting, but rather  
remain silent, and tremble  
as you gaze  
at the destinies that unfold, lurching  
in your coffee cup.

When the new immigrants pass by  
arm in arm with their local women

blabbering about time that flees  
so soon, and you keep silent  
as you tremble and gaze  
at the table's  
ambiguous wood.

When you don't sit with anyone  
and remember war only  
as a horseshoe, or a coat  
riddled with bullets.

When, upon an evening, in a cafe  
the faces pass by you  
like copper clouds  
as you listen to cymbals that chime  
in a faraway desert  
or masts that break  
in imaginary gulfs.

When the blind singer's  
record spins, once upon an evening,  
in a cafe, the customers sigh  
and you walk toward the axe  
where it leans against the tree.

—Amjad Nasser, from "Once Upon an Evening, in a Cafe"

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### **Jan says**

I read this in between things on my trip to china. Has some really gorgeous stuff. But I guess like a lot of anthologies some not so gorgeous stuff.

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### **Antonio Delgado says**

Arguably one of the best poetry anthologies. This anthology is a life passenger.

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### **James Schwartz says**

Always a fan of words without borders. This is an amazing anthology, highly recommended.

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**S. says**

A large collection of poetry that presented me with old friends and new discoveries. It's a great collection, perfect for reading and revisiting and keeping finding new images, new sounds, new combinations. A very good choice for a summer companion, if you want to have a book that has a wide variety of experience to offer.

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**Harper Curtis says**

A beautiful, international book, a book of wonders. This anthology should be required reading for anyone who enjoys the Norton Anthology.

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