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Arvind Krishna Mehrotra, a well-known poet, translator, and critic-historian, has here put together an unusually sensitive selection of fine verse in English by his best contemporaries. Complete with insightful biographical and critical introductions to each poet, this is the definitive anthology of modern Indian poetry in English. The collection contains over 130 works by twelve poets, including Nissim Ezekiel, Jayanta Mahapatra, A.K. Ramanujan, Keki N. Daeruwalla, and Vikram Seth. Many of the poets chosen either present new facets of recognized faces, or deliberately differ from those repeatedly represented in standard anthologies. Good poems in English by Indians have appeared sporadically for perhaps a century; consistently good Indian *poets* writing in English have appeared essentially in the last four decades; and a small group of significant new voices in the past few years has deemed necessary a carefully defined picture of the state of the art. This collection will be attractive to anyone interested in contemporary poetry, and in poetic usages of English in contemporary India.

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The Oxford India Anthology of Twelve Modern Indian Poets (Oxford India Paperbacks) From Oxford University Press Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #2891660 in Books
- Published on: 1993-06-17
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.56" h x .38" w x 5.63" l, .84 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 204 pages



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Review

‘excellent anthology ... his brilliant introduction and notes on individual poets convey to us the complexities of their careers and imaginations, and give us a sense of a tradition of Indian verse in English.’

The Times Literary Supplement

About the Author

Arvind Krishna Mehrotra, Lecturer in English, Allahabad University.

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