



Contemporary Russian Poetry: A Bilingual Anthology

From Gerald S Smith

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Contemporary Russian Poetry: A Bilingual Anthology From Gerald S Smith

"The book is a credit to the press, a boon to everyone interested in Russian culture, and an important resource for teachers and students of Russian literature." ?Library Journal

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"Smith's collection of contemporary Russian poetry should be useful to anyone with a serious interest in work produced during recent years both by poets living in the U.S.S.R. and by prominent Third Wave emigrés.... The introductory and biographical materials are excellent."?Publishers Weekly

The work of twenty-three poets, living in Russia and abroad and writing during the period since 1975, is highlighted in this dual-language anthology. The book features an extraordinary cohort of talented poets, including Joseph Brodsky, Evgenii Rein, and Bella Akhmadulina. Notes, biographical sketches, a detailed bibliography, and an informative introduction make this an indispensable resource for teachers, students, and readers of modern Russian literature.

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Contemporary Russian Poetry: A Bilingual Anthology From Gerald S Smith Bibliography

- Rank: #1287855 in Books
- Brand: Gerald S Smith
- Published on: 1993-05-22
- Released on: 1993-05-22
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.25" h x 1.04" w x 6.12" l, 1.37 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 392 pages

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Smith's (*Songs to Seven Strings*) collection of contemporary Russian poetry should be useful to anyone with a serious interest in work produced during recent years both by poets living in the U.S.S.R. and by prominent Third Wave emigres. He has selected the work of 23 poets loosely linked through their use of technical formalism (which is the norm among Russian poets) and through the moral questioning that has long dominated Russian poetry. The volume begins appropriately with the cautionary words of Boris Slutsky (1919-1986): "Any beginning is the beginning of the end. / That's why we begin with an egg, / but end up with a smashed shell. . . ." The youngest poet in the anthology, Aleksei Parshchikov (b. 1954), lives today in Palo Alto, Calif., and his work pitches an interesting echo: "After all, our names are not multipliable, but divisible / by the ploughed-up earth. . . ." The collection also includes a small selection by poets who are better known to an American audience, such as Bella Akhmadulina and the Nobel laureate Joseph Brodsky. The introductory and biographical materials are excellent.

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From Library Journal

Russian poets have been publicly idolized as voices of the metaphysical concerns of their society; in exchange, they have suffered penalties ranging from silencing to imprisonment or an exile that deprives them of contact with their culture. To these insults has been added the laziness of Western scholars content to study and teach only known writers. Smith is the doughty exception: professor of Russian at Oxford, he has long tracked poetry in the USSR and the diaspora, and this anthology represents his selection of poems written since the mid-1970s by 23 major poets from three generations. Even readers who know no Russian can trace themes and imagery from Smith's impeccable literal translations. The book is a credit to the press, a boon to everyone interested in Russian culture, and an important resource for teachers and students of Russian literature. Recommended.

- Mary F. Zirin, Altadena, Cal.

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Review

The Butterfly by Bella Akhmadulina

Dressing The Child by Bella Akhmadulina

I Find Enbiable The Age-old Habit by Bella Akhmadulina

The Night Of Falling Apples by Bella Akhmadulina

Pashka by Bella Akhmadulina

Sunday Came. I Wasn't Sad At All by Bella Akhmadulina

The Beasts Of St. Antony. A Bestiary. 17. My Own Body by Dmitri (dmitry) Bobyshev

The Fullness Of Everything by Dmitri (dmitry) Bobyshev

Mommy, This Is Your Son Writing To You by Dmitri (dmitry) Bobyshev

There Surely Must Be Such Places by Dmitri (dmitry) Bobyshev

Urbana Life, 3 by Dmitri (dmitry) Bobyshev

A Wake For The Living, 1 by Dmitri (dmitry) Bobyshev

Fifth Anniversary (4 June 1977) by Joseph Brodsky

How Long I've Been Tapping Around, You Can See By The Heel by Joseph Brodsky

I Have Entered A Cage In Place Of A Wild Beast by Joseph Brodsky

I Was Only That Which by Joseph Brodsky

My Dear, I Left The House Today Late In The Evening *by Joseph Brodsky*
Only Ashes Know What It Means To Be Burned Out *by Joseph Brodsky*
Summer Will End. September Will Begin. There Will Be Open S *by Joseph Brodsky*
To Urania *by Joseph Brodsky*
York *by Joseph Brodsky*
You, Guitar-shaped Thing With A Tangled Spider's Web *by Joseph Brodsky*
About That Land *by Oleg Chukhontsev*
By Corroded Snow Crust, By Melted Star *by Oleg Chukhontsev*
The Double *by Oleg Chukhontsev*
Here's A Little Village On The Edge Of A Ravine *by Oleg Chukhontsev*
This Wooden Town On The River *by Oleg Chukhontsev*
An Addendum To Sopromat *by Aleksandr Eremenko*
Lines On Prohibition, Dedicated To The Sverdlovsk Rock Club *by Aleksandr Eremenko*
Long Live The Old Maid *by Aleksandr Eremenko*
Monument *by Aleksandr Eremenko*
Peredelkino *by Aleksandr Eremenko*
And, Having Started Singing This Melody *by Natalya Gorbanyevskaya*
Contribution To A Discussion Of Statistics *by Natalya Gorbanyevskaya*
Here It Is, La Vie Quotidienne *by Natalya Gorbanyevskaya*
I Pronounce The Learned-by-heart Refrain *by Natalya Gorbanyevskaya*
It Was The Year Of Evil Predictions *by Natalya Gorbanyevskaya*
Not To Sing Out-to Lisp Out, Whisper Out, Chirrup Out, Tril *by Natalya Gorbanyevskaya*
O My Poor, Senile, Fallen Into Childhood *by Natalya Gorbanyevskaya*
This Is Sung At Dawn *by Natalya Gorbanyevskaya*
Where Rivers Flow Purer Than Silver *by Natalya Gorbanyevskaya*
Confucius Argued That Music Should Be *by Bakhyt Kenzheev*
Empty Streets, Deep Spaces Under Doors *by Bakhyt Kenzheev*
Everything In The World Goes Out Of Fashion, My Love, And W *by Bakhyt Kenzheev*
Excitement, Moustaches, Half-masks. A Crowd Rowdy At The Do *by Bakhyt Kenzheev*
In Peredelkino The Forest Has Lost Its Leaves *by Bakhyt Kenzheev*
In Russia There's Melancholy Weather *by Bakhyt Kenzheev*
It's Over, Gone Dark, Burned Out *by Bakhyt Kenzheev*
An Argument *by Vladimir Kornilov*
Because Nobody Cares *by Vladimir Kornilov*
Forth Years On *by Vladimir Kornilov*
Freedom *by Vladimir Kornilov*
Godlessness *by Vladimir Kornilov*
Music For Oneself *by Vladimir Kornilov*
Rhyme *by Vladimir Kornilov*
A Russian Paradise *by Vladimir Kornilov*
Two Genres *by Vladimir Kornilov*
Young Poetry *by Vladimir Kornilov*
Before What Ivans, Birons *by Yurii (yury) Kublanovsky*
Don't Rush To Abdicate-we'll Be Consoled *by Yurii (yury) Kublanovsky*
The Fate Of Verse Is World-sovereign *by Yurii (yury) Kublanovsky*
Study *by Yurii (yury) Kublanovsky*
Under Wan, Meager Snow *by Yurii (yury) Kublanovsky*
The Usurious Rakes Of The Maples *by Yurii (yury) Kublanovsky*
History Teaches Us Nothing *by Aleksandr Kushner*

If I'd Been Born About Seven Years Earlier, My Life *by Aleksandr Kushner*
In Verse, Meaning Sparkles Like An Exchange Of Gunfire *by Aleksandr Kushner*
Light Flows. Water Wanders In The Darkness *by Aleksandr Kushner*
Like A Child That's Started To Get Really Naughty *by Aleksandr Kushner*
Memories *by Aleksandr Kushner*
Nothing Brings Us Closer To Death *by Aleksandr Kushner*
This May Be The Atomic Age, But The Children *by Aleksandr Kushner*
We Used To Write Happy Poems *by Aleksandr Kushner*
Amateur Theatricals *by Lev Loseff*
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I Used To Work On The Campfire. In This Dismal Place *by Lev Loseff*
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When All Of Ours Slaughter All Of Theirs *by Yunna Petrovna Morits*
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The Music Of The Soul Is Ever Fainter *by Bulat Shalvovich Okudzhava*
My Son Seems To Be Finding Seclusion Hard To Take *by Bulat Shalvovich Okudzhava*
No Matter How They Insulted Our Courtyard, It's In A Class *by Bulat Shalvovich Okudzhava*
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I Released You Like A Blinding Wolf *by Alexsei (alexsey) Parshchikov*
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When *by Alexsei (alexsey) Parshchikov*
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May God Grant You From Roots To Crown by Boris Alekseevich Polushin

Take This Tiredness From Me, Mother Death by Boris Alekseevich Polushin

To Thee, My Russia, Not To God Nor To The Wild Beast by Boris Alekseevich Polushin

A Banal Disquisition On The Subject To Be Famous Isn't Beau by Dmitri (dmitry) Prigov

An Eagle Flies Over The Earth by Dmitri (dmitry) Prigov

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In The Buffet Of The House Of Writers by Dmitri (dmitry) Prigov

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When I Happened To Be In Kaluga by Dmitri (dmitry) Prigov

When I Think About Poetry, How It Should Live From Now On by Dmitri (dmitry) Prigov

A Woman In The Subway Kicked Me by Dmitri (dmitry) Prigov

Beneath The Coats Of Arms by Evgenii (yevgeny) Rein

Dedicated To The Metro Stations Kirovskaya (radial Line) And by Evgenii (yevgeny) Rein

In The Margins Of A Book By V. Khodasevich by Evgenii (yevgeny) Rein

Just Before Easter by Evgenii (yevgeny) Rein

The Monastery by Evgenii (yevgeny) Rein

My Neighbor Grigoriev by Evgenii (yevgeny) Rein

The Night Watch by Evgenii (yevgeny) Rein

The Tomcat By The Quay In Leningrad Harbor by Evgenii (yevgeny) Rein

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Turn On The Hydrant And The Water's Hard by *Aleksei Tsvetkov*
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The Prophet by *Ivan Zhdanov*
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