

## Book Review

by Dennis G. Thomas

### **Poetic Connections: Poets from Australia & India**

Edited by Tamaso Lonsdale

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*Poetic Connections*, edited by **Tamaso Lonsdale** has come as an anthology, with diverse ideas, concentrate on spiritual reality, spreading forests of words, opening up treasures of poetry, dive into secret world, merging poetry of splendor, coming from two completely different cultures, Australia & India. In the most connecting way to bring both cultures together in words, lines, allow creativity to flow, across the waters, taken by storm, seeding in birth, allowing us to grow, and bring us closer together, reveal our true artist spread.

“Beyond the roads of freedom lies , freedom to express, bring forth poetic imagination, allowing our creative powers to flow, freedom in joy of being alive, linked, new poetic concept, of the universe, art of the spontaneous dance, blow through us, like the wind, blows through the trees”

The poets here endear us to their creative talent, serving plates of gold each in their own unique way.

The anthology takes us on a journey of creative work of six talented poets from Australia and India. The poets are Laura Jan Shore, Nathalie Buckland and Harle are from Australia; fly across another wave of clouds, we bring you our India connection, Aju Mukhpadhyay, Sunil Sharma and Jaydeep Sarangi.

**Laura Jan Shore** was born in England, raised in the U.S.A., later moved to Australia. Laura has set a stage work of consistent literacy work throughout her life. Her collection *Breathwork* launched at Byron Bay Writers Festival and Sydney Poetry Festival. Many other poetry awards followed.

Her second collection *Water and Stone*, and third collection have both received rave reviews. She takes us on a journey through memories of friendships and abide us of solitude in her reflection of life.

She has taught creative writing, being the President of Dangerously Poetic Press, co edited 10 books, and done numerous poetry readings.

She has endeared us with: Meeting You I wonder, The Interrupt , Facing the Crack, Stranger in Paradise, Revealed, At Dawn, Silence, and Don't Say It.

Each poems finely crafted to excite the mind, as we long for more she is ready to give. I found myself ready for more as she poured out Silence. Truly a person on the right path.

## Silence

Silence sits up late with me  
as with a sick child  
hand on my brow

Outside flying foxes squabble  
over palm berries, their leather wings  
flutter the fronds.

**Nathalie Buckland** was born in Wales, and move to Australia in 1969. She trained in Early Childhood Education, taught in that field most of her life. She has had a numbers of poems published inspired by her environment of Nimbin. Her poetry has appeared in Yellow Moon, Famous Reporter, SpeedPoets, Midflight at the Oasis, and many more.

Her words cried out to be versed, includes : Sojourner, Don't Wait, Pelicans, Solstice, River - A Sestina, Teenager, Storm, and migrant. She has taking her natural surrounds to embrace her

talent, fullness of sensitivity, her creative inspiration takes the audience to another place. It is poetry in praise.

### Teenager

Bathed in  
the pricked sunshine of her smile  
I am unfurled with love  
never prepared  
no barriers erected for the barbs  
flying, with words for wings

**Rob Harle** is a writer (poetry, short fiction academic essays), artist, and academic reviewer. He has published 2 collections of poetry, *Stretches&Deep Wounds* amongst numerous other publications. His poetry in this book are : Game Over, The Colour of Creed, Lost Cafe, Homage, To The Mud - Dauber Man, Requiem, For An Old Dart, Whore and Nun, The Dulling , and On The Road To Nimbin. His splendid verse covers surrealism poetry, and his experimental style open up a renewal of past greats. A big contribution to these hidden treasures.

### Lost Cafe

Particle of melody drift easily  
like veil of ash  
soft dust  
settling in napkin fold  
caught in timeless connections  
where all things are possible  
Rhetoric raises ripples in the coffee

as cheeky sparrows swoop  
claiming the last crumb of my daily bread  
The ripple surge to waves  
my cup jitters in its cradle  
debate , deliberation swerves,  
swiftly from side to side.

**AjuMukhopadhyay** a bilingual award winning poet, author, critic, and fiction writer. He has authored 30, received several poetry awards , published two volumes of short stories, edited literacy magazines, published writers on animals and published several books of poetry. His poetry spills over to spiritual, emotions, social , politic issues, and has a deep interest in spiritual and philosophical truth. His poems in this collection are Om Sri Aurobinbo, The Burning Lamp, The Inner World, At The River Bank, Ant's Hut, Life And Death Hug Each Other, Fundamentalists and The Death of a Rose. The death of a Rose is my favorite in all the beauty of the rose gathers its servants to worships in its splendor. All your poetry opens up to the depth of your philosophies. Many great lines.

## **The Death of a Rose**

When the rose was there  
Fragrance wafted in the air  
Bees were busy at sucking  
Traders were going for the plucking  
Struck by wanton beauty.

### **Sunil Sharma**

Sunil is Principal at Bharat College, bilingual critic, poet, editor, translator, essayists, and fiction writer. He is also a freelance journalist ,in this role has had 1000 news articles published in DK Plus, Times of India. He has had a collections of poems published Poetry amid the Golden Barrel Cacti and his poetry has featured on Boloji.Com and Destiny Poets

His unique style opens up vast amounts of talent and wisdom. As he is a talented person endowed with hidden treasures, yearning to be found, impels him to do more, impels him to the dream, seize it all, as it becomes your. His work flows like a river never stops.

His poetry in this master piece are : The December Wind, Ode to a railway halt, Winter dust at the railway halt: Second part, A garbage dump, A woman, The girl on the threshold, White noise, and The dog whisperer . I like everyone of them he is blessed with talent.

White Noise stands out with it mighty lines.

## **White Noise**

Like:

The undulating highways in Texan landscape,

- The cacti, lizards, dead soil, dry vegetation, and brown hills in a dusty rolling flat plain on a harsh mid day , providing no immediate relief to weary eyes ---

Heaving deserts of Sahara and relentless Thar,

Harbouring skeletons under its shifting dunes;

**Jaydeep Sarangi** is a bilingual writer, academic , translator, poet, academic administrator, author of a number of significant publications, he is the mentor of many academic and literacy peers.

His third collection Silent Days is beautifully written.

His poems we are blessed with in this book are : Native Links, City of Joy, Missing Link, Peace in No Man's Land, Life Beyond, My Life, History of the land and My sap of writing,

His work blend on the metaphysical questions, in depth, he is a true poet of redemption, to the sense of his individuality, his work is happening , sometimes I think a lot of poets are poets of pre existence, draw memory of previous lives. As words cries out to be versed, takes on another wave, as space ones dwells, time again, it is Jaydeep's time.

## **Native Links**

Rolling times has become a reflection

Of my lighted little corner of my mind

The silent underground in the barrel of bones

A cultural continuity

Under the unified principle of consciousness.

It has been a long journey till now reading poets work digesting the lines of such great talent . My last work to review it give me great pleasure to do this review by the request of Jaydeep as a fellow poet I know the time and energy we all put into our work. Each one of us has the unique talent to go beyond the limits of ordinary thoughts, share intimate intuition of truth, in poetry of praise, brings freedom to express, human thought, as we have creative eyes, opening for all the world to see, our creative pieces.

*Posted by Australian Poet Dennis Thomas who has had four collections and many individual poems published. He interprets in a fresh way the lessons of Blake, Shelley, Keats, with an understanding that the pantheon is a living breathing shaking thing.*

*Poems are thoughts, moved by thoughts, driven by a flowing force, feeling joy, love, fear, sorrow, washed over like a flood, ideas come direct from god, measured in words, lines I am exposed to the inspired moments, poetry shoots up through the trees, cluster of images, like lightning flashes, mind expands, forever opening doors, inside the minds of man.*

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**Bio:**

Dennis Thomas is an Australian poet born in Tumbarumba NSW who currently lives in Canberra. He get inspiration from life experiences, his love of the English language, his desire to read philosophy, metaphysical, meditation, and his desire to write for people close to him. In his books we are taken by Dennis to a sacred place, high up: it could be where Jesus prayed; the Tibetan spiritual masters practice; or, as we feel the sometimes sensuous texture of that cloud, even higher, to where the human consciousness merges with the void. Flowing on from Edgar Allan Poe, we are in a dream within manifold dreams, but the existential despair of Poe becomes the meditative calm of Dennis Thomas.

In his desire, love of poetry he is influenced by: John Donne, Robert Frost, Edgar Allen Poe, Pablo Neruda, Charles Bukowski, William Wordsworth, William Shakespeare, **Rabindranath Tagore**, **Federico García Lorca**, and of course Blake, Shelley, Keats. These greats have given him , inspiration, opened up pillars of poetry, expressed in love, great oceans of truth, clusters of images, beyond belief, and the centre of the universe expands, as his mind seeds new poems.

He has had individual poems published which include : Canberra Anthology - Diverse Roads, Dr Hurley's Snake Oil Cure - "The Beauty of You", Her Eyes, the Gift from her Eyes", " Hindi Death", " The world Inside My Embrace", " EunoiaReview:"Submerged Images". The South Townsville Micro Poetry Journal: "Then Stars". The Lost Words: " Lost Inside a Known Place", "Coming Back Again". ACT Writers Centre Poets' Lunch - " InsideColourful Skies "and Let the Sea Find its Edges - " Cutting Through Time" .

His collections are : The Patterns of the Inner Sea, The Master Painters of All Our Dreams, Standing in a Cloud, Songs of Blood into Myself and Rush Hour of the Gods is in progress. All of these are available on line through :

<http://www.bibliotastic.com/ebooks/fiction-poetry/patterns-inner-sea>

<http://www.bibliotastic.com/ebooks/fiction-poetry/master-painter-all-our-dreams>

<http://www.bibliotastic.com/ebooks/fiction-poetry/standing-cloud>

<http://www.bibliotastic.com/ebooks/fiction-poetry/songs-blood-myself>

He is now a full time poet, He has travelled to India, and has had a deep interest in ancient Chinese and Tibetan mysticism. From this and other forces his work blends into beautiful words, blending into spontaneous images, possessing a great deal of mysterious beauty, just arrived from nowhere, just sitting back, waiting for it to burst into my consciousness, line by line.