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Like A New Sun: New Indigenous Mexican Poetry



Synopsis

Like *A New Sun* features poetry from Huastecan Nahuatl, Isthmus Zapotec, Mazatec, Tsotsil, Yucatec Maya, and Zoque languages. Co-edited by Isthmus Zapotec poet Víctor Terán and translator David Shook, this groundbreaking anthology introduces six indigenous Mexican poets—three women and three men—each writing in a different language.

Well-established names like Juan Gregorio Regino (Mazatec) appear alongside exciting new voices like Mikeas Sánchez (Zoque). Each poet's work is contextualized and introduced by its translator. Foreword by Eliot Weinberger. Poets include Víctor Terán (Isthmus Zapotec), Mikeas Sánchez (Zoque), Juan Gregorio Regino (Mazatec), Briceida Cuevas Cob (Yucatec Maya), Juan Hernández (Huastecan Nahuatl), and Enriqueta Lunez (Tsotsil).

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Until I picked up this anthology I didn't realize that the Mexican government recognizes 68 indigenous languages, and that so many of them have poets speaking from and for them. While this anthology represents less than 10 percent of those languages, it's an excellent collection with a goodly number of poems representing each poet. Each deserves a more capacious individual volume in English, which only one, Natalia Toledo, currently has in her collection "The Black Flower and Other Zapotec Poems." I can't really judge the translations, except to say that they read beautifully as English poems. I only wish I could hear them in the original languages! Maybe something their adventurous publisher, Phoneme Media, could provide on its website? Anyway, this belongs in the library of anyone who cares about indigenous poetries.

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