

Graywolf Press announces



NEW BRITISH POETRY
edited by Don Paterson and Charles Simic

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The only definitive anthology of contemporary British poetry available in the US.

“*New British Poetry*, with its forthright title, is nothing less than a single volume solution to the plight of North American and British poets and poetry readers who find themselves divided not only by a common language, but by culture and ocean. Simic and Paterson, working from opposite sides, have built a splendid poetic bridge across the Pond.” —**BILLY COLLINS**

“Readers in the UK are far more conversant with contemporary North American poetry than we are with what’s being written on the other side of the Atlantic. The depth and richness of Simic and Paterson’s selection will go a long way toward redressing this imbalance, and offer readers pleasure, surprise, and an open window on the vitality of British poetry now.” —**MARK DOTY**

“*New British Poetry* has given me the chance to encounter a number of poets new to me, also to re-appreciate some others. I should think most North American readers interested in contemporary British poetry would feel the same.” —**WILLIAM PRITCHARD**

New British Poetry presents the exciting work of thirty-five poets from England, Scotland, and Wales. In compiling this landmark anthology, T.S. Eliot Prize-winning Scottish poet Don Paterson and Pulitzer Prize-winning poet Charles Simic followed two rules: the poets chosen should be born after 1945 and should have at least two books published in Britain. The resulting anthology collects some of the very best work of a new generation of poets who have come of age since Larkin and Hughes.

From established poets such as Andrew Motion and James Fenton to mid-career poets such as Glyn Maxwell and Kathleen Jamie to the most recent T.S. Eliot Prize-winner Alice Oswald, the work is fiercely intelligent, often irreverent, and engaged with traditional forms and an exhilarating range of styles. A generous sampling of each poet’s work is included. As Don Paterson writes in his Introduction “this group of poets represents some of the most intelligent and imaginative writers working in the English language today.”

DON PATERSON is the poetry editor at Picador UK and author of *The White Lie: New and Selected Poetry*. He has recently won the Whitbread Award for *Landing Light*. **CHARLES SIMIC** won the 1990 Pulitzer Prize for his poetry collection, *The World Doesn’t End*. He teaches writing at the University of New Hampshire.

April 2004, Poetry, Paperback Original with flaps (1-55597-394-9), \$16.00, 6 x 9, 240 pages

ABOUT THE EDITORS:

Poet, writer, and musician **DON PATERSON** was born in Dundee, Scotland, in 1963. He won an Eric Gregory Award in 1990 and his poem "A Private Bottling" won the Arvon Foundation International Poetry Competition in 1993. He was included on the list of 20 poets chosen for the Poetry Society's "New Generation Poets" promotion in 1994. In 2002 he was awarded a Scottish Arts Council Creative Scotland Award.

His first collection of poetry, *Nil Nil* (1993), won the Forward Poetry Prize for Best First Collection. *God's Gift to Women* (1997) won the T. S. Eliot Prize and the Geoffrey Faber Memorial Prize, and *The Eyes*, adaptations of the work of Spanish poet Antonio Machado (1875-1939), was published in 1999. He is also editor of *101 Sonnets: From Shakespeare to Heaney* (1999) and of *Last Words: New Poetry for the New Century* (1999) with Jo Shapcott. His plays include *The Land of Cakes* and *A'body's Aberdeen*, both performed by Dundee Repertory Theatre. His latest collection is *Landing Light* (2003), shortlisted for the 2003 T. S. Eliot Prize. *The White Lie: New and Selected Poetry* was published in the United States in September 2001.

Don Paterson is poetry editor at Picador UK and he reviews for several national newspapers. An accomplished jazz guitarist, he works solo and with the jazz-folk ensemble Lammas. He lives in Kirriemuir, Scotland. More information available at: www.donpaterson.com

CHARLES SIMIC was born in Belgrade, Yugoslavia in 1938. In 1953, he left Yugoslavia with his mother and brother to join his father in the United States. They lived in and around Chicago until 1958. His first poems were published in 1959, when he was twenty-one. In 1961, he was drafted into the U.S. Army, and in 1966 he graduated from New York University. His first full-length collection of poems, *What the Grass Says*, was published the following year.

Since then he has published more than sixty books in the United States and abroad, among them *Jackstraws* (Harcourt Brace, 1999), which was named a Notable Book of the Year by the *New York Times*; *Walking the Black Cat* (Harcourt Brace, 1996), which was a finalist for the National Book Award in poetry; *A Wedding in Hell* (1994); *Hotel Insomnia* (1992); *The World Doesn't End: Prose Poems* (1990), for which he received the Pulitzer Prize for Poetry; *Selected Poems: 1963-1983* (1990); and *Unending Blues* (1986). He has also published many translations of French, Serbian, Croatian, Macedonian, and Slovenian poetry, and four books of essays, most recently *Orphan Factory* (University of Michigan Press, 1998). He was also the guest editor of *The Best American Poetry 1992*.

Elected a Chancellor of The Academy of American Poets in 2000, his many awards include fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation, the MacArthur Foundation, and the National Endowment for the Arts. He lives in New Hampshire, where he is Professor of English at the University of New Hampshire.