



the
Penguin
Book
of
Modern
Australian
Poetry

Edited by
JOHN TRANTER
and **PHILIP MEAD**



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This broad selection of Australian poets begins with Kenneth Slessor, and offers a challenging view of 'early modern' poetry up until the 1960s. It also presents the decade of turmoil from 1965 to 1975 in a new light, identifying currents of energy among the young writers and balancing new reputations with old. The years from 1965 to the 1990s are revealed as a time of growing vigour and diversity.

'I don't know of an anthology produced at any time this century which is as good, and it sets a standard that all future general anthologies will have to match.'

Martin Duwell, The Australian

'... a major act of criticism, analysis, study. It is nothing less than a watershed in the history of Australian poetry and Australian criticism in the second half of the twentieth century.'

Don Anderson, Sydney Morning Herald

'... an intelligent, challenging and yet satisfying selection from a substantial number of very diverse poets...'

Geoff Page, Canberra Times

'This book answers the need for a widely-representative and credible anthology of modern Australian poetry, as seen from the last decade of the twentieth century. The emphasis is on enjoyment. In our experience, poets don't write poems merely to be graded, studied or analysed; they write them, above all, to create for readers the enjoyment of a complex and intense aesthetic experience. In collecting these poems, we've kept that simple fact firmly in mind.'

JOHN TRANTER
and PHILIP MEAD

Cover design by Liz Nicholson



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