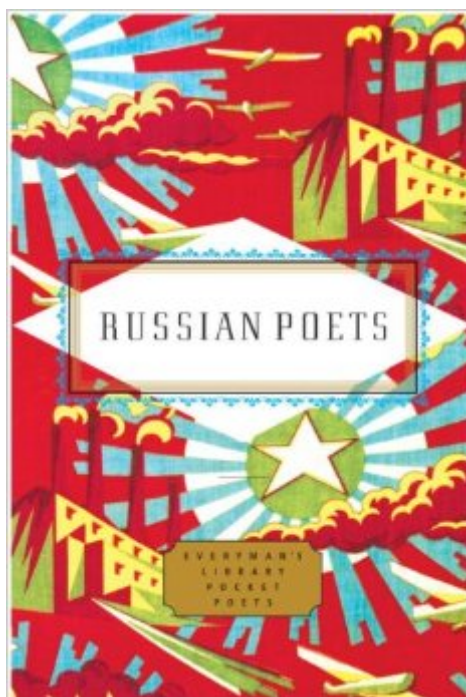


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Russian Poets (Everyman's Library Pocket Poets)



Synopsis

Russian poets have always been admired for the lyric and emotional intensity with which they forge private and public experience into verse, and this volume gathers together some of the best-loved, and most powerful and immediate poems from the greatest Russian poets of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Here is the work of Alexander Pushkin, Mikhail Lermontov, Alexander Blok, Andrei Bely, Vladimir Mayakovsky, Ivan Bunin, Osip Mandelstam, Anna Akhmatova, Marina Tsvetaeva, Boris Pasternak, and Joseph Brodsky, among many others. Arranged by theme—love, mortality, art, and the enduring mystery of Mother Russia herself—and presented in the best available translations, these poems will serve as both an introduction to the mastery of Russian poetry and a wide-ranging selection to be returned to again and again.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I have been a student of Russian for 20 years and am presently, with my coauthor, a native Russian, in the process of trying to publish an anthology of 19th and 20th century Russian poetry translated into English rhyming verse. Therefore, I was delighted to have been asked to review Everyman's "The Russian Poets". This small compact volume of 252 pages consists of 176 Russian poems which have been translated into English and many of them into English rhyming verse. Almost all of the poems are between 1 and 2 pages in length. The editor, Peter Washington, has arbitrarily divided these poems into 6 categories which are "The Muse", "Native Land", "Black Earth", "Traumerei", "On Love", and "What Is The Use Of Time?". It was very gratifying to see many

of these poems translated from Russian rhyming verse (as was done by Alexander Pushkin, the Father of Russian Poetry) into English rhyming verse. I believe that it is the obligation of the translator to be as faithful as possible to the original text as regards rhyming, rhythm, and intent of the poet. Indeed, this is a most difficult task since idiomatic expressions in Russian are not easy to translate using English idioms. The effort must be made, however, if one wishes to achieve in translation the beauty and joy of these poems as intended in the original text. I believe the editor has achieved this in the majority of poems in "The Russian Poets". This book is compact, portable, and a real bargain for the price of a hard cover book with easily legible print. I would highly recommend this book to English readers who wish an introduction to Russian poetry in its classical and endearing form.

This is a great collection for heartache or cultural and political melancholy. It is also great poetry, and well translated as far as i can guess. The lyricism and sad elegance of Anna Akhmatova's lost heart. The grandeur of dark invention of Osip Mandelstam. The sheer greatness of Pushkin. And much more....

These little poetry books are amazing and a great value.

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