



### An Anthology of Contemporary Ghanaian Poems

**Woeli A. Dektsey & John Sackey**

This book of poetry by established and younger writers from Ghana represents a rare effort to compile and publish an anthology of contemporary Ghanaian poems. Some of the writers included are Kobena Eyi Acquah, Ama Ata Aidoo, Kofi Awoonor, Kwesi Brew, Gifty Selorn Odoom, Doris Adabasus Kuwornu, Rex Quarterly and Lade Wosornu.

9964978863 144pp 2004 Woeli Publishing Services **£14.95 /\$22.95** - Paperback



### Chants of a Minstrel

**Ezenwa Ohaeto**

'My ancestors were minstrels. Their honeyed tongue could weave lyrics out of almost all forms of human interactions and activities. This tradition is encapsulated by the performance of the famous ode poetry prevalent among their descendants, which is presented under numerous kinds of stimuli. Thus the emotional impulses expressed here, the rhetorical modes adopted here and the verbalised rhythmic sequences illustrated here are derived from the minstrel tradition associated with ode poetry performance... The use of alternative poetic models is equally a result of a sophisticated understanding of the forms of performance discernible in other traditions...it is the amalgamation of imaginative narratives, folklore and contemporary concerns... There is no doubt that this cultural model of the minstrel generates abundant inspiration and provides a variety of artistic modes that enable the mind of the poet to distil new chants. I drank from the spring of tradition. My ancestors were minstrels and I have only continued in the same tradition.' The author is a poet, short story writer, and scholar of literary criticism. He has penned numerous articles and books, and is the recipient of several prestigious awards. His books have been translated into Russian, French and Italian. His works have been performed in English and Igbo throughout the world.

978039088X 106pp 2004 Kraft Books Limited £8.95 /\$17.95 - Paperback

**Price: £8.95**



### Operations and Tears. A New Anthology of Malawian Poetry

**Anthony Nazombe**

This new anthology is the product of some seven years of writing, editing, collecting and collating of poetry emanating from Malawi. Many of the poems in the collection hark back to the time of major political changes between 1992 and 1994. The poets are predominantly women and men from Malawi, both new and established voices. They include: Steve Chimombo, Frank Chipasula, Zangaphee Anthony Nazome, Patrick O'Malley and Francis Sefe. Some poems by the Nigerian, Niyi Osundare, which he wrote for, and dedicated to Jack Mapanje, are also included.

9990876045 253pp 2004 Kachere Series **£9.95 /\$22.95** - Paperback



### Heart Sounds

**Adebayo Lamikanra**

9780390820 100pp 2003[publ. 2004] Kraft Books Limited £6.95 /\$10.95 - Paperback

**Price: £6.95**



### Blind Moon

**Chenjerai Hove**

A new collection of evocative and defiant poetry from one of Zimbabwe's leading literary and political writers. The poems reflect on the plight of the individual citizen and the state of Zimbabwe, the poet's birthplace and spiritual home. They convey empathy for those who suffer anonymous deaths at the expense of tyrannical power, and yearning for a more peaceful world and spirit of common destiny; their intention being in his words 'to persuade the heart and the soul and human body to be together and to gently cry out to the world'. Chenjerai Hove's oeuvre encompasses novels, essays and poetry. He has received the Zimbabwe Literary Prize, and The Noma Award for Publishing in Africa; and his books has been translated into many languages.

1779220197 64pp 2003 Weaver Press Ltd £13.95 /\$19.95 - Paperback

**Price: £13.95**



**I Want to Dance and Other Poems**  
**Tanure Ojaide**

Winner of the 2003 Association of Nigerian Authors Prize for Poetry, by one of Nigeria's foremost contemporary poets. 'I Want to Dance' is an extended song cycle divided into three parts. In the song, the poetic voice undergoes a journey of experience from west to east and night to day; and reflects upon moving away from, and returning home. Tanure Ojaide is a leading voice amongst the new younger generation of Nigerian poets. He is author of several collections of poems including most recently, Daydream of Ants (Malthouse Press), and Delta Blues and Other Home Songs (Kraft Books). He has also written literary criticism on the poetry of Wole Soyinka and black poetic consciousness. He has won the Commonwealth Poetry Prize for the Africa Region, and has been awarded the Association of Nigerian Authors' Poetry Prize twice, and his work has been translated around the world.

0962886459 90pp 2003 African Heritage Press **£12.95 /\$17.95** - Paperback



**Men Love Chocolates But They Don't Say**  
**Mildred Kiconco Barya**

A first collected works by a Ugandan woman poet, who has had her poems published in journals in Uganda and the US. The work is divided into sections entitled: 'Poems of Challenge'; 'Poems of Sunshine and Loneliness'; 'Poems of Loss and Contradiction'; and 'Poems of Release'. The title poem is a humorous contemplation on the dual-natured personality of man, on the one hand, the masculine identity he presents to his friends; and on the other, his softer side which endears him to women. The author has also contributed short stories to Femrite anthologies and is currently working on a novel

9970988808 96pp 2003 Femrite **£13.95 /\$19.95** - Paperback



**The Journey Inside**  
**Gwen Alford**

First collection by Gwen Alford, an African woman living in North America, reflecting on diverse themes such as: a personal quest for religious experience; home and identity; race and motherhood; activism; and September 11th, 2001.

0962886483 41pp 2003 African Heritage Press £14.95 /\$22.95 - Paperback

**Price: £14.95**



**It Would Take Time. Conversations with Living Ancestors**  
**Femi Abiodunrin**

978039060X 88pp 2002 Kraft Books Limited £12.95 /\$10.95 - Paperback

**Price: £12.95**



**The Parliament of Idiots. Tryst of the Sinators**  
**Tayo Olafioye**

9780390596 92pp 2002 Kraft Books Limited £6.95 /\$10.95 - Paperback

**Price: £6.95**

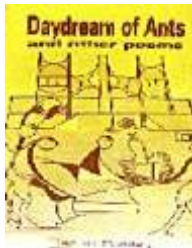


**A Lot from Paradise**  
**J.P. Clark**

John Pepper Clark is one of the greatest living African writers, and has published works of poetry, drama and criticism. In this new collection of poems, he communicates sensitivity, warmth and nostalgia - a glance at the past. The collection contains twenty five poems divided into two sections: A Lot from Paradise, and Other Lives.

9780230505 42pp 1997[publ. 1998] Malthouse Press £6.95 /\$13.95 - Paperback

**Price: £6.95**



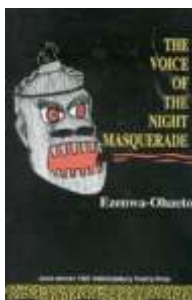
### Daydream of Ants and Other Poems

#### Tanure Ojaide

Winner of the 1997 Association of Nigerian Authors, Christopher Okigbo Prize. The Nigerian poet is one of the leading younger generation African poets. He has been described as perhaps the most important voice in the generation of African writers following Chinua Achebe and Wole Soyinka. He has received Honourable Mention in The Noma Award for Publishing in Africa, and is currently Professor of African Literature at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. In this new volume, forty-four new poems are collected.

9780230629 79pp 1997 Malthouse Press £7.95 /\$14.95 - Paperback

**Price: £7.95**



### Voice of The Night Masquerade

#### Ezenwa Ohaeto

The author explains his poetic mission thus: 'it is the cultural tradition in my part of the world, that when abominations become unbearable, and the truth must be told with great courage, then the night masquerade appears...in order to set a senseless practice right; sometimes the night masquerade must confront the ruler and point out the nakedness of his utterances...this is the voice of the night masquerade, I am only the medium.' The ensuing collection of poems is divided into three sections: 'Night' - alluding to the night the mother of the spirits walked the length and breadth of the clan, weeping for her murdered son, in 'Things Fall Apart'; 'Night Vigil', and 'Night Passages'. This book was joint winner of the Association of Nigerian Authors' Poetry Prize in 1997. The author is a poet, short story writer, and scholar of literary criticism. He has penned numerous articles and books, and is the recipient of several prestigious awards. His books have been translated into Russian, French and Italian. His works have been performed in English and Igbo throughout the world.

9780391002 97pp 1996[reissue 2003] Kraft Books Limited **£8.95 /\$17.95** - Paperback



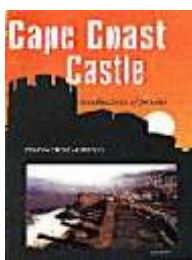
### A Chequered Serenade to Mother Africa

#### Mutu Wa Gethoi

This collection of poems is dedicated to the current and future generations of disenfranchised Africa. The themes are historical, topical, and universal, and the language is simple and clear. Social conflict is the central motif.

*"...a major contribution in his fluid style on the subject of love which many Africans rarely express openly." (African Book Publishing Record)*

9966469443 83pp 1996 East African Educ. Publ. **£6.95 /\$11.95** - Paperback



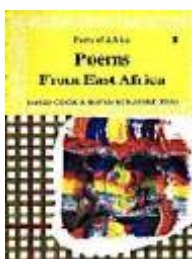
### Cape Coast Castle. A Collection of Poems

#### Kwadwo Opoku-Agyemang

Cape Coast Castle is one of three slave castles on the coast of Ghana. The poet believes that a place so savaged became a victim of society, and a new orientation can only come about by breaking the ancient silence. Naming the trauma involves him in exploring the condition of the African world. Weaving an intricate network of powerful images, his verse is both forceful and lyrical. A teacher of literature at the University of Cape Coast, the poet is acknowledged as a strong voice among the new generation of African poets.

*"...recommended for both specialized and general reading." (The African Book Publishing Record)*

9964701705 104pp 1996 Afram Publ. (Ghana) Ltd **£6.95 /\$11.95** - Paperback



### Poems From East Africa

#### David Cook & David Rubadiri

The spirit of the poetic flowering of the 1960s is encapsulated in this comprehensive anthology. The collection gives voice to some fifty poets from Kenya, Uganda and Zambia, writing in English. The diversity of the interests and styles of the individual poets is illustrated: a blend of the gentle lyricism that is a feature of East African writing. All the major poets are included, and many not so well known. Amongst the best known are Jared Angira, Jonathan Kariara, Joseph Kariuki, Taban Lo Liyong, Okot p'Bitek, and David Rubadiri - one of the editors.

9966460195 206pp 1996 East African Educ. Publ. £7.95 /\$14.95 - Paperback



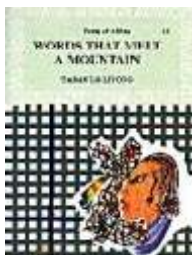
### Tides of Time: Selected Poems

#### Jared Angira

Jared Angira is one of Kenya's pioneer poets. His poetry is both profound and didactic, imbued with feeling and passion. He blends the traditional Victorian and Romantic English modes and the traditional African form, with idiomatic expression from oral poetry and the African song. This collection includes pieces from four previously published works, and from three wholly new publications.

*"...a very intriguing poet with a strong sense of the incantation and cadence of traditional "African" oral poetry." (World Literature Today) "...he displays verbal exuberance, word play, wit and humour." (African Book Publishing Record)*

9966467416 169pp 1996 East African Educ. Publ. **£7.95 /\$14.95** - Paperback



### Words That Melt a Mountain

#### Taban Lo Liyong

Two hundred and twenty three new poems are included in this collection. They come from the pen of one of Africa's most provocative and engaging writers. The poems are inspired by a two year recent stay in Japan, and reflect on aspects of Japanese morals and life. In his introduction, the poet describes writing as an invitation to a dialogue, and toleration as the answer to a multicultural world.

*"...is a major contribution to modern African poetry..." (World Literature Today) "...highly imaginative, musical and entertaining. This is a moving collection in which simplicity is a strength and love is treated from an experienced and philosophical perspective." (African Book Publishing Record)*

9966467890 149pp 1996 East African Educ. Publ. **£7.95 /\$14.95** - Paperback



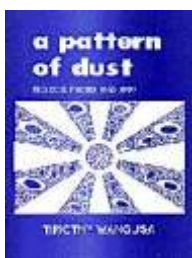
### Return of No Return and Other Poems

#### Kwesi Brew

One of West Africa's most significant poets, the author has also had long and distinguished service representing Ghana overseas. The poems are suffused with grim reflections of relations between the governed and those who govern them. Within the uneasy calm lie elements of future hope, and the poet's familiar belief is clear: profound lessons have been bequeathed to Africans, wherever they may live, by the experiences of their ancestors. The reader is made privy to the inner person, the poet's fury, his tenderness, and his struggle to overcome his baser self.

*"...highly recommended for all collections..." (The African Book Publishing Record) "...prophetic flame licking at the edges of his poetry...makes the verse sing with profound meaning." (World Literature Today)*

9964701527 47pp 1995 Afram Publ. (Ghana) Ltd **£7.95 /\$14.95** - Paperback



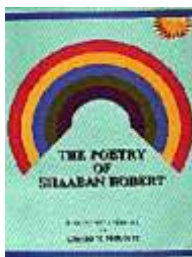
### A Pattern of Dust. Selected Poems 1965-1990

#### Timothy Wangusa

The author is a well-established published poet and novelist. This up-dated selection of his poetry follows his first collection published in 1977 as Salutations. The poems were written between 1965 and 1990, with some revisions and new additions. They are divided into six main themes: nativity soil; sovereign flags; flesh and metal; femalekind; the masqueraders; and intimations.

*"Profoundly concerned with the devastation of the human spirit in Uganda and in Africa in general. Wangusa offers hope by presenting a broader and deeper spiritual world in poems that are concrete, that make us see." (World Literature Today) "...delicately precise use of words...accessible to the literate reader but revealing more and more as that reader studies it. We shall look forward to hearing again this individual voice that is witty and lyrical, sophisticated and Ugandan." (African Literature Today)*

9970020285 87pp 1994 Fountain Publ. **£10.95 /\$19.95** - Paperback



### The Poetry of Shaaban Robert

#### Clement Ndulute

The great poet Shaaban Robert wrote in Kiswahili. This selection of his poems has been translated into English, and represents the best as well as the most representative of his major themes. Taken from his best known volumes of poetry, the entire spectrum of human existence is covered: youth and old age, morality and religion, politics, the beauty and significance of natural phenomena, love and the nature of man. Preceding the poems are two essays providing the critical context for the poet's output.

9976602316 179pp 1994 Dar es Salaam Univ. Press **£10.95 /\$19.95** - Paperback

**Price: £10.95**



### Song of Farewell

#### Jane Okot p'Bitek

The poetry known as the East African Song School was founded by the late Okot p'Bitek. This new volume is in that tradition, whilst being distinctively from a new generation. The song is a lament which embraces wide social issues such as war, love, hatred, and the pressures and anxieties of everyday life. Six poems make up the song: Farewell my Lord, Tears of Laughter, Let them Talk, Cling to the Blazing Cross, Resigned to Fate, and Fruits of War. The volume is dedicated to Okot p'Bitek, the author's father.

*"...an outstanding volume of poetry...rich with fresh images evoked to express the familiar. The work's power from the use of a simple yet engaging direct address... The collection's very specificity immediately captures the reader's attention, as the storyteller engenders the whole of the human condition through her performance." (World Literature Today) "...stands as a book whose importance goes far beyond curiosity value"p (West Africa)*

9970020188 71pp 1994 Fountain Publ. £7.95 /\$14.95 - Paperback

**Price: £7.95**



### Midlife

#### Niyi Osundare

One of Africa's most highly acclaimed poets, whose garlands include the 1986 Commonwealth Poetry Prize and the 1991 Noma Award for Publishing in Africa, this volume of poetry is part declarative, part confessional, part reflective, predominantly visionary. The volume was written around the poet's fortieth birthday. It is a vibrant celebration of life, its lights and shadows, its mountains of pain, its valleys of pleasure; and a passionate engagement with Africa's problems and manifold possibilities. The style is varied, experimental, and lyrically evocative.

*"This enchanting collection is a must for all college and university libraries interested in the spectacular flowering of African literature in 1990s." (The African Book Publishing Record)*

9781291982 109pp 1993 Heinemann Ed. Books (Nigeria) Plc £10.95 /\$19.95 - Paperback

**Price: £10.95**



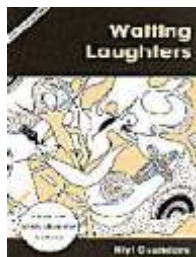
### Songs of the Season

#### Niyi Osundare

These poems from one of Africa's most highly acclaimed poets and the winner of the 1991 Noma Award for Publishing in Africa, are an ironic celebration of collective aspirations, failures, guilts and hopes. They call for change in a society wracked with problems. The poet sets out to produce a collection that captures the significant happenings of the time in a tune that is simple, accessible, topical, relevant, and artistically pleasing and, as he puts it: 'to remind kings about the corpses which line their way to the throne, to show the rich the slums which fester behind their castles, to praise virtue, denounce vice, to mirror the triumphs and travails of the downtrodden, to celebrate the green glory of the rainy season and the brown accent of the dry, to distil poetry from the dust and clay of the vast, prodigious land - songs plucked from the lips of my land in its manifold laughters and sorrows.'

9781291761 150pp 1990 Heinemann Ed. Books (Nigeria) Plc £16.95 /\$23.95 - Paperback

**Price: £16.95**



### Waiting Laughters

#### Niyi Osundare

Winner of the Commonwealth Poetry Prize for 1986, Niyi Osundare is one of Nigeria's most prominent writers. This second volume of poetry is about waiting in different and contrasting situations, and the behaviour of time in the waiting process. It is a poetic response to the gloom and despair gripping contemporary African society; and the poems emphasize the possibility of laughter and its diverse manifestations. The style is derived from the oral literary tradition. Winner of the 1991 Noma Award for Publishing in Africa, the jury citation commented that the volume is 'a truly distinguished volume, which gives a new dimension to Niyi Osundare's deep social concerns. Vast in its range of images, the poetry is assured, passionate and at times intensely lyrical...represents an affirmation of confidence in the ultimate possibility of triumph over the stress of the present moment in Africa.'

*"...fast paced, witty, musical, diverse and exhilarating." (World Literature Today) "...part of an impressive oeuvre characterized by bold experimentation...strongly recommended for all university and major public libraries." (The African Book Publishing Record)*

9782601403 97pp 1990 Malthouse Press £10.95 /\$19.95 - Paperback

**Price: £10.95**



**Of Feathers and Dead Leaves. And Other Poems**  
**Christopher H.M. Barlow**

In this anthology of poems, the author traces the history of contemporary Uganda. From nostalgic memories of the early excitement of uhuru, through to the growing disillusionment and faded idealism of later years, the poems stand as witness to the unfolding story of independent Africa. Their significance lies in the relevance they hold for other parts of the continent and in the poet's insistence, amidst ambivalent sentiments of hope and despair, that the perseverance and dedication of the African people will bring about a better future.

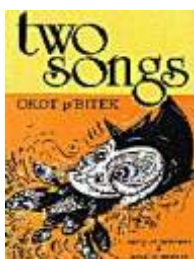
0797408924 26pp 1989 Southern Africa Printing & Publ. House £6.95 /\$13.95 - Paperback **Price: £6.95**



**Moonsongs**  
**Niyi Osundare**

Niyi Osundare is one of Nigeria's most prominent writers, and a winner of the Commonwealth Poetry Prize and the Noma Award for Publishing in Africa 1991. Moonsongs won Honourable Mention in the 1989 Noma Award. The main body of the poems is given harmony by being centred on the image of the moon. Thirty-six poems explore original themes and imagery, enhanced by the rhythms of the language.

9782460176 74pp 1988 Spectrum Books £6.95 /\$11.95 - Paperback **Price: £6.95**



**Two Songs: Song of Prisoner & Song of Malaya**

**Okot p'Bitek**

Poet, philosopher and artist, these poems from the distinguished Ugandan writer won the 1972 Kenyatta Prize for Literature. Song of Prisoner confronts the tragedy of Africa's decade of freedom. He traverses the whole spectrum of her political sickness and contrasts it with the enduring reality of the bush - roots of family and clan, and the optimism of Africa's children in the face of hunger, hardship and humiliation. Song of Malaya, in lighter vein and contrast, is a harshly beautiful, lusty farce about the hypocrisy and cant of Africa's modern moralists.

9966467203 184pp 1988 East African Educ. Publ. **£7.95 /\$14.95** - Paperback



**Minted Coins**  
**Okinba Launko**

A collection of poems in contemplation of life, conceived in seven rhythmic sections skillfully knitted together, and addressing some aspects of life ranging from the mundane to the spiritual.

9781298472 72pp 1987 Heinemann Ed. Books (Nigeria) Plc **£6.95 /\$13.95** - Paperback



**Songs of the Market Place**  
**Niyi Osundare**

Winner of the Commonwealth Poetry Prize for 1986, Niyi Osundare is one of Nigeria's most prominent younger writers. This first collection of his poetry is the expression of a critical awareness in its exploration of the social situation in contemporary Nigeria. In an introduction, Biodun Jeyifo remarks that his distinctive voice is attributable to the fact that his verses confront both poetry of revolution and a revolution of poetry, in terms of forms and techniques. Thirty-five poems are included.

9782266108 90pp 1987 New Horn Press £16.95 /\$11.95 - Paperback **Price: £16.95**



**The Eye of the Earth**  
**Niyi Osundare**

A lyrical and panoramic body of poems from the prize-winning poet, informed by a revolutionary vision about the earth, our home.

9781291397 49pp 1986 Heinemann Ed. Books (Nigeria) Plc £6.95 /\$13.95 - Paperback **Price: £6.95**



**Songs in a Time of War**  
**Ken Saro-Wiwa**

The versatile and prolific Ken Saro-Wiwa writes short stories, plays, novels, a popular television series, and social/political commentary. The range of his writing is a vivid illustration of contemporary Nigeria. The focus of his writing - whether serious or comedies on the human condition - are his concerns about his country, and experimentation with style to find an adequate language of communication. Here his concerns are channelled into poetry. The twenty poems concentrate on the Nigerian civil war, during which he held high office in the Federal Government service.

9782460000 44pp 1985 Saros Int. Publ. **£7.95 /\$14.95** - Paperback **Price: £7.95**