

A Stranger's Mirror: New and Selected Poems, 1994-2014

By Marilyn Hacker

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A Stranger's Mirror: New and Selected Poems, 1994-2014 By Marilyn Hacker

Longlisted for the National Book Award

A selection of poems that addresses the quotidian and the global, from one of our most essential poets.

Drawing on two decades worth of award-winning poetry, Marilyn Hacker's generous selections in *A Stranger's Mirror* include work from four previous volumes along with twenty-five new poems, ranging in locale from a solitary bedroom to a refugee camp.

In a multiplicity of voices, Hacker engages with translations of French and Francophone poets. Her poems belong to an urban world of cafés, bookshops, bridges, traffic, demonstrations, conversations, and solitudes. From there, Hacker reaches out to other sites and personas: a refugee camp on the Turkish/Syrian border; contrapuntal monologues of a Palestinian and an Israeli poet; intimate and international exchanges abbreviated on Skype?perhaps with gunfire in the background.

These poems course through sonnets and ghazals, through sapphics and syllabics, through every historic-organic pattern, from renga to rubaiyat to Hayden Carruth's "paragraph." Each is also an implicit conversation with the poets who came before, or who are writing as we read.

A Stranger's Mirror is not meant only for poets. These poems belong to anyone who has sought in language an expression and extension of his or her engagement with the world?far off or up close as the morning's first cup of tea.

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Editorial Review

Review
“Stands as a textured but unified testament to [Hacker’s] output over the past two decades.” (Publishers Weekly)

“[Hacker] remains an undisputed master of formal verse… one of the most extraordinary innovative poets writing today. No other poet manages the casual pyrotechnics she accomplishes in form.” (Carol Muske-Duke - Los Angeles Times)

About the Author
Marilyn Hacker is the recipient of the National Book Award, the PEN Award for Poetry in Translation, the Robert Fagles Translation Prize, and the PEN/Voelcker Award for Poetry. Her collection Winter Numbers received a Lambda Literary Award and the Lenore Marshall Award of the Academy of American Poets. She lives in Paris, France.

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