

A Confluence of Literary, Cultural & Vision Arts

DRUM VOICES

Review

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Celebrating...

Origins, Configurations & Routes of the 'Soular' System: 20th Anniversary of 'Drumvoices' • Sesquicentennial of East Saint Louis (IL) • EBR Writers Club's 25th Birthday • 85th Birthday of ESL Native Son Miles Davis ...

Dancing with Dragons
(Originally appeared as the "foreword" to DR9:
"Words from 15 Cities")

Maya Angelou

Poetry is asked to be many things. The requests are sometimes not only ambiguous, but contradictory. Poetry is asked to be ephemeral as the scent of faded perfume in a closed-up room and as tragic as paper umbrellas in a drenching rain. It is sometimes considered to be beautiful and wispy as a color half remembered and as strong as a pylon, which holds great bridges. Poetry is as undeniable as Mt Kilimanjaro, as vigorous as the word and as mighty as the sword. The poets, whose work is represented in this special issue of Drumvoices Revue, have earned and deserved the reader's appreciation and awe-full admiration. They have dared to dance with dragons and have attempted to translate the meaning of the human heart. Diverse in lyricism and various in intent, they speak with power. Obviously, the poets collected here heeded editor Eugene Redmond's call for "Words from the Cities," for they have certainly felt the "yeast in the air" and I am happy to say have written about it and written well.

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