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Antonio Machado: Selected Poems

By Antonio Machado



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Regarded by many as the finest poet of twentieth-century Spain, Antonio Machado y Ruiz (1875-1939) is not well known outside the Spanish-speaking world. This volume will introduce him to Anglo-American readers, enabling them to experience at first hand the subtle nuances of his verse. Some two hundred fifty poems in Spanish, drawn from Machado's entire oeuvre, are accompanied on facing pages by sensitive and beautifully fluent translations which render the originals accessible to the mind and the ear.

Mr. Trueblood annotates the individual poems, placing them in context and illuminating their allusions and undertones. In addition, he provides a substantial biographical and critical Introduction. This gives an overview of Machado's life, as a poet and teacher and wide-ranging commentator on cultural, political, and social affairs. (Forced into exile at the end of the Civil War, he crossed the Pyrenees on foot and died a month later.) The Introduction also discusses the qualities of Machado's predominantly quiet and reflective verse, as well as the development of the thought of this major poet.

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Editorial Review

Review

Antonio Machado (1875-1939) [is] regarded in Spain as the greatest Spanish poet of the century. Trueblood's volume...can only serve to win readers for one of the greatest of European poets. (*The Literary Review*)

Trueblood's discriminating anthology, with its very readable and resourceful English renderings facing the Spanish text, and its lightly handled erudition...is the best initiation into the poetic legacy of Machado for the general reader. (*Times Literary Supplement*)

Trueblood...makes [the poems] breathe with the same laconic power they have in Spanish. It is no small accomplishment that he has been able to keep his English so wind-swept. (*New York Times Book Review*)

A magnificent volume. (Modern Language Journal)

From the Back Cover

Antonio Machado is regarded in Spain as the greatest Spanish poet of the century. This volume can only serve to win readers for one of the greatest of Europe's poets.

About the Author Alan S. Trueblood was Professor of Hispanic Studies and Comparative Literature at Brown University.

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