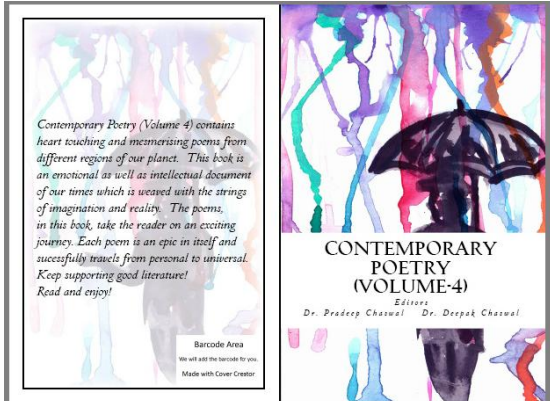


## **CONTEMPORARY POETRY (Volume 4 – 2017) – An Anthology of Present Day Best Poems**

**Editors: Deepak Chaswal and Pradeep Chaswal** – Contemporary Poetry (Volume 4) – An Anthology of Present Day Best Poems with the exquisite poems of representative poets from different parts of our planet. This book is an emotional as well as intellectual document of our times which is weaved with the strings of imagination and reality.



### **Pavol Janik Piano**

**Translated into English by James Sutherland Smith**

The moment we each have our own key  
to the same flat  
I'll shift a piece of the garden  
to the second floor.

Sometimes I'll come personally.  
Clean  
and carefully shaved  
to listen to home concerts.

I'll come for sure  
clumsily like a piano,  
and always well-tempered.

### **INDEX – Pavol Janik Piano 45**

Ada Aharoni Year of Hope 1-2  
Adolf Shvedchikov Sarcophagus 3  
Aine Collins Fragment 4  
Aine McAllister Alone on the Blackstock Road 5  
Alex Dreppecc Underpass 6  
Alicia Valasse Reflections - To those not yet born 7  
Alicja Kuberska Death of a Home 8-9  
Anca Mihaela Bruma Togetherness in Solitude 10  
Andy Botterill Rough and Smooth 11  
Catherine Moscat Promises to Sylvia 12-13  
Charles Halsted Senior Moments 14  
Claire T. Field Egression 15  
David Grother II All I Know 16  
Dianalee Velie Semplice 17-18  
Eduard Schmidt-Zorner Margaret Island 19  
Eliza Segiet The Easel 20

G. David Schwartz I Have Many Worries 21  
 Germain Droogenbroodt Searching for Light 22  
 Iida Lehto Dead Weight 23  
 Jane Beal Destiny 24-26  
 Julyyo San Martín Water and Fire 27  
 L. Anne Molin After the Rain 28  
 Lara Ayzvazyan Repentance 29  
 Laura J. Minning r e s t l e s s n e s s 30  
 Li Jian Heaven Lake 31  
 Linda M. Crate Fogs and Mists 32  
 Lydia Soelter Somewhere you lost me... 33  
 Marc Carver Padre 34  
 Marieta Maglas Another Dimension 35  
 Marion Palm Time 36-37  
 Marsha Mathews First Grandchild, Fifth Day 38  
 Mary Anne Zammitt The Boy and The Wind 39  
 Menduh Leka Great Abandon 40  
 Mery Larrinua Distance 41-42  
 Michael Lee Johnson I Edit my Life 43  
 Nicole Yurcaba Kruk 44  
**Pavol Janik Piano 45**  
 Peter Dietrich I Wrote this Song 46-47  
 Robert Allen Goodrich Valderrama Total Love 48  
 Sabahudin Hadzialic Daybreak Sometime in the Future 49  
 Sarah Brown Weitzman April 50  
 Sergio Ortiz Nostalgic Rainy Afternoon 51-52  
 Shari Jo LeKane-Yentumi Modern Values 53  
 Steve Andrews The Ears of The Night 54  
 Sugar Tobey Process 55  
 Tatjana Debeljacki In the Spring Japan 56  
 William R. Miller Last Night I Dreamed About Kurt Cobain 57  
 Xe M. Sanchez A Saturday of May 58

Contributors' List 59-72

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## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Mgr. art. Pavol Janik, PhD., (magister artis et philosophiae doctor) was born in 1956 in Bratislava, where he also studied film and television dramaturgy and scriptwriting at the Drama Faculty of the Academy of Performing Arts (VSMU). He has worked at the Ministry of Culture (1983–1987), in the media and in advertising. President of the Slovak Writers' Society (2003–2007), Secretary-General of the Slovak Writers' Society (1998–2003, 2007–2013), Editor-in-Chief of the Slovak literary weekly Literarny tyzdennik (2010–2013). Honorary Member of the Union of Czech Writers (from 2000), Member of the Editorial Board of the weekly of the UCW Obrys-Kmen (2004–2014), Member of the Editorial Board of the weekly of the UCW Literatura – Umeni – Kultura (from 2014). Member of the Writers Club International (from 2004). Member of the Poetas del Mundo (from 2015). Director of the Writers Capital International Foundation for Slovakia and the Czech Republic (from 2016). Chief Representative of the World Nation Writers' Union in Slovakia (from 2016). He has received a number of awards for his literary and advertising work both in his own country and abroad.

This virtuoso of Slovak literature, Pavol Janik, is a poet, dramatist, prose writer, translator, publicist and copywriter. His literary activities focus mainly on poetry. Even his first book of poems, which appeared in 1981, attracted the attention of the leading authorities in Slovak literary circles. He presented himself as a plain-spoken poet with a spontaneous manner of poetic expression and an inclination for irony directed not only at others, but also at himself. This style has become typical of all his work, which in spite of its critical character has also acquired a humorous, even bizarre dimension. His manner of expression is becoming terse to the point of being aphoristic. It is thus perfectly natural that Pavol Janik's literary interests should come to embrace aphorisms founded on a shift of meaning in the form of puns. In his work he is gradually raising some very disturbing questions and pointing to serious problems concerning the further development of humankind, while

all the time widening his range of themes and styles. Literary experts liken Janik's poetic virtuosity to that in the work of Miroslav Valek, while in the opinion of the Russian poet, translator and literary critic, Natalia Shvedova, Valek is more profound and Janik more inventive. He has translated in poetic form several collections of poetry and written works of drama with elements of the style of the Theatre of the Absurd.

Pavol Janik's literary works have been published not only in Slovakia, but also in Albania, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Croatia, the Czech Republic, France, Germany, Hungary, India, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Kosovo, Macedonia, Nepal, the Republic of China (Taiwan), Poland, Romania, the Russian Federation, Serbia, South Korea, Spain, Syria, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom, the United States of America and Venezuela.