OXFORD POETRY, 1922

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649765478

Oxford poetry, 1922 by Various

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OXFORD POETRY



OXFORD BASIL BLACKWELL MCMXXII

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Certain of these poems have appeared previously. Thanks are due to the editors of the Spectator, Westminster Gazette, New Statesman, Form, Oxford Outlook, to Messrs R. Cobden Sanderson, Ltd., and to the Golden Cockerel Press for permission to reprint.

CONTENTS

F. W. BATESON (Trinity)	
Twilight	page 1
Ruined Church	2
Estranged	3
Light Love	+
JOSEPH BREWER (Magdalen) 'In Lands made Desolate'	5
G. W. S. CURTIS (University)	
Come, My Muse	6
MAURICE EPSTEIN (B.N.C.) The Way	7
- 49 주요 - ~ 2 시간 한 2 22 2 3 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	(X)
D. K. GILLIE (Balliol)	
Lyric	9
L. P. HARTLEY (Balliol)	
Disparity in Despair	10
BERTRAM HIGGINS (B.N.C.)	
Ariel	I 1
Ambition	13
My Brother	14
Truth and Reality	15
The Eagle	17
RICHARD HUGHES (Oriel)	
Gaza	19
Isaac Ball	20
The Jumping Bean	21
JAMES LAVER (New College)	
The Burial of Shelley	22
J. S. LINNELL (Trinity)	
Suicide	25
ourchie	- 5

CONTENTS

RAOUI. LOVEDAY (St Jobn's) A Song of Town	26
	20
BASIL MURRAY (New College)	
The Blackbird	27
ALAN PORTER (Queen's College)	
The Cosmopolitan	28
ARTHUR E. E. READE (Worcester)	
The banished Rebel	30
C. H. O. SCAIFE (St John's)	1
Summer	32
Fond Lover	33
Afternoon	34
W. FORCE STEAD (Queen's College)	JT
The Magic Way	
Oblivion	35
Snow-scene in Starlight	37
	38
ANTHONY STEELE (New College)	
Allegory	40
Audierne	41
Odyssey ix	42
Prophet's At Home Day	+3
JOHN STRACHEY (Magdalen)	
Man Asleep	44
The Forsaker	45
D. C. THOMPSON (Balliol)	
The Crabs	46
At Lonnin Garth by Portinscale	47
[12] - 지도 방법의 (이상의 관계) 이상이었는	τ/
B. J. WALLIS (Merton) The Welland Floods	. 0
The Welland Floods	48

5

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F. W. BATESON

TWILIGHT

NOW tiptoe night hath lured away The laggard rustic from the hay; An earliest owlet shrills Between the hills.

Stilled is all else: not yet there pry Beetle or bat to mar the sky, Nor dismal ghost to delve For mouldered pelf.

No crumpling whisp of smoke betrays Or cotter's fire or tavern blaze; No glowworm shames the dark With pilot spark.

Alone I prowl: intent to share The drowsy hour's sweet despair, And younker moon to spy Climb up the sky.

F. W. BATESON

RUINED CHURCH

NO stirring: bristly thistles guard Crumbled church and vacant yard. All mouldered save a casual stone Or vagrant tomb: decay alone. So old, so dead, the very ghosts Traitors to their ancient posts. Owl nor bat deign to intrude This time-forgotten solitude. Only rank grass and nettles know The quite oblivious bones below; Only cool dock and sorrel now Where parson sermoned long ago.