

Press Release

Tuesday, 27. January 2009

The intoxication of Poetry: Spanish poet Claudio Rodríguez now on lyrikline.org

To mark the 75th anniversary of the birth of the Spanish poet, Claudio Rodríguez will be included on the poetry website lyrikline.org from 30th January 2009.

He was one of Spain's most important poets of the 20th Century, a student of Literature Nobel Prize winner Vicente Aleixandre and a member of the famous "Generación 50": Claudio Rodríguez. To mark the 75th anniversary of his birth, his own recordings of his poems will be available for listening to from 30th January 2009 on lyrikline.org with the texts of the poems and translations into many languages.

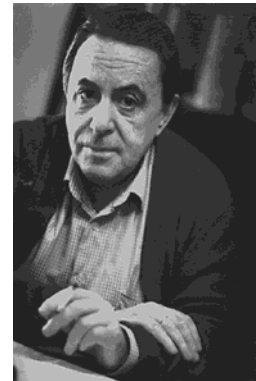


Foto: Javier Arcenillas

Although he only published a very few collections, Claudio Rodríguez (30.1.1934 - 22.7.1999) was an influential figure over many decades in the development of Spanish poetry. As a translator and critic of European poetry, he was also an international mediator. Even in his first collection, "Don de la ebriedad" (The Gift of Intoxication) in 1953, his influences included both Spanish mysticism and the work of Rimbaud and Baudelaire. His poetry was marked by its simple beauty and transcendence of language to an ecstatic state of rapture. "Oh, clarity thirsting for a form,/for material, to blind it/burning itself in the completion of the work." (First Book, I, from 'Gift of Intoxication'). He was awarded many prizes for his work, including the Premio Adonáis de Poesía, the Premio de la Crítica, the Premio Nacional de Poesía, the Premio Príncipe de Asturias de las Letras and the Premio Reina Sofía de Poesía Iberoamericana. From 1987 he was a member of the Real Academia Española de la Lengua.

There are now over 5,000 poems by over 515 poets in 50 languages on lyrikline.org, read by the poets themselves, and with over 5,700 translations. Since it started, more than 3.5 million users have visited the website. In 2005 lyrikline.org was awarded the Grimme Online Award, and it was selected as a "Landmark in the Land of Ideas" in 2008.

Claudio Rodríguez on www.lyrikline.org

From 30th January 2009

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