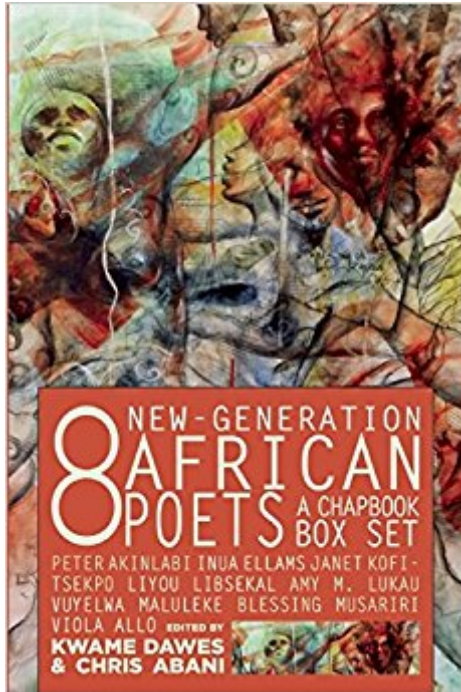


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Eight New-Generation African Poets: A Chapbook Box Set



Synopsis

"The chapbooks gathered here are almost overflowing with voice....Each of these chapbooks is so worthy of praise and attention that it is not possible to do them justice in the space afforded this review. They deserve, and hopefully will receive, the specific and individual attention of critics and readers, and their authors deserve to enjoy long and noted careers."--Untucked Magazine

"I've been spending time with Eight New-Generation African Poets, a chapbook set edited by Kwame Dawes and Chris Abani. In particular, I recommend the selection of poems by Vuyelwa Maluleke, full of devastating pronouncements."--Kenyon Review

"We live in a curated world; the beauty of this collection is not just in the interplay of cover art and text, of preface and poem, but especially in its overall optimistic effect. This isn't a curatorial project solely focused on refining our world, cutting it down to manageable size, reflecting the literary interests of its editors. Though it does this, it simultaneously opens up a whole new emergent modern trajectory of African poetry, adding to it words that are surprising not in their existence--we know that with greater funding, similar projects, changing patterns of readership, more than eight, more than ten new African poetry chapbooks of this quality could reach us each year--but in their specific, trenchant voices. Start clearly off a set of shelves--this is something to make space for, year after year."--Africa in Words

This elegant, limited-edition box set features nine chapbooks: eight volumes of poetry, plus an introduction chapbook by editors Kwame Dawes and Chris Abani. The eight African poets included are Peter Akinlabi, Viola Allo, Inua Ellams, Janet Kofi-Tsekpo, Liyou Mesfin Libsekal, Amy Lukau, Vuyelwa Maluleke, and Blessing Musariri. The box set is an annual project of the African Poetry Book Fund, in collaboration with Akashic Books, which seeks to identify the best poetry written by African authors working today, with a special focus on those who have not yet published their first full-length book of poetry.

Book Information

Paperback: 200 pages

Publisher: Akashic Books; Box edition (April 28, 2015)

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Product Dimensions: 9.3 x 6.1 x 1.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars Â Â See all reviews Â (1 customer review)

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Customer Reviews

The editors, Kwame Dawes & Chris Abani, deserve the highest accolades for their excellent efforts in starting and expanding this project. Their goal is as simple as it is moral. To bring the literature of Africa into the realm of World Literature. And I mean what I wrote: this is not just a literary event, it is a moral event. I realize that African literature is a glaring hole in my knowledge of global literature, which is an accessible way to make contact, open lines of communication, increase global harmony. I consider poetry the finest expression of our common humanity, so this project has my full attention and commitment. Based on my experience with the first collection, I bought this second. I have complete faith in the two editors, I already consider them friends and advisers, and will continue to buy, read and publicize their series. I want to spend the rest of my life in the 21st century reading one of these chapbooks boxes every year. That's my pledge, and I mean to fulfill it with wisdom and delight!! BTW The graphic design alone is worth the price of admission. I am dazzled by the appearance of these chapbooks and the box itself.

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