Graham Fawcett



3 Shirley Close London E17 9LZ

12 June 1990

Dear Zhaleh Esfahani

BRITAIN'S HIDDEN POETS

Earlier this year the Anvil Press asked me to make contact with those poets permanently resident in Britain who write in a mother-tongue other than English, and also with those critics, teachers, broadcasters and others who can help me with this contact.

I hope you will not mind my writing to you in the form of a circular to begin with. Your name has been mentioned to me as that of someone who may well be interested in either submitting your own poems for a possible anthology of work or putting me in touch with others who should know about the project.

I am hoping to have established by the autumn whether such an anthology would be viable. Obviously this will depend on the response I receive from poets all over Britain who come within the category I have outlined.

If you are interested in this idea, I would be glad to hear from you. If you wish your own poetry to be considered for inclusion in the anthology, I would ask you to send a sample of your work, in translation wherever possible but in the original language if no English version already exists or can be made in the coming months. By sample, I mean not more than the equivalent of ten pages of poetry. I regret that poems submitted to me cannot be returned, so I would ask you to keep copies of anything you send.

If you would like to send me information about poets, probably writing in the language of your own country, or writing in a language of which you have made a special

Shadab Vaj di study, or both, then again I would be glad to hear from you. It would be useful to have the names and addresses of poets you would particularly recommend.

The scope of the anthology would include any poet resident in Britain from 1945 onwards, including poets who have since died. Poets who are accustomed to translating their own poems into English would be eligible as long as they always compose in their mother-tongue.

Obviously, as the anthology does not yet exist, my approaching you cannot be taken as a commitment to publish your work in such an anthology in the future. This is simply an exploratory letter. I hope it will stimulate a good and comprehensive response. Then I shall be able to advise the Anvil Press as to the feasibility of an anthology with the working title BRITAIN'S HIDDEN POETS.

I look forward to hearing from you. Could I ask you to reply before the end of August? The sooner the better for building up-a picture. Thank you.

Yours sincerely

Graham Farrett

Graham Fawcett

Ms Zhaleh Esfahani 76 Bollo Bridge Rd Acton Lmam I dietnit ansmare

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