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Book Review of *The Poetry of Vihang A. Naik - New Literary Dimensions*

Mysti S. Milwee

*The Poetry of Vihang A. Naik – New Literary Dimensions*

By Goutam Karmakar

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Divided into three parts, this insightful and thought provoking volume of critical essays on the poetry of Vihang A. Naik, edited by Goutam Karmakar, peppered with scholarly foreword by Sumit Ray and erudite Preface by Patricia Prime, is an excellent book for those students, scholars, teachers and poetry lovers who are always eager to read something new and unique. Vihang A Naik, an award winning poet of modern era writing in English. He is a notable figure of the 21st century who is known for his poetic excellence and exclusive writing style. The poetry of Vihang A. Nick is the virtual representation of his poetic visualization and fabulous creation, brilliant expressions of his spiraling Ponderings on all features of life. Love, desire, social worries, myths, mystery of life, vantage point of life, mystical, individual, neutral aspects of life, love for nature, moral values, and impact of cyber age etc., find a place in his poetry. The editor did a praiseworthy work in order to bring his poetic talent in front of poetry lovers.
so that they can aware of his brilliant and apt use of images and his poetic mind and heart. The variety of themes taken by Naik in his poetry, are well analyzed in the research articles included in this book edited by Goutam. The book maps out the literary insights of Naik’s poetry through the literary articles dealing with varied themes of Naik. The researchers who contributed to this book have done a praiseworthy work by analyzing different aspects of Naik’s poetry.

The first part of the book provides a useful study material on the poet, Vihang A. Naik and his poetic collection. The second part of the book is stuffed with nineteen academic critical essays which reflect Naik’s poetic quality from varied points of view. In these articles Naik’s use of imagery, his love for nature, his philosophy of life, his art of poetic creation, his use of figures of speech, symbols, and his poetic technique are well analyzed. Thus the volume on Naik's poetry communicates internally and externally with originality and uniqueness. These critical essays arranged in the book make the reader emotionally attached to the poetic world of Naik. Thus, a fine study of the present book takes its reader on a realistic journey of the modern day society. The researchers who contributed to this book notate their insight and their response to Naik’s poetry represents a philosophical meaning that how Naik stresses on the virtues of truth and honesty. The third part of the book which deals an interview of the poet also increase the beauty and usefulness of the book as it brings the reader close to the poet’s heart and makes them aware of his poetic ideas as in front of the interviewer the poet unlocks his heart and personally shares his feelings and worldly experiences.

From the beginning to the end the book is enriched with accessible and appealing fullness of depth found internally and externally in human stature and these feature Naik in his finest human response to emotion in the physical world. The book also documents historical culture of Naik in relation to modern day society. The structure of visceral bold imagery, symbolism, contradicting nature, and prediction in relation to society, philosophical meaning and the effect in the quality of life within the human individual and within the community wraps the readers with emotion to feel the numbness, texture, emotional anxiety of realism and the dilemmas faced, to make others see and feel the values of life, and deep values of the poetic language which represents humanism, natural response in the ever changing economy of spiritual awareness, and guidance of self-healing power of transformation in the form of consciousness. The elements of humanity of self-expression created by observation of life signify a broad spectrum of natural response. The persona where Naik derives his inspiration from and the creativity explored through his creative and ingenious mind, a spectrum of various expressions of imagery and multiple meanings in response to Naik’s unique voice. How the emotion stirs according to intuition, awareness, in communicating, and feeling from his experiences.

Naik’s experience conveys an emotional condition and is of high importance is a mixture of realism to art, and life in determination and its composition reiterates and expression of impulsiveness, vibrant tactics with imagination which also possesses childhood happiness and joy, the beauty derived from fond memories. The expressiveness and its sensitiveness find and explore the happiness, suffering, angst, irony, and agony. Consistency in innovative meaning and its common purpose is portrayed in the philosophical standpoint to create a vision, the texture between humankind and nature. The depth of the blind-spot integrates a common denomination, a common factor and its framework designed to approach the observation in society.
today signifies the visions in the mind of the conscious of the views of life, and how it is interpreted in its standing of deep values.

In my opinion, I feel that I can relate very well to the thematic variations of the poetry of Vihang A. Naik. The depth he portrays in his multifaceted and dimensional layers of poetic imagination influence my mind in observational awareness of humanity, where emotions are conveyed in richness in the depth of emotion is quite exhilarating. My favorite part is the emotion and breath sustained in emotion and the elements of its composition leaves my mind in the moment, breath, numbness and the desire to feed creatively from these moments from his self-expression that makes me feel the core of the soul. I can relate and I know we all can relate to these moods, and the emotions conveyed. It makes me remember times of hardship, happiness, and how I responded to my emotions in the past, with the new thoughts of moving upward and onward into the future. I felt the futurism or its subconscious feeling of future observation and the ability to see the visceral and vivid emotion derived from humanity and how my heart reflects on the thoughts and its philosophical meaning of life.

I would highly recommend this edited volume of critical essays on Vihang A. Naik to all walks of life, because we can all relate to Naik’s poetic works that leaves the mind to feel the emotional depth of life, love, friendship, etc. His work is remarkably touching to the heart and soul, leaving you enriched and enlightened with the ability to see truthfully and honestly with deep feeling in the enriching texture of emotional depth. I highly applaud the editor of this book Goutam Karmakar who represents Vihang A. Naik's poetry very well and the researchers who have written essays with an in depth observation of Naik's poetic works.
BIO-NOTE

Mysti S. Milwee is an award-winning and internationally published Synesthesia Artist, Poetess, and Writer from Southside, Alabama USA. Her articles, art, short stories, collaborations and poetry has appeared in SETU Magazine; Warriors With Wings-The Best if Contemporary Poetry; GloMag Magazine; 13 Alphabet Magazine; Siege Now; Moonchild Magazine; Ramingo Blog; along with many other journals, e-zines, etc., across the USA and abroad. Read more about her and links to her works at www.mystismilwee.wordpress.com

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