

The Musical Box of Wonders

Paul StJohn Mackintosh

ISBN-13: 978-87-991767-9-3

Release Date: March 2011

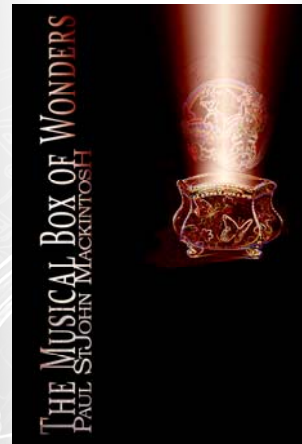
Pages: 64

Paperback

Price: €16.94 (approx. US\$23.00)

Publisher: H. Harksen Productions

(Contact us: h.harksen.productions@gmail.com)



The Musical Box of Wonders is the second collection from the acclaimed British poet Paul StJohn Mackintosh. It showcases imagination and lyricism, and confessional landscapes from the boundaries between culture and nature, mundane and divine, the everyday and the extraordinary. The volume brings together themes ancient and modern, Scottish and English, Asian and European, and contains the fruits of ten years spent living in Asia, including intensely personal poems about the writer's family, all handled with great tactile strength, resourcefulness and a unique, poetic power. The result is a genuinely new voice, with a style and spirit seldom heard in British poetry for decades.

Paul StJohn Mackintosh is a British poet, writer and translator. A graduate of Trinity College, Cambridge, and a former executive committee member of the Translators Association of the Society of Authors, he has published translations from Japanese and Romanian, and is also an independent film producer. With his family, he divides his time between Hungary and Asia.

The poet's website: <http://paulstjohnmackintosh.com/>

"Crammed with attractive detail handled with sensuousness ... Poems that are in turns elegaic and entertaining, technically adept and resourceful, and treating a variety of themes Western and Eastern with grace and dignity. What more could one hope for in a collection?" – Alan Brownjohn

Critical reaction to Paul StJohn Mackintosh's work:

"This book [The Golden Age] alone strikes me as among the most distinguished by younger British poets known to me." – Michael Hamburger

"I love the moments of serenity, the unfailing gravity, with sometimes a little gentle irony, showing an oeuvre of great power, founded as well on Truth and Love – We need these utopias without illusions." – Yves Bonnefoy

"Great clarity and confidence – unstrained but rich." – Peter Scupham

"Paul St John Mackintosh is writing singularly skilful and attractive poems. At the heart of his work is a love of his medium. He delights in word-wit. His use of rhyme is uninhibited, joyous. He is utterly alive to rhythm and sound, form and tone. One can imagine Auden, aux anges, giving his craftsmanship an approving grunt ... a young poet worth following and worth listening to." – Kevin Crossley-Holland

"A classical sense of form and order ... bold assertions of truly classic values, committed enough to outface easy cynical responses." – Philip Gross

"Very fine, fully focused, and rhythmically achieved pieces that are a pleasure to read – and also some discursive surprises – there is an undeniable lyric power too – I foresee even more powerful things ahead." – Stephen Romer

"What singles itself out for immediate comment is the poems' remarkable voice and vocabulary – a genuine poetic diction, regularly using improbable rhymes and half-rhymes – natural, playful and provocative." – Richard Mayne

"As one of the first literary editors to have 'discovered' Paul St John Mackintosh as a poet, I have known him and his work for several years now. His reputation is growing as is his work. He is a dedicated writer." – Peter Dale