

JOHN SIDDIQUE FRSA

John Siddique is a spiritual teacher, poet, essayist and author. The Spectator describes him as 'A Stellar British Poet,' and The Times of India calls him 'Rebellious by nature, pure at heart.' He is the author of *Full Blood*, *Recital – An Almanac*, *Poems From A Northern Soul*, and *The Prize*. His poetry collection *Don't Wear It On Your Head* is a perennial favourite with younger readers. He is the co-author of the story/memoir *Four Fathers*.

His poems, essays and articles have featured in *Granta*, *The Guardian*, *Poetry Review*, *The Rialto* and on *BBC Radio 4*. Acclaimed novelist Bina Shah says he is 'One of the best poets of our generation.' Jackie Kay speaks of Siddique's writing as being 'A brilliant balancing act.'

The Times describes *Full Blood* as 'Technically virtuosic, yet direct and sensual,' and Dawn - Books & Authors says his work is 'Bold as love... Each word is to be savoured like a sip of forbidden wine.' Professor Lauri Ramey of CSULA calls *Recital* 'One of the most important British poetry books of the last twenty years.'



Siddique is well known for his authentic style, his captivating readings, and his infectious love of literature. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts, and is a Royal Literary Fund Consultant Fellow. John is the former British Council Writer-in-Residence at California State University - Los Angeles, and he holds the title of Honorary Creative Writing Fellow at Leicester University.

www.johnsiddique.co.uk
www.authenticliving.life

Quotes:

'John Siddique's Full Blood takes the reader down the street and round the world. This is a brave and a bold book of linked poems whose subjects range widely from love to hate, from war to peace, from childhood to adulthood, from the real world to the world of myth. Siddique is interested in everything. Tender and open-hearted, these poems are full of wonder at the power of love. Dreamy and yet direct, this is Siddique's most powerful collection yet.' - Jackie Kay

'A poet full of surprises and racing energy.' - The Rialto

'In the very beautiful Full Blood John Siddique seduces the reader with his life-affirming reflections on our mortality and a profoundly moving poetic interplay of tenderness, love and eroticism.'

Dr. Claire Chambers – Senior Lecturer in Post Colonial Literatures at Leeds Metropolitan

'The poems in Recital form a literary chronograph for survival, echoing life's ticking clock while inviting us to stop and observe the moments before they pass. In this irreplaceable collection, he creates a time-line for evaporating memories, observations and sensations, and reveals life's potential to be a hidden gallery.'

Professor Lauri Ramey - Centre for Contemporary Poetry & Poetics California State University at Los Angeles

'John Siddique is one of Britain's most interesting and original poets. He probes the contradictory jumble of contemporary Britain revealing daily heroism and bravery of the urban sprawl that he clearly knows well.'

Elizabeth Rosa Horan - Professor of English - Arizona State University

JOHN SIDDIQUE - A BIBLIOGRAPHY

Books

Full Blood (Salt) ISBN 9781844718245 Published 2011
Recital – *An Almanac* (Salt) ISBN 9781844715145 Published 2009
Don't Wear It On Your Head (Salt) 9781844717637 Published 2007 & 2010
Poems from a Northern Soul (Crocus) ISBN 0946745870 Published 2007
Transparency (as Editor) (Crocus) ISBN 0946745722 Published 2006
Four Fathers (Co-author) (Route) ISBN 1901927276 Published 2005
The Prize (Rialto) ISBN 0952744481 Published 2005

Chapbooks

Blackpool - *A Poet's View* (Blackpool Council) Published 2009
Umma (Mongrel Press – Private Limited Edition) 2002
The Devil's Lunchbox (Mongrel Press) ISBN 0952898802 Published 1996
Apollo (Private Limited Edition) 1993

Radio Plays

A Painter's Sky - BBC Radio 3 2007

Prizes, Awards and Honours

Fellow Royal Society Arts
Nomination for Best Poem - Forward Prize 2014
Hawthornden Fellowship
Royal Literary Fund Fellow – York St. John University 2013/14/15
Honorary Creative Writing Fellow at Leicester University
BBC Writer's Award for 'A Painter's Sky' 2007
Shortlisted for CPLE Poetry Award 2007
Nomination for Best First Collection - Forward Prize 2005
Nomination for Best Poem - Forward Prize 2004
Arts Council of England Writer's Awards 2005, 2006, 2007, 2011

Important Anthologies:

Out of Bounds (Bloodaxe) ISBN 1852249293
The HarperCollins Book of English Poetry by Indians (HarperCollins) - ISBN 9789350290415
NEW WRITING 15 (Granta) – ISBN 1862079323
The Fire People (Payback/Canongate) ISBN 0862417392
VELOCITY (Apples & Snakes/Black Spring) ISBN 0948238283
Masala (MacMillan) ISBN 0330415018
Life Lines – Poets for Oxfam CD