

Out of the Shadows of Angkor

Cambodian Poetry, Prose, and Performance Through the Ages

With nearly 400 pages, *Out of the Shadows of Angkor: Cambodian Poetry, Prose, and Performance through the Ages* is an outstanding collection of classic and contemporary writing. The volume emerges from the thirty-year effort of a community to gather Cambodian literary and cultural works. In doing so, they not only translated rare works into English for the first time, but also helped to rescue writing lost during the Khmer Rouge regime (1975–1979). Readers will find the following and more: –Cambodian writing ranging over fourteen hundred years, from the seventh century to the present; –translations of classical texts; selections of modern Cambodian poetry, prose, and folk theater; –contemporary writings by Cambodian refugees and children of the diaspora living in countries from Australia to the United States, Canada, and Europe; –visual art, including oil paintings by Theanly Chov and excerpts from a graphic novel by Tian Veasna. "The work included in *Out of the Shadows of Angkor* is just a part of the vast, diverse repertoire of Cambodian literature created by those born in Cambodia, in the camps, and in new lands. Soth Polin once told me, 'What we have lost is indescribable. what we have lost is not reconstructable. An epoch is finished. So when we have literature again, it will be a new literature.' We hope this book brings out of the shadows some of the lost, hidden, and emerging gems of Cambodian literature—past, present, and moving into the future." —From the overview essay by guest editor Sharon May

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