Up the Devil’s Back
Po hřbetě d’ábla

Translated and Edited by

Bronislava Volková
& Clarice Cloutier

Up the Devil’s Back: An Anthology of 20th Century Czech Poetry presents 65 selected Czech poets in English translation, together with their biographies. Co-translated and edited by Bronislava Volková (Professor of Czech literature, Comparative literature and Jewish studies at Indiana University) and Clarice Cloutier (Professor of Central European literature and culture at New York University [Prague campus] and lecturer at Charles University, Prague), this volume seeks to give a sense of the evolution undergone by Czech poetry throughout the decades. Featuring renowned poets such as Seifert, Březina and Holub, in addition to poets who have not received well-deserved attention, Up the Devil’s Back compiles female poets alongside males and exiled authors together with those who remained in the Czech Republic under the totalitarian regime.

“These poems are more than an expression of a series of individual talents: above all they bear witness to a culture whose survival in the calamitous twentieth century is nothing less than a miracle. The same might be said of the publication of this anthology.”

(from the Afterword by Alfred Thomas),

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