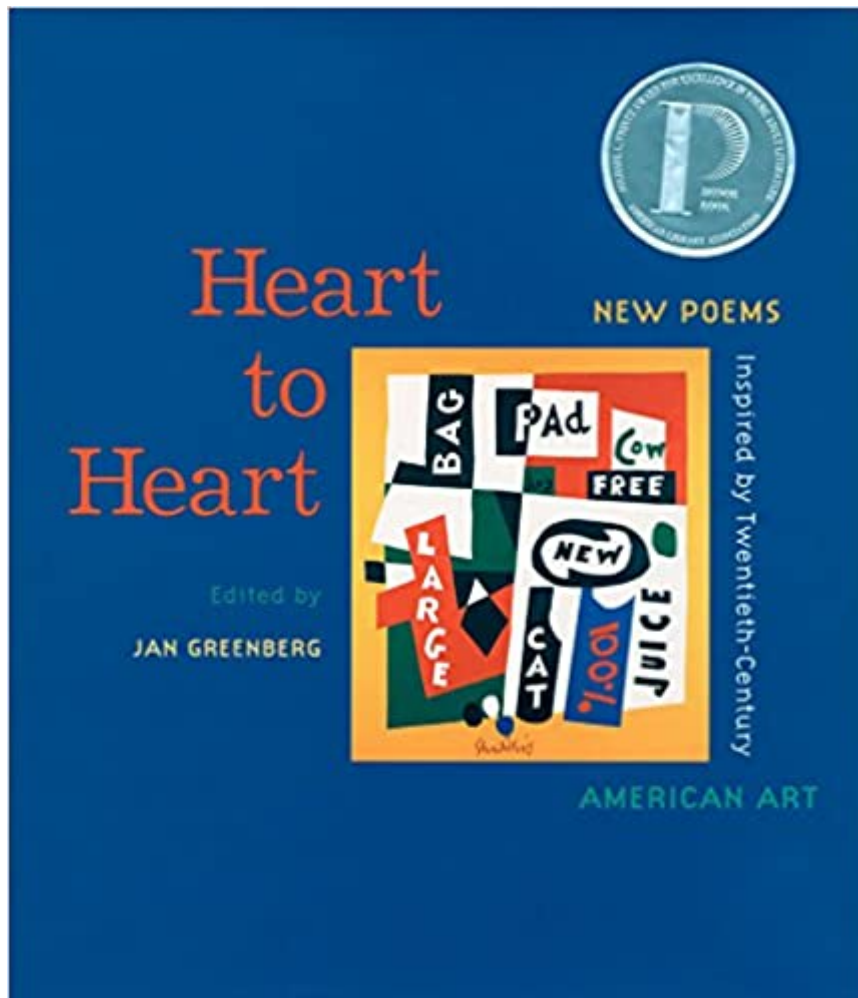




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# Heart To Heart : New Poems Inspired By Twentieth-Century American Art



## Synopsis

What do we feel when we look at a great work of art/ What does a poet feel/ Heart to Heart offers an original way to approach poetry and art—with new works by distinguished American poets, specially commissioned for this book by editor Jan Greenberg. Prompted by paintings, sculpture, prints, and photographs by American artists working in the 20th century, these poems lend a new meaning to “art appreciation” and make each page of Heart to Heart an exciting discovery. Join such poets as Jane Yolen, Nancy Willard, X. J. Kennedy, Naomi Shihab Nye, David Mura, and Angela Johnson as they reveal a personal, heartfelt response to works by Thomas Hart Benton, Romare Bearden, Jacob Lawrence, Grandma Moses, Faith Ringgold, Man Ray, Georgia O’Keeffe, and many others. Whether the poems are playful, challenging, tender, mocking, humorous, sad, or sensual, each work of art, seen through the eyes of a poet, allows readers to look at the world with new insight.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Lee Upton on Louise Bourgeois’s Defiance, William Jay Smith on Ellie Nadelman’s Woman at a Piano and Naomi Shihab Nye on Florine Stettheimer’s The Cathedrals of Broadway are just a few entries in Heart to Heart: New Poems Inspired by Twentieth-Century American Art. Coupling large-type poems with full-page reproductions 47 out of 48 in full color editor Jan Greenberg puts ekphrastic and ekphrastic in happy proximity. Copyright 2001 Cahners Business Information, Inc.

Gr 5 Up-Greenberg invited 43 poets to choose a piece of modern art and to write a poetic response

to it. The result is a gorgeous, thoughtful, stimulating collection of art and poetry that turns the standard poetry/art book on its head. "How would you paint a poem?" Bobbi Katz asks in her response to a Mark Rothko painting. "Prepare the canvas carefully/With shallow pools of color/Stacked secrets waiting to be told-." Greenberg's book might best be seen as an embodiment of that poem. Each work of art is impeccably reproduced, the color and design are exceptional, and each poem is given room on the page to breathe. The art glows, the words reflect the images and create more light-"Florine, we would live inside your colors! Red joy,/golden rushes of hope-" Naomi Shihab Nye writes about Florine Stettin's The Cathedrals of Broadway. If a picture book is defined as a marriage of word and art, then Heart to Heart is not only a wonderful poetry collection, but also a picture book of the highest quality.-Kathleen Whalin, Greenwich Country Day School, CT  
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An amazing work of art! The poets are well matched with the art they chose and the poems are good enough to give you chills. A must for any serious collector of contemporary poetry.

Let me quickly write a disclaimer that I only purchased this book to use as a required book for my daughters' course on the 20th century this coming year. I had expected a longer book covering more poetry of the 20th century. The book does have a number of artists represented, but I would not plan to spend \$13 for the book again.

This is a great book for artists and non artists alike. It is a useful tool for any age group in understanding visual imagery. The poetry is done in response to art that ranges in style and media, giving the reader/viewer a wide exposure to the arts. The poetry is crisp, interesting and meaningful to contemporary culture without being trite or overly stylized. This book is a great educational resource, coffee table book, or good cure for the common boredom!

Beautiful poetry book, wonderful selections for my third and fourth graders.

Bought this book because it was part of the Sonlight 300 curriculum. Because it reflects poetry from the 20th century it rarely rhymes which can be hard to get used to. But, it does have a picture for every poem, most of which are color and relate to the poem. The pictures are all from the 20th century so your study of Modern American History can be that much more complete.

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