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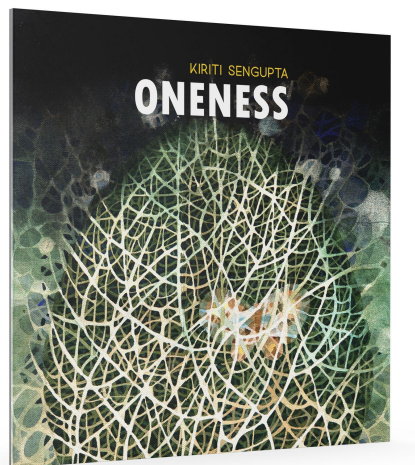
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“Source is the primary region of being. In its primacy, the source is an origin: the oneness. Oneness cannot be divided yet as a realm of being; it divulges itself.”

TRANSCENDENT ZERO  PRESS

ONENESS

Poetry pamphlet by Kiriti Sengupta



Foreword by Prof. Nilufer Eruch Bharucha, Co-Director

Mumbai Muenster Institute of Advanced Studies (MMIAS)
University of Mumbai, India

Regaling Readers with *Oneness*

Kiriti Sengupta, prize-winning poet, translator, editor and publisher, wears many hats. In his latest collection of poems, *Oneness*, he regales readers with an enchanting mix of poetic forms. We have haiku, short poems and even prose pieces. The topics, too, range from gossip and glamour to those with emotional depths. So, we have Antara Marwah walking the ramp and flaunting her baby bump — "She is all smiles as she / treads, flaunting her baby/ bump. The fashion parade / looms large in the new arrival."

This poem of the socialite's juxtaposing the fashion parade with her unborn baby is contrasted with the intensely personal emotions in "On Exit," where Sengupta writes in heart-wrenching words about how the ghee that makes food delicious for him is also smeared on the skin of his father, as the priest assures him that it would make the fire find his "Baba luscious."

The six haiku are lyrical and almost fragile in their selection of words. The sound and sense in them come together as in "full moon / across the landscape / fireflies." There is also covert sarcasm in the haiku in which the poet says that plagiarism tests the memory of the reader.

Oneness is not just worth a read but is also the sort of collection that leads the reader to muse upon what it has offered and find deeper meaning in it. The paintings accompanying the poems add a visual intersection of meaning with the text.

Prof. Nilufer Eruch Bharucha

Co-Director

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"The poems in *Oneness* are extraordinary and insightful. Sengupta takes the reader on a journey of India and beyond. There are rainstorms, good food, and so much more. The poet asks, "Does grief know / its future?" The answer is "Like the river, / it (grief) refuses to cease but / reveals progression." I urge you to read *Oneness* for its vision and sound wisdom." — **Leah Huete de Maines** (Poet-in-Residence Emerita at Northern Kentucky University)

"Sengupta has an utter, playful command of English, borne out in each gem of this collection. He bears full comparison to Elizabeth Bishop." — **Charles Bane, Jr.** (Author of the Pulitzer-entered collection, *The Chapbook*)

"The artist working on a canvas may / not own the paintings lying around." This is so true to all true artists and poets. We give all we have to our art that we may not own, cannot afford. Ownership is never the issue for a real artist. Beauty and authenticity are. Oneness is a work dedicated to poetry and art, and it's very admirable. — **Wang Ping** (Professor Emerita of English, Macalester College, St Paul, Minnesota)



POET BIO

Kiriti Sengupta, the 2018 Rabindranath Tagore Literary Prize recipient, has poems published in The Common, The Florida Review Online, Headway Quarterly, Dreich, Otoliths, Outlook, The Chakkar, and elsewhere. He has authored fourteen books of poetry and prose; two books of translation; and edited nine anthologies. Sengupta is the chief editor of Ethos Literary Journal, and he looks after the English language division of Hawakal Publishers Private Limited, one of the leading independent presses founded by Bitan Chakraborty. Sengupta lives in New Delhi. More at www.kiritisengupta.com.

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