

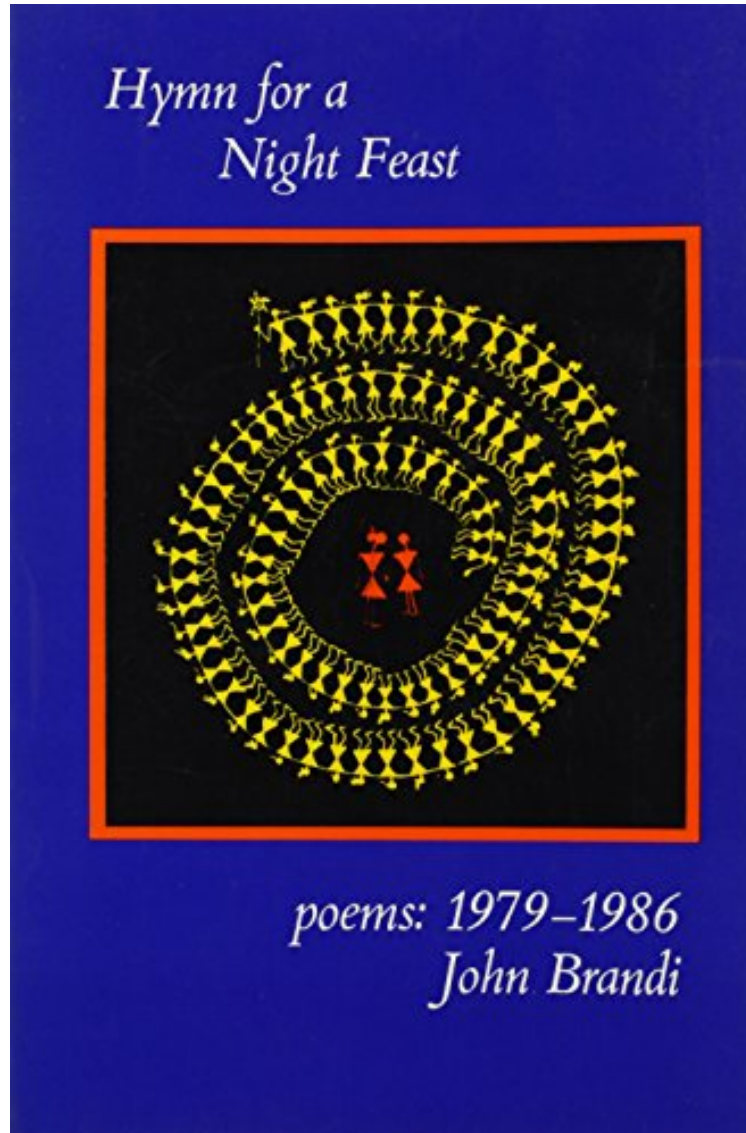
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*John Brandi*

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## **Hymn for a Night Feast: Poems: 1979-1986**

**John Brandi : Hymn for a Night Feast: Poems: 1979-1986** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Hymn for a Night Feast: Poems: 1979-1986:

These poems move out from the Southwestern desert to use the world as a locale for exploration and expression, from Mexico, Alaska, and San Francisco, to Benares, India and also the New Mexico State Penitentiary. Moving from place to place, revealing both political protest and the solace of love, Brandi creates a sense of a surreal that frees the reader

from the limitations of the ordinary.

From Library Journal Brandi's intriguing volume concentrates on time and place: "Think back to Chief Joseph, the march/through Maryland against Vietnam;/Nixon, Somoza, Botha, Papa, Doc, Pinochet/ or Kit Carson. . . ." Here political protest suggests more generally the barriers we confronted in our lives. The forcefulness throughout brings to mind the works of Jack Hirschman and Octavio Paz, but a mythic dimension, enhanced by insights from Brandi's travels, is evident: "Along the sea/ butterflies cluster in eucalyptus./ Here, a shifting jet stream brings desert rain." Written from 1979 to 1986, these poems give witness to the poet's in- correction: Due to an editing error, the 8 review of Paul Monette's Love Alone ( LJ 4/ 1/88) contained an unclear sentence. The fourth sentence should read, "The poems use remembered episodes to celebrate 'that two men ceased to be single,' but more often ride the surface of the present moment, expressing the rage felt during Rog's dying and the ache of being the remaining half of a couple." We apologize for the error. creased maturity and mastery of his craft. Lenard D. Moore, Wake County Arts Council, Raleigh, N.C. Copyright 1988 Reed Business Information, Inc. 1+1+1+1+1+1=1 14:viii:86 Aleknagik Beyond You, Beyond Me Biting The Chill Early February, Moon In Neptune Faces Reflecting In Ink Graffiti, One Continent Two Worlds Here, Give Your Hand Hiking The North Coast By Moonlight Hymn For A Night Feast I Am Not Thinking Anything In Another Distance In Midflight, Between Continents It Is Not The You Madrigal, An April Morn Meditations From A Bench In Front Of The Bellas Artes A Message From Han Shan Monkeys At Swayambhunath New Discovery Night Drive, After A Workshop At The State Pen Old Beast Self On The Date Line Over Mekong Delta, 1979 A Photographic Roll, Benares A Poem For Green A Poem For Light Postal From Tzintzuntzan Praise To The Mother Goddess Preparing The Nets At New Stuyahok A Question Of Journey Quiet Riot Rasa Lila, Kanchipuram Reading Ghost Tantras Waiting For A Night Flight Reply To A Friend Far Away 'they Say You're On The Wrong Road If It's Your Own, Today There Are These Things They Tell Me To Remember True Love What Hope Without Solidarity? What Rite Had She Woman Finding Herself -- Table of Poems from Poem Finder