

Jean D'Amérique

No Way in the Skin Without This Bloody Embrace

Translated from the French by Conor Bracken

In Jean D'Amérique's book-length poem, each page is as brief as a hurricane's eye, glimpsing the eerie territory his speaker traverses like an apocalyptic flâneur. He peers into the ruins—left by the winds of colonialism, capitalism, war, and natural disaster—and sees a “crop of eyes” peering back. What others dismiss as broken, for D'Amérique, is a mirror in shards, “drinking up all the world's rot / then spilling it all out in diamantine rays.” The first of his books to appear in English, this work reclaims the visceral potency of poetry.

// *No Way in the Skin without This Bloody Embrace* announces the arrival of two poets—the author and the voice at the heart of the volume—whose verse is composed of blood, sweat, and tears blended with the froth, flotsam, and salinity of the Caribbean Sea.

— NATHAN H. DIZE

// In tune with its times, the poetry of Jean D'Amérique doesn't shy away from facing the turmoil of a world invaded by the fear of difference.

— KHALID LYAMLAHY

// Jean D'Amérique boldly situates himself everywhere there are fissures, voids—and love. “All the wounded nations,” he notes, “have a place under my skin.” In a language deeply metaphoric and insistent, his image-rich verse never ceases to shudder or shimmer.

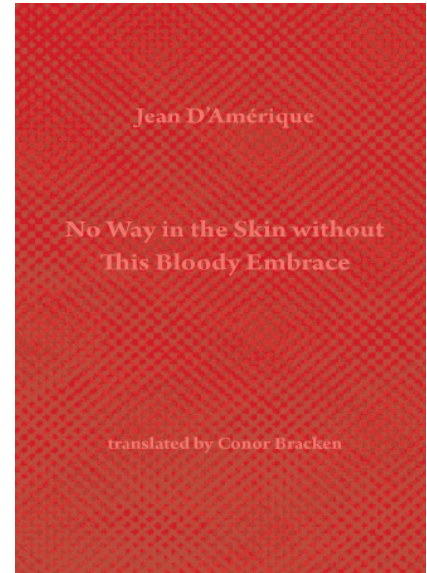
— DANIELLE LEGROS GEORGES



Born in Haiti in 1994, **Jean D'Amérique** is a poet, playwright, and novelist. He splits his time between Paris, Brussels, and Port-au-Prince. He has published several collections of poetry, including *Petite fleur du ghetto* (Atelier Jeudi Soir), recipient of a special mention from the Prix René Philoctète.



Conor Bracken is the author of *Henry Kissinger*, *Mon Amour* (Bull City Press) and *The Enemy of My Enemy is Me* (forthcoming from Diode Editions). He is also the translator of Mohammed Khaïr-Eddine's *Scorpionic Sun* (CSU Poetry Center).



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