

Michael Longley Collected Poems.
Jonathan Cape, 2006.

Good poetry never goes out of fashion, and Michael Longley's work is up there with the best of the lyric poets writing today. This collection brings together a huge variety of work dating from 1969 onwards.

*This is a veritable cornucopia of fine poems, and it is hard to single out any as being primus inter pares. I must, however, admit to having a particular fondness for Longley's nature poems; *The Osprey*, *Badger*, *The Bat and Robin* being perfect examples. But there is a darker side to Longley's writing too, epitomised by his poem *Ghetto* and the two liner *Terezin*, which carries enormous power and pathos.*

This is a wonderful anthology of fine work that I recommend to all who love poetry that is easy to read and impossible to forget.

Rabbi Dr Charles H Middleburgh