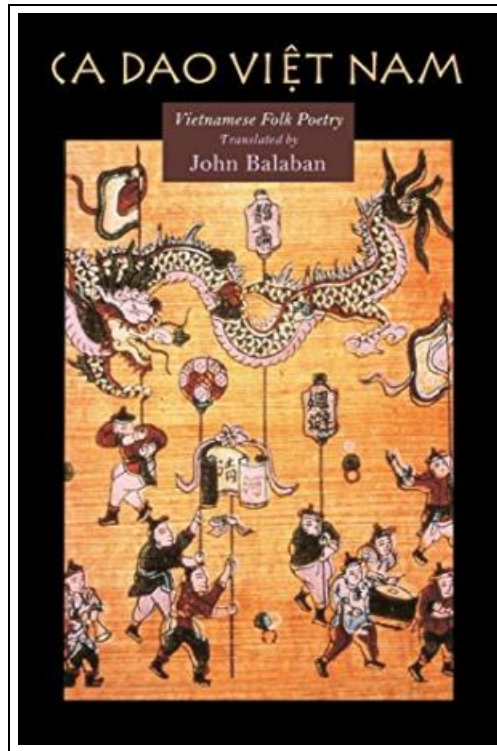


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Reviews

*Basically no words to describe. It is filled with knowledge and wisdom I am just pleased to let you know that this is actually the greatest publication i have read within my individual lifestyle and may be he best publication for at any time.
(Prof. Ron Gaylord II)*

CA DAO VIETNAM: VIETNAMESE FOLK POETRY (PAPERBACK)



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Copper Canyon Press, 2003. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book. During the Vietnam war, John Balaban traveled the Vietnamese countryside alone, taping, transcribing, and translating oral folk poems known as ca dao. No one had ever done this before, and it was Balaban's belief that his project would help end the war. The young American poet walked up to farmers, fishermen, seamstresses, and monks and said, Sing me your favorite poem, and they did. Folk poetry is so much a part of everybody's life, my request didn't seem like such a strange proposition, Balaban writes. The resulting collection--the first in any Western -language--became a phenomenon within the American Vietnamese community, but the book slipped out of print after the original publisher folded in the 70s. This revised, bilingual edition includes new poems and an eloquent introduction explicating poetry's importance in Vietnamese culture. The Painting The stream runs clear to its stones; the fish swim in sharp outline. Girl, turn your face for me to draw. Tomorrow, if we should drift apart, I shall find you by this picture. In early dynasties, Chinese emperors used to send out officials to record the poetry of the common people because folk songs were believed to be the truest indicators of popular feeling. . . . Consider this book such a sampling. Take it as a guide and enter this world of Taoist sages, parted lovers, melon gardens, concubines, exiled kings, wheeling egrets, rice paddies, bamboo bridges, shimmering moons, and fishtraps. --from the introduction These oral poems are direct (though not beyond slyness), simple in language, poignant. . . . Recommended for all collections. --Library Journal John Balaban is the author of 11 books of poetry, prose, and Vietnamese translations. His Spring Essence: The Poetry of Ho...



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