

Pooja Mittal was born in Nigeria in 1983, and has settled in Australia after living in countries as various as Nigeria, India and New Zealand. She is currently in Melbourne, doing a Masters degree in post-colonial literature from Monash University. Her first two books, *Diaries of a Marked Man* and *Musings on Poetry*, were published by Zenith Publishing (NZ) in 2006. Last year, her poem “Drought Relief” was included in *The Best Australian Poetry 2007* (ed. John Tranter, University of Queensland Press), and her poem “The Sun Still Rises” was also selected for *The Best Australian Poems 2007* (ed. Peter Rose, Black Inc. Publishing). Mittal has been published in numerous journals, including *Meanjin*, *Niederngasse*, *Jacket* and *Hecate*. In 2001, she was the featured poet for *Poetry New Zealand*, its youngest featured poet ever at the age of seventeen. Before moving to Australia, she was also chosen as New Zealand's representative for UNESCO's Babel Poetica. Her poetry was translated into Russian by Dmitry Kuzmin, and was performed at the Moscow International Poetry Festival (2001).