

Renata Czekalska
Jagiellonian University, Krakow

'Indianness' under a veil. The example of two modern poets.

S.H. Vatsyayan 'Agyeya' (1911–1987) and Ashok Vajpeyi (b. 1941) are poets of two subsequent generations. Apart from being creative writers, they both prove to be very much involved in animating the Hindi literary world and writing literary criticism as well as being eagerly interested in creating mutual understanding between literature and other forms of art. The language of their poetry combines tradition and modernity on the level of surface utterances as well as on the levels of deeper references. Indian tradition by both the poets is treated selectively, but in such a way that it contributes to the texts' tissue of meaning. Extensive knowledge of Anglo-Saxon literature and Mediterranean cultural tradition is also a feature shared by both the authors.

The paper will be an attempt to present not the apparent references but the so-called 'Indianness' concealed beyond the form and the content.