

What readers and critics say of Sugunasiri's poetry

CELESTIAL CONVERSATIONS, 2006

"...a book of poems with deep thoughts clad in musical rhythms, with intriguing, sometimes startling images and surprising messages - something to think about. ...; and the outlook is on the whole positive, just as I found it in Buddhist viharas in India."

Dr. Ilse Guenther,
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

"... your poetry, I just loved it. ... so evocative.... And your thoughts on returning to Sri Lanka. I actually learned something about you from your poems - even just about your walking in the ravine. Or how you feel about your daughter. A celestial collection indeed."

Prof. Vandra Masemann,
University of Toronto

"It is a lovely work. ... The one about your conversation with the branches of Cedarvale Ravine brought an especially warm smile to my face. It is a gift to be able to make people smile!"

Prof. Melissa Williams,
University of Toronto

"... thought-provoking, and yet irresistibly delightful."

Nanda Lwin,
author and educator

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THE FACES OF GALLE FACE GREEN (1995; 2001)

"What is exciting about the collection ... is the imagination that transforms (the poet's) varied interests into moments of revelation that in turn lead to holistic vision.... What permeates the entire book is a distinctly Buddhist sensibility.. the humor and the gentle irony ... are distinguished aspects of his poetry."

Prof. Chelva Kanaganayakam (University of Toronto),
Toronto South Asian Review

"... The dominant themes of Sugunasiri's verse: a strong political commitment alongside detached, petic Buddhism. ... There is much less of diasporic in his verse and much more of a straight out pleading for common sense and non-violence."

Prof. Vijay Mishra (Australia),
Canadian Literature