

THE EARLY POEMS - BY HARRY SMITH
comentary by M.H. Boechat

What I found especially interesting about the presentation of this book was the NOTES at the bottom of each page - Smith's comments to Editor Fox revealing the true import of the poems themselves.

Themewise, Smith relives his many lives in New York, his marriage, certain apartments, bars, streets with certain flavours ... dreams that recall his Long Island childhood.

At first I felt the poems might be a bit too "romantic" languagewise, but by the time I got to the end I was converted, away from Hart Crane and his school of technolanguage, to a return to HUMANLANGUAGE/HUMANFEELINGS.

Smith for me is a tonic, a RUN AROUND THE BLOCK, AN OPEN WINDOW. So, he is a bit "old-fashioned...?" So is ice-cream, beer, crackers ... SLEEP.

(Harry Smith's THE EARLY POEMS
- from Ghost Dance Press)