

*17th Poetry and People International Poetry Award  
Elaboration of the Jury*

Nikola Madzirov's poetry is deeply rooted in the fertile ground of Balkan memory. Transcending inevitable destiny, crossing the ruins of history and the rifts of culture, he emerges from the mists of time, to offer a new beacon by which to understand pain, hope, and humanity.

Honoring the tradition of the earlier poets' critical meditation on the historical legacy, he dialogues with great minds, gazes at the truth with unflinching courage, and walks alone toward maturity. He radiates the luminous humanism of a new generation of poets. With a fresh spectrum of imagery, his writing extends into the forgotten recesses of life, its accelerating frequency evokes a powerful empathy in the listeners, allowing readers to continually recognize the intimacy of words.

Madzirov's close attention to the immediate and his far-reaching vision towards the world grant him an inalienable sensory experience even as he gives himself fully to the world. His writing is a dual practice between the presence of life and the cry of the soul, guarding the light among human beings, where, deep in the ashes, the unextinguished spark of poetry remains.

Poised between an imagined past and a desired future, Madzirov writes with rigorous honesty. Unbound from earthly restraints by a boundless imagination, he gives voice to a hidden language that blooms gracefully from an inner passion. In him, creativity gains free will; through him, the world begins anew—as if a new species of poetry were arising from its own ruins.