"... original" • "... wonderfully enlightening" • "... clever and humorous" "... astonishing creativity." These accolades are offered by Amazon reviewers who have delighted in John Foster's work.



THIS BOOK MAKES AVAILABLE TO THE ASPIRING POET a wide variety of poetry forms. The author, a well-known Florida poet, invites the reader to discover, in easyto-understand language, the unique characteristics of more than thirty kinds of verse. He offers to both novice and practicing poet an opportunity to create something quite special—and quite different from traditional modern styles. John Foster is your guide on a journey to the Burmese Ya-du, the Persian Ghazal, the Senryu of Japan, the Malaysian Pantoum as well as the more familiar forms of western poetry. For each new form, the reader will find a clear example, or examples, with an explanation of how such poems are structured. An index is provided to access each distinctive poetry form.



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> — Peter Meinke, Poet Laureate of Florida (Additional Endorsements, see page 167)

GESTURE

OF WORDS

POETRY FORMS AND FORMULAS

JOHN F. FOSTER



About the Author

EDUCATED AT YALE, MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE AND THE SORBONNE, John Foster has been a teacher and administrator at private secondary schools in the Northeast. He is known throughout West Central Florida for his instructional and entertaining readings. In 2013 he was appointed National Poetry Judge by the National Federation of State Poetry Societies. As a member of the Florida State Poets Association, he has offered workshops at their annual conventions where he often

Photo by Tom Nankervis

serves as an awards reader. Poetry from his three earlier collections has earned many awards at both state and national levels. At 83, he still enjoys teaching bridge and participating in community theater

POETRY



A Gesture of Words

Poetry Forms and Formulas

