

**Classic Poetry Series**

**Anna Couani  
- poems -**

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## Anna Couani(6 April 1948 -)

Anna Couani (born 6 April 1948) is a contemporary Australian poet and teacher.

Anna Couani was born and grew up in Sydney. She studied architecture at the University of Sydney, then took an MA in Teaching English as a Second Language from the University of Technology Sydney. Since the 70s she has participated in feminist activism, small press publishing and has taught art, English and ESL at secondary schools. A concern with marginalised aspects of women's lives runs throughout her writing.

Couani has been involved in small press publishing and Left and feminist writers' groups since 1975. She has published 4 collections of her work including *The Harbour Breathes* with photomonteur Peter Lyssiotis. Her most recent published work is a serial novel, *The Western Horizon* in HEAT magazine. The novel *The Western Horizon* was serialised in HEAT from 1996 to 2000 and is now available. She has worked as a school teacher since 1972, spending 20 years working in Intensive English Centres teaching Art, English and Australian Studies. She has degrees in Architecture, Art teaching and TESOL.

# The Map Of The World

The map of the world is felt from the inside. Rough around the coastlines and smooth over the hills and sand dunes. Warm and moist through the rivers which lead outside to the forests like long hair then sparser like shorter more bristly hair to the touch. Reading a globe of the world its topography in relief. Reading with the fingers as though blind. Feeling it with the back, down the spine. Making contact with the nipples and the nose only. Moving at a fast rate underwater through the oceans and large lakes. Most of the oceans connect up with each other. Moving so fast you become aware of the earth's surface being curved. Flying low but fast across the land masses. Make yourself feel like the world. As old but not as troubled.

Anna Couani