



**September 2019**

**Tatjana Debeljački vs Ali Al-Hazmi**

**INTERVJU**

**Ali Al-Hamzi**

**Can you tell us something about your hometown and growing up?**

I live in town located in the south Saudi called Dhamad, most of the people who live in this town like poetry and songs. Since I was child I was used to listen to my grandmother when reciting poetry . my father like to write poetry as well. The environment in our rural town inspirit me to write poetry. Green nature , valleys , farmers and rains , all of these consist poem its self , everything which was surrounded me took my attention in early age to write poetry . one other thing is that the library that my father has which make me read masterpieces poetry and it still in my memory till this moment .

**When did you publish your first book and how did the success follow later?**

I publish the first collection “Gate of The Body” in 1993 . this book was greatly welcomed and praised by many critics and men of letter in Saudi, hence I felt

responsibility to what I write, there for I started to consider the importance of the needed for producing new work which it take five years to release new book . the reason being is that poetry is sort of work which required time.

To till now I published five collections of poetry in addition to six which were published in number of different languages , I also participated in 15 international anthology. However my continues dream is to write unique poem I have never write yet.

**The true purpose of art is to uplift humankind, inspire reverence and morality, and instill in people's hearts a true sense of beauty?**

Yes that is true , poetry and arts are real means to the ugliness and misery in this world . the world which is suffered from materials , poverty and wars . as sequences for this the human being feel stranger in the world. In my opinion arts represent shelter for the human soul to regain the value of beauty ,love and forgiveness .

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**What are the messages of the poetry and arts?**

Poetry and painting are old arts , in spite the differences between the tools but they both have the same message . without which we would not recognise all these old wonderful message printed and engraved in the historical sites . they are real evidence of the beauty of human souls and its expectations.

I still remember when I was child I like painting , I was waiting painting class in the school. But when I started writing poetry I realised that I have poetry gift and I

should respond to the poetry call inside me. At the same time I knew that the poetry it has great deal of painting characteristics.

### **Beauty of life and its sense?**

Yes that is right , the beauty of life bring us the surprising. Stillness and stagnancy are there , and they double our sense of isolation. We have to live everyday with awareness and careful. We may feel pain but we should go forward without hesitating . we should maintain the hope and we should keep an eye to that child inside us , we should sustain his innocent and saponaceous .

### **What can you tell us about your work, prizes, friendships?**

I work in education, I love my relationship with my students , I like to read their dreams through their eyes. I found my childhood on them and on their questions.

Relating to the awards , I have gained four poetic awards from Uruguay , Romina, Italy and china. I do not deny that I was delighted with these awards, not because that I have achieved it my self but because it appreciated Arabic poetry generally . In poetry there is no win or loss. “poets are brothers” as what French poet Rambo said. and these awards do not represent intrinsic value for poet. But awards urges the poet to continue, and assures him in one way or another that his poetry experience is acceptable to others and it succeed to touch the other’s conscience despite the translation shortcoming .

The truth is that I owe the poetry of many countless things. The poetry allow me to make many friends also I have got readers around the world. Poetry give me chance to go to many festivals in different countries in Europe, America, Africa and Asia. When I remember all those trips It remind me the faces of friends then I thank God for everything beautiful and I smile.

### **Can you tell us something about your future projects?**

All what I got from poetry was more than my dream and expectation because I at first write my own personal poetry , at the same time I try to repair , fix and rebuild

my defeat and disappointed by writing poetry . of course I did not expect any financial reward , what I care about is the dignity I got from what poetry provide me with, that is why I feel im reach and sufficient by writing poetry.

I don't think about future and I don't have plan to what will happened next . the life of the poet should go forward without fear and limitation.

### **Have you achieved everything you ever wanted and would you be an artist again if you had to do your life over again?**

I have dreamed of many things in childhood and when the time have passed I can say that I have achieved many of my dreams . But as a poet, I am always preoccupied with the human on the earth , so I dream that the peace spreads everywhere , and I wish that the governments take care of people and reserve their full rights in freedom, education and good life . I feel painful because of destruction, war, poverty and disease in this world. I also feel more painful when i see the solutions of the difficulties are not in the hands of the writer or poet, but we will continue to dream and write in this direction.

I feel satisfied about everything I have achieved in my life, I do not aspire too much. Relating to poetry I achieved many things I never expected to attain , so now I like to live simple life, I do not like to look at many frustrating things in life, we have to ignore our pain and go forward with love and hope. and if I have chance to live my life again I would have chosen to be a poet again to write about everything I love and to focus on the beauty of life that around me.

### **Plans?**

I am working in an anthology of Saudi poetry it will be published in Italian language, this anthology will be released soon. I will also release new book it is selected poems of my published work and it will be released in in Macedonian language its tittle is "A Street in a Wall".

The third thing im working on now is to complete a new poetry collection will be published next year.

### **Anything I did not ask you?**

I was very happy with this beautiful interview . last word I would like to say: Life is beautiful and short , it deserves us to make each minute of it is an important and beautiful by giving love, peace and good to others.

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### **Biography**

#### **Ali Al-Hazmi**

- Born in (Damad) – Saudi Arabia (1970).
- Obtained a degree in Arabic language and literature at Umm Al-Qura University - Faculty of Arabic Language - in 1992.

- He has published poems in local and international magazines and newspapers such as The Seventh Day (Paris), Creation (Cairo), Nazoa (Amman) and The New Text.

**Participated in numerous recitals of poetry inside and outside of Saudi Arabia:**

- International Poetry Festival Costa Rica 2013
- International Poetry Festival VoixVives in Toledo, Spain 2014
- International Poetry Festival Punta del Este, Uruguay 2015
- Madrid Voice life Poetry Festival in Spain 2016
- International Poetry Festival Havana, Cuba 2016
- International Poetry Festival in Medellín, Colombia 2016
- Istanbul Poetry Festival in Turkey, 2016
- International Poetry Festival in Roma 2017
- International Academy Orient - Occident in Romania 2017
- International Poetry Festival Madrid, Spain 2017
- International Poetry Festival Malaga, Spain 2018
- International Poetry Festival February, Madrid. Spain 2018

**prizes:**

- The world Grand prize (for Poetry) International Academy Orient - Occident in Romania 2017
- Medal of honor to the poetic and literary merit in the XIV Encuentro Internacional Poetas y Narradores De las Dos Orillas y 4o Congreso de Literatura 2015, Punta del Este Uruguay.
- The poem (A street through a wall) Grand prize Verbumlandi- international poems - Italy 2017.

**He has published the following books of poetry:**

- (Gate of the Body) Almadina- Jeddah- 1993
- (Losing) Sharqiyat- Cairo 2000
- (The gazelle drinks his image) Arab Cultural Center-Beirut 2004
- (Reassuring on the Edge) Riad-Al Rayes - Beirut 2009
- (Now in past) Arab Cultural Center-Beirut, 2018
- Audio CD poetry - Hail Literary Club, 2010

**Has five printed books translated to different languages:**

- (Tree of absence) Translated into French-lilDiston - France 2016
- (Reassuring on the Edge) Translated into Spanish published by University of Costa Rica Editorial 2013, House of Poetry Foundation.

- (Reassuring on the Edge) Translated into French- Iarmatan - Paris 2016
- (fragmentation of life) Translated into Turkish - Art Shop Istanbul -Turkey 2017
- ( A definite way in the mist)Translated into English and Romanian language - Academy Orient - Occident - Romania 2017

**Arab and international critics wrote about his poetic production:**

- The Book (Aesthetic elements and Artistic Composition in the Poetry of Ali al-Hazmi) Critic. Dr.Leila Shabelle - National - News 2012.
- The book (Bird of Fire accompanying print about the experience of the poet Ali al-Hazmi) Moroccan critic / Ibrahim Algahoegi - Arab Scientific Publishers (Publishers) / Jizan Literary Club 2013
- The (book Manifestations of absence) critic. Ali Hafth Arab Scientific (Publishers) / Jizan Literary Club 2015

**Ali Al Hazmi**

**Kingdom of Saudi Arabia**

**jazan - Damad**

**PO Box / 50**

**Ali Mohammed Al Hazmi**

**Email:**

**ali-alhazmi@hotmail.com**

**Mobile : +966505799181**