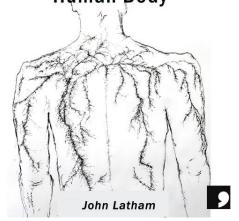
## **Comma Press / POETRY**

Advance Information



## From Professor Murasaki's Notebooks on the Effects of Lightning on the Human Body



[provisional cover]

UK pub date: 23rd March 2017

ISBN-13: 9781910974285

Format: Paperback, 198x128mm, 96pp

**RRP**: £9.99

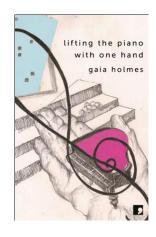
BIC: DCF (Poetry by Individual

Poets)

FA (Modern and Contemporary

Fiction)

You may also like:



Lifting the Piano With One Hand Gaia Holmes 9781905583270

## From Professor Murasaki's Notebooks on the Effects of Lightning on the Human Body

By John Latham

- The title poem won second prize (out of 12,000 entries) in the UK's most prestigious poetry competition, The National Poetry Competition (2006).
- John has won first prize in over 20 poetry competitions.
- Fifth collection from much loved British poet, who writes across many forms and writes regularly for BBC Radio 4.

Having trained as a physicist – specialising in the science of cloud formation – and then later emerged as one of the more curious voices in British poetry, John Latham is not a writer you're ever likely to forget. Merging the intricate beauties of his scientific perspective with a highly playful treatment of memory, landscape, and the imagination, Latham's poems are masterpieces of British surrealism. Passionate, comedic, mysterious, the poems in this, his fifth collection, capture the vibrancy of a childhood that still fascinates him, alongside the cruel betrayals of old age, with equal grace. The wonders of the cosmos are no mysterious to Latham, than the simple oddity of other human beings. And, as the title poem demonstrates, every last quantum of detail, even the mistakes of a makeshift translation, are capable of the profound revelation.

## PRAISE FOR JOHN LATHAM:

His verse is almost all passionate recall of childhood and marriage, a poetry of sensitivity such as many novels offer. The detail is exact, the spirit of the past conjured through the words most feelingly. – Peter Porter, *Observer* 

Spectacular writing, with lines that hang around in the mind long after you've read them. –Ian McMillan, *Iron* 

The poetic effects are subtle... yet he is able to make the tiniest details sing. Unsentimental, plain, but rhythmically invigorating... – John Greening, *Poetry Review*