



Morton Marcus

Poet Publishes

The publication this month of Morton Marcus' first major collection of poetry in eight years, titled *BIG WINDS, GLASS MORNINGS, SHADOWS CAST BY STARS: POEMS 1972-1980*, has prompted two local events this week.

On Saturday, March 7, at 2 p.m. Bookshop Santa Cruz will present Marcus in a book signing party, and on Thursday, March 12, at 8 p.m., he will read from the book at the College Five Fireside Lounge, UCSC, as guest of the college Poetry Series. The public is invited to both events.

"*BIG WINDS* is not just a miscellaneous collection of poems written over the years, but is a tightly woven sequence that is knit together through theme and imagery," Marcus says.

Its subject is the apparent disintegration of the world around us, specifically the spiritual and physical landscape of contemporary America, seen against the vast cosmic backdrop, he notes.

But for all the brooding seriousness of the subject, many of the poems are full of joy and exultation as the reader is continually made witness by the poet to the unity of life.

"No matter how ephemeral or minute that life may seem," Marcus adds.

One of the poems in the volume was selected to appear in *BEST POEMS OF 1975* and several others have been included in anthologies. More than 100 of Marcus' poems have been published in more than 100 magazines and 40 anthologies.

An earlier work by him was chosen for *BEST POEMS OF 1966* and *Dryad* magazine devoted its entire 13th issue to a study of his work in 1975.

Marcus has appeared at universities throughout the U.S. to read his works, including Notre Dame, Columbia, the state universities of Ohio and Iowa, University of Oregon and the Berkeley, Irvine and Santa Cruz campuses of University of California.