

Gay Icons of India

Hoshang Merchant and Akshaya K. Rath

9789386215956

Autobiographies, Biographies & Memoirs >
**Gay and Lesbian Studies, Gay Studies, Lesbian Studies,
Collected Biographies**

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'Hoshang Merchant has gone boldly into a territory that was "out of bounds" in India till the historic ruling down of the dreaded Section 377. The narrative of *Gay Icons of India* is well-paced, personal and insightful' - **Shobhaa De**

'India's history is incomplete without acknowledging the millions of unspoken stories of the queer world. *Gay Icons of India* is symbolic of a way forward. "We're here, we're queer!"' - **Keshav Suri**

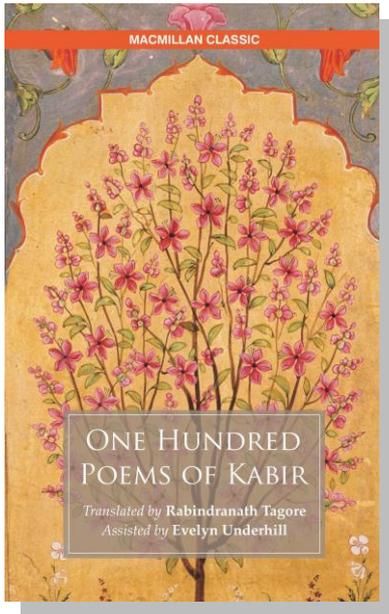
Fighting a relentless culture of discrimination and homophobia, India's LGBTQ+ community is finally on the road to inclusion and acceptance. While there are still miles to go, the Supreme Court's landmark reading down of Section 377 in September 2018 came as a battle hard-won for those who identify as gay.

In the wake of this watershed judgement, *Gay Icons of India* celebrates twenty-two extraordinary personalities from the queer community who have resisted injustices through their art and greatly aided LGBTQ+ social movements. From dancers and poets to writers and artists, Hoshang Merchant and Akshaya K. Rath pay homage to these inspirational figures who stand steadfastly for equal love and the right to be different.

AUTHOR BIO

Hoshang Merchant is the author of *Yaraana: Gay Writing from India*, *Forbidden Sex*, *Forbidden Texts: New India's Gay Poets* and *The Man Who Would Be Queen*. A well-known poet and teacher, he has published over twenty books of poetry. He recently retired from the University of Hyderabad after for twenty-six years.

Akshaya K. Rath is Assistant Professor of English and teaches creative writing, gender and sexualities at NIT Rourkela. His book *Secret Writings of Hoshang Merchant* was published in 2016.



One Hundred Poems of Kabir

Translated by Rabindranath Tagore

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Fiction > Poetry > **Mysticism**

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'The whole world does its works and commits its errors: but few are the lovers who know the Beloved'

'He who has seen Him and touched Him, he is freed from all fear and trouble'

'Kabir says: "I have attained the unattainable, and my heart is coloured with the colour of love"'

AUTHOR BIO

Translated by Rabindranath Tagore