

ABOUT THE POET

John Igo is a San Antonio educator, writer, artist, photographer, producer, critic, and civic leader. A graduate of Trinity University, he has taught at Trinity University, St. Mary's Hall, and San Antonio College, receiving the Piper Professor of the Year Award in 1975 (one of ten in Texas); the Teaching Excellence Award, San Antonio College, 1991; and the NISOD Teaching Excellence Award, International Convention, 1992. The producer of numerous plays, he is the founding producer/director of Renegade Theatre and the volunteer Project Manager of the Theatre Archive, San Antonio Public Library, a Friends' project. Igo has served as a drama critic for several San Antonio publications and is a well-known broadcast personality featured on WOAI's "Morning Magazine," reading poetry for eleven years and hosting a Grammar Gripes call-in line for ten years; he was also the Drama Critic on KLRN—TV's "Art Beat," a long-running PBS-affiliate show. Twelve books of his poetry have been published, including THE THIRD TEMPTATION OF ST. JOHN (National Society of Arts and Letters National Award), GOD OF GARDENS (Southwest Writers' Conference Publication Award), ALIEN (Poetry Society of Texas Publication Award), and THE MITOTES (National Poetry Foundation). In addition he has authored several books of prose and several produced plays. In 1985 Igo received an Emmy (Academy of Television Arts and Sciences) for his script for "Our Children: the Next Generation." In the 1960's he won two Translation Awards (German and Spanish) from POET LORE INTERNATIONAL. In 1974 he received the Speech Arts Association's First Distinguished Member Award; in 1976 he received the Archbishop's Distinguished Service Medal. In the 1980's he received the Grothaus Medallion for Distinguished Service to area libraries (the only non librarian ever to receive it). In 1997 he was named Deputy Director General of the International Biographical Centre (Cambridge, England). He has been mentor to a generation of area poets, and he has been the teacher of poetry to the totally deaf adult, a special, privately funded project at San Antonio College.