

Praise for Tim'm's Award Winning poetic memoir, *Red Dirt Revival*:

Courage of form, courage of content. Sensuous thinking. Radical motion. Tim'm T. West carries forward Audre Lorde's practice of poetry as the "light by which we scrutinize our lives." With its embrace-critique of origins and its bravura leap from academic precincts into vernacular revelation, this book renews my hope for our collective survival.

- Jan Clausen, author of *Apples and Oranges: My Journey Through Sexual Identity*

The writer of *Red Dirt Revival* descends onto us directly from Foucault's dream; an intellectual destroyer of evidence and universalities...one who, in the constraints of the present, locates the weak points of a trembling building. Tim'm West is a construction worker incessantly displacing himself in a backwoods called America. Here, West romantically girds himself with the language of memory and insurgent impatience; words too vital to be the stuff of cute couplets and rhyme schemes--these tools are more than operatives, hewing the joists of critical observation to the slats of personal testimony. If West can't see the strength of tomorrow, it's only because his eyes are so fiercely fastened to locating now.

- Carl Hancock Rux, author of *Pagan Operetta and Asphalt*

In this collection of stories, Tim'm T. West is the harvest part of love and writing that Essex Hemphill and Assotto Saint sowed, knowing that from some red-dirt somewhere, some new bloom, some man-child Tim'm, would claim his place as griot, next in our broken royal line. Surely what grows from red dirt is what nourishes us, gives us life-gives us love.

- Marvin K. White, author of *Last Rights*

I read a lot of poetry - and some of it takes root in my brain, stays with me for days, visiting my mouth in odd moments and making me speak it into whatever room I'm in at the time. Tim'm West's incredible, affecting extraordinary works, as rooted in rhythm as a heartbeat, as vital as the blood it pumps, seem to stand up and shout from the pages. A poetic memoir about growing up black and gay in lower Arkansas, *Red Dirt Revival*...sings. There's just no other word for it. It sings a full-throated song, and if you have an ounce of music in your soul, you'll want to listen a long time.

- S Bear Bergman, author of *Butch is a Noun*

Merging the floetry of Jay-Z and Nikki Giovanni with a dash of the academic flava of Michael Eric Dyson, *Red Dirt Revival* is a raucous riff on lust, love and life, a much-needed meditation on the coming out and coming of age of a Same Gender Loving Manchild. A funky, ferocious, fierce debut.

- James Earl Hardy, author, *B-Boy Blues series*

Red Dirt Revival is a multifarious body of work that is as exacting and poignant as it is breathtaking. My psyche and my emotions are still trying to catch their collective breath.

- Antonio Le Mons, Author, *How To Ruin The Perfect Child*