

Can't Stop Now!

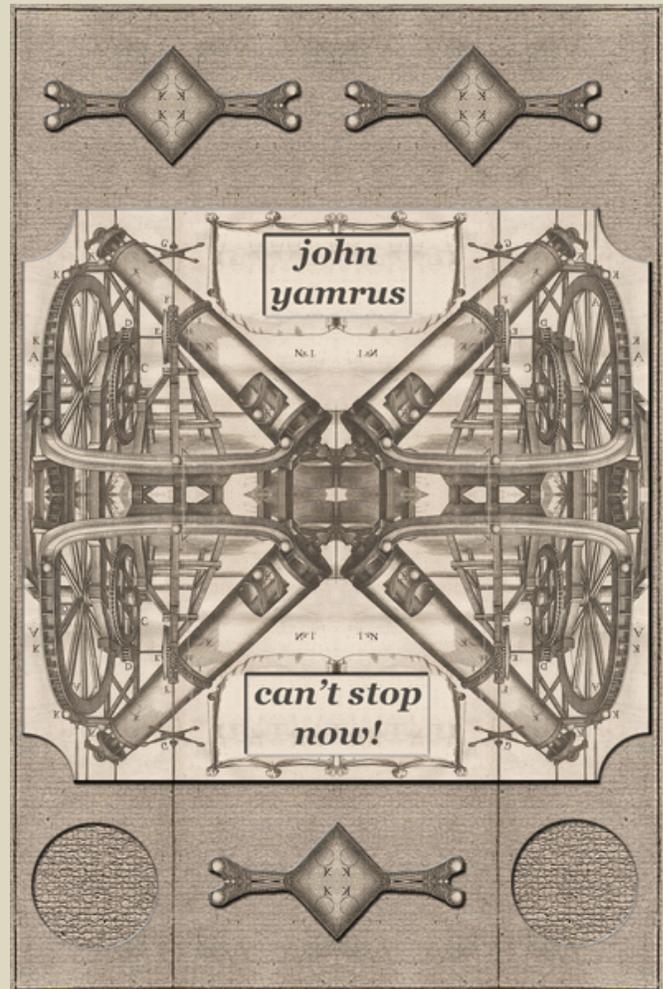
By John Yamrus

Can't Stop Now! is the eighteenth poetry collection by acclaimed author John Yamrus – whose career has spanned more than four decades.

Since the release of his first book in 1970, John's work has been published in hundreds of magazines, taught at both the high school and university levels, and translated into numerous languages.

The cover of *Can't Stop Now!*, by the great multi-media artist Pablo Vision, depicts a 17th century perpetual motion machine – symbolic of John's remarkably consistent body of work.

When asked about “endurance,” John replied “I've always considered myself to be a lunch pail kind of writer... one who goes to work every day and no matter what, manages to get the job done.”



“Two major qualities prevail in Yamrus’ recent work: economy and punch. No word is unnecessary or out of place; the timing is impeccable; and, most difficult of all, the endings hit just the right balance of summation, revelation, and surprise.”

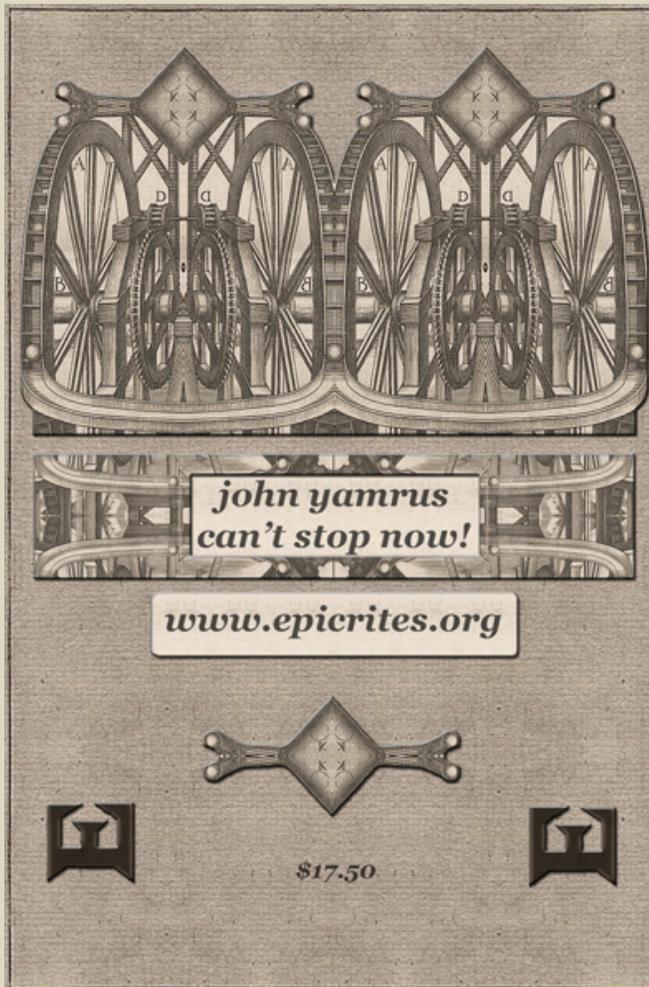
- Gerald Locklin

Epic Rites Press

New Book Release

Can't Stop Now!

By John Yamrus



Can't Stop Now!

136 pages

\$17.50

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he clued her in

on Miles Davis,
Billie Holiday,
Knut Hamsun,

and Sarah Vaughan.

he showed her that
The Well Of Loneliness
is more than
just a book...

he played her
Sketches Of Spain,
Kind Of Blue
and every recording
Janis Joplin ever made.

he did all that
and so much
more.

and the kindest thing
she ever did
for him
was

leave.

"The poetry of John Yamrus demands more attention. There is real blood in this man's work."

- Todd Moore

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doing

something simple,
but making it
perfect,

can often be
a thing of
beauty.

today,
i watered,

pruned
and re-arranged
our potted plants,

and
then,

i thought
of

you.

When asked about the economy of his poetry, John remarked:

"I think the hardest thing for a writer to learn is what NOT to say. Writers want to talk and talk and talk in their work and show their readers how good they are. Flashy. That's not me. I don't want to impress my readers with bells and whistles. I want to hit them

over the head with blood and guts and bone. I want to give them something that they know and lead them into thinking something a little deeper about it."

"John Yamrus, as a poet, is like an expert skeet shooter that hits the clay pigeon no matter what the speed, angle or trajectory; in poem after poem, his sharp mind nails its target every time."

- Rob Plath

When asked about the longevity of his work and how he's managed to hold onto the fire for over four decades, John replied:

"I think habit plays a certain part in it. Like you said, I've been doing this for a long, long time, and it's just something I'm used to. Old habits like this are hard to break, especially when you're having as much fun at it as I am. I get a kick out of those aspiring writers who sit around waiting for inspiration. Man, if you can't look around you, every day, and find something to inspire you, then you'd better pick a different line of work."

Can't Stop Now!

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"John Yamrus is a remarkable poet, who uses a perfect choice of form to produce poems in the simplest language that run deep. A master of using the ordinary in an extraordinary way."

- Milner Place

"John Yamrus remains one of my favorite authors. I can sit down and read one of his books start to finish - and along the way, laugh at his jokes, marvel at his wit, and every now and then a golden brick of enlightenment drops on my head."

- Wolfgang Carstens

"I've come to respect John's mastery of conversational mechanics and no doubt believe he is one of only a few that have successfully layed a cornerstone for the conversation poem."

- Bernard Alain

"Terse profundity would be the phrase I would use were someone to pin me down and force me to describe this work by John Yamrus. This is poetry of short lines and simple wisdom, there is a touch of the Far East about the structure and minimalist philosophy that underpins them; there is no surreal baroque parade of language, these are sticks arranged subtly against a white wall."

- Zack Wilson

Can't Stop Now! by John Yamrus is the work of a master craftsman. These poems are lean, well-crafted, and worthy of detailed study.

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