Billy Collins, American poet whose uncommonly accessible verse made him one of the most popular poets in the United States. His work was characterized by plain language, gentle humor, and an alert appreciation for the mundane. From 2001 to 2003 he served as poet laureate consultant in poetry. Billy Collins was born in New York City on March 22, 1941. He is the author of several books of poetry, including Aimless Love: New and Selected Poems (Random House 2001); Picnic, Lightning (1998); The Art of Drowning (1995), which was a finalist for the Lenore Marshall Poetry Prize; Questions About Angels (1991), which was selected by Edward Hirsch for the National Poetry Series; The Apple That Astonished Paris (1988); Video Poems (1980); and Pokerface (1977). Billy Collins is an ex-poet laureate of the United States, who writes about simple things with a wry sense of humor.
everyday moments and things in a poignant way. He began "Poetry 180" during his term as poet-laureate to bring the enjoyment of reading poetry back into high school. His most recent collection of poet… read more. Billy Collins is an ex-poet laureate of the United States, who writes about simple everyday moments and things in a poignant way.