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*National Museum of African American History and Culture*

## **The Literary Corner: Introduction to African English Poetry with Brooks Robinson (side a)**

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WEBVTT

00:10:48.000 --> 00:10:58.000

<i>Dennis Brutus</i>: to have no longer any creative impulse and they usually I discover that I was wrong, that subsequently I wrote again.

00:10:58.000 --> 00:11:11.000

What I think becomes clearer to me all the time is that if I am going to write poetry at all it will be a functional poetry,

00:11:11.000 --> 00:11:33.000

it will be a poetry which responds to particular stimulus, is an attempt to communicate a particular idea or perception.

00:11:33.000 --> 00:11:34.000

I don't see myself becoming a professional poet who spends his time working on the craft and turning inward.

00:11:34.000 --> 00:11:42.000

I think my poetries is part of my general existence the attempt to communicate with others and poetry is just one way of doing it. [[music]]

00:11:42.000 --> 00:11:53.000

[[music continues]]f

00:11:53.000 --> 00:12:03.000

Bright water glistening over smooth, hard pebbles.

00:12:03.000 --> 00:12:25.000

Sparkles coruscating in the festive [[presidio?]]. Such bright grace, such luminous charm and the clear, brave eyes shining with tight curved sorrow.

00:12:25.000 --> 00:12:52.000

Now they say the brightness is quenched and the elegance crumpled. Strange and stranger yet they say the bright courage failed

00:12:52.000 --> 00:12:53.418

Biko you know resisted the terrors. Confronted by them he braced him--



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