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Autore	Dennison John
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Sommario/riassunto	Seamus Heaney's prose poetics return repeatedly to the adequacy of poetry, its ameliorative, restorative response to the violence of public historical life. It is a curiously equivocal ideal, and as such most clearly demonstrates the intellectual origins, the humanist character, and the inherent strains of these poetics, the work of one of the world's leading poet-critics of the last thirty years. 'Seamus Heaney and the Adequacy of Poetry' provides a study of the development of Heaney's thought and its central theme.