



Adelaide Advertiser
Saturday 17/11/2007
Page: 12
Section: Review
Region: Adelaide Circulation: 259,807
Type: Capital City Daily
Size: 66.35 sq.cms.
Published: MTWTFS-

Brief: UNIQ-PRESS



The Dirty Beat

Fiction ★★★★★
Venero Armanno, UQP \$32.95

It's always hard to capture in writing the passion and intensity you feel listening to great music. Queensland writer Venero Armanno (*Romeo of the Underworld*) not only manages this difficult task in his latest novel, *The Dirty Beat*, but he also wraps a compelling story around the music that is woven throughout this book. Told posthumously, *Sunset Boulevard*-style, by protagonist Max, *The Dirty Beat* is the meandering but moving story of a lost soul whose only real source of comfort was when he played music. Max's funeral is a chance for him to reminisce on the people and experiences that have brought him to his final resting place – a journey well worth taking. Armanno creates characters who are flawed but genuine and fit well into the Australian landscape that provides the setting for *The Dirty Beat*.

Danielle O'Donohue