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RECEIVED*

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## ARABIC

Adonis (Ali Ahmad Sai'd). *If Only the Sea Could Sleep: Love Poems*. Translated by Kamal Boullata, Susan Einbinder, and Mirène Ghossein. København & Los Angeles: Green Integer, 2003. 150 pp. Paper: \$11.95. ISBN 1-931243-29-8. Green Integer No. 77.

For Adonis, poetry is a vision ('ru'ya), a "leap outside of established concepts, a change in the order of things and in the way we look at them." These poems are selected from *Al'A'mal al Shi'riyya* (Adonis's complete works). Adonis's work often centers on the process of poetic creation, and he has had, perhaps, more influence in terms of innovation and modernity than any other among contemporary Arab poets. He has twice been a finalist for the Nobel Prize.

al-Bukhari, Imam. *Moral Teachings of Islam*. Translated and with an introduction by Abdul Ali Hamid. Walnut Creek, CA: AltaMira Press, a division of Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc., 2003. 132 pp. Paper. ISBN 0-7591-0416-6. Published in cooperation with the International Sacred Literature Trust.

In Islamic life and tradition, Hadith sayings enshrine the most important teachings after the Qur'an itself. Derived from the Sunnah, or teachings of the Prophet, his companions, and their followers, these precepts were collected under the title *al-Adab al-mufrad*—meaning "good behavior singled out"—by Imam al-Bukhari in the ninth century C.E. The Hadith sayings in al-Bukhari's writings formed a large corpus that covered the way Muslims should conduct their lives, from duties to family, neighbors, and friends, to instructions about honesty, generosity, and kindness. Translator Abdul Ali Hamid selected those teachings that have relevance and appeal, not only to Muslims, but to all who wish to know more of the essence of Islamic life and teachings. Abdul Ali Hamid teaches at the Muslim College, London, and is an authority on Arabic language and literature.

Salem, Ibtihal. *Children of the Waters*. Translated by Marilyn Booth. Austin: The Center for Middle Eastern Studies, UT Press, 2002. 132 pp. Paper: \$13.95. ISBN 0-292-77773-6. Modern Middle East: Literatures in Translation Studies.

This collection of short stories, poems, and vignettes offers a window on contemporary literary experimentation in Arabic, as well as a view of everyday life in urban Egypt. Translator Marilyn Booth opens each piece with an explanatory comment, often quoting the author, and thus further illuminating Salem's portrayal of lives bounded by Egypt's waters—the Canal, the Nile, and the Mediterranean. Marilyn Booth is an independent scholar and freelance literary translator whose research and writing focus on gender and writing in Egypt, popular culture, and human rights.

## BULGARIAN

Dimitrova, Blaga. *Scars*. Translated by Ludmilla G. Popova Wightman. Princeton, NJ: Ivy Press, 2002. 163 pp. Paper. ISBN 1-930214-03-0.

The poems in *Scars* range from love poetry to philosophical and political verse. Dimitrova is the author of more than 40 volumes of poetry, novels, plays, essays, and translations from Polish, Russian, and Swedish. Her books have been translated into more than 20 languages. Ludmilla G. Popova Wightman is the translator of Konstantin Pavolove's *Cry of a Former Dog*, Dimitrova's *Forbidden Sea* (with E. Socolow), and Alexander Shurbanov's *Frost-Flowers*. Her translations have also been published in *Partisan Review*, *The Literary Review*, and the *New York Review of Books*.

## CHINESE

Chang His-Kuo. *The City Trilogy: Five Jade Disks, Defenders of the Dragon City, Tale of a Feather*. Translated by John Balcom. New York: Columbia University Press, 2003. 408 pp. Cloth: \$27.50. ISBN 0-231-12852-5.

In this trilogy, first published in Taiwan in the late 1980s and early 1990s, now presented for the first time in English and in a single volume, Chang His-Kuo presents three tales of intrigue, espionage, betrayal, political strife, time travel, and Chinese history and mysticism. In *Five Jade Disks*, the imperialistic Shan have enslaved the inhabitants of Sunlon City and imposed a harsh martial order. Miss Qi, a determined young girl, emerges as an unlikely leader of a rebel alliance. In *Defenders of the Dragon*, the Shan have been defeated, but later regroup for one final attempt to destroy the weakened rebel forces. In *Tale of a Feather*, the conflict with the Shan has left the city in flames, as Miss Qi continues her desperate search to discover the origin of the mysterious Bronze Statue Cult and comes to terms with the dark power it wields over her people. Chang His-Kuo is considered the “father of science fiction” in Taiwan. He is a professor of computer science and Director of the Center for Parallel, Distributed, and Intelligent Systems at the University of Pittsburgh. Translator John Balcom is an associate professor in the Graduate School of Translation and Interpretation at the Monterey Institute of International Studies.

Martin, Fran, translator. *Angelwings: Contemporary Queer Fiction from Taiwan*. Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press, 2003. 247 pp. Paper: \$18.95. ISBN 0-8248-2661-2.

Lesbian and gay fiction, known as *tongzhi wenxue* in Mandarin, constitutes a major literary contribution to Taiwanese literature, as evidenced by the number of prestigious literary awards won by authors of the short stories presented here. This fiction has also been immensely popular with general readers in Taiwan, Hong Kong, and Singapore, as well as in diasporic Chinese communities worldwide. Translator Fran Martin is lecturer in Cinema Studies at La Trobe University in Australia.

Red Pine, translator. *Poems of the Masters: China's Classic Anthology of T'ang and Sung Dynasty Verse*. Bilingual. Port Townsend, WA: Copper Canyon Press, 2003. 472 pp. Paper: \$18.00. ISBN 1-55659-195-0.

*Poems of the Masters* was compiled during the Sung dynasty (960-1278), when poetry became the defining measure of human relationships and understanding. With its extensive annotation it became the primary text for teaching Chinese poetry. Translated for the first time into English by Red Pine, this bilingual edition includes many of China's most revered poets: Li Pai, Wang Wei, Tu Fu, Wang Po, and Ou-yang Hsiu. Red Pine (the pen name of writer and scholar Bill Porter) has translated several of China's central religious and literary masterpieces, including *Collected Songs of Cold Mountain*, *Taoteaching*, *The Diamond Sutra*, and *Zen Teachings of Bodhidharma*. He has lived in and traveled throughout China for many years, producing over a thousand radio stories and writing *Road to Heaven: Encounters with Chinese Hermits*.

Watson, Burton, translator. *Poems of Du Fu*. New York: Columbia University Press, 2002. 173 pp. Paper: \$17.50; ISBN 0-231-12829-0. Cloth: \$49.50; ISBN 0-231-12828-2.

Du Fu (712-777), long regarded as China's greatest poet, excelled in a variety of lyrical forms, displaying a richness of language that incorporated formal elegance and powerful colloquialism, flowery allusion and spare, unembellished verse. An equally impressive breadth of subject matter marked his poems, which often incorporated intimate details into grand historical contexts—a combination that earned him the epithet “poet-historian.” Some 1400 of Du Fu's poems are extant today, but his fame rests mainly on a handful that have been widely admired over the centuries. Translator Burton Watson has selected 127 poems for this collection, including those for which Du Fu is best remembered and several lesser known works that deserve to be rediscovered. Burton Watson has translated many Asian classics, including *Chuang Tzu: Basic Writings* and *The Lotus Sutra*.

Ye Zhaoyan. *Nanjing 1937: A Love Story*. Translated and with an Introduction by Michael Berry. New

York: Columbia University Press, 2002. 353 pp. Cloth: \$24.95. ISBN 0-231-127545. [*Yijiusanqi nian de aiqing*. 1996].

Set on the eve of the Rape of Nanjing—when Japanese troops invaded the city, massacred 350,000 citizens, and committed 20,000 rapes—this novel tells the story of Ding Wenyu, a spoiled, narcissistic teacher who, although married, falls in love with a much younger woman, Ren Yuyuan, on the day of her wedding to a handsome young fighter pilot. Transformed by his emotions, Ding abandons his hedonism and pursues Yuyuan with daily love letters that are never answered. As Yuyuan's marriage begins to deteriorate and the grip of Japanese invaders tightens, she turns to Ding, and romance begins. Translator Michael Berry is a doctoral candidate in East Asian languages and cultures at Columbia University and is the translator of *Wild Kids: Two Novels About Growing Up* by Chang Ta-chun (Columbia 2000) and the forthcoming *To Live* by Yu Hua.

Zhang Kangkang. *Living with Their Past: Post-Urban Youth Fiction*. Edited by Richard King. Translated by Richard King, Daniel Bryant et al. Hong Kong: Renditions Paperbacks, 2003. Published by Research Centre for Translation, The Chinese University of Hong Kong. 143 pp. Paper: \$14.95. ISBN 962-7255-26-2.

A teenager at the beginning of the Cultural Revolution, Zhang Kangkang was caught up in Mao Zedong's campaign to send educated urban youth away to the poor and remote parts of rural China. After they were allowed to return to the cities in the late 1970s, many began to write about their experience. A cultural phenomenon known as "youth literature" was born. The stories collected here share the theme of urban youth—now returned to the city and no longer young—confronting their past. Translator Daniel Bryant is a professor of Chinese at the University of Victoria. He is the author of *Lyric Poets of the Southern T'ang*, *Ho Ching-ming Ts'ung-k'oa*, and translations of pre-modern Chinese poetry. Richard King is an associate professor of Chinese at the University of Victoria and the translator of Zhu Lin's *Snake's Pillow and Other Stories* and Liu Sola's novel *Chaos and All That*. Cynthia Cheung, Shosha Ji, Rob Mackie, Kathleen Piovesan, and Sean Tremblay read and translated "Sandstorm" for a fourth-year Chinese course at the University of Victoria in 2001.

## CLASSICS

Euripides. *Bacchae, Iphigenia at Aulis, Rhesus*. Translated by David Kovacs. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2002. Cloth: \$21.50. ISBN 0-674-99601-1. Loeb Classical Library 495.

This volume completes the new six-volume Loeb Classical Library edition of Euripides' plays. In the *Bacchae*, Euripides tells the story of king Pentheus' resistance to the worship of Dionysus and his horrific punishment by the god. *Iphigenia at Aulis* recounts the sacrifice of Agamemnon's daughter to Artemis, the price exacted by the goddess for favorable sailing winds. *Rhesus* dramatizes a pivotal incident in the Trojan War. Although this play was transmitted from antiquity under Euripides' name, it probably is not by him; but it does give a sample of what tragedy was like after the great fifth-century playwrights. David Kovacs is Professor of Classics at the University of Virginia.

Hubbard, Thomas K., editor. *Homosexuality in Greece and Rome: A Sourcebook of Basic Documents*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2003. 558 pp. Paper. ISBN 0-520-22381-0.

The most important primary texts on homosexuality in ancient Greece and Rome are translated into explicit, modern English and collected together for the first time in this comprehensive sourcebook. Covering an extensive period—from the earliest Greek texts in the late seventh century B.C.E. to Greco-Roman texts of the third and fourth centuries C.E.—the volume includes well-known writings by Plato, Sappho, Aeschines, Catullus, and Juvenal, as well as less well-known but highly relevant and intriguing texts such as graffiti, comic fragments, magical papyri, medical treatises, and selected artistic evidence.

Plato. *The Republic*. Translated and with an introduction by Desmond Lee. London: Penguin Books, 2003. Second edition. Translation first published in 1955. 416 pp. Paper: \$9.00. ISBN 0-140-44914-0.

Presented in the form of a dialogue between Socrates and three different interlocutors, *The Republic* is an inquiry into the notion of a perfect community and the ideal individual within it. During the conversation other questions arise: what is goodness; what is reality; what is knowledge? *The Republic* also addresses the purpose of education and the role of both women and men as “guardians” of the people. With remarkable lucidity and deft use of allegory, Plato arrives at a depiction of a state bound by harmony and ruled by “philosopher kings.” This new edition also features a revised bibliography.

Rusten, Jeffrey and I.C. Cunningham, editors and translators. *Theophrastus: Characters, Herodas: Mimes, Sophron and Other Mime Fragments*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2003. 421 pp. Cloth: \$21.50. ISBN 0-674-99603-8. Loeb Classical Library 225N.

The *Characters* of Theophrastus consists of 30 fictional sketches of men who are each dominated by a single fault, such as arrogance, boorishness, or superstition. The Hellenistic poet Herodas wrote mimes, a popular Greek entertainment in which one actor or a small group portrayed a situation from everyday urban life, concentrating on depiction of character rather than on plot. Here, too, in a new text and translation, are substantial portions of the mimes of Sophron, a Syracusan of the fifth century B.C. whose work Plato is said to have enjoyed, as well as a selection of anonymous mime fragments. Jeffrey Rusten is Professor of Classics, Cornell University; I.C. Cunningham was formerly Keeper of Manuscripts, National Library of Scotland.

Statius. *Silvae*. Edited and translated by D.R. Shackleton Baily. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2003. 438 pp. Cloth: \$21.50. ISBN 0-674-99604-6. Loeb Classical Library 206N.

Statius' *Silvae*, 32 occasional poems, were written probably between 89 and 96 A.D. Here the poet congratulates friends, consoles mourners, sends thanks, admires a monument or artistic object, and describes a memorable scene. The verse is light in touch, with a distinct picture quality. Statius gives us in these impromptu poems clear images of Domitian's Rome. D.R. Shackleton Bailey is Pope Professor of Latin Language and Literature Emeritus, Harvard University. The newly edited Latin text and new translation replace the earlier Loeb Classical Library edition translated by J.H. Mozley.

West, Martin L., editor and translator. *Greek Epic Fragments from the Seventh to the Fifth Centuries B.C.* Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2003. 316 pp. Cloth: \$21.50. ISBN 0-674-99605-4. Loeb Classical Library 497.

The heroic epic is represented by poems about Heracles and Theseus, and by two great epic cycles: the Theban Cycle, which tells of the failed assault on Thebes by the Seven and the subsequent successful assault by their sons; and the Trojan Cycle, which includes *Cypria*, *Little Iliad*, and *The Sack of Ilium*. Among the genealogical epics are poems in which Eumelus creates a prehistory for Corinth and Asius creates one for Samos. In presenting the extant fragments of these early epic poems, Martin West provides helpful notes. His introduction places the epics in historical context. Martin L. West is a Senior Research Fellow, All Souls College, Oxford.

West, Martin L., editor and translator. *Homeric Hymns, Homeric Apocrypha, Lives of Homer*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2003. 467 pp. Cloth: \$21.50. ISBN 0-674-99606-2. Loeb Classical Library 496.

Performances of Greek epics customarily began with a hymn to a god or goddess. A collection of 33 such poems has come down to us from antiquity under the title “Hymns of Homer.” This new Loeb Classical Library volume contains, in addition to the Hymns, fragments of five comic poems that were connected with Homer's name during or just after the Classical period but are not today believed to be by the author of the *Iliad* and the *Odyssey*. Here, too, is a collection of ancient accounts of the poet's life. Martin West's translations are fully annotated; his newly edited texts offer new solutions to a number of textual puzzles. Martin L. West is a Senior Research Fellow, All Souls College, Oxford.

## DANISH

Nordbrandt, Henrik. *My Life, My Dream: Selected Poems*. Translated by Robin Fulton. Dublin/Chester Springs, PA: Dedalus Press/Dufour Editions, 2002. 70 pp. Paper: \$12.95. ISBN 1-901233-92-8. Poetry Europe Series No. 13.

Born in Denmark in 1945, Nordbrandt has risen quickly to become an enigmatic but highly praised and famous contemporary Danish poet. His absence from Denmark plays a more subtle role in much of Nordbrandt's poetry than this ironic gesture implies, but the gesture is not simply ironical; he studied Arabic, Chinese, and Turkish and has spent most of his life abroad. His work charts his attempt at living in a richer and more satisfying present than he can find in his homeland. He has continued to write in Danish, and his achievement has been recognized by several Danish and Scandinavian awards. Translator Robin Fulton is Scottish but lives in Norway.

Sarvig, Ole. *The Sea Below My Window*. Translated by Anni Whissen. København and Los Angeles: Green Integer, 2003. 320 pp. Paper: \$13.95. ISBN 1-892295-79-2. [*Havel under mit vindue*. Copenhagen: Gyldendal, 1960].

Like British writer Graham Greene, Sarvig combines the detective story genre with mystery and romance to ask metaphysical and moral questions about the nature of self, memory, and meaning in a world that appears utterly estranged and alienated. In this novel, a woman awakens in a strange room with the sea roaring below. She has no idea where she is or, even worse, who she is. She does not understand the language of the country, nor is she familiar with its currency. She knows only that something is terribly wrong and that she is afraid of something she cannot identify. Ole Sarvig received numerous prizes during his lifetime, including the Critics' Prize, the Prize of the Danish Academy, and the Poetry Prize of Denmark.

## DUTCH

Smelik, Klaas A.D., editor. *Etty: The Letters and Diaries of Etty Hillesum 1941-1943*. Translated by Arnold J. Pomerans. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2002. 800 pp. Cloth: \$35.00. ISBN 0-8028-3959-2. [*Etty: De nagelaten geschriften van Etty Hillesum 1941-1943*].

The complete diary and letters of Etty Hillesum are now available in this comprehensive English edition. Etty began her diary in 1941, nine months after Hitler invaded her home country of the Netherlands. The record she kept for the next two years contains personal reflections and chronicles her intellectual and spiritual development. Letters that she wrote to friends during her internment at the Westerbork transit camp poignantly describe the day-to-day terror that the Jewish prisoners faced. Etty's courage and determination remained strong, allowing her to rise above the hate around her and express her undying faith in humanity. As she wrote in her last letter, thrown from the train that took her to her death at Auschwitz, "We left the camp singing."



## FRENCH

Audoin-Rouzeau, Stéphane and Annette Becker. *14-18: Understanding the Great War*. Translated by Catherine Temerson. New York: Hill and Wang, 2002. 280 pp. Cloth: \$24.00. ISBN 0-8090-4642-3. [*14-18, retrouver la Guerre*. France: Editions Gallimard, 2000].

This work examines three neglected but highly significant aspects of the Great War, each of which changed national and international affairs forever. First, why was the war unprecedented in its physical violence and destruction? What were the effects of tolerating it for four long years? Second, not just the soldiers but also the citizens of all the belligerent states seemed motivated and exalted by a vehement nationalistic, racist animus against the enemy: How had this “crusade” mentality evolved? Did it ever dissipate? Third, with its millions of deaths the war created a tidal wave of grief. How could the mourners come to terms with the agonizing pain? This book demonstrates how the Great War formed the matrix on which all subsequent disasters of the 20th century were formed.

Borde, Raymond and Etienne Chaumeton. *A Panorama of American Film Noir: 1941-1953*. Translated by Paul Hammond. Introduction by James Naremore. San Francisco: City Lights Books, 2002. 242 pp. Paper: \$16.95. ISBN 0-87286-412-X.

This book addresses the essential amorality of its subject from a decidedly Surrealist angle, focusing on noir’s dreamlike, unwonted, erotic, ambivalent, and cruel atmosphere, and setting it in the social context of mid-century America. Beginning with the first film noir, *The Maltese Falcon*, Borde and Chaumeton examine the dark sides of American society, film, and literature that made film noir possible. The book includes a film noir chronology, a voluminous filmography, a comprehensive index, and a selection of black-and-white production stills.

Camus, Albert and Jean Grenier. *Correspondence, 1932-1960*. Translated and with an introduction by Jan F. Rigaud. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2002. 277 pp. Cloth: \$45.00. ISBN 0-8032-1497-9. [*Correspondance: Albert Camus-Jean Grenier, 1932-1960*. France: Editions Gallimard, 1981].

As a philosophy teacher, mentor, and friend, Jean Grenier (1898-1971) had an enormous influence on the young Albert Camus (1913-1960), who acknowledged that Grenier’s *Les Iles* had touched the very core of his sensibility and provided him with both a “terrain for reflection, and a format” that he would later use for his own essays. These letters offer invaluable glimpses into the development of Camus’s aesthetic ideas, literary production, and political stance. In contrast to the correspondence of Grenier, who throughout remains somewhat reticent about his life and doubtful about himself and his works, Camus’s letters are a window into his most profound thoughts and sensitivities, at times revealing a side of the writer unfamiliar to us. Because Camus destroyed the earlier correspondence he received, the first 26 letters in the volume are his only; the full exchange begins in 1940. Translator Jan F. Rigaud is an associate professor at Villanova University.

Céline, Louis-Ferdinand. *Fable for Another Time*. Translated and with an introduction by Mary Hudson. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2003. 239 pp. Paper: \$25.00; ISBN 0-8032-6424-0. Cloth: \$55.00; ISBN 0-8032-1520-7. [*Féerie pour une autre fois I*. France: Editions Gallimard, 1952].

Composed in the tumultuous aftermath of World War II, largely in the Danish prison cell where the author was awaiting extradition to France on charges of high treason, this book offers a unique perspective on the war, the postwar political purges in France, and Louis-Ferdinand Céline’s own dissident politics. The tale of a man imprisoned and reviled by his own countrymen, the *Fable* follows its character’s decline from virulent hatred to near madness as a result of his violent frustration with the hypocrisy and banality of his fellow human beings. In part because of the story’s clear link to his own case and because of the legal and political difficulties this presented, Céline was compelled to push his famously elliptical, vitriolic language to new and extraordinary extremes. Mary Hudson has a Ph.D. in French and works as a

translator and language teacher in New York.

Cousin de Grainville, Jean-Baptiste-François-Xavier. *The Last Man*. Translated by I.F. and M. Clarke. Introduction and critical material by I.F. Clarke. Middletown, CT: Wesleyan University Press, 2003. 200 pp. Cloth: \$45.00; ISBN 0-8195-6549-0. Paper: \$17.95; ISBN 0-8195-0608-X. Early Classics of Science Fiction Series. Arthur B. Evans, General Editor.

Originally published in French in 1805, *The Last Man* is a powerful story of the demise of the human race. Drawing on the traditional account in *Revelations*, *The Last Man* was the first end-of-the-world story in future fiction and the first novel in which new science and social theories were shown to bring about the transformation of human life, and eventually the end of all life on the planet. The introduction by science fiction historian I.F. Clarke places the novel in the context of other end-of-the-world stories, discussing its 19th century popularity and examining its imitators. I.F. Clarke is a noted British science fiction historian and author of many books. I.F. and Margaret Clarke have collaborated on various projects. He was Foundation Professor of English Studies at Strathclyde University and she was a lecturer in English. Both are now retired and live in England.

Djebar, Assia. *Algerian White*. Translated by David Kelley and Marjolijn de Jager. New York: Seven Stories Press, 2003. 233 pp. Paper: \$13.95. ISBN 1-58322-516-1. [*Le Blanc de l'Algérie*. Albin Michel, 1995].

In *Algerian White*, available for the first time in paperback, Assia Djebar describes coming to terms with the deaths of many of her friends in the ongoing war between fundamentalists and secular authorities in Algeria. She records the horrors of her country's civil war and reveals the complex political and social issues that helped to create the conflict. Assia Djebar won Germany's premier literary prize, Le Prix de la Paix in 2000, the Neustadt Prize for Contributions to World Literature in 1996, and the Yourcenar Prize in 1997. Translator Marjolijn de Jager won the ALTA Outstanding Literary Translation Award for her translation of Assia Djebar's *Women of Algiers in Their Apartment* (1992). David Kelley was working on *Algerian White* when he died in 1999. He was among the world's most respected specialists of late 19th- and 20th-century French literature.

Dumas, Alexandre. *The Man in the Iron Mask*. Translated by Joachim Neugroschel. New York: Penguin Books, 2003. 470 pp. Paper: \$13.00. ISBN 0-14-043924-2. [*Homme au Masque de Fer*].

In the concluding installment of Alexandre Dumas's celebrated cycle of the *Three Musketeers*, D'Artagnan remains in the service of the corrupt King Louis XIV after the Three Musketeers have retired and gone their separate ways. Unbeknownst to D'Artagnan, Aramis and Porthos plot to remove the inept king and place the king's twin brother on the throne. Meanwhile, a 23-year-old prisoner known only as "Phillippe" wastes away deep inside the Bastille. Forced to wear an iron mask, Phillippe has been imprisoned for eight years, has no knowledge of his true identity, and has not been told what crime he has committed. When the destinies of the king and Phillippe converge, the Three Musketeers and D'Artagnan find themselves caught between conflicting loyalties. Translator Joachim Neugroschel is the winner of three PEN Translation Prizes. He has translated 190 books from French, German, Yiddish, Italian, and Russian, including works by Proust and Kafka.

Follain, Jean. *Transparence of the World*. Translated by W.S. Merwin. Port Townsend, WA: Copper Canyon Press, 2003. 132 pp. Paper: \$14.00. ISBN 1-55659-190-X.

In this bilingual edition, W.S. Merwin selects and translates the best poems from nine books by French poet Jean Follain. As Merwin notes in his preface, memory has a special role in Follain's poetry, as a means to understand and anchor the present and the objects that populate our lives. W.S. Merwin's awards include the Pulitzer Prize in Poetry, the Tanning Prize for mastery in the art of poetry, the Bollingen Award, the Ruth Lily Poetry Prize, as well as fellowships from the Rockefeller and the Guggenheim Foundations and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Le Clézio, J.M.G. *The Round & Other Cold, Hard Facts*. Translated by C. Dickson. Lincoln: University of

Nebraska Press, 2003. 192 pp. Cloth: \$60.00; ISBN 0-8032-2946-1. Paper: \$19.95; ISBN 0-8032-8007-6. [*La ronde et autres faits divers*. France: Editions Gallimard, 1982].

Set largely in locations near the French Riviera, these 11 short stories depict the harsh realities of life for the less-privileged inhabitants of this very privileged region. J.M.G. LeClézio lends his voice to the dispossessed and explores his familiar themes of alienation, immigration, poverty, violence, indifference, the loss of beauty, and the betrayal of innocence. Le Clézio has published more than 20 novels and nonfiction works. He has won numerous prizes, including the Prix Renaudot for his first novel. C. Dickson is a translator living in France. Her translations include Shams Nadir's *The Astrolabe of the Sea* and Mohammad Dib's *The Savage Night*.

Lever, Evelyne. *Madame de Pompadour: A Life*. Translated by Catherine Temerson. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2002. 310 pp. Cloth: \$26.00. ISBN 0-374-11308-4.

In this new biography, French historian Evelyne Lever chronicles the extraordinary life of the most famous and influential mistress of Louis XV: Jeanne-Antoinette de Pompadour. This seductive, astute, and resilient woman was destined to be both adored and reviled by the Court and the French public because of her relationship with one of the most powerful men in Europe, yet she was also to wield enormous influence on the culture, politics, and military future of France, with an authority that far exceeded any previously exerted by an official mistress. With this illuminating biography of a woman who succeeded against all odds, and whose love affair with a king changed the fate of a nation, Lever weaves a fascinating portrait of an extraordinary relationship, an exceptional woman, and a country in turmoil.

Oster, Christian. *My Big Apartment*. Translated and with an introduction by Jordan Stump. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2003. 155 pp. Cloth: \$55.00; ISBN 0-8032-3567-4. Paper: \$20.00; ISBN 0-8032-8612-0. [*Mon grand appartement*. Editions de Minuit, 1999].

Winner of the Prix Medicis, *My Big Apartment* is a humorous and ironic look at the serious subject of growing up. Gavarine, the gentle but immature protagonist of the novel, is ambitious only in the search for love. When he loses the keys to his apartment, he loses much more than access to his home. Yet, through a true comedy of errors, Gavarine ends up finding everything he was looking for, in a way he could never have expected. Christian Oster lives in France and is the author of eight novels, in addition to a number of pseudonymous detective novels and children's books. Translator Jordan Stump is an associate professor of French at the University of Nebraska. He is the author of *Naming and Unnaming* (Nebraska 1998) and the translator of numerous books, including Eric Chevillard's *On the Ceiling* (Nebraska 2000) and Claude Simon's *Le Jardin des Plantes*, for which Stump won the 2001 French-American Foundation Translation Prize.

Pontalis, J.-B. *Windows*. Translated and with an introduction by Anne Quinney. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2003. 114 pp. Paper: \$20.00; ISBN 0-8032-8771-2. Cloth: \$40.00; ISBN 0-8032-3734-0. [*Fenêtres*. France: Editions Gallimard, 2000].

At once a memoir and a personal version of the author's highly influential *Language of Psychoanalysis*, this work offers an autobiographical perspective on the private "vocabularies" that develop between analyst and patient. Because our ways of understanding the word are mediated by our use of language, J.-B. Pontalis suggests that a close look at our private lexicon can uncover a great deal about what we value. Beginning with one of his own linguistic preoccupations, the metaphor of the window, Pontalis considers language as a vehicle for both self-awareness and self-deception; he explores how we choose or eschew certain words to create our life-stories and demonstrates how these words conceal—and reveal—our most intimate preoccupations and desires.

Raczymow, Henri. *Swan's Way*. Translated by Robert Bononno. Evanston, IL: Northwestern University Press, 2003. 148 pp. Cloth: \$26.95. ISBN 0-8101-1925-0. [*Le Cygne de Proust*. France: Editions Gallimard, 1989].

What begins as a meditation of the fictional identity of the elegant "swan"

of Proust's *In Search of Lost Time*, becomes, through a series of twists and turns, an ingenious investigation of the character's real-life counterpart, Charles Haas. Haas's Jewish identity is the invisible thread that guides Raczymow through the maze of Proust's work, which serves as a backdrop against which fin de siècle French society enacts the ugly drama of anti-Semitism. Blurring the boundaries between life and fiction, *Swan's Way* leads the reader ever deeper into the unresolved question of literary and personal character. Translator Robert Bononno is the recipient of a National Endowment for the Arts grant to translate *Isabelle Eberhardt, Seven Years in the Life of a Woman: Letters and Journals*. His many translations include *Cyberculture*, *Kubrick*, *French New Wave*, and *Ghost Image*.

Schwarz-Bart, Simone with André Schwarz-Bart. *In Praise of Black Women, Volume 3: Modern African Women*. Translated by Rose-Myriam Rêjouis, Stephanie K. Turner, and Val Vinokurov. Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 2003. 256 pp. Cloth: \$49.95. ISBN 0-299-17250-3. [*Hommage à la Femme Noire*].

*In Praise of Black Women* is a tribute to women in Africa and the African diaspora from ancient times to the present. *Volume 3: Modern African Women* offers powerful and unforgettable tales from Senegal to South Africa, from the 19th century to the present. These modern African rulers, leaders, and visionaries include Madam Yoko, Princess Kesso, Alice Lenshina, Ellen Kuzwayo, Dulcie September, Miriam Makeba, and Winnie Mandela. Rose-Myriam Rêjouis and Val Vinokurov have previously translated two works by Martinican novelist Patrick Chamoiseau: *Solibo Magnificent* and *Texaco*. Stephanie Daval is completing a Ph.D. in Comparative Literature at Princeton University, specializing in Francophone literature.

Verdon, Jean. *Night in the Middle Ages*. Translated by George Holoch. Notre Dame: University of Notre Dame Press, 2002. 248 pp. Paper: \$25.00; ISBN 0-268-03656-X. Cloth: \$45.00; ISBN 0-268-03655-1. [*La Nuit au Moyen Age*. Perrin].

"The contemporary world is uncomfortable with night, more precisely with night it has not domesticated with electricity. What was it like in the Middle Ages when darkness was nearly unbroken from the setting to the rising of the sun?" In *Night in the Middle Ages* medievalist Jean Verdon offers an answer to this intriguing question. His book—filled with stories that capture events of the medieval night, from the ordinary to the fantastic—includes a cast of characters ranging from Duke Louis of Orléans and Chrétien de Troyes to students, bailiffs, monks, and workers. Part 1 of the book describes dark activities that are masked by the cloak of night. In the second section, Verdon depicts how medieval society attempted to "tame" the night through architecture, improved lighting methods, armed night patrols, watchmen, and curfews. Finally, Verdon turns his attention to "sublime night" when people were visited by visions and "divine light."

Verne, Jules. *The Mighty Orinoco*. Translated by Stanford L. Luce. Middletown, CT: Wesleyan University Press, 2002. 441 pp. Cloth: \$29.95. ISBN 0-8195-6511-3.

The latest edition of the *Early Classics of Science Fiction Series*, this novel is one of Verne's rare "feminist" adventure novels, which portrays a courageous young woman as the central protagonist. To attain her goal—a quest in search of her father who disappeared in the jungles of South America—she must disguise herself as a man. The novel is written with Verne's trademark uncanny foresight about the future development of science and technology and carefully based on scientific understandings of the day. Translator Stanford Luce is Professor Emeritus of French at Miami University in Ohio.

## GERMAN

Assman, Jan. *The Mind of Egypt: History and Meaning in the Time of the Pharaohs*. Translated by Andrew Jenkins. New York: Henry Holt and Company, 2002. 528 pp. Cloth: \$35.00. ISBN 0-8050-5462-6. [*Ägypten. Eine Sinngeschichte*. Munich: Carl Hanser Verlag, 1996].

How did the Egyptians see themselves and their place in history? In this work, historian Jan Assman not only reconstructs this distant world in incredible detail, but also offers the first view into the inner life of Egypt. The study begins in 4000 B.C.E. and ends centuries later with the rise of Christianity in 500 A.D. Assman traces the crucial roles of the pharaoh, the priests, and the imperial bureaucracy. He explores the ideal relation of man to god, and explains the monumental architecture and ritual celebrations as expressions of that idea. He also reveals some of the most striking differences between ancient Egypt and the world we know—the multiple notions of time, the structures of immortality, and the commitment to *ma'at*, social justice and human fellowship.

Benthien, Claudia. *Skin: On the Cultural Border Between Self and the World*. Translated by Thomas Dunlap. New York: Columbia University Press, 2002. 290 pp. Cloth. ISBN 0-231-12502-X. [*Haut: Literaturgeschichte, Körperbilder, Grenzdiskurse*. Hamburg: Rowohlt Taschenbuch Verlag GmbH, 1999].

This cultural study examines the relations among self-consciousness, subjectivity, and skin from the 18th century to the present. Claudia Benthien argues that despite medicine's having penetrated the bodily surface and exposed the interior of the body as never before, skin, paradoxically, has become a more unyielding symbol. She also examines the changing significance of skin through analyses of art, philosophy, and anatomical drawings and writings, as well as Germanic, American, and African American literature. Benthien discusses the semantic and psychic aspects of touching, feeling, and intellectual perception; the motifs of perforated, armored, or transparent skin. Myriad images from the Renaissance, anatomy books, and contemporary visual and performance art enhance the text.

Bernhard, T., P. Handke, F.X. Kroetz, and B. Strauss. *Contemporary German Plays II*. New York: Continuum International Publishing Group, Inc., 2002. 320 pp. Paper: \$22.95; ISBN 0-8264-1314-5. Cloth: \$49.95; ISBN 0-8264-1313-7. The German Library, Volume 97.

This volume complements the preceding German Library, Volume 96. The collection includes *Farmyard* by Franz Xaver Kroetz, *Offending the Audience* by Peter Handke, *Eve of Retirement* by Thomas Bernhard, and *Big and Little* by Botho Strauss. All of these dramas and writers have been especially popular during the 1980s to the present. These plays together mark a return to the private sphere: how humans construct their social existence and experience through their personal lives, in some measure in retreat from public problems and conflicts. Translators include Michael Roloff, Jack Gelber, Gitta Honegger, and Anne Cattaneo.

Bürger, Peter. *The Thinking of the Master: Bataille between Hegel and Surrealism*. Translated and with an introduction by Richard Block. Evanston, IL: Northwestern University Press, 2003. 129 pp. Paper: \$24.95; ISBN 0-8101-1899-8. Cloth: \$79.95; ISBN 0-8101-1558-1. [*Das Denken des Herrn: Bataille zwischen Hegel und dem Surrealismus*. Frankfurt am Main: Suhrkamp Verlag, 1992].

Mastery of many sorts emerges in new configurations in *The Thinking of the Master*: as an idea developed by Hegel in the master/slave dialectic in his *Phenomenology of Spirit*, as a quality embodied in the work of certain 20th-century *maître-penseurs*, or “master thinkers”; and, not least, in the expertise of Bürger himself as he negotiates and clarifies a critical intersection of contemporary French and German thought. In this work, Bürger considers what several seminal thinkers—Bataille, Blanchot, Barthes, Foucault, Lacan, Derrida, and Heidegger as well as novelist Michel Tournier—owe to Hegel's dialectic and measures their accomplishments against the avant-garde project. Translator Richard Block is an assistant professor in the Department of Germanic and Slavic Languages and Literatures at the University of

Colorado at Boulder.

Harig, Ludwig. *The Trip to Bordeaux*. Translated by Susan Bernofsky. Providence: Burning Deck, 2003. 104 pp. Paper \$10.00. ISBN 1-886224-53-6.

Four adults, a child, and a cat travel from Germany to Bordeaux. Harig tells their adventures in humorous permutations, word-games, Baroquisms, con-frontations, catalogs: anything but straightforward narrative. He even rings the changes on snippets of philosophical discourse lifted from Montaigne—who was once mayor of Bordeaux and whose motto, “What do I know?” is perhaps the real location all the fun takes us to.

Herder, Johann Gottfried. *Sculpture: Some Observations of Shape and Form from Pygmalion's Creative Dream*. Edited and translated by Jason Gaiger. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2002. 152 pp. Paper: \$18.00. ISBN 0-226-32755-8.

Herder's landmark essay combines rationalist and empiricist thought with a wide range of sources—from the classics to Norse legend, Shakespeare to the Bible—to illuminate the ways we experience sculpture. Standing on the fault line between classicism and romanticism, Herder draws most of his examples from classical sculpture, while insisting on the historicity of art and of the senses themselves. Through a detailed analysis of the differences between painting and sculpture, he develops a powerful critique of the dominance of vision both in the appreciation of art and in our everyday apprehension of the world around us. Jason Gaiger's translation includes an extensive introduction to Herder's thought, explanatory notes, and illustrations of all the sculptures discussed in the text. Gaiger is lecturer in the Department of Art History at the Open University.

Moltke, Freya von. *Memories of Kreisau and the German Resistance*. Translated and with an introduction by Julie M. Winter. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2003. 87 pp. Cloth: \$49.95. ISBN 0-8032-4669-2. [*Erinnerungen an Kreisau, 1930-1945*].

This book is the personal account of Freya von Moltke, a member of the Kreisau Circle, a German resistance group that participated in the attempt to assassinate Hitler on July 20, 1944. Freya's husband, Helmuth von Moltke, was a cofounder of the circle and was executed after the failed assassination attempt. Freya recounts both personal details and sweeping historical events. The meetings of the circle took place at Kreisau, the large family farm in Silesia owned by the von Moltke family. She describes the resistance work carried out during the meetings of the circle as well as the last days of Kreisau, after many of the members of the resistance had been executed for their roles in the failed assassination attempt. When the war ended in 1945, Freya was evacuated from Kreisau, and the von Moltke estate was given to Poland. Translator Julie M. Winter teaches German at Whitworth College. She is the translator of Marion Yorck von Wartenberg's *The Power of Solitude: My Life in the German Resistance*.

Rosei, Peter. *Ruthless and Other Writings*. Translated and with an afterword by Geoffrey Howes. Riverside, CA: Ariadne Press, 2003. 184 pp. Paper: \$18.50. ISBN 1-57241-113-9. Studies in Austrian Literature, Culture, and Thought: Translation Series.

*Ruthless and Other Writings* collects stories from several phases of Peter Rosei's career, as well as excerpts from the 1995 novel *Persona*, a philosophical journal, and selected poetry. In the stories translated here, Rosei presents aspects of the Austrian past, particularly the social and ethical conditions brought about by the end of the Habsburg Empire and the two world wars. The characters, unique but somehow representative, emerge from the landscapes and cityscapes that Rosei describes with vivid precision. The admirable and ugly facets of human existence appear side-by-side, or even united within the same character or locale. Translator Geoffrey C. Howes is a professor of German in the Department of German, Russian, and East Asian Languages at Bowling Green State University in Ohio. He is co-editor of *Modern Austrian Literature* and has translated works by a number of Austrian writers.

Rosenfeld, Oskar. *In the Beginning Was the Ghetto*. Translated by Brigitte M. Goldstein. Evanston, IL: Northwestern University Press, 2002. 313 pp. Cloth: \$40.00. ISBN 0-8101-1488-7.

From February 1942 to July 1944, Oskar Rosenfeld served in the statistics department of the Łódź ghetto. A Jewish playwright and journalist, he kept his own records—meticulous and harrowing notes on life and conditions in the ghetto—for the fictionalized account he hoped someday to write. Upon the liquidation of the ghetto, he and the nearly 80,000 remaining inhabitants were deported to Auschwitz, where he perished. Rosenfeld's notebooks offer a wrenching view of life in the ghetto and the day-to-day struggle for survival of what was, initially, a population of more than 100,000. Translator Brigitte M. Goldstein is a historian who works as a writer, editor, and translator. Her translations include *Years of Estrangement*, stories of Erich Leyens and Lotte Andor, and Salomea Genin's *Shayndl and Salomea: From Lemberg to Berlin*.

Schnitzler, Arthur. *Selected Short Fiction*. Translated by J.M.Q. Davies. London: Angel Books, 2003. 220 pp. Paper: \$19.95. ISBN 1-946162-49-2.

This volume, containing 13 stories, provides a balanced selection of Schnitzler's short fiction. It ranges from short comic tales to dense novellas such as *Lieutenant Gustl*, *Fräulein Else*, and the atmospheric late, dramatic tale of love and sudden death *The Duellist's Second*. Some narratives—as told, for instance, by a deluded bank clerk, or the jealous admirer of another man's wife—are distinctly ambivalent in implication; others feature characters in “threshold” situations that force them to reappraise their entire lives. J.M.Q. Davies teaches at Waseda University, Japan. Among his publications are a study of Blake and Milton and a selection of German horror stories in English translation.

Timm, Uwe. *Morenga*. Translated by Breon Mitchell. New York: New Directions, 2003. 384 pp. Cloth: \$25.95. ISBN 0-8112-1514-8.

*Morenga* is a chilling historical fiction recounting the conflict between the colonial German Empire, in what is now Namibia, and the rebellious Africans of the Hottentot and Herero tribes. The revolt is led by a Herero named Morenga, an unusually daring and brilliant military tactician, fluent in several languages and by all reports a man of compassion, intelligence, and integrity. Told through the eyes of a fictional German military veterinarian named Gottschalk, the narrative is an innovative combination of history and fiction that blends quotations from actual historical sources, sometimes from an often humorous earlier 19th-century missionary history of the region, with gripping fictionalized accounts. Uwe Timm won the Munich Literary Prize in 1989.

## HEBREW

Be'er, Haim. *The Pure Element of Time*. Translated by Barbara Harshav. Hanover: Brandeis University Press, 2003. 296 pp. Cloth: \$26.00. ISBN 1-58465-277-2.

Haim Be'er, winner of the Bernstein Prize, one of Israel's most prestigious literary awards, is both writer and narrator of *The Pure Element of Time*, an autobiographical novel tracing the upbringing of a Jewish boy from a religious Jerusalem family and his formation as a writer. Constructed as a triptych, the book relates the author's boyhood, adolescence, and young adulthood in telling detail, revealing the unique familial and social influences that sparked the imagination of the young writer. Be'er is currently an editor at Am Oved Publishers Ltd. A writer of both prose and poetry, he has received several literary awards.

Grossman, David. *Death As a Way of Life: Israel Ten Years After Oslo*. Translated by Haim Watzman. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2003. 188 pp. Cloth: \$22.00. ISBN 0-374-10211-2.

*Death As a Way of Life* is a compilation of ten years (1993-2002) of passionate essays about the state of the Middle East. David Grossman is Israel's most widely read novelist and a leading journalist whose groundbreaking books *The Yellow Wind* (1988) and *Sleeping on a Wire* (1993) chronicled the Israeli-Palestinian conflict with a poignant understanding of both sides. With this new collection of essays,

Grossman addresses the question of whether there will ever be peace in the Middle East. David Grossman has won many international awards for his writing, including the Prime Minister's Prize for Hebrew Literature, the Publisher's Association Prize for best novel in Hebrew, and the Jerusalem Writer's House Prize for "First Work."

Hendel, Yehudit. *Small Change: A Collection of Stories*. Translated by Dalya Bilu, Barbara Harshav, and Marsha Pomerantz. Lebanon, NH: University Press of New England, 2003. 158 pp. Cloth: \$19.95. ISBN 1-58465-279-9.

Characters living on the margins of society are Yehudit Hendel's specialty. She is the most prominent woman in the first generation of Israeli prose writers, known for her strong feminist ideals that are especially apparent in *Small Change*. This delicately structured and psychologically rigorous short story collection maps out a shadow land between life and death, the mundane and the fantastic. These eight stories, which can be read as a cycle, offer variations on the themes of loneliness, family ties, obsession, and regret in contemporary Israel. Yehudit Hendel has won the Jerusalem Prize, the Newman Prize, and the 1996 Bialik Prize.

Ibn Gabirol, Solomon. *The Kingly Crown/Keter Malkhut*. Translated and with an introduction by Bernard Lewis. Notre Dame: University of Notre Dame Press, 2003. 208 pp. Cloth: \$22.00. ISBN 0-268-03303-X.

Solomon ibn Gabirol (1021-1058) of Spain was a Jewish philosopher and moralist who is perhaps best known for the beautiful 40-stanza poem *Keter Malkhut (The Kingly Crown)*. Hailed by scholars as one of the most important classics of Hebrew literature, *The Kingly Crown* uses the metaphor of a king in his palace to describe the relationship between humanity and God. This medieval poem is full of vivid imagery and scriptural references. Within its many layers of meaning, readers will find not only an extended prayer and meditation, but also signs of the neoplatonic philosophy that formed the foundation of Gabirol's cosmology and theology. Translator Bernard Lewis is the Cleveland E. Dodge Professor of Near Eastern Studies and Professor Emeritus at Princeton University. He is the author of numerous books on Middle Eastern history.

Raab, Esther. *Thistles: Selected Poems of Esther Raab*. Translated by Harold Schimmel. Jerusalem: Ibis Editions, 2002. 137 pp. Paper: \$13.95. ISBN 965-90124-8-9.

Esther Raab's poetry, marked by its strong, idiosyncratic voice, is reminiscent of Emily Dickinson's in its unorthodox, fractured syntax, and its sources: the Bible and unromanticized nature. *Thistles*, her debut-collection of poems, appeared in 1930, and her second book was published to great critical acclaim some two decades later. A final volume, *Last Prayer*, came out in 1972. Translator Harold Schimmel's selections for this volume, drawn from all of the writer's books, constitute the first gathering of Raab's work in English and afford the reader an opportunity to relish what he calls in his introduction the "strange intensities" and "astounding propinquities" of a singular writer. Harold Schimmel has published English translations of Yehudah Amichai and Avot Yeshurun, and six volumes of his own poetry in Hebrew.

Shabtai, Aharon. *J'Accuse*. Translated by Peter Cole. New York: New Directions, 2003. 80 pp. Paper: \$14.95. ISBN 0-8112-1539-3.

Never before published in the U.S., *J'Accuse* is political poetry written by an Israeli, denouncing Israel's policies toward the Palestinians and outspoken in their criticism of the Israeli Occupation of the West Bank and Gaza. When they appeared in Israeli newspapers, they were savaged by those who viewed them as "anti-Israel." But in a recent article in *The Boston Globe*, Adina Hoffman wrote, "The irony of this critique is painful, since Shabtai takes his rhetorical and ethical cues from the Hebrew prophets, and his concern is precisely for the future of the State and for the Hebrew language." Translator Peter Cole runs a small press, Ibis Editions, in Jerusalem. He has won many awards for his own poetry, including a Guggenheim Fellowship.



## ITALIAN

Dante Alighieri. *Inferno*. Translated by Michael Palma. New York: W.W. Norton & Co., 2002. 193 pp. Paper: \$16.95. ISBN 0-393-32387.

Michael Palma has rendered Dante's *Inferno* into contemporary American English while maintaining Dante's original triple-rhyme scheme. He recreates *Inferno* in all its dimensions, without emphasizing some aspects over others. The result is a translation that can be appreciated for its literal faithfulness and beautiful poetic form. In undertaking a triple-rhyme translation, Palma defies the conventional wisdom of literary commentators, who have long argued that it cannot be done. The translation is accompanied by facing page Italian and by explanatory notes. Michael Palma, a poet, is the recipient of the Italo Calvino Award for his translation of *My Name on the Wind: Selected Poems of Diego Valeri*.

De Angelis, Milo. *Between the Blast Furnaces and the Dizziness: A Selection of Poems: 1970-1999*. Translated and with an introduction by Emanuel di Pasquale. New York: Chelsea Editions, 2003. 200 pp. Paper: \$15.00. ISBN 0-9725271-0-9.

Chelsea Editions has been created with a single purpose—to present the work of important modern and contemporary Italian poets in handsomely produced volumes, with facing English versions by award-winning translators. The series is inaugurated by a volume of selections from the work of Milo De Angelis. Born in Milan in 1951, he is one of the most acclaimed and significant figures in Italian poetry today.

Deledda, Grazia. *The Church of Solitude*. Translated by E. Ann Matter. Albany: State University of New York Press, 2002. 176 pp. Paper. ISBN 0-7914-5457-6. SUNY series, Women Writers in Translation. Marilyn Gaddis Rose, editor.

*The Church of Solitude* tells the story of Maria Concezione, a young Sardinian seamstress living with breast cancer at the cusp of the 20th century. Overwhelmed by the shame of her diagnosis, she decides that no one can know what has happened to her, but the heavy burden of this secrecy changes her life in dramatic ways and almost causes the destruction of several people in her life. This surprising novel paints the portrait of a woman facing the unknown with courage, faith, and self-reliance, and is the last and most autobiographical work of Grazia Deledda, who died of breast cancer in 1936, shortly after its publication. Grazia Deledda is the only Italian woman to have won the Nobel Prize for Literature (1926). Translator E. Ann Matter is the R. Jean Brownlee Term Professor in the Department of Religious Studies at the University of Pennsylvania.

Fubini, Riccardo. *Humanism and Secularization: From Petrarch to Valla*. Translated by Martha King. Durham: Duke University Press, 2003. Cloth: \$64.95. ISBN 0-8223-3002-4. Duke Monographs in Medieval and Renaissance Studies 18. [*Umanesimo e secolarizzazione da Petrarca a Valla*. Rome: Bulzoni, 1990].

The Renaissance movement known as humanism eventually spread from Italy through all of western Europe, transforming early modern culture in ways that are still being felt and debated. Central to these debates—and to this book—is the question of whether (and how) the humanist movement contributed to the secularization of Western cultural traditions at the end of the Middle Ages. Riccardo Fubini approaches this question in a new way—by redefining the problem of secularization more carefully to show how humanists can at once be secularizers and religious thinkers. The result is a provocative vision of the humanist movement. Martha King is the translator of Grazia Deledda's *Reeds in the Wind* and *Elias Portolu* and the editor of *Italian Women: A Collection of Short Fiction*.

Longhi, Roberto. *Piero della Francesca*. Translated by David Tabbat. Riverdale-on-Hudson, NY: Sheep Meadow Press, 2002. 364 pp. Cloth. ISBN 1-878818-77-5.

Roberto Longhi (1890-1970) is regarded by Italians as their most important connoisseur, critic, and art historian; at the same time he is read and enjoyed for his gifts as a prose stylist. *Piero della Francesca*, first published in 1927, places Piero as the central figure of 15th-century painting. The book is art historical scholarship as well as a work of criticism, written in Longhi's elaborate idiosyncratic syntax and inventive vocabulary. David Tabbat's new translation captures Longhi's style, bringing together the language of the scholar with the language of the poet.

Loy, Rosetta. *Hot Chocolate at Hanselmann's*. Translated and with an introduction by Gregory Conti. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2003. 189 pp. Paper: \$16.95; ISBN 0-8032-8006-8. Cloth: \$50.00; ISBN 0-8032-2945-3. European Women Writers Series.

A work of understated elegance and cumulative power, this novel eases readers into a drama unfolding within a Catholic family in Italy on the eve of World War II. As scenes only dimly understood by the child Lorenza are revisited by the woman she becomes, what seemed a family affair—a romance involving Lorenza's mother, her father's Jewish friend Arturo, and her aunt Margot in Switzerland—begins to reveal the broader outlines of the drama of history, in particular the tragedy of Italy's Jews during the Holocaust. Limning the interplay of past and present, of memory and presence, this work brings to life the subtleties and complexities of history as it is experienced, interpreted, and relived within the most intimate of realms. Gregory Conti has translated five books from Italian, including Rosetta Loy's childhood memoir *First Words*.

Maraini, Dacia. *Love Letters: Unedited Letters by Gabriele d'Annunzio, Presented as Theatre*. Translated by Thomas Simpson. Toronto: Guernica, 2003. 91 pp. Paper: \$10.00. ISBN 1-55071-178-4.

"*Love Letters* was born from the reexamination of a poet wildly adored in the first half of the twentieth century—during the First World War and the Fascist Era—and then reviled with equal passion in the second half. I had in hand many of his personal letters that remain unedited because the many women d'Annunzio loved—or at least those whom he courted and made love to—kept them jealously for themselves. In my drama, d'Annunzio's love letters become the dark spirit of a thorny relationship between a mother and daughter. The reading of them provokes a confrontation between a living woman and a dead one who, as Pirandello might say, lived behind a strange and indecipherable mask." (Dacia Maraini)

Ruffato, Cesare. *Scribendi Licentia: Selected Poems in the Paduan Dialect*. Translated by Luigi Bonaffini. Brooklyn: Legas, 2002. 104 pp. Paper. ISBN 1-881901-35-1.

Cesare Ruffato was born in 1924 and lives in Padua, Italy. He is a physician with specializations in Radiology and Radiobiology. He has written numerous scientific books and articles in his field. Dr. Ruffato is one of Italy's major living literary figures with many novels and critical essays, books of poetry in Italian and in Paduan to his credit. This anthology represents his most significant work written in the dialect of his native city. Translator Luigi Bonaffini is a professor of Italian at Brooklyn College.

Viroli, Maurizio. *Republicanism*. Translated by Antony Shugaar. New York: Hill and Wang, 2002. 124 pp. Cloth: \$20.00. ISBN 0-8090-8077-X. [*Repubblicanesimo*, 1999].

In this study, Maurizio Viroli explores the history and meaning of republicanism, from its origins with Aristotle and in classical Rome to its renaissance with Machiavelli and other exponents of Italian republican ideals, then to its great flowering in the 17th and 18th centuries with Locke, Kant, Rousseau, Thomas Paine, and the Founding Fathers. But *Republicanism* is much more than a historical survey, for Viroli is also calling for a contemporary renewal of classical republicanism. While present-day liberal democracy emphasizes citizens' natural, inalienable rights and their freedom from interference, classical republicanism emphasizes an equally administered rule of law as a guarantee of freedom from arbitrary coercion. Viroli makes a passionate plea for a rebirth of republicanism to rescue patriotism and civic engagement from nationalistic and religious demagogues, and to reinvigorate our democratic institutions in order to face the challenges of a dynamic and uncertain future.

## JAPANESE

Oda, Makoto. *The Breaking Jewel*. Translated by Donald Keene. New York: Columbia University Press, 2003. 116 pp. Paper: \$16.50; ISBN 0-231-12613. [*Gyokusai*. Shinchōsa, 1998].

Makoto Oda, a prominent and controversial novelist known for his outspoken antiestablishment and antiwar sentiments, gradually and subtly develops a powerful indictment against World War II. His novel highlights the unwavering bravery of the Japanese soldiers but also criticizes the hypocrisy of their leaders and traditional Japanese ideas of honor and sacrifice. As American forces fight to overtake the small Japanese garrison, the soldiers struggle with conflicting feelings about the pointlessness of war, loyalty, and the meaning of *gyokusai*—literally *the breaking jewel* or the *pulverization of the gem*—a term that refers to an act of mass suicide committed as a last defense of the homeland. The novel openly questions whether *gyokusai* is truly an act of patriotism or one of futile self-defeat. Translator Donald Keen is Shincho Professor of Japanese Literature and University Professor Emeritus at Columbia University. He is the author or translator of more than 30 books, most recently *Emperor of Japan: Meiji and His World, 1852-1912* and *Five Modern Japanese Novelists*.

Senoh, Kappa. *A Boy Called H: A Childhood in Wartime Japan*. Translated by John Bester. Tokyo: Kodansha International, 2002. First paperback edition. 536 pp. Paper: \$19.95. ISBN 4-7700-2935-7. [*Shonen H*. Kodansha Ltd., 1997].

*A Boy Called H* tells the haunting story of H, as his friends knew him, and his childhood as it unfolds in 1930s Japan during World War II. Under different circumstances, H might have been a perfectly ordinary schoolboy—preoccupied with school, friends, and movies. But his family is far from conventional—his father is a quiet man who covertly opposes the war, while his mother is a tambourine-banging evangelical Christian in a country where that group comprises a tiny minority. He struggles with the knowledge that his family is non-conformist in an oppressively conformist society. But when Japan embarks on a militaristic course that leads to its eventual ruin, H must learn to adapt and conform in order to survive. Translator John Bester is an Englishman who has lived most of his life in Japan and is one of the foremost translators of Japanese literature.

Sōhō, Takuan. *The Unfettered Mind: Writings from a Zen Master to a Master Swordsman*. Translated by William Scott Wilson. Tokyo: Kodansha International, 2003. 142 pp. Cloth: \$19.95. ISBN 4-7700-2947-0.

*The Unfettered Mind*, fourth in the continuing series of Martial Arts Classics from Kodansha International, is broken down into three essays: “The Mysterious Record of Immovable Wisdom,” “The Clear Sound of Jewels,” and “Annals of the Sword Taia.” The essays are addressed to the Samurai class and seek to unify the spirit of Zen with the spirit of the sword. A classic of Buddhist teachings, the book also contemplates questions including where the swordsman puts his mind in a life-and-death situation, the difference between the right mind and the confused mind, and what makes life precious. Takuan Sōhō (1573-1645) began religious training at the age of 10 and was eventually appointed abbot of the Daitokuji, a major Zen temple in Kyoto, at the age of 35. He was a prolific author who sought to infuse the spirit of Zen into every aspect of life. Translator William Scott Wilson received an M.A. in Japanese literary studies from the University of Washington. His translations include *Hagakure*, *The Unfettered Mind*, and *Taiko*.

## KOREAN

Yang, Kwija. *A Distant and Beautiful Place*. Translated by Kim So-young and Julie Pickering. Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press, 2003. 242 pp. Paper: \$12.95. ISBN 0-8248-2639-6.

*A Distant and Beautiful Place* first appeared as a series of linked stories in literary journals between 1985 and 1987. Set against the backdrop of South Korea’s breakneck drive for industrialization

and economic development in the 1980s, these compassionate and often humorous stories capture the essence of modern South Korean life—including the ubiquitous atmosphere of violence and fear that clouded the country prior to democratization in 1987. They also depict the Korean people's unflinching optimism and love of life. Kim So-young is a freelance translator living in Seoul. Julie Pickering is a translator and editor living in Seattle.

## NORWEGIAN

Bjørneboe, Jens. *Amputation: Texts for an Extraordinary Spectacle*. Translated by Solrun Hoaas and Esther Greenleaf Mürer. Riverside, CA: Xenos Books, 2002. 180 pp. Paper: \$15.00. ISBN 1-879378-46-9.

The Norwegian iconoclast Jens Bjørneboe described this work as a “wild, almost surrealistic play—partly sinister, partly comic...directed against those forms of society that do not allow room for people who think differently from those in power.” In the horrible world of *Amputation* the dissident individual who cannot be normalized by conditioned reflexes may yet serve society—in the medical sense. Bjørneboe wrote two versions of the play. Here, in one volume, are both, plus supplemental texts that provide all the materials for an extraordinary reading and, for the avant-garde theatrical group, an extraordinary production of Bjørneboe's shocking and prophetic warning.

Ødegård, Knut. *Missa*. Translated by Brian McNeil. Ireland/Chester Springs, PA: Dedalus Press/Dufour Editions, 2003. 52 pp. Paper: \$13.95. ISBN 1-901233-95-2. Poetry Europe 14.

*Missa* is a long poem, its structure paralleling that of Britten's *War Requiem*. The poem brings the dark and destructive forces in the human person into the Catholic Mass, which is performed in a space that accommodates all that is human—here, the dark mysteries and the splintered experiences find an answer in a larger context. Ødegård is founder and honorary president of the international literary Bjørnson Festival in Norway. Translator Brian McNeil was born in Scotland, was ordained a priest, and now works in a parish in Munich. He is well-known as a translator from German and Norwegian.

Skram, Amalie. *Constance Ring*. Translated by Judith Messick with Katherine Hanson. Evanston, IL: Northwestern University Press, 2002. 303 pp. Paper: \$19.95. ISBN 0-8101-1967-6.

Initially rejected by the author's scandalized publisher, *Constance Ring* is now considered a classic of Scandinavian—and world—literature, a passionate condemnation of marriage and moral hypocrisy that has drawn comparisons to *Madame Bovary* and *The Awakening*. This novel tells the story of a naïve young woman who sets out to divorce her loving but adulterous husband. She finds little support for her decision but refuses to yield to the forces of a society that offers women few choices other than marriage. Katherine Hanson and Judith Messick are the co-translators of Amalie Skram's *Lucie* and *Under Observation*.

## POLISH

Lipska, Ewa. *Pet Shops & Other Poems*. Translated by Barbara Bogoczek and Tony Howard. UK: Arc Publications, 2002. 92 pp. Paper. ISBN 1-900072-52-1.

Ewa Lipska is one of Poland's foremost poets, emerging in the 1960s as a leading voice in the young generation of New Wave poets and quickly establishing herself as one of the key critical voices of the postwar generation. Over the years, her focus has subtly adjusted itself to match the political upheavals she has witnessed at close hand, and her concise “shorthand” poetry operates on many levels simultaneously—she is simultaneously a journalist, psychologist, surrealist, and metaphysician. Translator Barbara Bogoczek's translations include works by John Kennedy Toole, Hannah Krall, Maria Pawlikowska-Jasnorzewska, Tadeusz Różewicz and Ewa Lipska. Tony Howard lectures on drama and film

at Warwick University. He was International Shakespeare Fellow (2000) at Shakespeare's Globe and writes extensively on Renaissance plays in performance and on contemporary drama.

Stasiuk, Andrzej. *Tales of Galicia*. Translated by Margarita Nafpaktitis. Prague: Twisted Spoon Press, 2003. 140 pp. Paper: \$14.00. ISBN 80-86264-05-X.

*Tales of Galicia* blurs the line between the short-story genre and the novel, while giving a vivid, poetic portrait of an imaginary village that was once part of a vibrant collective farm system. It is set in a part of Poland once inhabited by Poles, Ukrainians, and Jews that suddenly became homogeneous after the war. Those who came to live in this region formed their own peculiar culture that lacked any sort of historical connection to what had preceded it. Exploring a metaphysics of the fissure in existence, Stasiuk's work posits little difference between the living and the dead, dream and reality, civilization and nature, instinct and morality, the intangible and the material. Margarita Nafpaktitis is a doctoral candidate in Slavic Languages and Literatures at the University of Michigan. Her translations of Polish writers Stefan Chwin, Ewa Lipska, and Andrzej Stasiu have appeared in a number of journals.

## PORTUGUESE

Andrade, Eugénio de. *Forbidden Words: Selected Poetry of Eugénio de Andrade*.

Translated by Alexis Levitin. Bilingual. New York: New Directions, 2003. 288 pp. Paper: \$16.95. ISBN 0-8112-1523-7.

*Forbidden Words* is based on Eugénio de Andrade's retrospective collection *Antologia Breve*. Adjectives that come to mind while reading Andrade's poetry are: sensual, clear, concise, lyric, luminous, and earthy. There is nothing obscure about his verses. His poems are accessible and full of verbal music. Alexis Levitin's brilliant translations seem to echo the nature of the originals. Alexis Levitin is a professor of English at SUNY-Plattsburg. For his work in translation he has been nominated for the State University of New York Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Scholarship and Creative Activities.

Oliveira, Carmen L. *Rare and Commonplace Flowers: The Story of Elizabeth Bishop and Lota De Macedo Soares*. Translated by Neil K. Besner. New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, 2002. 192 pp. Cloth. ISBN 0-8135-3033-4. [*Floras raras e banalíssimas: A história de Lota de Macedo Soares e Elizabeth Bishop*. Rio de Janeiro: Editora Rocco Ltda., 1995].

This dual biography tells the story of two women—the Pulitzer Prize winning American poet Elizabeth Bishop and Lota de Macedo Soares, a self-trained Brazilian architect. The book follows their relationship from 1951 to 1967, the time when the two lived together in Brazil. The fact that these two women had an intimate relationship caused an uproar when it first came to public notice. *Rare and Commonplace Flowers* is a tale of two artists and two cultures, offering unique perspectives on both women and their work. Carmen L. Oliveira provides an unparalleled level of detail and insight, due to both her familiarity with Brazil and her access to the country's artistic elite, many of whom had a direct connection with Bishop and Soares.

Queirós, Eça de. *The Crime of Father Amaro: Scenes from the Religious Life*. Translated by Margaret Jull Costa. New York: New Directions, 2003. 480 pp. Paper: \$14.95. ISBN 0-8112-1532-6. [*Crimo de padre Amaro*].

This is a new translation of Eça de Queirós's third and final version of *The Crime of Father Amaro*, first published in 1880. In it he sets out to expose the hypocrisy of small-town, provincial Portugal, of so-called freethinkers, and, in particular, of the Church. In this blackest of comedies, de Queirós depicts the destructive effects of celibacy on a priest lacking any true vocation. Father Amaro, whose name means "bitter" in Portuguese, sours forever the life of the young Amélia. It is a novel in which the innocent are condemned and the guilty prosper. The book has been adapted to a movie version directed by Carlos Carrera. It was Mexico's official entry as Best Foreign Language Film for the 2002 Academy Awards. Margaret Jull Costa has translated the works of many Spanish and Portuguese writers. She won the 1992 Portuguese Translation Prize; in 1997, with Javier Marias, the IMPAC Dublin Literary Award; and in 2000

she won the Weidenfeld Translation Prize.

## RUSSIAN

Draitser, Emil. *The Supervisor of the Sea and Other Stories*. Various translators. Riverside, CA: Xenos Books, 2003. 149 pp. Paper: \$15.00. ISBN 1-879378-47-7.

This collection presents Draitser's longer and more serious stories in a sequence that moves from Russia to America to the fantastic beyond. Under his pen name "Emil Abramov," Draitser's work has appeared in leading Russian journals including *Youth*, *Literary Gazette*, and *Crocodile*. In 1974, blacklisted by the Soviet literary establishment for a satire on one of its members, he immigrated to the U.S. where his short stories and collections of humor won wide acclaim. Professor Draitser teaches at Hunter College in New York City.

Ronshin, Valery. *Living a Life: Totally Absurd Tales*. Translated by Jose Alaniz and Kathleen Cook. Glas Publishers, 2002. Distributed by Northwestern University Press. 208 pp. Paper: \$17.95. ISBN 5-7172-0060-9. Glas New Russian Writing Volume 29.

Ronshin's distinctive literary style recalls that of the 20th-century Russian writers of the absurd such as Daniil Kharms. Ronshin's reality is necessarily absurd, sometimes silly, and always haunted by the grotesque, which may intrude at any moment. In the title story the somnolent night watchman is a self-styled philosopher: "Because he had various philosophical thoughts. Mostly other people's. Trostnikov wrote them down. The first thought in the notebook was this: Life is a dream." The toy factory, where the watchman-philosopher works, turns out to be a top-secret weapons plant. These absurd tales, grounded in the perverseness of present-day Russian reality are what Kharms might have written were he alive today.

Selin, Alexander. *The New Romantic*. Translated by Richard Cook. Glas Publishers, 2003. Distributed by Northwestern University Press. 158 pp. Paper: \$17.95. ISBN 5-7172-0064-1. Glas New Russian Writing Volume 31.

The 16 short stories in this collection resemble videoclips in form and are just as visual. They sparkle with maxims, aphoristic comparisons, and witticisms. They are usually based on some fantastic plot involving fantastic metamorphoses happening to his characters and conveying Selin's wonder at life's inscrutable mysteries and inimitable beauty. Alexander Selin has been compared to E.T.A. Hoffman.

Tsvetaeva, Marina. *Milestones*. Translated and with an introduction by Robin Kemball. Bilingual. Evanston, IL: Northwestern University Press, 2003. 225 pp. Paper: \$24.95. ISBN 0-8101-1941-2.

The 84 poems in this collection mark Marina Tsvetaeva's passing from mere youthful talent to complete mastery of her craft. Composed between January and December 1916, these poems find the 24 year old thirsting for the fullness of life while, at the same time, contemplating the inevitability of death—a theme to which she was to return many times in her career. *Milestones* displays a sensual array of moods, themes, styles, and rhythms—all the ingredients that would in time reveal Tsvetaeva as one of the most daring and original poets of her age. Robin Kemball is the translator of Tsvetaeva's *The Demesne of the Swans*.

Turnbull, Joanne, translator. *Nine of Russia's Foremost Women Writers*. Glas Publishers, 2003. Distributed by Northwestern University Press. 286 pp. Paper: \$17.95. ISBN 5-7172-0063-3. Glas New Russian Writing Volume 30.

With the collapse of the Soviet Union and the rise of free speech (and publishing), Russian women have become a force in the world of letters. Where in the past they were known chiefly as literary widows or devoted wives, occasionally as poets or critics, and only very rarely as novelists, today they are

beginning to dominate publishing lists in fiction and non-fiction alike. Glas's third collection of top women writers includes three internationally known names—Ludmila Petrushevskaya, Ludmila Ulitskaya, and Svetlana Alexiyevich—as well as half a dozen other foremost women authors appearing here for the first time in English.

## SANSKRIT

Mascaró, Juan, translator. *The Bhagavad Gita*. London: Penguin Books, 2003. This translation first published in 1962. 86 pp. Paper: \$8.00. ISBN 0-140-44918-3.

*The Bhagavad Gita* is an intensely spiritual work that forms the cornerstone of the Hindu faith and is also one of the masterpieces of Sanskrit poetry. It describes how, at the beginning of a mighty battle between the Pandava and Kaurava armies, the god Krishna gives spiritual enlightenment to the warrior Arjuna, who realizes that the true battle is for his own soul. Juan Mascaró's translation captures the extraordinary aural qualities of the original Sanskrit. This edition features a new introduction by Simon Brodbeck, which discusses concepts such as *dehin*, *prakriti*, and *karma*.

Menon, Ramesh, translator. *The Ramayana*. New York: North Point Press, 2003. Originally published in 2001 by Writers Club Press, Lincoln, NE, as *The Ramayana: A Modern Translation*. 697 pp. Cloth: \$35.00. ISBN 0-86547-660-8.

For the past 2000 years *The Ramayana* has been one of the most important literary texts of South Asia. This epic poem, originally composed by the Sanskrit poet Valmiki around 300 B.C., continues to exert a profound influence on Indian culture, religion, and art. In his new rendering of *The Ramayana*, Ramesh Menon captures the lyrical beauty and spirituality of the original while making it accessible to the modern reader. Ramesh Menon is the author of *Blue God: A Life of Krishna* and *The Hunt for K*, a national bestseller in India. A former journalist, he lives in India.

## SLOVAK

Vilikovský, Pavel. *Ever Green Is . . . : Selected Prose*. Translated and with an introduction by Charles Sabatos. Evanston, IL: Northwestern University Press, 2002. 193 pp. Paper: \$15.95. ISBN 0-8101-1908-0. Writings from an Unbound Europe.

The title novel in this collection is the story of a life spent in Central Europe from the imperial period through Communism. The narrator attempts to tell of his seduction by the Austro-Hungarian head of intelligence but, unable to help himself, instead spins off a hilarious mosaic of exaggerations, anecdotes, and philosophical musings. This collection also includes the short story "Everything I Know about Central Europeanism (with a Little Friendly Help from Olomouc and Camus)," in which the narrator meets the gloomy existentialist while enroute to serve on the jury of the Miss People's Democracy Pageant, and the acclaimed short novel *A Horse Upstairs*. Vilikovský won the Vilenica Award for Central European literature in 1997. Charles Sabatos is a translator living in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

## SPANISH

Alegria, Claribel.  *Casting Off: Poems by Claribel Alegria*. Translated by Margaret Sayers Peden. Bilingual. Willimantic, CT: Curbstone Press, 2003. 104 pp. Paper: \$13.95. ISBN 1-880684-98-5.

Now in her seventies, Claribel Alegria is universally recognized as the major living poet of El Salvador. *Casting Off* extends the themes Alegria examined in *Sorrow*—the loss of a loved one, solitude, and reflections on the past. As the title implies, this collection is also a lyric farewell of a poet nearing the end of her life. Mingled with the (mostly) short, epigrammatic lyrics of personal loss are the mythological poems (Arachne, Janus, Narcissus, Medea, Cassandra, and others) that broaden and deepen the context of

the contemplation of final things, and of life's joys, struggles, and mysteries,  *Casting Off* gives us the work of a brilliant lyricist at the height of her career. Margaret Sayers Peden has translated 37 books by such major Latin American authors as Isabel Allende, Laura Esquivel, Carlos Fuentes, Mario Vargas Llosa, Pablo Neruda, and Octavio Paz. She is Professor Emerita of Spanish at the University of Missouri.

Benedetti, Mario. *Little Stones at My Window*. Translated and with an introduction by Charles Dean Hatfield. Bilingual. Willimantic, CT: Curbstone Press, 2003. 272 pp. Paper: \$19.95. ISBN 1-880684-90-X.

This bilingual collection of Mario Benedetti's poems covers a wide span of his work over 50 years. The poems here range in theme from the pain of exile to the joys of love to the horrors of political repression. Benedetti also frequently conveys with Kafkaesque irony the impact of bureaucracy on the lives of ordinary citizens. His poems are characterized by clarity of thought and originality of language and imagery, and thus are readily accessible to "the common reader." Benedetti has published more than 50 books of poetry, fiction, essays, and drama. Charles Hatfield was a Fellow of the American Literary Translators Association in 2000 and is currently Gilman Fellow in the Department of Romance Languages and Literatures at The Johns Hopkins University. His bilingual anthology of the poetry of Miguel Barnet, *When Night Is Darkest: Selected Poems* was published by Editorial José Martí in Cuba in 2002.

Berman, Sabina. *The Theatre of Sabina Berman: The Agony of Ecstasy and Other Plays*. Translated by Adam Versényi. Carbondale, IL: Southern Illinois University Press, 2003. 167 pp. Paper. ISBN 0-8093-2458-X.

This volume introduces and makes accessible to an English-speaking audience the work of the contemporary Mexican playwright Sabina Berman. Containing translations of the four plays that established Berman's career in Mexico and Latin America—*The Agony of Ecstasy*, *Yankee*, *Puzzle*, and *Heresy*—the volume also features an introduction by Versényi that provides a critical assessment of each play, a discussion of the specific problems of translation involved, and place of Berman's work in the larger Mexican and Latin American context. Berman is a four-time winner of the Mexican National Theatre Prize. Adam Versényi is an associate professor of dramaturgy at the University of North Carolina—Chapel Hill and the dramaturg for PlayMakers Repertory Company.

Borinsky, Alicia. *All Night Movie*. Translated by Cola Franzen with the author. Evanston, IL: Hydra Books, 2003. 205 pp. Paper: \$15.95. ISBN 0-8101-1954-4. [*Cine continuado*. Ediciones Corregidor, 1997].

An irreverent picaresque, *All Night Movie* follows the adventures of a young woman determined to conquer the world. A rogues' gallery of labor union leaders, cultists, lesbians, murderers, ne'er-do-wells, prostitutes, and visitors to a disconcertingly erotic telephone booth accompany the picara as she pushes the limits established in patriarchal postdictatorship Argentina. With lyric prose, Alicia Borinsky creates a hypnotic kaleidoscope of voices—a tantalizing and illuminating mix of the pop culture, politics, sexuality, tango, and cinema of an enigmatic society that celebrates its own demise. Translator Cola Franzen is the recipient of the 2000 Harold Morton Landon Translation Award for Jorge Guillén's *Horses in the Air and Other Poems*. She has translated Borinsky's *Timorous Women*, *Mean Woman*, and *Dreams of the Abandoned Seducer*.

Bretón, Marcos. *Home Is Everything: The Latino Baseball Story*. Bilingual. Translated by Daniel Santacruz. El Paso: Cinco Puntos Press, 2003. 148 pp. Paper: \$24.95. ISBN 0-938317-70-9.

Roberto Clemente, Minnie Minoso, Orlando Cepeda, Miguel Tejada, and José Santana—these men are the immortals, the pioneers, the famous, the soon-to-be-famous and the forgotten ones. They know that home is everything—home is the barrio where they improvised baseball on unpaved streets and sandlots; home is home plate where the batter stands waiting for the next pitch, where runs are scored and games are won; and home is the magical ballparks of major league baseball where they dream to play. José Luis Villegas' wonderful full-color photographs and Breton's bilingual text reveal the essence of the Latino ballplayers' journey.



Bush, Peter and Lisa Dillman, editors. *Spain: A Traveler's Literary Companion*. Berkeley: Whereabouts Press, 2003. 256 pp. Paper: \$13.95. ISBN 1-883513-12-X.

Explore Spain's rich literary landscapes with some of the country's best contemporary writers. Arranged geographically, these 30 stories—many of which appear in English for the first time—transport the reader through Spain's many enchanting regions: experience a bull-run with Juan Goytisolo in Albacete, join Bernardo Atxaga in a Basque village, travel to the misty woods of Galicia with Manuel Rivas, and reminisce nostalgically with Julio Llamazares over black-and-white photos of his childhood Spain. Peter Bush is Director of the Sebald International Centre for Literary Translation at the University of East Anglia in Norwich, England. He edited *The Voice of the Turtle*, an anthology of Cuban stories, and is the translator of leading Hispanic writers including Nuria Amat, Juan Goytisolo, Juan Carlos Onetti, and Senel Paz. Lisa Dillman has translated Spanish, Catalan, Cuban, and Argentinian fiction, as well as biography, art history, and pedagogy. She teaches in the Spanish department at Emory University.

Cabeza de Vaca, Álvar Núñez. *The Narrative of Cabeza de Vaca*. Translated and with an introduction by Rolena Adorno and Patrick Charles Pautz. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2003. Paper: \$15.95; ISBN 0-8032-6416-X. Cloth: \$45.00. ISBN 0-8032-1528-2. [*Relación y comentarios*].

This volume is a translation of Cabeza de Vaca's account of the 1527 Pánfilo de Narváez expedition to North America. The dramatic narrative tells the story of some of the first Europeans and the first-known African to encounter the North American wilderness and its Native inhabitants. Adorno and Pautz supplement the engrossing account with a general introduction that orients the reader to Cabeza de Vaca's world. They also provide explanatory notes, which resolve many of the narrative's most perplexing questions. Rolena Adorno is the Reuben Post Halleck Professor of Spanish at Yale University and the author of several books, including *Guaman Poma: Writing and Resistance in Colonial Peru*. Patrick Charles Pautz holds an M.A. in Spanish from Princeton University and is an independent scholar.

Cervantes Saavedra, Miguel de. *Don Quixote*. Translated by John Rutherford. London: Penguin Books, 2003. This translation first published by Penguin Books in 2000. 1023 pp. Paper: \$10.00. ISBN 0-14-243723-9.

Don Quixote has become so entranced by reading chivalric romances that he determines to become a knight-errant himself. In the company of his faithful squire, Sancho Panza, his exploits blossom in all sorts of wonderful ways. While Quixote's fancy often leads him astray—he tilts at windmills, imagining them to be giants—Sancho acquires cunning and a certain sagacity. Sane madman and wise fool, they roam the world together, and together they have haunted readers' imaginations for nearly 400 years. With its experimental form and literary playfulness, *Don Quixote* has been generally recognized as the first modern novel. John Rutherford is a Fellow of the Queen's College, Oxford, where he teaches Spanish, Spanish-American, and Galician language and literature. He also translated *La Regenta* by Leopoldo Alas.

Escudé i Gallès, Beth. *Killing Time*. Translated by Bethany M. Korp. *Keeping In Touch*. Translated by Janet DeCesaris. New Brunswick: ESTRENO Plays, 2003. 44 pp. Paper: \$8.00. ISBN 1-888463-15-5. ESTRENO Contemporary Spanish Plays #23.

*Killing Time* presents the cruel and yet tender relationship of two women, one elderly and one young. They have lived their lives together through classic tales of mother and daughter-in-law and now embark upon one last story as they approach their definitive separation. Their unusual friendship develops over a period of years via the cell phone that the young woman had stolen from her elderly victim. Both plays provide snapshots into the complex worlds of the characters and capture insightful images of a vaster universe. Beth Escudé i Gallès teaches set design and visual communication at the Universitat Politècnica in València and drama and dramaturgy at the Theatre Institute in Barcelona.

González Prada, Manuel. *Free Pages and Other Essays: Anarchist Musings*. Translated by Frederick H. Fornoff. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 303 pp. Paper: \$19.95. ISBN 0-19-511688-7. Library

of Latin America. Jean Franco, General Editor.

This translation is based on the *Obras of González Prada*, edited by Luis Alberto Sánchez. It includes essays, speeches, and polemical writings drawn from two of Prada's only books of prose published during his lifetime, *Páginas Libres* and *Horas de Lucha*, in addition to unpublished manuscripts and works previously printed in newspapers and magazines. These writings reveal his most important thoughts on the subject of anarchism, social inequality, indigenous culture, philosophy, and language. Translated into English for the first time, Prada's forceful and persuasive words are gathered here under the thematic headings "Peruvian Problems," "Anarchy," and "Philosophical, Literary, and Linguistic Problems." Frederick Fornoff is Professor of Spanish, Comparative Literature, and Creative Writing at the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown. He is the recipient of many awards including the NEA, NEH, and Fulbright.

John of the Cross, Saint. *Dark Night of the Soul*. Translated and with an introduction by Mirabai Starr. New York: Riverhead Books, 2002. 184 pp. Cloth: \$22.95. ISBN 1-57322-205-4. [*Noche oscura del alma*].

Tortured and abandoned in his tiny prison cell, the 16th-century Spanish mystic John of the Cross composed his now classic poem of the soul's longing for God. Written on a scroll smuggled to him by one of his guards while he was imprisoned for his attempts to reform the Church, his songs are the ultimate expression of the spiritual seeker's journey from estranged despair to blissful union with the divine. John experienced his dark night of the soul when God seemed to have abandoned him and prayers no longer provided solace. After escaping his captors, he fell into a state of profound ecstasy and wrote *Dark Night of the Soul*. He later added an important commentary to his poem to guide other searching souls along the arduous path to communion with God. The poem has never been translated with its subsequent commentary by anyone outside the Catholic Church. Mirabai Starr, who has studied Buddhism, Hinduism, and Judaism, lends the seeker's sensibility to John's powerful text.

Machado, Antonio. *Lands of Castile and Other Poems*. Translated and with an introduction by Paul Burns and Salvador Ortiz-Carboneres. Warminster: Aris and Phillips Ltd., 2002. 121 pp. Paper: \$28.00; ISBN 0 85668 743 X. Cloth: \$59.95; ISBN 0 85668 742 1. Hispanic Classics.

Antonio Machado was born in Seville in 1885 and died in southern France early in 1939, escaping from the Nationalist advance in the Spanish Civil War. He is increasingly recognized as one of the greatest Spanish-language poets of the 20th century, but previously, the lack of adequate translations had limited his appreciation in the English-speaking world. The language of Machado's poems is spare, asserting more than describing, equally anti-baroque and against the "excesses of modern cosmetics" (Self Portrait). English cannot recreate the assonance on which he relied, but this translation captures the essential rhythm as well as the poignancy of the original. Paul Burns is a publisher, an Oxford modern language scholar, and a lifelong part-time translator. Salvador Ortiz-Carboneres is Principal Language Tutor at the University of Warwick and the author of numerous translations, books, and articles.

Padilla, Ignacio. *Shadow Without a Name*. Translated by Peter Bush and Anne McLean. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2002. 192 pp. Cloth: \$22.00. ISBN 0-374-26190-3. [*Amphitryon*. Spain: Editorial Espasa-Calpe, 2000].

The winner of Spain's prestigious Premio Primavera Award, *Shadow Without a Name* is the English-language debut of one of Mexico's new young writers. This intricate novel, which reaches from World War I to the post-World War II pursuit of fugitive Nazis, tells the story of four men whose lives are intertwined through a series of deceptions. The narratives of these four men raise the possibility that it was not the "real" Adolf Eichmann who was extradited to Israel, tried, convicted, and executed. The novel explores questions of identity and history against the backdrop of the darkest periods of 20th-century Europe. Ignacio Padilla was born in Mexico City and is the author of several award-winning novels and short story collections. He stands at the forefront of the literary movement "Crack," rediscovering the ambition of the Latin American masters.

Poniatowska, Elena. *Here's to You, Jesusa!* Translated by Deanna Heikkinen. London: Penguin Books,

2002. 303 pp. Paper: \$14.00. ISBN 0-14-200122-8. [*Hasta no verte Jesús mío*. Mexico: Ediciones Era, 1969].

Jesusa is a tough, fiery character based on a real working-class Mexican woman whose life spanned some of the seminal events in early 20th-century Mexican history. Having joined a cavalry unit during the Mexican Revolution, she finds herself at the Revolution's end in Mexico City, far from her native Oaxaca, abandoned by her husband, and working menial jobs. So begins Jesusa's long history of encounters with the police and struggles against authority. Mystical yet practical, undaunted by hardship, Jesusa faces the obstacles in her path with determination. Here in its first English translation, Elena Poniatowska's rich, sensitive, and compelling blend of documentary and fiction provides a unique perspective on history and the place of women in 20th-century Mexico.

Porchia, Antonio. *Voices*. Translated by W.S. Merwin. Bilingual. Port Townsend, WA: Copper Canyon Press, 2003. Paper: \$14.00. ISBN 1-55659-189-6. [*Voces*]. A Kage-an Book.

*Voices* is a collection of more than 500 poetic aphorisms written over several decades by Antonio Porchia, a self-educated man from Argentina. Porchia (1886-1968) was born in Italy and immigrated to Argentina with his mother and siblings upon his father's death. *Voices* is his only book, which he revised and expanded throughout his life. At the time of his death, his poem-aphorisms had been reprinted in over a dozen different Spanish-language editions and have since been translated into German, French, Italian, and English. *Voices* was first translated into English by W.S. Merwin in 1969 but has long been out of print for English readers. This new bilingual edition, revised and updated with an introduction by Merwin, brings back into print one of Latin America's great literary enigmas.

Ríos, Julián. *Monstruary*. Translated by Edith Grossman. Evanston, IL: Northwestern University Press, 2002. 225 pp. Paper: \$19.95. ISBN 0-8101-1975-7. [*Monstruario*. Barcelona: Seix Barral, 1999].

In *Monstruary*, Julián Ríos takes us into the eerie existence of the painter Victor Mons, who has created a menagerie of personal demons summoned from the disturbing and often erotic images of his past. We follow Mons on nocturnal outings and infernal escapades as he encounters fiendish figures, otherworldly phantasms, and the beautiful models and prostitutes who serve as his muses. Ríos calls up all the monsters of the Western world—from classical antiquity to the silver screen, from the Minotaur to Dracula—and collapses the boundaries between reality and imagination. With playful and inventive language, he shows the dark side of the human heart and the strange places where life and art overlap. Edith Grossman is the award-winning translator of major works by many of Latin America's most important writers, including Gabriel García Márquez, Mario Vargas Llosa, and Alvaro Mutis. She is the author of *The Antipoetry of Nicanor Parra*.

Silver, Katherine, editor. *Chile: A Traveler's Literary Companion*. Berkeley: Whereabouts Press, 2003. 256 pp. Paper: \$13.95. ISBN 1-883513-13-8.

The 20 stories in *Chile: A Traveler's Literary Companion*—most of which are available here for the first time in English—reveal that the nation that gave birth to two poets who won Nobel Prizes in literature is also the home of many world-class prose writers. This collection evokes the diversity of the country's landscape and the complexity of its recent history. Internationally acclaimed writers Ariel Dorfman and José Donoso take the reader through the streets and parks of the modern metropolis of Santiago, while Nobel Prize winner Pablo Neruda joyously describes the eccentric characters who people the romantic port of Valparaiso. Patricio Manns sweeps into the stark and dramatic landscape of Tierra del Fuego, while Luis Alberto Acuña lets the reader hike across the burning sands of the Atacama with an unemployed miner. Katherine Silver is a freelance translator, editor, teacher, and writer who has lived in Chile frequently and for long periods from 1979 to the present. She has translated the works of Antonio Skármeta, Elena Poniatowska, José Emilio Pacheco, and Martín Adán.

## SWEDISH

Strindberg, August. *Selected Poems of August Strindberg*. Edited and translated by Lotta M. Löfgren. Carbondale, IL: Southern Illinois University Press, 2002. 208 pp. Cloth: \$35.00. ISBN 0-8093-2463-6.

August Strindberg was one of the great innovators of modern drama, as well as a novelist, poet, and master of the Swedish language. Despite being internationally acknowledged as a pioneering realist, expressionist, and surrealist playwright, Strindberg is relatively unknown for his poetry outside of Sweden. In this volume, editor and translator Lotta M. Löfgren has chosen poems from all three volumes of Strindberg's verse—*Poems in Verse and Prose*, *Sleepwalking Nights on Awake Days*, and *Word Play and Minor Art*—to correct this picture, illustrating to the English-speaking reader the development, strengths, and versatility of Strindberg the poet. Lotta M. Löfgren teaches drama and 20th-century literature in the English department at the University of Virginia.

## TURKISH

Mevlânâ Celâleddîn Rumi. *Dîvân-I Kebîr: Volume 19, Hezec Mussessedes-I Mahzuf*. Translated by Nevit Oguz Ergin. Los Angeles: Echo Publications, 2002. 179 pp. ISBN 1-887991-21-2.

For 700 years, the writings of Mevlana, a great Turkish thinker and Sultan of Heart, have promoted love, friendship, and peace. He teaches that the primary requisite for tolerance is to see people as human beings and not notice their race, religion, or sect. This volume of the *Dîvân* is the third and last of three volumes for Meter 15, probably the longest meter of the *Dîvân* and is published in the United States in a joint publication by the Turkish Republic Ministry of Culture.

## VIETNAMESE

Balaban, John, translator. *Ca Dao Vietnam: Vietnamese Folk Poetry*. Bilingual. Port Townsend, WA: Copper Canyon Press, 2003. 73 pp. Paper: \$15.00. ISBN 1-55659-186-1. Kage-an Books.

In Vietnam, *ca dao* (pronounced “ka zow” or “ka yow”) are folk poems—short lyrics passed down by word of mouth and sung without any instrumental accompaniment—to “stimulate the mind, train the observation, encourage social intercourse, and enable one to give vent to his complaint.” Poet and translator John Balaban discovered Vietnamese folk poetry during his alternative service in the American war in Vietnam. In 1972 he returned to Vietnam to record and collect *ca dao*. He traveled the countryside alone, taping, transcribing, and translating. In all, he recorded 35 singers and about 500 poems. *Ca Dao Vietnam* represents the first time that *ca dao* were translated and collected into any Western language. For this revised, bilingual edition, Balaban improved many of the translations, expanded the selection of poems, and provided an insightful introduction about the importance of poetry to Vietnamese culture. John Balaban, Poet-in-Residence and Professor of English at North Carolina State University in Raleigh, is the author of 11 books of poetry and prose. He has also recently translated *Spring Essence: The Poetry of Hồ Xuân Hu’o’ng* from the Vietnamese.

Huu Thinh. *The Time Tree: Poems by Huu Thinh*. Translated by George Evans and Nguyen Qui Duc. Bilingual. Willimantic, CT: Curbstone Press, 2003. 171 pp. Paper: \$15.95. ISBN 1-880684-69-1.

One of the preeminent poets of contemporary Vietnam, Huu Thinh served as a tank driver during the American War in Vietnam, and thus some of his poems are inescapably about war; however, even these are infused with love and tenderness. *The Time Tree* gives us poems by a war veteran who was born into

poverty and tempered in the crucible of war, and who then devoted himself to rigorous study to become one of the leading intellectuals and poets of Vietnam. Think's poetry is characterized by clear, precise imagery, a deep sense of history, and a balance of passion and reflection, whether his subject is love, war, struggle or poverty. This bilingual volume consists of the complete texts of *Winter Letter* and *The Sea*. George Evans is the author of five books of poetry published in the United States and England. He is also the translator of *The Violent Foam: New and Selected Poems* by Daisy Zamora. Nguyen Qui Duc is the author of *Where the Ashes Are: The Odyssey of a Vietnamese Family*, co-editor with John Balaban of *Vietnam: A Traveler's Literary Companion*, and the translator of the novella *Behind the Red Mist* by Ho Anh Thai.

## YIDDISH

Rozenberg, Lena Jedwab. *Girl With Two Landscapes: The Wartime Diary of Lena Jedwab, 1941-1945*. Translated by Solon Beinfeld. New York: Holmes & Meier, 2002. 224 pp. Cloth: \$24.95. ISBN 0-8419-1427-3. [*Fun heym tsu na-vanad: milkhome togbukh 1941-1945*. Paris, 1999].

In June 1941, sixteen-year-old Lena Jedwab left her home in Poland and arrived at a summer camp in Russia—just when Germany invaded the Soviet Union. Stranded by war in a children's home in Russia, she was left to agonize over the unknown fate of her family and the precariousness of her future. Lucky to be alive, nourished, and in school, yet wracked with anger at the war and the pain of growing up, Lena began to keep a diary. Her writing expresses her experiences of loneliness, pain, confusion, and her desire for love and recognition. She shares vivid pictures of both the world she lived in and the one that was gone forever. Lena wrote her diary in Yiddish, not only because it was her mother tongue, but also as a conscious effort to maintain her Jewish identity. Lena's writing shows an exceptional literary talent, full of subtlety and sensitivity, and by pursuing that talent she has left us a moving testimony to one of history's darkest times.

## REFERENCE

Comrie, Bernard and Greville G. Corbett, editors. *The Slavonic Languages*. London: Routledge, 2002. First paperback edition. First published in 1993 by Routledge. Paper: \$39.95. ISBN 0-415-28078-8.

*The Slavonic Languages* provides chapter-length descriptions of each of the modern Slavonic languages and the attested extinct Slavonic languages. Individual chapters discuss the various alphabets that have been used to write Slavonic languages, in particular, Roman, Cyrillic, and Glagolitic alphabets; the relationship of the Slavonic languages to other Indo-European languages; their relationship to one another through their common ancestor, Proto-Slavonic, and the extent to which various Slavonic languages have survived in emigration. The work is made particularly accessible by the inclusion of a parallel transliteration of all examples cited from Slavonic languages that use the Cyrillic alphabet and English translation of all Slavonic language examples.

## TRANSLATION STUDIES

Chan Sin-wai, editor. *Translation and Information Technology*. Hong Kong: The Chinese University Press, 2002. 228 pp. Paper: \$18.00. ISBN 962-996-077-X.

Information technology has increased both the speed and medium of communication between nations. It has brought the world closer, but has also created new challenges for translation—how we think about it, how we carry it out, and how we teach it. This book brings together experts in computational linguistics, machine translation, translation education, and translation studies to discuss how these new technologies work, the effect of electronic tools, such as the internet, bilingual corpora, and computer software, on translator education and the practice of translation, as well as the conceptual gaps raised by the interface of human and machine.

Damrosch, David. *What Is World Literature?* Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2003. 336 pp. Paper:

\$19.95; ISBN 0-691-04986. Cloth: \$65.00; ISBN 0-691-04985-8.

In case studies ranging from the Sumerians to the Aztecs and from medieval mysticism to postmodern metafiction, David Damrosch looks at the ways works change as they move from national to global contexts. Presenting world literature not as a canon of texts but as a mode of circulation and of reading, Damrosch argues that world literature is any work that gains in translation. When it is effectively presented, a work of world literature moves into an elliptical space created between the source and receiving cultures, shaped by both but circumscribed by neither alone. From the rediscovered *Epic of Gilgamesh* in the 19th century to Rigoberta Menchú's writing today, foreign works have often been distorted by the immediate needs of their own editors and translators. David Damrosch is Professor of English and Comparative Literature at Columbia University and President of the American Comparative Literature Association for 2002/03.

Doherty, Monika. *Language Processing in Discourse: A Key to Felicitous Translation*. London: Routledge, 2002. 190 pp. Cloth. ISBN 0-415-28189-X.

This book argues that language systems determine language use to a greater extent than is generally assumed. The author demonstrates how the typological characteristics of a language determine even the most general aspect of our stylistic preferences. Through extensive analysis of examples in German and English, she demonstrates how analogous options of sentence structure must be surrendered in order to achieve felicitous translations. Two major aspects that determine the appropriateness of language use are examined: language processing and discourse-dependency. Monika Doherty began her career with the study of English, Russian, and General Linguistics in Berlin. In 1990 she was appointed Professor of Translation Theory.

Kellman, Steven G., editor. *Switching Languages: Translingual Writers Reflect on Their Craft*. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2003. 339 pp. Paper: \$19.95; ISBN 0-8032-7807-1. Cloth: \$55.00; ISBN 0-8032-2747-7.

Although it is difficult enough to write well in one's native tongue, an extraordinary group of authors has written enduring poetry and prose in a second, third, or even fourth language. *Switching Languages* is the first anthology in which translingual authors from throughout the world examine their experiences writing in more than one language or in a language other than their primary one. Driven by factors as varied as migration, imperialism, a quest for verisimilitude, and a desire to assert artistic autonomy, translingualism has a long history. Steven G. Kellman is a professor of comparative literature at the University of Texas at San Antonio.

Robinson, Douglas. *Performative Linguistics: Speaking and Translating As Doing Things with Words*. London: Routledge, 2003. 260 pp. Cloth. ISBN 0-415-30036-3.

J.L. Austin distinguished between "constative" utterances that convey information and "performative" utterances that perform actions. In this new book, Douglas Robinson argues that Austin's distinction can be used to understand linguistic methodologies. Robinson uses Austin's model to introduce a new distinction between "constative" and "performative" linguistics. Constative linguistics, Robinson suggests, includes methodologies aimed at "freezing" language as an abstract sign system cut off from the use of language in actual speech situations. Performative linguistics covers methodologies aimed at exploring how language gets used or "performed" in those speech situations. Robinson then tests his hypothesis on a series of complex speech acts, including translation, deception, and allusion. Douglas Robinson is Professor of English at the University of Mississippi.

Tak-hung Chan, Leo, editor. *One into Many: Translation and the Dissemination of Classical Chinese Literature*. Amsterdam: Editions Rodopi, 2003. 369 pp. Paper: \$70.00. ISBN 90-420-0815-6.

This is the first anthology in English that deals in depth with the translation of Chinese texts, literary and philosophical, into a host of Western and Asian language. After an introduction in which

multiple translations are compared to the many “lives” lived by the original in its new incarnations, 13 articles appear in three sections: Beginnings, Texts, and Traditions. The contributors include translation scholars, sinologists, and cross-cultural critics. A glossary and an index provide handy reference to readers interested in the source materials, facilitating further exploration in a budding area of Translation Studies research.

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