

ANNOTATED BOOKS RECEIVED

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ALBANIAN

Sarrocchi, Margherita. *The Heroic Deeds of George Scanderbeg, King of Epirus*. [Scanderbeide]. Translated and edited by Rinaldina Russell. The University of Chicago Press. Chicago, IL. 2006. 448 pp. Cloth \$75.00. ISBN 0-226-73507-9. Paper \$29.00. ISBN 0-226-73508-7.

The first historical heroic epic written by a woman, *Scanderbeide* recounts the exploits of the fifteenth-century Albanian warrior-prince (remembered as the Albanian national hero), George Scanderbeg (Scanderbeide) and his war of resistance against the Ottoman sultanate. In selecting a military campaign as her material and epic poetry as her medium, Margherita Sarrocchi (1560–1617) not only engages in the masculine subject of political conflict but also tackles a genre that had been, until that point, the sole purview of men. Filled with scenes of intense and suspenseful battles, *Scanderbeide* reveals its author's deft skill with the language and strategy of warfare while the action and fantasy characteristic of the genre allow Sarrocchi to explore her characters' personal and political motivations. A native of Italy and professor emerita of the City University of New York, Queens College, Rinaldina Russell holds a Ph.D. in Italian Literature, conferred with distinction, from Columbia University, and a doctorate in history and philosophy from the University of Naples (Italy). She has written extensively on medieval and Renaissance poetry and has published books both in Italy and in the U.S.A.

Balkan Beauty, Balkan Blood. Modern Albanian Short Stories. Edited by Robert Elsie. Northwestern University Press. Evanston, IL. 2006. 143 pp. Paper \$16.95 ISBN 0-8101-2337-1 Cloth \$44.95. ISBN 0-8101-2336-3.

Because earlier Albanian writings were banned during the Ottoman Empire, this collection of Albanian short stories is but an introduction and is not intended to mirror the full range of Albanian prose. It nonetheless endeavors to reflect the best of modern writing from the last three decades, in particular the 1990s. Robert Elsie, editor of this book, is a writer, translator, interpreter, and specialist in Albanian studies.

CHINESE

Can Xue. *Blue Light In The Sky & Other Stories*. Translated by Karen Gernant and Chen Zeping. New Directions. New York. 2006. 212 pp. Paper \$14.95. ISBN 0-8112-1648-9.

A series of stories rooted in the folk traditions of Chinese literature and the real conflicts of contemporary Chinese life. As Can Xue's stories exist in a different space and time, tenderness quickly turns to violence, strange diseases are caught, and quaint landscapes become phantasmagorical. Influenced by Borges, Kafka, and Bruno Schulz, Can Xue's literary world is inhabited by ghosts, lying old men, street urchins, cobblers, farmers, cats, rats, and stray dogs. *The New York Times* described his reading as "running downhill in the dark; you've got momentum, but you don't know where you're headed." Translator Karen Gernant is professor emeritus of History at Southern Oregon University, and co-translator Chen Zeping is a professor in the Chinese department at Fujian Teachers' University; he has published a number of works on Chinese linguistics.

Cheng, Xiaoqing. *Sherlock in Shanghai. Stories of Crime and Detection*. Translated by Timothy C. Wong. University of Hawai'i Press. Honolulu, HI. 2007. 214 pp. Paper \$24.00. ISBN 978-0-8248-3099-1.

Shanghai in the 1920s and 1930s — “the Paris of the Orient” — was both a glittering metropolis and a shadowy world of crime and social injustice. It was also home to Huo Sang and Bao Lang, fictional Chinese counterparts to Arthur Conan Doyle’s Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson. The duo lived in a spacious apartment on Aiwun Road, where Huo Sang played the violin and smoked Golden Dragon cigarettes as he mulled over his cases. Cheng Xiaoqing (1893–1976), the “Grand Master” of twentieth-century Chinese detective fiction, had first encountered Conan Doyle’s highly popular stories as an adolescent. In the ensuing years, he played a major role in rendering them first into classical and later into vernacular Chinese. In the late 1910s, Cheng began writing detective fiction very much in Conan Doyle’s style, with Bao as the Watson-like narrator — a still rare instance of so direct an appropriation from foreign fiction. His stories were written to introduce the advantages of critical thinking to his readers, to encourage them to be skeptical and think deeply, because truth often lies beneath surface appearances. His work *Sherlock in Shanghai* introduces a kind of Chinese writing that will surprise many Western readers and shed much needed light on our picture of early modern Chinese fiction. Dr. Wong, translator of this work, received his Ph.D. from Stanford University. He has taught at The Ohio State University and at Arizona State University, Tempe, where he has held the title of Professor of Chinese since 1995. He was also the Director of the Center for Asian Studies at Arizona State University from 1995 to 2002. Prof. Wong is currently on the faculty in the Department of Languages and Literatures at ASU, where he teaches classes on Chinese literature (including fiction) and graduate-level seminars in selected areas of sinology. In addition to this, he has served as director of the graduate and undergraduate programs in Asian languages and literatures.

Fan, Chengda. *Fragrant Mountain. Twenty-Four Early Poems of Fan Chengda*. Translated by Lois Baker. Painting and calligraphy by Ma Bole. Press-22. Portland, OR. 2006. 49 pp. Paper \$12.00. ISBN 0-942382-11-0.

These poems convey a delicate wit and humanity of the poet with great clarity and skill. In addition to a particular locality, which is rare in translations, a deep focus of Chinese culture is noticed in the introduction and Notes included in the book. Ms. Baker, a freelance writer, published numerous poems along with articles and children’s books, of which one was a Junior Literary Guild selection and another was on the *New York Times*’ “100 Best” list. Her poetry and light verse appeared in multiple publications; she wrote *Trading Cultures in the Classroom*, focusing on the couple’s experiences teaching English as a Second Language in China prior to the Tienanmen Square incident of 1989.

Lu, Ping. *Love and Revolution: A Novel About Song Qingling and Sun Yat-sen*. Translated by Nancy Du. Columbia University Press. New York, NY. 2006. 160 pp. Cloth \$24.50. ISBN 0-231-13852-0.

This novel imagines the lives of a legendary couple: Sun Yat-sen, known as the Father of the Chinese Revolution, and his wife, Song Qingling. Sun, born in 1866, grew up an admirer of the rebels who tried to overthrow the ruling Manchu dynasty. He dreamed of strengthening China from within, but after a failed attempt at leading an insurrection in 1895, Sun was exiled to Japan. Only in 1916, after the dynasty fell and the new Chinese Republic was established, did he return to his country and assume the role of provisional

president. While living in Japan, he married into a wealthy and influential family, and their tumultuous and politically charged relationship fuels this riveting novel. Nancy Du, the translator of this novel, is a lecturer at the Graduate School of Translation and Interpretation Studies at Fu Jen Catholic University and National Taiwan Normal University.

Pu, Songling. *Strange Tales from a Chinese Studio. [Liaozhai zhiyi]*. Translated and edited by John Minford. Penguin Books. New York, NY. 2006. 562 pp. Cloth \$24.95. ISBN 978-0-140-44740-8. Paper \$16.00 ISBN 0-140-44740-7.

A novel that conjures up a world in which nothing is as it seems, stretching the boundaries of human experience in ways that both enlighten and entertain. In this selection of his stories, irresistibly beautiful fox-spirits bewitch helpless young men, a Taoist monk creates a magical pear tree, a scholar recounts his previous incarnations, a ghostly city appears out of nowhere, and a heartless daughter-in-law is turned into a pig. Some tales are exquisite miniatures, depicting bizarre creatures, enchanted objects, and haunted temples; others are longer narratives, with powerfully drawn characters and subtle psychological nuances. The Tales have been regarded since their creation as the pinnacle of Chinese fiction in the classical language and continue to delight readers today. Living in the UK, John Minford was the son of a diplomat and lived in many countries around the world before he attended Winchester College in England to study Latin and Greek and classical literature. He graduated with honors and now has held a number of teaching posts in mainland China, Hong Kong, and New Zealand, including those of Chair Professor of Chinese at Auckland University and Chair Professor of translation at the Hong Kong Polytechnic University.

Ji, Zhang. *Cloud Gate Song. The Verse of Tang Poet Zhang Ji*. Translated by Jonathan Chaves. Floating World Editions. Warren, CT. 2006. 192 pp. Paper \$19.95. ISBN 1-891640-44-5.

For the first time in any Western language, 300 poems of the great Tang poet Zhang Ji (c.766–c.830) are rendered in an accurate, readable translation, demonstrating the remarkable range of the poet's stylistic choices. Professor of Chinese Jonathan Chaves works in the Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures. He has an M.A. and a Ph.D. from Columbia University.

The Monkey and the Monk: An Abridgment of the Journey to the West. Translated and edited by Anthony C. Yu. The University of Chicago Press. 2006. 528 pp. Cloth \$55.00. ISBN 0-226-97155-4. Paper \$20.00. ISBN 0-226-97156-2.

This generous selection of chapters is a streamlined version of *The Journey to the West* by Anthony Yu. The translator and editor, Anthony C. Yu, is a literature and religion scholar. He is currently the Carl Darling Buck Distinguished Service Professor Emeritus at the University of Chicago.

The Plum in the Golden Vase, or Chin P'ing Mei. Volume Two: The Rivals. Translated by David Tod Roy. Princeton University Press. Princeton, NJ. 2006. 720 pp. Paper \$24.95. ISBN 0-691-12619-4. Cloth \$47.50. ISBN 0-691-0707706.

This second masterful volume of a projected five-volume translation of one of China's most important classical novels will be its most complete rendition in English. Alternately vulgarly colloquial and comprehensively erudite, the translation surpasses an earlier translation in that it translates all the verse and prose as well. Originally published

around 1618, this 100-chapter novel unravels the greed and political and sexual exploits of a Sung dynasty merchant. Infused with eroticism and high irony, the story is often seen to be a microcosm of 17th-century Chinese society. David Tod Roy is professor emeritus of Chinese Literature at the University of Chicago, where he has studied the *Chin P'ing Mei* and taught it in his classes since 1967.

The Plum in the Golden Vase, or Chin P'ing Mei. Volume Three: The Aphrodisiac. Translated by David Tod Roy. Princeton University Press. Princeton, NJ. 2006. 776 pp. Cloth \$49.50. ISBN 0-691-12534-1.

This is the third of five planned volumes translated by David T. Roy. It provides a complete and annotated translation of the famous *Chin P'ing Mei*, an anonymous sixteenth-century Chinese novel that focuses on the domestic life of Hsi-men Ch'ing, a corrupt merchant who maintains a harem of six wives and concubines. The translator is professor emeritus of Chinese Literature at the University of Chicago, where he has studied the *Chin P'ing Mei* and taught it in his classes since 1967.

Wei, Wang. *The Selected Poems of Wang Wei.* Translated by David Hinton. New Directions. New York, NY. 2006. 116 pp. Paper \$14.95. ISBN 0-8112-1618-7.

Of the three greatest poets in China's 3000-year poetic tradition, Wang was the consummate master of the short imagistic landscape poem that came to typify classical Chinese poetry. He developed landscape poetry of resounding tranquility wherein deep understanding goes far beyond the words on the page; his poetics can be traced to his assiduous practice of Ch'an (Zen) Buddhism. In spite of this philosophical depth, Wang is not a difficult poet; he sounds utterly contemporary. The translator, David Hinton, studied Chinese at Cornell and in Taiwan. His translations of ancient Chinese poetry have earned wide acclaim for creating compelling English poems that convey the actual texture and density of the originals. Hinton's books include translations of the ancient poets Tu Fu, Li Po, T'ao Ch'ien, Meng Chiao, Po Ch'ü-i, and Hsieh Ling-yün, as well as the contemporary poet Bei Dao. Also a distinguished translator of ancient Chinese philosophy, he is the first twentieth-century translator to render the four central masterworks of Chinese thought: *Chuang Tzu, Mencius, The Analects, and Tao Te Ching.*

Loud Sparrows. Contemporary Chinese Short-Stories. Selected and translated by Aili Mu, Julie Chiu, and Howard Goldblatt. Columbia University Press. New York, NY. 2006. 239 pp. Cloth \$24.50. ISBN 0-231-13848-2.

A spirited collection of ninety-one short stories written by Chinese authors over the past three decades. Some of the authors are well known, whereas others are beginning to make their voices heard. Aili Mu is assistant professor of Chinese at Iowa State University, Julie Chiu is assistant professor of translation at Lingnan University in Hong Kong, and Howard Goldblatt is research professor of East Asian languages and literatures at the University of Notre Dame and an internationally renowned translator.

The Shambhala Anthology of Chinese Poetry. Translated and edited by J. P. Seaton. With additional translations by James Cryer. Shambhala. Boston, MA. 2006. 246 pp. Paper \$15.95. ISBN 1-57062-862-9.

This book was translated to highlight the elevated place of poetry in traditional Chinese culture. The Chinese feel that to communicate with passion and power is literacy at its highest, and that is what they call *wen*. This anthology is a "life's work," stated J. P. Seaton, who is Professor of Chinese at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, where

he has served since 1968. He received the Tanner Award for Teaching of Undergraduates in 1976.

Falling in Love. Stories From Ming China. Translated by Patrick Hanan. University of Hawai'i Press. Honolulu, HI. 2006. 256 pp. Paper \$23.58. ISBN 978-0-8248-2995-7. Cloth \$30.92. ISBN 0-8248-2995-6.

Seven vernacular stories drawn from two Ming collections: *Xing shi hengyan* (*Constant Words to Awaken the World*) from 1627, and *Shi dian tou* (*The Rocks Nod Their Heads*), of approximately the same date. All seven deal with falling in love, and some with marriage as well. Patrick Hanan is Victor S. Thomas Professor of Chinese Literature emeritus at Harvard University. He is the author of *The Chinese Vernacular Story* and *The Invention of Li Yu* and the translator of *The Carnal Prayer Mat*, *The Sea of Regret*, and *A Tower for the Summer Heat* (Columbia), among other works.

CROATIAN

Nuhanović, Fordan. *The Survival League.* Translated by Julienne Eden Bušić. Ooligan Press. Portland, OR. 2005. 126 pp. Paper \$10.95. ISBN 1-932010-06-8.

The author delves past the politics and into the people with the stories that make up *The Survival League*. English lawns, caffeinated punks, male pattern baldness — all parts of the everyday life that Nuhanović's characters observe or reclaim. These are tales of survivors, not only of war, but of life and its spectrum from the mundane to the insane.

Oraić Tolić, Dubravka. *American Scream: Palindrome Apocalypse.* Translated by Sibelan Forrester. Other translations by William E. Yuill and Sonja Bušić. Ooligan Press. Portland, OR. 2005. 227 pp. Paper \$14.95. ISBN 1-932010-10-6.

In *American Scream*, Croatian poet Dubravka Oraić Tolić explores the unexpected costs of pursuing our dreams. This English translation of Oraić Tolić's epic poetry captures the essence of what freedom truly means. It asks how to proceed when, like Columbus on the way to the treasures of India, we stumble across America. The work was creatively and sensitively translated by Sibelan Forrester, the well-known Slavic literary scholar and Associate Professor of Russian at Swarthmore College, teaching Russian Language and Literature, Women's Literature, Croatian and Serbian Literature, and Literary Translation. She has a strong interest in south Slavic literatures.

Popović, Edo. *Zagreb, Exit South.* Translated by Julienne Eden Bušić. Ooligan Press. Portland, OR. 2005. 125 pp. Paper \$12.95. ISBN 1-932010-09-2.

Take a ride through the fog that is the new Zagreb and meet the people who struggle to make sense of themselves and their city. Be guided by the sound of a musical lighter as Baba wanders the streets in search of his beloved domestic beer and an excuse not to go home. Vera stares at her computer screen, finding that email is cheaper than therapy, that the past should stay in the past, and that radical ex-boyfriends get old, too. Baba, Vera, and their friends and enemies (sometimes one and the same) discover that sex, drugs, alcohol, and conversation may not be the keys to salvation, but they can be essential survival gear in a country redefining itself.

CZECH

Brycz, Pavel. *I, City*. Translated by Joshua Cohen and Markéta Hofmeisterová. Twisted Spoon Press. Prague, CZ. 2006. 156 pp. Paper \$14.50. ISBN 80-86264-27-0.

This is a novel about the northern Czech city called Most, an ancient town that was literally relocated to get to the brown coal beneath it. Pavel Brycz, recipient of the Czech State Prize for Literature, tells the varied stories of the inhabitants of Most through the I of the city, which appear as fleeting, ghost-like vignettes. Emerging from the industrial pollution, or from the swamp of the town, we find not individuals but representatives, historical lives that mistrust history or that live it with typical irony.

DUTCH

Kopland, Rutger. *What Water Left Behind*. Translated by Willem Groenewegen. Waxwing Books/Dufour Editions, Inc. Dublin, IR. 2006. 96 pp. Paper \$15.95. ISBN 0-9549771-3-0.

These are poems on the death of relatives and friends, the departure of one's offspring for the world at large, recollections of a childhood lost, and attempts to harvest memories of relationships and events gone by. Many of Kopland's most serious poems carry a conversational tone, which also helps lift the weight off the subject. Willem Groenewegen (1971) holds a Master's degree in English language and literature from the University of Groningen. Completely bilingual, he translates a wide range of well-known poets, such as Arjen Duinker, Rutger Kopland, K. Michel, Ilja Pfeijffer, and Erik Menkveld and most recently a work of Bart F.M. Droog and Tjitse Hofman. He also writes in both Dutch and English.

ESTONIAN

Talvet, Jüri. *A Call For Cultural Symbiosis*. Translated by H.L. Hix. Guernica. Toronto, CN. 2005. 133 pp. Paper \$13.00. ISBN 1-55071-226-8.

In a provocative and thoughtful essay, Estonia's poet and cultural critic Jüri Talvet investigates the role of culture in the postmodern world. H.L. Hix has published numerous books of prose and collections of poetry. Recent titles include *As Easy As Lying: Essays on Poetry* (2004), the anthology *Wild and Whirling Words* (2004), and the collection *Shadows of Houses* (2005), all published by Etruscan Press. Mr. Hix teaches at the University of Wyoming.

FINNISH

Paasilinna, Arto. *The Year of the Hare*. Translated by Herbert Lomas. Peter Owen. London, UK. 2006. 135 pp. Paper \$19.95. ISBN 0-7206-1277-2.

Vatanen, a journalist, is sick of his job and fed up with city life. One summer evening, while he is out on an assignment, his car hits a young hare on a country road. Vatanen goes in search of the injured creature, and this small incident becomes a life-

changing experience as he decides to break free from the world's constraints. He quits his job, leaves his wife, and sells his possessions to travel in the wilds of Finland with his new-found friend. Their adventures take in forest fires, pagan sacrifices, military war games, killer bears, and much more.

FLEMISH

Boon, Louis Paul. *Summer in Termuren*. Translated by Paul Vincent. Dalkey Archive Press. Normal, IL. 2006. 491 pp. Paper \$14.95. ISBN 1-56478-414-2.

Boon captures the history of the twentieth century by exploring the twisted, corrupt lives of the inhabitants of one small town, a microcosm for the changing world. The fiction of this Flemish writer is comical, inventive, and disturbing in his descriptions of sex, violence, and hypocrisy. This novel tells the story of Ondine and Oscarke, a young married couple living in the "1st grimy houses" of the mill town of Termuren at the turn of the century. It turns out that Ondine is a cruel and manipulative woman, determined to be "someone" no matter whom she destroys in the process; and Oscarke, an aspiring sculptor, is beginning to develop an unhealthy fixation on underage girls. Translator Paul Vincent studied at Cambridge and Amsterdam, and after teaching Dutch at the University of London for over twenty years, became a full-time translator in 1989. Since then he has published a wide variety of translated poetry, non-fiction, and fiction, including work by Achterberg, Claus, Couperus, Elsschot, Jellema, Mulisch, De Moor, and Van den Brink.

FRENCH

de Balzac, Honoré. *The Centenarian, or The Two Beringhelds*. Translated and annotated by Danièle Chatelain and George Slusser. Wesleyan University Press. Middletown, CT. 2005. 308 pp. Cloth \$29.95. ISBN 0-8195-6797-3.

A novel with a setting during the age of the Napoleonic Wars tells the tale of a 400-year-old scientist, Beringheld, who has discovered a way to prolong life. To survive, he must kill others to procure the fluids necessary for his existence. His existence becomes entwined with that of one of his descendants, who is a general in Napoleon's army. This murder mystery develops against the backdrop of war and is a mixture of realism and science fiction. George Slusser is an American scholar, professor, and writer. He is the co-founder and premier curator of The J. Lloyd Eaton Collection of Science Fiction & Fantasy Literature. He is married to French/American scholar, professor, and writer Danièle Chatelain. Ms. Chatelain, a native of France, is a professor of French and a writer. She holds a masters degree from the University of Strasbourg and the University of California-Riverside, where she also received a Ph.D. She is currently a professor of French at the University of Redlands.

Baudelaire, Charles. *The Flowers of Evil [Les Fleurs du Mal]*. Translated by Keith Waldrop. Wesleyan University Press. Middletown, CT. 2006. 224 pp. Cloth \$24.95. ISBN 0-8195-6799-X.

The author published this work in 1857 and at the time was accused of "realism," and the book was found to be injurious to "public morality." His next edition of the book was published without six of his poems, but it did include 32 entirely new ones. This

translation by Waldrop contains all of the new inclusions as well as the six banned poems. Although Baudelaire's book has been translated previously by others, this version preserves the author's tone and meaning (in its frankness and forcefulness) in this accurate version of the work. The translator, Keith Waldrop, completed his Ph.D. in comparative literature from University of Michigan, 1964. He directed and acted in plays by Jarry, Grabbe, Paul Goodman, etc., and edited (with James Camp and D.C. Hope) the magazine *Burning Deck*.

Carrière, Jean-Claude. *Please, Mr. Einstein*. Translated by John Brownjohn. Harcourt, Inc. Orlando, FL. 2006. 186 pp. Cloth \$22.00. ISBN 0-15-101422-1.

This novel takes the form of a conversation. With no explanation, with no excuse for the narrative magic that has brought them together, we soon discover that the two conversationalists are a young woman — a student with some questions — and the man who redefined the true nature of reality in the twentieth century, Albert Einstein. Translator John Brownjohn has distinguished himself as a translator of German literature, biographies, memoirs, letters, politics, and art books. His translations include works of Michael Ende, Bodo Kirchoff, Hans Hellmut Kirst, Otto Klemperer, Martin Gregor-Dellin, and Rolf Hochhut. John Brownjohn's translations have received excellent reviews in *Times Literary Supplement*, *The Literary Review*, *Best Sellers*, *The New York Times Book Review*, *The Observer*, and *Publishers Weekly*. He has also been involved as a script and dialogue consultant. Among his screen credits are *The Boat (Das Boot)*, directed by Wolfgang Petersen; *Bitter Moon*, directed by Roman Polanski; and *The Name of the Rose* and *The Bear*, directed by Jean-Jacques Annaud. Mr. Brownjohn is the recipient of four previous translation awards: the 1979 Schlegel-Tieck Special Award, the 1981 US PEN Goethe House Prize, the 1993 Schlegel-Tieck Award, and the 1995 Christopher Award.

Céline, Louis-Ferdinand. *Conversations with Professor Y*. Translation and introduction by Stanford Luce. Dalkey Archive Press. Normal, IL. 2006. 153 pp. Paper \$12.95. ISBN 1-56478-449-5.

This novel comprises the author's imaginary interview with the stuffy Professor Y. In this novel, Céline comes closer to explaining his controversial life and work than in any of his other books. Soon, the not-so-polite conversation begins to degenerate into a bizarre farce, and the professor reveals his true identity. The translator, Stanford L. Luce, is Professor of French at Miami University in Ohio.

Cixous, Hélène. *Reveries of the Wild Woman. Primal Scenes*. Translated by Beverley Bie Brahic. Northwestern University Press. Evanston, IL. 2006. 96 pp. Paper ISBN 0-8101-2363-0.

Cixous created a protagonist whose life resembles her own — a French Jew living in Algeria. She and her family felt alienated and excluded, especially under the Vichy government and during the Algerian War of Independence. The novel is filled with warmly human and often funny experiences, which awaken her longings for the sights, sounds, and smells of her country, Algeria.

Cixous, Hélène. *The Day I Wasn't There*. Translated by Beverly Bie Brahic. Northwestern University Press. Evanston, IL. 2006. 103 pp. Paper \$19.95. ISBN 0-8101-2364-9.

In this novel full of tragedy and comedy, the narrator resembles the author, as she recounts the birth and death of her first child. The child was born with Down's syndrome and is abandoned to the care of her midwife mother in an Algerian maternity hospital. This

separation is used to probe her family history and her relationship with her mother, a refugee from Nazi Germany; her dead father, after whom the baby is named; her doctor brother, who takes the infant under his wing; and her grandmother Omi. This novel is an intimate study of a woman's inner self.

Cocteau, Jean. *Thomas the Imposter*. Translated by Dorothy Williams. Foreword by Gilbert Adair. Peter Owen. London, UK. 2006. 132 pp. Paper \$22.95. ISBN 0-7206-1252-7.

A novel of coming of age amid the chaos and trenches of the First World War. The textual imagery is that of a young boy who is too young to join the army but is determined to get to the front at any cost. Translator Dorothy Williams is a professor in the Department of Information Management at the Robert Gordon University, Aberdeen. She is involved in research into information literacy and the relationship between information literacy and learning.

Coninck, Herman de. *The Plural of Happiness: Selected Poems of Herman de Coninck*. Translated by Laure-Anne Bosselaar and Kurt Brown. Foreword by Charles Simic. Oberlin College Press. Oberlin, OH. 2006. 91 pp. Paper \$14.95. ISBN 0-932440-30-4.

A first-time English version of Herman de Coninck's poetry shows his ability to compress huge subjects into small forms with wit, tenderness, and darkly ironic observations about human nature. Simic points out that "it's not just the idiomatic language, the formal concision, but the many intangibles that one has to translate. One is obliged to take into account not only what is said, but also what is intentionally left out." Laure-Anne Bosselaar is a native of Belgium and has lived throughout Europe and the United States. Fluent in four languages, she has worked for Belgian and Luxembourg radio and television stations, published a collection of French poems, *Artemis*, and is currently translating contemporary American poetry into French and Flemish poetry into English. She holds a Master of Fine Arts degree from the Warren Wilson Program for Writers. Kurt Brown, married to Ms. Bosselaar, spent many years in Aspen, Colorado where he founded the Aspen Writers' Conference and edited the *Aspen Anthology*. His poems have appeared in many periodicals, including *Ontario Review*, *Massachusetts Review*, *Crazyhorse*, and *Southern Poetry Review*.

David, Carole. *Unholy Stories*. Translated by Nora Alleyn. Guernica Editions. Toronto, CN. 2005. 79 pp. Paper \$13.00. ISBN 1-55071-201-2.

The author, a poet and novelist, has written twelve short stories, which are intimately linked and yet so distinct. Translator Nora Alleyn grew up in a bicultural family in Québec City. After receiving a B.A. in languages (McGill University), she joined the Department of External Affairs and lived in Europe and the Middle East. She studied translation at Laval, McGill, and the Université de Montréal and creative writing at the National University of Ireland (Galway), Bread Loaf Writers' Conference (U. of Vermont), Summer Film Institute (Massachusetts), and West Word (U.B.C.). After a year translating at the Québec National Assembly, she spent the next twenty at the National Film Board working as a staff writer and translator. She versioned French-language films into English and directed two documentaries: *Mary Bell* (1976) and *Fragments of a Conversation on Language* (1990). Her poetry appeared in *Edmund Alleyn: Indigo sur tous les tons* (les Editions du passage, Montréal, 277 p., 2005).

Djebar, Assia. *The Tongue's Blood Does Not Run Dry. Stories*. Translated by Tegan Raleigh. Seven Stories Press. New York, NY. 2006. 224 pp. Cloth \$22.95. ISBN 1-58322-748-2.

Assia Djebar presents a brutal yet delicate exposition of how warring worlds enact their battles upon women's lives and bodies. Foreigners both in their homes and homelands, the people in these stories search for authenticity in hospitals, in homes, in family, in graves. Caught most symbolically in the crossfire are the bodies, minds, and lives of women. A French woman is renamed in order to be buried beside her Algerian husband. Another loses her daughter to that continental divide. With the will to justly carry divergent loyalties, we discover the human heart to exist in all places, within, over, and beneath any geographic borders. Ms. Raleigh is a freelance translator, interpreter, and editor from French and German into English. She holds an M.F.A. from the University of Iowa and a B.A. in French Literature from Reed College.

Doppelt, Suzanne. *Ring Rang Wrong*. Translated by Cole Swensen with pre-Socratic fragments translated into phonetic language by Georges Aperghis. Burning Deck Press. Providence, RI. 2006. 80 pp. Paper \$14.00. ISBN 1-886224-80-3.

Juxtaposed with Suzanne Doppelt's photographs are mock-philosophical meditations on astronomy, weather, the five senses, plant life, the insect world, and the nature of time in a dialogue with the pre-Socratics. Sometimes funny, often dry, this text betrays an affectionate love for the world. Cole Swensen is the author of seven books of poetry, many of which address her interests in western art, French language and culture, and translation. She is the recipient of several awards, including the 1998 Iowa Poetry Prize for *Try*; the 1995 New American Poetry Series Award for *Noon*; and the 1987 National Poetry Series for *New Math*. Her work has appeared in numerous distinguished literary journals, including the *American Poetry Review* and *Ploughshares*. Swensen also translates contemporary French poetry, individually and in group translation projects at the Fondation Royaumont near Paris. Swensen, who holds a Ph.D. in comparative literature from the University of California at Santa Cruz, was formerly director of the Creative Writing Program at the University of Denver and is now on the permanent faculty of the University of Iowa Writers' Workshop.

Dupré, Louise. *The Blueness of Light. Selected Poems: 1988–2002*. Translated by Antonio D'Alfonso. Guernica. Toronto, CN. 2005. 71 pp. Paper \$13.00. ISBN 1-55071-203-9.

In a series of five sets of poems written between 1988 and 2002, Dupré develops feelings of existence, emotions, and survival. Antonio D'Alfonso was born in Montreal. He studied at Loyola College, where he received his B.A. in Communication Arts. Later, he completed his M.Sc. in Communication Studies, specializing in Semiology. In 1978, he founded Guernica Editions, where he edited over one hundred books by authors from around the world. An author himself, he has published a number of books in French and English. He also worked as a literary critic in numerous magazines across Canada, in both English and French. He has produced three short films and has collaborated either as scriptwriter, camera person, or as editor on other films. He has regularly given conferences on questions of literature, film, and multiculturalism in Canada, in the U.S.A., and in Europe.

Durand, Monique. *The Painter's Wife*. Translated by Sheila Fischman. Talon Books. Vancouver, BC., CN. 2006. 176 pp. Paper \$16.95. ISBN 0-88922-535-4.

Durand takes us on a journey through several European capitals, New York, San Francisco, and Toronto in a novel inspired by two great artists who are as yet relatively unknown in Canada, Evelyn Rowat and René Marcil, during the 1940s. In a novel about art and passion, we experience a couple's contradiction between the life of the traditional virtues of one's poor family from French-Canada versus the other's high-society living. As literary translator, Sheila Fischman has translated from French to English more than a hundred works from major Quebec novelists, including Gaétan Soucy, Anne Hébert, Jacques Poulin, Marie-Claire Blais, Yves Beauchemin, Lise Bissonnette, Élise Turcotte, Jacques Savoie, and Michel Tremblay. Winner of many prestigious awards, she received the Governor General's Book Award for translation (1998) for *Bambi and Me*, a translation of *Les vues animées* by Michel Tremblay. Sheila Fischman directed the literature section of the *Montreal Star* and has written literary columns for several English newspapers.

Gacemi, Baya. *I, Nadia, Wife of a Terrorist*. Translated by Paul Côté and Constantina Mitchell. Foreword by Fanny Colonna. Introduction by Edmund Burke III. University of Nebraska Press. Lincoln, NE. 2006. 160 pp. Cloth \$50.00. ISBN 978-0-8032-2204-5. Paper \$24.95. ISBN 978-0-8032-7124-1.

A story written by an Algerian journalist with directness of narrative that pushes readers to consider both the appeal Islamism holds for some downtrodden women and the way militant Islamism keeps women prisoners. This autobiographic account reveals the impact of marriage to an Algerian terrorist who has ruined her relationship with her family and her community. Translator Raymond Côté holds a Ph.D. in French literature from McGill University. He now lives in Montreal, where he works as a freelance translator. He was full professor of French at American University (Washington, D.C.) and headed the French-to-English translation certificate program there for twenty years. He has published extensively on French novelist/art critic/politician André Malraux and has written a number of books, articles, and book reviews on French and Canadian literature. Co-translator Constantina Mitchell is Professor emerita of French (Gallaudet University, Washington, D.C.). She holds a Ph.D. in French literature from McGill University (Montreal) and a Licence ès lettres from the Sorbonne. She has published extensively on the works of nineteenth-century French poet Paul Verlaine and twentieth-century Québec author Anne Hébert.

Gautier, Théophile. *Mademoiselle de Maupin*. Translated and edited by Helen Constantine. With an introduction by Patricia Duncker. Penguin Group. New York, NY. 2005. 363 pp. Paper \$14.00. ISBN 0-140-44813-6.

The protagonist fantasizes about his ideal lover, yet every woman he meets falls short of his exacting standards of female perfection. While embarking on an affair with a lovely woman, he is surprised that he feels an attraction to her guest. Does the protagonist have a secret to hide? The translator, Helen Constantine, is also a well-known linguist.

de Jussie, Jeanne. *The Short Chronicle. A Poor Clare's Account of the Reformation of Geneva*. Translated and edited by Carrie F. Klaus. The University of Chicago Press. Chicago, IL. 2006. 208 pp. Paper \$21.00. ISBN 0-226-41706-9. Cloth \$52.00. ISBN 0-226-41705-0-6.

This is a singular account of the Protestant Reformation as experienced by Jeanne de Jussie from within the walls of the Convent of Saint Clare in Geneva. She reports not only the larger clashes between Protestants and Catholics but also the events in her convent occurring between the nuns and city officials and other intruders, giving the readers a rare glimpse of early modern monastic life. Translator Carrie F. Klaus is a graduate of DePauw; she earned an M.A. and Ph.D. in French from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She is the recipient of a Bourse Chateaubriand, an article on Jussie ("Architecture and Sexual Identity: Jeanne de Jussie's Narrative of the Reformation of Geneva," *Feminist Studies* 29:2 [2003]: 279-97), and other short articles and reviews.

Labé, Louise. *Complete Poetry and Prose. A Bilingual Edition*. Prose translated by Deborah Lesko Baker. Poetry translated by Annie Finch. The University of Chicago Press. Chicago, IL. 2006. 296 pp. Cloth \$62.00. ISBN 0-226-46714-7. Paper \$25.00. ISBN 0-226-46715-5.

A set of structurally elaborate, passionate, and sometimes difficult prose and poetry has sustained an extraordinary afterlife, although it can sometimes intimidate the modern reader. The works alternate between a serious and humorous tone, while much of the writings addresses the status of women and men in the culture and society of Labé's times and advocates changes in social rules, expectations, and prejudices that perpetuate conventional gender roles. Ms. Baker, translator of prose, is associate professor at Yale University and has published several books, articles, and essays. The translator of poetry, Ms. Finch, also is a librettist and editor; she is from New Rochelle, NY. Ms. Finch earned a bachelor's degree from Yale, a master's in Creative Writing from the University of Houston, and a doctorate from Stanford University.

Lamothe, Serge. *The Baldwins*. Translated by Fred A. Reed and David Homel. Talon Books. Vancouver, BC. CN. 2006. 94 pp. Paper \$15.95. ISBN 0-88922-544-3.

In the post-apocalyptic future, fifty years after the last government of turbo-liberals and its president-for-life have been elected, a group of researchers convenes a Congress to address the curious cultural phenomenon of the Baldwins, whose stories have been gathered and archived by the chronicles since the end of history. "Who are the Baldwins?" the Congress asks. "Do they actually exist, and if so, what are their history and their fate?" These and many other questions are discussed in this contemporary prose by Serge Lamothe. Fred Reed, from West Virginia, is a technology columnist for *The Washington Times*, and the author of *Fred on Everything*, a weekly independent column. He also writes books and other material. A former Marine, Reed is a police writer, an occasional war correspondent, and an aficionado of raffish bars. His work, written in a unique and articulate style, is often satirical and opinionated. Co-translator David Homel is a journalist, editor, writer, and translator. His four novels, *Electrical Storms*, *Rat Palms*, *Sonya & Jack*, and *Get on Top* have been published in several languages around the world. He won the Governor General's Award for translation in 2001 with fellow translator Fred A. Reed.

Nganang, Patrice. *Dog Days: An Animal Chronicle*. Translated and with an Afterword by Amy Baram Reid. University of Virginia Press. Charlottesville, VA. 2006. 232 pp. Cloth \$49.50. ISBN 0-8139-2534-7. Paper \$18.50. ISBN 0-8139-2535-3.

The reader is taken on a journey to the destitute, politically charged, and diverse atmosphere of Cameroon in the early 90s, a period known as the smoldering years. The protagonist is a dog, Mboudjak. From the perspective of a canine, the author expresses, with mocking humor and optimism, a possible bright future for Cameroon. Amy Baram Reid is Associate Professor of French at New College of Florida and a translator.

Nothomb, Amélie. *Loving Sabotage*. With an Afterword by the author. Translated by Andrew Wilson. New Directions. New York, NY. 2000. 136 pp. Cloth \$21.95. ISBN 0-8112-1459-1.

A young girl, the daughter of diplomats posted to Peking for three years in the mid-seventies, seems already stripped of illusions. She charges about the grim confines of the gated government housing ghetto as she concocts a fantasy life as rich as her surrounds are bleak. With a humorous tone, the novel follows her through her tours in the “adult” world of politics. Andrew Wilson of Bedford, England, is a distinguished translator and has multiple publications. His translation of *Loving Sabotage* serves the text well, capturing Nothomb's sharp, winning tone.

Pineau, Gisèle. *Devil's Dance*. [*Chair Piment*]. Translated by C. Dickson. University of Nebraska Press. Lincoln, NE. 2006. 288 pp. Cloth \$40.00. ISBN 0-8032-3749-9. Paper \$20.00. ISBN 978-0-8032-8784-6.

In a sexual frenzy, Mina tries to lose both herself and the phantoms that have haunted her since she left Guadeloupe. In particular, she cannot elude the ghost of her beloved sister Rosalia, who burned in a fire from which Mina escaped. Ultimately, in the company of a tormented man recently released from a mental hospital, Mina returns to Piment, her birthplace, to unravel the mystery of her family's curse. C. Dickson is a professional translator living in France whose many translations include Pineau's *Macadam Dreams* and Mohammed Dib's *Savage Night*, both available in Bison Books Editions.

des Roches, Madeleine and des Roches, Catherine. *From Mother and Daughter. Poems, Dialogues, and Letters of Les Dames des Roches*. Translated and edited by Anne R. Larsen. The University of Chicago Press. Chicago, IL. 2006. 288 pp. Cloth \$60.00. ISBN 0-226-72337-2. Paper \$24.00. ISBN 0-226-72338-0.

The Dames des Roches, Madeleine and Catherine, who were mother and daughter, dedicated their lives to bold assertion of poetic authority for women in the realm of Belles Lettres. They excelled in a variety of genres, including poetry, Latin and Italian translations, correspondence, prose dialogues, pastoral drama, and tragicomedy. Anne R. Larsen, the editor of the complete works of the Des Roches, has translated a selection of each of their three volumes; it appears to represent about one-half of the original works

Rostand, Edmond. *Cyrano de Bergerac*. Translated with an Introduction and Notes by Carol Clark. Penguin Books. New York, NY. 2006. 204 pp. Paper \$12.00. ISBN 0-140-44968-X.

Poet and soldier, brawler and charmer, Cyrano de Bergerac is desperately in love with Roxane, the most beautiful girl in Paris, but there is one very large problem: he has a nose of stupendous size and believes she will never see past it to return his feelings. So when he discovers that the handsome but tongue-tied and dim-witted Christian is also pining for Roxane, generous Cyrano offers to help by writing exquisite declarations of love for the young man to woo her. Will she ever recognize who she is really falling in love

with? Set during the reign of Louis XIII, Rostand's *Cyrano de Bergerac* (1897) was one of the great theatrical successes of its time and remains as popular today. Carol Clark's energetic translation conveys the exuberant tone of Rostand's original and is accompanied by an introduction discussing the play's historical context, staging, and language.

de Sade, Marquis. *Philosophy in the Boudoir, or the Immoral Mentors*. Translated by Joachim Neugroschel. Introduction by Francine Du Plessix Gray. Penguin Books. New York, NY. 2006. 173 pp. Paper \$15.00. ISBN 0-14-303901-6.

During his imprisonment secured by his mother-in-law in 1777, due to the scandalous reputation he had earned during his marriage to her daughter, de Sade lost no time in jail as he produced his first drafts of several novels. After his wife refused to see him, he began a new life with another and published several pornographic works in strict anonymity, one of which was *Philosophy in the Boudoir*. After he had been identified as the writer of one of these works, de Sade's aggressive and scandalous lifestyle put him into incarceration at the insane asylum on the grounds of libertine dementia, after a mere decade of freedom. The translator, Joachim Neugroschel, is the winner of three PEN Translation Awards and the 1994 French-American Translation Prize. Born in Austria, he grew up in New York City. After graduating from Columbia University with a degree in English and Comparative Literature, he moved to Paris and then Berlin. He returned to New York six years later, where his career as a translator flourished. He has translated the works of great writers from the past such as Moliere, Maupassant, Proust, Kafka, and Mann, and present-day authors such as Tahar Ben Jelloun. His credits include 200 titles. Joachim Neugroschel is well known for his translation of works of Yiddish literature.

Théoret, France. *Girls Closed In*. Translated by Luise von Flotow. Guernica Editions. Toronto, CN. 2005. 116 pp. Paper \$13.00. ISBN 1-55071-206-3.

The novel takes place in the 1950s in Quebec. A shy sixteen-year-old in a Catholic boarding school for prospective schoolteachers falls in love with a classmate. When the fantasized relationship fails, she takes a superficial refuge with a group of girls and learns how alone she is, how alone and closed off they all are. Luise von Flotow translates literary works from French and German, occasionally works in journalism, and teaches. She has worked at universities in the USA, Germany, and France and is currently assistant professor for translation studies at the School of Translation and Interpretation, University of Ottawa.

Tremblay, Lise. *The Hunting Ground*. Translated by Linda Gaboriau. Talon Books. Vancouver, BC., CN 2006. 96 pp. Paper \$13.95. ISBN 0-88922-534-6.

This book contains a series of stories as they are recounted by different narrators from a northern Canadian village. Each narrator differs in gender, social class, and economic circumstances, thereby painting a view of the changes that affect the "local histories" of small towns, feeding only the yearning nostalgia of the few surviving original inhabitants. Linda Gaboriau is a Canadian playwright and literary translator. Born in Boston, Massachusetts, Gaboriau moved to Montreal, Quebec, in 1963 to pursue education in the French language and literature at McGill University. She worked as a freelance journalist for the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) and the *Montreal Gazette*, and worked in Canadian and Quebec theatre. She is currently director of the Banff International Literary Translation Centre.

Verne, Jules. *The Begum's Millions*. Translated by Stanford L. Luce. Edited by Arthur B. Evans. Introduction and Notes by Peter Schulman. Wesleyan University Press. Middletown, CT. 2005. 304 pp. Cloth \$29.95. ISBN 0-8195-6796-5.

Verne explores the opportunity for abuse of power made possible by technology and wealth. When two European scientists unexpectedly inherit an Indian rajah's fortune, each builds an experimental city of his dreams in the wilds of the American Northwest. This translation includes critical notes, an introduction, and all the original illustrations.

Verne, Jules. *The Meteor Hunt*. Translated and edited by Frederick Paul Walter and Walter James Miller. University of Nebraska Press. Lincoln, NE. 2006. 227 pp. Cloth \$29.95. ISBN 0-8032-4677-3. Paper \$15.95. ISBN 0-8032-9634-7.

The Meteor Hunt marks the first English translation from Jules Verne's own text of this delightfully satirical and visionary novel.

In Translation: The Gabrielle Roy–Joyce Marshall Correspondence. Edited by Jane Everett. University of Toronto Press. Toronto, CN. 2005. 271 pp. Cloth \$50.00. ISBN 0-8020-3908-1.

This book is a record of a sustained friendship between two women, Joyce Marshall and Gabrielle Roy, that contextualizes the associations and climate in which Marshall's translations of Roy were undertaken. The correspondence traces the growing respect and affection of each woman for the other and underscores the collaborative atmosphere that produced such polished translations of Roy's works.

Daughters of Sarah. Anthology of Jewish Women Writing in French. Edited by Eva Martin Sartori and Madeleine Cottenet-Hage. Holmes & Meier. Teaneck, NJ. 2006. 271 pp. Paperback \$20.00. ISBN 0-8419-1445-1.

This book opens up a new perspective on the relations among Jewishness, gender, and modernity in Europe.

Vārua Tupu. New Writing From French Polynesia. Edited by Frank Stewart, Kareva Mateata-Allain, and Alexander Dale Mawyer. *Manoa: A Pacific Journal*. University of Hawai'i Press. Honolulu, HI. 2006. 196 pp. Paper \$29.95. ISBN 0-8248-3019-9.

Vārua Tupu, the first anthology of its kind, offers English-speaking readers the stories, memoirs, poetry, photography, and paintings of a French Polynesian artistic community that has been growing in strength since the 1960s. In the literature and images of *Vārua Tupu*, the people of this astonishing group of islands speak for themselves.

GERMAN

Adorno, Theodor W. *Philosophy of New Music*. Translated, edited, and introduced by Robert Hullot-Kentor. University of Minnesota Press. Minneapolis, MN. 2006. 240 pp. Cloth \$34.95. ISBN 0-8166-3666-4.

This was the first publication of Adorno on his return to Europe from his exile in the U.S. The two works included in this book, though extremely controversial, became highly regarded as a turning point in his philosophy of music when he perceives the struggle for the cultural future of Europe: between human emancipation and barbarism, between the compositional techniques and achievements of Schoenberg and Stravinsky. Robert Hullot-

Kentor has taught philosophy, literature, and the arts at Harvard, Boston University, Stanford, and Long Island University. He has translated several of Adorno's major works, including *Aesthetic Theory*, and has recently published *Current of Music*, a reconstruction of Adorno's unfinished study of radio broadcast music.

Bachmann, Ingeborg. *Darkness Spoken: The Collected Poems of Ingeborg Bachmann*. Translated and introduced by Peter Filkins. Zephyr Press. Brookline, MA. 2006. 688 pp. Paper \$24.95. ISBN 0-939010-84-4.

This bilingual collection of Bachmann's poetry includes the early and late works not previously collected in book form. Of the 200 poems collected, 129 have never before appeared in English and 25 are published for the first time in German.

Bernhard, Thomas. *In Hora Mortis / Under the Iron of the Moon: Poems*. Translated by James Reidel. Princeton University Press. Princeton, NJ. 2006. 192 pp. Paper \$14.95. ISBN 0-691-12642-9. Cloth \$35.00. ISBN 0-691-12641-0.

The writings of Bernhard, according to the translator and other critics, show hints of T.S. Eliot, Miguel de Unamuno, Georg Trakl, and Christine Lavent. *In Hora Mortis* was written with prayer-like verses spoken by a tormented "believer." While in *Under the Iron of the Moon*, the author uses the cycle of untitled lyrics as in *Mortis*, he expresses wonder as well as the estrangement and disappointment that he endured when he placed himself in such a starting point, such "in-country." The two books together reveal his early explorations of themes that would continue to preoccupy him in his novels, plays, and other writings – especially his intense ambivalence toward the land and people of Austria and their then-recent Nazi past.

Einstein, Albert. *Relativity: The Special and the General Theory*. Translated by Robert W. Lawson. Introduced by Nigel Calder. University of Sheffield. Penguin Books. New York, NY. 2006. 129 pp. Paper \$10.00. ISBN 0-14-303982-2.

The physicist and humanitarian took his place beside the great teachers with the publication of *Relativity: The Special and General Theory*, Einstein's own popular translation of the physics that shaped our "truths" of space and time.

Frisch, Max. *I'm Not Stiller*. Translated by Michael Bullock. Dalkey Archive Press. Normal, IL. 2006. 377 pp. Paper \$13.50. ISBN 978-1-56478-450-6.

Arrested and imprisoned in a small Swiss town, a prisoner begins this book with an exclamation: "I'm not Stiller!" He claims that his name is Jim White, that he has been jailed under false charges and under the wrong identity. To prove this, he confesses to three unsolved murders and recalls in great detail an adventuresome life in America and Mexico. Though the protagonist is consumed with "the morbid impulse to convince," his Kafka- and Camus-like harrowing and humorous account is not believed.

Gunkel, Hermann. With contributions by Heinrich Zimmermann. *Creation and Chaos in the Primeval Era and the Eschaton. A Religio-Historical Study of Genesis 1 and Revelation 12*. Translated by K. William Whitney, Jr. William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company. Grand Rapids, MI. 2006. 442 pp. Paper \$36.00. ISBN 0-8028-2804-3.

This is a complete English translation of Gunkel's *Schöpfung und Chaos*, originally published in German in 1895. Many believe this work to have been so important in the history of scholarship that it revolutionized biblical scholarship at the end of the nineteenth century.

Hackl, Erich. *Narratives of Loving Resistance. [Entwurf einer Liebe auf den ersten Blick und Geschichte eines Versprechens]*. Translated and with an Afterword by Edward T. Larkin. Ariadne Press. Riverside, CA. 2006. 101 pp. Paper \$13.00. ISBN 1-57241-138-4.

The two stories contained in this work reveal the unique perspective on the relationship between historical reality and literary representation. The lives of those who suffered the terror and injustice of twentieth-century fascism are shown in the historical portion, one of which was during the Spanish Civil War. The other is through the protagonist, who retraces a path from his poverty in the Vienna of the First Republic through his existence in the concentration camps to his entrepreneurial success in his chosen South American exile as he reveals a promise he had made.

Schnitzler, Arthur. *Bachelors. Novellas and Stories*. Translated by Margret Schaefer. Ivan R. Dee, Publisher. Chicago, IL. 2006. 268 pp. Cloth \$27.50. ISBN 978-1-56663-611-7.

Narratives by Schnitzler penetrate the entire story of male psychology in relation with men's relationships with women. He reveals his view of the illusions and delusions, dreams and desires, and the split between the social self and the inner self, which are characteristic of the self-alienated man of his time — and ours.

Schütz Zell, Katharina. *Church Mother. The Writings of a Protestant Reformer in Sixteenth-Century Germany*. Translated and edited by Elsie McKee. The University of Chicago Press. Chicago, IL. 2006. 296 pp. Cloth \$55.00. ISBN 0-226-97966-0. Paper \$22.00. ISBN 0-226-97967-9.

Katharina Schütz Zell, an outspoken religious reformer in sixteenth-century Germany, campaigned for the right of clergy to marry and to have the responsibility of lay people to proclaim the Gospel. Schütz Zell demonstrated, as one of the first and most daring models of the pastor's wife in the Protestant Reformation, that she could be an equal partner in marriage. As a commoner, she participated actively in public life and wrote prolifically.

Truschner, Peter. *Serpent's Child. [Schlangenkind]*. Translated and with an Afterword by Michael Winkler. Ariadne Press. Riverside, CA. 2006. 160 pp. Paper \$17.00. ISBN 1-57241-136-8.

Serpent's Child is based on the life of the author while growing up in a Carinthian farming village, living for a while with his mother and later with his grandfather; his struggle in growing up was to strive for independence and improvement in life and not to accept the poor standards handed to him by his family situation. The reader "grows" with the writer while experiencing his surprises in his stages of life.

Ungar, Hermann. *Boys & Murderers. Collected Short Fiction*. Translated by Isabel Fargo Cole. Twisted Spoon Press. Prague, CZ. 2006. 252 pp. Paper \$15.00. ISBN 80-86264-25-4.

Ungar displays his art of writing with a doomed aspect, an unlaughing comic sense, sexual melancholy, in a bitter and often uncannily deliberate way as he expresses his visions of life. His fiction is often grotesque and comical as he explores the depravities of the heart and delusions of the mind.

Selected Short Writings. Edited by Dirck Linck. Continuum. New York, NY. 2006. 336 pp. Cloth \$95.00. ISBN 978-0-8264-1800-7. Paper \$29.95. ISBN 978-0-8264-1801-5.

The scope of the material collected in this book ranges from class conditions under the liberated forces of capitalism, through the phantasmagoria of bourgeois sexuality, to the bio-politics of a state that sought to regulate even the morality of its citizens. Three of the authors represented are of Jewish origin, deeply informed by experiences and degrees of marginality: the satirist and playwright Karl Kraus (1874 –1936) and epic novelists and essayists Hermann Broch (1886 – 1951) and Elias Canetti (1905 – 94). Swiss writer Robert Walser (1878 – 1956), a contemporary of the three writers, cultivated a “small,” courageous literature that overcomes the stable relations between repression and revolt that constitutes the literature of the *Wiener Moderne*.

After Every War. Twentieth-Century Women Poets. Translated by Eavan Boland. Princeton University Press. Princeton, NJ. 2006. 168 pp. Paper \$12.95. ISBN 0-691-12779-4.

They are nine women with much in common — all German speaking, all poets, all personal witnesses to the horror and devastation that was World War II. Yet, in this deeply moving collection, each provides a singularly personal glimpse into the effects of war on language, place, poetry, and womanhood.

GREEK

Euripides. *The Bacchae and Other Plays*. Translated by John Davie. Introduction and Notes by Richard Rutherford. Penguin Books. New York, NY. 2005. 360 pp. Paper \$12.00. ISBN 0-140-44726-1.

This book contains a series of five plays written by Euripides, the youngest of the three great Athenian playwrights, who was born around 485 BC of a family of good standing. Though tradition tells us that he was an unpopular recluse, audiences were fascinated by his innovative and often disturbing dramas. Of his ninety-two plays, seventeen are tragedies and one a satyr play. Although his record of success in drama festivals was lower than that of either Aeschylus or Sophocles, Sophocles mourned for him publicly upon the news of his death in 406 BC.

Homer. *The Odyssey*. Translated by Robert Fagles. Introduction and Notes by Bernard Knox. Penguin Books. New York, NY. 2006. 541 pp. Paper \$15.00. ISBN 0-14-303995-4.

The Greek philosopher Aristotle, writing in the fourth century BC, gives us, in his treatise known as the Poetics, what he considers the essence of the plot. “A certain man has been abroad many years; he is alone, and the god Poseidon keeps a hostile eye on him. At home the situation is that suitors for his wife’s hand are draining his resources and plotting to kill his son. Then, after suffering storm and shipwreck, he comes home, makes himself known, attacks the suitors: he survives and they are destroyed.”

Aurelius, Marcus. *Meditations*. Translated with Notes by Martin Hammond. With an introduction by Diskin Clay. Penguin Books. New York, NY 2006. 254 pp. Paper \$10.00. ISBN 0-140-44933-7.

Written in Greek by the only Roman emperor who was also a philosopher, the *Meditations* of Marcus Aurelius (AD 121–180) offer a series of challenging spiritual reflections and exercises developed as the emperor struggled to understand himself and make sense of the universe.

HUNGARIAN

Krasznahorkai, László. *War and War*. Translated by George Szirtes. New Directions. New York, NY. 2006. 288 pp. Paper \$16.95. ISBN 0-8112-1609-8.

This novel starts at a point of danger: on a dark railway bridge, Korin the archivist is on the verge of being attacked and robbed by thuggish teenagers. Desperate, at times almost mad, but also keenly empathic, Korin has discovered in a small Hungarian town's archives an antique manuscript of startling beauty: It narrates the epic tale of brothers-in-law struggling to return home from a disastrous war and how the protagonist's life is controlled by his finding.

IRISH

Rosenstock, Gabriel. *Rogha Dánta. Selected Poems*. Translated by Paddy Bushe. Cló Iar-Chonnachta. Indreabhán, Conumara, IR. 2006. 208 pp. Paper \$18.95. ISBN 1-902420-95-0.

A book of 54 poems that provide an overview of Rosenstock's work over the last 25 years, in which he addresses such subjects as "The Buddha," "Zen meditation at a Cliff," and "Billie Holiday."

ITALIAN

Cecchetti, Giovanni. *Nomad Diary. [Diario Nomade]*. Translated by Roberta L. Payne. Peter Lang. New York, NY. 2005. 128 pp. Cloth \$55.95. ISBN 0-8204-7402-9.

A short collection of elegant epigrams rounds out the volume. The West and Southwest were dear to Cecchetti and appear throughout the book.

Fonte, Moderata. *Floridoro. A Chivalric Romance*. Translated by Julia Kisacky. Edited with an introduction by Valeria Finucci. Annotated by Valeria Finucci and Julia Kisacky. The University of Chicago Press. Chicago, IL. 2006. 493 pp. Cloth \$75.00. ISBN 0-226-25677-4. Paper \$29.00. ISBN 0-226-25678-2.

The first original chivalric poem written by an Italian woman, *Floridoro* imbues a strong feminist ethos into a hypermasculine genre. Dotted with the usual characteristics — dark forests, illusory palaces, enchanted islands, seductive sorceresses — *Floridoro* is the story of two great knights of a bygone age: the handsome Floridoro, who risks everything for love, and the beautiful Risamante, who helps women in distress while on a quest for her inheritance.

Gramsci, Antonio. *The Southern Question*. Translated by Pasquale Verdicchio. Guernica. Toronto, CN. 2005. 93 pp. Paper \$13.00. ISBN 1-55071-196-2.

Gramsci, one of the founders of the Italian Communist Party in 1921, founder of the party newspaper *L'Unità* and of *L'Ordine Nuovo*, spent ten years incarcerated under Fascism. This book was written shortly before he went into prison to “stop his mind from working.”

Tabucchi, Antonio. *It's Getting Later All the Time*. Translated by Alastair McEwen. New Directions. New York, NY. 2006. 192 pp. Paper \$15.95. ISBN 0-8112-1546-6.

This is a novel with a twist; it is an experiment consisting of seventeen letters from seventeen men and then, at last, a reply to all from one woman. The men are writing with passion of their failed love affairs with women who seem remote and unfeeling.

Wu, Ming. *54*. Translated by Shaun Whiteside. Harcourt, Inc. Orlando, FL.. Trade Publishers. New York, NY. 2006. 549 pp. Cloth \$25.00. ISBN 0-15-101380-2.

This novel, which takes place in 1954, during the Cold War, is a political thriller, a comic spy caper, a romance, and a brilliant piece of social satire. Not only is the novel a thrilling adventure, but the name Wu Ming is a band of five authors who live in Bologna, Italy. Their collective nom de plume means “no name” — and therefore, “anonymous” — in Mandarin Chinese. Four of the five members wrote the novel Q under the pseudonym Luther Blissett.

Battiferra degli Ammannati, Laura. *Laura Battiferra and Her Literary Circle. An Anthology*. Translated and edited by Victoria Kirkham. The University of Chicago Press. Chicago, IL. 2006. 493 pp. Cloth \$64.00. ISBN 0-226-03922-6. Paper \$25.00. ISBN 0-226-03923-4.

In this anthology, Victoria Kirkham gathers Battiferra's most essential writing, including newly discovered poems, which provide modern readers with a valuable social chronicle of sixteenth-century Italy and the courtly culture of the Counter-Reformation.

JAPANESE

Akutagawa, Ryūnosuke. *Rashōmon and 17 Other Stories*. Translated by Jay Rubin. Introduction by Haruki Murakami. Penguin Books. New York, NY. 2006. 268 pp. Paper \$15.00. ISBN 0-14-303984-9.

Akutagawa Ryūnosuke (as his name is arranged in Japanese) continues to be read and admired today by virtually all Japanese as one of the country's foremost stylists, a master of the modern idiom enriched by a deep knowledge of both the classics and the contemporary literature of Japan, China, and the West. Writing and publishing since the age of 10, the great demand for his stories and essays allowed him to resign after two years of teaching to dedicate himself only to writing. As a child of a madwoman and with a multitude of other anguishes in his life and marriage, he ended his life at the age of thirty-five for fear of being overwhelmed by the insanity he was sure he had inherited from his mother. The translator, Jay Rubin, began his study of Japanese at the University of Chicago, where he received his Ph.D. in 1970. He has been a professor of Japanese literature at the University of Washington and at Harvard University. He has translated two

novels by Sōseki Natsume and three by Haruki Murakami; he has written *Injurious to Public Morals: Writers and the Meiji State* and *Haruki Murakami and the Music of Words*; he edited *Modern Japanese Writers*.

Soseki, Natsume. *The Gate*. Translated by Francis Mathy. Introduced by Damian Flanagan. Peter Owen. London, UK. 2006. 257 pp. Paper \$23.95. ISBN 0-7206-1250-0.

This work describes the world of a humble clerk, Sosuke, and his wife, Oyone, living in quiet obscurity in a house at the bottom of a cliff. Childless, the couple find themselves having to take responsibility for Sosuke's younger brother. Oyone's health begins to fail, and news that Oyone's ex-husband will be visiting creates a sense of crisis.

Soseki, Natsume. *The Tower of London. Tales of Victorian London*. Translated and introduced by Damian Flanagan. Peter Owen. London, UK. 2006. 224 pp. Paper \$34.95. ISBN 0-7206-1234-9.

This translation, published 100 years after the original, presents unique snapshots of Victorian London life experienced by Natsume Soseki, who was one of the first Japanese writers to be influenced by Western culture, while completing his two intense years of education in England. In this book, written from the point of view of a Japanese citizen, he has created "another London."

Takahashi, Mutsuo. *On Two Shores: New and Selected Poems*. Translated by Mitsuko Ohno and Frank Sewell with an introduction by Nobuaki Tochigi. Dedalus. Dublin, IR. 2006. 146 pp. Paper \$18.95. ISBN 1-904556-49-3.

Here we have a Japanese sensibility commenting on Irish traditions and the Irish landscape with limpid images and startling juxtapositions. With a revived faith in his own heritage after returning home from his stay in Ireland, the author ventured to compile into one volume the various works he had written while there.

Woman Critiqued. Essays on Japanese Women's Writing. Edited by Rebecca L. Copeland. University of Hawai'i Press. Honolulu, HI. 2006. 281 pp. Paper \$27.00. ISBN 978-0-8248-3038-5.

The author responds to readers of Japanese literature by choosing a work of women writers without reminding them of their sex. It provides a variety of snapshots from different eras and perspectives so as to exemplify the complexities of the reception that awaited the "writing women."

The Tales of the Heike. Translated by Burton Watson. Edited with an introduction by Haruo Shirane. Columbia University Press. New York, NY. 2006. 272 pp. Cloth \$24.50. ISBN 0-231-13802-4.

This novel is one of the most important works in Japanese literature, second only to *The Tale of Genji* in its influence. Originally written in the late fourteenth and early fifteenth centuries, it re-creates the story of the epic civil war that changed the course of Japanese history. This new, abridged translation of *The Tales of the Heike* includes the work's most remarkable episodes. Translator Burton Watson offers a remarkable, clear, and gripping rendering of the text. Mr. Watson has taught Chinese and Japanese literature at Columbia, Stanford, and Kyoto Universities. He is the winner of the PEN Translation Prize and in 2005 was awarded an American Academy of Arts and Letters Prize in literature. His translations include *Chuang Tzu: Basic Writings*; *Ryokan: Zen Monk-Poet of Japan*; and *The Lotus Sutra* (all published by Columbia). He lives in Tokyo, Japan.

The Modern Murasaki. Writing by Women of Meiji Japan. Edited and translated by Rebecca Copeland and Melek Ortabasi. Columbia University Press. New York, NY. 2006. 416 pp. Paper \$22.50. ISBN 0-231-13775-3. Cloth \$69.50. ISBN 0-231-13774-5.

The editors and authors have selected for translation the very texts that historians would be interested in seeing. These translations are the opening wedge that allows us to think beyond the stereotypical images of women in Meiji Japan as it ensures the presence of women writers in the Japanese literature.

KOREAN

Cho, Se-hŭi. *The Dwarf.* Translated by Bruce and Ju-Chan Fulton. University of Hawai'i Press. Honolulu, HI. 2006. 224 pp. Paper \$15.00. ISBN 978-0-8248-3101-1.

The dark side of South Korea's "economic miracle" emerges in *The Dwarf*. First published in 1978, it speaks to the painful social costs of reckless industrialization, even as it tellingly portrays the spiritual malaise of the newly rich and powerful and a working class subject to forces beyond its control. Cho's lean, clipped, deceptively simple style, the rapidly shifting points of view, terse dialogue, and subtle irony evoke the particularities of life in 1970s South Korea in the presence of global economic forces.

Lim, Chul-Woo. *The Dog Thief.* Translated by Myung-Hee Kim. Tamal Vista Publications. Cambridge, MA. 2005. 276 pp. Cloth \$27.00. ISBN 0-917436-08-3.

The author Chul-Woo Lim witnessed the Kwangju Uprising during which hundreds of pro-democracy protesters were massacred by the South Korean government of Chun Doo Hwan. This book was written to bear witness to this tragic event, which he completed one year after the massacre.

LATIN

Catullus. *The Poems.* Translated with an introduction by Peter Whigham. Penguin Books. New York, NY. 2004. 246 pp. Paper \$14.00. ISBN 0-140-44981-7.

This collection contains all of Catullus' extant work and includes his lyrics to the notorious Clodia Metelli — married, seductive, and corrupt — charting the course from rapturous delight in a new affair to the torment of love gone sour; poems to his young friend Luventius; and longer verse, such as the extraordinary tale of Attis, a Greek youth who castrates himself in a fit of religious ecstasy. The works range from the tender, moving, and passionate to the vicious and even obscene.

Ficino, Marsilio. *Platonic Theology. Volume 6, Books XVII – XVIII.* Translated by Michael J.B. Allen. Latin text edited by James Hankins with William Bowen. Harvard University Press. Cambridge, MA. 2006. 415 pp. Cloth \$29.95. ISBN 0-674-01986-5.

The *Platonic Theology* is a visionary work and the philosophical masterpiece of Marsilio Ficino (1433 – 1499), the Florentine scholar-philosopher-magus who was largely responsible for the Renaissance revival of Plato. A student of the Neoplatonic schools of Plotinus and Proclus, he was committed to reconciling Platonism with Christianity, in the hope that such a reconciliation would initiate a spiritual revival and return of the golden age. His evangelizing was eminently successful and widely influential. Translator Michael J.B. Allen is Distinguished Professor of English at the University of California, Los Angeles.

Dr. Allen is professor of English and currently the Director of UCLA's Center for Medieval & Renaissance Studies; from 1993 to 2001, he was co-editor of *Renaissance Quarterly*. His primary research focus has been on Renaissance Neoplatonism, and particularly the philosophy, theology, magic theory, and hermeneutics of its architect, the Florentine Marsilio Ficino (1433 – 1499).

Poliziano, Angelo. *Letters. Volume I. Books I–IV*. Translated and edited by Shane Butler. I Tatti Renaissance Library, Vol. 21. Harvard University Press. Cambridge, MA. 2006. 362 pp. Cloth \$29.95. ISBN 0-674-02196-7.

Included in the collection are hundreds of letters, both in vernacular and in Latin. Though many may be called private, many more were written to be read by more than just the addressee, as they were written as recommendations. The letters printed are not only those written by the author but also those received by him from others. The style of the letters may have been just as important to Poliziano as their substance.

Pontano, Giovanni Gioviano. *Baiae*. Translated by Rodney G. Dennis. I Tatti Renaissance Library, Vol. 22. Harvard University Press. 2006. 236 pp. Cloth \$29.95. ISBN 0-674-02197-5.

Two books containing seventy-one poems were composed by Pontano during the last thirty years of his life. Born around 1429, Pontano, a scientist and scholar-poet, lived a full life that was consistent and astonishing. He had devoted his lifetime to the affairs of the Kingdom of Naples, his wife, his family, and his pleasures. Untouched by scandals, although the pleasures were provided by prostitutes, his children, and his male friends, he recorded in his letters all that was important to him. He emphasized old age, fulfillment, the present, and the pleasures of (the seaside resort) Baiae. Translator Rodney G. Dennis is the retired Curator of Manuscripts at Houghton Library of the Harvard College Library.

Virgil. *The Aeneid*. Translated by Robert Fagles. Introduction by Bernard Knox. Viking. New York, NY. 2006. 486 pp. Hardback \$40.00. ISBN 0-670-03803-2.

The *Aeneid* tells the story of an epic voyage that sees Aeneas cross stormy seas, become entangled in a tragic love affair with Dido of Carthage, descend to the world of the dead — all the way tormented by the vengeful Juno, Queen of the Gods — and finally reach Italy, where he will fulfill his destiny: to found the Roman people.

MACEDONIAN

Smilevski, Goce. *Conversation with Spinoza. A Cobweb Novel*. Translated by Filip Korženski. Northwestern University Press. Evanston, IL. 2006. 136 pp. Cloth \$44.95. ISBN 0-8101-2375-4. Paper \$16.95. ISBN 0-8101-2376-2.

In this experimental novel, the protagonist becomes a character with an inner and outer life. The author propels the protagonist into a dialogue with the reader. From this conversation, there emerges a compelling and complex portrait of the evolution of an idea — and of a man who tries to live that idea. “The threads of this novel are spun out of conversations between you and Spinoza. So wherever there is an empty space in the words of Spinoza, just say your name and write it in the blank space.” Written in first person, the author is speaking to you.

NORWEGIAN

Fosse, Jon. *Melancholy*. Translated by Grethe Kvernes and Damion Searls. Dalkey Archive Press. Rochester, NY. 2006. Paper \$13.95. ISBN 978-1-56478-451-3.

Lars Hertervig is a provincial young Norwegian from a poor Quaker background, studying art in Germany and prone to crippling insecurities, sexual obsessions, and terrifying hallucinations. In a prose that is as hypnotic as Beckett's or Bernhard's — but earthier, and funnier — the author describes a single day of crisis and its repercussions. *Melancholy* takes us deep inside a painter's fragile consciousness, vulnerable to everything but therefore uniquely able to see its beauty and its light.

Solstad, Dag. *Shyness & Dignity*. Translated by Sverre Lyngstad. Graywolf Press. St. Paul, MN. 2006. 144 pp. Paper \$12.00. ISBN 1-55597-446-5.

The protagonist, Rukla, begins yet another day under the leaden Oslo sky. At the high school where he teaches, an insight into Ibsen's *The Wild Duck* grips him with a passion so intense that he barely notices the disinterest of his students. After the lesson, when a broken umbrella provokes an unpredictable rage, he barely notices the students' intense curiosity. He soon realizes, however, that this day will be the decisive day of his life.

PERSIAN

Ghanoonparvar, M.R. *Translating the Garden*. University of Texas Press. Austin, TX. 2001. 186 pp. Cloth ISBN 0-292-72835-2. Paper ISBN 0-292-72761-5.

Based on the Islamic logic that "There is no God but God," the author offers the reader an "over the shoulder" view of himself in the actual process of translating Shahrokh Meskub's *Dialogue in the Garden* [Goftogu dar Bah] from Persian. It is about the act of translating, but it is not translating. Therefore, "...now that I have stated what this book is not or may not be about, I can say that it is about the act of translating, the actual process of translating...."

Hafez-e Shirazi, Khwajeh Shams al-Din Muhammad. *The Poems of Hafez*. Translated by Reza Ordoubadian. Foreword by Shahriar Zangeneh. Ibex Publishers. Bethesda, MD. 2006. 277 pp. Paper \$22.00. ISBN 1-58814-019-9.

Although born some six hundred years ago in southern Iran, Shamseddin Hafez is a contemporary and universal poet. Wherever Persian is known, he is easily recited by both king and common man. He is said to give a panoramic insight into the culture of Persia but also a window into understanding the universal soul.

POLISH

Stasiuk, Andrzej. *Tales of Galicia*. Translated by Margarita Nafpaktitis. Twisted Spoon Press. Prague. 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 that — once inhabited by Poles, Ukrainians, and Jews — 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. The translator, Margaret Nafpaktitis, is currently assistant professor in the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures at the University of Virginia, while working on her Ph.D. in that field. Her translations are many, including works by Polish writers Stefan Chwin, Ewa Lipska, and Andrzej Stasiu; she has presented papers before multiple Slavic organizations and is the recipient of numerous awards associated with Russian and Polish.

PORTUGUESE

Evaristo, Conceição. *Ponciá Vicencio*. Translated by Paloma Martinez-Cruz. Host Publications. New York, NY. 2006. 145 pp. Cloth \$20.00. ISBN 978-0-924047-33-6. Paper \$12.00. ISBN 978-0-924047-34-3.

This is the story of a young Afro-Brazilian woman's journey from the land of her enslaved ancestors to the emptiness of urban life; however, the generations of creativity, violence, and family cannot so easily be left behind, because Ponciá is heir to a mysterious psychic gift from her grandfather. Does this gift have the power to bring Ponciá back from the emotional vacuum and absolute solitude that have overtaken her in the city? Do the elemental forces of earth, air, fire, and water mean anything in the barren urban landscape? This mystical story of family, dreams, and hope by the incomparable Conceição Evaristo illuminates aspects of urban and rural Afro-Brazilian conditions with poetic eloquence and raw urgency.

ROMANIAN

Cărtărescu, Mircea. *Nostalgia. A Novel*. Translated and with an Afterword by Julian Semilian. Introduction by Andrei Codrescu. New Directions. New York, NY. 2005. 352 pp. Paper \$19.95. ISBN 0-8112-1588-1.

Unifying this writing are neither characters nor narrative continuity, but rather a thematic, even mesmeric harmony. In this book, children's games, the music of the spheres, humankind's primordial myth-making, the origins of the universe — all find their unlikely common ground in the dilapidated tenement blocks of an apocalyptic Bucharest during the years of the communist dictatorship.

RUSSIAN

Akhmatova, Anna. *Selected Poems*. Translated by D.M. Thomas. Penguin Books. New York, NY. 2006. 147 pp. Paper \$15.00. ISBN 0-140-42464-4.

Poetry of passion and conscience. Akhmatova was persecuted after the Revolution and under Stalin but chose to remain in Russia and bear witness. Her works capture an emotional world — poems that reflect a complex attitude to love or explore the intricacy of her own nature, while others evoke the horrors of war. Anna Akhmatova is not only Russia's finest woman poet but perhaps the greatest in the history of Western culture. This volume brings together all of D.M. Thomas's acclaimed translations of Akhmatova's poems, including "Poem Without a Hero" and "Requiem," her poem of the Stalinist Terror.

Bunin, Ivan. *Night of Denial. Stories and Novellas*. Translated and with Notes and an Afterword by Robert Bowie. Northwestern University Press. Evanston, IL. 2006. 718 pp. Paper \$24.95. ISBN 0-8101-1403-8.

Bunin was the first Russian author to win the Nobel Prize for Literature. The book of short stories shows Bunin's personal and literary links with Tolstoy, Chekhov, and Nabokov.

Ciepiela, Catherine. *The Same Solitude. Boris Pasternak and Marina Tsvetaeva*. Cornell University Press. Ithaca, NY. 2006. 320 pp. Cloth \$29.95. ISBN 978-0-8014-3534-8.

This is the story of a romance that blossomed between the modernist poets Marina Tsvetaeva and Boris Pasternak in the 1920s. Only weeks after Tsvetaeva emigrated from Russia in 1922, Pasternak discovered her poetry and sent her a letter of praise and admiration. This enthusiastic response began a decade-long affair, conducted entirely through letters, which offers a view into the overlapping worlds of literary creativity, sexual identity, and political affiliation.

Tolstoy, Leo. *War and Peace*. Translated by Anthony Briggs. Introduction by Orlando Figes. Penguin Books 2006. 1411 pp. Paper \$18.00. ISBN 0-14-303999-7.

The novel *War and Peace* has as its backdrop Napoleon's invasion of Russia. In this new translation, Anthony Briggs renders Tolstoy's masterwork in stirring prose that is faithful to the original Russian and accessible. The discovery of an exciting story that meditates on the tension between free will and fate enlightens the reader in this new version of *War and Peace*.

Voltskaia, Tatiana. *Cicada. Selected Poetry & Prose*. Translated by Emily Lygo. Bloodaxe Books. Northumberland, UK. 2006. 144 pp. Paper \$22.95. ISBN 1-85224-704-5.

At the center of the author's lyrical poetry is a woman trying to escape from her condition of isolation, seeking communication through dialogue, conversations, reflections, shadows, echoes, letters, and sex. Many of her poems are set in her native city of St. Petersburg — often described as the Venice of the North — where water meets stone, reflections meet their images, and what is real is confronted at every turn by illusion. In Voltskaia's work, the architecture and culture are borrowed from the West. Here, the East meets West. This edition presents her poems in bilingual format.

War & Peace. Contemporary Russian Prose. With contributions by Arkady Babchenko, Denis Butov, Dmitry Bykov, Roman Senchin, Julia Latynina, Olga Slavnikova, Maria Galina, Maria Rybakova, Maria Arbatova, and Marina Kulakova. Glas. Moscow. 400 pp. Paper \$15.95. ISBN 5-7172-0074-9.

A new and contemporary version of *War & Peace*, translated by multiple participants. Part I, *WAR*: Translated by Arkady Babchenko, who is Russian born and lives in Moscow. Winner of the Debut Prize for his cycle of first-hand accounts of the Chechnya

campaign, which is both a fictionalized documentary and narrative non-fiction. Denis Butov was born and lives in Krasnoyarsk, Siberia. He wrote *Five Days of War*, which plunges the reader into the midst of fierce fighting and a miraculous salvation from sure death. His *How Dreams Don't Come True* is about an ex-serviceman's inability to reintegrate into peaceful life after his army stint in Chechnya. Roman Senchin was born in the Siberian town of Kyzyl. Winner of several prestigious literary prizes, he is one of the most talented and expressive spokesmen for his generation. Julia Latynina, born in Moscow, comes from a famous literary family. She is a top business journalist, with a Ph.D. in economics and philology, and is a prolific writer widely known for her "economic" thrillers and futuristic fantasies – more than 20 titles in all. Part II, *PEACE*: Olga Slavnikova, a leading name in Russian letters today, rose to fame as a writer in her hometown of Yekaterinburg in the Urals before moving to Moscow, where she coordinated the Debut Prize for young writers. She is the author of five prize-winning novels and is noted for her highly individual style and psychological depth. Maria Galina is a poet, critic, translator, and science fiction writer with ten SF books to her credit. A graduate from Odessa University, she has been a professional writer since 1995. She has won many prizes for both her prose and poetry. Maria Rybakova was born in 1973 in Moscow and comes from a famous literary family. She has become a star herself with her prize-winning books. She has always been fascinated with the mystery of death, which is a constant presence in her work. Maria Arbatova is a novelist, dramatist, noted public figure, and leading activist in the feminist movement in Russia. Her 14 plays have been staged in Russia and some in the United States, England, Sweden, and Germany. She has seven novels and a collection of short stories to her credit published in hundreds of thousands of copies. She is known as "The Erica Jong of Russian literature." Marina Kulakova is known mainly as a poet and critic. She lives in Nizhny Novgorod on the Volga, where she teaches at the local university and edits the philological journal ORBI. She has five collections of poetry to her name and numerous publications.

Russian Short Stories from Pushkin to Buida. Translated and edited by Robert Chandler. Penguin Books, New York, NY. 2005. 396 pp. Paper \$22.00. ISBN 0-140-44846-2.

From the early nineteenth century to the collapse of the Soviet Union and beyond, the short story has occupied a central place in Russian literature. This collection includes not only well-known classics but also modern masterpieces, many of them previously censored. There are stories by acknowledged giants – Gogol, Tolstoy, Chekhov, and Solzhenitsyn – and by equally great writers such as Platonov who have only recently become known to the English-speaking world. Some stories are tragic, some are comedies, and others are full of absurdities and satire. Most of these works are retranslated versions either by the editor, Robert Chandler, who provided "The Queen of Spades," and many new writers who are little known in the English-speaking world. Since Chandler found it frustrating to choose between British English and American English versions, he was able to provide some in both, as some were more effective in one and not the other.

OBERIU: An Anthology of Russian Absurdism. Translated by Eugene Ostashevsky and Matvei Yankelevich with contributions by Thomas Epstein, Ilya Bernstein, and Genya Turovskaya. Edited by Eugene Ostashevsky. Northwestern University Press. Evanston, IL. 2006. 258 pp. Paper \$22.95. ISBN 0-8101-2293-6

This anthology, including works of three writers (Alexander Vvedensky, Daniil Kharms, and Nikolai Zabolotsky, who had been the main poets of OBERIU from 1927 to

1930), is based on the movement called OBERIU, which was so artfully anarchic, and so quickly suppressed, that readers only began to discover its strange and singular brilliance three decades after it was extinguished. Some called it the last of the Russian avant-garde, and others called it the first (and last) instance of Absurdism in Russia. The acronym OBERIU was supposed to stand for *Ob'edinenie real'nogo iskusstva*, or Union of Real Art. Members of OBERIU and the *chinar* circle belonged to the first generation of writers to come of age after World War I and the October Revolution. Having been shut down numerous times due to unscrupulous application, it has resurfaced several more times to be used as another vehicle to publicize opinions of social or political situations. Eugene Ostashevsky was born in St. Petersburg, Russia, but raised in New York City; he is a poet, scholar, and reckless metaphysician. A book of his poetry, *The Off-Centaur*, was published by Germ Folios, and his volume *The Compleat Unraveller* was published in 2005 by Ugly Duckling Press. Ostashevsky won the 2003 Wytter Bynner Poetry Translation Fellowship for his translations from Russian. He teaches at NYU. Co-translator Matvei Yankelevich is the editor of the Eastern European Poets Series at Ugly Duckling Press and co-edits 6x6, a poetry periodical. His own writing has appeared in various little magazines, and his critical work on Russian-American poets appears in *Octopus Magazine*. A chapbook of his long poem *The Present Work* was published by the Los Angeles-based Palm Press in summer 2006. He teaches Russian Literature at Hunter College in New York City.

SPANISH

Aira, César. *An Episode in The Life of a Landscape Painter*. Translated by Chris Andrews. Preface by Roberto Bolaño. New Directions. New York. 2006. 87 pp. Paper \$12.95. ISBN 0-8112-1630-6.

A novel from Argentina that is a meditation on the beautiful and the grotesque in nature, on the art of landscape painting, and on one experience in a man's life that became a lightning rod for inspiration.

Bolaño, Roberto. *Last Evenings On Earth*. Translated by Chris Andrews. New Directions. New York. 2006. 224 pp. Cloth \$23.95. ISBN 0-8112-1634-9.

Bolaño describes his fourteen haunting stories as "the melancholy folklore of exile." His narrators are usually writers grappling with private (and often unlucky) quests, speaking in the first person, as if giving a deposition — like witnesses to a crime. These protagonists tend to take detours and to narrate unresolved efforts. They are characters living in the margins.

Borges, Jorge Luis. *The Book of Imaginary Beings, With Margarita Guerrero*. Translated by Andrew Hurley. Illustrated by Peter Sís. Penguin Books. 2006. 236 pp. Paper \$16.00. ISBN 0-14-303993-8.

Jorge Luis Borges wrote and edited the *Book of Imaginary Beings* in 1969, expanding his original 1957 Spanish edition *El Libro de los Seres Imaginarios*. This book contains descriptions of 120 mythical beasts from folklore and literature.

Brau, Edgar. *Casablanca and Other Stories*. Translated by Andrea G. Labinger, Joanne M. Yates, and Donald A. Yates. Introduction by Donald A. Yates. Michigan State University Press. East Lansing, MI. 2006. 124 pp. Cloth \$24.95. ISBN 9718-0-87013-768-6.

Haunting stories that introduce the readers to a contemporary Argentine fiction writer of startling power and subtlety, a writer whose stories it is no overstatement to mention in the same breath with those of Poe and Borges.

Campos, Marco Antonio. *A contracorriente*. Translated by Elizabeth Austin, Dierdra Reber, and Juan de Dios Vázquez. *Between the Lines*. Toronto, Canada. 2003. 73 pp.

Poetry written with a prose-like format, Campos' lyrical style mimics that of Borges, Neruda, and Vallejo in a "very cultural, very old, and very modern..." way. This edition presents the poems in a bilingual format.

Cross, Elsa. *Bacantes y otros poemas*. 81 pp. Bilingual. John Oliver Simon, *Translations of Light*. *Between the Lines*. Toronto, CN. 2003. 79 pp. Bilingual.

Elsa Cross was chosen for the Mexican side of the border writing in Spanish and translating to English, and John Oliver Simon was chosen to represent the American born Mexican from the U.S. side of the border, translating from English to Spanish. Both of these authors are poets who are extensively recognized and exercise a very important function as teachers and promoters of literature and poetry.

Díaz, Jesús. *The Initials of the Earth*. Translated with Notes and an Afterword by Kathleen Ross. With a Foreword by Fredric Jameson and an Epilogue by Ambrosio Fornet. Duke University Press. Durham, NC. 2006. 456 pages. Paper \$24.95. ISBN 0-8223-3844-0.

A novel of the Cuban Revolution and its aftermath. The protagonist rejoins the communist party and later experiences war events that tear his family apart, and he leaves his country. The author expresses himself through humor, slogans, music, slang, and Afro-Cuban religion.

Domecq, Brianda. *When I Was A Horse*. Translated by Kay (Kayla) S. García. TCU Press. Fort Worth, TX. 2006. 203 pp. Paper \$16.95. ISBN 978-0-87565-325-9.

A collection of seventeen stories by Mexican author Brianda Domecq that are thought-provoking while they examine the human condition from a unique viewpoint. With irony and wit, Ms. Domecq writes of human and animal struggles for freedom and identity. Her own experiences were of liberation from alcohol, nicotine and a codependent marriage – a slow, excruciatingly painful growth process, which she used to map out for herself a preamble to real life. The translator, Kay (Kayla) S. Garcia, is associate professor of Spanish at Oregon State University and is author of *Broken Bars: New Perspectives from Mexican Women Writers*, and she is translator of Domecq's two novels *Eleven Days* and *The Astonishing Story of the Saint of Cabora*.

Kozer, José. *Stet. Selected Poems*. Translated and edited by Mark Weiss. Junction Press. New York, NY. 2006. 219 pp. Paper \$20.00. ISBN 1-881523-09-8.

The poetry of Kozer, in this edition, moves from a particular person and place (Cuban, Jewish, caught between home and exile) into a tangle of locations and perceptions that gives his poetry a nearly epic stature. While the work has an avant-garde ("neobaroque") foundation, it is the humanity of the writing that predicts its lasting greatness.

Marías, Javier. *Your Face Tomorrow. Volume Two: Dance and Dream*. Translated by Margaret Jull Costa. New Directions. New York, NY. 2006. 288 pp. Cloth \$24.95. ISBN 0-8112-1656-X.

Your Face Tomorrow, Javier Marías' dazzling unfolding magnum opus, is a novel in three parts, which began with *Volume One: Fever and Spear* (New Directions, 2005). Described as a "brilliant dark novel" (*Scotland on Sunday*), the book now takes a wild swerve in this new volume. Skillfully constructed around a central perplexing and mesmerizing scene in a nightclub, *Volume Two: Dance and Dream* again features Jacques Deza.

Pacheco, Cristina. *Limpios de todo Amor*. 74 pp. Bilingual. Cisneros, Sandra. *Los Ojos De Zapata*. Between the Lines. San Antonio, TX. 2003. 64 pp.

Pacheco offers prose through which we travel among the stories of everyday life, experiencing pain and joy. Ms. Pacheco is originally from Guanajuato. Her career was initiated in journalism and writing literature and has now expanded to radio and television. The second book, written by Sandra Cisneros, is bilingual from English to Spanish. Ms. Cisneros is an American-born Mexican from Chicago and is recognized internationally for poetry and narratives. She has received numerous prizes and awards, including the American Book Award and Lannan Foundation Literary Award. Translator Liliana Valenzuela is the acclaimed Spanish-language translator of works by Sandra Cisneros, Julia Alvarez, Denise Chávez, Nina Marie Martínez, Ana Castillo, Dagoberto Gilb, Richard Rodriguez, Rudolfo Anaya, Cristina García, Gloria Anzaldúa, and many other writers. An award-winning poet and essayist whose work has appeared in *The Edinburgh Review*, *Indiana Review*, *Tigertail*, and other journals and publications, Liliana is also a dynamic performer, recently engaged to record the audiobook edition of *La casa en Mango Street* by Sandra Cisneros for Random House Audio.

Pascual, Itziar. *Gone Astray. Three Plays*. Translated by Phyllis Zatlin. Estreno Contemporary Spanish Plays 29. Estreno Plays. El Paso, TX. 2006. 61 pp. Paper \$8.00. ISBN 978-1-888463-24-8.

The short works in this volume are representative of Itziar Pascual's theater and will give readers a good idea of the themes and dramatic techniques she often develops. Like other writers of her generation, Pascual distances herself from traditional realism in her theater in favor of a fragmented structure that better reflects the fast pace of life in contemporary Spain. Using suggestive, poetic language, these works present an elliptic and impressionistic portrait of modern experience at the same time that they lead spectators to consider timeless questions of identity and relationship.

Poniatowska, Elena. *Las Soldaderas: Women of the Mexican Revolution*. Translated by David Dorado Romo. Cinco Puntos Press. San Antonio, TX. 2006. 93 pp. Paper \$12.95. ISBN 0-933693-04-5.

The author comments on her collection of photographs of women warriors in the history of the Mexican Revolution. "Without the soldaderas, there is no Mexican Revolution — they kept it alive and fertile like the earth." Translator David Dorado Romo, the son of Mexican immigrants, is an essayist, historian, translator, and musician. He has studied at the Centro d'Attività Musicale in Florence and the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, and received a degree in Judaic Studies from Stanford University.

Santiago Baca, Jimmy. *Book I, As Life Was*. Translated by David Lauer. Instituto de México. San Antonio, TX. 2002. 83 pp.

The fundamental objective of this collection is to present to readers an outline of narrative poets whose works have not yet been translated into English.

Steimberg, Alicia. *The Rainforest*. Translated and with an Introduction by Andrea G. Labinger. University of Nebraska Press. Lincoln, NE. 2006. 142 pp. Cloth \$45.00. ISBN 0-8032-4315-4. Paper \$20.00. ISBN 0-8032-9329-1.

The author offers the reader new definitions of happiness and mature love — or perhaps simply the reassurance that in life, nothing is ever quite as terrible as one fears or quite as glorious as one remembers, as her protagonist experiences a series of losses, only later to find life giving her a second chance. Translator Andrea G. Labinger has a doctorate in Spanish and is Honors Director and Professor of Spanish at University of La Verne. She translates prose fiction from Latin America, and among her numerous published translations are works by Sabina Berman, Edgar Brau, Carlos Cerda, Mempo Giardinelli, Ana María Shua, Alicia Steimberg, and Luisa Valenzuela. Labinger's translation of Steimberg's *Cuando digo Magdalena* was a finalist in the PEN USA Literary Competition, 2002.

Taibo, Paco Ignacio. *The Shadow of the Shadow*. Translated by William I. Neuman. Cinco Puntos Press. El Paso, TX. 2006. 240 pp. Paper \$13.95. ISBN 0-933693-00-2.

In 1922, in Mexico City, a group of four very different men sits playing dominos: a poet who writes advertisements for patent medicines; a radical Chinese-Mexican union organizer; a lawyer who represent prostitutes; and a newspaper crime reporter who churns out pages of copy “like links of sausage in a chorizo factory.” Awaiting the Presidency of Carranza, they witness a series of strangely related murders, and they begin to suspect a conspiracy. As a historical novel, the book deals with issues of oil, American imperialism, extortion, and government corruption.

Vallejo, César. *César Vallejo. Selected Poems*. Translated and edited by Michael Smith and Valentino Gianuzzi. Shearsman Books. Exeter, UK. 2006. 134 pp. Paper \$17.00. ISBN 978-0-907562-99-3.

This book offers a selection of poems from all of the author's work from the early Peruvian poems in the Black Heralds to the politically inspired works from the later 1930s.

Welden, Oliver. *Lovehound*. Translated and with an Introduction by Dave Oliphant. Host Publications. Austin, TX. 2006. 87 pp. Paper \$8.00. ISBN 0-924047-31-3.

Despite being virtually unavailable since its original publication in 1970, *Love Hound* has greatly influenced the rich tradition of Chilean literature. Written three years before the military overthrow of the government by Augusto Pinochet, these poems offer concise but penetrating language that still resonates today. Opening with spare meditations on solitude, intimacy, and suicide, the volume then reflects on degraded familial relationships and ends with a powerful evocation of the erotic. This bilingual collection offers an emotional landscape rarely seen in poetry.

Yáñez Cossío, Alicia. *The Potbellied Virgin*. Translated by Amalia Gladhart. University of Texas Press. Austin, TX. 2006. 208 pp. Cloth \$50.00. ISBN 0-292-71304-5. Paper \$19.95. ISBN 0-292-71410-6.

In an unnamed town in the Ecuadorian Andes, a small wooden icon — La Virgen Pipona (the Potbelled Virgin) — conceals the documents that define the town's social history. That history recently has been dominated by the women of the Benavides family, a conservative clan and, not coincidentally, the caretakers of the Virgin. When a military skirmish threatens the Virgin (and the secret in her famous belly), the Benavides women must scramble to preserve their place as local matriarchs, without alerting their rivals, the old Pandos, to the opportunity that might enable them to finally supplant their rivals.

SWEDISH

Forsström, Tua. *I Studied Once at a Wonderful Faculty*. Translated by David McDuff and Stina Katchadourian. Bloodaxe Books. Northumberland, UK. 2006. 136 pp. Paper \$22.95. ISBN 1-85224-649-9.

Forsström's poems give a sense of having been crystallized under great pressure...a survey of the landscape of grief, exercises in renunciation and in the affirmation of loss of love, sexuality, and communion with others. She has a superb ability to use the everyday and the practical to get closer to the most complicated elements of life. Her language constantly goes through changes, allowing the usual meanings of the words to be replaced by new insights, which are a kind of magic ritual. Translator David McDuff was born in Sale, Cheshire, of Scottish parents, in 1945, and later lived in Edinburgh, where he studied Russian and German. After extended visits to northern Europe and the U.S., David settled in the UK, where he was co-editor of the literary magazine *Stand*, and then in London, where he has worked as a literary translator for many years. His translations include Penguin Editions of Dostoyevsky's fiction, as well as books of Russian and Nordic poetry. Co-translator Stina Katchadourian (M.A. Stanford '67) grew up in Finland as a member of that country's Swedish-speaking minority. She is an author, literary translator, and journalist. Among her interests are women and the Middle East. She is a member of the Board of Directors of The Global Fund for Women, and her many publications include a memoir about her Armenian mother-in-law entitled *Efronia: An Armenian Love Story*.

TURKISH

Eray, Nazli. *Orpheus*. Translated by Robert Finn. Introduction by Sibel Erol. University of Texas Press. Austin, TX. 2006. 114 pp. Paper \$13.95. ISBN 0-292-71409-2.

The myth of Orpheus has inspired revisions and retellings from writers and artists around the world. In this version, the author gives a fresh rewriting of the myth from the perspective of Eurydice, the wife of Orpheus.

Ottoman Lyric Poetry. An Anthology. Expanded Edition. Edited and translated by Walter G. Andrews, Najaat Black, and Mehmet Kalpakli. University of Washington Press. Seattle, WA. 2006. 336 pp. Paper \$20.00. ISBN 0-295-98595-X.

This anthology, the first major English translation of Ottoman poetry in nearly a century, unlocks the storehouse. The authors offer free-verse translations of 75 lyric poems (whose original Ottoman Turkish texts are also included), spanning a period from the fourteenth through the early twentieth centuries. In addition to the poems, the authors

provide concise background information on Ottoman history and literature, informative notes for the poems and brief biographies of the poets. These materials give students and the general reader sufficient context to understand the poems, without burdening the reading experience.

YIDDISH

Landmark Yiddish Plays. A Critical Anthology. Translated, edited, and introduced by Joel Berkowitz and Jeremy Dauber. State University of New York. Albany, NY. 2006. 356 pp. Paper \$29.95. ISBN 0-7914-6780-5.

These five plays are chosen to show the historical roots and the range of Yiddish drama. The "Introduction" and "Translators' Note" are both scholarly and interesting. The collection is an important contribution to the fields of Yiddish cultural history and theater history in general.

MULTIPLE LANGUAGES

Terrestrial Intelligence: International Fiction Now From New Directions. Edited by Barbara Epler. New Directions. New York, NY. 2006. 416 pp. Paper \$14.95. ISBN 0-8112-1650-0.

Terrestrial Intelligence gathers the best new ground-breaking fiction from around the world, from W.G. Sebald ("one of the most gripping writers imaginable," *The New York Review of Books*) and Roberto Bolaño ("his generation's premier Latin-American writer, [his] reputation and legend are in meteoric ascent," *The New York Times*) to the Russian enfant terrible Victor Pelevin and the astonishing Yoko Tawada. Not to be missed are the pleasures of Antonio Tabucchi ("the most original voice in the new generation of Italian writers," *The Harvard Book Review*), Javier Marías ("Spain's best bait for the Nobel Prize," *The New York Sun*), and Yoel Hoffmann ("Israel's avant-garde genius," *Forward*). These are just a few of the two dozen fascinating new writers brought to you in wonderful translations, all on one plate, in *Terrestrial Intelligence*.

Marot, Clément, Joachim Du Bellay, and Pierre de Ronsard. *Lyrics of the French Renaissance.* Translated and edited by Norman R. Shapiro. Introduction by Hope Glidden. Notes by Hope Glidden and Norman R. Shapiro. The University of Chicago Press, Chicago, IL. 2006. 410 pp. Paper \$17.00. ISBN 0-226-75052-3.

English versions of poems by three Western poets: Clément Marot (1496–1544), Joachim Du Bellay (1525–1560), and Pierre de Ronsard (1524–1585). The translator Shapiro mimics the sixteenth-century French letters and rhymed and metered verse typical of the original 150+ French poems while adhering to their messages.

THEORY OF TRANSLATION

Bassnett, Susan and Peter Bush. *The Translator as Writer*. Continuum. New York, NY. 2006. 240 pp. Cloth \$110.00. ISBN 0-8264-8575-8.

This book is bridging the divide between those who study translation and those who produce translations. Through essays written by well-known translators talking about their own work as creative literary practice, this book aims at giving voice to silent translators and in so doing to move the attention back to the act of translating.

Caws, Mary Ann. *Surprised in Translation*. The University of Chicago Press. Chicago, IL. 2006. 128 pp. Cloth \$25.00. ISBN 0-226-09873-7.

Surprised in Translation is a celebration of the occasional and fruitful peculiarity that results from some of the most flavorful translations of well-known authors. These translations, Caws avers, can energize and enliven the voice of the original.

Munday, Jeremy. *Introducing Translation Studies. Theories and Applications*. Routledge. London, UK. 2002. 222 pp. Paper \$33.95. ISBN 0-415-22927-8.

The main aim of this book is to introduce the reader to major concepts and various models of translation studies.

Perteghella, Manuela and Eugenia Loffredo. *Translation and Creativity: Perspectives on Creative Writing and Translation Studies*. Continuum. New York, NY.. 2006. 208 pp. Cloth \$110.00. ISBN 0-8264-8793-9.

Translation and Creativity discusses the links between translation and creative writing from linguistic, cultural, and critical perspectives, through eleven chapters by established academics and practitioners. The relationship between translation and creative writing is brought into focus by theoretical, pedagogical, and practical applications, complemented by language-based illustrative examples. Innovative research and practice areas covered include ideas of self-translation and the “spaces” of reading, mental “black boxes,” and cognition, and the book introduces new concepts of transgeneric translation, pop translation, and orthographical translation.

Translation — Theory and Practice: A Historical Reader. Edited by Daniel Weissbort and Astradur Eysteinnsson. Oxford University Press. 2006. 649 pp. Cloth \$125.00. ISBN 0-19-871199-9.

Translation — Theory and Practice: A Historical Reader responds to the need for a collection of primary texts on translation, in the English tradition, from the earliest times to the present day. Based on an exhaustive survey of the wealth of available materials, the Reader demonstrates throughout the link between theory and practice, with excerpts not only of significant theoretical writings but of actual translations, as well as excerpts on translation from letters, interviews, autobiographies, and fiction.

Susam-Sarajeva, Sebnem. *Theories on the Move. Translation's Role in the Travels of Literary Theories. Vol. 27, Approaches to Translation Studies*. Edited by Henri Bloemen, Dirk Delabastita, and Ton Naaijken. Rodopi. Amsterdam, NL. 2006. 241 pp. Paper \$65.00. ISBN 90-420-2059-8.

This book addresses gaps in translation studies and in literary studies, such as the translation of theories, for the first time by examining two specific cases in which translation strategies and patterns crucially influenced the reception of imported schools of thought. By examining the importation of structuralism and semiotics into Turkish and of French feminism into English, it invites the readers to think about the impact of translation on the transmission of ideas across linguistic-cultural borders and power differentials. It is, therefore, of particular interest to scholars working in translation studies, in literary and cultural theory, and in gender studies.

JOURNALS

DANISH

Klitgård, Ida, ed. *Angles on the English-Speaking World. Literary Translation-Angles Vol. 6*. Museum Tusulanum Press. University of Copenhagen. Copenhagen, DK 2006. 152 pp. Paper \$25.00. ISBN 87-635-0493-6.

This volume of *Angles on the English-Speaking World* discusses the intriguing inter-relatedness between the concepts and phenomena of world literature and translation. This publication is published once a year by the Institute of English, Germanic, and Romance Studies at the University of Copenhagen. Issues are thematic and contain a balance of articles from local and international contributors. *Angles* is intended as a lively forum for a broad range of literary, linguistic, cultural, and historical studies from various theoretical standpoints. The editor, Ms. Klitgård, works in the Department of English, Germanic, and Romance Studies of *Angles* in Copenhagen.

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