

## About Authors

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AIGI HEERO is Associate Professor at the Department of German Philology of Tallinn University. She defended her PhD in 2001 at the University of Freiburg (Germany). Her research interests include 17<sup>th</sup>-century German literature, German-language literature in Tallinn in the 17<sup>th</sup> century, literary Expressionism, contemporary German literature and relations between the arts (literature, music and painting). She holds the grant No 9026 from the ETF on “Cultural Contacts and Their Reflection in the (Auto)biographical Texts from the Early Modern Period” (2012–2015).

BENEDIKTS KALNAČS is Deputy Director of the Institute of Literature, Folklore, and Art at the University of Latvia, Riga, and Professor at the University of Liepāja. He is co-editor of *300 Baltic Writers: Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania* (Vilnius, 2009), *Back to Baltic Memory: Lost and Found in Literature 1940–1968* (Riga, 2008), *We Have Something in Common: The Baltic Memory* (Tallinn 2007), *Ibsen in Poland and the Baltic Nations* (Oslo, 2006), and editor and author of several books in Latvian, most recent among them *Postkoloniālā Baltijas drāma* (Riga 2011).

ANNELI KÖVAMEES took her PhD in literary studies with a thesis about Italy in Estonian travelogues (*Itaalia eesti reisikirjades: Karl Ristikivi „Itaalia capriccio“ ja Aimée Beekmani „Plastmassist südamega madonna“*, 2008, Tallinn University). She works at the Tallinn University (lecturer at the Institute of Estonian Language and Culture). Her main research interests are Estonian literature, Estonian travel literature (travelogues), imagological literary research, national images and stereotypes in literature.

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SCARLET PUI WAH LEE is an experienced EFL teacher, Italian-Chinese translator and English writer. Her research areas vary from fairy tales (especially in Chinese, English and Italian), psychoanalytic theories, discourse analysis, creative writing to translation studies.

DOROTA MICHUŁKA, PhD, philologist and historian, is an assistant professor at the Institute of Methodology of Teaching Language and Literature at the University of Wrocław. She studies problems related to the children's literature, culture and education. She was a lecturer at the Department of Slavonic Philology at the University of Tampere (Finland) from 2000 to 2005. She has written over 85 articles, published in Poland and abroad; two monographs: one book on reception of Polish Romantic Literature in education and *Ad usum Delphini. O szkolnej edukacji literackiej – dawniej i dziś* (Wrocław 2013), edited 5 books on children's literature, canons, adaptation and Polish culture in comparative perspective (two of them were published in Finland with Marja Leinonen).

ANNELI MIHKELEV took her PhD degree in Semiotics and Cultural Studies at the University of Tartu with the monograph *Vihjamise poeetika* in 2005. She works as an Associate Professor of Comparative Literature and a Senior Researcher in Tallinn University. Her fields of research include Estonian literature, allusions in literature and culture, and comparative literature (mainly Baltic literatures). She has published articles on these topics in international and Estonian publications. She is also an editor of the reference guide to authors and their works *300 Baltic Writers: Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania* (Vilnius 2009), and the collections of articles *We Have Something in Common: the Baltic Memory* (Tallinn 2007) and *Turns in the Centuries, Turns in Literature* (Tallinn 2009).

JĀNIS OZOLIŅŠ is a doctoral student and lecturer at the University of Latvia, Faculty of Humanities, and a researcher at the Institute of Folklore, Literature and Art, University of Latvia. He received a BA and an MA from the Latvian Academy of Culture. He is the editor-in-chief of literary magazine *Latvju Teksti*. He has published several book reviews and a translation of *Le plaisir du texte* by Roland Barthes (with Indriķis Sīpols, 2012) and *Les Genres du discours* by Tzvetan Todorov (with Indriķis Sīpols, forthcoming in 2014). Research interests: theories of narratology, Latvian contemporary fiction.

SANTIAGO PÉREZ ISASI, PhD in Spanish Philology by the Universidad de Deusto (2009), currently works at the Centro de Estudios Comparatistas,

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LAURI PILTER is senior research fellow at the Department of Comparative Literature of the University of Tartu where he has been working since 2007. He mostly lectures on 20<sup>th</sup> century world literature. To his major fields of research belong the projections and reception of Estonian literature, especially Estonian poetry, worldwide; reinterpretations of modernist literature; and the literary legacy of the Middle Ages and Renaissance. His PhD monograph (2009) focuses on the comic and the tragicomic in the works of William Faulkner. He has translated literature from various languages (most recently Boccaccio), edited translations and published poetical fiction (*Lohejas pilv*, 2004; *Retk Rahemäkke*, 2010; *Uncle Endel's Grendel, and Other Stories*, 2011; *Aerudeta köisraudteel*, 2012; *Vilekoor ja teisi jutte*, 2014). He is a member of the Estonian Association of Comparative Literature and of the Estonian Writers' Union.

MARIS SAAGPAKK received her PhD in Baltic-German literature from Tallinn University in 2007. She is currently Associate Professor of German literature and cultural studies at the Institute of Germanic and Romance Languages and Cultures of Tallinn University. Her main academic fields are the history of Baltic-German literature, life writing, cultural transfer, sociolinguistics and postcolonial studies. The most recent publications concern the patterns of colonialism established by the Baltic-Germans in Estonia, Baltic-German autobiographic texts from 17<sup>th</sup> century and autobiographies of Baltic-German women.

DOROTHEA SCHOLL is Assistant Professor at the department of Romance languages and literatures at the University of Kiel. Her fields in research include Franco-Canadian Literature, Renaissance and Baroque literature, romanticism, symbolism and avant-garde, with special regard to the interrelation of arts and literatures and of ethics and aesthetics. She has published about 50 articles

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MARIS SÖRMUS is a Cultural Studies PhD candidate at Tallinn University, Estonia. Her dissertation focuses on the aspect of nature and place in contemporary British and Estonian literature (Anita Desai, Monique Roffey, and Andrus Kivirähk). She proposes alternative ways for transcending anthropocentrism via concepts of nonhuman voice, agency, and “natureculture”, referring to material ecocriticism. Her research interests include ecocriticism, contemporary British and Swedish literature, cultural studies, and comparative literature. She has published ecocritical articles, conference papers and has won recognition at student contests. She is a member of Association for the Study of Literature and Environment (ASLE) and Estonian Association of Comparative Literature

JÜRI TALVET is since 1992 Chair Professor of Comparative Literature at the University of Tartu. He took his PhD on the Spanish picaresque novel at Leningrad University in 1981. He has published in Estonian collections of essays *Hispaania vaim* (1995), *Tõrjumatu äär* (2005), cultural-philosophic reflections *Sümbiootiline kultuur* (English title *A Call for Cultural Symbiosis*, 2005), books of (travel) essays *Teekond Hispaaniasse* (1985, Estonia's annual literary prize in essay genre), *Hispaaniast Ameerikasse* (1992), *Ameerika märkmed ehk Kaemusi Eestist* (2000) and nine books of poetry. His books of poetry and essays have been translated into English, Spanish, French, Catalan, Romanian and Italian. In 1997 he was awarded the Juhan Liiv Prize of Poetry and in 2002 the Ivar Ivask Memorial Prize for poetry and essays. He has translated into Estonian both classical and modern works (Quevedo, Gracián, Calderón, Tirso de Molina, Espriu, Aleixandre, García Márquez, etc.) and has edited a major anthology of US poetry in Estonian translation (2008). He is the editor and principal author of a manual of world literature for Estonian high schools and universities (*Maailmakirjandus*, I-II, Tallinn 1995–1999). In 2012 his monograph on Juhan Liiv's poetry (*Juhan Liivi luule*) was published. He has chaired the Estonian Association of Comparative Literature (1994–2010) and has also served as member of the ICLA Executive Committee (2000–2007).

MARI TARVAS has been Chair of German Philology at the Tallinn University since 2004. She is graduate of the University of Tartu and wrote her PhD dissertation *Ivar Ivask als Vermittler zwischen den Kulturen am Beispiel seiner Auseinandersetzung mit der österreichischen Literatur* at the University of Vienna 1997. She has published articles on autobiographical genre, Ivask, Rilke, Keyserling, Austrian literature as well as on literature of the early modern times. She has also translated several philosophical and scientific texts into Estonian.

ANNA WING BO TSO, PhD, is a lecturer in English Language and Applied Linguistics. She teaches postgraduate and undergraduate courses at the Open University of Hong Kong. Her research focuses on children's fantasy, gender studies, language arts and translation studies. Her articles have appeared in refereed journals, including *Cross-cultural Studies*, *Crossroads: A Journal of English Studies*, *The International Journal of Early Childhood*, *Libri & Liberi: Journal of Research on Children's Literature and Culture*, and *SPECTRUM: NCUE Studies in Language, Literature, Translation and Interpretation*.

ASTA VAŠKELIENĖ, PhD, is a post-doctoral researcher at the Lithuanian Institute of History and also works at the Department of Early Literature of the Institute of Lithuanian Literature and Folklore. From 1995 to 2013 she worked as a teacher of ancient literature and Latin language in the Lithuanian University of Educational Sciences. The field of her scientific interests covers the 18<sup>th</sup>-century Latin occasional literature of Lithuania, its historical, cultural and social context. She has published 17 articles on her research subject in Lithuanian and foreign scientific periodicals, has also published the following translations from Latin: *Cracovia Lithuanorum Saeculis XIV–XVI* (1999); *Dictys Cretensis, De Bello Troiano, Dares Phrygius, De Excidio Troiae* (with co-translators Veronika Gerliakienė and Tomas Veteikis, 2008).

KĀRLIS VĒRDINĀŠ, PhD, is a researcher at the Institute of Folklore, Literature and Art, University of Latvia. He has published the monographs *The Social and Political Dimensions of the Latvian Prose Poem* (2010) and *Bastarda forma (The Bastard Form: The History of Latvian Prose Poems*, 2011). He is co-editor of collective monographs *Mūsdienīu literatūras teorijas* (with Ieva E. Kalniņa, 2013) and *Dzimtes konstruēšana* (with Deniss Hanovs and Ilze Jansone, 2013). Research interests: queer studies, Latvian modern literature. He has also published poetry and translations.

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INDRĖ ŽAKEVIČIENĖ, PhD, is Associate Professor at the Department of Lithuanian Literature at Vytautas Magnus University. She has published a monograph on poetry of Lithuanian emigrant poet Vladas Šlaitas (*Vlado Šlaito poezijos paralelės*, Kaunas 2002) and another on Ecocriticism and Lithuanian literature together with two colleagues Irena Ragaišienė and Vijolė Višomirskytė (*Ekokritikos akivarai*, Kaunas 2007), as well as a number of articles. Her research interests include comparative literature and its interdisciplinary aspects, ecocriticism, ecopsychology, cognitive poetics.