

## *About Authors*

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WITHOLD BONNER is Senior Lecturer for literature and culture of the German speaking countries at the University of Tampere (Finland). His areas of specialization include GDR literature, autobiographical writing, memory as well as transcultural literature and film. From 2004 to 2008 he participated in the NordForsk project *Autobiographical Writing in Contemporary German Literature*. Currently he is partner of the project *Finnish-German literary and cultural contacts*, run by the University of Vaasa (Finland) and is member of the project *Water as Cultural Space: Changing Values and Representations*, funded by the Finnish Academy of Sciences. In 2001 he defended his doctoral thesis on *Der Vogel mit dem bunteren Gefieder. Redevielfalt als Maskerade in der Prosa Brigitte Reimanns*. Together with Arja Rosenholm he is co-editor of the conference proceedings *Recalling the Past – (Re)constructing the Past. Collective and Individual Memory of World War II in Russia and Germany* (2008) and together with Ewald Reuter co-editor of the conference proceedings of the triennial conference of Finnish scholars of German philology *Umbrüche in der Germanistik* (2011).

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JAVIER GÓMEZ-MONTERO is the Professor of Literature and Romance Studies and director of the Department of Romance Languages and Literature at Kiel University (CAU), Germany, and director of the Centre for the Study of Spanish Renaissance in its European context as well (CERES: [www.uni-kiel.de/ceres](http://www.uni-kiel.de/ceres)). Since October 2007, he is also in charge of the Centre for Galician Studies (CEG: [www.uni-kiel.de/ceg](http://www.uni-kiel.de/ceg)). He directs the Literary Translation Workshop (TTL) at Kiel University and edits a publication series at Verlag Ludwig. He has published several studies on cultural anthropology, and he works on The Way of St. James, as well as on anthologies of literary texts about it. From 2010 until 2012 he coordinated the Intensive Programme (IP) URBES EUROPAEAE ([www.uni-kiel.de/urbes.europaeae](http://www.uni-kiel.de/urbes.europaeae)), as well as the activities related to the projects “Cultures and Languages on the Route of Santiago de Compostela” ([www.camino-eu.com/](http://www.camino-eu.com/)) and “University and School towards a European Literary Canon” ([www.uni-kiel.de/elica](http://www.uni-kiel.de/elica)) in Germany, both supported by the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA) of the European Union. Prof. Gómez-Montero’s research focuses on modern and contemporary poetry, Renaissance fiction, as well as Cervantes’ works.

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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).

KATRIN KANGUR is a post-graduate student of Comparative Literature at Tartu University, Institute of Culture Studies and Arts. She graduated in 2006 with a bachelor degree in the Danish language and literature and continued with MA studies in comparative literature. Her background and interests thus lie in both comparative literature and Scandinavian studies, recently especially in non-fictional aspects of literature and film.

ANNELI KÕVAMEES 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, researcher at the Institute of Slavonic Languages and Cultures). Her main research interests are Estonian literature, Estonian travel literature (travelogues), imagological literary research, national images and stereotypes in literature.

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ARNE MERILAI is Professor and Chair of Estonian Literature (2011) of the University of Tartu, former associate professor of literary theory. At present, his primary area of research is national literature in the context of world literature informed by a comparative poetics and “unified field theory” for literary studies. Primarily, his researches are anchored in bio-bibliographical and comparative historical traditions, formal poetic analysis, linguistic and close-reading criticism, literary psychoanalysis and phenomenology. In addition, he has developed an innovative approach called “pragmapoetics”, a philosophy of poetic language usage rooted in analytical philosophy. His book *Eesti ballaad 1900–1940* was published in 1991, and *Eesti pagulaskirjandus 1944–1992: Luule* (with Õnne Kepp) in 1994. *Eesti ballaad: Antoloogia: XVII–XX sajand, Poetika: Gümnaasiumiõpik* (with Anneli Saro and Epp Annus), and *Pragmapoetika: Kahe konteksti teooria* were released in 2003. Besides editing the joint research books, he has published two volumes of his own selected articles, *Vokimeister: Kriitilisi konstruktsioone 1990–2011* (2011), and *Õnne tähendus: Kriitilisi emotsioone 1990–2010* (2011). A member of the Estonian Writers’ Union, he penned two collections of poetry, *Merlini aare* (1998) and *Tolmutort* (2001), a play (2006), and a novel *Türann Oidipus* (2009). With about 250 publications to his credit, professor Merilai ranks among the most prolific leading scholars in Estonia.

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OLAVI TEPPAN is currently a PhD student at the Department of Comparative Literature at Tartu University where he earned a BA degree in history in 1999. He has since worked as a translator and publisher. His translations into Estonian include American and British prose such as *Cat's Cradle* by Kurt Vonnegut, *Manhattan Transfer* by John Dos Passos, *Trainspotting* by Irvine Welsh, *Naked Lunch* by William Burroughs, *Crash* by J. G. Ballard, etc. As a publisher, he has started the fiction series Ajavaim which is dedicated to influential works of world literature previously not translated into Estonian.

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