

About Authors

EVE ANNUK received her PhD in the field of Estonian literature from the University of Tartu in 2006. She currently works as a senior researcher at the Estonian Cultural History Archives in the Estonian Literary Museum. She is also the editor-in-chief of the Estonian gender studies journal *Ariadne Lõng* (Ariadne's Clew). She has published numerous articles on literary criticism and research. Her main areas of research are the history of Estonian literature, the cultural history of the Soviet period, autobiography studies and women's studies. Her current work focusses on the life and writings of two Estonian women writers – Lilli Suburg (1841–1923) and Ilmi Kolla (1933–1954).

BORIS BALJASNY is Lecturer of Translation Studies at Tallinn University. In 2005 he obtained his PhD with a thesis "Semiotic Aspects of Translation and Applied Translation Studies" at Tartu University. He has translated into Russian Estonian fiction and poetry, including the work of M. Under, B. Alver, K. Ristikivi, K. Lepik, M. Traat, A. Suuman, E. Niit, H. Kõo, H. Mänd, L. Tungal et al.

DAVID BANDELJ received a PhD in Comparative Literature and Literary Theory from the University of Ljubljana (Faculty of Arts). At present he teaches at the University of Nova Gorica (School of Humanities). His research interests lie in diary and autobiographical literature, minority literature and Slovene literature in intercultural positions. He published two volumes of poetry, a collection of essays *Razbiranja žarišča* (Discerning the Focus), and edited the first comprehensive anthology of Slovene contemporary poetry in Italy *Rod lepe Vide* (The Kinship of the Fair Vida). He is also a musician.

ANDREI BODIU is Romanian writer and literary historian. He is chairing professor and dean of the Faculty of Languages and Litera-

tures at Transylvania University of Brasov. He has published books of poetry, prose, literary criticism and history of Romanian literature. His main works are: *Pauza de respiratie* ('Breathing Pause'; with Simona Popescu, Caius Dobrescu and Marius Oprea, 1991), *Cursa de 24 de ore* ('The 24 Hours' Race', 1994), *Poezii patriotice* ('Patriotic Poems', 1995), *Studii pe viata si pe moarte* ('Studies on Life-Tired People', 2008; poetry), *Bulevardul eroilor* ('Hero's Boulevard', 2004; novel), *Directia optzeci in poezia romana* ('The Direction of the 80s in Romanian Poetry', 2000), *Sapte teme ale romanului postpasoptist* ('Seven Themes of the Romanian Post 1848 Novel', 2002; history of literature). Samples of his poetry have appeared in translation in English, German, French, Russian, Polish, Portuguese, Slovenian, Czech, Hungarian, Latvian. He has received several national awards for his poetry and for his critical works.

MAIJA BURIMA is PhD, Chairing Professor of the Institute of Comparative Studies, head of the department of Latvian Literature and Culture at the Faculty of Humanities of Daugavpils University. Her research interests are related to comparative cultural studies, in particular, to Latvian and Nordic literary contacts in the late 19th – early 20th centuries and studies of Modernism. Monographs: *Ibsens Latvijā* (Ibsen in Latvia, 2007) and *Modernisma koncepti 20. gadsimta sākuma latviešu literatūrā* (Concepts of Modernism in Latvian literature of the early 20th century, 2010).

ARTURO CASAS is Professor of Literary Theory and Comparative Literature at the University of Santiago de Compostela (Galicia, Spain). His field of research includes Galician and Spanish literatures, essayistic practices, contemporary poetry, systemic and comparative approaches to literature and culture, and methodology of Literary History. Among his recent publications are *Antoloxía consultada da poesía galega* (2003), *Elementos de Crítica literaria* (ed. 2005), *DiTerLi. Base de datos do Dicionario de termos literarios* (dir. Equipo Glifo, 2006), and *Antoloxía poética* de Uxío Novoneyra (2010). He is a founder member of the Poetics of Resistance network and he coordinates the Centre for Research on Emergent Cultural Processes and Practices (CIPPCE) and the Alea Group for

Poetic Analysis (both at USC). With Jüri Talvet, he is co-editor of *Vello ceo nõrdico* (2002), an anthology of contemporary Estonian poetry.

CAROLINE DE WAGTER is a Visiting Scholar in Theatre and Drama at Stanford University. As a Research Fellow with the Belgian National Funds for Scientific Research, she obtained her PhD degree in Modern Languages and Literatures under Prof. Marc Maufort's supervision from the Université Libre de Bruxelles. She was also a recipient of the Belgian American Educational Foundation fellowship, which enabled her to pursue studies at Stanford University where she received an MA in Drama under Prof. Harry Elam. Her doctoral research is forthcoming in the Cross/Cultures Series of Rodopi in a book entitled: *"Mouths on fire with songs:" Negotiating Multi-ethnic Identities on the Contemporary North American Stage*. In August 2009, she co-organised the annual conference of the International Comparative Literature Association (ICLA): "Old Margins and New Centers: The Legacy of European Literatures in a Globalized Age."

MARIJAN DOVIĆ, a research fellow at the Institute of the Slovenian Literature and Literary Studies SRC SASA, Ljubljana, and assistant professor at the University of Nova Gorica, has been dealing mainly with the literary canon, the contemporary systems theory of literature, the historical avant-garde and the problems of authorship. He has published numerous articles in Slovenian and English and two monographs: *Sistemske in empirične obravnave literature* (Systemic and Empirical Approaches to Literature, 2004), *Slovenski pisatelj: razvoj vloge literarnega proizvajalca v slovenskem literarnem sistemu* (The Slovene Writer: Development of the Literary Producer in the Slovene Literary System, 2007). As a member of IGEL, EAM and ICLA and a vice-president of the Slovene Comparative Literature Association (SiCLA), he has organized several scholarly gatherings, including a conference on Slovene historical avant-garde and CL colloquiums on literature and censorship and on literature and literary mediation. He has also edited several scholarly anthologies (on Anton Podbevšek, Janez Trdina,

and Literature and Censorship). In 2008 he was awarded the Trdina prize by the municipality of Novo mesto, and in 2009 he won the Silver sign of SRC SASA for his research achievements.

GERALD E. GILLESPIE is Professor Emeritus of German Studies and Comparative Literature at Stanford Univ. (1974–), after prior service at the Univ. of Southern California (1961–64) and SUNY Binghamton (1965–74). He has been a research fellow at the Univ. of Pittsburgh, the Univ. of Paris, and Cambridge Univ., and a guest professor at the Univ. of Pennsylvania, New York Univ., the Univ. of Minnesota, Peking Univ., the Univ. of East Anglia, and the Univ. of Munich. Corresponding Member of the Berliner Wissenschaftliche Gesellschaft and Honorary Professor of International Studies at Liaoning Univ. (China). Selected publications: *Evolution of the European Novel* (1987, in Chinese), *Garden and Labyrinth of Time: Studies in Renaissance and Baroque Literature* (1988); *By Way of Comparison: Reflections on the Theory and Practice of Comparative Literature* (2003); *Proust, Mann, Joyce in the Modernist Context* (2003); as editor, *Comparative Literature, World Literature* (1990), *German Theater before 1750* (1992), *Romantic Drama* (1994), *Visions in History* (1995); as co-editor, *Powers of Narration* (1995), *Narrative Ironies* (1997), *Mallarmé in the Twentieth Century* (1998). Earlier books concerning German Baroque and Romantic literature, and the Spanish dramatist Valle-Inclán. Numerous articles on European and New World Romanticism and Modernism, narrative, textual theory and criticism, and the global development of comparative literary studies. Has held Fulbright, Max Kade, American Philosophical Society, Mellon, Guggenheim, and NEH Senior fellowships, and other awards. Current editorial and editorial(-advisory) board posts include: *Int. Archiv f. Sozialgeschichte der deutschen Literatur*, *Comparative Literature*, *Recherche Littéraire*, *German Life and Letters*, *Utrecht Publications in Comparative Literature*, *Synthesis*, *Literary Imagination*, *KulturPoetik*. Has served as General Secretary (1979–85), Vice-President (1985–88), and President (1994–97) of the International Comparative Literature Association; Chair, ICLA Commission on Structures (1986–91) and Research (1991–94, 1998–2000); Council member, Association of

Literary Scholars and Critics (1998–2001). He was lead editor in the international project *Romantic Prose Fiction*.

CORNELIUS HASSELBLATT is since 1998 Chair of Finno-Ugric Languages and cultures at the University of Groningen (Netherlands) and specialized in Estonian language and literature. MA in Estonian literature (1986), PhD in Estonian linguistics (1990, University of Hamburg). His publications include several monographs and numerous articles on Estonian literature, the most recent being a *Geschichte der estnischen Literatur* (Berlin, 2006). His present research is concentrated on the reception of Estonian literature abroad and Estonian literary history generally.

AIGI HEERO is Lecturer at the Department of German language of the Tallinn Pedagogical University. She defended her PhD in 2001 at the University of Freiburg (Germany). Her research interests include German literature of 19th century, literary expressionism, contemporary German literature and relations between arts (literature, music and painting).

H. L. HIX is Professor of English at the University of Wyoming (USA). He earned his PhD in philosophy from the University of Texas in 1987. He has published books of philosophy including *Spirits Hovering over the Ashes: Legacies of Postmodern Theory*, and books of practical criticism including *Understanding W. S. Merwin*, in addition to poetry, most recently *Chromatic*, a finalist for the National Book Award, and *God Bless*, a collection of poems collaged from the speeches of George W. Bush. He has collaborated with Jüri Talvet to translate Estonian poetry into English, including *The Mind Would Bear No Better*, a selection of the poetry of Juhan Liiv.

RODICA ILIE is Senior Lecturer, PhD, Head of Romanian Language Department, The Faculty of Letters, Transylvania University of Brasov, Romania. Areas of competence: Literary Theory, Comparative Literature, Theory and Poetics of Avant-Garde. She has published the following books: *Manifestul literar. Poetici ale*

avangardei în spațiul cultural romanic, [Literary Manifesto. Poetics of Avant-Garde in the Romance Literary Space], Editura Universității Transilvania, Brașov, 2008; *Teoria literaturii: o practică a conceptelor teoriei literaturii, [Literary Theory: a Practice of Literary Concepts]* Editura Universității Transilvania, Brașov, 2008; *Poetica manifestului literar. Aspecte ale avangardei române, [Poetics of Literary Manifesto. Aspects of Romanian Avant-Garde]*, Editura Universității Transilvania, Brașov, 2007; *Elemente de teoria literaturii, [Elements of Literary Theory]* Editura Universității Transilvania, Brașov, 2005; *Emil Brumar* (monography), Aula Publishing House, Brașov, 2004.

DRAGOS JIPA is a doctoral student at the *Ecole des hautes études en sciences sociales* and at the University of Bucharest, where he is also assistant lecturer. His research interests include the canon formation in French literary history, history of the book and cultural history. He also translated into Romanian various French authors, among which Roger Chartier.

BENEDIKTS KALNAČS is Full Member of the Latvian Academy of Sciences; Dr. habil. philol.; Director of the Institute of Literature, Folklore and Art of the University of Latvia, Rīga; Professor of Comparative Literature of the University of Liepāja. His main academic fields are comparative literary studies and history of Latvian literature. He has published several monographs on the history of Latvian drama and comparative literature, and edited *Ibsen Reception in Poland and the Baltic Nations* (with Knut Brynhildsvoll, Lech Sokół; Oslo: Centre for Ibsen Studies, University of Oslo, 2006), *We Have Something in Common: The Baltic Memory* (with Anneli Mihkelev; Tallinn: The Under and Tuglas Literature Centre of the Estonian Academy of Sciences, 2007). He is the main editor of the series *Salīdzināmā literatūra. Baltijas literatūra (Comparative Literature. Baltic Literature)* published by the Institute of Literature, Folklore and Art of the University of Latvia.

MARISA KËRBIZI is Professor of Albanian Language History at Aleksander Moisiu State University, Albania. Her main research

subject has been Modern Literature in which she has accomplished her MA. She collaborates with a number of literary magazines. She also holds the CEO position at Mankind Tracks “MA3X” CTR. – an organization dedicated to advancing understanding, culture and education directly among people throughout the country and abroad.

MARIN LAAK received her PhD in Estonian literature from the University of Tartu in 2006. She is a senior researcher at the Estonian Literary Museum, Cultural History Archives and the leader of the web projects on Estonian cultural history. Her current research focuses on the representation models of literary and cultural history in the context of the global processes of computing culture. She took part in an international EU 5th FP research project CULTOS, focusing on the representation intertextual relations of Estonian national epic *Kalevipoeg* in the era of new media. She has published extensively on issues of Estonian literary history and has edited the collections of articles, e.g. *Noor-Eesti kümme aastat: esteetika ja tähendus* (Ten years of Young Estonia: Esthetics and meaning, 2008)

ANNE LANGE has graduated from Tartu University in 1985, and is currently Associate Professor of Translation Studies at Tallinn University. Working years as a free lance translator (translating J. Bunyan, H. James, K. Mansfield, T. S. Eliot, A. Nin, H. Miller, B. Okri, A. Roy, V. Seth, I. McEwan et al), she defended her PhD in 2007 at Tallinn University with her thesis on the poetics of translation of Ants Oras. She is also the author of the biography of Ants Oras (2005) and has published articles in *Keel ja Kirjandus*, *Vikerkaar*, *Looming*, *Akadeemia*.

TANEL LEPSOO works as Lecturer of French literature in the Department of Romance Languages and Literatures at the University of Tartu. He defended his PhD in 2006 on the French contemporary theatre. His research interests include the questions of representativeness and the figure of author, especially the contemporary ways which are trying to surpass the opposition between dramatic and post-dramatic theatre. He has translated Milan Kundera, Bernard-Marie Koltès, Roland Barthes, Jean-Paul Sartre, Albert Camus et al.

He is also Director of a book-collection “Le Souffleur” which is focused on publishing latest French playwrights into Estonian.

MIRIAM McILFATRICK-KSENOFONTOV was born in Northern Ireland and is a lecturer of Irish Literature and Textual Analysis at the Institute of Germanic and Romance Languages and Cultures of Tallinn University. She is currently pursuing doctoral studies in Translation Studies, specializing in the poetics of translation and creative approaches to translating poetry. She translates contemporary Estonian poetry for readings and publication and has collaborated on the translation of Irish women poets into Estonian (*Rogha Danta – seitse iiri luuletari*. Tallinn: verb, 2005).

VANESA MATAJC, PhD, is Assistant Professor at the Department of Comparative Literature and Literary Theory (Faculty of Arts, University of Ljubljana). Her recent publications include a monograph [*Reflections*] *Osvetljave* on the contemporary Slovene novel (2000) and articles “The Interaction between literature and theory from Romanticism to the fin de siècle = Interakcija literature in teorije od romantike do moderne” (*Primerjalna književnost / Comparative Literature*. Special Issue. 29/2006); “History and its literary genres = Zgodovina in njeni literarni žanri” (*Primerjalna književnost / Comparative Literature*. Special Issue. 30/2007).

ALEXANDRU MATEI is PhD in French contemporary literature, with a thesis on Jean Echenoz’s works (Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales Paris and University of Bucharest). He works as French literature lecturer at “Spiru Haret” University in Bucharest. He has published a book on French contemporary literature: *Ultimele zile ale Literaturii. Enorm si insignifiant in literatura franceza contemporana* [The Last Days from the Life of Literature. Enormous and Insignificant in French Contemporary Literature], Bucharest, Cartea Romaneasca, 2008 (National Prize of the General and Comparative Literature Romanian Association 2009). “Despre agonie unui stil” [“On the Agony of a Style”], in Sorin Adam Matei, Mona Momescu (coord.), *Idolii forului* [The Forum’s Idols], Bucharest, Corint, 2010, as well as studies in Romanian and French (on

www.fabula.org) on literary history and theory, on Jean Echenoz and on Romanian intellectual establishment. He is member of General and Comparative Literature Romanian Association, and of "Heterotopos" (Center of Literary Studies on picaresque literature and narratives).

AVE MATTHEUS is lecturer of comparative literature at the Institut of Estonian Language and Culture, Tallinn University. She has studied German language and literature, comparative literature and psychology at the University of Munich, Germany and is currently completing her PhD on the genesis of Estonian children's literature. Her main research interests are literary relationships between Estonian and German culture, literature for children and youth, translation theory, 20th century German literature, gender studies. She has published a number of critical articles and reviews in Estonian and German Journals and article collections.

ARNE MELBERG teaches Comparative Literature at the University of Oslo since 1987. His publications include 7 scholarly works, one published in Swedish (1992), Polish (2002) and English (1995) as *Theories of Mimesis*. He has written monographs on Hölderlin (1996), Rilke (1998), Montaigne (2000), Nietzsche (2001), on *travel writing* (2005) and *life writing* (2007). In 2008 he published *Aesthetics of Prose*.

DOROTA MICHUŁKA, PhD, graduated from both the Department of Polish Philology and the Department of History at the University of Wrocław. She is Assistant Professor at the Department of Polish Philology at the Wrocław University. Since 1986 she has been working at the Institute of Methodology of Teaching Language and Literature, since 1995 also as a lecturer in the School of the Polish Language and Culture for Foreigners. As a researcher she deals with problems related to the theory of reception of literature, Polish Romantic literature, children's literature and education. She has written around 40 articles, published one monograph - book *Od ojcowizny do ojczyzny. O recepcji romantyzmu w polskich szkołach w Galicji okresu autonomii (1867–1914)* (*From Homeland to Father-*

land. *On Reception of Polish Romantic Literature in Education of Autonomos Galicia (1867–1914)* – 2003, edited 4 books – two with Marja Leiononen – *Poland. On Politics, Culture, Literature and Education* (Tampere 2003) and *Borderlands. What does it mean for Poland and Finland?*, Tampere 2004, *Przeboje edukacji polonistycznej (Reading in Polish Education)*, Wrocław 2001 and one with K. Bakula – *Metodyka a nauka o literaturze i nauka o języku (Methodology and Literary Studies and Linguistic Studies)*, Wrocław 2005. During 2000–2005 she was working as lecturer at the Department of Slavonic Philology at University in Tampere (Finland).

ANNELI MIHKELEV took her PhD degree in Semiotics and Cultural Studies at the University of Tartu with the monograph *The Poetics of Allusion* in 2005. She works as a Senior Researcher in Under and Tuglas Literature Centre of the Estonian Academy of Sciences and as Associate Professor of Comparative Literature 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 themes in several international and Estonian publications.

TETIANA NARCHYNSKA took her MA degree in History of Ukrainian Literature in 2006 and is now preparing her PhD thesis on semiotics of silence in contemporary Ukrainian poetry at the Department for Literature and Foreign Languages at the National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy/ NaUKMA (Kyiv, Ukraine), teaching there also a course “Ukrainian as Foreign Language” as a Research Fellow. Her fields of research include modernism and post-modernism; psychosemantics and language; philosophy and literature. She has published articles on these themes in Ukrainian publications, in addition to collection of poems, *Malyuyu kartynu/ Drowning a Picture* (2002), winner of the National Union of Writers of Ukraine’s Literary Award named after V. Symonenko (2004). She is a Guest Researcher at the Department of Art and Culture Studies, Faculty of Humanities at the University of Jyväskylä (Finland; December, 2008); and Scholar of Mobility Grant, funded by Ministry

of Foreign Affairs of Estonia, for research visit to the University of Tartu (Estonia; September, 2009).

AUDINGA PELURITYTĖ-TIKUIŠIENĖ (PhD), Docent at the Department of Lithuanian Literature, Vilnius University. Her interests are: classical and modern poetry (from Maironis to Martinaitis and Marčėnas), contemporary Lithuanian literature (modern and postmodern prose, poetry, essay), feminist researches in Lithuanian literature, theoretical researches. Read Lithuanian and East and Middle Literature of Europe at Vilnius University (BA in 1995, MA in 1996). Wrote her doctoral thesis, entitled 'Lietuvių lyrikos tradicija: struktūrinės dominantės Maironio, Vinco Mykoliaičio-Putino, Salomėjos Nėries, Jono Aisčio ir Henriko Radausko kūryboje' [Tradition of Lithuanian Lyrical Poetry of the 20th Century: Structural dominance in the lyric of Maironis, Vincas Mykolaitis-Putinas, Salomėja Nėris, Jonas Aistis and Henrikas Radauskas], at Vilnius University, (PhD awarded in 1999). Since 1996 teaching at Vilnius University (as junior lecturer 2004, 2005–2007 as docent). In 2006 she published a book about modern Lithuanian literature: *Senieji mitai, naujieji pasakojimai: apie naujausią lietuvių literatūrą* [Old Myths, New Tales: About Contemporary Lithuanian Literature]. She has organized two International Contemporary Literature Conferences at Vilnius University, in 2005 and 2008.

TANEL PERN has a Master's degree in Semiotics and Culture Studies. He is currently a doctoral student at the Institute of Philosophy and Semiotics, Department of Semiotics, University of Tartu. E-mail: tanel.pern@ut.ee

MARTA PACHECO PINTO is currently a PhD candidate at, and member of, the Centre for Comparative Studies of the University of Lisbon. Her research has mainly focused on alterity and cross-cultural studies under the perspective of Translation Studies. She is also assistant director of the literary journal *Textos e Pretextos*. Her forthcoming essay is "Oriental Paradises at the Crossroads of Cultural Translation" (Rodopi, 2010), and she has co-edited together with Susana Araújo and João Ferreira Duarte the volume *Trans/American*,

Trans/Oceanic, Trans/lation: Issues in International American Studies (Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2010).

EVE PORMEISTER has studied Germanistics at the universities of Tartu and Leipzig. She took her MA in 1992 and PhD (“Bilder des Weiblichen in der deutschsprachigen Schweizer Frauenliteratur”, 2003). Since 2004 she has worked Associate Professor at the German department of Tartu University. Her foremost research field is Swiss literature. She is a member of Gesellschaft für die Erforschung der Deutschschweizer Literatur. She has organized international conferences on Ingeborg Bachmann and the 20th-century Swiss-German literature and has written a number of articles and essays published in Estonia and abroad.

VID SNOJ is Professor of Comparative Literature at Faculty of Arts, University of Ljubljana. He defended his PhD on New Testament and Slovenian literature in 1999 and published a monograph on that topics *Nova zaveza in slovenska literatura (New Testament and Slovenian Literature)* in 2005. His book *Judovski sextet (Jewish sextet)* on six Jewish thinkers and writers, i.e. Gershom Scholem, Erich Auerbach, Franz Werfel, Leo Shestov, Jacques Derrida, and Franz Kafka, appeared in 2006.

REET SOOL is Associate Professor at the Department of English at the University of Tartu where she teaches American literature, literary theory and Irish Studies (James Joyce). She has won a number of awards and scholarships (the American Council of Learned Societies Award, the Government of Canada Faculty Enrichment Award, IREX and Fulbright scholarships), has done research and lectured at various universities in Canada (the University of Toronto, York University), the UK (Queen’s University in Belfast), and the United States (the University of California, Berkeley, the University of Michigan, the University of Cincinnati, SUNY). She has also given papers at international conferences in Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Finland, Denmark, Norway, France, Iceland, South Africa, the US, and published on literary theory and American, Canadian, Irish and Estonian literature both at home and

abroad. In 1994 she won the Henrik Visnapuu Award (Canada). She has also published essays, translations and three collections of poetry: *jahe kuu* (1997), *murdub äär: river runs* (2001), and *õrn morpheus: sweet morpheus* (2007).

JÜRI TALVET is since 1992 Chair 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 a collections of essays *Hispaania vaim* (The Spanish Spirit, 1995), *Tõrjumatu äär* (The Irrefutable Edge, 2005), cultural-philosophic reflections *Sümbiootiline kultuur* (Symbiotic Culture, 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 seven books of poetry. His books of poetry and essays have been translated into English, Spanish and Catalan. 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.). 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). He has chaired the Estonian Association of Comparative Literature (1994–2010) and has also served as member of the ICLA Executive Committee (2000–2007).

KATRE TALVISTE has a PhD in comparative literature from the University of Paris 12 – Val-de-Marne (2007). At present she is teaching Estonian language and culture in the National Institute for Oriental Languages and Civilisations in Paris. Her main research interest is the history of translation. She has translated texts of Marcel Gauchet, Thomas Pavel, Paul Ricoeur, Michel Foucault, Alain Besançon into Estonian, has published several articles, as well as various texts on French authors for secondary school textbooks and other didactic editions.

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.

SOFIA TAVARES is currently a post doctoral researcher at the Centre for Comparative Studies of the University of Lisbon, Portugal. Her main research is on Memory Studies and she is at the moment finishing her first book titled: *Time and Memory: (Re)construction of the Portuguese and the Post-Colonial Identities*. Simultaneously, she is involved in a pedagogical project titled ACEP: Arts for Citizenship, which is sponsored by the Portuguese Ministry of Education. This project focuses on the role played by Portugal during World War II as a space of transition for the war refugees, and the impact that cultural memories of this kind have in the construction of a cultural identity and an active citizenship, namely through the role played by education.

REIN VEIDEMANN is a graduate of Tartu University in Estonian philology. After working as Academic Secretary at the Estonian Museum of Literature and finishing doctoral studies at the Institute of Language and Literature he took his PhD in 1984 with a thesis on Estonian post-war literary criticism. He has been active as Editor-in-Chief of literary monthlies *Looming* (1983–1986) and *Vikerkaar* (1986–1990), Member of Estonian Parliament (1990–1995) and councillor of the Ministry of Culture. In 1998–2000 he was the Chair-holder of Literary Theory at Tartu University, and at the same time, has worked as the head of, respectively, of the literary supplement and the literary section of two main Estonian daily newspapers, *Eesti Päevaleht* and *Postimees*. From 2000 up to the present he has been working as Professor and Chair at Tartu University and Tallinn University. He has published numerous articles and essays about

Estonian literature, a selection of which has appeared in his books *Olla kriitik* ('To Be a Critic', 1986), *Mälestus Golfi hoovusest* ('Memory of the Gulf Stream', 1993) and *Ajavahe* ('Time Break', 1996). His monography *Kriitika kunst* ('Art of Criticism', 2000) was the first theoretical treatment of Estonian literary criticism. His confessional essay book *Elu keskpäev* ('The Life Mid-day') appeared in 1986. *Kusagil Euroopas* ('Somewhere in Europe', 2001) is a subjective and expressive commentary on Estonia's latest history. As a novelist, he made his debut with *Lastekodu* (Orphanage, 2003). His latest books are *Isiku tunnistus* ('A Person's Identification') and *Tuikav tekst* ('The Pulsing Text'), both in 2006.

TOMO VIRK is Professor of Comparative Literature and Literary Theory at the University of Ljubljana, Slovenia. His interests and publications encompass the methodologies of literary science, postmodernism, magic realism, theory of the novel and short story, literary hermeneutics, and contemporary Slovenian literature. He has produced many articles and ten books on comparative literature and philosophy. In addition, he has translated into Slovenian, among others, G. Lukács's *The Theory of the Novel*, H. R. Jauss's *Aesthetic experience and literary hermeneutics*, E. R. Curtius's *European literature and the Latin Middle Ages*, and H. G. Gadamer's *Truth and Method*; he also edited anthologies of Slovenian contemporary short stories in Slovenian, Spanish, German, Croat, Czech, English and French.