

Hong Kong Baptist University's International Writes' Workshop 2019 Writers-in-Residence: Alternate Imaginations

Sarah Lippett (Britain)

Graphic novelist and artist

Sarah Lippett is a London based artist and author. Her first graphic novel, *Stan and Nan*, won the Quentin Blake Prize for Best Narrative at the Royal College of Art and was published in 2016 by Jonathan Cape, becoming a Guardian bestseller and 2016 Book of the Year. Her new autobiographical work, *A Puff of Smoke* will be published by Jonathan Cape in early 2020 and is supported by an Arts Council England Literary grant. Alongside her long form works, Lippett has also created socio-political reportage comics focused on the stories of diverse communities living in locations across the UK and abroad. She lectures and participates in talks and discussions on the graphic novel as an art form at universities, literary festivals and in artist studios, both in the UK and internationally.

Mara Genschel (Germany)

Poet

With over ten books and further radioplays, performances and collaborations, Genschel has been working on a broad spectrum of publications. In 2012 she started her own edition concept by publishing small, handmade brochures, called *Referenzfläche*. In 2014 she stopped performing in public readings and started working on new forms and challenges of performing text in public. Besides the visual and aural aspects of poetry, Genschel's interests are the conditions of production as well as questions about the role of the artist/author today. In 2016 she was invited by the International Writing Program (IWP) of the University of Iowa, USA. In 2017 she was honoured with the Advancement Award of the Heimrad-Bäcker-Prize for experimental poetry in Linz, Austria. Further books include: *Tonbrand Schlaf* (2008), *Vom Nachtalpenweg* (with Valeri Scherstjanoi, 2009), *Mara Genschel Material* (ed. Bertram Reinecke, 2015), *Cute Gedanken* (2017) and *Gablenberger Tagblatt* (2018).

Barnali Ray Shukla (India)

Poet, writer and filmmaker

Barnali Ray Shukla is an Indian writer, filmmaker and a poet. Her creative writing has been featured in journals and anthologies, including: *Indian Ruminations*, *Sunflower Collective*, *OutOfPrint*, *Kitaab.org*, *OUTCAST*, *madrasmag.in*, *Vayavya*, *Anthology of Contemporary Indian Poetry II*, *indianculturalforum.in*, *UCity Review* (USA) and *A Portrait in Blues* (UK). She was the India-winner of the R L Poetry Award 2016 that resulted in her debut poetry volume, *Apostrophe* (2018). Her debut feature-film as a writer-director, *Kucch Luv Jaisaa*, released in May 2011, is now streaming on Amazon. Her documentary film, *Liquid Borders* (2015), has been screened at film festivals across India, North America and Europe. She is currently editing her next documentary film. When she is not doing any of the above she is found trekking in the Himalayas.

Kyoko Yoshida (Japan)

Fiction writer and translator

Kyoko Yoshida was born and raised in Fukuoka, studied in Kyoto and Milwaukee, taught in Yokohama and Tokyo, and now teaches in Kyoto at Ritsumeikan University. She writes fiction in English and translates from/into Japanese. Her story collection is *Disorientalism* (Vagabond Press) and her stories appear in the inaugural *BooksActually's Gold Standard 2016* (Math Paper Press), *After Coetzee: An Anthology of Animal Fictions* (Faunary Press) and *Spring Sleepers* (Strangers Press). She is one of the co-translators of *Alice Iris Red Horse: Selected Poems of Yoshimasu Gozo* (New Directions). With poet Forrest Gander, she has translated *Spectacle & Pigsty* (OmniDawn, Best Translated Book Award in Poetry, 2012); with playwright Andy Bragen, *Proud Son* by Shu Matsui, *Like a Butterfly, My Nostalgia* by Masataka Matsuda, and others. She has translated fictions by Dave Eggers and Gary Shteyingart into Japanese. She was a 2005 International Writing Program fellow at the University of Iowa.

Han Yujoo (Korea)

Fiction writer

Han Yujoo was born in Seoul. She studied German literature at Hongik University, and is currently working toward another master's degree in comparative literature from Seoul National University. She debuted in 2003 with her short story 'To the Moon', which won *Literature and Society's* New Writers Award, and which is the title story in her first collection *To the Moon* (2006). In 2009 she also won the prestigious *Hankook Ilbo* Literary Award. *To the Moon* is a collection of 'stories about stories'; her second collection, *Book of Ice* (2009), explores the ways in which events that propel fictional narratives can be delayed. Since then she has published the short-story collection, *My Left Hand the King and My Right Hand the King's Scribe* (2011), as well as her debut novel *The Impossible Fairytale* (2013), which has been translated into English and French from Korean. She currently teaches at Hongik University and Korea National University of the Arts, was a member of an experimental group called Rue and runs the independent Oulipopress.

Nikola Madzirov (Macedonia)

Poet, essayist and translator

Nikola Madzirov was born in Strumica, Republic of Macedonia, in the family of war refugees from the Balkan Wars. His book *Relocated Stone* (2007) was given the East European *Hubert Burda* poetry award and the most prestigious Macedonian poetry prize *Miladinov Brothers at Struga Poetry Evenings*. Other awards include *Xu Zhimo's Silver Leaf* award for European poetry at King's College in Cambridge and *Studentski Zbor* award for best debut poetry book. The contemporary jazz composer and collaborator of Björk and Lou Reed, Oliver Lake, has composed music based on Madzirov's poems. His poetry has been translated into more than thirty languages. He was granted several international fellowships: *International Writing Program (IWP)* at University of Iowa in USA; *DAAD* in Berlin, *Marguerite Yourcenar* in France or *Passa Porta* in Brussels. Mark Strand said: "*Madzirov's poetry is like discovering a new planet in the solar system of the imagination.*"; while Adam Zagajewski wrote: "*Madzirov's poems are like Expressionist paintings: filled with thick, energetic streaks they seem to emerge from the imagination and to return to it right away, like night animals caught in the headlights of a car.*" Nikola Madzirov is one of the coordinators of the international poetry network *Lyrikline* based in Berlin. He lives in Strumica.