



12–16 October 2011

**FRANKFURTER
BUCHMESSE**

Guest of Honour Iceland

WELTEMPFANG – CENTRE FOR POLITICS, LITERATURE AND TRANSLATION

HALL 5.0 D 963



Federal Foreign Office

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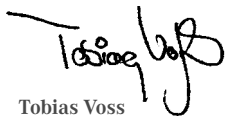
When the upheavals of the Arab Spring began earlier this year, the Frankfurt Book Fair experienced events at close hand. The Cairo International Book Fair, where we were involved with the collective German stand, had to be cancelled as a result of the protests and demonstrations taking place in Egypt's larger cities. Nine months later it is obvious that a lot has changed across the region. People now feel it's possible to have an influence on political events. However, it remains unclear if the movement for political renewal will succeed, or what direction it will take.

In this year's Weltempfang programme, which the Frankfurt Book Fair is organising in cooperation with the German Federal Foreign Office, we will address two signal developments that have stood out amid all the social unrest, illuminating and discussing them from various perspectives.

First, there are the new forms of communication that have been used during the uprisings and by the protest movements across the Arab World. In what ways have these new tools, the **social media**, actually helped shape the agenda or influenced the way the protests are organised? Secondly, partly due to the cracks and upheavals in Arab society, it is clear that **migration** has become a major contemporary issue and a challenge for the future. Of course, alongside its many as yet unpredictable consequences, migration is also having an effect on literary production. The mutual permeation of cultural spaces opens up new forms and topics for artistic expression.

Translators play an important part in this as catalysers of the cultural exchange. They make it possible for people who are constrained by language to appreciate foreign ideas in forms they can understand. For this reason, the topics and issues of translation are of central importance for the Weltempfang. As such, they are of course also reflected in the programme.

This year we are once again pleased to welcome as our guests in the Weltempfang area a number of internationally active publishing professionals from Africa, Asia, Latin America and Eastern Europe – people who often have to perform their work under difficult conditions, and whose participation here would not have been possible without the assistance of the Frankfurt Book Fair and the Federal Foreign Office.



Tobias Voss

Frankfurt Book Fair, Director of the International Department and project manager for Weltempfang

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www.buchmesse.de/weltempfang



WEDNESDAY, 12 OCTOBER 2011

12.00–1.00 p.m.

Award ceremony: The VdÜ Übersetzerbarke

German | English

The German Literary Translators' Association (VdÜ) awards its Übersetzerbarke (Translator Barque) to individuals working in the cultural sphere who have done great service for translation or for literary translators. This year the recipient will be Beate Frauenschuh of the Heidelberg Public Library, who for many years has been promoting the competence of literary translators as communicators of world literature.

/ Participants:

Beate Frauenschuh (Heidelberg, Germany), Heidelberg Public Library, award winner

Hinrich Schmidt-Henkel (Berlin, Germany), Chairman of the VdÜ, laudation

/ Cooperation: German Literary Translators' Association (VdÜ)



1.00–2.00 p.m. Salon

Free the Word: times of transition

English

Conversation

PEN International, the worldwide association of writers promoting literature and defending freedom of expression, celebrates its 90th year in 2011. That is 90 years of working for literature, defending endangered cultures, and getting writers out of prison. With the CEOs of Hachette, Penguin and Random House we have created the PEN International Publishers Circle. With publishing leaders and major international writers we will discuss the social, political and technological transitions which are changing the challenges to freedom of expression and literature.

/ Chaired by: John Ralston Saul

(Canada), President of PEN International

/ Cooperation: PEN International



1.30–2.30 p.m.

The world as seen from the shores of an island

German | English

Panel discussion

"Islands are not closed containers; they always exist in relation to another place. This means insularity is a paradigm of openness, of plurality and of rational thought" (Steffen Richter). But what does the world look like when viewed from the shores of an island, from the perspective of two islands that couldn't be more different: Iceland and New Zealand?

/ Participants:

Volkmar Billig (Germany), cultural scien-

tist and author of the first comprehensive monograph on islands in German: "Inseln. Geschichte einer Faszination"

Kate Camp (New Zealand), poet, essayist and critic (most recently published: "The Mirror of Simple Annihilated Souls", 2010)

Sjón (Iceland), novelist (most recently published: "From the Mouth of the Whale", 2011), lyricist, librettist and songwriter (e.g. for Lars von Trier's film, "Dancer in the Dark")

/ Chaired by: Barbara Wahlster (Berlin, Germany), DeutschlandradioKultur

/ Cooperation: DAAD Artists-in-Berlin Programme



2.15–3.15 p.m. Salon

A drop in the ocean: European support for translators

German

Conversation

Very few countries support the work of literary translators. There is not yet any formal funding for translators at the European level. This makes the international networks and initiatives in this area all the more important. How can the support for translators be made more than just a drop in the ocean? This discussion will provide information, and discuss programmes, funds, networks and initiatives.

/ Participants:

Jürgen Jakob Becker (Berlin, Germany), programme manager with Literarisches Colloquium Berlin, managing director of the Deutscher Übersetzerfonds (German translators' fund)

Antje Contius (Berlin, Germany), managing director of S. Fischer Foundation, TRADUKI – European network for translations from, to and within South Eastern Europe

/ Chaired by: Holger Fock (Heidelberg, Germany), German translator from French, vice president of the European Council of Literary Translators' Associations (CEATL)

/ Cooperation: German Literary Translators' Association (VdÜ), European Council of Literary Translators' Associations (CEATL)



3.00–4.00 p.m.

Literature in the globalised era – Just colourless uniformity?

German | English

Panel discussion

Contemporary literary production is not aimed merely at national book markets and readers. Writers now work across international borders and language areas; literary styles and idioms are changing. Are

we witnessing the creation of a new lingua franca of globalisation? Are the traditional linguistic areas, which have always been associated with particular nations, being lost to a new and uniform, displaced language? What tongue does the new, translated "world literature" of the 21st century speak? Writers from around the world will be discussing this topic.

/ Participants:

Michail Schischkin (Russia/Switzerland), writer, International Literature Award – Haus der Kulturen der Welt 2011

Ilija Trojanow (Bulgaria/Germany/the world), writer, chairman of the jury for the litprom best books list Weltempfänger

Najem Wali (Iraq/Germany), writer, included in litprom's best books list Weltempfänger

/ Chaired by: Kersten Knipp (Cologne, Germany), cultural journalist and literary critic

/ Cooperation: Haus der Kulturen der Welt, litprom – Society for the Promotion of African, Asian and Latin American Literature



3.30–4.30 p.m. Salon

Bridging trenches in Switzerland

German

Reading and conversation

Would the Swiss understand themselves better if they could read more of each other's works? When do Swiss "internal translations" transcend the country's borders? Only after the original has already appeared abroad? Three translators discuss the country's very special national literature, and an almanac that helps bridge the linguistic trenches.

/ Participants:

Camille Luscher (Lausanne, Switzerland), German–French literary translator

Maja Pflug (Rome, Italy), Italian–German literary translator

Claudia Steinitz (Zurich, Switzerland), French–German literary translator

/ Chaired by: Ruth Gantert (Zurich, Switzerland), journalist with "Viceversa" magazine

/ Cooperation: Weltlesebühne e. V., Pro Helvetia, Übersetzerhaus Looren, Robert Bosch Foundation

weltlesebühne
ÜBERSETZERÜBERBÜCHER

schweizer kulturstiftung [lo:rən]
prohelvetia Übersetzerhaus Looren

Robert Bosch Stiftung

4.30–5.30 p.m.

Opening of the Weltempfang

German | English

John Ralston Saul, President of International PEN, was one of 22 international authors involved in the "Letters to Europe" initiative, organised by the project Shahrazad – Stories for Life. A selection of the open letters, which were written in 16 different languages, will be on display in the Weltempfang area. On Sunday at 3.00 p.m., the programme of events will also close with a performance based on the initiative.

/ Greeting:

Juergen Boos (Frankfurt am Main, Germany), Director of the Frankfurt Book Fair N.N., Federal Foreign Office

/ Opening speech:

John Ralston Saul (Canada), author, President of International PEN

/ Cooperation: Federal Foreign Office



THURSDAY, 13 OCTOBER 2011

10.00 a.m.–12.30 p.m. Salon

The Transparent Translator:

Crime writing

German

Every morning, in the Salon, you can watch literary translators at work. On Thursday, Andrea O'Brien will be working on the crime novel "Elegy for April" by Benjamin Blackman (pseudonym of John Banville, published in German by KiWi). The audience may ask questions and help discuss the work!

/ Participants:

Andrea O'Brien (Munich, Germany), German translator of Iris Bahr, Tahis Shah and others

/ Cooperation: German Literary Translators' Association (VdÜ)



10.30–11.30 a.m.

Romancing the languages: Indian literature's many journeys

German/English

Panel discussion

With 22 official national languages, 122 regional languages, four classical languages (Sanskrit, Tamil, Kannada and Telugu), 1,726 mother tongues and countless dialects, India can boast of a unique linguistic and literary heritage. While approximately 45% of the titles published in India are in English, it is time for the rest of the languages and literatures to reach an international audience.

/ Participants:

Urvashi Butalia (New Delhi), Publisher, Zubaan, New Delhi

Namita Gokhale (New Delhi), Co-Director, Jaipur Literature Festival

/ Chaired by: N.N.

/ Cooperation: German Book Office New Delhi, ILA (Indian Literature Abroad)

GBO NEW DELHI

German Book Office

ILA INDIAN LITERATURE ABROAD

12.00–1.00 p.m.

Digital diplomacy in authoritarian regimes – Opportunities and challenges

German | English

Panel discussion

Web 2.0 is creating opportunities as well as challenges for communication between states and people. How can stakeholders involved internationally in arts and education policy use Web 2.0 to make contact with people in authoritarian regimes and promote democratic processes? Where are the limits of digital diplomacy and what are the dangers? A discussion with academic, media and political experts.

/ Participants:

Marcus Beckedahl (Berlin, Germany), internet activist, German Parliament Enquete Commission on Internet and Digital Society

Olaf Böhnke (Berlin, Germany), Head of Office, European Council on Foreign Relations (ECFR)

Marie Möller (Munster, Germany), economist, chair for economic policy analysis at the University of Munster

Mehdi Mohseni (Iran), journalist and blogger

/ Chaired by: Fabian Schmidt (Bonn, Germany), Deutsche Welle

/ Cooperation: Institut für Auslandsbeziehungen e. V. (Institute for Foreign Cultural Relations, ifa)



1.00–2.00 p.m. Salon

Word Express: a literary journey through the Balkans

English

Conversation

In October 2009, three epic journeys across the Balkans took young writers from twelve countries to Istanbul. In a region marked with past and present conflict the Word Express Project aims to cross cultural and linguistic boundaries and bring new literary voices to the fore through setting up a network of organisations, magazines, festivals and – most importantly – writers and translators. The wheels of the Word Express keep turning with new projects and publications.

/ Participants:

Gökçenur Çelebioğlu (Istanbul, Turkey), poet, translator, Word Express project coordinator

Siân Mellangel Dafydd (Paris, France/Wales), author, editor of Welsh-language magazine "Taliessin"

Roman Simić (Zagreb, Croatia), author, editor and director of the European Festival of the Short Story

/ Chaired by: Alexandra Büchler (London, Great Britain), director, Literature Across Frontiers

/ Cooperation: Literature Across Frontiers



1.30–2.30 p.m.

Translation – The art of the impossible? A discussion about German–Turkish and Turkish–German translation

German | English

Panel discussion

Is it right to start discussing the quality of a translation by talking of what's possible or impossible? Is there an ideal successful translation, or will that always be a utopian idea? And what happens when whole swathes of vocabulary are ill-matched between two languages, as is the case with German and Turkish? This event is related to the Tarabya translators' prize.

/ Participants:

Ahmet Cemal (Istanbul, Turkey), translator, winner of the Tarabya translators' prize 2010
Erika Glassen (Freiburg, Germany), editor of the Türkische Bibliothek des Unionverlags (Turkish Library)
/ Chaired by: Onur Bilge Kula (Ankara, Turkey), Directorate of Libraries and Publications, Turkish Ministry of Culture and Tourism
/ Cooperation: German Federal Foreign Office, Turkish Ministry of Culture and Tourism, S. Fischer Foundation, Goethe-Institut Istanbul, Robert Bosch Foundation



S. FISCHER
STIFTUNG



Robert Bosch Stiftung

2.30–3.30 p.m. Salon Intercultural traps in technical translation

German

Lecture

It is widely understood that translators have to overcome countless intercultural differences between their languages. But it's less obvious that the same applies to most specialist areas of translation – not least technical texts. This is demonstrated here with a number of examples.

/ Participants:

Gabriele U. Matthey (Frankfurt am Main, Germany), German translator from English, member of the German Federal Association of Interpreters and Translators (BDÜ), member of the Chartered Institute of Linguists (London)

/ Cooperation: Federal Association of Interpreters and Translators (BDÜ)



3.00–4.00 p.m.

"Bongaloos and Chimpanists, Crocolines and Pianists" – Around the world with children's poems!

German | English

Conversation and reading

Children's poetry is a difficult format, and hard to sell. And that's even before it's translated! This panel discussion assesses the opportunities and challenges presented by the genre and asks how easy it is to translate. It also examines the potential uses of children's poetry for intercultural communication. The event includes live readings of international children's poetry (original and German).

/ Participants:

Radek Malý (Czech Republic), children's poet, translator

Christiane Raabe (Munich, Germany), Director of the International Youth Library
Sybil Countess Schönfeldt (Hamburg, Germany), author, translator from English, journalist

The reading will be performed by Pauline Spatz (12 years) and Mia Hofmann (13 years).

/ Chaired by: Roswitha Budeus-Budde (Munich, Germany), responsible editor for children's and youth literature for the Süddeutsche Zeitung

/ Cooperation: German Federal Foreign Office, International Youth Library Munich



Internationale Jugendbibliothek

3.30–4.30 p.m. Salon Women in publishing in Iceland – a dialogue about culture and books

German | English

Conversation

It has become a popular tradition for the BücherFrauen to invite women involved in publishing from the Book Fair's Guest of Honour to take part in an afternoon talk. This year, we expect to be gaining some fascinating insights into Iceland. Are there any modern legends in this land of old myths? How well are women represented in the Icelandic publishing industry? What are the future prospects for books and publishing in Iceland?

/ Participants:

Hildur Hermódsdóttir (Reykjavík, Iceland), Salka Bókaförlag, publisher

Hólmfríður Matthíasdóttir (Reykjavík, Iceland), Forlagid, rights department

Kristín Steinsdóttir (Reykjavík, Iceland), award-winning bestselling author and chairwoman of the Icelandic writer's guild

/ Chaired by: Anika Lüders (Berlin, Germany), translator from Icelandic

Followed by:

5.00–6.00 p.m. Salon WiP (Women in Publishing) Party

German

Presentation of the Woman in Publishing 2011 award to German publisher Britta Jürgs.

/ Participants:

Esther Dischereit (Berlin, Germany), author, laudation

Britta Jürgs (Berlin, Germany), publisher with Aviva Verlag, award winner

Karina Schmidt (Hamburg, Germany), chairwoman of BücherFrauen e.V.

/ Cooperation: Women's publishing network BücherFrauen e.V./Women in Publishing (WiP)



4.30–5.30 p.m.

Award ceremony: Paul Celan Prize 2011

German | English

The Deutscher Literaturfonds (German literature fund) will award the Paul Celan Prize, worth 15,000 euros, to the translators Mirjana and Klaus Wittmann. This is in recognition of their whole body of work, which includes many translations from Serbian, Croatian and Bosnian, as well as, more specifically, the translation of "Pijavice" ("A slap in the face") by David Albahari, published in German ("Die Ohrfeige") in 2007 by Eichborn Verlag.

/ Participants:

Michael Martens (currently Istanbul, Turkey), laudation; acts as correspondent from different countries for the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung since 2001

Klaus Wittmann (Bonn, Germany), translator and prize winner, studied law
Mirjana Wittmann (Bonn, Germany), translator and prize winner, raised in Belgrade and completed language studies in Heidelberg

/ Cooperation: Deutscher Literaturfonds (German literature fund)

DEUTSCHER LITERATURFONDS E. V.

FRIDAY, 14 OCTOBER 2011

10.00 a.m.–12.30 p.m. Salon The Transparent Translator: Literature German

Every morning, in the Salon, you can watch literary translators at work. Today, Peter Torberg will be working on parts of "The Devil All the Time" by Donald Ray Pollock (published in German by Liebeskind). Please get involved!

/ Participants:

Peter Torberg (Bad Griesbach, Germany), German translator of Paul Auster, Michael Ondaatje and others

/ Cooperation: German Literary Translators' Association (VdÜ)



10.30–11.30 a.m. The dream of reason – Enlightenment in the 21st century German | English

Panel discussion

Who is enlightening whom, these days? How relevant are the values of the European Enlightenment today, and who actually upholds them? What progressive traditions exist in other cultures? A discussion about reason and the power of a critical general public.

/ Participants:

Hamed Abdel-Samad* (Munich, Germany), born in Egypt, German-Egyptian cultural scientist and author

Eva Illouz (Jerusalem, Israel), sociologist and author

Shi Ming (Cologne, Germany), born in Peking, studied German language and literature and law, journalist and author

/ Chaired by: Jenny Friedrich-Freksa (Berlin, Germany), editor-in-chief of "Kulturaustausch – Journal for international perspectives"

/ Cooperation: Institut für Auslandsbeziehungen e.V. (Institute for Foreign Cultural Relations, ifa)



12.00–1.00 p.m. Translation adventure German | English

Panel discussion

Translators can't find everything in dictionaries so what do they do when the words are missing? That's where the adventure trail begins. What paths should one take? How much empathy is needed, and how many intuitive guesses are allowed? This discussion also looks at how to translate colloquial speech, and whether or not computers will ever be able to replace literary translators.

/ Participants:

Mirko Kraetsch (Berlin, Germany), translator (Czech/Slovakian-German) and teacher of literature



Nadine Lenz (Regensburg, Germany), graduate student (East-West studies at the University of Regensburg), translator (Slovakian-German)
Angela Repka (Offenbach, Germany), translator (Slovakian-German), Slovakian Translators' Prize 2000
/ **Chaired by:** **Daniela Humajová** (Bratislava, Slovakia), German scholar, translator (German-Slovakian)
/ **Cooperation:** Literárne informačné centrum Bratislava (Literature information centre)



1.00–2.00 p.m. Salon Translations make world literature – Finnegan's List 2012

English
Conversation
It is the tireless work of translators, writers and publishers that makes it possible for people around the world to read foreign language books. Each year, the European Society of Authors publishes a list of works which have not been widely enough translated. To draw up this "Finnegan's List", ten well-known authors suggest what they think is worth reading and what should be translated.

/ **Participants:**
György Dragomán (Hungary), author and translator
Terézia Mora* (Germany), author and translator
Roman Simić (Croatia), author, publisher, director of the Festival of the European Short Story
/ **Chaired by:** **Dieter Hornig** (France), translator French/English-German, university lecturer, mediator for the European Society of Authors
/ **Cooperation:** European Society of Authors



1.30–2.30 p.m. Of literary bastards with their roots in the air

German | English | French
Panel discussion
For some years now, we've been witnessing a process of change from world literature to "global literature". This is characterised by cultural hybrids and split identities, with lives being lived in more than one language. But what price do the "literary bastards" (Breyten Breytenbach) have to pay for living their cosmopolitan universalism? How does their personal balance stack up?

/ **Participants:**
Breyten Breytenbach (South Africa/France/Spain), poet, prose author and artist, co-founder of the Gorée Institute and the "Imagine Africa" campaign to promote African art
Louis-Philippe Dalembert (Haiti/France), poet, prose author, globetrotter
Rawi Hage (Lebanon/Canada), prose author, photographer
/ **Chaired by:** **Cornelia Zetsche** (Munich, Germany), literary critic, journalist (BR2)
/ **Cooperation:** DAAD Artists-in-Berlin Programme



2.30–3.30 p.m. Salon "The Leanin' Dog" – A discussion of the book nominated for the German Children's Literature Award

German | English
Conversation
A gentle, atmospheric story about a girl who, following the death of her mother, no longer dares to leave her cabin in the wilderness – until she's forced to look after a stray dog. The author and her translator give us some insights into their collaboration.

/ **Participants:**
Gerda Bean (Great Britain), literary translator English-German
K. A. Nuzum (Colorado, USA), author
Jochen Weber, Deputy Chairman of the Association for Children's and Youth Literature (AKJ), introduction
/ **Chaired by:** **Heike Brandt** (Berlin, Germany), German Literary Translators' Association (VdÜ)
/ **Cooperation:** Association for Children's and Youth Literature (AKJ), German Literary Translators' Association (VdÜ)



3.00–4.00 p.m. Boualem Sansal, winner of the Peace Prize of the German Book Trade 2011 meets fellow writer Ilija Trojanow

German | English | French
Conversation
Ilija Trojanow, who chairs the jury to select the litprom list of best books Weltempfänger, was impressed by the novels of the Algerian Boualem Sansal, not least because of the density of the language used. But he also admires his daring choice of topics. This was one of the reasons why he recommended the novel "Le village de l'Allemand ou le journal des frères Schiller" (published in the UK as "An Unfinished Business"), for second place in the Weltempfänger 4/2009. Here, the two gifted writers exchange words.

/ **Participants:**
Boualem Sansal (Algeria), writer, Peace Prize of the German Book Trade 2011
Ilija Trojanow (Vienna, Austria), writer and collector of worlds
/ **Chaired by:** **Joseph Hanimann** (Munich, Germany), literary critic with the Süd-deutsche Zeitung
/ **Cooperation:** litprom – Society for the Promotion of African, Asian and Latin American Literature, Institut français



4.00–5.00 p.m. Salon Discovering Basque authors ... A journey through contemporary Basque literature

German | Spanish
Conversation
The Basque region has a rich literary tradition. Despite this, few Basque authors have achieved fame outside the border of Spain. A discussion of the current state of Basque literature and translations of it, specifically into German.

/ **Participants:**
Jon Arretxe (Arbizu/Navarra), author, singer, Doctor of Basque Philology, expert for travel and adventure literature
Fernando Morillo (Azpeitia/Guipúzcoa), children's author, winner of the 2003 Premio Euskadi prize for Basque literature
/ **Chaired by:** **Mari Jose Olaziregi** (Donostia), Professor of Basque Philology, director for the promotion and distribution of the Basque language with Etxepare Institutua, the Basque cultural institute
/ **Cooperation:** Instituto Cervantes Frankfurt, Etxepare Institutua



4.30–5.30 p.m. Translating books, building bridges

German | Hungarian
Conversation
This discussion between the author Terézia Mora and her Hungarian translator, Lidia Nádori, looks at the question of how close the collaboration is between the author and the translator. Does it make it easier for the translator when the author is bilingual? And what role does the translation play in terms of international cultural exchange?

/ **Participants:**
Terézia Mora (Berlin, Germany), author of "Alle Tage" ("All days") and "Der einzige Mann auf dem Kontinent" ("The only man on the continent"), German translator from Hungarian (for Peter Esterházy and others)
Lidia Nádori (Budapest, Hungary), translator into Hungarian (for Herta Müller, Ingo Schulze and others)

/ **Chaired by:** **Bernd Zabel** (Munich, Germany), Goethe-Institut, director of the department to promote literature and translation
/ **Cooperation:** Goethe-Institut



SATURDAY, 15 OCTOBER 2011

10.00 a.m.–12.30 p.m. Salon The Transparent Translator: Comics German

Every morning, in the Salon, you can watch literary translators at work. Japanese expert John Schmitt-Weigand is currently working on the German version of Yoshihiro Tatsumi's monumental graphic novel, "A Drifting Life" ("Gegen den Strom", Carlsen). Watch, ask questions, and make your own suggestions!

/ **Participants:**
John Schmitt-Weigand (Wiesbaden, Germany), German translator of Jiro Taniguchi, Yoshiki Tonogai and others
/ **Cooperation:** German Literary Translators' Association (VdÜ)



10.30–11.30 a.m. The Arab Spring – Examining the political and cultural upheavals

German | English | Arabic
Panel discussion
"The writers of Tunisia and all intellectuals in North Africa are proud of what's happening in their countries. They depend on the international support of their colleagues." Shihedine Lahmadi wrote these words in February 2011. How has democratisation progressed in the Arab countries since then? What new challenges have arisen, and how are poets and writers defining their roles in the process?

/ **Participants:**
Hleil Abdelwakil Al Bijou (Libya), poet
Adel Karasholi (Syria/Germany), poet and translator

Shahedine Lahmadi (Tunisia), author
Iman Mersal (Egypt), poet and literary scholar

/ **Chaired by:** **Mustafa Al-Slaiman** (Mainz, Germany), lecturer in translation and interpreting at Johannes Gutenberg University, Mainz
/ **Cooperation:** German writers union (VS), Deutsche Akademie für Sprache und Dichtung, Friedrich-Bödecker-Kreis e.V.



11.45 a.m. – 12.45 p.m.

Translating Icelandic literature

German | English | Icelandic

Panel discussion

A distant isle, an ancient language, a living culture – what specific challenges are involved in translating Icelandic literature into other European languages? How are Icelandic books received and perceived in northern and southern Europe? To find out, we listen in to one translator for Spanish and one for German talking with an Icelandic author about their experiences.

/ Participants:

Enrique Bernárdez Sanchís (Madrid, Spain), Universidad Complutense de Madrid, translator for Arnaldur Indriðason and Gudbergur Bergsson

Kristín Steinsdóttir (Reykjavík, Iceland), award-winning bestselling author and chairwoman of the Icelandic writer's guild

Betty Wahl (Reykjavík/Frankfurt a. M.), translator for Sjón, Gyrðir Eliasson and others, collaboration on a new translation of the Icelandic sagas, scholar for Icelandic at the university of Frankfurt

/ Chaired by: **Thomas Böhm** (Berlin, Germany), programme manager for literature – Germany at the project team Fabulous Iceland 2011

/ Cooperation: German Literary Translators' Association (VdÜ), Instituto Cervantes, Fabulous Iceland



1.00–2.00 p.m. Salon

Tagore today

German

Conversation and reading

2011 marked the 150th anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore's birth, which was celebrated with numerous events. Today, he is often presented as an icon of Indian literature, but what distinguishes the poet, beyond mere global fame? And what is Tagore's relevance today? The poet Alokerajan Dasgupta embarks on a quest to find out. A moderated discussion and reading (including excerpts in Bengali) with the use of illustrations.

/ Participants:

Alokerajan Dasgupta (Hirschberg, Germany), poet and Tagore expert

/ Chaired by: **Martin Gieselmann** (Heidelberg, Germany), South Asia Institute (SAI) of the University of Heidelberg

/ Cooperation: South Asia Institute (SAI) of the University of Heidelberg, Draupadi Verlag



1.30–2.30 p.m.

New Arab World – Rhyming the revolution

German | English | Arabic

Reading and conversation

The Arab world is at a turning point, but which way it's turning remains unclear. Poets are also playing an important part in the social changes. They are mouthpieces, figureheads, mediators, observers and agitators – sometimes quite involuntarily. They are also using their work to react to the tide of current events. Three young authors give their views about the things that are happening.

/ Participants:

Ali Al Jallawi (Bahrain/currently Weimar, Germany), poet

Deeb (Egypt), rapper and performer

Hind Shoufani (Palestine/currently Dubai), poet

/ Chaired by: **Arian Fariborz** (Cologne, Germany), political scientist, expert on Islam, journalist

/ Cooperation: Literaturwerkstatt Berlin e. V.



2.30–3.30 p.m. Salon

The JungeMedienJury meets an author – India's Altaf Tyrewala answers his young readers' questions

German | English

Conversation

Young people review books and give their assessment. The results are published as a list of recommendations for other young people. One group of youngsters has now prepared to talk with Altaf Tyrewala, who made a name for himself in 2006 with his debut work, "No God in Sight".

/ Participants:

Altaf Tyrewala (Mumbai/currently Berlin), writer, currently a guest in the DAAD Artists-in-Berlin Programme

/ Chaired by: **Roswitha Kopp** (Frankfurt am Main, Germany), Frankfurt Municipal Library, coordinator of the JungeMedienJury ("youth media jury")

/ Cooperation: Frankfurt Central Municipal Library, Lions Club, litprom – Society for the Promotion of African, Asian and Latin American Literature, Shahrzad – Stories for Life



3.00–4.00 p.m.

Are social media improving the cultural dialogue?

German | English | French

Panel discussion

Can social media help to improve communication between cultures, or is global networking just an illusion? Our guests discuss what communication means, and examine the extent of the opportunities and risks for dialogue and cultural diversity posed by social media.

/ Participants:

Norbert W. Bolz (Berlin, Germany), Technische Universität Berlin, German media and communications theorist specialising in changes to modern society induced by the mass media, publications include "Theorie der neuen Medien" ("The theory of the new media") and "Das ABC der Medien" ("The ABC of the media")

Dominique Wolton (France), sociologist and communications scientist with the Centre national de la recherche scientifique (CNRS), publications include "Communicating means coexisting" and "Information is not the same as communication"

/ Chaired by: **N. N.**

/ Cooperation: Institut français, Goethe-Institut



3.45–4.45 p.m. Salon

Souls – Landscapes – Cities: Who or what tells us of Brazil?

German | Portuguese

Conversation

Surprisingly little contemporary Brazilian literature is known in Germany. Following the boom of the 1980s and 1990s, hardly anything has been translated into German. Yet Brazil's literary crucible is seething. What can we – and what should we – read from Brazil? And why is there currently so little available in German?

/ Participants:

Marcelo Ferroni (Brazil), born in 1974, writer and publisher, his first novel "Método Prático de Guerrilha" ("A Practical Guide to Guerrilla Warfare") is currently being translated into German, Italian and Spanish

Carola Saavedra (Brazil), born in 1973, writer, translator, communications scientist; 2008 award of the São Paulo Association of Art Critics

/ Chaired by: **Michael Kegler** (Hofheim im Taunus, Germany), literary translator, critic, editor of the website www.novacultura.de

/ Cooperation: Centro Cultural Brasileiro em Frankfurt (CCBF)



4.30–5.30 p.m.

Literary Awards and their effect on the international book market: the Sheikh Zayed Book Award

German | English | Arabic

Panel discussion

The Sheikh Zayed Book Award is presented every year to outstanding Arab writers, intellectuals and publishers whose work enriches Arab cultural, literary and social life. What impact do such prizes have on an international level? How do they facilitate the promotion of the books of the award-winning authors and publishers abroad? Two authors give insight into their experiences. Followed by a reception (with separate invitation)

/ Participants:

Ibrahim al-Kouni (Libya/Switzerland), author of more than 50 works which have been awarded various prizes and have been translated into different languages; Literature Award 2008

Nasser Al Dhaheiri* (United Arab Emirates), author and editor

/ Chaired by: **Hartmut Fähndrich** (Bern, Switzerland), German translator from the Arabic

/ Cooperation: Abu Dhabi Authority for Culture and Heritage, Sheikh Zayed Book Award



SUNDAY, 16 OCTOBER 2011

**10.00 a.m.–12.30 p.m. Salon
The Transparent Translator –
Children's books**

German

Every morning, in the Salon, you can watch literary translators at work. Sophie Zeitz will be translating "The Fault in Our Stars" by John Green, a candidate for the Children's Literature Award (published in German by Hanser). It's your opportunity to get involved and pose questions!

/ Participants:

Sophie Zeitz (Berlin, Germany), German translator of Joseph Conrad, Marina Lewycka and others

/ Cooperation: German Literary Translators' Association (VdÜ)



**10.30–11.30 a.m.
Scandinavia – a safe haven for
persecuted writers?**

German | English

Panel discussion

Scandinavian countries have a long history of providing asylum to political refugees. The International Cities of Refuge Network (ICORN), which helps persecuted writers, is very strong in Norway, for instance. The members of this panel will look at how the Scandinavian countries' refugee strategies differ from those of other European countries, and will also assess the experiences the Scandinavians have gathered as a result.

/ Participants:

Parvin Ardalan (Iran/currently Malmö, Sweden), human rights activist, journalist, feminist; in 2010 she had to leave Iran to avoid the threat of a prison sentence; she is currently an ICORN guest writer

Mille Rode (Copenhagen, Denmark), general secretary of the Danish PEN

Sjón (Reykjavík, Iceland), author, poet, songwriter, president of the Icelandic PEN, internationally famous for his 2004 novel, "The Blue Fox".

/ Chaired by: Peter Ripken (Frankfurt am Main, Germany), International Cities of Refuge Network (ICORN)

/ Cooperation: International Cities of Refuge Network (ICORN), Shahrazad – Stories for Life, litprom – Society for the Promotion of African, Asian and Latin American Literature



**12.00–1.00 p.m.
Travellers between two shores –
Migrant authors in the
Mediterranean region**

German | English | French

Panel discussion

Three authors from North Africa, now living in France, Italy and Spain respectively, describe their experiences of migration. How is an author with an immigrant background perceived? What influences do the different cultures have on their writing? They will also discuss topics such as the Arab Spring and the unity of the Mediterranean region.

/ Participants:

Abdelkader Djemaï (Algeria/France), author, living in Paris since 1993; in "Gare du Nord", he tells of the yearning felt by three exiles for their distant homeland
Najat El Hachmi (Morocco/Spain), author; in 2008, she won Catalonia's most important literature prize, the Premio Ramon Llull, with "The Last Patriarch", this followed her hotly debated essay, "Jo també sóc catalana" ("I am also Catalan")

Amara Lakhous (Algeria/Italy), author of the Italian bestselling novel, "Scontro di civiltà per un ascensore a Piazza Vittorio" ("Clash of Civilizations Over an Elevator in Piazza Vittorio")

/ Chaired by: Kersten Knipp (Cologne, Germany), cultural journalist and literary critic

/ Cooperation: Institut français, Instituto Cervantes, Institut Ramon Llull (Barcelona), Istituto Italiano di Cultura Frankfurt, Wagenbach Verlag



**1.00–2.00 p.m. Salon
False bottoms – Colonial satire
between Europe and Asia**

German | English

Conversation and reading

Satire comments on the world and ignores national borders. In countries across Europe and Asia, people were quick to imitate their critical darts at their respective establishments, couched in regionally-specific terms. Satire often uses similar methods while giving insights into many different worlds. This discussion draws on text and picture examples from India to Taiwan.

/ Participants:

Chaiti Basu (Berlin/Heidelberg, Germany), literary scholar

Swarali Paranjape (Heidelberg, Germany), scholar of German

Wu Yiwei (Heidelberg, Germany/Taipei, Taiwan), theatre scholar and writer

/ Chaired by: Hans Harder (Heidelberg, Germany), professor for South Asian modern languages, South Asia Institute (SAI) of the University of Heidelberg

/ Cooperation: South Asia Institute (SAI) of the University of Heidelberg, Draupadi Verlag



**1.30–2.30 p.m.
The European Capital of Culture 2012
– Maribor in Slovenia**

German | English

Panel discussion

The Cultural Capitals programme raises the public profile of the selected cities to new levels. For Maribor, the second largest city of Slovenia, it is a chance to draw the attention of all Europe to its historical potential as a cultural and academic location, and to promote the attractions of the surrounding region of Lower Styria.

/ Participants:

Marjeta Ciglenečki* (Maribor, Slovenia), author and art historian

Tamara Griesser-Pečar (Vienna, Austria/Ljubljana, Slovenia), author and historian

/ Chaired by: Harald Roth (Potsdam, Germany), German Cultural Forum for Eastern Europe

/ Cooperation: German Cultural Forum for Eastern Europe



**2.30–3.15 p.m. Salon
Film screening – "Boualem Sansal:
Literature, not war"**

Documentary by Alain de Sédouy, ARTE France/ADS Productions 2010, 43 minutes: a portrait of the winner of the 2011 Peace Prize of the German Book Trade

/ Cooperation: ARTE, litprom Weltempfänger best books list



**3.00–4.00 p.m.
Letters to Europe**

German | English

Conversation and performance

Different people think of Europe in different ways: as Fortress Europe, as a dream land of freedom and opportunities, as a bureaucratic nightmare, or as a myth that has reached the end of the line. Shahrazad, a cultural project involving six European cities, invited about 20 authors to write open letters to "their" Europe. A selection of the topics and texts will be presented here in a literary collage.

/ Participants:

Laura Cisneros (Offenbach, Germany), narrator and singer in German and Spanish, she has also worked as a journalist and presenter

Chirikure Chirikure (Zimbabwe/currently Berlin, Germany), one of the best known poets and performers in his country, writer of socially critical, satirical pieces in Shona and English, currently a guest in the DAAD Artists-in-Berlin Programme

Riad Kheder (Iraq/Frankfurt am Main, Germany), in his improvisations for piano, oud lute and percussion, he combines European and Arabic-Oriental stylistic elements with African rhythms and even jazz and classical music

Abbas Khider* (Iraq/Berlin, Germany), fled Iraq in 1996 after being sentenced to imprisonment for his political activities; after living in a number of countries, in 2000 he arrived in Germany; winner of the 2010 Adelbert von Chamisso Prize for literature

/ Cooperation: International Cities of Refuge Network (ICORN), Shahrazad – Stories for Life, litprom – Society for the Promotion of African, Asian and Latin American Literature



**4.30–5.30 p.m.
Farewell reception hosted by the
German Federal Foreign Office**

German | English

By invitation only

