

Fiscal Year 2020 Literature Translation Fellowship Recipients
Number of Grants: 24 of \$12,500 each Total Dollar Amount: \$300,000

**Photos of the FY 2020 Translation Fellows and project descriptions follow the list below.*

- **Jeffrey Angles**, Kalamazoo, MI
- **Nancy Naomi Carlson**, Silver Spring, MD
- **Jessica Cohen**, Denver, CO
- **Robyn Creswell**, New York, NY
- **Marguerite Feitlowitz**, Washington, DC
- **Gwendolyn Harper**, Emeryville, CA
- **Brian T. Henry**, Richmond, VA
- **William Maynard Hutchins**, Todd, NC
- **Adriana X. Jacobs**, New York, NY/Oxford, UK
- **Bill Johnston**, Bloomington, IN
- **Elizabeth Lowe**, Gainesville, FL
- **Rebekah Maggor**, Ithaca, NY
- **Valerie Miles**, Barcelona, Spain
- **Valzhyna Mort**, Ithaca, NY
- **Armine Kotin Mortimer**, Urbana, IL
- **Suneela Mubayi**, New York, NY/Cambridge, UK
- **Greg Nissan**, Tesuque, NM
- **Allison Markin Powell**, New York, NY
- **Julia Powers**, New Haven, CT
- **Frederika Randall**, Rome, Italy
- **Sherry Roush**, State College, PA
- **James Shea**, Hong Kong
- **Kaija Straumanis**, Rochester, NY
- **Spring Ulmer**, Essex, NY



Credit: Dirk Skiba

Jeffrey Angles, Kalamazoo, MI (\$12,500)

To support the translation from the Japanese of the collected poems of modernist poet Nakahara Chūya. Chūya's poetry has been set to hundreds of pieces of music, ranging from classical art pieces to pop songs, and he has been the subject of biographies, studies, and creative pieces, including fiction, manga, and an opera libretto. Born in 1907, he published his first collection of poems, *Songs of the Goat*, when he was 27 and died at age 30 of cerebral meningitis, just before the release of his second book of poems, *Songs of Days That Were*. While some translations of his poems have appeared in anthologies, journals, and various books, all English translations of Chūya are long out of print.

Jeffrey Angles is a poet, translator, and professor of Japanese literature and translation studies at Western Michigan University. He has translated 11 books from the Japanese into English and has received awards from National Endowment for the Arts, the Modern Language Association, the Academy of American Poets, and the Poetry Foundation, among others. He has lived off and on in Japan, spending nearly ten of the last 30 years there.



Credit: Elizabeth Dranitzke

Nancy Naomi Carlson, Silver Spring, MD (\$12,500)

To support the translation from the French of two poetry collections by Congolese author and poet Alain Mabanckou. One of francophone Africa's most prolific contemporary writers, Mabanckou (b. 1966) has published 12 novels, seven collections of poetry, and several books of nonfiction. Originally a legal advisor, Mabanckou decided to dedicate himself to writing and relocated to the United States. The collections in this project, *The Rooster Announces the Dawn of Another Day* and *As Long as Trees Take Root in the Earth*, explore themes of love for his mother and motherland (often intertwined), exile, civil war and political corruption, and hope for a better Africa. While his prose has been translated into almost 20 languages, none of his poetry collections appear in English.

Nancy Naomi Carlson is a poet and translator whose honors include a National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship and grants from the Maryland State Arts Council and Arts & Humanities Council of Montgomery County. She has translated six books into English, including *The Nomads*, *My Brothers*, *Go Out to Drink from the Big Dipper* by Abdourahman Waberi, which was a finalist for the Best Translated Book Award.



Credit: Tamara Mahoney Kneisel

Jessica Cohen, Denver, CO (\$12,500)

To support the translation from the Hebrew of the fictionalized autobiography *Rose of Lebanon* by Israeli writer Leah Aini. The daughter of a Holocaust survivor, Aini (b. 1962) experienced intergenerational Holocaust trauma at the hands of her deeply scarred and violent father. He recounted his suffering in horrific detail to a young Aini, insisting she grow up to be a writer to tell the story of the victimization of Greek Jews during the Holocaust and to memorialize his Saloniki community. Told in a series of candid monologues to a wounded soldier that the protagonist visits weekly during the first Lebanon War, *Rose of Lebanon* is Aini's take on fulfilling her father's request through the lens of his cruelty and her mother's indifference.

Jessica Cohen is the translator of more than a dozen books into English, including *A Horse Walks into a Bar* by David Grossman, which won the Man Booker International Prize, the National Jewish Book Award for Fiction, and was a finalist for the PEN Translation Prize. Her translations of short works, drama, poetry, and film have appeared in the *New Yorker*, the *New York Times*, *Two Lines*, and *Words Without Borders*, among many others.



Credit: Annette Hornischer, courtesy of the American Academy of Berlin

Robyn Creswell, New York, NY (\$12,500)

To support the translation from the Arabic of the poetry collection *Giving Up on the Idea of Houses* by Egyptian poet Iman Mersal. A female voice in a canon of Arabic-language verse mostly written by men, Mersal's poetry is rooted in the everyday world of work, family, and friends ("the ones who pay taxes and walk on the earth," as she writes). Born in 1966 in Mit Adlan, a small town in the Egyptian delta, she currently lives in Canada and her fifth collection of poetry, *Giving Up on the Idea of Houses*, explores the melancholic comedy of working and raising a family in a foreign country.

Robyn Creswell is a translator, journalist, poetry editor-at-large for Farrar, Straus and Giroux, and assistant professor of comparative literature at Yale University. A recipient of the Berlin Prize and the PEN/HEIM Translation Fund Grant, his literary journalism has appeared in the *New Yorker*, the *Paris Review*, and the *New York Review of Books*, and his translations include *The Tongue of Adam* by Abdelfattah Kilito and *That Smell and Notes from Prison* by Sonallah Ibrahim. He lived for several years in Cairo, Egypt, primarily to learn Arabic.



Credit: David Anderson

Marguerite Feitlowitz, Washington, DC (\$12,500)

To support the translation from the Spanish of two books of prose poems by Chilean poet Ennio Moltedo. Moltedo (1931-2011) is regarded as one of the great Chilean poets of the 20th century, known for the inventiveness of his political poems, his mastery of extreme concision, and his connection to the sea. Considered his greatest work, *Night* is a collection of 113 poems ranging from lyric to mini-drama to micro-fiction, or sometimes all three at once. *New Things* was published in the year of his death and consists of 116 poems Moltedo himself called "folded poems," constructed with references, wrinkles, and re-configurations of his longstanding themes. Of his eight collections of poetry, none have appeared in English.

Marguerite Feitlowitz is an author, translator, professor of literature at Bennington College, and founder of Bennington Translates, a multidisciplinary, cross-college literary and humanities translation program. A former Bunting Fellow and two-time Fulbright Fellow, she is the author of *A LEXICON OF TERROR: Argentina and the Legacies of Torture*, which was a finalist for the PEN New England-L.L. Winship Award.



Gwendolyn Harper, Emeryville, CA (\$12,500)

To support the translation from the Spanish of *Selected Crónicas* by Chilean author Pedro Lemebel. Lemebel (1952-2015) was one of the most important queer writers of 20th-century Latin America. The author of one novel, *My Tender Matador*, which is currently being adapted into film, Lemebel is most known for his collections of *crónicas*—short prose pieces originally published in newspapers that blend loose reportage with fictional and essayistic writing. Many of them depict the AIDS crisis in Chile, which in 1984 began to course through Santiago’s underground, overlapping with the final years of the Pinochet dictatorship. This project will translate a book-length sampling of *crónicas* that Lemebel wrote throughout his career.

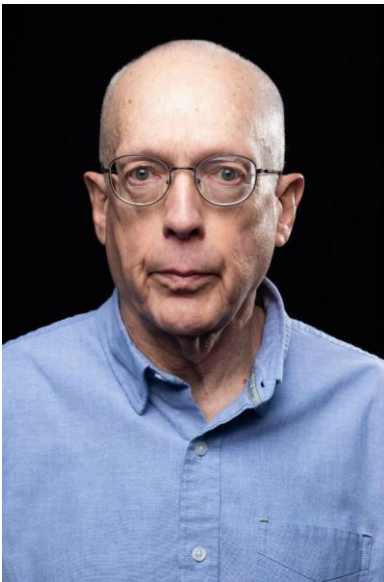
Gwendolyn Harper is a writer, translator, and recent graduate of Brown University with an MFA in literary arts. Her translations have appeared in *Two Lines* and *Latin American Literature Today*, among others. She received a post-graduation fellowship from Yale University to live in Chile and translate the novel *Rapture* by Lina Meruane. While in Chile, she was introduced to the work of Pedro Lemebel.



Brian T. Henry, Richmond, VA (\$12,500)

To support the translation from the Slovenian of *Selected Poems* by Aleš Šteger. The author of six books of poetry, three novels, and two books of nonfiction, Šteger (b. 1973) has received numerous national and international awards. This project will comprise poems from all six of his poetry collections as well as new poems that will offer American audiences an up-to-date selection that covers Šteger's entire oeuvre.

Brian T. Henry is a translator and the author of ten collections of poetry. His translation of Aleš Šteger's *The Book of Things* was awarded the 2011 Best Translated Book Award as well as the 2011 award for Best Literary Translation into English from the American Association of Teachers of Slavic and Eastern European Languages. The recipient of a National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship, his translations have appeared in *Poetry*, the *New York Times*, and the *New Yorker*, among others.



Credit: Chase Reynolds

William Maynard Hutchins, Todd, NC (\$12,500)

To support the translation from the Arabic of the novel *A Small Death* by Saudi Arabian author Mohammed Hasan Alwan. Alwan (b. 1979) has published five novels and was chosen in 2009 as one of the 39 best Arab authors under the age of 40 by Beirut39, an international collaborative project that celebrated promising Arab writers. *A Small Death*, published in 2016, is a fictionalized first-person account of the life of a Sufi saint, Muhyiddin Ibn 'Arabi, from before his birth in Muslim Spain in the 12th century to his death in Damascus. A spiritual coming-of-age story of one of Islam's greatest mystics, the novel won the tenth International Prize for Arabic Fiction and has never been translated into English.

William Maynard Hutchins has translated many works of Arabic literature into English, including *Return of the Spirit* by Tawfiq al-Hakim, *The Cairo Trilogy* by Nobel Laureate Naguib Mahfouz, and *New Waw* by Ibrahim al-Koni, which won the ALTA National Translation Award. A two-time National Endowment for the Arts Fellow, Hutchins' translations from the Arabic have appeared in *Brooklyn Rail*, *Banipal*, *Words Without Borders*, and elsewhere.



Credit: Tahel Frosh

Adriana X. Jacobs, New York, NY/Oxford, UK (\$12,500)

To support the translation from the Hebrew of the poetry collection *Avarice* by Israeli writer Tahel Frosh. In this debut collection, Frosh (b. 1977) examines how economic policies have shaped Israeli lives for better or worse. At the heart of these poems is the father figure, and Frosh's father in particular, who spends his waking hours far from his family at work and comes home late only to decompress in front of the television. In one poem, "Accountant," it is not until the father is diagnosed with a terminal illness that his child is finally able to see him. Frosh's own father, the inspiration for this and many other poems in the collection, died shortly after its publication.

Adriana X. Jacobs is a translator, associate professor of modern Hebrew literature at the University of Oxford, and a current fellow of the Oxford Centre for Hebrew and Jewish Studies. She is the author of *Strange Cocktail: Translation and the Making of Modern Hebrew Poetry* and the co-translator of *Women's Hebrew Poetry on American Shores: Poems* by Anne Kleiman and Annabelle Farmelant.



Credit: Isabelle Darcy-Johnston

Bill Johnston, Bloomington, IN (\$12,500)

To support the translation from the Polish of the first two books in the novel cycle *Nights and Days* by Maria Dąbrowska. Widely regarded as one of the greatest Polish novels of all time, *Nights and Days* is required reading in Polish schools and was adapted into a two-part movie in the 1970s that is still popular today. Dąbrowska (1889-1965) also wrote short story collections, children's literature, literary criticism, and works in translation, and was a graphic artist. By the end of her life, she had become a national treasure. *Nights and Days*, a moving family saga, has never been translated into English. This project seeks to translate the first third of this almost 1,800-page novel.

Bill Johnston is a professor of comparative literature at Indiana University. The translator of more than 30 books into English, his translation of *Stone Upon Stone* by Wiesław Myśliwski won the 2012 PEN Translation Prize and the 2012 Best Translated Book Award (Fiction), and his translation of Adam Mickiewicz's 1834 epic poem *Pan Tadeusz* won the National Translation Award in Poetry. He has received fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Guggenheim Foundation.



Credit: Andrea Sollenberger Photography

Elizabeth Lowe, Gainesville, FL (\$12,500)

To support the translation from the Brazilian Portuguese of the short story collection *Her Husband's Shirt* and the novella *The House of Passion* by Nélida Piñon. One of Brazil's leading women writers, Piñon (b. 1937) is the author of several novels and short story collections and served as the first woman president of the Brazilian Academy of Letters from 1996-97. The works in this project—never before translated into English—consist of her most recent short story collection that delves into the shadows and crevices of family relationships to reveal tortured souls and complex emotions, and a novella that explores an unconventional path to personal liberation. Like her other works, these stories offer the author's keen psychological insights with rich, often peculiar characters.

Elizabeth Lowe is an author, translator, and adjunct professor at New York University's School of Professional Studies. A Fulbright Scholar and the recipient of an award from the National Endowment for the Humanities, she has translated eight books into English and spent her formative years in Brazil during her father's service with the U.S. State Department.



Credit: Alan Howard

Rebekah Maggor (in collaboration with Mas'ud Hamdan), Ithaca, NY (\$12,500)

To support the translation from the Arabic of *New Plays from Palestine: Theatre Between Home and Exile* by Mas'ud Hamdan, Rama Haydar, and Bashar Murkus. This collection brings together bold and original new works by Palestinian writers from Damascus, Haifa, and the village of Isifya. The plays offer grassroots perspectives on war, exile, occupation, and displacement, and push the boundaries of dramatic form. This translation will make a major contribution to the small extant body of Arabic-to-English drama and the works of these three playwrights have not yet reached an American audience.

Rebekah Maggor is a translator, theater director, and scholar, and assistant professor of performance in the Department of Performing and Media Arts at Cornell University. She co-edited *Tahrir Tales: Plays from the Egyptian Revolution* and has directed performances of contemporary Arabic drama across the United States at the Huntington Theatre Company, PEN America World Voices, the Golden Thread Theatre, among many others. This project is in collaboration with Palestinian playwright, poet, and scholar Mas'ud Hamdan.



Credit: Nina Subin

Valerie Miles, Barcelona, Spain (\$12,500)

To support the translation from the Spanish of *Crematorio* by Spanish novelist Rafael Chirbes. As a boy, Chirbes (1949-2015) was sent from his Mediterranean village to an orphanage in Castille because his family could not afford to keep him. He went on to become an award-winning author of ten novels and four essay collections. *Crematorio*, his eighth novel, was adapted into one of Spain's most successful television series. Set in what had been a sleepy fishing village on the Mediterranean, but is now experiencing a boom of tourism and real-estate speculation, the drama follows a family that managed to amass a great fortune over several generations. *Crematorio* has yet to be translated into English.

Valerie Miles is a writer, editor, translator, and co-founding editor of *Granta en español*. She has translated six books into English, including *This Too Shall Pass* by Milena Busquets, which won the PEN Translates Award and was a finalist for the International Dublin Literary Award. She has written for the *New York Times*, the *Paris Review*, *Granta*, *El Pais*, and the *New Yorker*, and is a professor of literary translation and creative writing at Universitat Pompeu Fabra.



Credit: Tanya Kapitonava

Valzhyna Mort, Ithaca, NY (\$12,500)

To support the translation from the Russian of *Air Raid and Other Poems* by Polina Barskova. The author of 12 poetry collections and a volume of short stories, Barskova was born in 1976 in Leningrad (now St. Petersburg), a city that was under siege for three years during World War II. Based on unique archival research, the poems in *Air Raid* give voice to the historical trauma many experienced during the Leningrad Blockade. The title poem, "Air Raid," is written in response to personal letters between members of a torn-apart family and examines the trauma of repression and the loss of family connections. The collection has not yet reached an American audience.

Valzhyna Mort is a poet, translator, and assistant professor at Cornell University. Her translations have appeared in *Poetry* and in the anthologies *Words for War: New Poems from Ukraine*, *Gossip and Metaphysics: Russian Modernist Poems and Prose*, and *Something Indecent*. She has received fellowships from the Lannan Foundation, the Amy Clampitt Foundation, and the Civitella Raineri Foundation and is the author of the poetry collections *Factory of Tears* and *Collected Body*.



Armine Kotin Mortimer, Urbana, IL (\$12,500)

To support the translation from the French of the novel *A Brilliant Future* by Catherine Cusset. This novel follows the life of 65-year-old Elena Tiberescu, a Romanian who immigrates to the United States as a young woman. The novel alternates between the protagonist's childhood in communist Romania and her contemporary life in America, focusing on the parallels between her complex relationship with her parents and her fraught relationship with her daughter-in-law, Marie. Cusset (b. 1963) is the author of 13 novels, several of which have been awarded France's most prestigious prizes. *Life of David Hockney* and *The Story of Jane* are her only books available in English.

Armine Kotin Mortimer is a translator and professor emerita and research professor of French literature at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. In addition to translating, she has written extensively about French literature, including the book *For Love or for Money: Balzac's Rhetorical Realism*. Her translations include *Mysterious Mozart* and *Casanova the Irresistible* by Philippe Sollers and *The Enchanted Clock* by Julia Kristeva.



Credit: Rana Issa

Suneela Mubayi (in collaboration with Rana Issa), New York, NY/Cambridge, UK (\$12,500)

To support the translation from the Arabic of the travelogue *Tickets to Malta, London, and Paris by the Remarkable Aḥmad Fāris*. Born in the village of Ashqūt in Mount Lebanon, Aḥmad Fāris al-Shidyaq (1804-87) left Lebanon after his brother was tortured to death by the Maronite Patriarchy for being the first Arab convert to Protestantism. al-Shidyaq became a nomadic writer, working with missionaries on an Arabic translation of the Bible. His novel *Leg Over Leg* was recently translated into English. During his time in Malta, London, and Paris, he wrote detailed travelogues for an Arab readership, capturing the culture and lives of ordinary Europeans. Drawing from newspapers, literature, and his own keen observations, this travelogue offers a unique perspective on European cities in the throes of industrial modernity.

Suneela Mubayi received a PhD in Arabic literature from New York University and teaches Arabic literature at Cambridge University. Her translations have appeared in the *Kenyon Review*, *Words Without Borders*, *A Public Space*, *Jadaliyya*, *Asymptote*, and elsewhere. This project is a collaboration with Rana Issa, a scholar of Aḥmad Fāris and a professor of translation studies at the American University of Beirut.



Credit: Alex Ronan

Greg Nissan, Tesuque, NM (\$12,500)

To support the translation from the German of *Banned! An Epic Poem* by Ann Cotten. Written in 403 stanzas, *Banned!* is an experimental epic about information, told from the perspective of a newscaster banished from her station and exiled to a deserted island that is (or is not) a product of her own imagination. With only a knife, a whetstone, and a 1910 encyclopedia as survival tools, she uses the encyclopedia to both make sense of and to create the island, populating it with gryphon-like characters and women who take over the island from men to run utopian small presses. Born in Iowa in 1980, Cotten moved to Austria as a five-year-old with her American parents. She has ranked among the most widely read and acclaimed poets in the German-speaking world, though none of her books have been translated into English.

Greg Nissan is a poet and translator. The recipient of a Fulbright Fellowship, a Berlin Senate Travel Grant, and the Edwin Honig Memorial Award for Poetry, he is the author of the chapbook *The City Is Lush With/Obstructed Views*, and his poems and translations have appeared in *Brooklyn Rail*, *Asymptote*, *Two Lines*, *Conjunctions*, *BOMB Magazine*, *Boston Review*, and elsewhere.



Allison Markin Powell, New York, NY (\$12,500)

To support the translation from the Japanese of the novel *Saraba!* by Kanako Nishi. This award-winning and bestselling 700-page epic takes on the Japanese literary tradition of the I-novel, a genre of confessional literature in which events and details in the narrative correspond with those from the author's life—the main character, Ayumu, actually shares Nishi's birthday in 1977. With a backdrop of current events, including the Iranian Revolution, both major earthquake disasters in Japan (1995 and 2011), and the Arab Spring, *Saraba!* zooms in to portray the disintegration of a family and each character's struggle to find a meaningful path in the world. Nishi is the author of more than 20 novels—several of which have been adapted into movies—as well as short story collections, essays, and children's books. To date, none of her books have been published in English.

Allison Markin Powell has translated dozens of books into English, and also works as an editor and publishing consultant. Her translation of Hiromi Kawakami's *The Briefcase/Strange Weather in Tokyo* was nominated for the Man Asian Literary Prize and the Independent Foreign Fiction Prize. She has served as co-chair of PEN America's Translation Committee and was the guest editor for the first Japan issue of *Words Without Borders*.



Julia Powers, New Haven, CT (\$12,500)

To support the translation from the Brazilian Portuguese of selected poetry by Hilda Hilst. Hilst (1930-2004) published her first collection of poetry at age 20 and lived an unconventional life. She eventually settled in a house she had built on a ranch in Campinas, Brazil, which she christened "The House of the Sun." During her life, she wrote drama, short fiction, and poetry and shared her home with a cast of friends, writers, artists, free spirits, and hundreds of stray dogs. She was recently an honoree at Brazil's most important literary festival and one of the country's largest publishers is reissuing her complete work. This project is a selection of 150 poems representative of Hilst's strongest work from 1967 to 1995. While five works of her fiction appear in English, only one other poetry collection has been translated into English.

Julia Powers is a translator and received a PhD in comparative literature from Yale University. Her honors include a Fulbright Research Grant and the Susan Sontag Prize for Translation. Her translations have appeared in the *Paris Review*, *Triple Canopy*, and *Harper's Magazine*, among others.



Credit: Frederika Randall

Frederika Randall, Rome, Italy (\$12,500)

To support the translation from the Italian of *A Very Old Man* by Italo Svevo. Recognized as one of Italy's most outstanding modernist writers, Svevo (1861-1928)—the pen name of Aron Ettore Schmitz—was the author of novels, plays, short stories, and autobiographical writings. In 1905, he learned English through private lessons from author James Joyce, who had come to Italy to teach. Widely known for his novel *The Confessions of Zeno*, a story told in the form of a memoir that the protagonist is writing at his psychoanalyst's behest, this project will translate five extensive fragments of a late unfinished novel that was written in the final years of Svevo's life and is told by the same unreliable first-person narrator, Zeno Cosini.

Frederika Randall is a translator and cultural journalist who has lived and worked in Italy since 1986. Her translations include *Deliver Us* by Luigi Meneghello and *The Communist* by Guido Morselli. Her many honors include a PEN/Heim Translation Fund Grant, a European Union Prize for Literature, and the Cundill Prize for Historical Literature.



Sherry Roush, State College, PA (\$12,500)

To support the translation from the Italian of *Peregrino* by Jacopo Caviceo (1443-1511). Published in 1508 and considered a proto-novel with a *Romeo and Juliet*-style story, *Peregrino* was a European bestseller in its day—there were 21 Italian editions, as well as nine in French and three in Spanish. This Italian Renaissance romance is Caviceo's longest work. It tells the story of a pair of star-crossed lovers, Peregrino and Genevera. Enduring several tribulations during his love-pursuit—including being captured by pirates and a trip to Hell—Peregrino finally marries Genevera, only for the reader to discover that he is actually dead and his ghost has been telling the story all along. An English translation of *Peregrino* does not yet exist.

Sherry Roush is a professor of Italian at Penn State University. She is the translator of *Selected Philosophical Poems of Tommaso Campanella, Volumes I and II*, and is the co-editor of *The Medieval Marriage Scene: Prudence, Passion, Policy*. Roush has received fellowships and awards from the Bread Loaf Writer's Workshop and the Bogliasco Foundation, among others.



Credit: Tse Hiu Hung

James Shea (in collaboration with Dorothy Tse), Hong Kong (\$12,500)

To support the translation from the Chinese of *And So Moving a Stone You Look at Festival Lights along the Street & Uncollected Poems* by Lau Yee-ching. Lau (b. 1949)—best known by his pseudonym Yam Gong—is a self-taught, working-class poet whose poetry fuses philosophy with the everyday. He began working at the age of 13 as a delivery boy, and today lives on a small island in Hong Kong and commutes by ferry to his long-time job as a maintenance worker. Though he is considered one of Hong Kong's major poets, he has only published two collections. This project comprises 100 poems from his most recent collection in 2010, as well as a sampling of unpublished poems.

James Shea is a poet, translator, assistant professor of creative writing, and associate director of the International Writers' Workshop at Hong Kong Baptist University. A 2013-14 Fulbright Scholar, he has published two books of poetry, *The Lost Novel* and *Star in the Eye*, and his translations from the Japanese and Chinese have appeared in the *Iowa Review*, *Circumference*, and the collection *The Image Hunter*, among others. This project is a collaboration with the writer and translator Dorothy Tse.



Credit: Kaija Straumanis

Kaija Straumanis, Rochester, NY (\$12,500)

To support the translation from the Latvian of the nonfiction collection *Forest Daughters*, edited by Sanita Reinsone. This collection includes 12 oral histories from Latvian women who lived in the thick of the guerilla war against Soviet invasion and occupation. Often left out of Latvia's guerilla war history, women played an integral role in protecting their homeland. Reinsone (b. 1981), a scholar in Latvian folklore, oral history, and digital humanities, recorded the stories of these women in a documentary-essay style and each chapter is alive with the respective woman's experience as she recalls harrowing and heart-wrenching events of her life during this period in history. The collection is yet to be translated into English.

Kaija Straumanis is a translator and the editorial director of Open Letter Books. Her book-length translations from the Latvian include *Flesh-Coloured Dominoes* by Zigmunds Skujiņš and *High Tide* by Inga Ābele, which won the American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages Award for Best Literary Translation into English.



Credit: Spring Ulmer

Spring Ulmer, Essex, NY (\$12,500)

To support the translation from the Greek of the poetry collection *Exercises 1950-1960* by Yannis Ritsos. Ritsos (1909-90) was the author of more than 100 poetry collections and was nominated multiple times for the Nobel Prize. Written after being tortured and detained as a political prisoner, the poems in *Exercises 1950-1960* are not filled with bitterness, but rather with amazement—at a solitary leaf, an etched glass, or the color of light. Ritsos survived the deaths of both parents and his brother and sister, and turned to poetry when he was sick with tuberculosis. Ritsos' works have appeared in English; but this translation will be the first of *Exercises 1950-1960*.

Spring Ulmer is a writer, translator, and visiting assistant professor in the Department of English and American Literature at Middlebury College. Her poetry collection *Benjamin's Spectacles* won the Kore Press First Book Award, selected by Sonia Sanchez. The recipient of several prizes and awards, her translations of Yannis Ritsos have appeared in *Brooklyn Rail* and the *Evansville Review* as the winner of the Willis Barnstone Translation Prize.