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Selections from the International Writing Program  
1977-1983*

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# The Iowa Review

VOLUME 14 NUMBER 2 1984

## WRITING FROM THE WORLD

SELECTIONS FROM  
THE INTERNATIONAL WRITING PROGRAM 1977-1983

Ai Qing, Ding Ling, Gozo Yoshimasu, Jose Lacaba,  
Sabri Moussa, Yitzhak Orpaz, Amos Tutuola, Okot  
p'Bitek, Bessie Head, Tomás Segovia, Mariela  
Arvelo, Tom McCarthy, Desmond Hogan, Vita  
Andersen, Wolfgang Kohlhaase, Jozsef Tornai,  
Agnes Nemes Nagy, Eva Toth,  
Tomislav Longinović . . .

Edited by Marilyn Chin, and Walter Knupfer

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# The Iowa Review

Spring-Summer 1984  
Volume 14, Number 2

<i>Paul and Hualing Nieh Engle</i>	1	Forword BY WAY OF INTRODUCTION
<i>Ai Qing</i>	7	On Poetry
<i>Ding Ling</i>	9	My Life As a Chinese Writer
<i>Bjorg Vik</i>	16	My Friends
<i>Ottó Orbán</i>	20	Where Does The Poet Come From?
<i>Sahar Khalifeh</i>	26	Tension
<i>Gozo Yoshimasu</i>	33	I Strain My Ears
	34	Arranging Chaos
	35	Lakeside
	36	Autumn Flowers
		THE FAR EAST
<i>Ai Qing</i>	41	Snowy Morning
<i>Xiao Qian</i>	42	The Ramshackle Car
<i>Wang Meng</i>	47	The Eye Of Night
<i>Wu Cheng</i>	57	My Hometown's Base Creatures
	58	The Morning Reading
<i>Sachiko Yoshihara</i>	60	The Street
	60	Woman
<i>Tetsuo Nakagami</i>	62	Wandering Was Always An Important Theme In My Lyric
	63	I'm Lying On The Bed At A Motel And . . .
<i>Tae-ch'ul Shin</i>	64	For The Desert Island
<i>Emha Ainunn Nadjib</i>	65	Bukan
<i>Jose Lacaba</i>	66	Force Of Circumstance
	67	The Sacred Passion Of St. Joseph
	68	King's Orders
<i>Robert Yeo</i>	69	A Dragon For The Family
<i>Montri Umavijani</i>	70	From A Thai Divine Comedy
<i>Ashokamitran</i>	72	Belief
<i>R. Parthasarathy</i>	81	Homecoming

THE NEAR EAST

<i>Nadia Bishai</i>	87	Poem
<i>Sabri Moussa</i>	88	The Son, The Father And The Donkey
	91	Benevolence
<i>Yitzhak Orphaz</i>	94	The Year Of The Zop
<i>Gideon Telpaz</i>	108	Exile
<i>Anton Shammas</i>	114	Dedicatory Entry
	114	Goodboy
<i>Abdul-Latif Akel</i>	118	Self-Portrait
<i>Jonaid</i>	119	Ghazal
	120	Poem

AFRICA

<i>Bessie Head</i>	123	A Period Of Darkness
<i>Edison Mphina</i>	129	Naphiri
	130	Arlington
<i>Okai</i>	131	Kwabenya
<i>Okot p'Bitek</i>	132	from Long Of Lawino
<i>Amos Tutuola</i>	135	Tort's Bitter Marriage

LATIN AMERICA

<i>Elsa Cross</i>	145	Images On The Beach
<i>Tomás Segovia</i>	147	Dawn Of Tomorrow
	147	At The Sources
	148	Interludio Idílico: Coda
	149	Canciones Sin Su Música
<i>Raphael Vargas</i>	150	The Signature Of Things
<i>Mariela Arvelo</i>	151	Hunting
<i>Joao Gilberto Knoll</i>	152	Encounter In A Dark Room
<i>Julio Monteiro Martins</i>	155	The Position
<i>Jorge Arbeleche</i>	158	The Mirror's Place
<i>Patricio Esteve</i>	159	Funeral Song
<i>Cristina Piña</i>	160	A Song For T.S.
<i>Reine Roffe</i>	162	High Tide

EUROPE

<i>Sigurdur a. Magnusson</i>	169	A Child Lost
<i>Tom McCarthy</i>	170	The Poet Of The Mountains
	171	Returning To De Valera's Cottage
<i>Desmond Hogan</i>	172	Alan In Rome, From <i>A Curious Street</i>
<i>Phillipe Denis</i>	177	In The Thickness
<i>Hans Verhagen</i>	180	Euthanasia
<i>David Winwood</i>	182	Unforgettable Summers
<i>Vita Andersen</i>	183	Costa Del Sol, At Night
<i>Wolfgang Kohlhaase</i>	187	What Is New At The Cemetery
<i>Axel Schulze</i>	193	Landscape
<i>Julia Hartwig</i>	194	Vigil On A Bay
<i>Joanna Salamon</i>	195	Ballad For A Solonaut
<i>Agnes Nemes Nagy</i>	196	Four Squares
	197	Streetcar
	199	Storm
	200	The Ghost
	201	To My Craft
<i>György Somlyó</i>	202	Wound And Knife
	202	Fable Of First Person
<i>Tibor Szobotka</i>	204	Animal Lovers
<i>Jozsef Tornai</i>	208	Without Voice, Without Hope
	209	We Say This Prayer
<i>Eva Toth</i>	210	The Creation Of The World
<i>George Balaita</i>	212	from The World In Two Days
<i>Nicolae Breban</i>	222	Indian Summer
<i>Boris Khristov</i>	224	The Window
	224	A Biblical Motif
<i>Tomislav Longinović</i>	226	The Story Of A Boy And The Cut On His Knee
<i>Argyris Hionis</i>	233	from Metamorphoses
<i>Dimitri Nollas</i>	235	The Wedding
<i>Notes on Contributors</i>	241	



## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The University of Iowa has been a devoted defender of all the arts for many years more than most Universities. Today it adds translation, through the Translation Workshop, and individual projects to the list of aesthetic causes it supports.

Many private corporations have contributed funds to the International Writing Program, to the foreign writers it brings to Iowa City and to its translation efforts. Those who manage major enterprises understand that no man is an island and that all of us are stranded on this round island floating through the immeasurable sea of space.

The United States Information Agency has shown a warm concern for bringing writers here to make a community of the literary imagination. They have identified talent, expedited travel and given grants to make the whole Program possible. Ruth Skartvedt has for years dealt with the problems of writers and has offered her fine expertise to the complexities of putting writers of every kind and of many languages into a congenial small University town in Iowa. A hazardous enterprise indeed. Could we have managed it without her?

Daniel Weissbort, Co-Director of the Translation Workshop with Hualing Nieh Engle, has brought much translating activity to this University. As Editor of the famous and unique journal, *Modern Poetry in Translation*, he has for years published the best versions from many languages. He and the magazine are now associated with the International Writing Program. Since beginning his work in making admirable English texts out of many languages while he was a student at Cambridge University, he has translated himself to Iowa City, happily in excellent health.

There are certain admirable writers who could not be included for various reasons, such as unavailability of copyright, lack of permission to reprint previously published work, or the writers simply disappeared, in the manner of artists everywhere and forever, and did not receive our request. They are fine talents and we regret their absence.

This Program has gambled on good will, on talent, on human decency, and the University of Iowa has gambled on us. We have all survived. Translation has helped us keep breath in our lungs, food in our stomachs and hope in our hearts.

*Paul Engle, Consultant  
Hualing Nieh Engle, Director  
International Writing Program  
Summer, 1984*

## By Way of Introduction

# The Far East

## The Near East.

# Africa

# Latin America

# Europe