



Founded in 2015 and based in London, Toronto, Vienna and elsewhere, Tilted Axis is a not-for-profit press on a mission to shake up contemporary international literature.

Tilted Axis publishes the books that might not otherwise make it into English, for the very reasons that make them exciting to us – artistic originality, radical vision, the sense that here is something new. Tilting the axis of world literature from the centre to the margins allows us to challenge that very division. These margins are spaces of compelling innovation, where multiple traditions spark new forms and translation plays a crucial role.

As part of carving out a new direction in the publishing industry, Tilted Axis is also dedicated to improving access. We're proud to pay our translators the proper rate, and to operate without unpaid interns. We hope you find our books as thrilling and beguiling as we do, and if you do, we'd love to know.

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2020 AUTHORS AND TRANSLATORS

FEB 20 Matsuda Aoko
& Polly Barton

FEB 20 Ito Hiromi &
Jeffrey Angles

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Jeremy Tiang

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Kandasamy

WHERE THE WILD LADIES ARE

by Matsuda Aoko, translated by Polly Barton

Witty, inventive, and profound, *Where the Wild Ladies Are* is a contemporary feminist retelling of traditional ghost stories by one of Japan's most exciting writers.

In a company run by the mysterious Mr Tei, strange things are afoot – incense sticks lead to a surprise encounter; a young man reflects on his mother's death; a foxlike woman finally finds her true calling. As female ghosts appear in unexpected guises, their gently humorous encounters with unsuspecting humans lead to deeper questions about emancipation and recent changes in Japanese women's lives.

Winner of an English PEN award.

AUTHOR DETAILS

Born in 1979, Matsuda Aoko is the author of three story collections and one novel. Nominated for the Mishima Yukio prize, translations of her short stories have been featured in *Granta*, *Monkey Business* and by *Strangers Press*. She also translates from English into Japanese, including books by Karen Russell and Amelia Gray. *Where The Wild Ladies Are* is her first short story collection to be translated into English.

Polly Barton is a translator living in Bristol. She is the winner of the 2019 Fitzcarraldo Editions Essay Prize for *Fifty Sounds*, a personal dictionary of the Japanese language. Her translations include *Friendship for Grown-ups* by Naocola Yamazaki and *Mikumari* by Misumi Kubo (*Strangers Press*), and *Spring Garden* by Tomoka Shibasaki (*Pushkin Press*).

Publication date: 13 February 2020
PAPERBACK 978-1-911284-38-3
EBOOK 978-1-911284-37-6 ePub
£9.99 / £3.99
Rights: World English

The author speaks good English.
Travel funding is available from the
Japan Foundation.

KILLING KANOKO / WILD GRASS ON THE RIVERBANK

by Itō Hiromi, translated by Jeffrey Angles

A landmark dual collection by one of the most important contemporary Japanese poets, in a generous and beautifully rendered translation.

KILLING KANOKO is a powerful collection exploring childbirth, motherhood, sexuality, and community through an honest, often shocking and always visceral lens by focusing on the female body. Featuring some of her most famous poems, Ito explores postpartum depression in a defiantly autobiographical manner.

WILD GRASS ON THE RIVERBANK is set simultaneously in the California desert and Japan. This collection focuses on migration, nature, and movement. At once grotesque and vertiginous, Itō interweaves mythologies, language, sexuality, and place into a genre-busting narrative of what it is to be a migrant.

AUTHOR DETAILS

Itō Hiromi is one of the most important poets of contemporary Japan. In the 1980s, her collections about sexuality, childbirth, and women's bodies revolutionised post-war Japanese poetry. She moved to California, and has since focused on migration and the psychological effects of linguistic and cultural alienation. She has won numerous prizes for her work, including the 2006 Takami Jun Prize for *Wild Grass on the Riverbank*.

Jeffrey Angles is an associate professor of Japanese and translation at Western Michigan University. He is an award-winning translator of dozens of Japan's most important modern Japanese authors and poets.

Publication date: 13 February 2020
PAPERBACK 978-1-911284-42-0
EBOOK 978-1-911284-41-3 ePub
£9.99 / £3.99
Rights: UK & Ireland

The author speaks excellent English and will appear in UK events throughout Feb 2020. Travel funding is available from the Japan Foundation.

ARID DREAMS

by Duanwad Pimwana, translated by Mui
Poopoksakul

In these thirteen stories, one of Thailand's most prominent writers investigates the thwarted ambitions and desires of ordinary working-class people. A politician's wife imagines her life without him; an elevator attendant longs for freedom: trapped in uneasy relationships and aspiring to different lives, the unforgettable characters in these stories are held back by gender and class while longing for more. With curious wit, Pimwana explores misogyny, hope and failure in a striking example of social realist literature.

AUTHOR DETAILS

Duanwad Pimwana (b. 1969) is consistently regarded as an important female voice in contemporary Thai literature. She won the S.E.A. Write Award, Southeast Asia's most prestigious literary prize, for her novel *Changsamran*, and is one of only six women to have won the Thai section of the award. Born to farmer parents, Pimwana attended a vocational school and started off as a journalist at a local newspaper. Known for fusing touches of magic realism with social realism, she has written nine books. The author currently lives in her native seaside province of Chonburi, located on the Thai east coast.

Mui Poopoksakul is a lawyer-turned-translator with a special interest in contemporary Thai literature. Her first book-length translation *The Sad Part Was* (Tilted Axis Press 2017), a short story collection by Prabda Yoon, won a PEN Translates award. A native of Bangkok, she currently resides in Berlin.

Publication date: 7 May 2020
PAPERBACK 978-1-911284-40-6
EBOOK 978-1-911284-39-0 ePub
£9.99 / £3.99

Rights: World English (excl North America)

The author speaks Thai, and has toured the US for the US publication of *Arid Dreams*.

NO PRESENTS PLEASE

by Jayant Kaikini, translated by Tejaswini
Niranjana

No Presents Please: Mumbai Stories is a vivid evocation of city life, exploring the sub-locales and spatial identities of Mumbai. Jayant Kaikini's gaze takes in the people in the corners of the city – a bus driver who, denied vacation time, steals the bus to travel home; a slum dweller who catches cats and sells them for pharmaceutical testing; a father at his wit's end who takes his mischievous son to a reform institution.

From Irani cafes to chawls, old cinema houses to reform homes, Jayant Kaikini seeks out and illuminates moments of existential anxiety and of tenderness. In these sixteen stories, cracks in the curtains of the ordinary open up to possibilities that might not have existed, but for this city where the surreal meets the everyday.

Winner of the DSC Prize for South Asian Literature

AUTHOR DETAILS

Jayant Kaikini is an Indian poet, short story writer, playwright and public intellectual. He has won the Karnataka Sahitya Akademi prize four times. He also writes regular newspaper columns, screenplays, dialogues and lyrics for Kannada films, and has won the Filmfare award for Kannada lyrics.

Tejaswini Niranjana is an Indian professor and cultural theorist, as well as an award-winning translator from Kannada and author. She specialises in culture studies, gender studies, translation and ethnomusicology, particularly relating to different forms of Indian music.

Publication date: 18 June 2020
PAPERBACK 978-1-911284-48-2
EBOOK 978-1-911284-47-5 ePub
£9.99 / £3.99
Rights: World English (excl India)

The author is based in India
and speaks good English.

STRANGE BEASTS OF CHINA

by Yan Ge, translated by Jeremy Tiang

In the fictional Chinese town of Yong'an, human beings live alongside spirits and monsters, some of which are almost indistinguishable from people. Told in the form of a bestiary, each chapter of *Strange Beasts* introduces us to a new creature – from the Sacrificial Beasts, who can't seem to stop dying, to the Besotted Beasts, an artificial breed engineered by scientists to be as loveable as possible. The narrator, an amateur cryptozoologist, is on a mission to track down each breed in turn, but in the process discovers that she might not be as human as she thought.

A whimsical and unsettling novel, told with great stylistic verve.

Winner of an English PEN award.

AUTHOR DETAILS

Yan Ge was born in Sichuan, China in 1984. She is a fiction writer in both Chinese and English. She is the author of thirteen books, including six novels. She has received numerous awards, including the prestigious Maodun Literature Prize (Best Young Writer), and was named by People's Literature magazine as one of twenty future literature masters in China. Her work has been translated into English, French and German, among other languages.

Jeremy Tiang is a Singaporean writer, translator, and playwright, based in New York City. He has translated more than ten books from Chinese and was recently honoured as the London Book Fair's inaugural Translator in Residence.

Publication date: 22 October 2020
PAPERBACK 978-1-911284-44-4
EBOOK 978-1-911284-43-7 ePub
£9.99 / £3.99
Rights: World English

The author is based in Norwich and speaks fluent English.

WOMEN DREAMING

by Rajathi Salma, translated by Meena
Kandasamy

Coming a decade after the acclaimed *The Hour Past Midnight* (longlisted for the Man Booker Asia Prize), Salma's sophomore novel *Women Dreaming* shines a light on the lives and loves of three Indian Muslim Tamil women in a small village, their compromises and quiet rebellions, in prose that is intensely poetic yet compressed in its simplicity.

Filled with local detail that embroiders the narrative rather than exoticising for a western gaze, Salma's work combines startling metaphoric resonance with a rare outspokenness about traditionalism and patriarchy in relation to Tamil women's experience, navigating the complexities around her identity with nuance, attention, and care.

Winner of an English PEN award.

AUTHOR DETAILS

Rajathi Salma (born 1968) is a poet and fiction writer whose work combines a rare outspokenness about taboo areas of the traditional Tamil women's experience with a language of compressed intensity and startling metaphoric resonance. She has faced great adversity – including obscenity charges and violent threats for her erotic poetry – to also become a major political leader and campaigner for women's rights. She is the subject of an eponymous documentary film by Kim Longinotto.

Meena Kandasamy is a poet, fiction writer, translator and activist. Her second novel *When I Hit You* was shortlisted for the Women's Prize for Fiction in 2018. She has published two poetry collections, *Touch* and *Ms. Militancy*, and the novel *The Gypsy Goddess*.

Publication date: 19 November 2020
PAPERBACK 978-1-911284-46-8
EBOOK 978-1-911284-45-1 ePub
£9.99 / £3.99
Rights: World English

The author is based in India and speaks good English. The translator is based in London and available for events.