

ALMOST ISLAND

Contributors: Monsoon 2020

Adil Jussawalla was born in Bombay in 1940. His third book of poems, *Trying to Say Goodbye*, was published by Almost Island Books in 2011 and his latest, *Shorelines*, by Poetrywala last year. He has worked in several fields over the years - mainly as lecturer, literary editor and journalist. He lives in Bombay.

Anne Waldman is an author of more than 40 collections of poetry and poetics. She is an active member of the Outrider experimental poetry movement, and has been connected to the Beat movement and the second generation of the New York School. Her publications include *Fast Speaking Woman* (1975), *Marriage: A Sentence* (2000), the multi-volume *Iovis project* (1992, 1993, 1997), and *Voice's Daughter of a Heart Yet to Be Born* (2016). She was one of the founders and directors of The Poetry Project at St. Marks's Church In-the-Bowery, working there for twelve years. She also co-founded with Allen Ginsberg and Diane diPrima the celebrated Jack Kerouac School of Disembodied Poetics at Naropa University. She is a Distinguished Professor of Poetics at Naropa and continues to work to preserve the school's substantial literary/oral archive and curate the celebrated Summer Writing Program. Some of her performance work may be accessed on Charles Bernstein's [Penn Sound](#).

Ashis Nandy is one of India's most significant thinkers and public intellectuals. His work spans the fields of political psychology, sociology, nationalism, public conscience and culture. He is the author of many books, some of them seminal in Indian thought, such as *The Intimate Enemy*, and *The Savage Freud*. For many years he was a Fellow and a Director of the Centre for Developing Societies in New Delhi. He was awarded the Fukuoka Asian Culture Prize in 2007, and the Hans Kilian Award in 2019.

David Albahari was born in Serbia where he now lives. He lived for many years in Canada. He has published thirteen books of short stories, fifteen novels, six books of essays, a book of three short plays, and two books for children, many of which have been translated into other languages. Of these, two collections of his short stories, *Words Are Something Else* and *Learning Cyrillic*, have appeared in English, as well as the novels *Tsing*, *Bait*, *Snow Man*, *Globetrotter*, *Götz and Meyer*, *Leeches*, and *Checkpoint*.

Ellen Elias-Bursac translates fiction and non-fiction from Bosnian, Croatian, and Serbian. Her translation of David Albahari's novel *Götz and Meyer* was given the 2006 American Literary Translators Association National Translation Award. She is the president of the American Literary Translators Association.

Irwin Allan Sealy was born in Allahabad and educated at Lucknow and Delhi. He is the author of the *Trotter-nama* and other novels including *The Everest Hotel*, *The Brainfever Bird*, and *Red*. His *Yukon to Yucatan* is the account of an overland journey from the Arctic Sea to the Gulf of Mexico. He has also published a *China Sketchbook*, and a book of poems, *Zelaldinus*. His newest novel is *Asoca*. A memoir, *The Small Wild Goose Pagoda*, is set in Dehra Dun, where he lives.

Jennifer Robertson is a poet, critic and an independent curator based in Bombay. Her debut manuscript won the Editor's choice award instituted by The (Great) Indian Poetry Collective. Her critical essays and book reviews have appeared in *The American Book Review*, *Scroll*, *Mint*, and *Vayavya*.

Her poems have been published by the Emma Press, UK, The Missing Slate and Domus, and have been widely anthologised in the *Global Anthology of Anglophone Poetry* published by Poetry Foundation, USA, the *40 Under 40: Anthology of Post-Globalisation Poetry* published by Poetrywala, India, and the Sahitya Akademi's anthology of young poets. She has convened the literary chapter for the PEN All-India Centre at Prithvi Theatre and was the literary curator for the 'Celebrate Bandra Festival'.

Mantra Mukim is currently a doctoral candidate in the Department of English & Comparative Literary Studies, University of Warwick. His essays have appeared in *Caravan*, *Asymptote*, *New Union*, *Almost Island* and *Humanities Underground*.

Medha Singh is a poet, editor and translator. She took her M.A. from Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi and Sciences Po, Paris. She has authored two books. Her first collection of poems is *Ecdysis* (2017, Paperwall). The second is a work of translation from the French, *I Will Bring My Time: Love Letters by S.H. Raza* (Vadehra Art Gallery, 2020). She was nominated for the Toto Funds the Arts award in 2019. She has published widely between

India, US, UK and Europe. She is on the editorial board at Freigeist Verlag, Berlin. She has also delivered a TEDx talk on effective arguing. She tweets @medhawrites.

Monica Mody is the author of *Kala Pani* (1913 Press) and two cross-genre chapbooks. Her poetry also appears in *Poetry International*, *The Indian Quarterly*, *Eleven Eleven*, *Boston Review*, and *Yes Poetry*, among other places. She has been the recipient of the Nicholas Sparks Postgraduate Writer-in-Residence Prize from the University of Notre Dame, Naropa's Zora Neale Hurston Award, and the Toto Funds the Arts Award for Creative Writing. Monica holds a PhD in East West Psychology from the California Institute of Integral Studies, and an MFA in Creative Writing from the University of Notre Dame. She was born in Ranchi, India.