

ALMOST ISLAND

Contributors: Spring 2017

Arvind Krishna Mehrotra's most recent book, *Collected Poems*, was published in 2016 by Giramondo. His translation (with Sara Rai) of Vinod Kumar Shukla's autobiographical essay, 'Old Veranda', appears in the Spring 2017 issue of *n+1*. He lives in Dehradun.

Irwin Allan Sealy is the author of *The Trotter-Nama*, *The Everest Hotel*, and other novels, and a travel book *From Yukon to Yucatan*. His memoir *The Small Wild Goose Pagoda* is set in Dehra Dun where he lives. *The China Sketchbook* appeared last year.

Jane Brodie is a visual artist and translator specialising in the visual arts. She moved to Buenos Aires after graduating from college in 1990. It was not until she had lived in that city for almost fifteen years that she understood what kept her there: the combination of elegance and decay so particular to that city. That combination is also, to a large extent, what her art investigates. Her translation clients include *Art Forum*, Malba, the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, the Hammer Museum, and other institutions, publications, and individuals (mostly artists and critics) based in the Americas.

John Robert Lee (b. St. Lucia 1948) has published several collections of poetry. His short stories and poems have been widely anthologised. His reviews and columns have appeared with regularity in newspapers, local and regional. He has also produced and presented radio and television programmes in St. Lucia for many years. His books include *Saint Lucian* (1988), *Artefacts* (2000), *Canticles* (2007), *Elemental* (2008), *Sighting* (2013), *City Remembrances* (2016), and *Song and Symphony* (2016). He compiled and edited *Roseau Valley and other poems for Brother George Odlum* (2003), *Bibliography of Saint Lucian Creative Writing 1948-2013* (2013); he co-edited *Saint Lucian Literature and Theatre: an anthology of reviews* (2006) with fellow St. Lucian poet Kendel Hippolyte and co-edited *Sent Lisi: poems and art of Saint Lucia* (2014) with Kendel Hippolyte, Jane King and Vladimir Lucien. His *Collected Poems 1975-2015* is now available from [Peepal Tree Press](#).

Jyotsna Milan (1941–2014) was a Hindi poet and novelist, whose enigmatic writing style earned her cult status in the post-independence writing scene in India. Her language was not only marked by a freshness of form and diction, but its nuanced engagement with themes of

female subjectivity and domesticity made it a necessary variant within the male-dominated modernism of the subcontinent. While having two masters degrees, in English and in Gujarati literature, she wrote and translated largely in Hindi. She was the editor of the monthly journal *Ansuya*, brought out by the women's welfare organization Sewa, for more than twenty-two years, and translated a number of writers, including Gulam Muhammad Sheikh, Rajendra Shah, and Pavankumar Jain, from Gujarati. She published two novels in her lifetime, *Apne Saath* and *A Astu Ka*, the latter considered a landmark piece in Hindi literature. Apart from four short story collections, she also published two distinctive volumes of poetry, *Ghar Nahi* and *Apne Aage Aage*, which the current translation relies upon. A blog that compiles her own writings and photographs along with several other writings on her can be found [here](#).

Lucas Klein is a father, writer, translator, and editor whose work has appeared in *LARB*, *Jacket*, *Rain Taxi*, *CLEAR*, *Comparative Literature Studies*, and *PMLA*, and from Fordham, Black Widow, Zephyr, and New Directions. Assistant Professor at the University of Hong Kong, his translation *Notes on the Mosquito: Selected Poems of Xi Chuan* won the 2013 Lucien Stryk Prize, and his *October Dedications*, translations of the poetry of Mang Ke, is forthcoming from Zephyr and Chinese University Press. He is translating Tang dynasty poet Li Shangyin.

Mantra Mukim is a research student in the English department, Delhi University.

Maria do Carmo Zanini is the author of RPGs (role-playing games) and a translator.

Odile Cisneros has translated poetry by Jaroslav Seifert, Vitezslav Nezval, Rodrigo Rey Rosa, Régis Bonvicino, and Haroldo de Campos among others. She is an associated professor of Arts, Modern Languages and Cultural Studies at the University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada.

Chinese poet **Ouyang Jianghe** (b. 1956), known as one of the “Five Masters from Sichuan,” is also a prominent critic of music, art, and literature, and president of the literary magazine *Jintian*. His poetry volumes *Doubled Shadows* and *Phoenix*, translated by Austin Woerner, have been published by Zephyr Press. He now lives in Beijing, where he is a professor of creative writing at Beijing Normal University.

Régis Bonvicino (São Paulo, 1955) is a Brazilian poet, translator, literary critic and editor. He has published over twelve collections of poetry in his own country, as well as anthologies, and poetry for children. He is the editor of *Sibila*. In English, his work has appeared in *Sky-Eclipse: Selected Poems* (Green Integer, 2000), and *Beyond the Wall: New Selected Poems* (Green Integer, 2016).

Sergio Chejfec (Argentina, 1956) is a well-known writer in Spanish. He lived in Caracas from 1990 to 2004. He has lived in the US since 2005 and teaches at New York University as Distinguished Writer-in-Residence in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese. Chejfec has published more than fifteen books, among them novels, essays and short stories. Many of his novels have been translated into several languages. Among other distinctions, he received a fellowship from the Civitella Ranieri Foundation in 2007 and from the John Simon Guggenheim Foundation in 2000.

Sumana Roy's first book, *How I Became a Tree*, a work of non-fiction, was published in India in February 2017. Her poems have appeared in *Granta*, *Guernica*, *Drunken Boat*, *The Prairie Schooner*, and other journals. She lives in Siliguri in India.

Terry Pitts is a retired art museum director and curator. He is the author of a number of books, exhibition catalogs, and essays, mostly on the history of photography. He has curated more than fifty exhibitions for museums in the US and Europe. He studied literature and library science at the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana, and has an MA in art history from the University of Arizona. Since 2007, he has written the blog [Vertigo](#), where he writes about contemporary literature and photography. He lives in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Long involved in the experimental literary scene in Los Angeles, **Thérèse Bachand's** first collection, *Luce a Cavallo* received Green Integer's Gertrude Stein Book Award for 2005. Her unpublished work includes a project using the daily newspaper as a means to create a common palette of words.

Torin Jensen is a poet and translator living in Denver, where he edits *Goodmorning Menagerie*. His work has appeared in numerous journals including *Asymptote*, *Mandorla*, and *The Volta*. He is the author of *Phase sponge [] the keep* (Solar Luxuriance 2014).

Valerie Mejer Caso (Mexico City, 1966) comes from a family of immigrants from Spain, Germany and England. Mejer Caso has been the recipient of the International Poetry Award “Gerardo Diego” (Spain) for her book *De Elefante a Elefante* and was also the recipient of three grants given by The National Council for Culture and the Arts in Mexico. Her work has been widely translated into English, and has appeared in *Poetry London*, *The Hunger Mountain Review*, *Nimrod*, *The American Poetry Review*, *Translations*, *Asymptote* and *Circumference* among others. She’s the author of *Cuaderno de Edimburgo* and *de la ola el atajo* (Amargord, Colección Trasatlántica, España); *Geografías de Niebla* (Tucán de Virginia, 2007, México); *Esta Novela Azul* (Tucán de Virginia 2005, México); *Ante el ojo del cíclope* (Tierra Adentro, 2000, México). In 2015, Action Books published a bilingual version, translated by Michelle Gil-Montero of *This Blue Novel*, with an introduction by Raúl Zurita. The collection of poems *Rain of the Future* was also published by Action Books, in 2014, and was edited by C.D. Wright, with translations by her, Forrest Gander and Alexandra Zellman Döring.