

## **LITERATURE FESTIVAL RUSE 2018**

### **"THE BREATH OF EUROPE"**

**3 - 7.10.2018**

**CANNETI HOUSE, 12 SLAVYANSKA STR. AND CITY ART GALLERY - RUSE, 39 BORISOVA STR.**

Faithful to his credo for collecting and promoting differences, this year the festival welcomes various languages and genres under the title "The Breath of Europe". Writers, artists, translators, photographers, scientists and musicians from Austria, Bulgaria, Germany, Spain, Italy, Poland, the Czech Republic and Hungary will read poetry and prose, bring pictures and installations, talk, create music and improvise together with the audience in Ruse, Sofia and Turnovo.

We will discuss hot topics and issues on Europe, we will look around us and maybe find solutions or get better?

**Collect stamps from 5 events of the festival to receive a book on Sunday, Oct. 7<sup>th</sup>, at the finissage at Canetti House during the concert of Marianna D'ama and Davide Grotta!**

### **3 OCTOBER, WEDNESDAY, CITY ART GALLERY - RUSE**

**4.30 PM**

**Exhibition by Atanas Gadzhev, presented by Cervantes Institute - Sofia**

JUAN RULFO'S 100 YEARS ANNIVERSARY

The works at the exhibition are visual interpretations of one of the most important 20th century novels "Pedro Paramo" by the Mexican author Juan Rulfo. Atanas Gadzhev, a Bulgarian artist, expressed his respect for the work of Juan Rulfo through his own works, by presenting his "reading" on the idea of the overflowing boundaries between life and death. Created in 2014, the graphic artworks are limited digital prints, whose origins are miniatures painted with ink and feathers on authentic parchment as part of an international project.

Atanas Gadzhev (1960) graduated in "Ceramics" at the National Academy of Arts. He is the author of a number of interior, exterior and spatial artistic and plastic solutions made of clay and paper. Has more than 25 solo exhibitions in Sofia, Madrid, Bratislava, Vienna and Prague. He participated in international projects and creative residences: Cite Internationale des Arts, Paris, France; Schwandorf, Germany; Vogel, Slovenia; Uzice and Zlakusa, Serbia; Nitra, Slovakia; Thaya, Hungary; Resen, Macedonia; Pretoria, South Africa, etc., as well as over 70 collective exhibitions.

**5 PM**

**Petja Heinrich and the river - "Lima" and "Limne"**

**Moderator: Mira Dushkova**

P.H.: Yes, I will come to the festival in Rouse. What a nice meeting it will be - "Limne" refers to the ancient Greek word for rivers and lakes, and although in the book most texts are in the spirit of the Rhine (this is how it happened - this river is under my nose), then the Danube is an inspiring river relative :) and I could not imagine a better place in Bulgaria for presenting exactly these books than Rouse.

Heinrich graduated journalism at Sofia University. Since the mid-1990s Heinrich has worked as a journalist and has collaborated with various media in Bulgaria. Since 1996 she lives with her family in Germany. Editor of the German and Bulgarian versions of the electronic magazine "Public Republic", participates in the team of the digest for literature and people "Crossroad", collaborates with Bulgarian and German media. She translates poetry from and into German. Since 2007 she writes her personal blog about poetry "мисли + думи". Creator and motor of the magazine "НО ПОЕЗИЯ".

**6 PM**

**Petar Chuhov - Love Herostrategy - Reading of Semi-Love Poems.**

**Moderators: Mira Dushkova/Maia Angelova**

Petar Chuhov was born on June 23, 1961 in Sofia. Bachelor of Library Science at the State Library Institute and Master of Sociology at the Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski ". The author is also the editor of the preface of the first anthology of the Bulgarian Haiku published abroad - the bilingual collection (in Hungarian and Bulgarian) "Más-más csönd/Different Silence "(Narkut Kiado, Budapest, 2012). He is writing music and lyrics, has played in many rock bands ("Subdibula", "Tutaksi", "Stenly", "Pesho and the alcoholics", "Cocarde"), co-founder of the ethno-rock group "Гологан". He presents his poems with the alternative rock band "LaTekst" (latex.eu), and the newest formation he plays in is "Par Avion Band". Author of 11 poetry collections, two books with prose and a book for children.

**7 PM**

**Mira Dushkova presents her new book "Angels and Snow over Montreal" (2018), ed. "Janet-45"**

**With the participation of the dance formation "Star Dance" to the Community Center "Hristo Botev - 1908" with artistic director Antonia Koseva.**

Mira Dushkova (1974) is a poet and literary writer, doctor of Bulgarian Literature, associate professor at Rouse University "A. Kanchev". Has graduated Bulgarian Philology at VTU "St. St. Cyril and Methodius ". Her

poems and stories are published in literary publications in Bulgaria, Austria, India, Romania, the United States, Serbia, Turkey, Hungary, Croatia, Sweden, in online editions in Swedish and Arabic languages.

She is the author of the poetry books "Trying Stories as Clothes", "Exercises on the Straw Dummy", "Smells and Sightings", the collection of stories "Invisible Things" and the monographs "Semper Idem: Konstantin Konstantinov. The Poetry of the late stories" and "Memento vivere: Konstantin Konstantinov and his contemporaries".

She lives in Ruse and teaches literature at the University of Ruse.

#### **4 OCTOBER, THURSDAY, CANETTI HOUSE**

**4.30 PM**

#### **Opening of the exhibition "Famous Bulgarians in support of the Polish Cause", together with the Polish Institute in Sofia**

The exhibition is in connection with the two anniversaries we celebrate in 2018: 100 years since the restoration of Poland's independence and the 140th anniversary of the liberation of Bulgaria.

The exhibition was prepared by the Scientific Archive of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences for 100 years since the publication of the "Bulgarian poll on the Polish question". About 100 years ago, 32 Bulgarian politicians and intellectuals engaged in public activities in favor of the restoration of an independent Poland by answering questions from Tadeusz St. Grabowski, founder of the Polish Printing Office in Sofia, initiator of the Poll (1915), and by the end of 1918 - the first ambassador of the Polish Republic in Sofia. The exhibition details the Bulgarian participants in the poll, including many politicians, university lecturers and writers. Among them are 8 professional politicians, incl. 6-has former and current ministers (Dr. Vassil Radoslavov and IE Geshov), 10 scientists, university lecturers, members of the Academy of Sciences (Boyan Penev and Stilian Chilingirov), writers and poets (Ivan Vazov and Mara Belcheva). The exhibition includes reproductions of historical documents. They were used in the Polish-Bulgarian edition of the poll, initiated in 2011 by the postgraduate professor Magda Karabelova.

**5 PM**

#### **Eugeniusz Tkaczyszyn - Dycki- "This body could have been mine"**

**Moderator: prof. Margreta Grigorova**

Presentation of the collection of poems of the Polish author Eugeniusz Tkaczyszyn - Dycki - "This body could have been mine. 83 chosen poems" (Emas Publishing House, Sofia, 2017, selection, translation from Polish language and order: Panayot Karagyozov). The book and the author will be presented by prof. Margreta Grigorova from St. Cyril and St. Methodius University of Veliko Turnovo.

**6 PM**

**Emil Basat and the translators, episode 2: prof. Margreta Grigorova talks with Emil Basat**

Presentation of the book "For Poland with Love. Bulgarian Voices of Polish Literature". The author Emil Basat presents interviews with 19 translators of Polish literature into Bulgarian language and literary studies specialists in a discussion with prof. Margreta Grigorova.

*This book is the result of nostalgia and sadness - sadness in a beautiful and meaningful time of friendship and sadness on people who have gone without time - Boyan and Julia Obretenovich, Velichko Todorov and Galya Belinska, thanks to which I entered the world of Poland. This is also a book of my late recognition to those translation workers who have translated the Polish word over the years, as well as to the researchers of the Bulgarian-Polish cultural ties. The faces of Bulgarian polonists are numerous and different, among them are comparatists, linguists, synchronous and consecutive translators, film translators, scientists combining their interests with the translation of fiction and poetry - all united by a common love for Poland. I'm going through their voices and thinking to become empathetic, dear readers, to what my heroes call "breath of air," "a sense of freedom," a "moral example." (Emil Basat)*

Emil Basat is a literary journalist and translator. Born April 26, 1949 in Sofia. Has graduated Bulgarian Philology at the Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski". For 40 years he has been doing surveys on Bulgarian translators. He is the author of 6 books - "Czech Triptych" (co-authored by Velichko Todorov), "Translation - faces and masks" - first and second parts, the third part awaits its publisher, "Bulgarian-Hungarian doubles", "Slovak Faces of Bulgarian Literature" (electronic version) and "For Poland with Love". He is the winner of the Union of Bulgarian Writers Award and the Panegyric Foundation for his overall contribution to the popularization of the translation business in Bulgaria. He is Head of the UBW Department of Translation Theory, History and Criticism.

**19 h**

**The new books published by Elias Canetti Publishing House, presented by prof. Penka Angelova, Emil Basat and Tsvetan Tsvetanov - "Gebürtig" and translations of German poetry by Ventseslav Konstantinov**

Two incredibly beautiful books came out these days in Elias Canetti publishing house Ruse - "Write me, my wonderful, soon" by H.C. Artmann and the novel "Gebürtig" by Robert Schindel. In 1960 H.C. Artmann has written longing letters, to these he added analogously dated love poems, but also encouraging, funny postcards, addressed to the young, aspiring Carinthian actress Didi Macher in Klagenfurt, that stayed there because she had to cure a long illness and the poet regularly visited there.

Special mention deserves the exclusive polygraphic elaboration of the envelope of Neyko Genchev. Congratulations also for the wonderful, truly affectionate translation of this tender book to the translator Anna Dimova. The novel "Gebürtig" first appeared in Austria in 1992 and the great interest in 2001 led to a film adaptation, directed by Robert Schindel and Lukas Stepanik. The film also stars Samuel Fintzi.

Emil Bassat, Jewish News, 27/07/2018

"German Poets of the Present"

The opinion is widespread that Germany is "the land of poets and thinkers". This winged phrase seems justified, because German poetry - from its beginnings to the present day - has always been inspired by thinkers, by ideas from German philosophy and aesthetics. And German thinking, like poetry, is always focused on the depths and secrets of the universe and the human mind in order to draw a lasting light, "more light!" in Goethe's last words, out of the darkness of existence. - *Wenzeslaw Konstantinow*, preface

### **5 OCTOBER, FRIDAY, CANETTI HOUSE**

**Poeziomat or Jukebox for POETRY, together with the Czech Center - Sofia is placed at Svoboda Square 4, in front of Art Cafe in the Dohodno Zdanie from September 24<sup>th</sup> till Oct. 31<sup>st</sup>, 2018**

The Poeziomat looks like a periscope on a submarine or as a ventilation tube, but it's actually a free jukebox for poetry. The first Poeziomat appeared in 2010 in Prague based on the idea of Ondrej Kobza. After Kiev, London, Moscow, Venice and New York from 2017, Poeziomat travels around Bulgaria and from it poetry of modern European poets can be heard in its original form and its translation in Bulgarian.

Poeziomat is in Bulgaria thanks to its creators from the independent Czech initiative to revive the urban environment of 'Piano on the street' and with the assistance of the Czech Center Sofia and the partners of the Network of European National Cultural Institutes EUNIC - Bulgaria.

#### **4.30 PM at Canetti House**

##### **Boryana Kalistrina reads '1968' and other poems**

Boryana Kalistrina is a poetess and a journalist. She is author of "Homo ludens" - "The playing man" that was presented in the Bulgarian National Radio and of the verbal installation „The voice of the artist“. Currently, she works as a PR-agent in Sofia.

#### **5.30 PM**

##### **KOPRIVA /LIVE CONCERT**

KOPRIVA is a loop-artist. The street is her scene. She creates her music live by letting the universe lead her and sing through her.

#### **5.45 PM**

**Exhibition "IN THIS TIME AT ANOTHER PLACE / 100 YEARS CZECH COMICS", together with the Czech Center Sofia, the exhibition continues until 31 Oct. 2018**

The 100 years anniversary of the creation of Czechoslovakia (1918) offers the perfect opportunity to review the history of the Czech comic book as well as the image of history in the comics. The exhibition presents this Czech art in its many forms and historical interrelations. Through the thematic focus on the main genres, turning points and intercultural inspiration, the exhibition aims to show the modern Czech comic and its "first century" in their entire variety. It seems to us that the most appropriate way of presenting the history of the Czech comic book is the unsystematic variety - the story of what happens here at this time and how it happens elsewhere will allow us to better understand what is happening here and now.

The exhibition "At this time in another place / 100 years Czech comics" with curators Pavel Korinek and Tomash Prokupek is a project of the Czech Centers, implemented in partnership with the Institute of Czech Literature at the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic and the Faculty of Philosophy at the Palatski University in Olomouc as part of the events celebrating the 100th anniversary of the creation of Czechoslovakia.

## **6 PM**

**Presentation of the Bulgarian translation of the 'Zatopek' comic with the participation of the writer Jan Novak the publisher Manol Peykov and the translator Vasil Samokovliev, together with the Czech Center Sofia and the publishing house "Janet 45"**

The 'Zatopek' comic book is a joint project by writer Jan Novak and artist Jaromir 99 and follows the road of the remarkable athlete Emil Zatopek (1922-2000) from the small town of Koprivnice to the Olympic stadium in Helsinki, where in 1952 he won three gold medals breaking Olympic records (in the 5000m and 10,000m race and in the marathon). The Bulgarian version of the comic book is translated by Vasil Samokovliev in the publishing house "Janet 45".

Jan Novak's guest appearance is supported by the Czech Literature Center at the Moravian Library in Brno.

## **7 PM**

**Kristina Tsaneva-Parzer, Austria-Bulgaria - Presentation and Discussion on "Bulgarians in Austria"**

**Moderator: prof. Penka Angelova**

Since October 2016 Kristina Tsaneva – Parzer is an Austrian lecturer in the Veliko Tarnovo university. She was born in Burgas and at the age of 22 she goes to Austria where in 2005 she graduates German and Slavic studies in the university of Salzburg. She works twelve years on different projects in Vienna as a German language lecturer and translator.

"The Bulgarians in Vienna" chronologically follows the history of the Bulgarian diaspora in Austria during the last 300 years. Particular emphasis is given to the role of Bulgarian emigration in the Austro-Hungarian Empire for our Liberation Movement at the end of the 19th century, the Bulgarian students in Vienna, and

the importance of the Bulgarian gardeners-gurbets in Central Europe. In the last part, the presentation touches on the contemporary life of our compatriots in Vienna, the educational and cultural institutions and events organized by and for the nearly thirty thousand Bulgarians currently working and living in Austria.

## **6 OCTOBER, SATURDAY, CANETTI HOUSE**

**4.30 PM**

### **"Lost in translation" - The untranslatable, translated into visual language. Poster exhibition of Goethe-Institut Bulgaria**

The exhibition "Lost in Translation" was formed in the course of a poster competition organized by the Goethe-Institut, where creative representations of German words that are difficult to translate or even not translatable were sought. In intercultural dialogue, these words often involve an intensive examination of the language, but also of the culture of a country: The illustrated, untranslatable words can also represent a thinking, a feeling or a worldview that is typical of the Germans and German Culture. Thus, it is also an invitation to embrace cultural differences and to build bridges to overcoming cultural barriers. The 2-part touring exhibition has already been shown in Sofia, Vratsa and Varna, as well as in the Goethe-Institut Düsseldorf

**5 PM**

### **Poems by Björn Kuhligk**

**Moderator prof. Penka Angelova**

Björn Kuhligk has published poetry and prose in several individual titles as well as in numerous anthologies and literary magazines. From 1996 to 1999 he organized with HEL the reading series "Die Schwarzleserey". From 2002 to 2006 he was editor of the Berliner Zeitung for prose and poetry "louder nobody". Together with Tom Schulz he published from 1997 to 1999 the edition minotaurus. Kuhligk is co-editor of representative collections of poetry presenting the scene of young poetry in the German-speaking world. From 2006 to 2009 he directed the poetry workshop 'open poems' of the Literaturwerkstatt Berlin. He is a member of the PEN center Germany. Björn Kuhligk lives and works in Berlin.

**6 PM**

### **Jörg Gläscher, Echoland- screening and discussion**

**Moderator: prof. Penka Angelova**

**Echoland, About the struggle for Europe**

There is an echo throughout Europe. Basically, there are many echoes. They were quiet for a while, but now they are back in full volume. These are echoes that tell of the struggle for Europe. They are echoes of battles and dead, which reoccur throughout the centuries. They just do not want to disappear. The great wars seemed over, the slaughter in Verdun, the slaughter of Stalingrad and the heights of Seelower, the preparation for the cold war in the rocket silos and nuclear submarine ports. However, the echoes keep coming back to Europe, raging in Hungary and Bosnia, reappearing in Kosovo, then falling silent again for a few decades. Also 100 years after the beginning of the First World War, they are looking for a new field, are louder on the new EU external borders in Greece and Lampedusa, find themselves quietly in the refugee camps in Calais again. The echoes about the struggle for Europe do not disappear.

Europe has laboriously found itself from an ego to a we of states, from bloody nationalism to a European idea.

In the European Parliament, one can observe a tributary flow of these echoes. Here, too, Europe is struggling. By other means, quasi the reversal of Clausewitz to "diplomacy is the continuation of the war by other means". They struggle with each other for ideas, phrases, sentences, even a comma. Form coalitions, axes, alliances. Europe is still on the journey. Everywhere on this journey you hear echoes from the past. Big battles, millions of dead or just a sand hill, a grave. This echo passes through Europe and makes it fragile, because it keeps on fighting. In the countryside and in the parliament. Exit open. Echo country.

For the photo work "Echoland, about the struggle for Europe", I went to two picture lines. I have watched parliamentarians in the European Parliament, Brussels, Strasbourg, Frankfurt and Berlin. In two journeys to the echoes of Europe, I have visited places where the struggle for Europe in the landscape is visible. From the battlefields of Verdun, Poland and Bosnia Herzegovina, to Cold War installations in Latvia, to refugee camps in Greece and France.

Jörg Gläscher presents and discusses his photographic series EKOZEMIA (Jörg Gläscher ECHOLAND).

**7 PM**

### **Vladimir Sabourin and Alexander Nikolov, New Social Poetry - Presentation of the Literary Movement and Discussion**

Vladimir Sabourin writes in Bulgarian and is of French-Cuban origin: a poet, a philologist, a historian of culture, a literary critic. Alexander Nikolov is a Bulgarian poet. Since 2017 he writes under the pen name "Александър Николов". They are both authors of the "Manifesto of New Social Poetry" and the founder of the literary movement "New Social Poetry."

**7 OCTOBER, SUNDAY, CANETTI HOUSE**

**4 PM**

### **Mariagiorgia Ulbar – concert reading with Davide Grotta**

The poetess Mariagiorgia Ulbar is born in Teramo in 1981. She is a writer, translator and teacher. Her poems have been translated and published in various literary magazines in Mexico, Poland, Germany, Spain, Greece, Austria and the United States. She is the founder of the Isola Collection and has been active with publications from 2012 to date with Italian publishers including, Maremmi, Marcos y Marcos, Elliot. Her performances together with the multi-instrumentalist Davide Grotta, combine poetry and music.

**5 PM**

### **Tzveta Sofronieva - Anthropocene and Anthropocene**

Thousands of years ago, Laozi was stopped at the border and had to write all his knowledge. Such a poetic passport of today is written by Tzveta Sofronieva when she had been stopped by linguistic boundaries. This poetry allows us to take a deep look at the interactions between different spheres of knowledge, expressions and creative processes in the astonishingly close frame of the early 21st century. Open heart and imagination help us change our views and words, lead wars and households, love and devastate nature, juggle in and with communication ways, systems and networks, yet we do not understand how to save life. Anthropocene moves freely in multilingualism, as the author is at home in the global. - Johanna Domokoz, Bielefeld

**6 PM**

**The Hungarian Institute “Balassi” presents the young poet, Izsó Zita and her translator Martin Hristov. By the end of the year her poetry book is to be published in Bulgarian.**

Izsó Zita (1986), poet, translator, playwright, editor of ‘Horizons’ world literature series of the Union of Young Writers and Kalligram, and the Üveghegy (uveghegy.com) children's literature site.

With her first drama, written by both sisters Izsó - Zita won the Hungarian Radio Drama Competition. The play "Hanging" was set in 2010 by the Theater Company of the town of Debrecen.

With her first poetry collection (Marine Resident, FISZ - Union of Young Writers), she won the Gerecz Attila Prize in 2012. In 2013 she received the Moricz Zsigmond literary scholarship, in 2015 a Mihai Babic translation scholarship, and in 2016 and 2018 a scholarship from the National ‘Culture’ Fund (Hungary). Her second poem "From blossom to blossom" came out in autumn 2014 (publishing house PRAE-Palimpszeszt). From the summer of 2015, together with Bach Mateval, she runs a blog called "Women of Pesti", the material of which come out in the spring of 2017 in a joint collection of interviews (Pesti's Women, Athenaeum).

Her poems are translated into English, German, Polish and Serbian languages. She is currently working on her third collection of poems, which will be published by Publishing house “Scolar” until the end of the year.

**Martin Hristov**, translator, publisher. Translates poetry and prose into Hungarian. Among the authors he translates from are: Sándor Márai, Imre Oravecz, György Petri, Géza Csáth, István Bibó, Levente Király, Eva Banki, Andras Petocz, György Ferdinandy and others.

Winner of the Hungarian State Award "Golden Cross" – in recognition of his translations of Hungarian literature into Bulgarian and his contribution to the promotion of Hungarian culture in Bulgaria. Owner of Ergo Publishing House, specialized in the publishing of works by European authors.

**7 PM**

### **Concert by Marianna D'ama and Davide Grotta**

Eclectic and versatile artist, she starts playing electric guitar at the age of 14 and joins a band of friends as a guitarist (Jeremy in progress). They published their first album in which Marianna improvises a song and that's how she starts singing. At 18, she moved to London to learn English and there she decided to undertake several music courses, inspired by different musicians known in the live clubs where she worked. After 4 years she returns to Italy and begins her collaboration as a singer with an alternative rock band, MOVEONOUT with which she publishes an ep, RML in 2008, and an album, HERE in 2012.

After several years spent with MOVEONOUT, Marianna decides to leave the band and start producing her own material. She started with some home recordings, playing and singing on drum beats extracted from 60s/70s Funk vinyls, experiment the bass lines with a Farfisa organ and her first tracks began to take shape.

The meeting in a recording studio with Davide Grotta, multi-instrumentalist as well as sound engineer, allows her to arrange her songs definitively. In January 2018 their first self-produced EP has been released.

### **SOFIA :**

**6 OCTOBER, SATURDAY, 9PM – CONCERT of Marianna D'ama and Davide Grotta** at the concert hall of the Bulgarian National Radio (blvd. "Dragan Tsankov" 4) as part of the October edition of "**Alarma Punk Jazz Fest**" - a festival night with four musical projects: Marianna D'ama+ Davide Grotta; Common Eider, King Eider; Drekkka; My Empty Phantom

### **VELIKO TARNOVO:**

**5 OCTOBER, FRIDAY, 20 PM at Club TAM, 2, Marno Pole str.**

**Presentation and discussion with Björn Kuhligk and Jörg Gläscher**