

# 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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Spring-Summer 1984  
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## 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

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