

UK and Turkish writers to take part in the project / DISCOVER - New writing from Turkey and the UK

Yekta Kopan was born in 1968. As one of the founders of altKitap.com, which is the first e-publishing house of Turkey, Kopan maintains his literary activities through the active and interactive use of the Internet. In addition to short stories and a novel, he has also written critical essays on cinema and writing. His short stories and essays were published in various literary reviews, collections and anthologies.

Works:

Ivory Black (Fildişi Karası), 2000, stories; *Recipes Of Loneliness From The Kitchen of Love (Aşk Mutfağından Yalnızlık Tarifleri)*, 2001, stories, 2002, Sait Faik Short Story Award; *An Evaluation of Conscience in 7 Lessons (Yedi Derste Vicdan Muhasebesi)*, 2003, stories; *Who Is Inside Of Me? (İçimde Kim Var?)*, 2004, novel; *The Black Cat's Shadow (Kara Kedinin Gölgesi)*, 2005, stories; *Cats Wake Up Jolly (Kediler Güzel Uyanır)*, 2011, stories; *Carbon Copy (Karbon Kopya)*, 2007, stories, 2007 Dünya Kitap Best Book of the Year Award; *The Loss of You (Bir De Baktım Yoksun)*, 2009, stories, 2010 Yunus Nadi Short Story Award, 2010 Haldun Taner Short Story Award; *A Family's Tea Garden (Aile Çay Bahçesi)*, 2013, novel; *Between Two Poems (İki Şiirin Arasında)*, 2014, stories

Seray Şahiner, born in Bursa in 1984, grew up in Istanbul, where she studied journalism until 2007. Whilst a student she worked for the culture magazine Hayvan and was a member of the editorial staff of the literary magazine Aylak. She also co-published the fanzines Kaygan Zemin and Kara Kutu. She has worked as a correspondent for Marie Claire and the newspaper Birgün and has also written television screenplays. Her short stories attracted much attention during the Yaşar Nabi Nayır Short Story Competition organized by the Varlık literary magazine.

Works:

Bridal Hair (Gelin Başı), 2007, novella; *To The Attention of Women (Hanımların Dikkatine)*, 2011, short stories; *Antabus*, 2014, novella

Sandra Alland is a writer, interdisciplinary artist and curator living in Glasgow. She is co-editor of *Stairs and Whispers: D/deaf and Disabled Poets Write Back* (Nine Arches Press, 2017), and has three collections of poetry published in Canada, including *Naturally Speaking* (espresso, 2012). Sandra's stories have been published as a chapbook (*Here's To Wang*, Forest Publications, 2009), and in magazines and journals such as *This Magazine* (Toronto), *subTerrain* (Vancouver), *Cosmonauts Avenue* (Montreal), *Chroma* (London) and *Gutter* (Glasgow). In 2017, Sandra completed commissions for two anthologies from Manchester's Comma Press: *Protest! stories of resistance and Thought X: Fictions and Hypotheticals*. The live version (with film) of Sandra's story, 'Equivalence', was developed with Edinburgh's Anatomy, and has featured at *Transpose* (Barbican) and Edinburgh Filmhouse. www.blissfultimes.ca

Leone Ross is a novelist, short story writer, editor and lecturer in fiction writing. She was born in England and grew up in Jamaica. Her first novel, *All The Blood Is Red* was published by Angela Royal Publishing in 1996 and translated into French. The novel was long listed for the Orange Prize in 1997. Her second critically acclaimed novel, *Orange Laughter* was published in the UK by Anchor Press, in the USA by Farrar, Straus & Giroux and Picador USA and in France by Actes Sud. In 2000 Leone was the recipient of an Arts Council of England Writers Award. She has represented the British Council, in the USA, South Korea, Slovakia, Romania, Sweden and across the UK. In 2004, June Sarpong named *Orange Laughter* her favourite novel on the BBC Radio 4's Women's Hour Watershed Fiction competition. In 2010, *Wasafiri* magazine put *Orange Laughter* on its 25 Most Influential Books list. In 2013, her short story collection, *Lipstick, Lighters, Pens & Porn [now Come Let Us Sing Anyway]* was shortlisted for Salt Publishing's Scott Prize. Her work was shortlisted for the VS Pritchett Award. In 2015, Leone was one of three judges for the Manchester Prize for Fiction. She also judges the Wimbledon Bookfest Short Story Prize. <http://www.leoneross.com>