

PHRASES: New Poets in Translation, Ukraine – Scotland

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About the Poets

Ukraine

Ilya Rudiuko

Ilya Rudiuko is a poet, editor and literary critic, and editor-in-chief of Kult Krytyky media. He works mainly with books of modern Ukrainian literature. His selected poetic texts were published on the portal Chytomo (2023), as well as in the anthologies *Nizhnyi val* (2023) and *Words Unite Oceans* (2022). He was awarded a distinction in *Smoloskyp* (2022) and *Haivoronnia* (2021) poetry competitions, as well as taking second place in the short alternative prose competition *Portwine on Route 444*. He writes historiosophical poetry about the dense coexistence of past and present in the same space.

Iryna Kupchynska

Iryna Kupchynska is a Ukrainian poet, essayist, and performer. Since 2017, she has participated in a musical-poetry performance group, *Evterpa*, that performed at the 35th anniversary of the Chornobyl disaster in 2021. In 2022, she was a writer in residence in *Herrenhaus Edenkoben*, Germany. As a result of the residency, a collection of essays on the secondary experiences of war, *Interrogation/Outerrogation*, was published in English, with German translation. She holds a master's in Social Anthropology from SOAS University London, obtained as a Chevening scholar. She currently is a memory work consultant with an international development agency in Ukraine.

Ivan Hnativ

Ivan Hnativ is a poet and translator based in Lviv, Ukraine. He's been a participant in poetry and literary festivals around Ukraine, namely *BookForum*, *KyivBookFest*, etc. His works have appeared in Ukrainian and international online and printed editions. You can find English translations of his poems in *SurVision Magazine*. He translates modern British poetry, such as *Jemma Borg*, *Raymond Antrobus*, and *Tishani Doshi*, among others. His poems interrogate the passage of time, memory, and observations of the natural world.

Yuliana Lesniak

Yuliana Lesniak is a poet, translator, and journalist based in Lviv, Ukraine. Prize-winner of Ukrainian creative writing contests such as *Smoloskyp* (2023), *Malakhitovy Nosorih* (2022), *Haivoronnia* (2021), *Khortytski Dzvony* (2018). She has participated in many poetry events and in such literary and art festivals as *BookForum* (Ukraine), *Festival 'I'* (Ukraine), *Kala Ghoda Festival* (India). In November 2023, her poems became a part of the audio-light performance *Spectral Poetry* created by Spanish artist *Pablo Valbuena*. Her poems have been published in Ukrainian literary magazines and anthologies such as *Dzvin*, *Molodi holosy*, *Poetychne metro*, *In Principio Erat Verbum*, and others. In her poetry she explores themes of individual memory and identity, different kinds of human experience, and war.



Scotland

Alyson Kissner

Alyson Kissner is co-winner of the 2022 Edwin Morgan Poetry Award and placed second in the 2023 Bridport Poetry Prize. She has also been shortlisted for the Rebecca Swift Foundation Women Poets' Prize and the Scottish Book Trust New Writers Award. Originally from Vancouver, Canada, Alyson recently completed her PhD in Creative Writing at the University of Edinburgh. Both her creative and critical practices interrogate themes of identity, language, power and abuse, grief, and the natural world. Her work can be found at alysonkissner.com.

Rachel Rankin

Rachel Rankin is a poet, translator and poetry translation researcher from Coatbridge, currently based in Edinburgh. Her work has appeared or is forthcoming in *The Poetry Review*, *Modern Poetry in Translation*, *Magma*, *Anthropocene* and *Words Without Borders*, among others. Her work has also been recognised by the Grierson Verse Prize (2023), the Wigtown Poetry Prize (2023), the Manchester Cathedral Poetry Prize (2023), the Stephen Spender Prize (2023) and the Scottish Book Trust New Writers Awards (2019). Rachel is currently finalising a practice-based doctoral thesis, in which she explores the feasibility of different poetry translation approaches on two contrasting styles of Norwegian poetry, and she has delivered talks and lectures on poetry translation at the University of Edinburgh, the University of Oslo, the British Centre for Literary Translation and Babeş-Bolyai University. Rachel also works as a Tutor in Scandinavian Studies at the University of Edinburgh.

Rebecca Ferrier

Rebecca Ferrier was the Bridge Award winner for an Emerging Writer in 2020, shortlisted for the Alpine Fellowship Poetry Prize in 2023 and runner-up for the inaugural Disabled Poets Prize. Her poetry has been published by *Poetry Ireland Review*, *Canthus* and *Anthropocene*, while her prose can be found with *Extra Teeth* and *New Gothic Review*. She is a PhD student at Northumbria University and a member of Glasgow University's RSE-funded *DeathWrites* network. She was a UNESCO City of Literature virtual writer-in-residence at the Melbourne Literary Festival in 2021, hosted by Emerging Writers Festival. Rebecca was also part of the first All Stories development cohort and secured funding from Creative Scotland for her debut novel about sickness, the sea and difficult women. She is represented by Alex Cochran at C&W (part of The Curtis Brown Group).

Robbie MacLeòid

Robbie MacLeòid is a poet, translator, and songwriter, who creates in English and Scottish Gaelic. In 2023, he was awarded the New Writers Award for Poetry (Gaelic) by the Scottish Book Trust. In 2022, the manuscript for his first poetry collection won Best Unpublished Manuscript at the Gaelic Literature Awards, and was Highly commended in the Edwin Morgan Poetry Award. You can find his work in *Gutter*, *New Writing Scotland*, and *STEALL*, among other places. In 2021, with the Edwin Morgan Trust, he created a zine in which he translated several Edwin Morgan love poems into Gaelic. In his work he explores queerness, anti-colonialism, feminism, and play.