

BRIDGES 2018 Stockholm, Sweden

A Mathematical Poetry Reading

Saturday, July 28, 2:00 – 4:00 pm
Sports Museum (Riksidrottsmuseet), Olympia Movie Theater

The program and the poets

Coordinated by Sarah Glaz, professor of mathematics at the University of Connecticut and poet, the poetry reading at Bridges 2018 features poetry with strong links to mathematics, a great variety of topics, and a wide range of poetic styles. The program features nine invited poets: Tatiana Bonch-Osmolovskaya, Carol Dorf, Emily Grosholz, Lisa Lajeunesse, Marco Lucchesi, Alice Major, Mike Naylor, Osmo Pekonen, and Eveline Pye reading selections from their work. In tribute to Bridges poet and friend, Manfred Stern (1946 – 2018), Osmo Pekonen will read a small selection of Manfred's poems. The program concludes with an open microphone period where Bridges participants read their own mathematical poems.



Sarah Glaz's first poetry collection, *Ode to Numbers* (Antrim House, 2017) is a 2018 Next Generation Indie Book Awards Finalist. Sarah is a Professor of Mathematics at the University of Connecticut specializing in the mathematical area of Commutative Ring Theory. She also has a lifelong interest in poetry. Her poetry, poetry translations, and articles on the connections between mathematics and poetry appeared in a variety of literary and mathematical journals, edited volumes, and anthologies. She coedited the poetry anthology, *Strange Attractors: Poems of Love and Mathematics*, and was guest-editor of the *Journal of Mathematics and the Arts, Special Issue: Poetry and Mathematics*. Sarah serves as Associate Editor for the *Journal of*

Mathematics and the Arts, and as coordinator of the poetry readings at the annual Bridges conferences and editor of the *Bridges Poetry Anthologies*. <http://www.math.uconn.edu/~glaz>

Tatiana Bonch-Osmolovskaya was born in former Soviet Union and studied physics at Moscow Institute of Physics and Technology and philology at Moscow State Humanitarian University. Her Ph.D. degree is on Russian experimental poetry. Tatiana is author of twelve books in Russian, including *Introduction to the Literature of Formal Restrictions* and *Labyrinths of Combinatorial Literature*, and co-editor of the anthology, *Freedom of Restriction*. Her poetry in English appeared in: *Can I tell you a secret?*, *Across the Russian Wor(l)d*, *Bridges*, *London Grip*, *POEM*, *Rochford Street Review*, and *Journal of Humanistic Mathematics*. She is a member of the Executive Board of the International Symmetry Association, editorial committee of *Another Hemisphere Journal* and a guest-editor of *Symmetry* literary sessions. She organized the *Mathematics and Arts* seminar, *GolosA (Voices) Festival of Combinatorial Poetry*, and *Festival Symmetry Literary Session*. <http://antipodes.org.au/en.aboutAssociation.html>



Carol Dorf is fascinated with the boundaries between disciplines, particularly mathematics and poetry. She is poetry editor of *Talking Writing* where she writes about issues in contemporary poetry, and has edited two issues on mathematical poetry, as well as issues on science poetry and technology poetry. Carol teaches high school mathematics, and has led poetry reading and writing workshops as a California-Poet-in-the-Schools, at Berkeley City College, and other art venues. Recently she tried to bring her loves together by introducing poetry into the mathematics classroom and by teaching poetry writing to mathematics teachers. She has two chapbooks available, *Some Years Ask* (Moria Press) and *Theory Headed Dragon* (Finishing Line Press). Her poetry appears

in *The Mom Egg*, *Sin Fronteras*, *E-ratio*, *About Place*, *Glint*, *Slipstream*, *The Journal of Humanistic Mathematics*, *Scientific American*, and *Maintenant*. <http://talkingwriting.com/why-poets-sometimes-think-in-numbers/>

Emily Grosholz is Edwin Erle Sparks Professor at Pennsylvania State University, and has been an advisory editor for the Hudson Review for over thirty years. *The Stars of Earth: New and Selected Poems* was published in 2017 by Word Galaxy / Able Muse Press, with drawings by Farhad Ostovani. Her chapbook, *Childhood*, (Accents Publishing, 2014) with drawings by Lucy Vines Bonnefoy, has raised over \$3200 in the past three years for UNICEF. *Childhood* had been translated into Japanese, Italian and French. A German translation by Ulrike Blatter is underway. Her philosophy book *Starry Reckoning: Reference and Analysis in Mathematics and Cosmology* (Springer, 2016) won the 2017 Fernando Gil International Prize in Philosophy of Science, and her book on poetry and mathematics, *Great Circles: The Transits of Mathematics and Poetry*, is due from Springer in 2018. <http://www.emilygrosholz.com/index.html>



Lisa Lajeunesse is a Professor of Mathematics at Capilano University in North Vancouver. She studied mathematics and music for her bachelor degree and her graduate research area was Model Theory, a branch of Mathematical Logic. Between her undergraduate degree and graduate studies, she worked for ten years with Telesat Canada, launching and controlling Canada's domestic communication satellites. She also taught piano and voice privately and wrote poetry. Over the last five years she has taught a course that she designed on the connections between mathematics and the arts, reflecting her lifelong passion for creative writing, music and the other arts. During a sabbatical in 2016/2017 she wrote a textbook for the course which prompted her to attend Bridges for the first time. A sample of Lisa's poetry, mathematical and otherwise, may be found at: <https://ljalajeunessepoetry.wordpress.com/>



Marco Lucchesi, Professor of Comparative Literature at the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, is a Brazilian poet, novelist, essayist and translator. Marco was elected to the Brazilian Academy of Letters (ABL) in 2011 and became its president in 2018. He is a regular contributor to the newspaper, *O Globo*, and is the former editor-in-chief of the ABL journal, *Revista Brasileira*, and the National Library of Brazil poetry magazine, *Poesia Sempre*. His publications include twelve award winning books and numerous works of translation, among others *Poemas Reunidos [Collected Poems]*, *Hinos Matemáticos [Mathematical Hymns]*, *Irmisul* [his collected Italian poems], and translations of Rumi, Khlebnikov, Rilke, Pasternak and

Vico. His work has been widely anthologized and translated into more than ten languages. His literary honors include the Prize Alceu Amoroso Lima, a lifetime achievement award in poetry.

https://translate.google.com/translate?hl=en&sl=pt&u=https://pt.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marco_Lucchesi&prev=search

Alice Major published her eleventh poetry collection *Welcome to the Anthropocene*, in 2018 with the University of Alberta Press. Her book of essays, *Intersecting Sets: A Poet Looks at Science*, has been awarded the Wilfrid Eggleston Award for non-fiction. Among her writing awards are the 2017 Lieutenant-Governor of Alberta Distinguished Artist Award. Her interest in mathematics began at the age of twelve, when she was introduced to non-Euclidean geometry in one of Martin Gardner's books. Ever since, like Percy Bysshe Shelley, she turns to math and science "to replenish my store of metaphor." She has been president of the League of Canadian Poets, first poet laureate for her home city of Edmonton (Canada), and is the founder of the Edmonton Poetry Festival. In 2012 Alice was inducted to Edmonton's Arts and Culture Hall of Fame.



<http://www.alicemajor.com/>



Mike Naylor is a co-director of Matematikkbølgen and of the Math Creativity and Competency Center in Norway. He gives courses for teachers, students and the public, designs math rooms for schools and develops mathematical games and learning products. Mike presents mathematical ideas in creative ways, including poetry, literature, art, music, video, software, drama, and other performances, and is author of over 100 publications spanning a range of mathematical genres. Mike is known for his *Naked Geometry* art series and book, and his quarterly column on Mathematics and Creativity in *Tangenten* magazine. In 2015 he was named a "Math and Science Hero" by the minister of education in Norway. For the past eight years Mike presented artwork and poetry at the Bridges conferences. More information on Mike's projects can be found at his website. <http://mike-naylor.com>

Osmo Pekonen, Ph.D., D.Soc.Sci., is a Finnish mathematician and writer based at the University of Jyväskylä. As a mathematician, he has published on differential geometry, Teichmüller theory, K-theory and string theory, as well as on topics from the history of mathematics. He serves as the Book Reviews editor of *The Mathematical Intelligencer*. As a writer, he is best known for his essays, biographies and poetry translations. In particular, jointly with the Old English scholar Phil. D. Clive Tolley, Osmo translated into Finnish, the epic poem *Beowulf* (Helsinki: WSOY, 1999). He is a member of The Finnish Literature Society, the Finnish Association of Authors, and a corresponding member of four literary academies in France. The Institut de France awarded him the Chaix d'Est Ange prize of 2012. More information can be found at: https://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Osmo_Pekonen



Eveline Pye worked as an Operational Research Analyst for Nchanga Consolidated Copper Mines, in Zambia, for almost ten years, and was a Statistics Lecturer at Glasgow Caledonian University, in Scotland, for over twenty years. Her mathematical and statistical poetry has been published in a wide range of literary magazines, newspapers and anthologies. In September 2011, *Significance Magazine*, the joint publication of the Royal Statistical Society and the American Statistical Association featured her work in education and published a selection of her poems as part of their *Life in Statistics* series. She was poetry editor for New Voices Press and worked for the Federation of Writers (Scotland). A collection of her poems about Zambia, *Smoke that Thunders*, was published by Mariscat Press in 2015. Examples of Eveline's mathematical poems may be found online at

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/enhanced/doi/10.1111/j.1740-9713.2011.00510.x>

Remembering!

Manfred Stern (1946 – 2018)
mathematician, translator, poet,
and friend



Fleeting is life in this earthly frame.
Let us, then, burn with a roaring flame,
in fire let's soar on a heaven-bound road.
Dust to dust, but heaven is spirit's abode.

Eino Leino (1878-1926)

translated from the Finnish by Partow Izadi

Open Mic and Late Additions

To be announced at the reading.

Bridges participants are invited to read their mathematical poems in this second part of the reading. If you are interested, please contact Sarah Glaz in person at the meeting or by email at: Sarah.Glaz@uconn.edu

Attention poetry lovers!

The Bridges 2018 Poetry Anthology is available for purchase at the Tessellations Publishing counter in the registration area.