

Program – 30th June 2017

Performers

“The Woman Who Lost Her Face”

by Andrea T. Ariman

“A Perfectly Ordinary Morning”

by Bhavani Bhaskar

“My Syrian Interlude”

by Dr. Cindy L. Halbert-Seger

“The Myths of the Family”

by Jadi Campbell

“We”

by Harish Srinivasan

* Intermission *

“A Nice Guy”

by Harish Srinivasan

“Miracle”

by Sarah Dressel

“Fighting Hills”

by Barbara Feyl

“Something in the Night”

by Michael Hilton

Andrea T. Ariman, M.A. writes poetry and fiction as a hobby, and works as a teacher and translator for money and fun. Her creative work in English (her first foreign language) has been published in the collections “Long River Review” (University of Connecticut) and “In Our Write Minds” (University of Heidelberg), see <http://writeminds.rainlights.net/Reader5.pdf> and <http://writeminds.rainlights.net/Reader6.pdf>. Her poem “Ice Skating Love” won First Prize in the 2002 Windham Area Poetry Contest. In 2016, she had her Stuttgart debut as a slam poet. A native of Germany, Andrea has also lived in the USA, México, and Turkey, studying and teaching languages, and learning to see the world from different perspectives.

Bhavani Bhaskar is a student at the University of Stuttgart. She writes to express her anger, frustration and amusement. Her writing is shaped by her experiences as a woman. She loves performing for an audience and has appeared for NEAT in Sorry, Wrong Number; In the Native State; The Marx Brothers; The Vagina Monologues; and Snow White. She also needs to improve her bio writing skills.

Cindy L. Halbert-Seger is an American who has lived in Germany since 1995. She was born in Barberton, Ohio and has a Ph.D. in Fisheries from the University of Washington. A former marine biologist, she lost her heart to a Schwab and has since become an expert at teaching Expert English. In between teaching and being a mom to a teenager, she tries to find time to write short stories about her experiences as an expatriate. She has found her voice in satirical, creative nonfiction. Her first reading at a Dark Monday event two years ago left people rolling on the floor at her satire on Turkish teachers of English, titled “West meets East – Ayla and Anita”. Since then her story of her 101-year-old Oma, “Heart of Stone,” has left hearts palpitating, her inside knowledge as a bedbug scientist has made people squirm in their seats while listening to “Taking the Bite out of Bedbugs,” and her story about being the sister in “The Schnaps Brotherhood” has distilled new insights into Swabian culture. In her last reading, she morphed into an unforgettable spirit in “Ode from an Apple Tree.” Tonight’s story, “My Syrian Interlude,” was inspired by her role as an impertinent German immigration official in a play on refugees titled “Springtime in the Fog”.

Jadi Campbell has a degree in English Literature from the University of Oregon’s Honors College. In her work, she explores ways to tell the truth through fiction. Her novels *Broken In: A Novel in Stories*, *Tsunami Cowboys*, and *Grounded* are available tonight for purchase. She was commissioned by NEAT for a story to accompany the Gershwin songs in *I Love a Gershwin Tune* at Stuttgart’s Theaterhaus and Kulturzentrum Merlin. This show will be performed again on December 8th and 15th at the Theater am Olgaek. Jadi is the President of Writers in Stuttgart. www.jadicampbell.com/

Harish Srinivasan is a versatile person: a writer, poet, screenplay writer, skit director, spoken-word performer, cricketer, and an engineer. He won 5th place in the Rabindranath Tagore awards for 2014, and has contributed to several international poetry anthologies. He recently won the poetry slam ‘MERAKI,’ which was held at the University of Stuttgart. He is also a member of two cricket teams, at the Bundesliga and Baden-Württemberg levels.

Sarah Dressel was born in Germany and works as a professional information designer. She writes in Deutsch (her mother tongue) & English (the language of her secrets and her soul). Her poems are filled with rich metaphors and multiple meanings, and her stories are often dreamlike and philosophical. She now explores moving poems, performance poems and literature performances, incorporating her body into the reading. She is also working on her first novel, *Hunting Deer*, an action thriller romance about power & submission, sex, lack of trust, and the question what the heck is freedom? If you want to know what she is up to next, please check her website: www.moving-poetry.eu

Barbara Gilchrist Feyl was born in Jamaica and has lived in Germany for nine years. Her writings focus on the hybrid identities that many of us develop when we set down roots in different parts of the world. She explores love, loss and longing in an attempt to make sense of the inevitable challenges and contradictions of choosing a life off the beaten path. When not working at her day job as mother, wife, teacher and observer, Barbara enjoys tending to her beloved book club, conversations with strangers, and taking long walks. You can listen to her poetry at open mic sessions in and around the Stuttgart area. She is currently working on her first collection of poetry.

Michael Goodwin Hilton is thrilled to be reading alongside the staggering talent of the Writers in Stuttgart. He is a writer of poems, short fiction, and plays. His works include "Blue Sky Somewhere" (Manhattan Repertory Theatre, Fall Play Festival 2009), "Dance With Winter" (Theaterhaus, Stuttgart; F.E.A.T.S. Festival 2014), and "Rodeo Clowns" (NEAT, Dark Monday Reading Series). Michael won the Governor's Award for Best Play in the State of New Jersey for his play "The Hollow" in 2004 and again for "The Art of Stephanie" the following year. He studied playwriting at Fordham University, where he produced several plays. He holds a Master of Arts from the University of Tübingen. He would like to thank the Writers in Stuttgart for sharing such rich and insightful feedback, and his wife Annika for believing in his abilities and helping him to stay focused and determined.

Michael "Mesox" Hecht was born in the seaport city of Bremerhaven. He first picked up the guitar at the age of 11 and has not put it down since! In the course of over 25 years, Michael has played with innumerable bands and formations – in a wide variety of musical styles, ranging from Irish Folk to Country, Blues and Funk. Besides being a talented singer, he is also a gifted songwriter and composer of film scores. Moreover, he has a long history of arranging and composing music for the theatre and is the musical director of the DARK MONDAY series.

The **Writers in Stuttgart** meet every month at the DAZ to share their writing experiences and ideas with each other, and to seek inspiration for new work. They also enjoy the opportunity to get out and share their creations with you, and hope to continue to do so in the future.

<http://www.daz.org/Writersgroup.html>

<https://www.facebook.com/writersinstuttgart>

WRITERS IN STUTTGART

The Big Picture

Dreiroschentheater

June 30th, 2017

8 p.m.