



## Vinko Grubišić

Professor Vinko Grubišić is poet, playwright, essayist, translator and professor emeritus at the University of Waterloo in Waterloo, Ontario, Canada.

He has written five books of poetry: *Robotov poljubac*, *Bitarion*, *Gregorijanske šutnje*, *Druženje s tijelom*, and *Stazama samih središta*. His five plays are: *Legenda sv. Jurja*, *Prokrvavljena Brina*, *Spomenik*, *Ne začuđuju čudesa*, and *Sofonizbin svadbeni dar*. Besides his contributions to numerous periodicals in Croatian, French and English, he has also published the monograph *Antonin Artaud* (UNESCO, Zagreb, 2000), and three books of essays: *Hrvatska književnost u egzilu* (Knjižnica Hrvatske Revije, 1991), *Izazovne teme u starijoj hrvatskoj književnosti* (Splitski književni krug, 2006), and *Volitve* (Društvo hrvatskih književnika, 2007). His linguistics and language- instruction textbooks include *O hrvatskom jeziku* (ZIRAL, Roma, 1975), *Grafijha hrvatske lapidarne ćirilice* (*Graphics of the Croatian Cyrillic lapidary Script*, Knjižnica Hrvatske Revije, Barcelona, 1978), *Elementary Croatian I* (1994; second ed., 2003), *Elementary Croatian II* (1996), *Croatian Grammar* (1995; second ed., 2007), and *Croatian Reader/Hrvatska čitanka* (with Anita Mikulić-Kovačević, Hrvatski informativni centar, 1997; second ed., HIŠAK, 2012). In 1987, his *Bibliography on the Croatian Language* was published (HIŠAK), and in 2007, *Croatian Literature in English*, co-edited with Katia Grubišić (Školska knjiga, 2007). His acclaimed translation of Medieval Latin poetry into Croatian, *Latinska poezija Srednjega vijeka*, was published in 2010. Other translations from Latin *Navigatio sancti Brendani abbatis* (Čić, Zagreb 2004) St Jerome's *Vitae Patrum* (together with Vesna Stipčević Badurina, Kršćanska sadašnjost, Zagreb, 2008), from English, *American Street Guerilla Theatre* (Naro, Zagreb, 1997), from French Antonin Artaud, *Le théâtre et son double* (UNESCO, Zagreb, 2000). Léon-E. Halkin, *Erasmus et l'Humanisme chrétien* (Kršćanska sadašnjost, Zagreb, 2005), Valéry Larbaud, *Sous l'invocation de Saint Jérôme* (Kršćanska sadašnjost, Zagreb, 2006) and Pierre Riché, *Petit vie de saint Bernard* (Kršćanska sadašnjost, Zagreb, 2022).

Together with Vladimir Bubrin, he is the recipient of the Croatian Writers' Association award "Davidias" (2012) for their translations of Croatian Renaissance poetry and plays in the Journal of Croatian Studies. His book *Krilati pjev* (Winged Songs, Topical, Zagreb, 2012) has been awarded in Sarajevo 2012 as the best translation in the Croatian language. He is a corresponding member of the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts since 2016.

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## Joseph Schallert

Professor Joseph Schallert has been a member since 1993 of the faculty of the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures at the University of Toronto, where he teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in Old Church Slavonic, Comparative Slavic Linguistics, the History of the Russian Language, and Slavic Folklore. His primary areas of research are Macedonian and Bulgarian dialectology, as well as the comparative accentuation of Slavic languages and dialects. His research stays in the Balkans include a year in the Republic of Macedonia as a Fulbright Scholar in 1982-1983, during which he conducted archival work on materials for the Macedonian Dialect Atlas in Skopje as well as fieldwork in eastern Macedonia under the guidance of Bozhidar Vidoeski and Kosta Peev. The materials gathered in Macedonia served as the basis for Schallert's doctoral dissertation on "Accentual Systems in Eastern Macedonian Dialects", which he defended at the University of California, Berkeley in 1984. This fundamental research was followed in December 1990 by a solo expedition to Maleshevo in eastern Macedonia and in July 2000 by a joint expedition with Prof. Christina Kramer to the Aegean Macedonian village of Vrbnik in Albania. Prof. Schallert has published more than a dozen articles in the field of Balkan Slavic dialectology (including several devoted exclusively to Macedonian) on a variety of topics including accentuation, phonology, and the lexicon. Currently, Prof. Schallert is at work on an accentual dictionary and atlas of masculine nouns in Balkan Slavic dialects.

### Selected Recent Publications

- "Conev's Macedonians: The Aegean Macedonian Emigree Dialect of Derekjoj/Voden in Southeastern Bulgaria," to appear in *Balkanistica* 30:2 (2017). 26 pp.
- "Lexical tradition and innovation in early Macedonian vernacular Gospel translations: Terms for 'Lord' et alia in the Konikovo and Kulakia Gospels," to be published as the 18th Kenneth E. Naylor Memorial Lecture. Ohio State University, March 2015. 12 pp.
- "Renderings of polysemous 'Lord' in South Slavic translations from the Greek, from OCS till Macedonian vernacular of the 19th century" to be published in the proceedings of "The Current State of Balkan Linguistics – Where do we stand?", a two-day symposium featuring past Naylor Lecturers, January 20-21, 2017. Ohio State University. 10 pp.
- "(Con)fusion of e- and i-verb present tense stem vowels in the Lower Vardar Macedonian Konikovo Gospel," *Balkanistica* 28, 1:471-483 (2015).
- "The historical accentuation of masculine nouns in Čakavian and Štokavian Dalmatian dialects in light of Deanović's *Lingvistički Atlas Mediterranea*", *Slavia Centralis* 7, 2:30-48 (2014).
- "Revisiting the ъ > o shift in Balkan Slavic," *Canadian Slavonic Papers*, 55, March-June, 2013 (Canadian Contributions to the 15th International Congress of Slavists, Minsk, 2013) 180-211.

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## **Igor Štagljar**

Igor Stagljjar was born in Zagreb, Croatia, where he earned his bachelor degree at the University of Zagreb, before going on to do a PhD with Professor Markus Aebi at the Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule (ETH) in Zürich, Switzerland. After starting his own research group at the University of Zürich in 2002, he moved to Toronto, Canada in 2005 to join the Departments of Biochemistry and Molecular Genetics at the Donnelly Centre in the University of Toronto, where he is a full Professor since 2010. Since his move from Switzerland to Canada, Prof. Stagljjar has been awarded over 25 million dollars in research funds from various national and international funding agencies in addition to non-profit foundations and pharmaceutical companies such as Nuvelo Pharmaceuticals, Genentech and Novartis.

He is the author of more than 100 PubMed cited scientific papers and is the recipient of several national and international science awards, the most recent one being “The 2015 Inventor of the Year” award. In 2015 Prof. Stagljjar was elected as the youngest member of the Croatian Academy of Sciences. In addition, he is a member of the editorial board of several scientific journals such as Molecular Systems Biology, Journal of Molecular Biology, Biochemical and Biophysical Research Communications (BBRC), BMC Biotechnology & BioTechniques.

Lastly, Prof. Stagljjar is also active as a biotechnological entrepreneur since he co-founded Dualsystems Biotech Inc. in Schlieren, Switzerland back in 2002, and has recently (February 2017) set up a new Toronto-based biotech start-up company named ProteinNetwork Therapeutix.

## **Dubravka Zima**

Dubravka Zima is assistant Professor at the Department for Croatian Culture at the University of Zagreb (Centre for Croatian Studies). She obtained her PhD at the University of Zagreb with the thesis on the history of Croatian Children's Literature. She teaches Croatian literature, Children's literature and Childhood studies and Croatian Popular literature. She is the author of three books: *Ivana Brlic-Mazuranic*, Zagreb, 2001; *Shorter people. History of Croatian children's novel*, Zagreb, 2011; *Introduction to children's literature* (co-author Marijana Hamersak), Zagreb, 2015. She is editor-in-chief of scientific journal *Kroatologija* (Croatian Culture Studies, publisher Center fo Croatian Studies, University of Zagreb) since 2011, and member of editorial board of journal *Libri&Liberi* (publisher Croatian associaton of Children's Literature Scholars). Her current research interests are focused on theory of adolescent and YA literature, as well as contemporary and popular children's culture.

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### **Aleksandra Srša Benko**

was born in Zagreb, Croatia, where she graduated French and Spanish Language and Literature from the University of Zagreb, Faculty of Philosophy. Her PhD in Linguistics is nearing completion from the same University. She has been living in Canada since 2001. At the University of Waterloo, Department of Germanic and Slavic Studies, she teaches on-campus and online courses of Croatian language, literature and culture. She is a member of various committees and takes an active role in all aspects of university life. She has been instrumental in the development and deployment of new curricula across disciplines and promotes an interactive role related to topics of Croatian language and heritage.

### **Edward J. Mavrinac**

Edward J. Mavrinac, artistic director, is holding an Honours Bachelor of Music Degree and a Bachelor of Education Degree from the University of Toronto, along with Theological and Philosophical studies at St. Augustine's Seminary, Mr. Mavrinac's career has spanned a wide and varied spectrum. As a Music Educator, Mr. Mavrinac has taught with various Boards of Education as well as serving as the Music Consultant for the Hamilton Wentworth Roman Catholic School Board. He has acted as an adjudicator and clinician for music festivals and music workshops. His success in education brought his award-winning choirs to the stage and opening ceremonies of Roy Thomson Hall. Solo performances of original works have also taken him to the stage of Roy Thomson Hall. He has produced, at the Living Arts Centre in Mississauga, Croatia's National Opera "Nikola Šubić Zrinjski" and was also the co-producer of the Omni Television documentary "In The Heart of Gold Country – The Croatian Families of Schumacher" about the early immigrants who settled in the gold-mining region of Timmins, Ontario. Throughout his professional career, Mr. Mavrinac has produced numerous fundraising concerts, strongly believing that music should be readily shared as a "gift" bringing enjoyment and pleasure to the audience and also the performers.

Mr. Mavrinac's dedication and commitment to nurturing his Croatian heritage is evident in his community work over the past forty-five years. He is the founding Artistic Director of Folklore Ensembles Croatia, Hrvatsko Selo and Hrvatsko Prelo, while also giving workshops across Canada and the United States. He was one of the founding members of the Canadian Croatian Information Centre and was the President of various organizations including Estrada and Cro Med. In 1994, he was employed at FLIO (Foreign Language Institute Ottawa) in the department of Foreign Affairs where he trained Canada's first ambassador to Croatia. Mr. Mavrinac has been on many artistic tours of Croatia participating with the drama group Histerioni and also with the female Klapa Ensemble Koralji. Presently he is the proprietor of Music Is Magic Studio, where

he shares his knowledge, pedagogical skills and love for music with his students. In 1992, Mr. Mavrinc was presented, from the Office of the Governor General of Canada, the Commemorative Medal for the 125th Anniversary of the Confederation of Canada “in recognition of significant contribution to compatriots, community and to Canada”.

