

## PRAISE

**David Mitchell:** “Magnificent!”

**Etgar Keret:** “Utterly professional.”

**Sidney Wade:** “No other contemporary journal reaches as far into the wealth of the world’s literature, or as deeply into the life of the word.”

**Jane Hirshfield:** “This journal is an invaluable addition to our cultural landscape, and I’m enormously grateful for the labor, intelligence, and passion that underlies its elegant and eloquent pages.”

**Sven Birkerts:** “Asymptote is trained to a new perimeter, excitingly so. There is the feeling that its editors are listening, not just for a new sound, although it feels very new, but for the full sound, taking in parts of the tonal spectrum that have been ignored for too long. Cosmopolitan and generous in the deepest sense. Its aura is that of excitement.”

## MORE INFORMATION (HYPERLINKS)

Main *Asymptote* site:  
<http://asymptotejournal.com>

*Asymptote*’s Blog:  
<http://asymptotejournal.com/blog>

*Asymptote*’s World Map:  
<http://asymptotejournal.com/map.php>

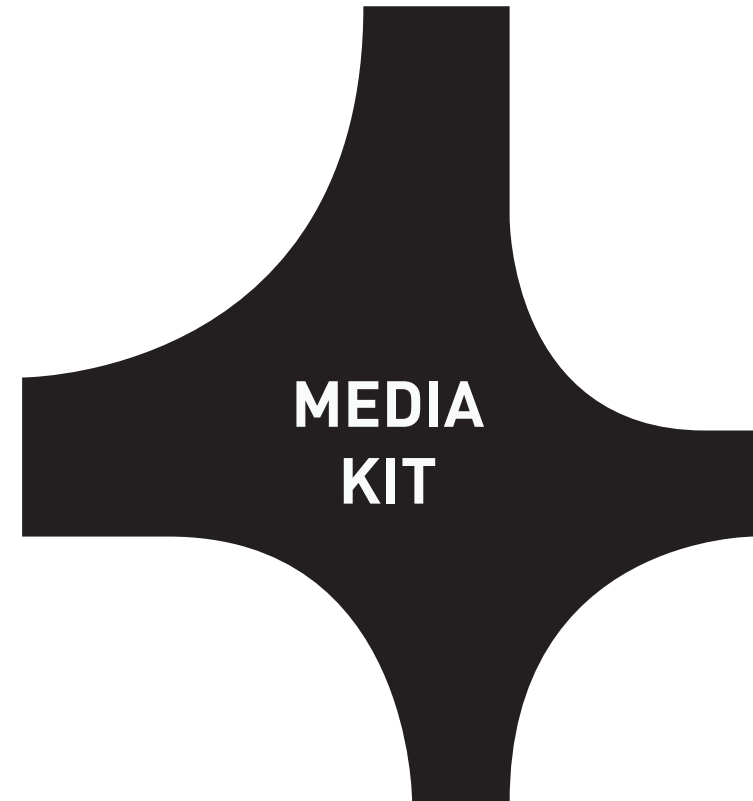
Video trailers and endorsements:  
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# ASYMPTOTE JOURNAL



**The World’s Literature. For Free.**

# ASYMPTOTE

## WHO WE ARE

- Free online literary quarterly, dedicated to bringing together the best in contemporary literature.
- Debuted to critical acclaim in Jan 2011, and mentioned since by **BBC**, **The New Yorker**, **Poets & Writers** and **Tosho Shimbun** etc.
- Finalist for *3:am's Magazine of the Year, 2012* award, alongside **The Times Literary Supplement** and **London Review of Books**.
- Founded by Singaporean **Lee Yew Leong** and co-edited with a 60-strong team of far-flung editors including **Howard Goldblatt**, translator of Nobel winner Mo Yan, Obie award winning dramatist **Caridad Svich**, celebrated short story writer **Aamer Hussein** and acclaimed translator **Ellen Elias-Bursac**.
- Sections: poetry, fiction, drama, nonfiction, visual art (including video), criticism, interviews, "Writers on Writers" and a Special Feature, often spotlighting a country's literature. Past features have included a **Swedish Poetry Feature**, a **Hungarian Fiction Feature**, a **Taiwanese Fiction Feature**, a **Romanian Poetry Feature**, an **African Fiction Feature**, and a **Latin American Fiction Feature**. For the January 2015 issue, we will present a **Danish Fiction Feature**.

## WHAT WE DO

- Has featured new writing and art from **65 languages** and **93 countries**.
- Includes hitherto unpublished work from well-known writers such as **David Mitchell**, **Haruki Murakami**, **László Krasznahorkai**, **Can Xue**, **Yoko Tawada**, **Lydia Davis**, **Yiyun Li**, **Anne Carson** & Nobel winners **J.M. Coetzee**, **Imre Kertész**, **Czeslaw Milosz**, **Herta Müller** and **José Saramago**.

- Introduces lesser-known but equally deserving writers, including: **Jonas Hassen Khemiri** (Obie Award, 2011), **Toh EnJoe** (Akutagawa Prize, 2012) and **Tan Twan Eng** (Man Asian Booker Prize, 2013).
- Contains texts in original language as well as in English translation and where possible, audio recordings of original texts and lavish illustrations especially created by each issue's guest artist.
- Focus on translation means translator's notes are often run next to the translations, including **J.M. Coetzee's** exclusive commentary on **Wilma Stockenström's** *Expedition to the Baobab Tree*.
- Breaks the mold of the English-centered flow of information. We have translated: an exclusive **Mary Gaitskill** essay into Japanese; an exclusive **Aamer Hussein** Urdu short story into Spanish; **Abdellah Taïa's** moving "Homosexuality Explained to My Mother," into Chinese; and **Jonas Hassen Khemiri's** rousing open letter to his Minister of Justice into **18 languages**.
- Partners with literary journals to bring the **latest work** to English readers: e.g. the Sinophone '20 under 40' Feature, released by Taiwan-based 聯合文學 (**Unitas**), consisting of 20 medium-length essays introducing the 20 most promising writers under the age of 40, from China, Hong Kong, Taiwan and Malaysia. Working with a team of volunteer-translators, Asymptote published all 20 essays in English translation within 5 months of their first appearance in Chinese.
- Features a **world map** providing access to all past content by region and a **blog** with daily updates about world literature, featuring the latest translations and the most topical dispatches from our multi-continental team of editors-at-large.
- Has conducted more than **20 events** around the globe to promote world literature. Guest speakers include: **Christian Hawkey** in Berlin, **George Szirtes** in London, **Ou Ning** in Beijing, **Cole Swensen** in New York and **Peter Bush** in Barcelona.
- Has organized a translation contest, judged by **Eliot Weinberger** and **Howard Goldblatt**, that gave away \$3,000 in prize money to 6 emerging translators.