

**RANJIT HOSKOTE: Biographical Note for Department of French, University of Bombay
(20 December 2013)**

Ranjit Hoskote is a poet, cultural theorist and curator. He is the author of more than 20 books. His collections of poetry include *Vanishing Acts: New & Selected Poems 1985-2005* (Penguin, 2006) and *Die Ankunft der Vögel* (Carl Hanser Verlag, 2006). His translation of the 14th-century Kashmiri mystic Lal Ded has been published as *I, Lalla: The Poems of Lal Ded* (Penguin Classics, 2011). He is the editor of *Dom Moraes: Selected Poems* (Penguin Modern Classics, 2012), which is the first annotated critical edition of a major Anglophone Indian poet's work.

Hoskote's poems have appeared in many journals, including *Akzente* (Munich), *Boulevard Magenta* (Dublin), *www.fieralingue.com* (Bolzano), *Fulcrum* (Cambridge, Mass.), *Green Integer Review* (Los Angeles), *Indian Quarterly* (New Delhi), *Iowa Review* (Iowa City), *Lyric Poetry Review* (Houston), *www.nthposition.com* (London), *Poesia* (Milan), *Poetry Review* (London), *Rattapallax* (New York), *Wasafiri* (Canterbury), *Wespennest* (Vienna), and *Westerly* (Perth). His poems have also been published in numerous anthologies, including *Short Fuse* (Todd Swift and Philip Norton eds., Rattapallax, 2002) *The Bloodaxe Book of Contemporary Indian Poets* (Jeet Thayil ed., Bloodaxe, 2008), *Language for a New Century* (Tina Chang, Nathalie Handal and Ravi Shankar eds., W. W. Norton, 2008), and *The HarperCollins Book of English Poetry* (Sudeep Sen ed., HarperCollins, 2012).

With Ilija Trojanow, Hoskote has co-authored *Confluences* (Yoda Press, 2012), a critique of the 'clash of civilisations' thesis phrased from the perspective of cultural confluence. With Nancy Adajania, Hoskote is co-author of *The Dialogues Series* (Popular/ Foundation B&G, 2011), an unfolding programme of conversations with artists.

Hoskote has authored nine artist monographs, including *The Complicit Observer: Reflections on the Art of Sudhir Patwardhan* (Sakshi Gallery, 2004), *The Crucible of Painting: The Art of*

Jehangir Sabavala (NGMA/ Eminence Designs, 2005), and, most recently, *Zinny & Maidagan: Compartment/ Das Abteil* (Museum für Moderne Kunst, Frankfurt/ Verlag der Buchhandlung Walther König, 2010).

Hoskote has been a Fellow of the International Writing Program, University of Iowa (1995), an Associate Fellow at Sarai/ CSDS, New Delhi (2006-2007), and writer-in-residence at Villa Waldberta, Munich (2003), Theater der Welt, Essen/ Mülheim (2010) and the Polish Institute, Berlin (2010). He has received the Sanskriti Award for Literature (1996), the Sahitya Akademi Golden Jubilee Award for Literature (2004), and the S H Raza Award for Literature (2006). He won first prize in the British Council/ Poetry Society All-India Poetry Competition (1997). For *I, Lalla: The Poems of Lal Ded*, Hoskote won the first Muse India Translation Award (2012).

Hoskote has curated 22 exhibitions of contemporary art. During 2000-2002, he co-curated the trans-Asian curatorial project, 'Under Construction' (Japan Foundation). Hoskote and Hyunjin Kim co-curated, with Artistic Director Okwui Enwezor, the 7th Gwangju Biennale (Korea, 2008). Hoskote curated India's first-ever national pavilion at the prestigious Venice Biennale (54th edition, 2011).

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