



Stephanos Stephanides (Cyprus / UK) He was born in Trikomo. He is a poet, essayist, translator, cultural critic and documentary film maker, and Professor of English and Comparative Literature. He is fluent in English, Greek, Spanish, and Portuguese. Selections of his poetry have been published in more than twelve languages, and he has held residential writing and research fellowships in the UK, US, Italy, India, and Greece. He has served as a judge for the Commonwealth Writers Prize in 2000 and 2010.



Mona Savidou Theodoulou (Cyprus) Born in Limassol in 1949, she studied Philology in Athens. She worked as a teacher, Assistant Headteacher and Coordinating Headteacher of Secondary Schools for Limassol. She has published several books of poetry and prose, plays, critical reviews and seven anthologies of poetry. She received the State Prize for Poetry and other awards and distinctions for her poems and short stories. Poems by Theodoulou have been translated into eleven languages. She is the Secretary of the Cyprus PEN Centre and President of the Asia Minor Refugees Association



Jarkko Tontti (Finland) Writer, poet and lawyer. He is the president of the Finnish PEN. He studied law, philosophy and literature at the Universities of Helsinki, Edinburgh, Berlin and Brussels. He has published collections of poems, novels, youth novels and essays. His first poetry collection, Vuosikirja (Book of Years, 2006) won the Finnish Kalevi Jäntti literature prize for young authors. He is also known as a human rights activist and columnist. His poems have been translated into English, French, Italian, Russian, Japanese, Estonian, German, Slovenian, Polish and Portuguese.



Eleni Xenou (Cyprus) She is a journalist and a writer. Currently she writes for the Greek site www.lifo.gr and Kathimerini daily. In 2012 she published her first book, a collection of short stories, in which she describes her personal journey not with the intention of presenting an autobiographical narrative but rather to talk about a path illuminated by the human need to discover both the world and oneself. She also maintains her own site, carrying on her adventure in discovering the different realities of people.



Neşe Yaşın (Cyprus) Born in 1959, she is a well-known poet, read on both sides of the divided island. She studied Sociology. Between 1992-2007, she directed and presented the literary program “41st Room” at CyBC radio, carrying on with “Peace Garden” for radio ASTRA (2001-2003). She currently teaches language and literature at the Turkish Studies department of the University of Cyprus, whilst writing weekly columns for the dailies BirGün (Turkey) and Yenidüzen (Cyprus). She has published six volumes of poetry and one novel. Her poetry has been translated into 20 languages. Among other distinctions, she has received the Anthias-Pierides Award in 1998.

