

ABOUT THE WRITERS

Many of the IWP writers have gone on to achieve global standing. Besides the prominent East Asian writers highlighted in this exhibit, some other distinguished alumni are Bessie Head (b. South Africa, r. Botswana, 1967), Luisa Valenzuela (Argentina, 1969), Tomaž Šalamun (Slovenia, 1971), Eavan Boland (Ireland, 1979), Viktor Pelevin (Russia, 1996), Etgar Keret (Israel, 2001), Piotr Sommer (Poland, 2002), Helon Habila (Nigeria, 2004), Raphael Courtoisie (Uruguay, 2006) and Ken Bugul (Senegal, 2006). In 2006, Turkish novelist Orhan Pamuk, an IWP participant in 1985, won the Nobel Prize for Literature.

Every fall the IWP teaches a course, “International Literature Today,” in which students can encounter the writers in a lively and personal dialogue.

The program’s extensive video and audio archives have been digitized by the UI School of Library and Information Science, and are available online through the Virtual Writing University site, at www.writinguniversity.org. For additional material and links to the writers featured in this exhibition go to the UI Libraries web site at www.lib.uiowa.edu/exhibits, or to the IWP’s own web site, www.uiowa.edu/~iwp.