

# Volha Hapeyeva / Вольга Гапеева

(b. 1982 in Minsk, Belarus)

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Volha Hapeyeva is an award-winning Belarusian poet. Her works have been translated into more than 10 languages. She has had poems published in the USA, Austria, Germany, Poland, Russia, Georgia, Lithuania, and other countries. She writes poetry, prose and drama, as well as occasional books for children. Volha Hapeyeva has published a number of books to date, and has participated in numerous literary festivals and conferences, and international residency scholarships in Austria, Germany and Latvia. She collaborates with electronic musicians and visual artists to create audio-visual performances. A member of the Belarusian PEN Centre and the Belarusian Writers' Union, Volha also translates poetry – predominantly from English, German and Chinese – and has translated poets such as Kobayashi Issa and Sylvia Plath. She holds a PhD in linguistics; her research is in the fields of comparative linguistics, philosophy of language, sociology of the body, and gender issues in culture and literature.

## EDUCATION

- 2015-2018 Post-doctoral Researcher at Minsk State Linguistic University  
2012 PhD in Comparative Linguistics (“The Semantic Category of Optativity: Lexical and Grammatical Means of its Expression in the Belarusian and the English Languages”, April 2012 – defended)  
2007 MA in Sociology and Gender Studies at the European Humanities University (Vilnius, Lithuania)  
2005 MA in Linguistics at Minsk State Linguistic University  
2004 Undergraduate degree from Minsk State Linguistic University (in English, German, French, Linguistics und Pedagogic Studies)

## BOOKS

### *Poetry collections (in the Belarusian language)*

- Words that happened to me* (Halijafy, 2020)  
*Black Poppies* (Halijafy, 2019)  
*The Grammar of Snow* (Halijafy, 2017)  
*Embers and Stubble* (Lohvinau, 2013, with accompanying CD)  
*Moiré Fringe Method* (Halijafy, 2012)  
*Unshaven Morning* (Lohvinau, 2008)  
*Reconstruction of the Sky* (Lohvinau, 2003)

### *Prose (in the Belarusian language)*

- Camel-Travel* (Halijafy, 2019)  
*(Incr)edible stories. Paper version* (Lohvinau, 2017)  
*(Incr)edible stories* (bybooks.eu, 2013 – e-book of short stories with photos)

### *In German*

- Mutantengarten. Poetry collection* (edition Thanhäuser, 2020)  
*Camel-Travel. Novel* (Droschl, 2021, in print)

### *In English*

*In My Garden of Mutants* (ARC, 2021, in print)

**Children's Books (in the Belarusian language)**

- Volha Hapeyeva "One Sock" (Halijafy, 2020)
- Volha Hapeyeva, *Two Sheep* (Halijafy, 2017)
- Volha Hapeyeva, *Sad Soup* (Halijafy, 2014)

**Publications in Anthologies (selected)**

- Labirynt. Antologia współczesnego dramatu białoruskiego* (Radzyń Podlaski, 2013)
- European Borderlands. Sprachlandschaften der Poesie* (Lohvinau, 2009)
- Frontlinie-2* (anthology of German and Belarusian texts) (Lohvinau, 2007)
- Krasa i Sila* (anthology of Belarusian poetry of the 20<sup>th</sup> century) (Limaryus, 2003)
- Frontlinie* (anthology of German and Belarusian texts) (Lohvinau, 2003)
- Versh na Svabodu* (Poem for Liberty) (Radio Liberty, 2002)
- Anthology of the Young Poems* (Uradzhaj, 2001)

**Translation Books**

- М.Гёрыц *Кароткая гісторыя сэрца* (Галіяфы, 2019) (Matthias Göritz *Gedichte* from German)
- Н. Гомрынгер *Значныя даследаванні* (Галіяфы, 2016) (Nora Gomringer, *Gedichte*, from German)
- Р. Вальзер *Шнацыр* (Логвінаў, 2013) (Robert Walser, *Spaziergang*, from German)

**Academic Books**

- Semantics of Irreality: Will/Volition Expression in Belarusian and English*, (MSLU, 2019) (BEL, monography)
- Contrastive Seme Dictionary of Optative Lexics in Belarusian and English* (MSLU, 2019) (ENG + BEL, dictionary)
- Gender in Language, Speech and Dialect. Belarusian Experience* (UJEP, Ústí nad Labem, 2017) (ENG) (chapter in a collective monography)

**Publications in other languages in literary magazines from 1999 till 2018**

**Austria**

- Literatur und Kritik
- Manuskripte

**Georgia**

- [“ახალი საუნჯე”](#) ('New Treasure')

**Macedonia**

- Blesok

**USA**

- Cardinal Points
- Caliban
- Kenyon Review Online

**Germany**

- Die Horen
- OSTRAGEHEGE

**Poland**

- Czas Kultury

**Great Britain**

- Modern Poetry in Translation (MPT)

**Honduras**

- Hablemos Clare

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### **SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS**

- Sept.2019/Aug.2020 City Writer of Graz (Austria)  
July 2019 Writer-in-Residence, Chateau de Lavigny (Switzerland)  
Nov 2018 Writer-in-Residence, Literarischen Colloquium Berlin (Germany)  
Sep 2018 Shortlisted for the award of the best poetry book of the year (Belarus)  
May 2018 “Schritte” scholarship, Literarischen Colloquium Berlin (Germany)  
Feb 2018 International House of Writers and Translators Ventspils (Latvia)  
Jun 2016 International House of Writers and Translators Ventspils (Latvia)  
2015 Winner of the literary prize “Book of the Year” (Belarus)  
Apr-May 2014 Artist in Residence in Vienna (KulturKontakt Austria and State Department for Education, Art and Culture) (Austria)  
Autumn 2013 “Ex-libris” prize for the best children’s book  
Jul-Aug 2013 Artist in Residence in the International House of Authors Graz “IHAG” (Austria)  
Jul 2012 International House of Writers and Translators Ventspils (Latvia)  
2011 “Golden Apostrophe” literary award for the best publication of poetry (Belarus)  
Aug 2010 International House of Writers and Translators Ventspils (Latvia)  
Jul–Aug 2009 Artist in Residence, Literary Colloquium Berlin (Germany)  
Aug 2008 Summer Academy for Translators of German Literature, Literarischen Colloquium Berlin (Germany)

### **SELECTED LITERARY EVENTS**

- 2019 International poetry festival “Schamrock Festival” (Bamberg, Germany)  
2018 International poetry festival “Manu de su Linea” (Bogota, Colombia)  
2018 International poetry festival “Luna de Locos” (Pereira, Colombia)  
2018 Poetry reading at “Ausland” (Berlin, Germany)  
2018 Poetry reading at the Literary Colloquium Berlin (Germany)  
2018 Solo poetry reading at the Hungarian Writers’ Union (Budapest, Hungary)  
2017 Conference “The Heroes of Our Time”, Evangelist Academy Tutzing (Germany)  
2017 International poetry festival “Struga Poetry Evenings” (Macedonia)  
2017 Tbilisi International Festival of Literature (Georgia)  
2016 ViceVersa: Second Belarusian-German Translation Workshop, Translation house Looren (Switzerland)  
2016 International literary festival “Kaptaruny” (Kaptaruny, Belarus)  
2015 Translation workshop at the international poetry festival “Days of Poetry” (Riga, Latvia)  
2015 International poetry festival “Days of Poetry and Wine” (Ptuj, Slovenia)  
2014 International poetry festival “Days of Days” (Riga, Latvia)  
2013 Meridian Festival (Chernivtsi, Ukraine)  
2012 Leipzig Book Fair (Germany)  
2011 Voloschyn Festival (Koktebel, the Crimea)  
2009 European Borderlands – Sprachlandschaften der Poesie (Vilnius–Minsk)  
2009 Bardinale – “Sprachen machen Leute” and “Poets on the Roads” (Dresden, Germany)  
2007 “Month of the Authors’ Readings” festival (Brno, Czech Republic)  
2007 Panel discussion “Muttersprache. Vaterland” at the festival “Die Macht der Sprache” (Berlin, Germany)

- 2006 International conference “Literature Across Frontiers”, dedicated to translations of the Slavonic literatures (Prague, Czech Republic)
- 2005 Roundtable “Crossroads of Literatures: East and West” in the framework of the International Festival Vilenica (Slovenia)