

ON MAKAROVIČ'S WORK

"Her work and social perspective profoundly marked the Slovene literary and public space."

Dnevnik

"Svetlana, spicy, daring, real for some people ... in the book *Prekleti kadilci* (Damn Smokers) she tackles the subject with daring and wit."

24 ur, POP TV

"The author produces work for the children as well as adults, although she herself claims that her target audience is grown-ups who are childlike, yet not childish."

Daša Birša, Žurnal

"Whatever Svetlana Makarovič puts her mind to does not stay unnoticed for long."

Ana Jurc, MMC RTV SLO

"...is a versatile artist, poet, pianist, composer, who writes warm fairy tales and dark poetry for adults."

Boris A. Novak

"Svetlana Makarovič is many things, but she surely never is and never was – boring. Everything she does, she does with passion. With a tremendous measure of passion. That is why time spent with her flies by as quickly as a movie might."

Max Modic, Mladina

photo by Jože Suhadolnik



design Studio U3nek d.o.o.



SVETLANA MAKAROVIČ



SVETLANA MAKAROVIČ

was born in 1939 in Maribor, Slovenia. After finishing secondary pedagogical school, she graduated from the Academy of theatre, radio, film and television in 1968. For several years she acted at various theatres in Ljubljana, and although successful as an actress, she embarked upon the career of a freelance writer.

She began her path in literature with poetry for adults. Her poetic world is considered to be one of the most original and expressive in contemporary Slovene poetry. She has also issued several recordings of her own chansons, written several plays for adults and newspaper columns on topical issues.

Her oeuvre for children and youth is extensive and varied. Many of her fairy tales have been dramatised for the theatre and radio, and she has also written and composed songs for them on several occasions. Audio versions of her tales have been produced as well. A number of her fairy tales have been translated into several foreign languages: English (4), German (5), Serbo-Croatian (4), Italian (6), Slovak (3), Czech (2), Catalan (1), Chinese (2), Hungarian (1), Macedonian (1), Polish (1), Russian (1) and Spanish (4).

Today, as a 71-year-old writer and public figure, she is still involved in social activities and is well-known for her struggle against injustice and undemocratic views. She continues to write: momentarily she is working on a new series of fairy tales for adults based on the European mythical past.

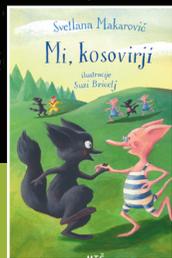
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SOME BOOKS BY SVETLANA MAKAROVIČ

Kosovirja na letéči žici



Mi Kosovirji



Rdeče jabolko



Svetlanine pravljice



ALONENESS

The poem was translated by Alan McConnell-Duff
Published in *Litterae Slovenicae*

*From bramble bushes conceived,
in her own open grave seized,
suckled by the burja wind,
by the mottled snake wound in,*

*the skin of her body
sprouts scales and feathers,
fur, bark, needles, branches,
coarse, dark moss to warm her,*

*thorns stroke upon her throat,
her eyelids are filmed by fungal skin,
water caresses and chokes her,
grass quivers on her head,*

*beyond her own body -
above the greening trees,
sun shines, wind breathes,
in the wind light blossoms sway,*

*the moon is growing younger,
growing younger, growing older,
by the light she is bewitched,
a thousand hands reach out from the grave,*

*they transform themselves into ants,
scurrying over the earth,
then again each grows alone
and dies only on its own,*

*perhaps she dreams while waking,
and only when sleeping she lives,
the mottled snake is singing,
the killer it is who gives birth,*

*to take is the same as to give,
you are your own mother,
your very own daughter,
more you cannot discover,*

*the moon is growing younger,
younger, growing older,
and there is light and there is dark,
the world is the cradle and the grave.*