



Mr. Knuts Skujenieks
Poet, translator, literary critic
Latvian Writer Union
Latvia



Kultūras ministrija

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Rīga 28 November 2016. No 3.1.1-4/2742

World Cultural Council
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*About granting "Leonardo da Vinci" World Award of Arts
to the Latvian poet Knuts Skujenieks*

The Ministry of the Republic of Latvia would like to request granting "Leonardo da Vinci" World Award of Arts to the Latvian poet, translator of the poetry and literary critic **Knuts Skujenieks** (born in 1936) for his outstanding contribution to literature and his testimony to the strength of the expression of art and his spirit of endurance during the politically difficult times in the Baltic States.

The contribution of the poet Knuts Skujenieks to literature can be properly considered as a world-class investment in culture. Therefore I suggest that it has earned the highest praise and evaluation.

Yours sincerely,

Dace Melbarde
Minister





Latvijas Republikas Saeimas priekšsēdētāja

Riga, Latvia

28.11.2016

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*Recommendation of Latvian poet Knuts Skujenieks
for the World Cultural Council's Leonardo da Vinci World Award of Arts*

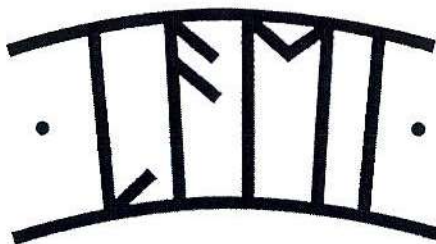
Ināra Mūniece, Speaker of the Saeima of the Republic of Latvia, recommends for the World Culture Council's "Leonardo da Vinci" World Award of Arts Latvian poet, poetry translator and literary critic **Knuts Skujenieks** (b.1936) for his outstanding contribution to literature, folkloristics and the development of democracy, as well as the tenacity of his spirit which allowed him to survive the years of political repression of the communist regime.

The literary contribution of Knuts Skejenieks, a poet and honorary member of the Latvian Academy of Sciences, is of global cultural importance. It deserves the highest praise and appreciation.

Sincerely,

Ināra Mūniece
Speaker of the Saeima





LATVIJAS UNIVERSITĀTE LITERATŪRAS, FOLKLORAS UN MĀKSLAS INSTITŪTS

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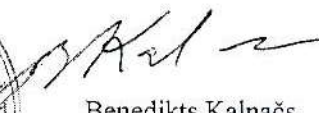
Rīga, 25.11.2016. Nr. 1.1-7-81

Reference Letter to World Culture Council

The Institute of Literature, Folklore and Art, University of Latvia strongly supports the nomination of the Latvian poet Knuts **Skujenieks** for the World Culture Council Prize. Skujenieks (b. 1936) has throughout the years been one of the most prominent cultural figures in Latvia, and his extraordinary merits deserve a special recognition. The poet became a symbol of resistance during the Soviet period during which he was exiled to Siberia and forced to spend several years there in the 1960s. Skujenieks continued his creative work also during this time, and his creative output has been collected in a number of poetry volumes. The first of those was only allowed for publication in 1978 but the poems written during his exile were published only in the 1990s. One of the escapes for the author into a territory where he was allowed to carry out creative work even within the totalitarian state was provided by his activities as a translator. His knowledge of many different languages and studies of the theory of translation resulted in many important renderings of world cultural heritage into Latvian. Skujenieks's translations include Ukrainian, Spanish, Serbian, Greek, Old Hebrew, Finnish, Danish, Lithuanian and many other languages. Altogether these activities are of an extraordinary scope and define the poet as an important messenger across cultures. Beyond this, the width of his knowledge and thorough professionalism has provided an inspiration for a whole generation of Latvian poets and translators who consider Skujenieks as their mentor and follow in his footsteps.

The extraordinary personality and important achievements of Knuts Skujenieks fully deserve the recognition of the World Culture Council.




Benedikts Kalnačs

Deputy Director,
Institute of Literature, Folklore and Art,
University of Latvia



STARPTAUTISKĀ RAKSTNIEKU
UN TULKOTĀJU MĀJA

Ventspils

25.11.2016. No I-7/75

Reference letter to the World Culture Council

Knuts Skujenieks

Knuts Skujenieks is a legendary Latvian poet and freedom fighter who has left deep traces not only in Latvian literature but also in a fate of the nation.

In early 60s he launches studies and writes poetry, though in 1962 he was convicted of anti-Soviet activities – he did not want to collaborate and to denounce friends - was sentenced to seven years in prison camp in Mordovia, Russia. Even in the camp Skujenieks continues to write poetry demonstrating fortitude superiority over the fate. He wrote around 1,000 poems that he could not publish after the release from the prison. He was able to publish the first collection of poetry "Lirika un balsis/ Lyrics and Voices" in 1978. (In June 6, 1989 was rehabilitated).

Skujenieks poetry represents the literature line of seventies that addresses the existential feelings – common to all eras and regimes. He returns to traditional "eternal themes" - love, nature, the soul of self-knowledge as main or even the only one in poetry.

After he returns from the camp he focused as well on translations becoming one of the most prominent connoisseurs of foreign poetry and translator and a head of the Unit of the Latvian PEN Club (1989-1991). He translates poetry from more than fifteen languages including Ukrainian, Slovenian, Spanish, Serbian, Macedonian, Greek, Polish, Lithuanian, Finnish, Swedish, and Danish etc. He is responsible for bringing many of the world classics to the attention of Latvian readership through translations, for instance, works of Federico García Lorca, Gabriela Mistral, Janis Ricos, Tomas Tranströmer, Inger Christensen etc., as well as folk songs of many European nations.

Skujenieks belief is that translation broadens aesthetic notions, and it has played a special role in our conditions, where poetry persistently supposed to reconquer a space for poetic freedom of assumptions about acceptable and unacceptable by social realism.

It should be noted another undocumented part of Skujenieks biography - being endowed with a live public temperament and good teacher and oratorical qualities, he has been an unpaid "literary consultant", urging, poking appraiser of young poets, encouraging and supporting the Latvian modern poetry.

Skujenieks with his life and works has shown and convinced the invincibility of art and the human spirit.

Director of the International Writers' and Translators' House
Andra Konste





LATVIJAS RAKSTNIEKU SAVIENĪBA
WRITERS' UNION OF LATVIA

Rīga

25th November, 2016

Reference Letter to World Culture Council

Knuts Skujenieks (born September 5, 1936) is one of the most outstanding contemporary Latvian poets, a living classic, whose creative work and personal example inspires readers of many generations. His career started typical for the Soviet times, he graduated from the Maxim Gorky Literature Institute in Moscow. And in 1962 based on fake evidence and false accusation he was convicted of anti-Soviet activities and sentenced to seven years in prison camp in Mordovia, Russia. Surviving the Mordovia prison camp and the period of the restriction to publish his works, he returned to Latvia in 1969 to devote his life to poetry. The poetic voice of Knuts Skujenieks as well as his voice as a translator is a unique addition to the European river of poetry. His poetry praises the spiritual strength, endurance and love. His work as a translator keeps up the care for the unique literary monuments and authors of the small European cultures, bringing these texts to the Latvian language, be it Finnish runes or Scandinavian ballads of the Middle Ages, or the folk songs of the European nations, or even the poetry of Walt Whitman, Sigita Geda, Benny Andersen and many others. The composers have written music for the poetry of Knuts Skujenieks and many of his poems have been turned into songs.

The poetry of Knuts Skujenieks, as well as his civic stand and promotion of democratic values and the rights for existence of the small nations create respect and admiration not only in Latvia. Knuts Skujenieks has received numerous international awards for his poetic work and work as a translator. The respect of the Latvian nation towards Knuts Skujenieks can be well described by the celebration of the poet's 80th birthday in 2016. The official events have already passed, but the events still continue popping up unplanned as the readers in Latvia and other countries wish to show respect to the poet. Knuts Skujenieks is a member of the Writers' Union of Latvia and the honorary member of the Latvian Academy of Sciences.

Awards of Knuts Skujenieks:

1994. the Spanish Order of Isabella the Catholic

1996. The Order of Three Stars, Second Class, Latvian civilian order of honour

1998. The Royal Norwegian Order of Merit

1999. the Lithuanian Order of Grand Duke Gediminas

1999. The Order of the Polar Star, Sweden

2001. Commemorative Medal for Participants of the Barricades of 1991

2006. The Writers' Union of Ukrain Award

2009. The Cross of Recognition (Latvia)



LATVIJAS RAKSTNIEKU SAVIENĪBA
WRITERS' UNION OF LATVIA

2009, The Order of the Polar Star, Sweden (for the second time)

2014, Decoration of Honor "Meritorious for Polish Culture"

Prizes:

1979, Poetry Days award for the book *Lirika un balsis/ Voices and Lyrics*

1987, A. Upīts and Poetry Days Prize for the book *iesien baltā lakatiņā/ Do It Up in a White Kerchief*

1993, Lithuanian Yotvingian Prize for Poetry

1994, the Ivan Franko Prize (Ukraine)

1996, Soros Foundation Open Society Award (together with R. Haradzanjan)

1998, Tomas Tranströmer Prize (together with V. Belševica; Sweden)

2000, the Swedish Writers' Foundation Award

2001, the Annual Latvian Literature Award

2007, Ed. Veidenbaums Prize for the book *Mūsu dzīve nokalpotā/ Our Life, Served*

2008, Baltic Assembly Prize for Literature

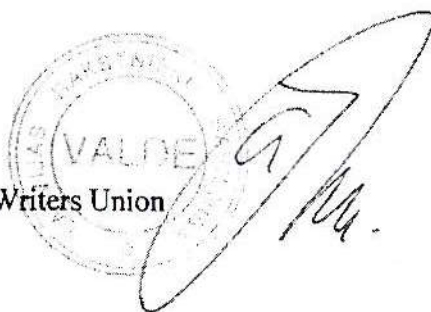
2011, The Annual Latvian Literature Award, Lifetime Award

2012, Award of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Latvia

2016, Acknowledgment of the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Latvia

Regards,
Arno Jundze,

Chair of Latvian Writers Union



Grounds for granting the Award to the candidate; his achievements

The contribution of Knuts Skujenieks to literature is one of the most important investments into Latvian culture in the second half of the 20th century.

It should be noted that the poetry of Skujenieks has been translated into more than 40 languages. That manifests the quality of the literary work and significance of the poetry in the broader world cultural space. Indeed, this activity has resulted also in a number of prestigious international and foreign literary awards – e.g. Lithuanian Jotvingiu Premium in poetry, I. Franko Premium in Ukraine, T. Tranströmer Award in Sweden, the Baltic Assembly prize, etc.

When Knuts Skujenieks was a young poet, he was arrested in 1962 for anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda and suffered 7 years' sentence in Mordovia.

Thus, the first poetry book was published only in 1978 due to the fact that the poet openly refused to cooperate with the Soviet system. Moreover, the poetry collection entitled "Seeds in the snow" („Sēklas sniegā” – in Latvian) that was written during his imprisonment was published only in 1990. The literary works of Knuts Skujenieks are collected and published in eight volumes and awarded the Baltic Assembly Prize for Literature in 2008.

Mr. Skujenieks had translated also several poetic works into Latvian language. And due to his translation activity Latvian society came to know a number of world-known and outstanding works of some foreign poets, among them – F. García Lorca, T. Tranströmer, J. Ricos, I. Christensen etc. Latvian poet also translated other nations' folklore and ancient religious texts. That confirms Knuts Skujenieks' perception of the poetry as the deepest essence of a supranational and timeless language of understanding.

In recent years the poet continues to be actively engaged in a creative work despite his poor state of health. Thus in 2011 he published his collection entitled “A Button” (“Poga” - in Latvian) which is just one poem translated into 33 languages. The sole poem is a unique and emotionally charged piece of a literary work that the poet wrote while serving in a labor camp. Knuts Skujenieks dedicated that poem to his wife and it reveals the existence of a deep emotional bond between the two. Skujenieks' wife is still alive today. In 2012 the poet published his prison time correspondence between him and his wife. The correspondence is a deeply personal and intimate testimony to the history of Soviet time occupation.

Our poet Mr. Skujenieks has been a consultant and an editor to several young authors in the field of poetry. He has also been actively involved in the founding of the Latvian National Literature Support Fund that serves to support initiatives in creating an original Latvian literature.

Knuts Skujenieks has received the following awards:

The Order of Three Stars of the Republic of Latvia (1995), *Baltic Assembly Prize* (1998), *The Annual Latvian Literary Award for the Lifetime contribution to Literature* (2010), *Jotvingiu Premium* (Lithuania, in 1993), *Ivan Franko Premium* (Ukraine, in 1994), *The Award of Thomas Tranströmer* (a Swedish poet and the laureate of the Nobel Prize in Literature) *in poetry* (1998).

The Latvian poet has also received Honorary Medals from the following countries: Norway (1998), Spain (1994), Lithuania (2001), Sweden (2001) and Poland (2015) for his contribution to a promotion of their literature.

The 80th Anniversary of Knuts Skujenieks with an international conference that took place in the Latvian National Library. The Ministry of Culture awarded Knuts

Skujenieks an Acknowledgement for his contribution. Such events as poetry book opening events and poetry reading events took place alongside the conference devoted to the poet.

The personality of the poet Knuts Skujenieks embodies the strength of a culture to overcome the power of a historical conditionality, and his global contribution in literature that manifests in his original works and translations of the world literature into one of the still extant living language of the Balts – Latvian language – is regarded as a world-class investment in culture which deserves the highest praise and evaluation.

Rationale for nomination and achievements

Knuts Skujenieks has significantly contributed to contemporary Latvian literature; he is an inspiring poet, productive translator of poetry, competent literary critic and enthusiastic student of folklore.

Despite joining the Latvian poetic community at a young age, the poet was able to publish his debut collection *Lirika un balsis (Poetry and Voices)* only at the age of 42 – in 1978. The reason for this trajectory is that in 1962 the young poet and literary critic was accused of anti-communist agitation and propaganda, as well as failure to report a conversation with an individual supporting Latvia's liberation. Skujenieks was found guilty and sentenced to 7 years in a maximum-security penal colony in Mordovia.

However, even the Soviet Union had to acknowledge Skujenieks' poetic talent. In 1971, he was admitted to the Writers' Union of the Latvian SSR. Later, when the Reawakening began, his civic activism grew. In 1989, he joined the Latvian branch of PEN International, and initially he even chaired the branch. He continued his involvement with PEN in later years as well.

Knuts Skujenieks is an honorary member of the Latvian Academy of Sciences.

He has made an extensive contribution to literary translation. It is because of his poetry translations that Latvian readers have access to works of many outstanding and famous poets, such as Federico García Lorca, Tomas Tranströmer, Yiannis Ritsos, Inger Christensen, as well as folksongs of other nations and ancient religious writings.

The literary work of Knuts Skujenieks has already been recognised by several prestigious international and foreign awards in literature, such as the Yotvingian Prize for Poetry (Lithuania), the Ivan Franko Prize (Ukraine), the Tomas Tranströmer Prize (Sweden), the Baltic Assembly Prize in Literature, and others.

Despite his poor health in recent years, Knuts Skujenieks continues active creative work. In 2011, his book *Poga (Button)* was published. It contains one poem reproduced in 33 languages; it is a unique, emotionally loaded text written during his time in the penal colony and dedicated to his wife, revealing the deep emotional connection that they continue to share to this day.

Knuts Skujenieks has served as a consultant and editor on collections of several young poets. As a civic activist, he was one of the founders of the Latvian National Writing Fund, which supports creation of new original literary works in Latvia.

Poet Knuts Skujenieks embodies the power of culture to overcome the constraints of history and time. His contribution to literature through his own creative works and translations into one of the only two surviving Baltic languages – Latvian – is of global cultural importance. It deserves the highest praise and appreciation.

Knuts Skujenieks // BIOGRAPHY

The poetry of Knuts Skujenieks is among the most significant contributions to Latvian literature of the second half of the 20th century (both in the Soviet period and after the regaining of independence). The interest Skujenieks's poetry tends to garner both in Latvia's neighbouring countries and farther abroad suggests that its value is not only of national scale but one of the poetically most evocative testimonies about the human being in Eastern Europe, under totalitarianism and in freedom, under external and internal conditions governing one's existence. Vivid evidence of this interest is the translations of his poetry in Swedish (three books), Polish, Lithuanian, Croatian, Bulgarian, Ukrainian and other languages; appreciations by foreign writers and critics as well as the awards received by Skujenieks: the Jotvingian Poetry Prize in Lithuania, the Ivan Franko Prize in Ukraine, the Tomas Tranströmer Prize in Sweden, the Prize of the Baltic Assembly etc.

Briefly about Skujenieks's life. He was born on 5 September 1936 in Riga in the family of a writer and translator and an actress. Skujenieks mother died when he was very little and he was brought up by his father's parents in the countryside. As the Russian army was drawing nearer in 1944, Skujenieks's father left Latvia, later settling in the United States. Skujenieks studied Latvian philology at the State University of Latvia (2 years), then entered the Gorky Literature Institute in Moscow from which he graduated in 1961.

Upon his return to Latvia, Skujenieks wrote and published his own poetry and translated Federico Garcia Lorca, got married in August 1961 and was arrested on 17 April 1962. The charges against him were that he had engaged in anti-Soviet propaganda (on the basis of four poems – about the deportations of people to Siberia, Soviet agitprop etc.; telling of anti-Soviet jokes and the possession of forbidden literature, including the British Encyclopedia, as well as for not informing on the preparation of particularly heinous crimes against the state (on the basis of one conversation with an acquaintance who wanted to establish an opposition group and achieve Latvia's secession from the USSR. The court sentenced Skujenieks to seven years of high security forced labour camp, Dubravlag, in the Modrovian Soviet Autonomous Republic. When Amnesty International took interest in Skujenieks's fate, the State Committee of Security was willing to reduce his prison term if he writes a clemency request. Skujenieks refused such a compromise and was once again a free man only seven years later, on 17 April 1969.

This period had a special significance in Skujenieks's development as a poet. The existential absurdist drama in which he was an unwilling participant served to form and stabilize Skujenieks's world view and understanding of art becoming the credo of his life and work: one can preserve oneself and create art also in very difficult conditions – that is if one refuses to betray oneself. The relationship between life and art is formulated in a letter of this period to poet Vizma Belševica, one of his closest friends: "My shield is the blank page; every shock is registered there." The time in the prison camp became a period of very intensive writing and developing his unique style.

The camp writings, entitled "Sēkla sniegā" (Seed in Snow) could only be published in Latvia in 1990; that same year the volume was published in a Swedish translation by the Latvian-Swedish poet Juris Kronbergs. The subsequent books by Skujenieks also failed to get published for nine years because of his categorical refusal to serve the Soviet system with propaganda verse. Skujenieks's first published book "Lirika un balsis" (Lyrics and Voices) saw the light of day only in 1978,

followed by "Iesien baltā lakatiņā" (Wrap It in a White Kerchief) (1986), "Tagad es esmu Aleksandrs" (Now I Am Alexander) (2006), "Mūsu dzīve nokalpotā" (This Life That We Have Served) (2007) and "Nekā personīga" (Nothing Personal) (2011). Skujenieks's poetry has repeatedly been included in many volumes of selected poems; his collected works consist of eight volumes. The poem "Poga" (Button), dedicated to his wife, has been translated into more than forty languages. In 2011, these translations appeared side by side in book form. Skujenieks's preface states his intention to "dedicate this little, multi-lingual book to political prisoners and their loved ones worldwide."

In his poetry from the 1970s and 1980s, Skujenieks does not much attempt to seek quarrel with the powers that be: he has already done so while serving his sentence. Instead he writes personal and intimate lyrics, turning to the fundamentals of human existence that do not change with time. The Latvian poet Imants Auziņš has this to say about "Lirika un balsis" "(It) is an expressly polyphonic collection: in the small area of short poems, rich and manifold layers of various centuries, cultures and stylistics are concentrated." (book review "Tālpļāna dzeja" 1979)

In reviewing Skujenieks's collection "Iesien baltā lakatiņā", the Lithuanian literary historian and critic Kestutis Nastopka wrote: "Knuts Skujenieks's poetry is an uninterrupted narrative about man's efforts to get to know himself and the world. Juris Kronbergs has compared it to Dante's epic poetry. The range of values is determined by the extreme contrast between life and death. It is in the confrontation of these opposites that poetry is born telling us about "this life – so rich, unfair and brief". The two elements that are equally important in Skujenieks's poetry: the road to oneself, to one's own truth gradually and painfully doing away with posing, role-playing and extraneous assumptions and the road to the other that can be one's lover or any other person, who is likewise living through the dramas and joys of his or her existence, or the entire human culture, or nature – in other words, the universe where one should not take up "more space than is rightfully his" (Knuts Skujenieks). His poetics is based on a democratic world view, not only in the ethical but also aesthetic sense, and sophisticated, creative work with language, the deep layers of meaning and new meanings born in a poem. In Latvia, Skujenieks is read, popular and well loved not only by some narrow erudite circles but by many other readers, with each one finding something for him- or her-self. The topical and the traditional do not clash in his poetry: their relationship is one of dialog, where one corrects and supplements the other.

Skujenieks's phenomenal work as a translator of poetry also deserves mention. Along with his original poetry, these translations have helped to radically expand the number of languages and cultures to which the Latvian reader was exposed in the second half of the 20th century. Offering new, stylistic methods hitherto unknown to Latvian poetry, Skujenieks's translations have been a rich source for its development. His range extends from the "Song of Songs" in ancient Hebrew as well as the folksongs of various nations to 20th century poetry: Garcia Lorca from Spanish, Jannis Ricos from Greek, Inger Christensen from Danish, Tomas Tranströmer from Swedish – to name just a few. It is Skujenieks's deep conviction that poetry in its essence is a trans-national language that can help people from various nations and eras understand one another.

Information sources about poet Knuts Skujenieks on the Latvian Literature website <http://www.latvianliterature.lv/en/writers/29>

A list of 10 most important papers of Knuts Skujenieks

Poetry

Basās zvaigznes [Barefoot Stars]. Rīga. Pētergailis (2016)
Poga [The Button]. Riga: Neputns (2011)
Mūsu dzīve nokalpotā [Our Life, Served]. Riga: Nordik (2007).
Uzvarētājs nāk pa ķēķa durvīm [The Winner Comes Through a Back Door]. 1994.
Sēkla sniegā [A Seed in the Snow]. Riga: Liesma (1990)
Iesien baltā lakatiņā [Do It Up in a White Kerchief]. Riga: Liesma (1978)
Lirika un balsis [Voices and Lyrics]. Riga: Liesma (1978)

Criticism

Paša austeris kreklis [A Hand-Woven Shirt]. Riga: Liesma (1987)

Collected works

Raksti [Writings]. 1-8. Riga: Nordik, (2003 – 2008)

Translations of Books

Collections of [Lithuanian](#), [Polish](#), [Finnish](#) and [Greek](#) folksongs.

Bibliography of Knuts Skujenieks

Poetry

Basās zvaigznes [Barefoot Stars]. Rīga. Pētergailis (2016)
Poga [The Button]. Rīga: Neputns (2011)
Nekā personīga [Nothing Personal]. Rīga: Neputns, 2010.
Mūsu dzīve nokalpotā [Our Life, Served]. Rīga: Nordik, 2007.
Tagad es esmu Aleksandrs [Now I am Alexander]. Rīga: Neputns, 2006.
Patiesīgs, bet ne pilnīgs dzīvesstāsts ar 33 smukiem un nesmukiem dzejoļiem 33 gadu garumā [A True But Incomplete Story of 33 Years of Life With 33 Poems, Fine and Poor]. Rīga: Likteņstāsti, 1996.
Uzvarētājs nāk pa ķēķa durvīm [The Winner Comes Through a Back Door]. 1994.
Sēkla sniegā [A Seed in the Snow]. Rīga: Liesma (1990)
Iesien baltā lakatiņā [Do It Up in a White Kerchief]. Rīga: Liesma, 1978.
Lirika un balsis [Voices and Lyrics]. Rīga: Liesma, 1978.

Criticism

Paša auster kreklis [A Hand-Woven Shirt]. Rīga: Liesma, 1987.

Collected works

Raksti [Writings]. 1-8. Rīga: Nordik, 2003 - 2008.

Selected works

Simts. Dzejas izlase [One Hundred. Selected Poems]. Rīga: Zvaigzne ABC, 2011.
Parkā par solu [I Wish To Be a Bench in a Park], Selected Poems. Rīga: Likteņstāsti, 1997.
Līdz kailai rokai [Bitter Hand], Selected Poems. Rīga: Zvaigzne ABC, 1996.
Mūžīgs pusmēnes [Eternal Crescent], Selected Poems. Rīga: Teātra Anekdotas, 1993.
Kā putu zīmes [Tracks of Froth], Selected Poems. Rīga: Teātra Anekdotas, 1992.

Translations of Books by

Lesja Ukrainka ([Ukrainian](#)), Stanislaw Jerzy Lec ([Polish](#)), Desanka Maksimović (Serbo-Croatian), Oton Župančič ([Slovene](#)), Aco Šopov ([Macedonian](#)), Yannis Ritsos ([Greek](#)), Federico Garcia Lorca, Gabriela Mistral, Nicolas Guillén, Pablo Neruda ([Spanish](#)), Carl Michael Bellman, Gustaf Fröding, Bengt Berg ([Swedish](#)), Inger Christensen ([Danish](#)), Sigitas Geda ([Lithuanian](#)), Agostinho Neto ([Portuguese](#)), collections of [Lithuanian](#), [Polish](#), [Finnish](#) and [Greek](#) folksongs.

Translated Poetry Books in Other Languages

English

Seeds in snow [Sēklas sniegā], BOA Editions Ltd.; Tra edition (USA, 2016)

German

Seemen im Shnee [Sēklas sniegā], Wieser (Germany 2016)

Russian

Basās zvaigznes. Босые звезды, Pētergailis (Latvia, 2016)

Swedish

Som ekens rot till vaten [Kā ozola sakne pēc ūdens]. Torsby: Heidruns (2008)

Bitter Hand, Bitter Mun [Rūgta roka, rūgta mute]. Uppsala: Edda (2003)

Ett frö i snön [Sēkla sniegā]. Stocholm: Legenda (1991)

Armenian

Hima jes Aleksandr em [Tagad es esmu Aleksandrs]. Yerevan: Amaras (2008)

Bulgarian

Корен в хоризонта [Sakne apvārsnī]. София: Foundation for Bulgarian Literature (2009)

Croatian

Pesme Hrvatski. Zagreb: P E N Centar Zagreb (2005)

Italian

Tornato da un altro mondo [Atgriezies no citas pasaules]. Novi Ligure: Edizioni Joker (2010)

Lithuanian

Aš esu toli viešėjęs [Es pabiju tālos ciemos] Vilnius: Lietuvos rašytojų sąjungos leidykla (2004)

Polish

Innego mosto nie będzie [Cita tilta vairs nebūs]. Warszawa: Anagram (2009)

Ukrainian

Насіння в снігу [Sēkla sniegā]. Київ: Український письменник (1994)

Knuts Skujenieks's poetry have been translated into more than 40 languages.