KAREN ALKALAY-GUT



Karen Alkalay-Gut was born in London in 1945. She grew up in Rochester, New York, and earned a PhD in 1975 from the university there. Since 1972 she has lived in Israel, where she teaches poetry at Tel Aviv University. She is president of the Israeli Association of English-language Writers and vice president of the Israeli Writers' Union. She is on the editorial board of the Jerusalem Review. She has published essays on Dowson, Wilde, and Swinburne in such journals as Criticism, the Journal of Pre-Raphaelite Studies, the Victorians Institute Journal, and Victorian Poetry, a biography of

Adelaide Crapsey, and numerous articles on poets such as Anne Sexton, William Carlos Williams, Ernest Dowson, Oscar Wilde, Algernon Swinburne, and Alexander Pope. Four of her books of poetry have also appeared in Hebrew translation. She is a translator from Hebrew, Yiddish, German, and Arabic. Living in Israel and publishing in a language unknown to most of the inhabitants, she has found different strategies to solve the problem: founding the Israeli Association of Writers in English, befriending translators in Hebrew, working with other media, such as music and visual arts. Her current interests are modern and contemporary American poetry and rock and jazz music (she has published the album Thin Lips, together with a jazz ensemble). The collection Danza del ventre a Tel Aviv. Poesie d'amore e sorveglianza, edited and translated by Johanna Bishop and Andrea Sirotti, is coming out in Italy, for the editions Heimat of Naples.

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