

Maaza Mengiste

Maaza Mengiste is an Ethiopian-American novelist, essayist and screenwriter based in New York. She was born in 1971 in Addis Ababa, and left at the age of four when her family fled the Ethiopian Revolution. She spent the rest of her childhood in Nigeria, Kenya, and the United States. Her novels "Beneath the Lion's Gaze" (Norton 2010) and "The Shadow King" (Norton 2019) are set against the backdrop of the more tumultuous parts of the history of Ethiopia, i.e. the revolution of 1974 and the invasion by Mussolini in 1935. Her works are available in German, French, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, Dutch, and Swedish.

<http://maazamengiste.com/>

Awards

- 2019: Creative Capital Award, Literary Fiction
- 2018: National Endowment for the Arts, Prose
- 2013: Puterbaugh Fellow
- 2011: Dayton Literary Peace Prize, Fiction Runner-up
- 2010: Fulbright Fellowship, Italy

Literary Works in English

- The Shadow King. Norton, New York 2019
- A Good Soldier. In: Helon Habila (ed.). The Granta Book of the African Short Story. Granta, London 2012, pp. 129-141
- Beneath the Lion's Gaze. Norton, New York 2010

Literary Works in Translation

German

- Unter den Augen des Löwen. Wunderhorn, Heidelberg 2012
(translated by Andreas Jandl)

French

- Sous le regard du lion. Actes Sud, Arles Cedex 2012 (translated by Céline Schwaller)

Italian

- Lo sguardo del leone. Neri Pozza, Venice 2010 (translated by M. Ortelio)

Spanish

- Bajo la mirada del león. La Mirada Salvaje, Querétaro 2015 (translated by Anna Styczeńska)

Portuguese

- Sob o olhar do leão. Record, Rio de Janeiro 2012 (translated by Flávia Rössler)

Dutch

- De leeuw en de keizer. Ambo/Anthos, Amsterdam 2010 (translated by Nele Ysebaert)

Swedish

- Under lejonets blick. Forum, Stockholm 2010 (translated by Ylva Spångberg)

Essays

- This Is What the Journey Does. In: Margaret Busby (ed.). New Daughters of Africa. Myriad, Oxford 2019, pp. 556-559 & in: Viet Thanh Nguyen (ed.). The Displaced: Refugee Writers on Refugee Lives. Abrams, New York 2018, pp. 129-136

Screenplays

- The Invisible City: Kakuma (Belgium 2016), directed by Lieven Corthouts
- Girl Rising (Netherlands 2013), directed by Richard Robbins



Kanton Zürich
Fachstelle Kultur



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