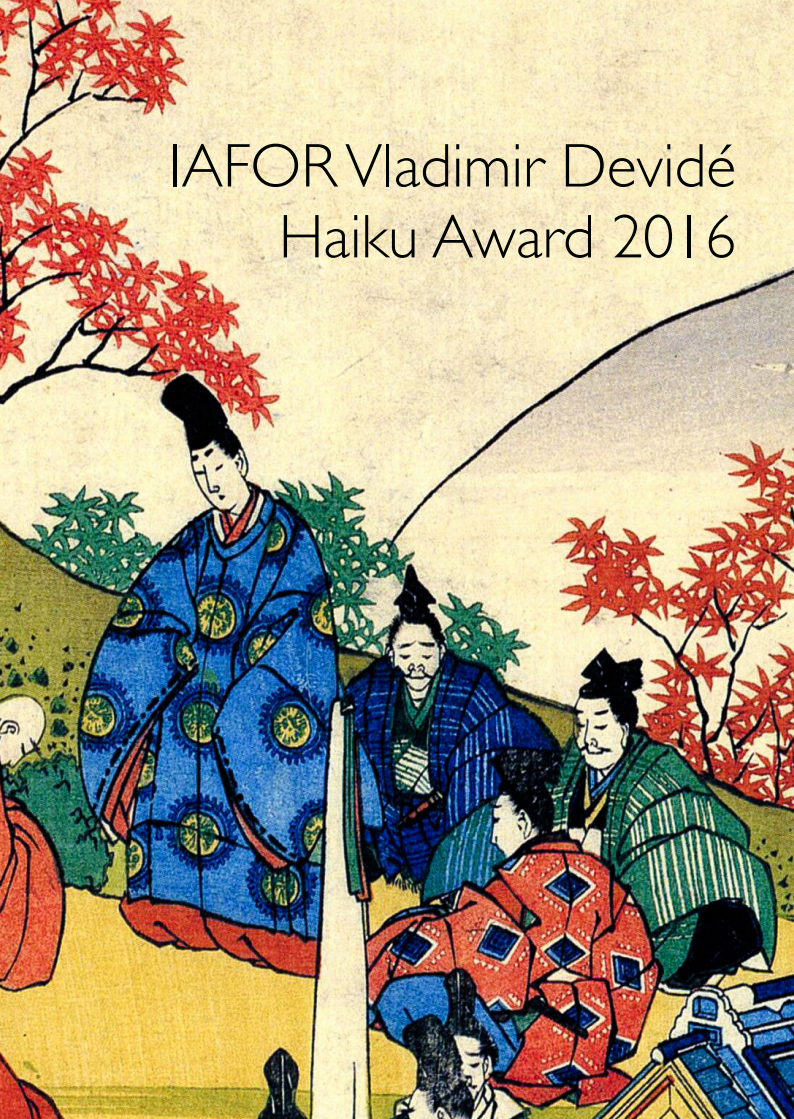


IAFOR Vladimir Devidé
Haiku Award 2016



**THE IAFOR VLADIMIR
DEVIDÉ HAIKU AWARD
2016**

IAFOR PUBLICATIONS

Executive Editor: Dr Joseph Haldane

Published by

The International Academic Forum (IAFOR), Japan
IAFOR Publications, Sakae 1-16-26 – 201, Naka Ward,
Nagoya, Aichi, Japan 460-0008

ISBN: 978-4-907131-06-7

C3092

RRP

JP: ¥1,000

UK: £5.99

US: \$9.99

EU: €8.99

Designed by Thaddeus Pope

Published in Japan, 2016

www.iafor.org



THE IAFOR VLADIMIR DEVIDÉ HAIKU AWARD 2016

The IAFOR Vladimir Devidé Haiku Award was founded by Dr Drago Štambuk, former Croatian Ambassador to Japan, and Dr Joseph Haldane, President of IAFOR, and named in tribute to Vladimir Devidé's vision and passion for haiku.

The award is based on literary merit, and entries can be written in either traditional or modern style. As such, it aims to transcend haiku divisions in the unifying spirit of Vladimir Devidé. The International Academic Forum (IAFOR) is proud to organise the award as part of The Asian Conference on Literature (LibrAsia).

Dr A. Robert Lee, internationally recognised critic, author and poet, and LibrAsia2016 Keynote Speaker, announced the winners of the sixth IAFOR Vladimir Devidé Haiku Award on April 8, 2016 at The Asian Conference on Literature 2016 in Kobe, Japan.

FOREWORD

The IAFOR Vladimir Devidé Haiku Award is now in its sixth year, and I am very proud to see that this year's event grew to nearly 700 submissions from 60 countries, attesting to the award's international popularity, as well as the enduring appeal of haiku.

An organisation originating in Japan, The International Academic Forum now hosts more than 40 events each year over three continents, and is a keen supporter and promoter of the arts, with international competitions in photography, film and literature.

Haiku is a quintessentially Japanese form of poetry, and has become one of the country's greatest gifts to the world. It has been adopted and adapted internationally, so there are now many thousands of haiku poets writing in myriad countries and languages.

One such country is Croatia, where haiku has a large following. Croatia is the country of both Vladimir Devidé, in whose honour the award is

named, and Drago Štambuk, Founding Judge of the competition. This year we were pleased to welcome award-winning author and poet Alan Summers, who in his role as Guest Judge made a selection on the conference theme of 'justice'.

The Grand Prize winning entry by Suraja Roychowdhury of the United States was also the 1st Choice of Guest Judge Alan Summers. It is a testament to the beauty of Suraja Roychowdhury's winning haiku that it was chosen independently and anonymously for both sections of the award.

I am sure that you will be impressed by the diversity and range of poems selected this year by Dr Štambuk, which take the reader on an emotional roller coaster through their sparse verse.

Dr Joseph Haldane

Nagoya, June 2016



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

IAFOR would like to thank His Excellency Dr Drago Štambuk, Founding Judge of the IAFOR Vladimir Devidé Haiku Award, and critic and poet Dr A. Robert Lee, LibrAsia2016 Keynote Speaker, who announced the winning entries.

We would also like to thank the Haiku International Association for their continued support of the event, particularly its President, Dr Akito Arima, as well as Hana Fujimoto and Emiko Miyashita, both Featured Haiku Workshop Presenters at LibrAsia2016 and members of the Haiku International Association.

Special thanks go to the Guest Judge for this year's award, writer and poet Alan Summers, whose special selection and commentary on the theme of 'justice' is available to read in this anthology.

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先驅者



VLADIMIR DEVIDÉ

Despite a successful international academic career as a renowned mathematician, with professorships in Australia and the United States, as well as his native Croatia at the University of Zagreb, it is primarily as a Japanologist and haiku poet that Vladimir Devidé is now remembered. Devidé was not only one of the world's most celebrated haiku poets, but a tireless promoter of Japanese culture. If Croatia is now considered a haiku 'superpower', with more poets practising the art per capita than any other nation, it is largely thanks to his efforts. A full member of the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts, Vladimir Devidé has won a number of awards and honours, including the Le Prix CIDALC (1977), the Prize of the City of Zagreb (1982), and, for his work as a promoter of Japanese culture, the Japanese Order of the Sacred Treasure (1983). Vladimir Devidé died in August 2010.

克



DR DRAGO ŠTAMBUK

His Excellency Dr Drago Štambuk is the Croatian Ambassador to Brazil, a post he took up in early 2011 after five years as Ambassador to Japan and the Republic of Korea.

Dr Štambuk is a widely published and acclaimed poet, and is now recognised as one of Croatia's most distinguished men of letters. His writing career began in 1973 and has grown to include more than 40 collections of poetry in Croatian, English, French and Spanish, and his work has been included in all relevant anthologies of Croatian contemporary poetry. The Ambassador has received numerous literary awards in his native country and abroad, and was the first recipient of Dragutin Tadijanovic Award established in 2008 by the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts. He is also a founder and director of the All-Croatian Poetry Festival on the Island of Brač, founded in 1991.

As well as his writing, Dr Štambuk has had two separate careers as both a medical doctor and

a diplomat. A graduate of Zagreb University's Medical School (1974), he went on to specialise in internal medicine, gastroenterology and hepatology at the Clinical Medical Center in Zagreb, before moving to London in 1983 to continue his medical career at both the Royal Free Hospital and St Stephen's.

Following the independence of Croatia in 1991, he became a diplomat. He has served as the Croatian Ambassador to various countries, including India and Egypt, and from 2005 was named as Croatia's representative in Tokyo. His brief was expanded to include the Republic of Korea in 2006.

The Ambassador was a Fellow at Harvard University from 2001 to 2002. He was appointed to the IAFOR International Advisory Board in 2010 as Conference Chair for the first Asian Conference on Literature & Librarianship 2011, and instituted the IAFOR Vladimir Devidé Haiku Award as a tribute to Devidé, who had died earlier in 2010. Dr Štambuk has served as Founding Judge of the IAFOR Vladimir Devidé Haiku Award since 2011.



IAFOR VLADIMIR DEVIDÉ HAIKU AWARD
SELECTED HAIKU 2016

俳句

最優秀賞

最優秀賞

Grand Prize

sunny afternoon
a shadow
on the mammogram

Suraja Roychowdhury, United States

優
秀
賞

優秀賞

Runner Up

instead of moonlight
the bank commercial
at my window

Davor Marinković, Serbia

優秀賞

Runner Up

flowing river...
the spot where I poured
his ashes

Sandip Chauhan, United States

優
秀
賞

Runner Up

a morning's labor
knead bread is awake
under tea towels

Harvey Jenkins, Canada

優秀賞

Runner Up

old house
a baby's shoe
in the corner

Zlatka Timenova, Portugal

優秀賞

Runner Up

full moon –
foreign worker in streetlight
reading a letter

Saw Kee Wah, Malaysia

優秀賞

Runner Up

fresh grave
a thief took three roses
for a wedding

Ivanov, Belgium

優秀賞

Runner Up

spring afternoon
my hammock fills
with me

Rosa Clement, Brazil

優秀賞

Runner Up

snowflakes drift down
some melt on a hare's nose
others survive

Juha Nikki, Finland

優秀賞

Runner Up

every step we take
we lurch against gravity –
walking miracles

Helen May Williams, United Kingdom

優秀賞

Runner Up

printed paper
thrown into the fire
black characters are gleaming

Nataša Ilić, Croatia

入選

入選

Commended

two snails
rightly divide
the grape leaf

Vitali Khomin, Ukraine

入選

Commended

hum
of bees –
the om

Lynn Tara Austin, New Zealand

入選

Commended

dishes left
too many days
geckos in my sink

Gregory Lance Skala, Canada

入選

Commended

ripe summer
a small waterfall spins
a single yellow leaf

Dubravko Korbus, Croatia

入選

Commended

on a cold doorknob
I feel loneliness
behind the walls

Nina Kovačić, Croatia

入選

Commended

start of spring...
the sky cracked
on the pond ice

Vladimir Šuk, Croatia

入選

Commended

new moon...
I don't recognize my shadow
after the first chemo

Maya Lyubenova, Bulgaria

入選

Commended

black-and-white photo –
my father
younger than I

Minh-Triết Pham, France

入選

Commended

I read carefully
the moles on your skin –
Braille letters

Diana Teneva, Bulgaria

入選

Commended

planned city –
roads run straight to the hospital
and to the graveyard

Ajaya Mahala, India

入選

Commended

night at the morgue
a fourth isn't here
to play bridge

Azi Kuder, Poland

入選

Commended

summer has ceased...
twig of a weeping willow
catching a straw

Jasminka Predojević, Croatia

入選

Commended

winter night
fleece lined slippers
still hold his shape

Lysa Collins, Canada

入選

Commended

time of visit –
the old lady in her armchair
waits for nobody

Joëlle Ginoux-Duvivier, France

入選

Commended

morning raga
a loud yawn
before it ends

Aparna Pathak, India

入選

Commended

library silence –
her bite into
a Granny Smith

Gérard Krebs, Finland

入選

Commended

stargazing...
first knock in
my moonlit womb

Ramesh Anand, India

入選

Commended

poetic justice...
the antelope jumps
over the moon

Mohammad Azim Khan, Pakistan

入選

Commended

all souls day
after the mom's hard work
a sparkling clean grave

John Tiong, Malaysia

入選

Commended

laundromat
her red socks dancing
in the suds

Ruth Powell, Canada

入選

Commended

a holy service
in front of the tv set
a woman praying

Željko Funda, Croatia

入選

Commended

new year's eve
the attic mice nibbling on
my resolutions

Ljubomir Radovančević, Croatia

正義

JUSTICE COMMENTARY

I was delighted to see so many authors use the theme of justice as inspiration for their haiku. There are all kinds of justice – it has its own lexicon of both sorrow and joy, from the victims who barely survive injustices, to those who win the fight for justice. These remarkable haiku showcase various poignant approaches to the conference theme.

Wabi-sabi (侘寂) is a Japanese term that describes the acceptance of imperfection, impermanence and incompleteness, manifested in the art of *kintsugi* (金継ぎ) in which broken pottery is repaired with golden lacquer. These haiku are likened to the golden repairs, in that they represent the acceptance, reflection and celebration of the overcoming of injustice.

Haiku often feature the human condition in an unexpected way. A subtle 'sadness' that isn't 'sad', or an 'aleness' that isn't 'lonely', which is so typically Japanese. This is often a keynote in haiku and draws on the universality of experience. Each haiku evoked a deeply poignant response within me, and I hope they do the same for you.

Alan Summers

Award-winning writer and founder of With Words
(www.withwords.org.uk)

正義

JUSTICE

1st Choice

sunny afternoon
a shadow
on the mammogram

Suraja Roychowdhury, United States

We start with an innocuous sunny day and then a shadow, and all seems well. Then the last line jolts us. The shadow is not an innocent passing phenomenon of a bright sunny day, but is instead a more ominous presence on a breast cancer X-ray.

The haiku is well crafted, building up line by line until the reveal, the twist in the narrative, perhaps encouraging us as readers to appreciate every single second of a sunny day.

正義

JUSTICE 2nd Choice

first snow
the red hat
of a refugee

Skaidrite Stelze, United States

Red is a potent symbol against the fresh snow. I'm reminded of Steven Spielberg's film adaptation of *Schindler's List* in which a little girl wears a red coat and everyone else is in monotone. Red against the white snow at first suggests warmth, comfort and safety, which quickly turns to danger for the refugee who will endure winter on cold, unfamiliar ground. The line order of the poem builds suspense and subtle emotional undertones.

正義

JUSTICE
3rd Choice

after therapy the same war

Lamart Cooper, United States

This haiku is extremely well crafted and utterly haunting, pared to the bone with just five words. It touches on the war that so many suffer within their own minds, but also hints at despair of the world's physical conflicts. Many can experience an internal war, even after therapy for treatment of trauma experienced through violence, war or injustice, but this sufferer is exhausted by the fight, both with themselves and with others.

正義

JUSTICE
4th Choice

hallowed ground
so many ringtones
among the stones

Earl R. Keener, United States

There is a poignant note to the first two lines, with the suggestion that all those buried in recent years are bound to their mobile devices even in death, and that those mourning are too attached in life to switch off, even on 'hallowed ground'. The haiku uses end rhyme, with 'ringtones' and 'stones', as well as a strong assonance. For me the 'own' sound in 'tone' and 'stone' makes this more deeply moving. We can't take the things we own with us into death.

正義

JUSTICE **5th Choice**

war-torn city
all the coffin makers
working overtime

Barbara A. Taylor, Australia

With powerful brevity we are placed into war, almost as a witness, in which justice takes a back seat. The coffin makers are making a living amongst the many dead and mourning, working hard to bring some dignity to the victims. It serves as a reminder that ordinary people, businesses and lives exist in these sites of terrible injustice.



IAFOR VLADIMIR DEVIDÉ HAIKU AWARD

Submissions for the seventh IAFOR Vladimir Devidé Haiku Award are open from September 30, 2016 to March 1, 2017.

The IAFOR Vladimir Devidé Haiku Award was created to celebrate classical and modern haiku, including both those poems that follow the traditional form and those that play with it. Though traditionally Japanese, haiku has become a global art form. In keeping with IAFOR's international scope, we welcome haiku submissions from around the world.

Further information on the award, including previous winning submissions, can be found by scanning the QR code below or by visiting:

www.iaforhaikuaward.org



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*One Hundred Poems by One Hundred Poets,
Explained by the Nurse: Teishin Ko* (circa 1835)

Artist

Katsushika Hokusai (1760-1849)

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9784907131067



1923092010001

ISBN: 978-4-907131-06-7

C3092 ¥1,000E