

## John Irons

### ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS

B.A. (hons.), M.A. Modern & Medieval Languages (German, French, Dutch), Cambridge University (1964, 1968)  
Ph.D. The Development of Imagery in the Poetry of P.C. Boutens (Dutch), Cambridge University (1971)  
Cand. Mag. English (major subject), Lund University, Sweden  
German (minor subject), Odense University (1977)  
Dip. Ed. Oxford University (1965)

### PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

1968-1971 Lecturer at Odense University, Denmark  
1973-79 External Lecturer at Odense University, Denmark  
1974-2007 Lecturer and Senior Lecturer at Odense College of Education, Denmark (English & German)  
1987 - Professional translator (from Danish, Swedish, Norwegian, Dutch, German and French)  
2007 Awarded the NORLA translation prize for non-fiction  
2016 Joint Winner of the Oxford-Weidenfeld Translation Prize (100 Dutch-Language Poems, Holland Park Press – see below)

### SOME PUBLICATIONS TO DATE

Büchmann-Møller, Frank, *You Just Fight For Your Life* (Biography of Lester Young), Greenwood Press, New York  
Büchmann-Møller, Frank, *You Got To Be Original, Man* (Lester Young Solography) Greenwood Press, New York  
Niels Thomassen. *Communicative Ethics in Theory and Practice*, (Macmillan, London 1992)  
Finn Hauberg Mortensen, *The Reception of Søren Kierkegaard in Japan*, (Odense University Press, 1996)  
Henrik Reeh, *Siegfried Kracauer- the resubjectivisation of urban culture*, MIT Press 2005  
Lise Funder, *Nordic Jewellery*, Nyt Nordisk Forlag, 1996  
Lise Funder, *Dansk Smykkekunst*  
Finn Barnow, *The City of the Divine King* (Arkitektskolen)  
Finn Barnow, *The City of the Landowner* (Arkitektskolen)  
Finn Barnow, *The City of the Merchant* (Arkitektskolen)  
Finn Barnow, *The City of the Hunter* (Arkitektskolen)  
Bodil Busk Larsen (ed.) *Royal Copenhagen Porcelain 1775-2000*, Nyt Nordisk Forlag, 2000  
Esther Fihl, *Exploring Central Asia* (The Carlsberg Foundation, 2002)  
Karsten Eskildsen (ed.) *Astrid Stampe's Picture Book*, Gyldendal (2003)  
Andreas Trier Mørch, *The Unknown St Petersburg*, Royal Danish Academy of Arts School of Architecture (2003)  
A number of cookery books, including Klaus Nørsgaard, *The Kitchen at Hvidøre*, Nyt Nordisk Forlag, 2002  
Gerrit Komrij, *Forgotten City and other poems*, Snail Press, 2001  
Albert Hagensaars, *Tropendrift/Tropical Drift*, In de Knipscheer, 2003  
Lars Fr. H. Svendsen, *A Philosophy of Boredom* (Reaktion Books, London)  
Lars Fr. H. Svendsen, *Fashion: A Philosophy* (Reaktion Books, London)  
Dirk van Bastelaere: *The Last to Leave. Selected Poems*. Translated from the Flemish by Willem Groenewegen, John Irons and Francis R Jones. Published 20 April 2005.  
Hugo Claus, *Greetings*, Anthology of poetry, Harcourt Books, New York, 2004  
Morten Søndergaard, VINCI, LATER, BookThug Toronto, Nov. 2005  
Dr Karen Risager, *Language and Culture - Global Flows and Local Complexity*, Roskilde University Centre, Denmark (Multilingual Matters, Clevedon•Buffalo•Toronto 2006)  
Dr Karen Risager, *Language and Culture Pedagogy - From a National to a Transnational Paradigm*, Roskilde University Centre, Denmark (Multilingual Matters, 2007)  
Ole Martin Høystad, *A History of the Heart*, Reaktion Books, London 2007.  
Peter Larsen, *Film Music*, Reaktion Books, London 2007.  
Lars Gustafsson, *A Time in Xanadu*, collection of poetry, Copper Canyon Press, USA, 2008  
Contributions (Rimbereid, Wardenær) to: *Voices from the North - New Writing from Norway*, GAIA 2008  
Henrik Wergeland, *Jan van Huysum's Flower Piece*, GAIA 2008  
Lars Fr. H. Svendsen, *A Philosophy of Fear*, Reaktion London 2008  
Arne Johan Vetlesen, *A Philosophy of Pain*, Reaktion London 2009

Henrik Svensen, *The End is Nigh*, Reaktion London 2009  
 Nils-Arvid Bringéus, *Carl Wilhelm von Sydow*, Academia Scientifiarum Fennica, Helsinki 2009  
 Christian Anton Smedshaug, *Feeding the World in the 21st Century*, Anthem Press London 2010  
 Torstein Velsand, *Edvard Munch*, Font Forlag, Oslo, 2010  
 Per Roger Lauritzen, *Norwegian Fjords*, Font Forlag, Oslo, 2010  
 Ina Johannesen, *Edvard Munch – 50 Graphic Works from the Gundersen Collection*, 2010  
 Torben Grøngaard Jeppesen, *Scandinavian Descendants in the United States* (December 2010)  
 Torstein Velsand, *Henrik Ibsen – the man and his plays*, Font Forlag, Oslo 2010  
 Per Roger Lauritzen, *Norwegian Mountains*, Font Forlag, Oslo, 2011  
 Prof. Anne-Marie Mai and Thomas Bredsdorff (eds.) *100 Danish Poems*, Tusculanum Press/University of Washington Press, November 2011. (My translations)  
*At the Edge of the Abyss. A Concentration Camp Diary 1943-1944.*  
 David Koker's diary is one of the most notable accounts of life in a German concentration camp written by a Jew during the years of the Holocaust. Published in 1977 as Dagboek geschreven in Vught (Diary Written in Vught). (Translation of poems in the book)  
 Erling Kittelsen, *Selected Poems*, Aschehoug, Oslo 2012  
 Asbjørn Wahl, *The Rise and Fall of the Welfare State*, Pluto Press 2012  
 Ivar Libæk, Øivind Stenersen og Asle Sveen, *The History of Norway after 1814* (Font Forlag) 2012  
 Nina Frang Høyum & Janike Kampeveld Larsen (eds.), *Views. Norway Seen from the Road 1733-2020*, Nasjonalmuseet Oslo 2012  
*The Boundaries of Welfare. Immigration Policy and the Welfare State in Scandinavia 1945–2010.* Edited by Grete Brochmann and Anniken Hagelund. (Translated from Norwegian, Swedish and Danish), Palgrave Press 2012  
*What does art know?* Translation of 'Hvad ved kunst?', a book on modern art at Aarhus University. See: <http://da.unipress.dk/udgivelser/h/hvad-ved-kunst/>  
 Frantz Rosenberg: *Big Game Hunting in British East Africa*, translation of the Norwegian Book from 1916. Commissioned by Restoration Books, Seattle, Washington, USA.  
*Out of Fashion – Textile in international contemporary art.* Catalogue, published by GI Holtegaard museum, 2013.  
*Fashion Myths – a cultural critique*, Roman Meinhold, [transcript] Cultural and Media Studies, 2013. Translated from the German  
*Påskeblomst – Hvad vil du her? Anthology of songs and hymns by N.F.S. Grundtvig translated into English by John Irons*, University Press of Southern Denmark, November 2013.  
*Thor Heyerdahl* (Font forlag) (from the Norwegian)  
*Cathedral* – four-language series of cathedral poems by Albert Hagens (Poëize-uigeverij WEL, 2015)

PUBLISHED SINCE AUTUMN 2015:

*Keramikeren/The Ceramist Richard Manz* – Compiled and edited by Cecilie, Mathilde and Jacob Manz (Nyt Nordisk Forlag)  
*The Looking-Glass Sisters*, Gøhril Gabrielsen (Peirene Press) (from the Norwegian) (SEPT.2015)  
*100 Dutch-language poems from the medieval period to the present day*, co-production with Paul Vincent (Holland Park Press, 2015). JOINT WINNER OF OXFORD-WEIDENFELD PRIZE 2016.  
*Selected Poems by Lars Gustafsson* (Bloodaxe Press) (Nov. 2015)  
*Hans Christian Andersen's Magic Trunk* (15 fairytales in English)(University Press of Southern Denmark, 2015)  
*Password: Chairos* (latest collection of Norwegian poetry by Torild Wardenær)  
*Night Guard*, Synne Lea & Stian Hole – translated from the Norwegian, Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., Grand Rapids, Michigan, USA, March 2016.  
*I'd love the key to the master lock (Vol. 1) Score for a longer conversation (Vol. 2)*  
 The life and work of the Norwegian sculptor Bård Breivik (arnoldsche, 2016). Translated from the Norwegian.  
*'Ultima Thule – Kurt Schwitters and Norway'* (Orfeus, 2016). Translated from Norwegian and German.  
*Dylan Forever*, a bilingual book of poems by Klaus Høeck, the Danish edition of which first appeared in 1979. Schack forlag, February 1917.  
*Axel Salto – Master of Stoneware.* Exhibition catalogue translated from the Danish, CLAY – Museum of Ceramic Art Denmark. February 1917.  
 An English translation of *Het refrein van andermans leven* by the Dutch writer Arnold Jansen op de Haar. Published by Holland Park Press, March 1917.  
*Literature and the experience of globalization. Texts without borders.* By Svend Erik Larsen. Translated from the Danish. Publication date: 19 October 2017.  
*Danish literature in the 20th and the early 21st century*, Anne-Marie Mai, Odense : University Press of Southern Denmark, 2017.  
*Hans Christian Andersen - Fairy Tale Almanac*, The Media Museum Odense, April 2018. Twelve tales by Andersen with main characters from nature. Available in Danish and English editions. Translation into English: John Irons.

## NOW OUT!

### Fashioners of faith

#### The Danish hymn writers Kingo, Brorson, Grundtvig and Ingemann

A bilingual anthology with introduction by

Prof. Anne-Marie Mai & Prof. Jørn Henrik Petersen and translations by John Irons.

University Press of Southern Denmark

#### The history of Tommerup Keramiske Værksted – Clay Museum of Ceramic Art

(30th anniversary publication 'Large Formats, Clever Hands', March 2018)

#### Jan Groth – Drawings 1967-2017

Karin Hellandsjø, Published by Motto TI ([www.tekniskindustri.no](http://www.tekniskindustri.no)), 2018

#### Work in progress:

- 100 Norwegian poems from the medieval period to the present day – Spartacus Forlag
- 100 Swedish poems from the medieval period to the present day – approx. 150 possible poems now translated.
- Translations of 100 sonnets by the Dutch poet Dèr Mouw (Adwaita) for Dèr Mouw Genootschap. In collaboration with Ben Bal.
- *Études for an old typewriter* – last collection by Lars Gustafsson.
- All of Hans Christian Andersen's fairytales and other tales (about 180 in number).
- Twelve Andersen fairytales about plants (dual-language publication from Odense City Museums, to be published in 2018)

Translator for Poetry International Rotterdam since 1996.

Poets translated include:

renée van riessen – gerrit komrij – hester knobbe – anne vegter – anneke brassinga (x 2) – jan lauwereyns – jan lier – jan glas – willem jan otten – paul bogaert – ruben van gogh – gerrit krol – erik menkveld – alfred schaffer – erik spinoy – joke van leeuwen – menno wigman

Translated for the Dutch Foundation for Literature dossiers with poems by individual poets:

brassinga – gerlach – reints – komrij – dèr mouw – wigman

#### Available electronically:

At the site of the Danish Royal Library:

<http://www.kb.dk/en/nb/materialer/haandskrifter/HA/e-mss/hoeeck.html>

Translations of the following entire collections by Klaus Høeck:

Home (1985)

Heptameron (1989)

Fairytales (1992)

1001 POEMS (1995)

In Nomine (2001)

Hsieh (2004)

Heartland (2006)

Palimpsest (2008)

LIVE (2012)

Triptychon (never printed in book form in Danish, available solely as a website since 1999)

#### Legacy

Most recent poetry collection by Klaus Høeck (2015), now in English translation.

Now on the Danish Royal Library Website:

<http://www.kb.dk/da/nb/materialer/haandskrifter/HA/e-mss/hoeeck.html>

Translated Swedish poems 25.12.2018:

100 swedish poems

Sorgens makt

Staffan stalleträng

Gamle man

Klagevisa

Hjeltinna, hwilkens namn

Håll stilla mitt förnuft

Dig vill jag älska än

Skulle jag sörja

Anon.

Anon.

Anon.

Lars Wivallius

Georg Stiernhielm

Georg Stiernhielm

Skogekär Bergbo

Lucidor (Lasse Johansson)

**Döden som sig föresatt**  
Mjn Wän! jag skulle wäl...  
**Över en hyacint**  
Charon i luren tutar  
**Gubben Noach**  
**Så lunka vi så småningom**  
Den mödosamma världen  
**Epitaf**  
**Champagnevinet**  
Sommarpsalm  
**Var är den vän?**  
**Det eviga**  
**Mjältsjukan**  
Bildn  
**Natthimmelen**  
**Till natten**  
**Vän! I förödelsens stund**  
**Sorg och glädje**  
**Gammalt porclin**  
Oktoberskymning  
Vid vägens slut  
**På judiska kyrkogården i Prag**  
Guitarr och dragharmonika  
**Kärleksvisa**  
Rimsmeden  
Sång efter skördeanden  
Månsken på Strömmen  
**Kastanjeträden trötta luta**  
**Då voro bokarna ljusa**  
**Den första gång...**  
**Frida i vårstädningen**  
Jag väntar...  
Så länge skutan kan gå  
Livsbåten  
**Ångest, ångest är min arvedel**  
**Ingenting**  
Världen badar i blod  
Gårdens själ  
Slut på sommarlovet  
**Bara de riktiga orden**  
Stjärnfiskaren  
Kuplett (På Arendorffs tid)  
Inte ens en grå liten fågel  
När skönheten kom till byn  
**Jag vill möta**  
**Ja visst gör det ont**  
**Första sommarns kalv**  
Havet ältar sina minnen  
Interiör  
**Aniara (two stanzas)**  
Enbusken  
Förkastning  
**Skatan**  
Kinesisk broderi  
Poetik  
**Handen darrar i svindel (mannen utan väg V)**  
Det trogna biet (mannen utan väg XXV)  
Långt ute i oceanen (mannen utan väg XXIX)  
Men även denna sol är hemlös  
Hundarna  
Mätarlarven  
Spelman och upptecknare  
Den blinda kråkan  
**Papegojan död ej ruttnar**  
Du säger att dikten är död  
Vad du än må säga  
**Villanella på en spik**  
När ett språk dör  
Route tournante  
**Allegro**  
Från berget  
Gäddhuvud  
En räv med skabb  
Ormens tid  
Diket  
**Havet**

**Sophia Elisabet Brenner**  
Sophia Elisabet Brenner  
**Hedvig C. Nordenflycht**  
Carl Michael Bellman  
**Carl Michael Bellman**  
**Carl Michael Bellman**  
Anna Maria Lenngren  
**Anna Maria Lenngren**  
**Frans Michael Franzén**  
Carl Johan af Wirsén  
**Johan Olof Wallin**  
**Esias Tegnér**  
**Esias Tegnér**  
Erik Gustaf Geijer  
**Erik Gustaf Geijer**  
**Erik Johan Stagnelius**  
**Erik Johan Stagnelius**  
**Johan Ludvig Runeberg**  
**Carl Snoilsky**  
Ola Hansson  
Verner von Heidenstam  
**Oscar Levertin**  
Gustaf Fröding  
**Gustaf Fröding**  
Erik Axel Karlfeldt  
Erik Axel Karlfeldt  
Bo Bergman  
**Vilhelm Ekelund**  
**Vilhelm Ekelund**  
**Birger Sjöberg**  
**Birger Sjöberg**  
Dan Andersson  
Evert Taube  
Pär Lagerkvist  
**Pär Lagerkvist**  
**Edith Södergran**  
Edith Södergran  
Gunnar Mascoll Silfverstolpe  
Gunnar Mascoll Silfverstolpe  
**Hjalmar Gullberg**  
Hjalmar Gullberg  
Nils Ferlin  
Nils Ferlin  
Nils Ferlin  
**Karin Boye**  
**Karin Boye**  
**Rabbe Enckell**  
Rabbe Enckell  
Johannes Edfeldt  
**Harry Martinson**  
Harry Martinson  
Sten Hagliden  
**Artur Lundkvist**  
Gunnar Ekelöf  
Gunnar Ekelöf  
**Erik Lindegren**  
Erik Lindegren  
Erik Lindegren  
Karl Vennberg  
Werner Aspenström  
Werner Aspenström  
Werner Aspenström  
Ragnar Thoursie  
**Ragnar Thoursie**  
Lars Forssell  
Lars Forssell  
**Majken Johansson**  
Kjell Espmark  
Kjell Espmark  
**Tomas Tranströmer**  
Tomas Tranströmer  
Lennart Sjögren  
Lennart Sjögren  
Lennart Sjögren  
Göran Palm  
**Göran Palm**

Lyckan	Erik Beckman
<b>Världens tystnad före Bach</b>	<b>Lars Gustafsson</b>
Stenkistan	Lars Gustafsson
Ålen och brunnen	Lars Gustafsson
Går i rosens labyrint	Göran Sonnevi
Vad förmår kärlekens strukturer	Göran Sonnevi
Ännu är klart, skarpt ljus	Göran Sonnevi
Jag var ett lyckligt lottat barn	Kristina Lugn
<b>Jag vill att du ska komma nu</b>	<b>Kristina Lugn</b>
Den som en gång var där	Tua Forsström
Fiskarna	Tua Forsström
Rovdjurstestamente	Eva Ström
Spectacular bodies	Eva Ström
Polderland	Eva Runefelt
Över ditt kindben	Eva Runefelt
Jag själv i gul klänning	Katarina Frostenson

39 poems out of the 100 are in *Svensk Poesi*. (in **bold**)

Other poems already translated that are in *Svensk Poesi*: BLOGSPOT

Aspenström, Werner: You and me and the world	10.11.11
Bergman, Bo: The marionettes	07.07.16
Columbus, Samuel: Epitaph for LARS Jahanson	14.06.16
Ekelund, Vilhelm: I grieve that the heart will heal	28.05.17
Ekelund, Vilhelm: Nothing soul's longing e'er appeases	28.05.17
Ekelund, Vilhelm: Unrest	29.05.17
Ekelöf, Gunnar: Absentia animi	27.08.16
Ferlin, Nils: Stars do not care even mildly	12.06.16
Frese, Jacob: Anno 1726 (Upon green boughs the birds...)	12.06.16
Fröding, Gustaf: Idealism and realism	17.07.16
Gustafsson, Lars: (Elegi över en död labrador)	
Gustafsson, Lars: (Skäggdoppingen)	
Gustafsson, Lars: Elegi över förlorade och glömda föremål	
Gustafsson, Lars: Om de bebodda världarnas rikedom	
Israel Kolmodin: The flowering season's here now	18.06.16
Lagerkvist, Pär: Life's most lovely at light's waning	25.01.15
Lindgren, Erik: mannen utan väg I, IV, XX, XL	21.05.12
Lindqvist, Ebba: Icarus' fall	28.08.16
Lucidor (Lasse Johansson): I would be foolish	21.02.16/02.02.12
Omkring Tiggarn från Luossa (Dan Andersson)	
Sjögren, Lennart: The Bird Hunters (entire cycle)	13.10.15
Ström, Eva: Do we discover mathematics?	13.06.16
Svenbro, Jesper: Fugue in C major	16.06.16
Tranströmer, Tomas: Black postcards	29.03.15
Tranströmer, Tomas: From March '79	04.06.12
Tranströmer, Tomas: Carillon	18.03.11/07.10.11
Von Dalin, Olof: On the church-tower the magpie sits	14.06.16

Other Swedish poems translated:

Anon. King Gustav I and the Men of Dalarna	19.11.18
Aspenström, Werner: At times	29.04.14
Aspenström, Werner: Snow-letter	30.04.14
Boye, Karin: The sea	14.05.16/25.01.15
Brenner, Sophia Elisabet: Well-tested mirror-glass (German original)	28.12.13/07.02.12
Ekelöf, Gunnar: Cosmic Sleepwalker	19.05.16
Ekelöf, Gunnar: Dedication	16.02.16
Ekelöf, Gunnar: Double-entry bookkeeping	25.08.16
Ekelöf, Gunnar: Start to write (I-V)	25.08.16/26.08.16
Ferlin, Nils: May I leave some flowers when parting	12.07.17
Ferlin, Nils: Stars do not care even mildly	12.06.16
Ferlin, Nils: Vanity	16.02.17
Geijer, Erik Gustaf: On New Year's Day 1838	28.09.18
Gustafsson, Lars: Selected Poems (2016) (Bloodaxe)	
Gustafsson, Lars: Études for an old typewriter (pdf)	
Gustafsson, Lars: Carl Frederik Hill visits Lake Buchanan	17.08.16
Heidenstam, Verner von: How easily most people's cheeks start glowing	11.04.18
Hellsing, Lennart: Fish	21.01.10
Karlfeldt, Erik Axel: Black-haired Rudolph	20.02.17
Lagerkvist, Pär: There are no words in the song of love	03.05.15
Lagerkvist, Pär: There is beauty in your wake	22.02.15
Lenngren, Anna Maria: For Lise	11.02.15
Lenngren, Anna Maria: Gunhild's spectacles	11.02.15

Lenngren, Anna Maria: For Mrs***, who is afraid of snakebites	13.02.15
Lenngren, Anna Maria: Old Boy Didrik	26.10.18
Lindegren, Erik: All of 'mannen utan väg'	
Lindqvist, Ebba: Gift	28.08.16
Lucidor: Oh sinful man	03.11.18
Nilson, Ruben: The cigarette stub and the matchstick	28.04.17
Nilson, Ruben: The immortal horse	05.05.17
Nilson, Ruben: The troubadour	02.05.17
Olrog, Hans Peder: The violet of Flen	18.02.17
Sjögren, Lennart: A calf with large eyes	02.01.10
Sjögren, Lennart: Aurora borealis	21.10.12
Sjögren, Lennart: Crow Suite	30.06.10
Sjögren, Lennart: Downward; A late and clear...	20.09.12
Sjögren, Lennart: Razor-blade	01.07.12
Sjögren, Lennart: The things	17.06.12
Sjögren, Lennart: Thought of speaking more simply	18.09.12
Sjögren, Lennart: Who doesn't dream	16.10.11
Ström, Eva: All of 'Rib Cities'	
Taube, Evert: The cheerful baker of San Remo	06.11.15
Taube, Evert: Morning song at Baggensfjärden	29.08.13
Thoursie, Ragnar: 27 Crow poems	
Tidholm, Thomas: Creation	11.03.16
Tidholm, Thomas: The scream	03.03.16
Tidholm, Thomas: The stone was me	02.03.16
Tidholm, Thomas: Under the ice	04.03.16
Tranströmer, Tomas: Late May	21.05.14
Tranströmer, Tomas: Sketch in October	01.10.12
Tranströmer, Tomas: The Clearing	13.06.16
Tranströmer, Tomas: Traveller's Tale	16.11.12