

## 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)  
Honorary Fellow at The Department of Culture and Language in Hans Christian Andersen Studies (University of Southern Denmark)

### 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)
2019	Shortlisted for The Bernhard Shaw Prize (translation from the Swedish) 2018

### 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 Nørgaard, *The Kitchen at Hvidøre*, Nyt Nordisk Forlag, 2002  
Gerrit Komrij, *Forgotten City and other poems*, Snail Press, 2001  
Albert Hagenaaers, *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 – Textiles in international contemporary art*. Catalogue, published by Gl 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 Hagaraars (Poëize-uigeverij WEL, 2015)

PUBLISHED SINCE AUTUMN 2015:

*Keramikerer/The Ceramist Richard Manz* – Compiled and edited by Cecilie, Mathilde and Jacob Manz (Nyt Nordisk Forlag)

*The Looking-Glass Sisters*, Gørril 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: Chairors* (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.

*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  
*Outside voices*, (a pioneer era in Norwegian landscape architecture), ed. Jenny B. Osuldsen, Orfeus, Oslo, 2019  
*Vigeland and the Park*, Jarle Strømmodden, Orfeus, Oslo 2019  
*The Nazi Universe*, Carl Møller Frøland, McFarland & Company Inc., Jefferson, North Virginia, USA  
 (translated from the Norwegian)  
*Ceramic Momentum – Staging the Object*, CLAY Keramisk Museum, July 2019  
*Y-Block, Photographs by Katja Høst*, Orfeus, Oslo 2020 (bilingual publication)  
*Duel without End (Mankind's Battle with Microbes)*, Stig. S. Frøland, Reaktion Books, London 2022  
 (translated from the Norwegian)  
*The Wadden Sea (nature and cultural heritage)*, edited by John Frederiksen, Gyldendal, 2022.  
 (Translated from the Danish)

#### 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 170 in number).

Translator for Poetry International Rotterdam since 1996.  
 Poets translated include:

renée van riessen – gerrit komrij – hester knibbe – 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/hoeck.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/hoeck.html>