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Bilingual author Yoko Tawada shares her experience writing in two languages

The award-winning author will also be reading excerpts from her latest book



Jul 3, 2018

TEXT JESSICA ALBERTO



(<http://nolisoli.ph/author-archive/?id=54>)



There is a symbiotic relationship that exists between language, culture, and history— each with their own amalgam of nuances that may not easily be grasped by an outsider. Simultaneously, an outsider's perspective may bring to light insights that may have otherwise gone unnoticed.



How, then, are multi-lingual authors, poets, and playwrights able to express themselves eloquently in a language that is not necessarily their own, and write something that is faithful to the language they chose to write in while preserving their own identity?

Born in Tokyo, Japan in 1960, Yoko Tawada obtained a doctorate in German literature from Zurich University and has been living in Germany since 1982. The award-winning author has published a number of novels, poems, plays, and essays in both her native (Japanese) and non-native (German) language.

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Writing in Two Worlds
AN AFTERNOON WITH YOKO TAWADA

JULY 9, 2018
2:30-4:30 PM

Get to know Yoko Tawada, an award-winning exophonic writer who will talk about her works and share her experiences about writing in both Japanese and German. How did she become a writer? How is she connected to Japan and to Germany? What are the advantages and disadvantages of writing in two languages? These are some of the questions that Ms. Yoko Tawada will address in her talk. She will also read excerpts from her novel *The Emissary*. A Q&A with De La Salle University literature professor and poet Dinah T. Roma will follow.

Admission is free. Priority is given to those who registered online (<http://bit.ly/2Z0Nq11>). For inquiries, please call: (032) 5244611 loc. 541 or 552, or email donna.mina@dlsu.edu.ph.

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Yoko Tawada is an award-winning Japanese writer who writes in both Japanese and German, and has published several novels, poems, plays, and essays, such as *The Bridegroom Was a Dog*, *Memoirs of a Polar Bear*, and *The Naked Eye*. She has received numerous awards including the Akutagawa Prize, Kleist Prize, the Tanizaki Prize, and the Goethe Medal.

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This Jul. 9, Tawada will be sharing her experiences as a bilingual writer and discussing the cross-cultural aspect of her literary journey at the Andrew Gonzales Hall in De La Salle University, Manila. The talk will start at 2:30 p.m.

The author will also be reading excerpts from her novel *The Emissary*. Writers, readers, and curious individuals may also want prepare some questions as there will be Q&A session held afterwards.

Admission is free, and walk-in guests are welcome but registered guests will be prioritized. You can [register](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf--cZTM87bfuqdawWyNRgykrJ1p4hapMU_EryZ9H4bieCeLw/viewform) (https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf--cZTM87bfuqdawWyNRgykrJ1p4hapMU_EryZ9H4bieCeLw/viewform) online to reserve a seat.

Images courtesy of The Japan Foundation, Manila.

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