

EDITORIAL

Cyril Connolly, the editor of *Horizon*, famously believed that a little magazine has a natural lifespan, after which its momentum runs out. Ian Hamilton took up this idea and defined the ideal lifespan as a decade. Many journals, among them *Poetry Salzburg Review*, have been published for a much longer period of time. However, the past year – the sixteenth since our magazine was launched – brought with it some unexpected changes and have led to a partial ‘facelift’.

The heterogeneity of our Editorial Board has contributed greatly to the liveliness and catholicity of our magazine. For very personal reasons Ally Acker, William Bedford, and Caitriona O’Reilly decided to step down from our Editorial Board at various times during the past eight months. They had read submissions, commissioned new work, conducted interviews, and suggested books for review. Sometimes they contributed editorials and essays on poetics. I also more than once commissioned them to write review essays and encouraged them to contribute their own poetry and translations. I strongly believed, and still do, in their critical judgement and commitment, and I continue to trust their opinions. This is my special vote of thanks to them. I am very grateful to Ally, Caitriona, and William for their support over so many years. It is also their achievement that *Poetry Salzburg Review* has acquired the prestige and standing which, one must admit, it enjoys.

Looking for replacements for the irreplaceable I have managed to get Keith Hutson as the first new member of our Editorial Board starting with the next issue. Keith’s pamphlet *Routines*, which was released in October last year, has attracted enormous attention. Since then he has been invited to numerous festivals and readings, the distinguished attention culminating in an invitation from the Poet Laureate herself to read with her under the “Carol Ann Duffy and Guests” scheme for the RSL at the British Library. As Keith was introduced to me by William Bedford, he is more or less his ‘natural’ successor.

Vahni Capildeo is the second new member of our Editorial Board. She received the Forward Prize for Best Collection last year. She was also shortlisted for the T. S. Eliot Prize. Our readers are al-

ready familiar with Vahni's poetry, as we have reviewed some of her collections and published some new poems in our pages.

The need for an official welcoming of Vahni has furnished me with the occasion and pretence for asking her to let us publish some new poems. Additionally, in this issue too, Danielle Hope reviews Vahni's new collection *Measures of Expatriation*. Keith Hutson's work was featured in our summer 2016 issue and he has agreed to offer new poems for the next issue too. The poetics and ideas of these two notable poets about how to edit a magazine will certainly influence and change *PSR*.

In this number we introduce a new feature for which we still have not found a proper term. A decade ago Daniel Thomas Moran put me in contact with Samuel Menashe whose work I had first encountered in *Penguin Modern Poets 7* and since then admire. The transcription of an interview that Dan had conducted with Samuel in early 1998 had sat for quite some time on my desk under a pile of papers. When it resurfaced we decided to launch with it a section that is retrospective and offers a small selection of work from 'past masters': poets whose work we admire but is either out of print or has disappeared from the focus of critical attention. The new section for No. 31 has been guest-edited by Glyn Pursglove and will be devoted to unpublished sonnets by Peter Russell. Those of you who are familiar with the history of poetry publications from the University of Salzburg will know that James Hogg, founding editor of the press, published hundreds of poetry collections between 1980 and 1996. Some of these poets we will try to resuscitate and help find new readers for their work: among them, Chris Bendon, John Gurney, Brian Merrikin Hill, James Kirkup, Edward Lowbury, and Desmond O'Grady.

When a magazine enters a new phase and changes are introduced, the loyalty of its subscribers is called for, which is why at this time we particularly welcome feedback from our readers. Due to the changes we have described the publication of No. 29 was delayed as is also the launch of this issue. In order to catch up once again with our schedule we plan to publish three issues in 2017.

Wolfgang Görtschacher