

Romanian authors have to face the limitations implied by writing in a small language. Nonetheless, Romanian literature has become more and more talked-about in recent years, not least in connection with the Nobel Prize. This year's Book Fair will be visited by some of Romania's most prominent writers and public figures, as well as by authors from the younger generation. The public is promised fascinating encounters between the Romanian guests and Swedish writers well acquainted with Romanian literature, some of whom have even translated from it. This initiative has been taken by the Romanian Cultural Institute in Stockholm with the expressed goal of igniting engaging discussions on both literary and more general cultural topics, relevant from an international perspective.



RUMÄNSKA
KULTURINSTITUTET

Voices from Romania



Herta Müller

Writer born in 1953. Her books deal primarily with the human suffering during the Romanian communist dictatorship and the rootlessness of political refugees. Following her university studies, Müller was employed as a translator at a factory, but was fired when she refused to collaborate with the Romanian secret police service, 'Securitate'. Her first book, *Niederungen*, came out in Romania in a drastically censored form in 1982, a few years after she had written it. The original was smuggled out of the country and published in Germany, to great critical acclaim. In 1987 Herta Müller managed to flee from Romania to Germany. Today she lives in Berlin.

Friday 12.00
& 15.00



Mircea Cărtărescu

Novelist, poet and essayist born in 1956 in Bucharest. Cărtărescu took his B.A. at the University of Bucharest in Romanian language and literature in 1980 and worked as a teacher of Romanian through the 80's. Today he is a Senior Lecturer in the University's Literature Department. Since his debut at the beginning of the 80's he has published six collections of poems and 15 novels and has been awarded numerous literary prizes. Three of his novels have been so far translated into Swedish. A collection of his poems will be published in Swedish this summer.

Saturday 11.00
& 16.00



Horia-Roman Patapievici

Philosopher, physicist and essayist born in 1957. Patapievici is currently the President of the Romanian Cultural Institute in Bucharest. He is a former member of the National Council for the Study of the Archives of the Former 'Securitate', which he left in 2005 in protest over the political pressures on the Council's activity, as was also the case with Andrei Pleșu.

Saturday 16.00



Ioan T. Morar

Poet, novelist and journalist born in 1956. Morar is among the founders of the satirical journal *Academia Cașavencu*, where he still publishes cultural articles, but is also active in television. He has written several collections of poems and made his debut as novelist in 2005, with the highly-acclaimed *Lindenfeld*.

Saturday 13.00



Andrei Pleșu

Philosopher and writer born in 1948. Pleșu is Professor of the history of religion and philosophy at the University of Bucharest and the recipient of several international distinctions, among them Chevalier des Arts et des Lettres from the French Government in 1990 and New Europe Prize in 1993. He was Romania's first Minister of Culture after the fall of communism as well as Minister of Foreign Affairs 1997–99. Pleșu was a member of the National Council for the Study of the Archives of the Former 'Securitate', a position he resigned in 2004 in protest over the political pressures on the Council's activity. His book *Minima Moralia* has come out in Swedish under the title *Tärrarnas Gåva: Essä om en Minimimoral* (1995).

Thursday 15.00
Saturday 16.00



Adina Brădeanu

Film journalist and researcher born in 1969. Brădeanu is based in Great Britain and writes in English and Romanian for various international film journals, often from a feminist perspective. Brădeanu is a doctoral student in Arts and Media at Westminster University, London.

Saturday 14.00

Romanian seminars at Göteborg Book Fair 2008

Thursday

15.00–15.45 Borderline-cases
(in co-operation with Latvia 90)
Location: Museum of World Culture

Friday

12.00–12.45 Rethinking identities and cultures
(in co-operation with Latvia 90)
15.00–15.45 Literature and memory

Saturday

11.00–11.45 Literature and the secret police
– the aesthetics of opposition
(in co-operation with Latvia 90)
13.00–13.45 Writing about the past today
(in co-operation with Latvia 90)
14.00–14.45 The various faces of Dracula
16.00–16.45 The image of Romania – within and without