
BIO

Mette Moestrup (1969) is an award-winning, critically acclaimed Danish poet and author. She made her debut in 1998 and has published five poetry collections, most recently *To the Most Beautiful* (2019/ 2024). As well as one novel, two children's books and two collective works. Her body of work has received numerous awards, grants and honours, including Montana's Literature Prize, the Aarestrup Medal, the Beatrice Prize and the Danish Arts Foundation's Lifetime Honorary Award. Her poetry has been translated into Norwegian, Swedish, English and German. She is a translator herself, most recently having co-translated and adapted Sappho's fragments in *Sappho* (2021), and her practice also includes performance, multimedia, essay writing and mentoring. Over the years, she has taught at several of Scandinavia's renowned creative writing schools and established herself as a key voice in the Scandinavian literary debate. Last but not least, she has performed at numerous poetry festivals and is known for her distinctive reading style. In 2022, she became a member of the Danish Academy. Mette Moestrup (MeMo) grew up in northern Jutland and lives in Copenhagen.

CV

WRITING

Poetry & fiction:

Tattoos, poetry, Gyldendal, 1998

Golden Delicious, poetry, Gyldendal, 2002

kingsize, poetry, Gyldendal, 2006

Levelled to the ground, novel, Gyldendal, 2009

Die, lie, die, poetry, Gyldendal, 2012

Frit flet [*Free weaving*, collective book, co-written with Naja Marie Aidt and Line Knutzon, Gyldendal, 2014

Omina, poetry, co-written with Naja Marie Aidt, Gyldendal, 2016

To the Most Beautiful, poems, Gyldendal, 2019

Butterfly Nebula, poetry, Gyldendal, 2025

Children's books:

Ten green fingers, children's book, Gyldendal, 2007

What does Ulla the snowy owl baby say?, children's book, Gyldendal, 2009

Non-fiction:

Rilke & rhythm, literary criticism and essay, Herman & Frudit, 2023
(previously published by Litteraturhistorisk Forlag, 1999)

Moestrup's works are translated into Swedish, Norwegian, English, German and Chinese.

Awards, grants & honours:

The Danish Arts Foundation award for *Golden Delicious*, 2002
The Danish Arts Foundation's three-year working grant, 2005
Montana's Literature Prize for *kingsize*, 2007
(*Levelled to the ground* was nominated for Weekendavisen's Literature Prize and the Critics' Prize, 2009)
Grant from Literarisches Tandem/Stiftung Brandenburger Tor, 2013
The Danish Arts Foundation's award for *Frit flet*, 2014
Politiker's newly-established award, the Frit flet award, for *Frit flet*, 2015
The Aarestrup Medal, 2018
The Beatrice Prize (The Danish Academy), 2018
The Danish Arts Foundation's Lifetime Honorary Grant, 2019
Member of the Danish Academy, 2022

As well as a large number of work and travel grants and stays at the Danish Institute in Rome, most recently in 2019, and in San Cataldo, most recently in 2021

TRANSLATIONS

From Norwegian: Cecilie Løveid *Spilddt*, poems, Bebop, 2004
From Swedish: Johannes Anyuru *En storm kom fra paradiset*, novel, Gyldendal, 2013
From English: Sylvia Plath *Glasklokken*, co-translated with Olga Ravn, Gyldendal, 2016
From English: Eileen Myles *Ikke mig*, OVO Press, 2017
From English: Aaiún Nin *På min huds sorthed*, co-translated with Aaiún Nin and Farhiya Khalid, Gads Forlag, 2021
From Ancient Greek: *Sapfo*, co-translated and adapted with classical philologist Mette Christiansen, Gyldendal, 2021

POETRY READINGS

Over the past 25 years, Mette Moestrup has performed at numerous poetry festivals and reading events across Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Greenland, Iceland, Lithuania, Estonia, France, Germany, Germany and Austria. She has a regular on the program at Louisiana Literature in Denmark, The Norwegian Festival of Literature and The Stockholm International Poetry Festival in Sweden, and has regularly collaborated with the Center for Literature in Munich, Germany, where she most recently performed at Droste Festival 2024 – Nenn Mir Hexe / Call me Witch!

Selected readings and talks in Germany and Austria:

Droste Festival 2024 – Nenn Mir Hexe, Center for Literature, München
2024

Ditiramb, Tamistad artist talk and reading, Vienna, 2023

Sich selber sehen möchte das Welt. Aus dem Nachlass von Inger
Christensen, Haus für Poesie, 2022

Stiftung Lyrik Kabinett, München 2021

Denkfabrik 2021 – Phantom Homeland, CfL, 2021

The White White West, CfL, 2021

Poetry on the Road, Bremen / Versepolis Festival of Hope, 2020

Big Witch Energy / Crossroads of Intersectional Feminism, KOOKread,
Berlin, 2019

Lyrik aus Dänemark, Haus für Poesie, Berlin, 2018

Frankfurt Buchmesse "Teil der Bewegung" poetry reading, 2017

BE.BOP. Black Europe Body Politics. Volksbühne, Berlin, 2016

Festival of Future Nows, Neue Nationalgalerie, Berlin, 2014

LICHTUNGEN / Literaturhaus Graz, 2011

TEACHING & EDITING

Teacher and supervisor at Forfatterskolen in Copenhagen, Litterär
Gestaltning in Gothenburg, Skrivekunstakademiet in Bergen and
Forfatterstudiet in Bø, Norway (some of the best Scandinavian
Academies of Creative Writing)

Editor of *Den Blå Port* for a number of years. Editor of several issues of
Legenda.

Essays, articles and afterwords published on Forugh Farrokhzad,
Ingeborg Bachmann and Sappho, among others.

EDUCATION

Music/language student, Hjørring Gymnasium, 1988

MPhil from the Department of Comparative Literature, Aarhus
University, 1997

Visiting Scholar at Columbia University in New York, 1996