MARTINA STRAKOVÁ

Writer
Featured on the poetry platform
Versopolis
Artist & Publisher

RECENT PUBLICATIONS (LATE AUTUMN 2026)



© Illustration by Michaela Šálová, 2022

Stories and Vicissitudes of Gertrud Wurm. An Erotic Miniature

A literary celebration of female cyclicity, sensuality, and refined culinary art.

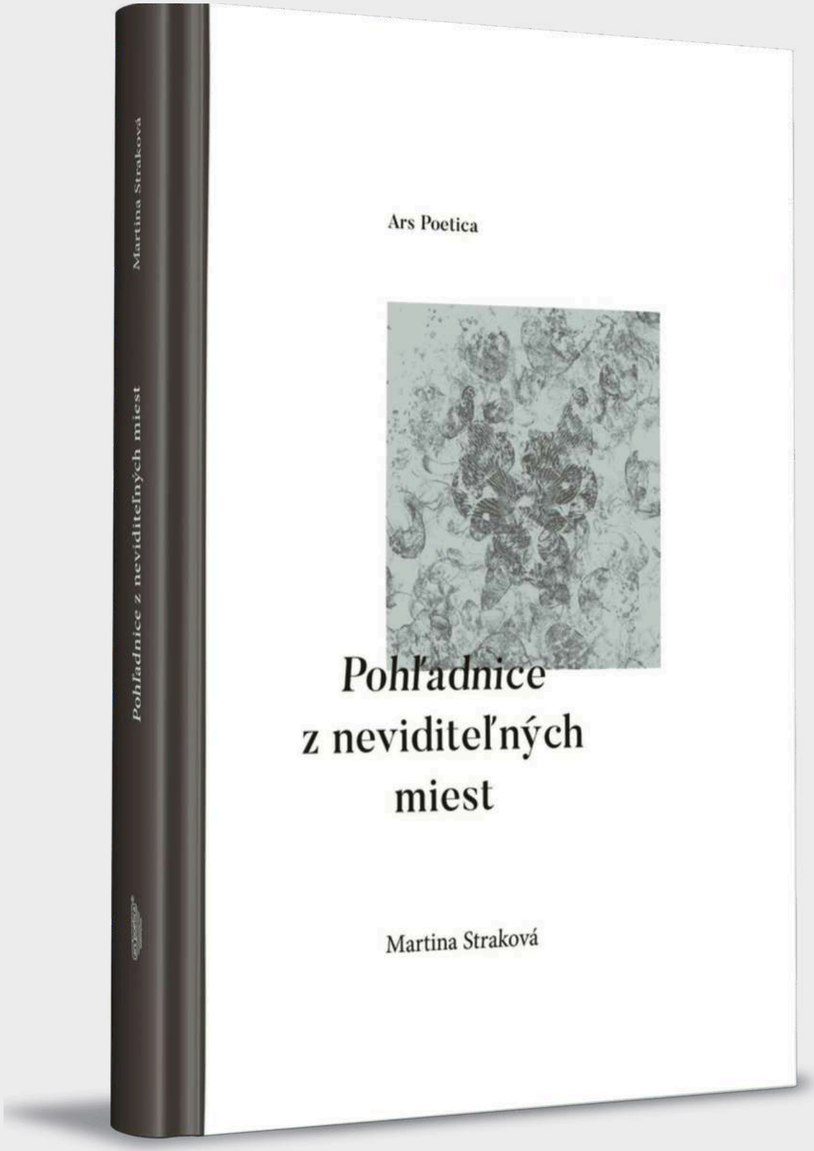
Published with the support of the Slovak Arts Council.

LITERARY WORK & POETRY

Postcards from Invisible Places – Poetry collection (2019)

Awarded **The Bridges of Struga** Award (Struga Poetry Evenings / UNESCO).

„An original language of water, plants, moths, and other natural things.“
– John Minahane



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Selected poetry in English translation available here: https://www.versopolis.com/poet/244/martina-strakova

CHILDREN'S BOOKS

Pen name: Irène Findrych

How Mrs. Frida the Spider Designed Her New House and Who Helped Her with It (2024)

Selected for Spotlight on the Latest Children's Books, Bologna 2026 by the Slovak Literary Centre.

Published with the support of the Slovak Arts Council.



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Puntidlo and Puntidielko. The Fairy Tales of Little Splodges (2021)

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Four Magpie Birdies and a Hummingbird or Christmas Surprises You've Never Experienced Before (2020)

Published with the support of the Slovak Arts Council.

Illustration by Eva Škandíková, 2020

VISUAL ART & TEXTILE

I Need Kitsch to Be Able to Be Happy in This World (2020) – Crocheted large-scale tapestry in dialogue with poetry

"I Need Kitsch..." A conversation by / with Sylvia Geist for the online project poetskatze.de

https://www.martistrak.sk/martina-strakova-ich-brauche-kitsch-im-gesprach-mit-sylvia-geist/



Zum Atmen

setze ich eine Maske auf

eine Gasmaske einen Filter brauche ich

eine zweite

Haut

meine ist inzwischen fadenscheinig und verborgen

bin ich insgeheim

daheim

lichtempfindlich

spreche ich mit Engeln

mit Uriel meinem

Erzleuchter meinem Sonnenschutz *Halt*

bitte die Hand

drüber meinetwegen wie auf diesem Bild von Leonardo

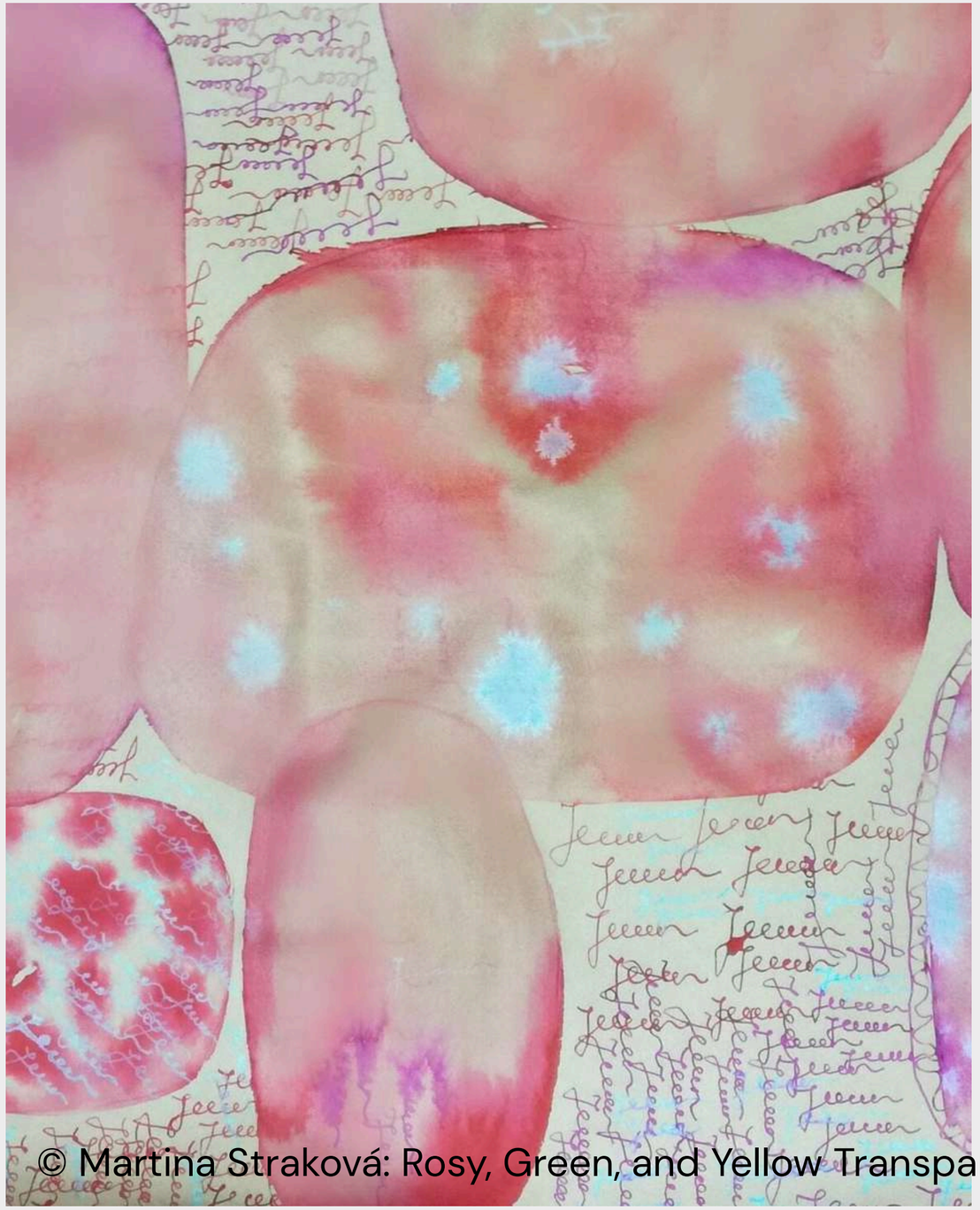
bernsteingelbes Dreieck

direkt vor meinem Gesicht

schütze vor Neon

um Mitternacht meine Augen

© Martina Straková: *Ich setze eine Maske auf*
(nachgedichtet von Sylvia Geist, 2020)







WATERCOLOUR CYCLES: TRANSPARENCIES

– Visual translation of philosophical and musical structures

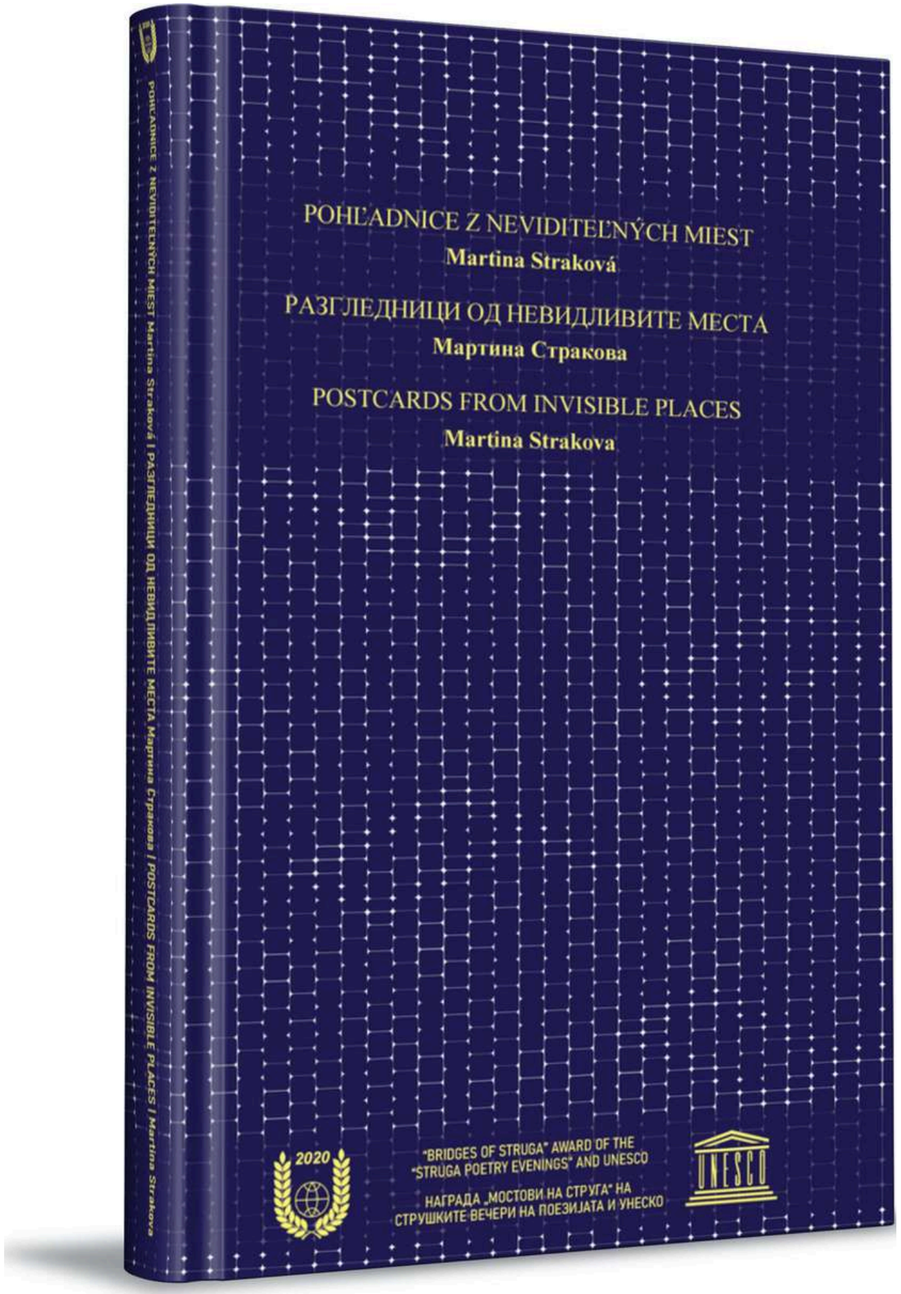
© Martina Straková: Rosy, Green, and Yellow Transparency, 2019

INTERNATIONAL TRANSLATIONS (SELECTION)

- *International Poets of 2022–2024* (Ed. Zhao Si) – International anthology of influential voices in world and modern poetry.
- Romanian edition of *Postcards from Invisible Places* – Standalone translated edition.
- Macedonian edition of *Postcards from Invisible Places* – Trilingual edition (Slovak, English, Macedonian) – The Bridges of Struga UNESCO Award.







FROM GERMAN INTO SLOVAK: MY LITERARY TRANSLATIONS (SELECTION)





- Nora Gomringer – *Selected Poems* (2017)
- Alma Karlin – *A Solitary Journey Through the World* (forthcoming 2027)
- Sylvia Geist – *Morning-blue Animal and Other Poems* (2017)



YOUNG POPLARS CIVIC ASSOCIATION

They say that you can hear the poplar tree before you see it. It is the first to start whispering when the wind hits its foliage. Just close your eyes and listen to the world around you, listen to your inside as well.

The civic association Young Poplars (Mladé topole) connects people with a creative spirit, with a free and open mind, people seeking space for self-realization, who are not indifferent to their surroundings and environment but also those who feel excluded from society for various reasons.

www.mladetopole.sk

- *Art & Science: Creative research and symposia.*
- *Events: Workshops, residencies, and exhibitions.*
- *Publishing: Editorial and dramaturgical activities.*
- *Services: Production, promotion, and consulting.*

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