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SUSAN BERNOFSKY TO RECEIVE 2019 FRIEDRICH ULFERS PRIZE AT OPENING CEREMONY OF 10TH ANNUAL FESTIVAL NEUE LITERATUR

New York, February 6, 2019 – This year’s Friedrich Ulfers Prize will be presented to Susan Bernofsky at the exclusive opening ceremony of the 10th annual Festival Neue Literatur on March 28, 2019.

“The rich body of literature written in the German-speaking countries has been dear to my heart right from the beginning, ever since Franz Kafka and the brothers Grimm first rocked my adolescent world,” said Bernofsky. “And getting to translate some of these gorgeous stories I love and write them in English has been just the biggest thrill.”

Writer Rivka Galchen will be presenting Bernofsky with the prize. “Susan Bernofsky’s translations are themselves an extraordinary work of art,” said Galchen.

Bernofsky directs the program Literary Translation at Columbia in the MFA Writing Program at the Columbia University School of the Arts and is the winner of the 2015 Independent Foreign Fiction Prize, The Schlegel-Tieck Translation Prize, the Ungar Award for Literary Translation, the Oxford-Weidenfeld Translation Prize, and the inaugural Warwick Prize for Women in Translation.

The Friedrich Ulfers Prize, which is awarded annually by Deutsches Haus at NYU, is endowed with a \$5,000 grant and honors a publisher, writer, critic, translator, or scholar who has championed the advancement of German-language literature in the United States. Previous recipients of the Friedrich Ulfers Prize include Barbara Perlmutter, Barbara Epler, Burton Pike, Robert Weil, Sara Bershtel, and Carol Brown Janeway.

ABOUT SUSAN BERNOFSKY

Susan Bernofsky directs the program Literary Translation at Columbia in the Columbia University School of the Arts Writing Program. Her translations include works by Robert

Walsler, Franz Kafka, Hermann Hesse, Jenny Erpenbeck, and Yoko Tawada. Her translation of Erpenbeck's novel *The End of Days* won the 2015 Independent Foreign Fiction Prize, The Schlegel-Tieck Translation Prize, the Ungar Award for Literary Translation, and the Oxford-Weidenfeld Translation Prize. Her translation of Tawada's novel *Memoirs of a Polar Bear* (2016) won the inaugural Warwick Prize for Women in Translation. She is currently writing a biography of Walsler and blogs about translation at www.translationista.com.

ABOUT RIVKA GALCHEN

Rivka Galchen is the author of the novel *Atmospheric Disturbances*, which was a finalist for the Mercantile Library's 2008 John Sargent, Sr., First Novel Prize, the Canadian Writers' Trust's 2008 Fiction Prize, and the 2008 Governor General's Award; and the short-story collection *American Innovations*, which was longlisted for the 2014 Scotiabank Giller Prize and awarded the Danuta Gleed Literary Award. Galchen teaches writing at Columbia University and is a contributing editor at *Harper's Magazine*. Galchen was also chosen by *The New Yorker* as one of their "20 Under 40."

ABOUT FRIEDRICH ULFERS

Friedrich Ulfers is Associate Professor of German at New York University. In the past he also served as Assistant Dean of the College of Arts and Science, the German Department's Director of Undergraduate Studies, Director of the NYU in Berlin Summer Program and Director of Deutsches Haus at NYU. The recipient of NYU's Distinguished Teaching Medal and Great Teacher Award, and two-time winner of the College of Arts and Science's Golden Dozen Award for Excellence in Teaching, Ulfers has taught not only in the German Department but also in NYU's interdisciplinary programs, offering courses that engage a range of interests, including literary theory, continental philosophy, and the relationships between science, literature, and philosophy. Friedrich Ulfers is also affiliated with the European Graduate School in Saas-Fee, Switzerland. He served there as professor of Philosophy, teaching an intensive Summer Seminar on Nietzsche and 20th/21st Century Thought and giving a variety of lectures. From 2006-2009 he was Dean of the Media and Communications Division of the School, and in 2009 he was appointed Professor Emeritus.

ABOUT FESTIVAL NEUE LITERATUR

Festival Neue Literatur is the only U.S. festival to showcase fiction originally written in German, and will take place from March 28-31. This will be the 10th installment of Festival Neue Literatur, where New York City once again hosts six of the most important emerging and established authors from Austria, Germany, and Switzerland. This year's festival theme is "In Memory We Trust." All events are free of charge, though RSVPs are required.

Festival Neue Literatur (FNL) was established as a collaborative project of New York's leading German-language cultural institutions: the Austrian Cultural Forum, the Consulate General of Switzerland, the Consulate General of Germany, Deutsches Haus at Columbia University, Deutsches Haus at NYU, the German Book Office, Goethe-Institut New York, and Pro Helvetia.

Festival Neue Literatur 2019 is made possible through the generous support of the German Federal Foreign Office, Swiss Arts Council Pro Helvetia, Esterhazy Winery, and Radeberger Gruppe.

The full lineup of events will be announced on Wednesday, February 13th