Point of Honour: Selected Poems of Maria Teresa Horta

Translated by Lesley Saunders, with an introductory essay by Ana Raquel Fernandes

‘We are in the presence of more than five decades of poetry by a writer who is simultaneously engaged with one of the oldest traditions of Portuguese literature – the poetry of the mediaeval Cancioneiros – and also the creator of new ways of “writing the body” and of talking about writing.’ – ANA LUÍSA AMARAL

‘Saunders’ translation combines narrative clarity and an erotically charged, fairytale atmosphere. She… underlines Horta’s control of phrasing and tempo, and adds to the musical interest of our melody-resistant language.’ – CAROL RUMENS

Point of Honour is a landmark anthology of Portuguese poetry, the first of its kind in English. This definitive, dual-language collection comprises translations of 80-plus poems by Maria Teresa Horta, one of the most revered writers of modern Portugal. It provides selections from each of her volumes of poetry published over a writing career that spans six decades. Maria Teresa Horta’s work is powerful, political, and erotically charged, with an intensity of sensual imagination and an often rapturous use of imagery. For over sixty years she has been an actively subversive writer, defying literary as well as social convention.

Readings from the volume will take place 5-7pm on Thursday 13 February in Room 2, Taylorian Institute, St Giles’, Oxford OX1 3NA

This is a free event, open to all. Copies of the book will be available for purchase.

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