

Mara-Daria Cojocaru

CW

(as in ... Creative Writing)

Ever since 2008, I have not just physically been moving between Germany and English-speaking countries – like the UK, where I now live, but also South Africa and the US (hence my weird accent). I have also moved between languages and writing traditions.

Though most of my creative writing (poetry, essays) is in German, there are a few poems that I wrote in English (some published, e.g., here: [Route 57 12](#) and [13](#)). Others have been, fascinatingly, translated (into English – and Italian – e.g., here: [lyrikline](#) and into two languages I cannot even read: Arabic and Hebrew).

The English language is super important for me because English and American writers started what is now called the tradition of 'Nature Writing', something that, meanwhile, has arrived in Germany – but we don't have a name for it. We just kept the English one. That's a statement, too. I also speak some French, Portuguese, Romanian, and Doglish.

A few pointers to my poetic credentials (if that makes sense):

In 2007, I was honoured to be part of the Autorenwerkstatt at the Foundation Lyrik Kabinett (Munich), led by Christian Döring.

In 2008, my first book of poetry was published: *Näherungsweise* (hard to translate: *In Approximation* and *Song of Approximation* – currently out of print).

Since 2009, my writing has appeared regularly in the *Jahrbuch der Lyrik* (Yearbook of Poetry).

In 2015, I was finalist for the *Leonce and Lena*-prize.

In 2016, my second book of poetry was published by Schöffling & Co.: [Anstelle einer Unterwerfung](#) (*Instead of Subjugation*).

In 2017, I was awarded with the *Kunstförderpreis Literatur* (Young Talents Award for Literature) by the Bavarian state, and I also participated in the Workshop "Philosophy through Fiction" at Oxford Brookes University.

In 2020, I have been nominated for the *Lyrikpreis Meran*, which, unfortunately, had to be postponed until 2021. I ended up coming in second, and was awarded with the [Alfred-Gruber-Preis](#). hochroth Heidelberg published my third book of poetry [Alle Register](#).

In 2021, I also won the [German Prize for Nature Writing](#) and the [Lyrikpreis des Mondseelandes](#). My fourth book of poetry, [Buch der Bestimmungen](#), came out with Schöffling & Co. as well as a playful book of poetic letters with my colleague Ron Winkler: [Du weißt nicht, wie schwer es geworden ist, einen Brief zu verschicken](#).

I am alumna of the Bavarian Academy of Writing, and I have carried out poetry workshops for young people: e.g., for the German national poetry competition for children and young adults [lyrix](#), in the context of an exhibition in London "[Change in View](#)" or for an international group of students organised by the [Lyrik Kabinett](#).