

Dr. Dobrota Pucherova, DPhil  
Kurzprofil

I studied English at Mount Holyoke College, USA, and at Oxford University, where I wrote my PhD thesis on the ethics of cross-racial desire in southern African writing. Since 2010, I have been a researcher at the Institute of World Literature, Slovak Academy of Sciences, Bratislava, where I am also the deputy director. I am external lecturer at the Department of African Studies and the Department of Comparative Literature at the University of Vienna, where I teach courses on African anglophone writing and modernism in world literature. My research interest is in African literature in English, modernism, postmodernism, and the material culture of African literature production, and in particular in the issues of migration, diaspora and transculturalism.

My monograph, *The Ethics of Dissident Desire in Southern African Writing* (Wissenschaftlicher Verlag Trier, 2011), analyzes affective impulses such as desire, friendship and hospitality in South African and Zimbabwean literature between 1960-2005 in the context of French ethical, feminist and existentialist philosophers such as Emmanuel Lévinas, Jacques Derrida, Julia Kristeva, Hélène Cixous, and Jean-Paul Sartre. My edited book and DVD, *Moving Spirit: The Legacy of Dambudzo Marechera in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century* (LIT-Verlag, Berlin, 2012), is a multimedia collection of studies, memoirs and art reflecting on the intellectual and artistic legacy of the Zimbabwean cult writer Dambudzo Marechera (1952-1987).

**Deutsch:**

Ich studierte Anglistik am Mount Holyoke College, USA, und an der Universität Oxford, wo ich meine Doktorarbeit über die Ethik des zwischenrassischen Verlangens in der südafrikanischen Literatur schrieb. Seit 2010 bin ich wissenschaftliche Mitarbeiterin am Institut für Weltliteratur der Slowakischen Akademie der Wissenschaften in Bratislava, wo ich auch als stellvertretende Direktorin tätig bin. Ich bin Lehrbeauftragte am Institut für Afrikawissenschaften und am Institut für Europäische und Vergleichende Sprach- und Literaturwissenschaft der Universität Wien, wo ich Kurse zu afrikanischer anglophoner Literatur und zur Moderne in der Weltliteratur leite. Mein Forschungsinteresse ist auf afrikanische Literatur in englischer Sprache, Moderne, Postmoderne und die materielle Kultur der afrikanischen literarischen Produktion, insbesondere auf die Fragen der Migration, Diaspora und Transkulturalität konzentriert.

Meine Monographie *The Ethics of Dissident Desire in Southern African Writing* (Wissenschaftlicher Verlag Trier, 2011) analysiert affektive Impulse wie Verlangen, Freundschaft und Gastfreundschaft in der südafrikanischen und simbabweschen Literatur zwischen 1960-2005 im Kontext der ethischen französischen, feministischen und existentialistischen Philosophen wie Emmanuel Lévinas, Jacques Derrida, Julia Kristeva, Hélène Cixous und Jean-Paul Sartre. Mein Sammelband mit DVD *Moving Spirit: The Legacy of Dambudzo Marechera in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century* (LIT-Verlag, Berlin, 2012) ist eine Multimediensammlung von Studien, Memoiren und Kunst, die das intellektuelle und künstlerische Erbe des simbabweschen Kultautors Dambudzo Marechera (1952-1987) reflektiert.

**Qualifications:**

2002 BA (Magna cum Laude), English Language and Literature (Mount Holyoke College, USA)  
2004 MSt (Distinction), English Language and Literature (Trinity College, Oxford)  
2009 DPhil, English Language and Literature (Trinity College, Oxford)

### **Studium:**

2002 BA (Magna cum Laude), Englische Sprache und Literatur (Mount Holyoke College, USA)  
2004 MSt (Distinction), Englische Sprache und Literatur (Trinity College, Oxford)  
2009 DPhil, Englische Sprache und Literatur (Trinity College, Oxford)

### **Selected recent publications (3-5):**

#### **Books:**

Pucherová, Dobrota. *The Ethics of Dissident Desire in Southern African Writing*. Trier: Wissenschaftlicher Verlag Trier, 2011.

Pucherová, Dobrota and Julie Cairnie, eds. *Moving Spirit: The Legacy of Dambudzo Marechera in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*. LIT-Verlag, Berlin, 2012.

#### **Articles:**

Pucherová, Dobrota. Desire, Pleasure and Freedom in *Butterfly Burning*. In: *Emerging Perspectives on Yvonne Vera*, ed. Pauline Dodgson-Katiyo and Helen Cousins. Trenton, NJ: Africa World Press, 2012.

Pucherová, Dobrota. A Romance that Failed: Bessie Head and Black nationalism in 1960's South Africa. *Research in African Literatures*, 42.2 (2011), pp. 105-124.

Pucherová, Dobrota. "A Continent Learns to Tell Its Story at Last": Notes on the Caine Prize. In: *Journal of Postcolonial Writing* on-line, 30.6. 2011.  
DOI: 10.1080/17449855.2011.595157. Print: Vol. 48, no. 1 (2012), pp. 13-25.

### **Full list of publications:**

#### **Books:**

Pucherová, Dobrota. *The Ethics of Dissident Desire in Southern African Writing*. Trier: Wissenschaftlicher Verlag Trier, 2011.

Pucherová, Dobrota and Julie Cairnie, eds. *Moving Spirit: The Legacy of Dambudzo Marechera in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*. LIT-Verlag, Berlin, 2012.

#### **Articles:**

Pucherová, Dobrota. Marechera the Performer: adapting Marechera's fiction for the stage. In: Pucherová, Dobrota a Julie Cairnie, eds. *Moving Spirit: The Legacy of Dambudzo Marechera in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*. LIT-Verlag, Berlin, 2012.

Pucherová, Dobrota and Julie Cairnie. Introduction. In: Pucherová, Dobrota a Julie

Cairnie, eds. *Moving Spirit: The Legacy of Dambudzo Marechera in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*. LIT-Verlag, Berlin, 2012.

Pucherová, Dobrota. Desire, Pleasure and Freedom in *Butterfly Burning*. In: *Emerging Perspectives on Yvonne Vera*, ed. Pauline Dodgson-Katiyo and Helen Cousins. Trenton, NJ: Africa World Press, 2012.

Pucherová, Dobrota. Pierre Bourdieu and the British (Post)Colonial Literary Monopoly. In: *The Theory of Pierre Bourdieu in Sociological Research*, ed. David Kostlán and Zuzana Kusá. Institute of Sociology, Slovak Academy of Sciences, Bratislava, 2012.

Pucherová, Dobrota. A Romance that Failed: Bessie Head and Black Nationalism in 1960's South Africa. *Research in African Literatures*, 42.2 (2011), pp. 105-124.

Pucherová, Dobrota. "A Continent Learns to Tell Its Story at Last": Notes on the Caine Prize. In: *Journal of Postcolonial Writing* on-line, 30.6. 2011. DOI: 10.1080/17449855.2011.595157. Print: Vol. 48, no. 1 (2012), pp. 13-25.

Pucherová, Dobrota. European Spaces Through the Eyes of Islanders: Two Centuries of British Anthropology in the Balkans. In: *World Literature Studies*, 2.1 (2010), pp. 26-39.

Pucherová, Dobrota. The Presence of the Past in Contemporary South African Writing. In: *World Literature Studies* 2.3 (2010), pp. 75-81.

Pucherová, Dobrota. Reimagining the Other: The Politics of Friendship in three 21<sup>st</sup>-Century South African Novels. In: *Journal of Southern African Studies* 35. 4 (2009), pp. 929-944.

Pucherová, Dobrota. Land of My Sons: Black Consciousness Poetry in South Africa and the Politics of Gender. In: *Journal of Postcolonial Writing* 45.3 (2009), pp. 331-340.

Pucherová, Dobrota. New African Diasporic Literature. In: *Revue svetovej literatúry: časopis pre prekladovú literatúru*. Vol. XLVI, no. 3 (2010), pp. 3-5.

Pucherová, Dobrota. The Writer as Interpreter: African Postcolonial Literature in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. In: *Revue svetovej literatúry: časopis pre prekladovú literatúru*. Vol. XLII, no. 2 (2006), pp. 13-18.

### **Edited journals:**

Pucherová, Dobrota, ed. *Revue svetovej literatúry: časopis pre prekladovú literatúru*. Issue topic: New African Diasporic Literature. vol. XLVI, no. 3. (2010)

Pucherová, Dobrota, ed. *Revue svetovej literatúry: časopis pre prekladovú literatúru*. Issue topic: African Postcolonial Literature. vol. XLII, no. 2 (2006)

Pucherová, Dobrota and Robert Gáfrik, eds. *World Literature Studies: časopis pre*

*výskum svetovej literatúry*. Issue topic: Postcolonial literature. Vol. 4, no. 3 (2012)

**Full list of presentations:**

Pucherová, Dobrota. "Moving Spirit: The Legacy of Dambudzo Marechera in the 21st Century." Britain-Zimbabwe Society Research Day, St. Antony's College, Oxford, June 16, 2012.

Pucherová, Dobrota. "Africa Writes Back: African literature as a response to the European literary tradition." Guest lecture. Abteilung für Vergleichende Literaturwissenschaft, Universität Wien, March 21, 2012.

Pucherová, Dobrota. "Marxist literary theory." Special lecture for PhD students. Institute of World Literature, Slovak Academy of Sciences, Bratislava, April 25, 2012.

Pucherová, Dobrota. "The Ethics of Dissident Desire in Southern African Writing." International conference "Love, Sex and Desire in the (Post)colonial", University of London, October 28-30, 2011.

Pucherová, Dobrota. "Pierre Bourdieu and the British (post)colonial literary monopoly." International conference "The Theory of Pierre Bourdieu in Sociological Research. Institute of Sociology, Slovak Academy of Sciences, Bratislava, November 10-11, 2011.

Pucherová, Dobrota. "Modernism, postmodernism and magical realism in African literature." Guest lecture. Catholic University of Ružomberok, Slovakia, October 6, 2011.

Pucherová, Dobrota. "Prizing Otherness: notes on the Caine Prize." Guest lecture. Africa Research Day, Humboldt-Universität, Berlin, July 8, 2011.

Pucherová, Dobrota. "The category of gender in postcolonialism." Guest lecture. Slovak Feminist Association ASPEKT, Bratislava, June 14, 2011.

Pucherová, Dobrota. "Radical cosmopolitanism in life narratives by Somali women writers." International conference Viva Africa 2011, Hradec Králové, Czech Republic, June 5-6, 2011.

Pucherová, Dobrota. " 'The Continent learns to write its story at last': Eleven Years of the Caine Prize." African Studies Association of the UK Biennial Conference, Oxford, September 16-19, 2010.

Pucherová, Dobrota. "Postcolonial theory in globalized world." Institute of World Literature, Slovak Academy of Sciences, Bratislava, May 19, 2010.

Pucherová, Dobrota. "Introduction to Postcolonialism." Guest lecture. Department of Continuing Education, University of Oxford, November 15, 2009.

Pucherová, Dobrota. "Introduction to Postcolonialism." Guest lecture. University of Worcester, October 12, 2009.

Pucherová, Dobrota. Opening speech. International Conference "Dambudzo Marechera: A Celebration." Trinity College, Oxford, May 15-17, 2009.

Pucherová, Dobrota. "Dambudzo Marechera and Zimbabwean writing today." Nordic Africa Institute (NAI) seminar, St. Antony's College, Oxford, June 6, 2008.

Pucherová, Dobrota. "The carnivalesque aesthetics of Dambudzo Marechera." Afrikanistentag 2007: African Studies International Conference, Universität Wien, July 23-25, 2007.

Pucherová, Dobrota. "Black Men Only: Black Consciousness Poetry in South Africa." *Postcolonial Masculinities: An Interdisciplinary Conference*, University of Sussex, May 17, 2007.

Pucherová, Dobrota. "Bessie Head's Post-Racial Humanism." *Confrontation: British Comparative Studies Association Third Graduate Student Conference*, Goldsmiths College, University of London, March 30, 2007.

Pucherová, Dobrota. "Marechera's Oxford." Oxford University English Graduate Conference, June 8, 2007.

Pucherová, Dobrota. "Bessie Head: a Man in a Skirt." Oxford University Postcolonial Seminar, March 8, 2007.

Pucherová, Dobrota. "The Ethics of Manipulating Histories in J. M. Coetzee and Yvonne Vera." Perspectives on South African Literature International Conference, Royal Holloway College, University of London, April 29-30, 2005.