Aug. 5, 2014—The American Literary Translators Association is pleased to announce the 15-title longlist for the 2014 National Translation Award. This is the sixteenth year for the NTA, which is administered by the American Literary Translators Association (ALTA). The NTA is the only national award for translated fiction, poetry, and literary nonfiction that includes a rigorous examination of the source text and its relation to the finished English work.

Featuring authors from 15 countries writing in 11 languages, this year’s longlist illustrates the prize’s dedication to literary diversity, with works by both established and emerging authors, and by both established and emerging translators.

Books eligible for this year’s award include titles published anywhere in the world in the previous calendar year (2013) that were translated by an American citizen or permanent resident. The selection criteria include both the quality of the finished English language book, and the quality of the translation.

This year’s finalist judges are Barbara Epler (Publisher, New Directions), Elaine Katzenberger (Publisher, City Lights) and Jessica Cohen (renowned translator from the Hebrew).

The winning translator will receive a $5,000 cash prize, and the award will be announced at ALTA’s annual conference, which will be held this year at the Hilton Milwaukee City Center in Milwaukee, WI, November 12-15, 2014. More details about the awards ceremony will be made available in coming weeks.

The 5-title shortlist will be announced in October. In the meantime, ALTA will highlight each book on the longlist with features written by translators, reviewers, and editors. For a complete list of the longlist features, with links, please visit literarytranslators.wordpress.com/2014-nta-award

The 2014 NTA Longlist (in alphabetical order by author):

Poems of Consummation by Vicente Aleixandre
Translated from the Spanish by Stephen Kessler
(Black Widow Press)

Cavafy — Complete Plus by C.P. Cavafy
Translated from the Greek by George Economou
(Shearsman Books)

The Dark by Sergio Chejfec
Translated from the Spanish by Heather Cleary
/Open Letter Books/

Theme of Farewell and After-Poems by Milo De Angelis
Translated from the Italian by Susan Stewart & Patrizio Cecagnoli
(The University of Chicago Press)

Life’s Good, Brother by Nazim Hikmet
Translated from the Turkish by Mutlu Konuk Blasing
(Persea Books, Inc.)

Distant Lands: An Anthology of Poets who Don’t Exist
by Agnieszka Kucik
Translated from the Polish by Karen Kovacik
(White Pine Press)

A Treatise on Shelling Beans by Wieslaw Myśliwski
Translated from the Polish by Bill Johnston
(Archipelago Books)

Between Friends by Amos Oz
Translated from the Hebrew by Sondra Silverston
(Houghton Mifflin Harcourt)

The Girl with the Golden Parasol by Uday Prakash
Translated from the Hindi by Jason Grunebaum
(Yale University Press)

The African Shore by Rodrigo Rey Rosa
Translated from the Spanish by Jeffrey Gray
(Yale University Press)

Four Elemental Bodies by Claude Royet-Journoud
Translated from the French by Keith Waldrop
(Burning Deck)

Light and Dark: A Novel by Natsume Soseki
Translated from the Japanese by John Nathan
(Columbia University Press)

Crossings by Habib Tengour
Translated from the French by Marilyn Hacker
(The Post-Apollo Press)

An Invitation For Me to Think by Alexander Vvedensky
Translated from the Russian
by Eugene Ostashevsky & Matvei Yankelevich
(New York Review Books)

A Schoolboy’s Diary by Robert Walser
Translated from the German by Damion Searls
(New York Review Books)