

## University of Rochester Launches Open Letter, A New Publishing House Dedicated to Literature in Translation

July 2007—In conjunction with its developing literary translation programs, the University of Rochester is launching Open Letter, a new publishing house dedicated to international literature.

Beginning in fall 2008, Open Letter will publish twelve works of international literature a year, focusing on modern classics and contemporary works of fiction.

“We are focusing on twentieth- and twenty-first century literature from around the world—cosmopolitan literature, books that stimulate and provoke readers, and which we hope will be read for generations to come,” said director Chad W. Post, co-founder of Reading the World and former Associate Director of Dalkey Archive Press.

Post is joined at Open Letter by E.J. Van Lanen, former Assistant Editor at Ecco, and Nathan Furl, former Marketing and Production Director at Dalkey Archive Press.

Open Letter’s first publication will be *Nobody’s Home* by Dubravka Ugresic (*Thank You for Not Reading, Museum of Unconditional Surrender*). The other title currently signed on to the initial list is Bragi Olafsson’s *The Pets*. These titles will be available at better bookstores everywhere.

“Along with a handful of prestigious literary presses like the New York Review Books Classics, New Directions, and Archipelago, Open Letter is dedicated to enriching our culture by making the best of the world’s literature available in English. And at the same time, this important mission creates thrilling educational opportunities,” said Joanna Scott, author of the Pulitzer Prize finalist *The Manikin* and Roswell Smith Burrows Professor of English at the University of Rochester.

This new publishing venture is one of the key components in the University of Rochester’s academic programs designed to train a new generation of literary translators and writers.

In addition to publishing trade books, Open Letter will oversee Three Percent ([www.rochester.edu/threepercent](http://www.rochester.edu/threepercent)), a new website featuring an international lit blog, reviews of untranslated books, sample translations, and a calendar of grants and prizes for translation.

More information about these programs is available online at the Three Percent website, or from Chad Post ([chad.post@rochester.edu](mailto:chad.post@rochester.edu)) at 585.319.0823.