

## SALLY BIRD

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### PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

A qualified freelance translator working from French to English, I have been living in France for the last 13 years and translating full time since 2016 (part time since 2011). A specialist in modern and contemporary art, literature and psychoanalysis, I also regularly provide translations of a general nature for agencies and private clients. Responsive, flexible and personable, I am currently looking for new opportunities, particularly within the art world.

### EDUCATION

#### **Diploma in Translation, French-English, Chartered Institute of Linguists**

Specialist papers in Social Sciences and Business. (Taken in 2018 to formalise my language skills.)

#### **MA, Distinction, Modern British Art, The Courtauld Institute (1999)**

Thesis on the image of the totem in the work of Henry Moore and Graham Sutherland.

#### **BA (Hons), 2:1, History of Art, University of Cambridge (1993-1997)**

Specialist papers in Portraiture and Gothic Cathedrals.

Part One of the degree (2 years) in French and Spanish (2:1)

**A levels, Longdean School, Hemel Hempstead (1992)** French (A), English (A), Music (A), Biology (B)

### EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

#### **Freelance French-English translator and nonfiction writer (2011-present, full time since 2016)**

Registered in France as an *auto-entrepreneur*.

#### Art and Culture

#### **Translations for agencies in Europe and Hong Kong (2018-present)**

Texts for galleries and museums including marketing materials, artists' biographies, press releases, newsletters etc... as well as more significant documents:

*Pierre Soulages*, catalogue accompanying the sale of a key work by the renowned French contemporary artist (10,000 words)

*A History of Congolese Painting*, exhibition catalogue (22,000 words)

*Ukrainian Summer*, exhibition of photos on the subject of contemporary Ukraine

#### **Artviatic, Paris (2016-2019)**

Regular translations over a 3 year period, before this online platform for the buying and selling of high end modern and contemporary art was forced to close in 2019.

- Over 30 in-depth artist biographies (including Klein, Kiefer, Freud, Chagall, Horn, Luther, Poliakoff)
- Interviews with artists for the online newsletter (published weekly)
- Press releases and general correspondence

## Literary

*The Republic of Cordoba*, Fauves Editions (Paris), short story by Xavier Fourtou. Two editions, French and English, to be published in October 2020.

Françoise Dolto - translation of extracts of the work of this renowned French psychoanalyst for a London-based association 'Bubble & Speak' (ongoing)

Jean-René Fourtou - collaboration with the former Director General of Vivendi on his autobiography (May 2020-present)

Translation of a trilogy by French author Xavier Fourtou, tracing the life of his maternal grandfather. Working with agent Doug Young at Pew Literary to prepare the text for publication in a single volume.

*An Ordinary Grandfather 1870* (41,000 words)

*An Ordinary Grandfather 1914* (112,500 words)

*An Ordinary Grandfather 1939* (66,500 words)

*Brexit Dreams*, Xavier Fourtou, 2019 (13,000 words). A literary 'study' of the impact of Brexit on Europeans based in the UK, structured around Sigmund Freud's *The Interpretation of Dreams*.

## Other

Regular translation of texts of a general nature for agencies in Europe and Hong Kong: newsletters, contracts, certificates, press releases etc..

**Gifi**: translation of product descriptions and rules for board games, including a guide to poker

**Albany Associates/United Nations**: translation of texts relating to a series of projects in French-speaking African countries for a mobile application.

**Moulin de Chaves**: translation of wide-ranging documents including text for the website, newsletters and marketing materials.

**En Chêne**: website design and content in French and English, plus marketing materials.

## **Professional positions held in the UK (before 2007)**

- Beauchamp Lodge Settlement, Director – a regeneration charity in London. Overall responsibility for the running of the organisation, including the launch of the UK's first 'Floating Classroom'.
- Parents for Children, Development Manager – a medium-sized voluntary sector organisation, working to find adoptive and foster families for some of the UK's most vulnerable children.
- The National Gallery, PA to the Director of Development – a role that meant working closely with the Gallery's publicity, education and curatorial departments on all aspects of exhibitions and events that involved the Gallery's major corporate sponsors and individual donors.

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

- Member of the Chartered Institute of Linguists (CIOL) since 2018.
- An approved translator for the not-for-profit organisation Translators without Borders.
- Experienced EFL teacher (TEFL qualification in 1992) in the UK and abroad.
- Excellent IT skills (Microsoft and Windows OS), and fully equipped for remote working. Professional presence on social network platforms.
- Self-published author of a series of six dual-language children's stories in 2014: [www.couty.info](http://www.couty.info).
- Councillor for the village of Badefols d'Ans, 2014-2020.
- I have dual citizenship in the UK and France.