

Eric Dickens 1953-2017

Photographer: Iris Réthy



Eric Dickens was born in Yorkshire in 1953, the son of a Dutch mother and English father. He studied Swedish and literature at the University of East Anglia and went on to teach English in Sweden, Finland and the Netherlands, before gaining recognition as a translator from Estonian, Dutch and Swedish. Eric's involvement with *Swedish Book Review* went right back to the magazine from which it evolved, Gothenburg-based *Swedish Books*, in which he first featured in 1980, with translations of poems by Stina Ekblad. He published various translations in *SBR* over the years and was also valued by successive editorial teams as a writer of pithy and accessible reviews, especially of Finland-Swedish fiction.

From his home in the Netherlands and later, after his move to Sweden, Eric was well known as an eager and combative presence in online forums, including SELTA, the Translators' Association and *World Literature Today*, often encouraging individual members with his generous words and actions.

Eric's last review for *SBR* appears in this issue.

