

**Henning Jonathan Pieterse** was born 1960, in Wageningen, the Netherlands, where his father conducted doctoral studies in chemistry. The family returned to South Africa in 1962. He made his debut in 1989 with a volume of poems entitled *Alruin / Mandrake*, for which received the Eugène Marais Prize and the Ingrid Jonker Prize. Pieterse was editor of John Boje's translation of ten of Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales* into Afrikaans, '*n Keur uit die Pelgrimsverhale van Geoffrey Chaucer* (1989). The volume was awarded the Academy Prize for Translation.

In 1998 he published a volume of short stories, *Omdat ons alles is / Because We are Everything*. In 2000 he published his second volume of poems, *Die burg van hertog Bloubaard / Duke Bluebeard's Castle*. The volume was awarded the Hertzog Prize in 2002, the highest accolade for Afrikaans writing. He has written reviews in several fields of art. He was chief editor of the *Tydskrif vir Letterkunde / Journal of Literature* between 1993 and 2002. He plays the clarinet, didgeridoo and various drums, and is fond of sports, including tennis, hang gliding and bungee jumping.

HJ Pieterse is Associate Professor in the Department of Afrikaans and Theory of Literature at the University of South Africa, where he specialises in Afrikaans and Dutch Linguistics, Language Politics and Language Planning, Afrikaans Poetry and Creative Writing. His Afrikaans translation of Rilke's *Duineser Elegien* was published under the title *Rainer Maria Rilke: Elegieë van Duino*.