

Curriculum vitae

Lars Vargö

Born October 6, 1947, in Stockholm, Sweden.



Positions

- 2011- Ambassador of Sweden, Tokyo, Japan
- 2006-2011 Ambassador of Sweden, Seoul, Republic of Korea
- 2001-2005 Ambassador, Head of the International Department, Swedish Parliament
- 2000-2001 Ambassador, Deputy Head of the International Department, Swedish Parliament
- 1999-2000 Ambassador, Coordinator for East Asia, Deputy Head of Department for Asia and the Pacific
- 1998-1999 Ambassador of Sweden, Vilnius, Lithuania.
- 1993-1998 Minister, Embassy of Sweden, Tokyo, Japan.
- 1992-1993 Head of Section, Political Department, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Stockholm.
- 1990-1992 Deputy Secretary, Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Swedish Parliament.
- 1987-1990 First Secretary, Trade policy section, Embassy of Sweden, Washington D.C., USA.
- 1984-1987 First Secretary, Economic section, Embassy of Sweden, Tokyo, Japan.
- 1983-1984 Second Secretary, Consular and administrative affairs, Embassy of Sweden, Tripoli, Libya.
- 1982-1983 Second Secretary, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Stockholm.
- 1980-1982 Second Secretary, Political section, Embassy of Sweden, Tokyo, Japan.
- 1978-1980 Third secretary, Translator and interpreter, Embassy of Sweden, Tokyo, Japan.
- 1976-1977 Lecturer, Department of Oriental Languages, University of Stockholm.

Education

- 1982 Ph.D. in Japanese studies, University of Stockholm. (Name of thesis: Social and Economic Conditions for the Formation of the Early Japanese State)
- 1971 M.A. with a major in Sinology, University of Uppsala.

Awards and Scholarships

- 2011 The Changwon International Literary Special Prize
- 2011 "Kwanghwa Medal Order of Diplomatic Service" from the Government of the Republic of Korea
- 2007 Korean Red Cross Grand Taegug Award
- 2003 Ichikawa city (Japan) cultural award
- 1998 Order of the Sacred Treasure, Gold and Silver Star (Japan)
- 1997 Swedish Academy Grant.
- 1972-1976 Scholarship from the Japanese Ministry of Education for studies at Kyoto University. (Oct. 72-Sept.73, Oct. 74- March 76).

Publications (Books)

- 1982 Social and Economic Conditions for the Formation of the Early Japanese State, University of Stockholm.
- 1992 Den falska stillheten - Japan då och nu ("The deceitful tranquility - Japan then and now"), Carlssons, Stockholm.
- 1995 Månen i brunnens botten ("The moon at the bottom of the well"), Carlssons, Stockholm. /Translations of Japanese poetry into Swedish/
- 1997 Japansk organisationskultur ("The culture of Japanese Organizations"), Carlssons, Stockholm.
- 1998 Suêden kara mita Nihon no sugao ("The true face of Japan, a Swedish perspective"), Meynard, Tokyo.
- 1998 (Ed.) Den Östra Huvudstaden ("The Capital of the East"), Carlssons, Stockholm.
- 2000 Icke brännbara sopor – moderna japanska noveller (Translations of modern Japanese short stories into Swedish), En Bok för Alla, Stockholm.

- 2002 (Ed. with commentary) Taneda Santôka kushû ("Poems by Taneda Santôka"), Geirin Shobô, Tokyo.
- 2003 Japansk haiku, världens kortaste diktform, ("Japanese haiku, the shortest form of poetry in the world") Carlssons, Stockholm.
- 2004 En annans ansikte ("The face of another", translation together with Leif Janzon of Abe Kôbô's novel Tanin no kao into Swedish), Lind och Co, Stockholm.
- 2006 Japan – makt och tanke ("Japan – power and thought"), Carlssons, Stockholm.
- 2007 Fri, translation of the Japanese novel "Out" by Natsuo Kirino, Bra Böcker.
- 2008 Ljudlöst stiger gryningen - Tio svenska haikupoeter ("The dawn rises without a sound - Ten Swedish Haiku Poets" – Editor and contributor with 50 poems), Östasieninstitutet, Stockholm.
- 2010 Jag minns gräshopporna ("I remember the crickets"), Haiku poems by Natsume Sôseki in Swedish translation, Bambulunden, Stockholm.
- 2011 Collection of Haiku 俳句集 Winter moon ("Vintermåne 冬の月"). Non Publications, Seoul.
- 2011 De hundra skratten - Japanska träsnitt som maktens bildspråk ("One hundred laughs - Japanese woodblock prints as an expression of power", Ed. with an introduction and translations of the prints) , Östasiatiska Museet, Carlsson Bokförlag
- 2012 "Hototogisu – A Poetic Journey in the Island Country of Harmony"

Numerous articles in Swedish, English and Japanese.