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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

The Time of This World: 100 tanka from 13 collections by Kawano Yūko, translated by Amelia Fielden & Saeko Ogi, Published by MET Press

The Time of This World contains translations by Amelia Fielden and Saeko Ogi of 100 tanka selected from 13 of Kawano Yūko's major collections, ranging from the passionate love lyrics of her earliest book *Like a Forest, Like a Wild Beast*, to the thoughts of a young mother living temporarily in the USA; from the mature reflections of *My Tanka Diary*, to *The Maternal Line*, where she is confronting the death of her mother, and the resurgence of her own cancer.

Baltimore, Maryland – March 16, 2010 – *The Time of This World: 100 tanka from 13 collections by Kawano Yūko*, selected by Oshima Shiyo, translated by Amelia Fielden & Saeko Ogi, has been published as a trade paperback by MET Press of Baltimore, Maryland.

Kawano Yūko, highly-acclaimed professional writer and teacher, is married to the scientist and poet Dr Nagata Kazuhiro; they have a son, a daughter, and four grandchildren. Living in Kyoto, the traditional culture capital of Japan, Kawano and Nagata lead the prestigious Tower association of contemporary tanka writers, and publish its monthly journal of the same name. Kawano Yūko stands in the forefront of Japanese post-war women tanka poets. An intensely personal writer who always enlivens her poetry with events from her own life, Kawano has had a long and distinguished career spanning 40 years. She has published books of essays & criticism. During her many years as a high-profile professional poet, Kawano has taught tanka composition at community colleges and on television, lectured all over Japan, and served as a judge for many tanka contests. *The Time of This World* contains translations by Amelia Fielden and Saeko Ogi of 100 tanka selected by well-known poet and critic, Oshima Shiyō, from 13 of Kawano's major collections, ranging from the passionate love lyrics of her earliest book *Like a Forest, Like a Wild Beast*, to the thoughts of a young mother living temporarily in the USA; from the mature reflections of *My Tanka Diary*, to *The Maternal Line*, where she is confronting the death of her mother, and the resurgence of her own cancer, first diagnosed in 2000.

About the Translators:

Amelia Fielden is an Australian professional translator, now specializing in modern Japanese tanka, who is also noted for her original English tanka poetry. Together with Saeko Ogi, Amelia first published translations of Kawano Yūko's work in the joint collection *Fountains Play and Time*

Passes in 2002. This was followed in 2004 by *Vital Forces* (co-translator Yuhki Aya), the anthology *As Things Are* (co-translator Uzawa Kozue) in 2005, and a complete, annotated, translation of Kawano's *My Tanka Diary*, which gained Amelia a Master of Arts' degree from the University of Newcastle. In 2004 Amelia was designated, by her, as Kawano Yūko's official translator. Amelia's fourteen previous translation publications also include collections by women poets Kawamura Hatsue (2002) Kuriki Kyōko (2005), Kitakubo Mariko (2006 & 2008), and Tanaka Noriko (2008 & 2010). In 2006 Amelia and co-translator Uzawa Kozue were awarded the Donald Keene Prize for Translation of Japanese Literature, by Columbia University, New York, for the anthology *Ferris Wheel: 101 Modern and Contemporary Tanka. Kaleidoscope*, selected tanka by famous male poet and playwright Terayama Shūji, translated also by Amelia and Kozue was published in Tokyo in 2008 to critical acclaim. Five collections of Amelia's own tanka poetry have been published, the most recent being *Baubles, Bangles & Beads* (2007). A book of responsive tanka, *In Two Minds*, written with Australian poet Kathy Kituai, appeared in 2008.

Saeko Ogi, born in Tokyo, has lived in Canberra since 1972. She is a member of the Neiraku Tanka Society of Nara and also a member of the Araragi-ha Tanka Society of Tsu in Japan. She has been co-translator with Amelia for Kawano Yūko's and Tanaka Noriko's work.

For media inquiries or to arrange an interview with the translators, contact Amelia Fielden by e-mail at anafielden@hotmail.com. Publisher information at: www.themetpress.com

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About MET Press:

MET Press (Modern English Tanka Press) is an independent publishing house in Baltimore, Maryland, dedicated to producing work of lasting literary value, especially poetry. A family business, we treat our customers and partners in publishing like family. We use modern print-on-demand production and distribution methods. Our special mission is to promote the tanka form of poetry and to educate newcomers about this most ancient poetic form.

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