

Iva Pekárková
Czech Republic / Writer in Residence / November

Born in Prague and descending from a family with a scientific background, Iva Pekárková studied microbiology at Karls-University during the 80s. 1985 she emigrated (with a stop in Austria) to the US. In New York Pekárková worked as a social worker, bar keeper and taxi driver. The latter was her inspiration for her novel *Taxi Blues* (Malik Verlag 2000) – a Big Apple Taxi Driver-Movie, the story of an emigrate, of the longing for romantic love, full of hope for the long-desired Green Card and full of faith in a marriage with a man from West Africa.

As Iva Pekárková's stories and novels openly deal with sexuality and sexual desire, they have been discussed controversially in her home country. The author's work is deeply influenced by the experiences she made during her various journeys: She travelled to f.i. India, Nigeria and Thailand, visited refugee camps, not only studied different and diverse cultures but also the topics of emigration and the loss of one's home country.

Currently, Iva Pekárková lives in Prague.

Reading:

Iva Pekárková will be reading at the Czech Centre in Vienna on Nov. 28th, 18.30.