

Ersi Sotiropoulos will read from her novel
Zigzag Through the Bitter-Orange Trees

Rutgers University, Tuesday October 16



Ersi Sotiropoulos is a novelist and

short story writer. She has published ten works of fiction, five of which are novels, and one book of poetry. Her thematic preoccupations are contemporary, but her stories are universal in nature. She writes with economy and precision, and her use of language is always recognizable as one of a kind.

Her novel *Zigzag Through the Bitter-Orange Trees* enjoyed wide critical acclaim and was hailed by Greek critics as the “best novel of the decade.” It was awarded both the National Literature Prize for Best Novel and the Book Critics’ Award in 2000. It is the first time that a novel in Greece has won both of these prestigious awards.

She was born in Patras and studied Philosophy and Cultural Anthropology at the University of Florence, in Italy. She later served as cultural attaché for the Greek Embassy in Rome. She has been involved in many cultural projects (film scripts and multicultural events) and has participated in exhibitions of Visual and Concrete Poetry. She has been a fellow at the University of Iowa’s International Writing Program, Schloss Wiepersdorf in Germany, Princeton University’s Department of Hellenic Studies, and the International Visiting Program of USIS, and was decorated by the President of the Italian Republic with the Commendatore dell’ Ordine in 1992.

Her work has been translated into many languages and has appeared in English in such magazines as *Harvard Review*, *Mondo Greco* and *Metamorphoses*.