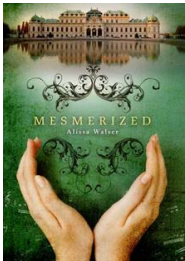




MACLEHOSE PRESS

RIGHTS GUIDE

FRANKFURT BOOK FAIR 2011



MESMERIZED

Alissa Walser

Translated from the German by Jamie Bulloch

June 2012

256pages

Rights available: World English Language

A luminous, sensual tale of an episode in the lives of the Franz Anton Mesmer and a blind musical prodigy

It is the late 18th century in Mozart's Vienna. On a cold January day, flamboyant practitioner Mesmer is summoned to the house of the Court Secretary and entreated to cure his daughter, a piano genius suffering from blindness. It is a challenge he cannot resist. In his colourful, chaotic private hospital, amongst other patients with varying hysterical disorders, he gradually wins her trust and submits her to a series of controversial treatments based on animal magnetism, the "laying on of hands".

Soon he is able to restore her sense of darkness and light, and his methods appear to be successful. He is besieged by would-be patients, while his wife blossoms in Viennese society. Certain that fame and imperial recognition lie ahead, he presents Maria to the court, but as her eyesight returns, her musical talent appears to diminish and Mesmer is branded a charlatan. Worse still, rumours begin to circulate that he has been taking advantage of this young patient; their closeness has been noted, and his methods were naturally at risk of being salaciously interpreted.

Mesmer sets out for Paris, keen to try his luck elsewhere. Maria and he meet again only years later when she is giving a series of concerts, a blind prodigy once more. The encounter echoes their former friendship, beautifully and subtly conveyed with its delicate undertones of sexual attraction.

Walser has brought a controversial historical figure vividly to life, a man who trod the narrow path between science and magic; with *Mesmerized* she has crafted a luminous, lyrical novel that is full of atmosphere and sensuality.

Alissa Walser is a writer, translator and painter living in Frankfurt am Main. She is the author of three volumes of short stories, and for her first novel *Mesmerized* she was awarded the Spycher Literaturpreis in 2010.

Jamie Bulloch's translations include *Ruth Maier's Diary*, *Portrait of a Mother as a Young Women* by F. C. Delius, and novels by Paulus Hochgatterer, Martin Suter and Daniel Glattauer.



SOMEDAY WE'LL TELL EACH OTHER EVERYTHING

Daniela Krien

Translated from the German by Jamie Bulloch

January 2013

240 pages

Rights available: World English Language

A highly charged, compelling love story, and an incisive portrait of a Germany in transition, rights sold in nine European countries to date

It is summer 1990, only months after the border dividing Germany has dissolved. Maria, nearly 17, has moved in with her boyfriend Johannes on his family farm. It is a scorching summer in the countryside. Despite the political and social upheavals in the outside world, time appears to have stood still in this sleepy milieu, though change is imminent.

Maria's chance encounter with enigmatic loner Henner, a neighbouring farmer, quickly develops into a passionate sexual relationship. Her feelings for him hit her with a force that she cannot comprehend, and she is amazed at herself. Henner is as forceful as he is tender; the bruising on Maria's body reflects his power over her, but in her mind his aggression does not constitute rape. During the clandestine hours they spend together, he reveals a past laden with tragedy.

As Johannes' uncle arrives from the West, and the family disentangle the legacy of the DDR, Maria is grateful for their distraction. The secrecy of her relationship with Henner hangs by a thread, while she builds a fantasy of their future life together. But her expectations differ dramatically from those of Henner, until it seems their story can only end in tragedy.

Daniela Krien has produced a bold and impressive debut, a literary novel executed with such a light touch. *Someday We'll Tell Each Other Everything* is at once coming-of-age novel, and brilliant portrait of Germany's most recent history.

Daniela Krien was born in 1975 in what was then East Germany and lives in Leipzig, where she is an editor and scriptwriter for Amadelio Film. *Someday We'll Tell Each Other Everything* is her first novel.

Jamie Bulloch's translations include *Ruth Maier's Diary*, and novels by Martin Suter, F. C. Delius and Daniel Glattauer.



THE THIRD DAY

Chochana Boukhobza

Translated from the French by Alison Anderson

March 2012

320 pages

Rights available: World English Language

A warm and vivid portrait of life in Jerusalem and a meditation on the power of music and the sacrifices it demands

A leading Israeli musician and her protégé return to Jerusalem for three days to perform with the Philharmonic Orchestra. Both women, one a gifted young cellist, the other a Holocaust survivor saved by her extraordinary musical talent, have been in America for some time, and tangled threads from former lives await them.

Elisheva is reunited with her godson, Daniel, and his parents Amos and Katia, who has succumbed to Alzheimer's. Rachel must face her father, who feels deserted by his daughter, and Erytan, a former lover, now married, whose lingering power over her now threatens all she has worked for.

Elisheva is coaching Rachel for the solo performance, but something else has drawn her to Jerusalem. Another old friend has lured a Nazi eugenicist, the Butcher of Majdanek, to Israel from Venezuela. The Butcher performed torturous experiments on Elisheva, which determined not just her fate but also, indirectly, those of Amos and Katia. On the third day of her stay, the day of the concert, she will finally take revenge.

Set in the late 1980s, *The Third Day* is a gripping narrative of retribution that brings the novels many, moving strands towards a tense and surprising conclusion.

Chochana Boukhobza is an Israeli novelist of Tunisian-Jewish descent. Her first novel, *A Summer in Jerusalem*, won the Prix Méditerranée in 1986. Her second novel, *Le Cri*, was a finalist for the 1987 Prix Femina.

Alison Anderson's translations include Muriel Barbery's bestselling novel *The Elegance of the Hedgehog* and *The Breakers* by Claudie Gally (MacLehose Press, 2011).



ACCABADORA

Michela Murgia

Translated from the Sardinian/Italian by Silvester Mazzarella

176 pages

Rights available: World English Language

A serial winner of literary prizes, this rich and haunting novel examines the shadowy Sardinian figure of the Accabadora, exploring the fault lines between mercy and murder

Formerly beautiful and at one time betrothed to a fallen soldier, Bonaria Urrai has long held covenant with the dead. Midwife to the dying, easing their suffering and sometimes ending it, she is revered and feared in equal measure as the village's Accabadora.

When Bonaria adopts Maria, the unloved fourth child of a widow, she tries to shield the girl from the truth about her role as an angel of mercy. Moved by the pleas of a young man crippled in an accident, she breaks her golden rule of familial consent, and in the recriminations that follow, Maria rejects her and flees Sardinia for Turin. Adrift in the big city, Maria strives as ever to find love and acceptance, but her efforts are overshadowed by the creeping knowledge of a debt unpaid, of a duty and destiny that must one day be hers.

Accabadora has been awarded seven major literary prizes, including Italy's prestigious Premio Campiello. An exceptional English-language debut, it weaves a narrative of rare grace and subtlety into a sensual tapestry of local nuance, atmosphere and dialect.

Michela Murgia was born in Cabras, Sardinia, in 1972 and has worked as a religious studies teacher, a timeshare saleswoman and an administrator in a power plant. *Accabadora* firmly establishes her alongside Marcello Fois and Davide Longo at the forefront of a recent renaissance of Italian fiction.

Silvester Mazzarella is a translator of Italian and Swedish literature. He learned English from his mother, Italian from his father, and Swedish while teaching at the University of Helsinki. He now lives in Canterbury.



BREATHLESS

Anne Swärd

Translated from the Swedish by Deborah Bragan-Turner

284 Pages

March 2012

Rights available: World English Language

Whatever the future holds a love this pure remains a timeless idyll - this summer's most seductive literary love story

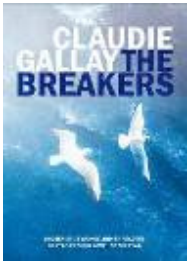
"I would call it the Swedish novel of the year, if only it wasn't January. But I don't have any doubts that I will say the same come December." **THERESE BOHMAN**, *Expressen*

Lo's parents did not plan for her. They were not married and never loved each other. Lo is raised by her whole extended family in a ramshackle house they share in southern Sweden. She enjoys a sheltered, idyllic, safe childhood, but everything changes when, at six years old, she makes a new friend.

Lukas is thirteen and came from Hungary with his father when he was five. He struggles at school and has no companions of his own age. A fire in a field brings them together, when Lukas helps the family contain the blaze, and the two become instantly inseparable. Lo's family are deeply suspicious of Lukas' motives for befriending such a young girl. The two meet in secret, sleeping side by side in a shed by the lake every summer. For Lo's fifteenth birthday, Lukas buys a car to take her to the Tivoli pleasure gardens in Copenhagen. Her senses dulled by the rides and fairy lights, by dancing, dinner and wine, Lo falls asleep early, and wakes to find their lives and friendship changed for ever.

Anne Swärd (1969) made her literary debut in 2003 with novel *Polarsommar*, which earned her an August Prize nomination. It was later followed by *Kvicksand* in 2006, which was nominated for magazine *Vi's* Literature Prize. She lives with her family in Skåne.

Deborah Bragan-Turner is a bookseller and translator living in Beziers, France.



THE BREAKERS

Claudie Gallyay

Translated from the French by Alison Anderson

416 pages

Rights available: World English Language

Chosen by *Le Monde* and by readers of *Elle* as their Novel of the Year – a beautiful, resonant novel set on Normandy's coastline

“A gem of a book! 400 pages which crack like a whip, slap you in the face and ultimately explode, leaving you stunned and blissful” FRANÇOIS BUSNEL, *L'Express*

In the storm-swept landscapes of Normandy's coastline lies a village that might just be at the ends of the earth. A woman has recently arrived to seek healing for some deep sorrow, and spends her days cataloguing migratory birds. On the day of a battering storm a stranger appears in the bar, arousing her curiosity. He stirs up suspicion in the village, looking for answers to apparently unanswerable questions about his family lost long years ago in an accident at sea. What actually happened? How was it that the lighthouse did not guide them safely to shore?

The eccentric inhabitants of this desolate village seem riveted to old hatreds, determined to leave secrets buried. Gradually the bird-watcher succeeds in unravelling a tragedy at the heart of a community in which many are suffering still from the loss of people they have loved. And in the process finds her own peace.

The Breakers is an immensely satisfying and evocative mystery of great depth. Claudie Gallyay unpeels the emotions of her unforgettable characters with such subtlety that the reader is captivated.



IN THE GOLDEN AGE (title tbc)

Claudie Gallyay

Translated from the French by Alison Anderson

July 2012

416 pages

Rights available: World English Language

A world-weary young father holidays by the sea near Dieppe with his reproachfully perfect wife and their seven-year-old twin daughters. Long walks, days on the beach, indoor games in bad weather – until a chance encounter changes their lives forever.

Returning from the local shop, he meets an eccentric old lady, Alice Berthier, who lives with her mute sister, Clémence. Her mysterious house is full of old photographs and strange objects – sacred ceremonial masks once belonging to the Hopi, a tribe of Native Americans from Arizona. Her father, a photographer, accompanied André Breton, the writer and founder of Surrealism, on an expedition to study the Hopi in 1945, bringing Alice with him.

Haunted by memories of a tragic past, Alice takes comfort in her new companion, and he, in turn, is inveigled into her mysterious world, drawn by dark secrets half-revealed, and by stirring tales of the Hopi and the Arizona desert, a salve to his despondent soul.

Set between Normandy and Arizona, and incorporating transcripts from Breton's diaries, *In The Golden Age* is a novel of secrets and silences that highlights once again Gallyay's distinctive talent for setting and atmosphere, and, in its plot, carries a ghostly echo of the later life of Marguerite Duras.

Claudie Gallyay is a teacher who lives in Provence. Her previous novels have all been well received, but *The Breakers* was her breakthrough novel, becoming a runaway bestseller in France.

Alison Anderson's translations include Muriel Barbery's bestselling novel *The Elegance of the Hedgehog*. She is also the author of two novels, *Hidden Latitudes* and *Darwin's Wink*.



MAN ON THE MOVE

Otto de Kat

Translated from the Dutch by Sam Garrett

144 pages

Rights available: World English Language

A young drifter makes an unforgettable friendship in wartime before fate leaves him once again alone and unable to settle

“Compelling ... reminiscent of Sartre’s *Nausea* and Camus’ *The Outsider*” *Ulrich Baron, Die Zeit*

In January 1935, Rob, a young Dutchman, departs to Capetown in search of adventure. After a brutal stint in the diamond mines, Rob sails to Java to join up in the Dutch army which is making a last stand against the Japanese invading army. Here he meets a fellow Dutchman, Guus, in whom he finds a soul mate, the best friend he will ever have.

They are soon captured by the Japanese. Together they survive the hell of labouring on the Burma railway, and together they leap off their ship when it is torpedoed. Rob never sees his friend again, but he spends his life unable to find peace with the shadow of the past hanging over him, unable to accept love, unable to forgive himself for his imagined failings.

Otto de Kat is the pen name of a distinguished Dutch publisher. His prize-winning previous novel, *Figure in the Distance* is published in Holland, Germany and France.

Sam Garrett is the translator of Geert Mak’s *Europe* and of Tim Krabbé’s *The Rider*, for which he won the Vondel Prize in 2003



JULIA

Otto de Kat

Translated from the Dutch by Ina Rilke

November 2011

168 pages

Rights available: World English Language

Set in pre-war Germany during the Nazi regime, *Julia* is the story of a life lived wrongly, of a love so great that it endures for decades – and yet still fails

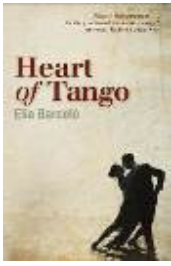
One summer’s afternoon in 1981, a factory owner, Christiaan Dudok, is found dead in his study having taken his own life. He has left no suicide note, but on his desk is a newspaper from 2 April 1942, reporting on the bombing of the north German town of Lübeck. The list of the dead includes the highlighted name of Julia Bender.

As a young man finishing his studies in Lübeck in 1938, Christiaan is irresistibly drawn to Julia, a courageous German who has emphatically rejected the Nazi regime. But that same year he is forced to leave both Germany and the woman he loves, even though he suspects that he is making the greatest mistake of his life.

Julia is the story of a life lived wrongly, of a love so great that it endures for decades, and yet still fails. Fear of life and loss of courage, and terrifying inhuman fanaticism are the compelling themes explored in Otto de Kat’s elegantly accomplished, elegiac novel.

Otto de Kat is the pen name of a distinguished Dutch publisher. His prize-winning previous novel, *Figure in the Distance* is published in Holland, Germany and France.

Ina Rilke is the prize-winning translator of books by Cees Nooteboom, W. F. Hermans, Erwin Mortier, Tessa de Loo, Dai Sijie, Margriet de Moor and Arthur Japin, among others.



HEART OF TANGO

Elia Barceló

Translated from the Spanish by David Frye

192 pages

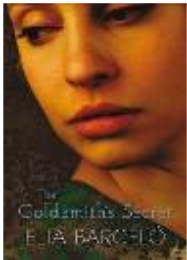
Rights available: World English Language

A heartbreakingly beautiful tale of love and loss set in the smoky, passionate atmosphere of 1920s Buenos Aires

The year is 1920. In La Boca, an immigrant quarter of Buenos Aires, a young woman named Natalia is about to be forced into an arranged marriage with El Rojo, a lecherous old sailor. Everything seems lost for Natalia – until the magic of the tango comes into her life. On the eve of her wedding, she visits the dance-hall for one last time: and there she meets Diego, a mysterious young man with whom she falls madly in love at first sight. They dance a passionate tango, but on the next day she weds El Rojo, and sees Diego no more.

Soon after Natalia's brutal wedding night, El Rojo is lost at sea in a shipwreck. Penniless and alone, Natalia is forced to become a dancer in a tango hall. Struggling to survive, Natalia endures a desperate, poverty-stricken existence, dancing her way through the seedy underbelly of Buenos Aires. One night, however, Diego spots her performing in the dance-hall. Vowing to save her from her horrific life, he embraces Natalia for the first time, and at just that moment El Rojo appears and stabs Natalia to death.

A poignant tale of cursed love and impossible longing, *The Heart of the Tango* flows seductively from one scene to the next with all the pace and magic of a tango-hall dance. The tale of Diego and Natalia's tragic love is heartbreaking and unforgettable.



THE GOLDSMITH'S SECRET

Elia Barceló

Translated from the Spanish by David Frye

144 pages

Rights available: World English Language

A magical love story with an extraordinary twist, and a mesmerizing reflection on a Spain long gone

One snowy night in New York City, a successful but solitary goldsmith reflects on his life, and his unreliable memories intertwine and collide. Returning to the village where he grew up, he hopes with some trepidation that he will encounter Celia, "the Black Widow", a beautiful and mysterious friend of his mother with whom he had a short and passionate affair when he was a teenager, before she rejected him. But instead he meets a young woman who opens doors onto a strange world, and takes him back in time.

The Goldsmith's Secret is a remarkable love story with a magical twist, set Spain in the fifties, seventies, and in the last year of the twentieth century.

In beautifully economical language, and with a structure as intricate and refined as a bevelled jewel, *The Goldsmith's Secret* is a mesmerizing reflection on a Spain long gone, filled with intense nostalgia, memories and desires. Elia Barceló has come to be known across Europe as a truly original voice, and her books as poetic works of great subtlety.

Elia Barceló was born in Alicante in 1957 and teaches Spanish Language and Literature at the University of Innsbruck. She made her name in science-fiction, but with books such as *Heart of Tango* she is fast gaining the wider readership that she so richly deserves.

David Frye's translations include *The Mangy Parrot* by José Joaquín Fernández de Lizardi, and *Thine Is the Kingdom* (1999) and *Distant Palaces* (2004) by Cuban novelist Abilio Estévez.



THE FOLDED EARTH

By Anuradha Roy

368 pages

Rights available: World exc. India

Rights sold: Croatia: Fraktura, France: Actes Sud, Norway: Vigmostad and Bjorke; Spain:

Salamandra; USA: Free Press, Romania: Humanitas

A woman struggles with her past, as she sees her familiar world being swept away by India's brutal modernity

'Roy's prose does not hit a single wrong note: its restrained beauty sings off the page'

NEIL MUKHERJEE, *Time Magazine*

In a remote town in the Himalaya, Maya tries to put behind her a time of great sorrow. By day she teaches in a school and at night she types up drafts of a magnum opus by her landlord, a relic of princely India known to all as Diwan Sahib. Her bond with this eccentric, and her friendship with a peasant girl, Charu, give her the sense that she might be able to forge a new existence away from the devastation of her past. As Maya finds out, no place is remote enough or small enough.

The world she has come to love, where people are connected with nature, is endangered by the town's new administration. The impending elections are hijacked by powerful outsiders who divide people and threaten the future of her school. Charu begins to behave strangely, and soon Maya understands that a new boy in the neighbourhood may be responsible. When Diwan Sahib's nephew arrives to set up his trekking company on their estate, she is drawn to him despite herself, and finally she is forced to confront bitter and terrible truths.

A many-layered and powerful narrative, by turns poetic, elegiac and comic, by the author of *An Atlas of Impossible Longing*.



ATLAS OF IMPOSSIBLE LONGING

By Anuradha Roy

320 pages

Rights available: World exc. India

Rights sold: Bulgaria: Uniscorp, Brazil: Nova Fronteria, Croatia: Fraktura, Estonia:

Varrak, France: Actes Sud, Israel: Kinneret, Italy: Bompiani, Latvia: Zvaigzne,

Lithuania: Musu Knyga, The Netherlands: Prometheus, Norway: Vigmostad and

Bjorke, Romania: Humanitas, Spain: Salamandra, Sweden: Forum, Turkey: Pegasus,

USA and Canada: Free Press

A love story -- as beautiful as it is unbearably sad -- about two people who choose each other when others have abandoned them

'A lyrical love letter to India's past – an India of innocent child brides and jasmine-scented summer evenings.

Poetic and evocative. Roy's writing is a joy' *Financial Times*

On the outskirts of a small town in Bengal, a family live in solitude in their vast new house. Here, swathed in silence, a widower struggles with feelings for an unmarried cousin while his motherless daughter Bakul runs wild with Mukunda, an orphan of unknown caste adopted by the family. Confined in a room at the top of the house, the matriarch goes slowly mad, while her husband shapes and reshapes his garden.

As Mukunda and Bakul grow, their intense closeness matures into something else, and Mukunda is banished to Calcutta. Although he prospers in the turbulent years after Partition, his thoughts are all of what was once his home, of Bakul, to all that he has lost – and he knows that he must return.

Anuradha Roy has worked as a publisher and journalist and is now editor at Permanent Black, an independent press in New Delhi. She was the winner of the Picador-Outlook Non-fiction Prize in 2004, and her first novel *An Atlas of Impossible Longing* (2008) has been translated into thirteen languages.



THE LIFE OF REBECCA JONES

By Angharad Price

Translated from the Welsh by Lloyd Jones

April 2012

240 pages

Rights available: World

A masterpiece of rural social history, and a fictional elegy to a vanishing way of life

A poetic work of fiction on the one hand, an autobiography on the other, *The Life of Rebecca Jones* is a powerful, meditative work on one family's passage through the twentieth century.

In the early years of the last century, Rebecca is born into rural community in the Maesglasau valley in Wales; her family have been working the land for a thousand years, but the changes brought about by modernity threaten the survival of her language, and her family's way of life. Three of her siblings are afflicted with a genetic blindness, and it is they who have the opportunity to be educated elsewhere and to find work, while Rebecca and her remaining brother maintain the family farm amidst a gradual influx of new technologies, from the waterpipe to the tractor and telephone, and ultimately to television.

Rebecca's reflections on the century are delivered with haunting dignity and a simple intimacy, while her evocation of the changing seasons and a life that is so in tune with its surroundings is rich and poignant. *The Life of Rebecca Jones* has all the makings of a classic, fixing a vanishing period of rural history, and the novel's final, unexpected revelation remains unforgettable and utterly moving.

Angharad Price was born near Caernarfon and graduated in Modern Languages at Oxford University. A novelist, critic and translator, she has taught at the University of Wales in Swansea and at Cardiff University, and is now lecturer in Welsh at the University of Wales in Bangor. *The Life of Rebecca Jones* is her second novel.

Lloyd Jones' novel *Mr Cassini* was shortlisted for the Wales Book of the Year



THE UPRIGHT PIANO PLAYER

By David Abbott

240 pages

Rights sold: Bulgaria: Uniscorp, France: Payot & Rivages; Germany: DTV,
Estonia: Varrak, Israel: Kinneret, The Netherlands: Ambo Anthos, Russia:
Inostranka, USA: Nan A Talese

A wise and acutely observed novel of family fracture, loss and reconciliation

Having created a successful business empire, life was never going to be easy for Henry Cage when he was forced by his colleagues to quit. Despite a generous severance package, it still felt like the end of a love affair. As he drifts towards a new millennium, a lonely future unrolls ahead of him.

When his ex-wife Nessa summons him to Palm Beach, he realises time is running out to redress the past. But one seemingly random vicious act begins to escalate out of control as he is pursued by a psychopath with a score to settle.

With a beginning reminiscent of Ian McEwan at his most powerful *The Upright Piano Player* is a short novel which packs a terrific emotional punch. It explores with an unflinching eye the whims of fate and the small but devastating flaws in human nature.

David Abbott began his career as an advertising copywriter and went on to found one of the U.K.'s outstanding advertising agencies, Abbott Mead Vickers. He is widely recognized as one of the industry's most deservedly celebrated creative directors. This book, many years in the making, is his first novel.



CLASSIFICATION 400

Sophie Divry

May 2013

64 pages

Rights available: World English Language

Translated from the French by Siân Reynolds

A small gem of a novel, cataloguing the treasures of emotion and imagination hidden in the mind of provincial librarian, now brought to light in a monologue of dazzling wit and charm.

One morning in the basement of the library, where she looks after the Geography section, she finds a reader who was locked in overnight. She starts to talk to him, a one-way conversation that soon gathers pace as an outpouring of frustrations, observations and anguishes. But what shines through above all is an ardent and absolute love for books – though she rails against the strict discipline of Dewey’s rigid classification system, to which she is forever enslaved.

Classification 400 gives a voice to the silent and faceless librarian we all know, a bittersweet soliloquy, deft and feather light in touch, in which disappointments are always balanced by hope, and by an enduring faith in the beauty of the written word.

Sophie Divry lives in Lyon, France. *Classification 400* is her first novel

Siân Reynolds is the translator of Fernand Braudel, and of CWA award-winning crime novels by Fred Vargas.



THE SECRET NOTE

Marta Morazzoni

Translated from the Italian by Emma Rose

May 2013

192 pages

Rights available: World English Language

Full of passion and adventure, this is a historical novel to savour

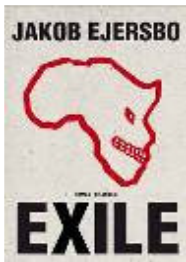
Milan, 1736. When Paola Pietra is sent to a convent by her wealthy family when still a teenager, her future seems spoken for. But Paola is set apart from her fellow nuns by a rich singing voice of extraordinary quality. Performing in the convent church, she captivates a married English diplomat, Sir John Breval, who persuades her to elope with him.

En route to England, Paola’s ship is brutally raided by pirates, and though she escapes to join Sir John at his estate at Sevenoaks, she faces there the ambivalence and condescension of her lover’s spinster sisters. Forbidden from marrying because she is still a nun, Paola greatest challenge will be to return to Italy in disgrace to free herself from her religious vows

Based on a true story, *The Secret Note* tells of a brave and resourceful girl determined to live life on her own terms rather than submit to religious imprisonment. A beautifully written historical novel, full of passion and adventure, that reminds us of our right to choose our own destiny.

Marta Morazzoni is a writer and teacher. She won the Campiello Prize for *The Alphonse Courier* affair, which also won the *Independent Foreign Fiction Prize*.

Emma Rose’s translations include Morazzoni’s *The Alphonse Courier Affair* and a recent edition of *Pinocchio* for Walker Books.



EXILE

Jakob Ejersbo

Translated from the Danish by Mette Petersen

November 2011

304 pages

Rights available: World English language

The first novel in a major new trilogy exposing the guilt, loneliness and nihilism of the ex-pat experience in post-colonial Africa

Samantha has lived in Tanzania since she was three years old. Her parents run an exclusive travel lodge and are too absorbed by their own affairs to pay much attention to their daughter. The mother sips expat gin and tonics under the midday sun; the father, a former S.A.S. officer turned mercenary, busies himself with dead end coup d'états and clandestine love affairs with local women.

Samantha learns quickly that affection comes at a premium, at a price she is always willing to pay, however shallow and transitory the experience, however hollow the love on offer. Before long, her reputation precedes her, losing her friends as quickly as it gains her admirers amongst the town's unsavoury elements, for whom consent is barely an afterthought. When Samantha meets Victor, middle-aged and, like her father, a mercenary, she falls for him instantly, persuading herself that his love will finally free her from her past. But Victor is already married, and she is not the first young girl to catch his wandering eye.

Exile is the first part of a powerful and gritty trilogy exploring the listless, self-destructive lives of rootless, European ex-pats, laying bare intractable post-colonial tensions, capturing effortlessly the tragic beauty of a continent run into the ground and sinking into the mire. The other novels in the trilogy, *Revolution* and *Liberty* are to follow.



REVOLUTION

Jakob Ejersbo

Translated from the Danish by Mette Petersen

October 2012

288 pages

Rights available: World English language

Following the tragic, heart-stopping conclusion to *Exile*, characters from that novel return in *Revolution*, each now central to his or her own story

Jarno – of the pale dreads and piss-coloured eyes – is struggling with university in Helsinki; Mick the mechanic is now together with a Norwegian nurse; Shakila, daughter of the famous doctor and clandestine abortionist, lives in Chicago, but finds that racism is not confined to Africa. Christian, the character who perhaps most closely resembles Ejersbo in his novels, is living with Rachel, after her failed marriage to a local boy whom she discovered was violent only after their wedding.

Each of their stories adds another layer and a new perspective to Samantha's story in *Exile*: perhaps the world did not revolve around her quite to the extent that she imagined.

Revolution is the second part of a powerful and gritty trilogy which has already sold 200,000 copies in its native Denmark



LIBERTY
Jakob Ejersbo
Translated from Danish by Mette Petersen
October 2013
544 pages
Rights available: World English Language

The final earth-shattering novel in the Africa Trilogy

Two young men from very different backgrounds: Christian is son to Danish ex-pats; Marcus works as a servant for European families, hoping that one will eventually take him back to Europe with them. Their friendship defines a divided continent.

Friends from childhood, they become closer when Christian is kicked out of school. He is desperate to stay in Tanzania, and the two decide to start a nightclub together. But both are caught up in complex relationships, and are unwilling to share the wealth that would support their families. Something else is also not quite right: Christian wants to be black and Marcus wants to be white. Things can only go wrong.

In this powerful climax to the Africa Trilogy, Jakob Ejersbo captures effortlessly both the raw essence of human relationships and the destructive effects of post-colonial tensions in Africa. In chronicling his love for a continent run into the ground and sinking into the mire, he has created a huge cast of characters that will live on in readers' imaginations as surely as if they were people they had actually met themselves.

Jakob Ejersbo was born in Aalborg in 1968. He trained as a journalist, and his breakthrough came with the 2002 novel, *Northern Powers*, which won the Golden Bay in 2003. He died in 2008 at the age of thirty, after a ten-month battle against cancer.

Mette Petersen lives in Kgs. Lyngby, in Denmark, where she works as a schoolteacher. Previous translations include *My Friend Jesus Christ* by Lars Husum



WHERE I LEFT MY SOUL
Jérôme Ferrari
Translated from the French by Geoffrey Strachan
September 2012
Rights available: World English Language

1957, the savage Algerian War rages on. Captain André Degorce is reunited with Lieutenant Horace Andreani, with whom he experienced the horrors of combat and imprisonment in Indochina. Captives now pass from Degorce's hands into Andreani's, from one bully to another: one-time victims have become torturers.

Andreani has fully embraced his new status, but Degorce has lost all sense of who he is and only finds peace when he is with Tahar, a commander in the National Liberation Army, who is held in a cell that now acts as a confessional, with the jailor opening up to his prisoner.

In this desolate setting, ravaged by wind, sand and blood, in the humid caves of Algiers, where jailors gather around their naked, helpless victims, Jérôme Ferrari describes three characters brought together by history and each suffering his own brand of pain. Operating above and beyond good and evil, his incandescent writing strives to understand the impossible truth of man's survival through hell on earth.

Jérôme Ferrari was born in Paris in 1968, and worked as a professor of philosophy at the international lycée in Algiers for four years before moving to Corsica where he has been teaching since 2007. He has had three other novels published by Actes Sud: *Dans le secret* (2007), *Balco Atlantico* (2008) and *Un dieu un animal* (2009).

Geoffrey Strachan is the award-winning translator of Andreï Makine.



THE GUARD

Peter Terrin

Translated from the Dutch by David Colmer

October 2012

220 pages

Rights available: World English Language

A fast-paced, frightening novel of suspense which plays on our darkest fears about the state of our world

Two men live in the basement of a large luxury apartment block, guarding its inhabitants. Harry and Michel work for “the organization”, wear crisp blue uniforms and carry guns, taking turns to sleep only five hours a night and living on water, bread and corned beef. Harry is convinced that he and Michel are being tested by the organization. There was talk of a third guard being sent to assist them, but he has not arrived. They have no idea what is going on in their city, in the outside world: there might be a war on, there might have been a nuclear explosion.

One weekend, the inhabitants abandon their apartments. There is no news from the organization and no deliveries for several days. Just as Michel begins to think he will die of starvation, the third guard appears with a box filled with food. Harry and Michel’s tight routine is disturbed, with horrific and fatal consequences.

Steeped in an atmosphere of tense paranoia, *The Guard* is a disturbing and brilliantly observed allegorical novel about war and peace – war with an incomprehensible enemy, peace which every man has to earn for himself.

Peter Terrin, born in 1968, is a novelist and short-story writer whose *Women and Children First* was nominated for the BNG Literature Prize. *Blanco* (2003) and a collection of stories, *The Bee-eaters* (2006), were nominated for the AKO Prize. *The Guard* has been nominated for both the Libris Prize (Netherlands) and the Gouden Uil (Belgium), and was awarded a European Union Prize for Literature.

David Colmer is the prize-winning translator of novels by Gerbrand Bakker, Dimitri Verhulst, Arthur Japin



THE LAST MAN STANDING

Davide Longo

Translated from the Italian by Silvester Mazzarella

September 2012

220 pages

Rights available: World English Language

A chilling dystopian novel, approaching fable, that follows the descent of a civilized nation into savage anarchy

In the final stages of a civil war that has cost a nation its identity and even its name, murderous gangs of armed and drugged youths roam the countryside, murdering and raping with childlike relish. In the towns and cities, shops and banks lie empty, money has no worth, food is scarce, and law, order and justice are but dim and distant memories.

Leonardo, a disgraced and divorced university professor, has managed to survive by lying low and avoiding confrontation, but when his ex-wife appears out of the blue and puts their teenage daughter and the son of her second husband into his care, he understands that it is time to shake off his malaise and bring the children to safety. Out on the road, they are surprised and captured by a sinister cult that resembles a debauched and grotesque circus. Leonardo, unable to protect his daughter and caged with an elephant for the gang’s amusement, must subvert his bookish nature and temper his inner steel if he is to avenge and free his family, and lead them as oracle and prophet towards the promise of a better future.

Davide Longo was born in 1971 in Carmagnola (in the Province of Torino). In addition to novels he writes books for children, short stories and articles, and his texts have been used in musical and theatre productions. He has taught in a secondary school since 1999.

Silvester Mazzarella is a distinguished translator of Italian and Swedish literature. He learned English from his mother, Italian from his father, and Swedish while teaching at the University of Helsinki. He now lives in Canterbury.



THE SPIES

Luís Fernando Veríssimo

Translated from Portuguese by Margaret Jull Costa

November 2012

192 pages

Rights available: World English Language

A hilarious, helter-skelter satire on politics, love and plagiarism from Brazil's leading and best-loved comic novelist

"Luís Fernando Veríssimo's *Borges and the Eternal Orangutans* is a perfect novel. I'll say it again: This book is a perfect novel!"

THOMAS MCGONIGLE, *Los Angeles Times*

A frustrated novelist turned publisher receives a mysterious angst-ridden manuscript: "a friend" must send it in installments, because its contents would put the author in danger.

As he pieces together the story, he learns that the author, Ariadne, is the wife of one of two Martelli brothers – gangsters who dominate a small town in the Brazilian interior. Surely her dark outpourings are a cry for help?

One by one, he dispatches his friends to Frondosa – a town totally obsessed by table football – to investigate; and one by one they are drawn into a world where nothing – not least the maudlin novel – is ever as it seems.

Luís Fernando Veríssimo is a satirist, cartoonist, translator, television writer, saxophonist, playwright and novelist. With over 60 published titles, he is one of the most popular of contemporary Brazilian writers.

Margaret Jull Costa is the award-winning translator of José Saramago, Javier Marías, Bernardo Atxaga, Eça de Queiroz and Fernando Pessoa.



THE HUMAN PART

Kari Hotakainen

Translated from the Finnish by Owen F. Witesman

September 2012

224 pages

Rights available: World English Language

We all want to be immortalised in fiction, but what happens when fiction strays too far from fact?

A burned-out author, who can no longer mine material from his own life for his novels, "buys" the life of an elderly woman he meets at a book fair. In exchange for his last few thousand euros, the woman, Salme Malmikunnas, a retired yarn and button saleswoman, relates her life story over the course of two interviews held in a secluded highway café.

The author is instantly reinvigorated, but the two soon come into conflict over the degree to which he may embellish Salme's reminiscences. His imagination begins to run wild with the lives of her three children, and as they all lurch from crisis to crisis Salme founders in the shifting sands of the little white lies they have told her, and the fabrications of her new friend.

The Human Part is at once an absurdist meditation on the relationship between truth and falsehood in fiction and a panoramic state-of-the-nation novel. Racism, communism, the global financial crisis and the literary legacies of Finland's finest writers are all dissected. There are shades of George's Pennac's masterpiece, *Life: A User's Manual*, in the subtly oblique angle from which Hotakainen approaches his humanist project.

Kari Hotakainen was born in 1957 in Pori, Finland. His breakthrough came in 1997 when he was nominated for the Finlandia Prize, which he eventually won in 2002. Hotakainen has also written children's plays, radio dramas, newspaper columns and television scripts.

Owen F. Witesman is a highly experienced translator from the Finnish and Estonian.



HEAVEN AND HELL

Jón Kalman Stefánsson

Translated from the Icelandic by Phil Roughton

224 pages

Rights available: World English Language

This modern Icelandic saga will draw comparison with some of the greatest novels of the sea, most especially *The Old Man and the Sea* and *The Fisherman of Iceland*

In a remote fjord in Iceland, a man known as Bardur, and a boy, his best friend, go out with a group of fishermen to fish for cod. A ferocious winter storm catches them out at sea and Bardur, who had forgotten his jacket as he was too busy reading a borrowed copy of *Paradise Lost*, succumbs to the icy cold and dies. The boy is appalled by the death of his friend and by the fishermen's seemingly callous ability to get on with their own lives. He resolves to leave the village and return the Milton to its rightful owner.

The owner is an old blind captain in a nearby town, and the boy undertakes a journey of extreme hardship and danger to reach him. The risk to his own life is of little consequence – he has resolved to join his friend in death. But once among the people of the town he immerses himself in their stories and lives, deepening his understanding of humanity, and decides that he cannot be with his friend just yet.

Set around the turn of the last century, *Heaven and Hell* is a modern Icelandic saga, lyrical and dreamlike in its style, but dramatic, told in strong, powerful language, with extraordinarily vivid characters and stories. Reminiscent of such great works as Hemingway's *The Old Man and the Sea* and Gunnar Gunnarsson's *Advent*, this is an exceptionally moving work from one of Iceland's finest contemporary writers.

WINNER OF THE PER OLOV ENQUIST PRIZE 2011



THE SORROW OF ANGELS

Jón Kalman Stefánsson

Translated from the Icelandic by Philip Roughton

June 2013

192 pages

Rights available: World English Language

The second in a trilogy by Iceland's most celebrated novelist since Halldór Laxness

Winter nights are dark and still, we can hear the fish breathe on the sea floor. It is three weeks since the boy came to town, carrying a book of poetry to return to the old sea captain – the poetry that did for his friend Bárður. Three weeks, but already Bárður's ghost has faded. Snow falls so heavily that it binds heaven and earth together. As the villagers are gathered in the inn to drink schnapps and coffee while the boy reads to them from Shakespeare's *Hamlet*, Jens the postman stumbles in half dead, having almost frozen to his horse. Alongside his postbag he carries with him two corpses. On his next journey to the wide open fjords he is accompanied by the boy, and both must risk their lives for each other, and for this unusual item of mail.

The Sorrow of Angels is a timeless, literary masterpiece; in extraordinarily powerful language it describes the dramatic journey of two men across the frozen landscapes of Iceland, and brings the struggle between humans and nature tangibly to life.

Jón Kalman Stefánsson was born in Reykjavik in 1963. His novels have been nominated three times for the Scandinavian Prize for Literature (2001, 2004, 2007) and his novel *Summer Light, and then Comes the Night* received the Icelandic Prize for Literature in 2005.

Philip Roughton is the translator of, among others, the works of Halldór Laxness. He lives and works in Reykjavik.



THE ENIGMA OF THE RETURN

Dany Laferrière

Translated from the French by David Homel

August 2012

176 pages

Rights available: World English Language, excluding Canada

Winner of the Prix Médicis 2009 *The Enigma of the Return* is a deeply aesthetic novel of homecoming

Windsor Laferrière is an exiled Haitian writer who has lived in Montreal for thirty-three years and now suffers from writer's block. His father of the same name has just died, in New York, where he has himself lived as an émigré for the past fifty years. Windsor holds few memories of his father, who left him in Haiti when he was four years old, but decides to travel to New York and Haiti, first to attend the funeral and then to inform his mother of the death.

Leaving behind the freezing snows of Montreal – something he has never got used to – for the wet heat of Haiti, Windsor is faced with the grim truth of life in his homeland, the endemic poverty and starvation, thwarted ambitions and broken dreams. On his journey of self-discovery, the struggling writer encounters a young nephew who is determined to write as his uncle does, even if he risks exile, imprisonment or even death. Inspired by the boy's courage, Windsor – whose mind is forever full of the poetry of Césaire and Apollinaire – begins to write again, setting his sights on crafting the great Haitian novel.

Subtly but richly symbolic, *The Enigma of the Return* etches the beautiful landscapes, the crowds, the heat and the everyday misery of Haiti into the reader's mind, with crystal clarity.

Dany Laferrière is a francophone Haitian and Canadian novelist and journalist. Born in Port-au-Prince, Haïti, Laferrière worked as a journalist before moving to Canada in 1976. His previous novels include *How to Make Love to a Negro Without Getting Tired*, *Heading South* and *I Am a Japanese Writer*. He happened to be in Haiti when the earthquake struck in January 2010, and has played an active role in the rebuilding of his home country.

David Homel is journalist, novelist and translator living in Montreal. As well as earlier books by Laferrière he has translated novels by Daniel Pennac and Martine Desjardins.



THE FOXES COME AT NIGHT

Cees Nooteboom

Translated from the Dutch by Ina Rilke

160 pages

Rights available: World English Language

Seductive, fascinating and wise stories of love and loss, by the author of *The Following Story*

“Nooteboom is one of the greatest modern novelists” A. S. BYATT

Set in the cities and islands of the Mediterranean, and linked thematically, the eight stories in *Foxes* read more like a novel, a meditation on memory, life and death. Their protagonists collect and reconstruct fragments of lives lived intensely, and now lost, crystallized in memory or in the detail of a photograph. In “Paula”, the narrator evokes the mysterious, brief life of a woman he once loved; in “Paula II”, the same woman is aware of the man thinking of her. No longer a body, she is slowly fading into the distance, remembering the time they spent together, and his fear of the black night when the foxes appear. And yet the tone of these stories is far from pessimistic: it seems that death is nothing to be afraid of.

Nooteboom is a superb stylist who observes the world with a combination of melancholy and astonishment. These stories are textured with humour, pathos and vast knowledge, the hallmarks of this outstanding and highly respected European writer.

Cees Nooteboom was born in The Hague and now lives in Amsterdam and on the island of Minorca. His books include *Rituals* (1983), *The Following Story* (1994), *Roads to Santiago* (1997) and *All Souls' Day* (2001).

Ina Rilke has translated books by W. F. Hermans, Erwin Mortier, Tessa de Loo, Dai Sijie, Margriet de Moor and Arthur Japin, amongst others.



WINTERS IN THE SOUTH

Norbert Gstrein

Translated from the German by Anthea Bell

July 2012

288 pages

Rights available: World English Language

This major European novel by a supremely accomplished writer is a superbly told story of love in a time of violence

“An exceptional work of prose fiction: carefully crafted, unpretentious, and accomplished at the same time” *W.G. Sebald, reviewing [The English Years](#)*

A beautifully written account of the lives of an estranged father and daughter of Croatian origin, both in exile since the Second World War. When both decide to return home to war-torn Yugoslavia, they will have to face not just their past, but the full extent of the lies and deceptions that have so far prevented their reunion.

Gstrein’s sensitive and skilful narrative alternates between the story of these two individuals, both haunted by their past; both unsure of the present they have stumbled into. But while the daughter battles feelings of loneliness and betrayal, her father cares only for fighting for his former home. Played out against the tense backdrop of the terrible conflict of 1990s Yugoslavia, *Winters in the South* is permeated throughout with a sense of unease, of things not quite reaching their expected conclusions. This is a book that will linger in the mind long after the last page is turned.

Norbert Gstrein was born in 1961 in Mils in the Austrian Tyrol, and studied mathematics at Innsbruck and Stanford, California. He is the author of *The English Years*, which won widespread critical acclaim in Germany and was awarded the coveted Alfred Döblin Prize.

Anthea Bell has been a translator from French and German for many years. Her translations include works of non-fiction, literary and popular fiction.



ASHES

By Sergios Gakas

Translated from the Greek by Anne-Marie Stanton-Ife

284 pages

Rights available: World English Language

In a corrupt, crumbling society, where every life has its price, addiction and regret are the only human qualities left

When Sonia Verika, a former actress who takes solace in alcohol and isolation, is pulled from a fire, her body is burned almost beyond recognition. The house she and her three-year-old daughter shared with a retired director and an African refugee is entirely destroyed, and she is the only survivor. Yet somehow a spark of life remains.

For her ex-lovers Inspector Chronis Halkidis, a failed lawyer, and Simeon Piertzovanis, the landlord of the gutted property, her fate is a heavy reckoning. Reflection gives way to guilt, and then to a fanatical desire to uncover the truth behind the blaze and hold those responsible to account – by any means necessary.

But with corruption rife throughout the force, Chronis soon finds his investigation shackled from within. Fuelled by their need for revenge, and by their twin addictions to alcohol and cocaine, Simeon and Chronis must resort increasingly to violence if they are to unmask a conspiracy that unites church and state against the interests of justice.

A classic noir thriller, *Ashes* is unflinching in its examination of the violence and extortion bred by corruption, but at the same time tender in its treatment of human weaknesses, of guilt, addiction and regret.

Sergios Gakas, born in Athens in 1957, studied drama at Paris-VIII and has worked as a director in Greece since 1979. He has written plays for children, short stories and his first novel, *Kasleo* (Kastaniotis, 2001), was translated in French and Italian.

Anne-Marie Stanton-Ife translations (from Norwegian and Greek) include an acclaimed biography of Vidkun Quisling by Hans Fredrik Dahl, the novels of Vangelis Hatziyannidis and Gazmend Kapllani’s *A Short Border Handbook*.



ALEX
Pierre Lemaître
Translated from the French by Frank Wynne
2013
400 pages
Rights available: World English Language

A crime novel with exceptionally clever plotting, full of ingenious and unexpected twists

Nothing is certain in this explosive and harrowing crime epic – victims are killers and killers, victims. The tight and diabolically clever plotting borders on perfection.

Alex, a beautiful woman of thirty-five is stalked and abducted by a torturer who locks her naked in a cage suspended from the ceiling of a disused warehouse, a torture chamber whose terrors she will endure to the limits of horror.

Yet somehow she escapes. Commandant Camille Verhoven is brought in to lead the investigation. As the enigma of Alex unfolds he is shocked to the very core. The victim of the kidnapping is herself a vicious serial killer, intelligent, organized, deadly – so intent on revenge that nothing, not even her own life, is as precious as the moment when a man who has wronged her is at her mercy. And she shows no mercy.

Lemaître is a master at manipulating his readers, dragging them at breakneck speed through the most unexpected, ingenious twists. For anyone suffering from Lisbeth Salander withdrawal, *Alex*, with its all-in-one victim-killer-heroine, is a thriller not to be missed.

Pierre Lemaître taught literature for many years. His three novels, have earned him exceptional critical and public acclaim as a master of both the crime novel and the thriller.



THE SHREDDED HEARTS
Hervé Le Corre
Translated from the French by Frank Wynne
2013
384 pages
Rights available: World English Language

Winner of the Grand Prix de Littérature Policière 2009, a psychological thriller full of suspense, as the policeman becomes the quarry

Police Inspector Pierre Vilar's life has been in ruins since his son, Pablo, was snatched at the school gate. Vilar still keeps watch outside the school, his 9.m.m. pistol resting on the passenger seat.

A young student – Victor – comes home from college to find his mother lying dead on her bedroom floor, her face swollen and her teeth smashed. As Victor is sent first to a care home, then to live with a foster family, Vilar is assigned to the case.

As he begins to follow the few available leads, a sinister role reversal occurs, as the hunter becomes the hunted. He is harassed on the telephone, then followed on the street by a man as elusive as he is threatening – the same man, perhaps, who is now shadowing Victor. Stranger still, he seems to know something about the disappearance of Vilar's son.

The Shredded Hearts is a powerful psychological crime novel that will keep the reader gripped from the first page to the last. In exploring Inspector Vilar's vulnerability, Hervé Le Corre highlights for us our own.

Hervé Le Corre was born in Paris and is currently teaching in the outskirts of Bordeaux, France, and is the author of several crime fiction novels. He also writes for the literary magazine *Le Passant*.

Frank Wynne is a translator from French and Spanish. His translations include works by Michel Houellebecq and Marcelo Figueras's IFFP-shortlisted *Kamkatcha*.



BED OF NAILS

Antonin Varenne

Translated from the French by Siân Reynolds

June 2012

288 pages

Rights available: World English Language

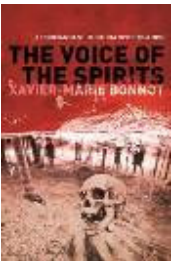
A sickening suicide cult takes hold of Paris – introducing a major new player in French crime fiction

Guerin is not your typical policeman. Sitting in a dingy office at the back of a vast Parisian police station, he reviews the files of suicides to check that their deaths really were self-inflicted. He lives and works under a cloud of suspicion: the suicide of a former colleague is blamed by everyone in the force on his maverick methods of investigation.

Guerin's two most recent suicide cases share striking similarities. Both concern young men who died naked in very public places. He is convinced the two deaths are linked, but his intuition is ridiculed by all but his loyal assistant, Lambert. Increasingly obsessed by this morbid coincidence, Guerin encounters John Nichols, an American former psychiatrist who has been called to Paris to identify the body of a friend, yet another suicide. As the bizarre death cult tightens its vice-like grip on the city, Guerin and Nichols' parallel investigations uncover evidence of shocking abuse, both in the upper echelons of the police force and at the US embassy. Antonin Varenne is a new and powerful voice in crime fiction; *Bed of Nails* engages with the violence at the heart of society, and the darkest elements of human nature.

Antonin Varenne has travelled a great deal and completed an MA in philosophy before embarking on a career as a writer. *Bed of Nails* is the first of a new series of crime novels set in the Paris underworld.

Siân Reynolds is the translator of Fernand Braudel, and of CWA award-winning crime novels by Fred Vargas.



THE VOICE OF THE SPIRITS

Xavier-Marie Bonnot

Translated from the French by Justin Phipps

March 2012

304 pages

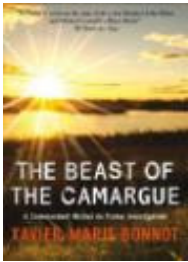
Rights available: World English language

A Commandant de Palma investigation – a curse wreaks revenge on underworld collectors of Oceanic art

When Commandant Michel de Palma follows an anonymous tip-off to a gated mansion by the coast, he finds a body whose face is obscured by a fearsome tribal mask, beneath it a mysterious wound that could not have been caused by a bullet. Surrounded by scores of masks and painted skulls, de Palma hears the haunting strains of a primal flute from the floors above.

With few leads to go on, de Palma delves into an account of the murdered doctor's voyage to Papua New Guinea seventy years earlier, accompanied by a fellow amasser of Oceanic art, Robert Ballancourt. As the doctor's attractive but distant granddaughter offers de Palma further insights into her grandfather's second life as an intrepid collector, he and his team stumble upon an art-smuggling ring working out of Marseilles' dilapidated docks. But when his chief suspect is found dead, killed by the same method as Dr Delorme, even de Palma begins to wonder whether the bodies on his hands are the victims of spirits intent on revenge.

The rituals of Papuan warriors and headhunters – whose traditional way of life endured until deep into the twentieth century – form the intriguing backdrop to *The Voice of the Spirits*, another subtle yet satisfying novel from one of France's most original and thought-provoking crime writers.



THE BEAST OF THE CAMARGUE

Xavier-Marie Bonnot

Translated from the French by Ian Monk

352 pages

Rights available: World English language

Commissaire Michel de Palma is confronted by a series of unexplained deaths, all bearing the grisly hallmarks of an ancient myth

For centuries the ceremonial order of the Knights of the Tarasque have met to bear the effigy of a mythical beast through the Provençal town of Tarascon. But one summer's night the ceremony is broken by a gruesome discovery: a mutilated body found at the feet of the effigy, apparently torn apart by enormous teeth and claws. Can the monster of legend be more than just myth?

The case draws an unwilling Michel de Palma, of the Marseille murder squad, into the dark heart of a Provence where mythology and untold history are part of everyday life. As more dismembered corpses continue to appear, de Palma falls into a world coloured by murky financial intrigues and the tortured history of post-occupation France. It's a world where de Palma's uninvited investigations could soon see him in mortal danger.

Xavier-Marie Bonnot has a PhD in History and Sociology, and two Masters degrees in History and French Literature. *The First Fingerprint* is the first of a quartet of De Palma novels and has won two literary awards in France.

Ian Monk is the award-winning translator of the Daniel Pennac "Belleville Quintet" and a member of *Oulipo*.



THE FIRST FINGERPRINT

Xavier-Marie Bonnot

Translated from the French by Ian Monk

384 pages

Rights available: World English language

A compelling blend of murder, myth and history: puzzling and knowledgeable with a brilliant twist in the tail

"Original twists within an exotic local habitation" *Times Literary Supplement*

In an underwater cavern off the coast west of Marseille are the first human engravings known to man. Among them is a crude drawing of a three-fingered hand, which has long puzzled archaeologists. Is it a hunting signal? A mystic sign invoking the spirits? Or is it, as many believe, evidence of ritual mutilation in a Shamanistic world?

"The Hunter" evidently believes the latter. Driven by inhuman voices to maim and kill, he severs the body parts of his victims – and signs his savagery with a print of a three-fingered hand. Commandant Michel de Palma, of the Marseille murder squad, heads to the university in Aix-en-Provence to investigate further, but the clique of pre-history professors he encounters are as hard to unravel as the meaning of the cave-drawing itself. As he gets closer to the truth, the group of academics close ranks. Slowly and alone, de Palma begins pursuing a mystery that dates back to the Ice age.

The First Fingerprint introduces a policeman as polished as he is brutal, as charming as he is deceptive. Michel de Palma, called "the Baron" by his colleagues, knows the dark underside of the city of Marseille as do none of his rivals. But his enemies are everywhere: in the crime-infested sinks of the suburbs; in the sleek and squalid bars of the old quarter; even in the police ranks themselves.

Xavier-Marie Bonnot has a PhD in History and Sociology, and two Masters degrees in History and French Literature. He is the author of *The First Fingerprint* and *The Beast of the Camargue*.

Ian Monk is the award-winning translator of the Daniel Pennac "Belleville Quintet" and a member of *Oulipo*.



THE RIVER OF SHADOWS
A Commissario Soneri Mystery
Valerio Varesi
Translated from the Italian by Joseph Farrell
272 pages
Rights available: World English Language

A tense noir set in the dark and foggy hinterland of the River Po, a tough area of Italy as yet undiscovered by an English audience

In a bleak valley in Northern Italy, the River Po is swollen to its limits. The thick fog that usually clings to the town, blurring its surroundings and plunging its inhabitants into near-blindness, has been driven out by the raging storm. So when an empty barge drifts downriver, the fact the owner is missing does not go unnoticed.

That same night Commissario Soneri is called in to investigate the murder of the boatman's brother. The brothers served together in the fascist militia fifty years earlier – could this be a revenge killing after so long?

Soneri's investigation meets with a wall of silence from those who make their living along the banks of river. As the fog descends and the valley is hidden once more, Soneri must navigate fifty-year-old loyalties and deep-rooted rivalries before he can find out the truth.



THE DARK VALLEY
A Commissario Soneri Mystery
Valerio Varesi
Translated from the Italian by Joseph Farrell
February 2012
272 pages
Rights available: World English Language

When Commissario Soneri takes a holiday to go mushroom-hunting, he finds more than he bargained for...

It is Autumn in Parma. Commissario Soneri decides to escape the greyness of the city to return to his home village in the Appenines for a much-needed holiday. He plans to spend the time hunting for mushrooms in the wooded slopes of Montelupo. The small and isolated village revolves around the fortunes of the Rodolfi family, salami manufacturers for generations. Its patriarch, the gifted businessman Palmiro, runs a tight ship. But behind the scenes, all is not well: his son, Paride, has other plans for his future. And then all of a sudden the family finds itself in the throes of a financial scandal, which has worrying implications for the entire community. Soon afterwards a hiker makes a grisly discovery in the woods: Paride's decomposing body.

After initial protestations, Commissario Soneri soon gives up all hope of a peaceful break. As he becomes more deeply involved in the investigation, the complicated relationship he uncovers between father and his son becomes all the more pertinent when he learns that his own father and Palmiro Ridolfi were friends....

Valerio Varesi has been the Parma correspondent for *La Stampa* and *La Repubblica*. *River of Shadows* is the first of a series of thrillers featuring Commissario Soneri, now the central figure of one of Italy's most popular television dramas. It was shortlisted for the Premio Strega.

Joseph Farrell has translated several major Italian authors, including Dario Fo.



SWEETNESS OF LIFE

Paulus Hochgatterer

Translated from the German by Jamie Bulloch

320 pages

Rights available: World English Language

The chill of a claustrophobic alpine town in winter extends to the hearts and minds of its inhabitants in this uncanny psychological thriller

“a fascinating but demanding read, a truly stimulating find” *Independent*

“... an extraordinary book, a disquieting psychological shocker set in a claustrophobic town” *Sunday Telegraph*

It is Christmas in the alpine town of Furth am See and a six-year-old girl is playing ludo with her grandfather. The doorbell rings, and the old man gets up. The next time the girl sees her grandfather, he is lying by the barn, his skull broken; his face a red pulp against the white snow. From that time on, she does not speak a single word.

Raffael Horn, the psychiatrist engaged to treat the silent child, reluctantly becomes involved in solving the murder along with Detective Superintendent Ludwig Kovacs. Their parallel researches sweep through the town: a young mother who believes her new-born child is the devil; a Benedictine monk who uses his iPod to drown the voices in his head; a high-spending teenager who tortures cats. The psychological profile of this claustrophobic, winter-held town is not reassuring – which, if any, of its inhabitants was the brutal night-time slayer of the suffering girl’s grandfather?



THE MATTRESS HOUSE

Paulus Hochgatterer

Translated from the German by Jamie Bulloch

January 2012

296 pages

Rights available: World English Language

Another skilful psychological thriller exposes the dark underbelly of provincial life in Austria

Springtime in Furth am See. The psychiatrist Raffael Horn is worrying about his marriage, Criminal Commissioner Kovacs is dreading a visit from his daughter, and we meet the same cast of unhinged townsfolk who peopled *The Sweetness of Life*. A man falls to his death from scaffolding, and murder is suspected. Then a beaten child is brought in to the police, soon followed by others showing similar signs of abuse. This leads to an outbreak of hysteria in Furth, and Horn and Kovacs are put under serious pressure to find the perpetrator. But more horrifying crimes lie behind these beatings. A local businessman heading a paedophile ring has been filming the abuse of young girls from India, and one of them has been showing the films to the town’s schoolchildren, beating them and threatening the same abuse if they speak about what they have seen. When the evidence is passed on to a teacher, Kovacs and Horn home in on the network.

Full of unease and tension, and tackling a sensitive and delicate issue, *The Mattress House* is another brilliantly accomplished psychological crime novel by a writer regarded by many as one of the most impressive writers of his generation.

Paulus Hochgatterer is a writer and child psychiatrist in Vienna. He has won sundry literary prizes and commendations, most recently the Elias Canetti Stipend of the city of Vienna. *The Sweetness of Life* is his first work to be translated.

Jamie Bulloch has worked as a languages teacher and history lecturer, and is now a translator and freelance writer. He lives in south London with his wife and three daughters.



PIECE OF CAKE
Derek Robinson
February 2012
650 pages
Rights available: World

"Nobody writes about the war quite like Derek Robinson. He has a way of carrying you along with the excitement of it all before suddenly disposing of a character with a casual, laconic ruthlessness that is shockingly realistic" *Independent*

With Hornets falling like flies, the Battle of Britain is no piece of cake. From the Phoney War of 1939 to the Battle of Britain in 1940, the pilots of Hornet Squadron learn their lessons the hard way. Hi-jinks are all very well on the ground, but once in a Hurricane's cockpit, the best killers keep their wits close. Newly promoted Commanding Officer Fanny Barton has a job on to whip the Hornets into shape before they face the Luftwaffe's seasoned pilots. And sometimes Fighter Command, with its obsolete tactics and stiff doctrines, is the real menace.



A GOOD CLEAN FIGHT
Derek Robinson
August 2012
576 pages
Rights available: World

Dust, heat, thirst, flies – in a desert war, who needs enemies? North Africa, 1942. Dust, heat, thirst, flies. Nothing here to harm but the sand, the enemy and yourself. A good clean fight, for those who like that sort of thing, and some do. From an advanced landing field, striking hard and escaping fast, our old friends from Fanny Barton's Hornet Squadron (*Piece of Cake*) play Russian roulette, flying their clapped-out Tomahawks on ground-strafting forays.



HULLO RUSSIA, GOODBYE ENGLAND
Derek Robinson
February 2012
650 pages
Rights available: World

The sleekest bird in the skies carries a lethal payload – a new Air Force adventure from the author of *Goshawk Squadron*, set during the darkest days of the Cold War. Flight Lieutenant Silk, a twice-decorated Lancaster pilot in WW II, rejoins the R.A.F. and qualifies to fly the Vulcan bomber. Piloting a Vulcan is an unforgettable experience: no other aircraft comes close, but there's a catch. The Vulcan has only one role: to make a *second* strike. To act in retaliation for a Russian nuclear attack. Silk knows that knows that if he ever flies his Vulcan in anger, he'll be flying from a smoking wasteland, a Britain obliterated. But in the mad world of Mutually Assured Destruction, the Vulcan is the last – the only – deterrent.



DAMNED GOOD SHOW
Derek Robinson
August 2012
320 pages
Rights available: World

Bomber crews brave German flak and fighter planes as the fight back begins. They joined an R.A.F known as "the best flying club in the world", but when war pitches the young pilots of 409 Squadron into battle over Germany, their training, tactics and equipment are soon found wanting. Chances of completing a 30-operation tour? One in three. At best.

Robinson's crooked salute to the dogged heroes of the R.A.F.'s early bombing campaign is a wickedly humorous portrait of doing your duty in flying death-traps, aware, in those dark days of war, there was nothing else to do but dig in and hang on.

Derek Robinson, the son of a policeman, read history at Cambridge before working in advertising in London and New York. His novel *Goshawk Squadron* was shortlisted for the Booker Prize in 1973.



LAURENCE OLIVIER

Philip Ziegler

2013

tbc pages

Rights available: World English Language

The definitive life of Britain's most illustrious actor – by one of our most distinguished biographers

Even in an age of theatrical titans such as John Gielgud and Ralph Richardson, Laurence Olivier stood apart for his incredible versatility and the reckless abandon with which he threw himself into every role. Olivier excelled as an actor, director and theatrical political or statesman. He was instrumental in the creation of the National Theatre and played a pre-eminent role in the revival of the Old Vic, leaving a mark on the theatrical landscape that nobody since has surpassed or even equalled.

By the 1940s Olivier had made the transition to Hollywood stardom. His breakthrough came with the 1939 film *Wuthering Heights*, and his affair with Vivian Leigh, who won an Academy Award for the role of Scarlet O'Hara in *Gone with the Wind*, led to a marriage as glamorous as that between Richard Burton and Elizabeth Taylor. When shown on U.S. television in 1955, *Richard III* drew audiences of between 25 and 40 million, outnumbering the sum of the play's theatrical audiences since its first production 358 years previously. In 1999, the American Film Institute named Olivier among the Greatest Male Stars of All Time, at number 14 on the list.

This vital biography breaks new ground in its approach, placing his life firmly within the context of his times. Only when Olivier's activities are seen against a background of events within the world of theatre at the time can the immensity of his achievements be fully appreciated. Ziegler has obtained the full support of Olivier's family and the cooperation of his surviving friends and colleagues for this work.

Philip Ziegler counts amongst his subjects two kings and four prime ministers. He has written for various newspapers and journals and was editor-in-chief at Collins from 1979 to 1980. His most recent book was an acclaimed life of Edward Heath.



1990

Edited by Irina Prokhorova

Translated from the Russian and further edited by Arch Tait

April 2013

612 pages

Rights available: World English Language

This fascinating collection of documentary evidence crystalizes the aspirations of the Russian people in the days before Communism finally fell. Although 1989 and 1991 witnessed more spectacular events, 1990 was a year of embryonic change: Article 6 of the constitution was abolished, and with it the Party's monopoly on political power.

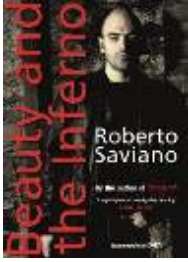
This monument of cultural anthropology charts - among many other social developments - the appearance of new political parties and independent trade unions, the rapid evolution of mass media, the emergence of a new class of entrepreneurs, a new openness about sex and pornography and a sudden craze for hot-air ballooning, banned under Communist regime.

The authors of the documents included range from a Gorbachev aide to an anti-Communist writer, a right-wing patriot and an avant-garde artist and poet who returned in 1990 to the USSR for the first time since emigrating to Israel in 1971.

As the sense grows that the Putin regime is running out of time, *1990* is reminder of the confusion and aspirations of the year before Communism finally collapsed in Russia, and a tantalising glimpse of the paths that may have been taken if Yeltsin's coup had not forced the issue in 1991.

Irina Prokhorova, literary critic and cultural historian (PhD), is the head of the New Literary Observer magazine and publishing house. In 2005, she became Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres (France), and a laureate of the Andrey Belyi prize for literature (2006).

Arch Tait has translated 17 books, 35 short stories and 30 articles by most of the leading Russian writers of today.



BEAUTY AND THE INFERNO

Roberto Saviano

Translated from the Italian by Oonagh Stransky

288 pages

Rights available: World English Language

Twenty-five powerful and incisive essays by the formidably courageous investigative journalist Roberto Saviano, author of *Gomorrah*

Roberto Saviano is best known for his work on the Italian mafia, investigative journalism at its best, but *Beauty and the Inferno* also tackles universal themes with great insight and humanity, with urgency, and often with anger. Includes essays on:

The legacy of the earthquake at L'Aquila, a town at risk of becoming overrun by mafia who control the construction industry; how boxing has become an escape route for many who would otherwise be seduced by the mafia; the life of the legendary South African jazz singer, Miriam Makeba; an encounter with Salman Rushdie; a tribute to Frank Miller, author of the graphic novel *300*; in praise of Gustav Herling, author of *A World Apart*. Another essay reflects on the aftermath of the publication of his book and subsequent film, *Gomorrah*, and how his life has been conditioned by the mafia's death threats, and the final essay in the collection celebrates the life of the Russian journalist Anna Politkovskaya.

Roberto Saviano is an Italian journalist who writes for *La Repubblica* as well as many newspapers around the world. As a consequence of the success of *Gomorrah*, Saviano received a number of serious death threats that obliged the Italian authorities to provide him with 24-hour protection. He has been living in hiding since 2006.

Oonagh Stransky is the translator of Carlo Lucarelli, Giuseppe Pontiggia and Roberto Pazzi. Her translations have twice been nominated for the Dublin Impac Award



C O U R L A N D

Jean-Paul Kauffmann

Translated from the French by Euan Cameron

May 2012

288 pages

Rights available: World English Language

A remarkable combination of memoir, history and travel

Courland is an entity that no longer exists. With the Gulf of Riga to the north, the Baltic to the west and Lithuania at its southern border, and now part of modern Latvia, the region was by occupied by Nazi Germany and returned to Soviet Russia after the war, remaining largely inaccessible until 1991. Once ruled by descendants of the Teutonic Knights, it is now a nowhere land of wide skies and forests, deserted beaches, ruined castles and stately homes, empty towns and ex-KGB prisons. For many years Jean-Paul Kauffmann has been irresistibly drawn to this place, the buffer between the Germanic and Slav worlds. His digressive travels at the wheel of a Skoda become an investigation into the whereabouts of a former lover, a search for an excavator of tombs, and he follows in the footsteps of the French monarch, Louis XVIII, for whom Courland was once a place of exile.

Author of *Voyage to Desolation Island* and *The Dark Room at Longwood* – “a remarkable book which defies classification” (*New Statesman*), which won six prizes on its publication in France – Kauffmann has come to be known as an erudite and witty observer of the world's most desolate reaches.

Jean-Paul Kauffmann was a journalist until 1985, when he was kidnapped in Beirut and only released three years later, in 1988. Since then he has been editor of both *Amateur de bordeaux* and *Amateur de cigare* magazines.

Euan Cameron's translations include works by Julien Green, Simone de Beauvoir and Paul Morand, biographies of Marcel Proust and Irène Némirovsky, and most recently *Monsieur Linb and His Child*, by Philippe Claudel.



SCHOOL BLUES

Daniel Pennac

Translated from the French by Sarah Ardizzone

320 pages

Rights available: World English Language

A brilliant, incisive essay on education – an exploration into the problems of schooling, and the touching memoir of a troubled student

Novelist and teacher Daniel Pennac has never forgotten what it was to be the worst student in his class. Neither has he forgotten the day his professor asked him to write a novel instead of an essay – when he realized that no-one is condemned to being a bad student for ever.

By engaging with both his past as a student and his present as a teacher, Pennac explores all facets of the education system: how fear convinces children to reject school; how pupils can be captivated by invention; how consumerist values have changed our attitudes to education. Haunted by his own turbulent and unsuccessful schooling, Pennac takes his rhythm from different dialogues throughout his life – between him and his professors, his parents, and, as a teacher, his own students. This is more than an analysis of a failing system; it is a work of literature in its own right, showing the difficulties children face at school with poetic humour, subtlety and sensitivity.

Daniel Pennac was born in 1944 in Morocco. He went on to teach literature in secondary school, before becoming a celebrated writer. His novels about the Malaussene Family have enjoyed popular success and critical acclaim in France.

Sarah Ardizzone is Literary Events Director of International PEN and a freelance translator.