



ACANTILADO
QUADERNS CREMA

RIGHTS CATALOGUE
2026



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FOREIGN
RIGHTS

NEW ARRIVALS



Antonio Monegal

The Father's Shadow

272 pages

2026

NON-FICTION

ESSAY

English sample available

Rights sold:

Audio Rights

AUDIBLE

The origin of this fascinating book is in the discovery of a dark wooden box, a three-dimensional collage consisting of fragments of the sometimes unsettling life of a man who was both intrepid and seductive but also contradictory, the father who had died when the author was a small child. The resulting story, the string of bits and pieces that comprise it, is nothing more than yet another assemblage that is supposed to bridge the chasm between a son and the always elusive shadow of his progenitor. In this valuable exercise between memory and imagination, and taking on the tricky role of custodian of family memory, which sometimes makes him an archaeologist and others a notary or a detective, Antonio Monegal, follows the trail of this evasive figure who is so fundamental for his emotional development and through whom he evokes a long-gone time.

This is an extraordinary story, somewhere between historical chronical and intimate exploration, which attests to the importance of the small stories from which grand History is made.



ANTONIO MONEGAL (Barcelona, 1957) is Professor of Literature and Comparative Literature at the Pompeu Fabra University, Barcelona. With a degree in Philosophy from the University of Barcelona, he obtained a PhD from Harvard University in 1989 and taught at Cornell University until he returned to Spain. In 2023 he was awarded the Spanish National Essay Prize for *Como el aire que respiramos* (Like the Air We Breathe, Acantilado, 2022).



María Negroni

Elegy for Joseph Cornell

112 pages

2026

FICTION

POETRY

English sample available

Rights sold:

Audio Rights

AUDIBLE

This text is a record of a discovery made by María Negroni: the cinema of Joseph Cornell, an assemblage artist influenced by surrealism who also worked with film collage, and whose ability to catalogue the unusual and unexpected fascinated Negroni. Somewhere between calligraphic poetry and book art, this small gem of a work reads like the intimate diary of an observer following in the wake of an image. And the image is “that of a naked girl covered by her hair and riding by on a white steed as if she were a tiny—and disturbing—version of Lady Godiva”.



María Negroni is an Argentine writer and translator. She has received a Guggenheim Fellowship for Poetry, the Siglo XXI International Essay Prize, the PEN Award for Poetry in Translation (PEN America, New York), and the Margarita Hierro International Poetry Prize. Her work has been translated into English, French, Italian, Swedish, and Portuguese. Alcantilado has published her essay *La idea natural* (The Natural Idea, 2024).



Silvia Bardelás

A New Consciousness

The Urgent Question of Who We Are

256 pages

2026

NON-FICTION

ESSAY

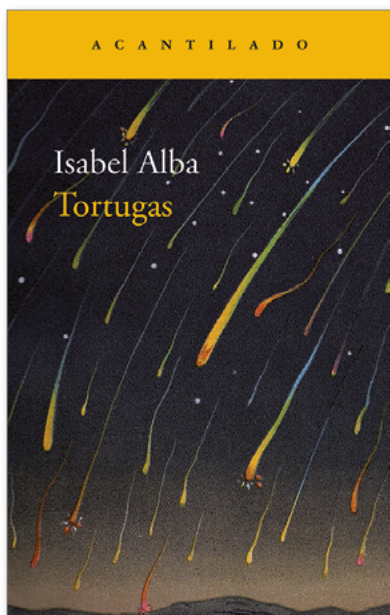
English sample available

Silvia Bardelás argues that the great problem for modern human beings is not unhappiness but the dissatisfaction foisted upon us by the thoroughly technological and individualistic twenty-first-century society. In this magnificent essay, fruit of intimacy and experience, and from a new philosophical perspective, Bardelás sets out in pursuit of knowledge that is not only metaphysical or ethical but also political, thus making it possible to break with the individual-society dichotomy. This new awareness entails a change in the notion of identity, a way of perceiving ourselves and the world which, thanks to art and literature, allows us to transcend today's isolated individualism and come into contact with the inner lives of others. As Bernat Castany points out in his Foreword, this bold, essential work “endows philosophy with the best of literature or, in other words, the ability to embody ideas in tangible people and situations, which then opens the doors to their inner worlds.”



SILVIA BARDELÁS (Vigo, 1967), PhD, is a writer, translator, publisher at De Conatus, and author of three novels, *Las Médulas* (2010), *Unha troita de pé* (2011), and *Destiempo* (2021). She also heads the literary blog *El lector perdido* and is a lecturer in Literary Creation at UNED Abierta (National Open University of Distance Education).

FICTION



Isabel Alba

Tortugas

168 pages

2024

FICTION

NOVEL

English sample available

Rights sold:

La ventana

French

LA CONTRE ALLÉE ÉDITIONS

The voice notes of Sofia, a high school student, and her exchanges with Luna on Instagram take the reader into the life of this adolescent whose affective mainstays are her biologist grandmother Estrella, and her mother Blanca, an emergency physician. Sofia reveals her thoughts and concerns in a world beset by negativity, hate speech, and also the distress of everyday life under the dark shadow of school bullying. Her exchanges also disclose the secret shared by Blanca and Estrella. Discovering this will distance Sofia from her mother when she most needs her. With her skilful, vivid re-creation of young people's lives, Isabel Alba has created a novel that is richly structured in voices and emotions.



With a degree in Philosophy from the Complutense University in Madrid, ISABEL ALBA is a photographer, screenwriter, and novelist who now resides in Donostia. She has published two essays on film narrative and four novels, *Baby spot* (2003), *La verdadera historia de Matías Bran*, *El recinto Weiser* (a finalist for the Basque Prize for Literature), *65 % agua* (2014), and *La danza del sol* (Acan-tilado, 2018).

"Isabel Alba only had to stretch reality a little further to create this story. *Tortugas* can be read as a message of encouragement to generations for whom everything seems like a denial of the future."

Elena Sierra, *El Correo*

"Although *Tortugas* is, essentially, a story about grief—with nature, with society, with loved ones—it is also a song of reconciliation with life. For Isabel Alba, writing is a necessity deeply tied to the present. All her works share a critical and social background, and *Tortugas* is no exception."

Angelica Francesca Rimini, *El Cultural*



Isabel Alba

The Window

128 pages

2022

FICTION

NOVEL

Rights sold:

French

LA CONTRE ALLÉE ÉDITIONS

English sample available

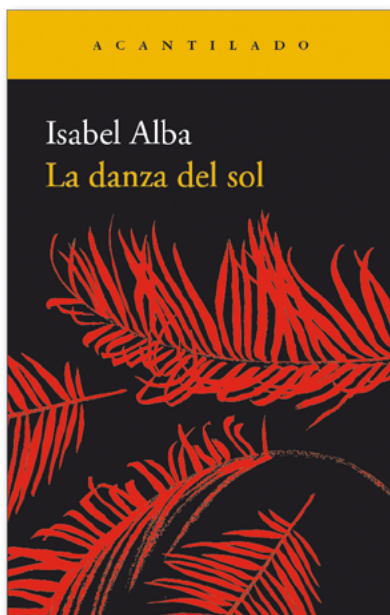
The main character of this story, an unemployed illustrator in her thirties, looks out onto the world from the window of the tiny council flat in which she lives. Trying to ease the loneliness and anxiety that have assailed her since the outbreak of a deadly pandemic, she pours out into a notebook a kind of collage of her intimate thoughts as she warily contemplates how, after months of confinement, the streets are once again pulsing with a zest she doesn't share. Her pain is still very present. With the bewitching magnetism of a dream this poetic voice re-creates two quivering worlds separated by the window.

"With Isabel Alba writing isn't content with just being. It moves, slips along with the events it recounts, and leaves in our eyes and memory an unsuspected happiness, irremediable bitterness, and doom from which there is no way back".

Ernesto Ayala-Dip, *Babelia*

"This is a writer who speaks with formal exigency about serious matters. Alba has the artistic insight that can turn them into the stark material on which to build a metaphor".

Santos Sanz Villanueva, *Revista Mercurio*



Isabel Alba *Sun Dance*

216 pages

2018

FICTION

NOVEL

Rights sold:

La ventana

French

LA CONTRE ALLÉE ÉDITIONS

What with the economic crisis, loneliness, and lack of communication life is getting harder and harder so the Moscardó family decides to get away from their daily grind and spend a weekend at the coast. In the Solymar Hotel they will be drawn into the vicissitudes and conflicts of the other guests and employees, and the inexorable, merciless tragedy looming over their lives. In this extraordinary poetic, powerful, choral novel, Isabel Alba offers a multifaceted view of a fragmented world in which the collision of many different viewpoints seems preordained.

"*La danza del sol* is a novel that is tragic in its unabashed kindness, immense in its familiarity, intelligent in its treatment of mediocrity, and powerful in its philosophical approach".

Fulgencio Argüelles, *El Comercio-Cultura*

"Isabel Alba's way of telling her family story is utterly original. She has not only written a magnificent novel. She has written a literary miracle". J. Ernesto Ayala-Dip, *El País-Babelia*



Rafael Argullol

The Quattrocento

Art and Culture of the Italian Renaissance

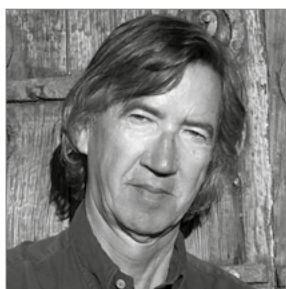
192 pages

2025

NON-FICTION

ESSAY

In this illuminating essay, Rafael Argullol transports the reader to Tuscany, the artistic heart of fifteenth-century Italy, at a crucial point in history. The political, economic, social, and cultural circumstances of the period known as the Quattrocento laid the foundations for one of the most extraordinary cultural phenomena of western civilisation: the Renaissance. Argullol engagingly and rigorously analyses the artistic, architectural, and cultural tensions of the period, and also the cultural tensions that appeared in late medieval society with the irruption of humanism. His is an integral and thought-provoking approach to the slow but unstoppable advent of modern man.



RAFAEL ARGULLOL (Barcelona, 1949), Professor of Aesthetics and Theory of Art at the University of Barcelona, is a writer, poet and essayist. He has written more than twenty-five books in diverse literary genres, including novels, essays and poetry.

"Argullol pursues aesthetic quandaries in shipwrecked times."

José Ribas, *El Mundo*



Rafael Argullol

Human Dance

1040 pages

2023

FICTION

With *Danza humana*, Rafael Argullol continues the ambitious vital and literary project he set out on with his *Visión desde el fondo del mar* (View from the Bottom of the Sea). His various intimate experiences are woven together with notable moments in the history of humanity to give shape to a captivating story in which religion, science, philosophy, and art offer crucial keys for trying to decipher—if not embrace—the enigma of consciousness. In these pages, Argullol sets out on a transformative journey that leads him to ponder nature, art, cities, women's bodies, desire, words, and even the chance-governed universe as he seeks fragments of eternity in the fathomless depths of existence.

"Argullol creates and re-creates a world where beauty, the sacralisation of the pagan and the religiosity of the agnostic triumph, and the reader is completely engrossed."

Juan Antonio Masoliver Ródenas, *La Vanguardia*

"*Danza humana* is an extensive volume consisting of ten books exploring different problems. The reader is witness to 333 scenes which are interwoven in a complex spinning mechanism."

Albert Lladó, *Cultura|s La Vanguardia*

"Here we have an individual whose observations of the external world go back to his own life pulse, speaking of the world as he travels around it and tells the story."

Toni Montesinos, *La Razón*

"Argullol offers a stimulating constellation of essential prose pieces."

J. F. Yvars, *La Vanguardia*



Rafael Argullol
The Enigma of Lea
An Opera

112 pages

2019

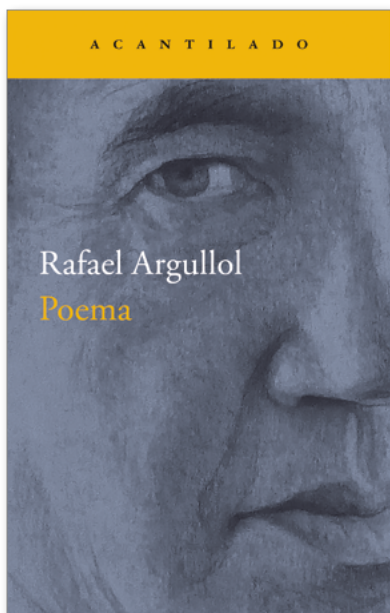
FICTION

In some intermediate space and ancestral time, Lea is God's own possession, a creature for divine pleasure who cannot reveal her secret. Bearer of immortality, she is closely watched by two monstrous beings which, implacably judging her, ensure that she cannot free herself of her divine bondage. *The Enigma of Lea* describes her lonely wanderings through space and time until she meets a castaway from existence, the somnambulist Ram, whose company will change her destiny. This fascinating text, which has inspired an opera of the same name by Benet Casablanca, speaks of the union of reason and the senses or, in other words, Rafael Argullol's own aesthetic and vital credo.

"*El enigma de Lea* is a symbolist text, representing the quest for beauty as absolute".

Marta Cervera, *El Periódico de Catalunya*

"An opera about morality and mortality, freedom and control, reason and emotion, and the search for utopia. There is much to enjoy in the lyricism, the emotion, the passion, and the allusive humour of *El enigma de Lea*". Malcolm Miller, *Musical Opinion*



Rafael Argullol

Poema

1136 pages

2017

FICTION

POETRY

It seems that, driven by some hidden need, Rafael Argullol has, with this book, set himself an exercise that is at once vital and literary: to write a fragment every day for three years. The work has been constructed day after day, capturing instants as reflections of life, Life with a capital L. The calls of beauty, evocation, fear, searching and love construct this extraordinary, intensely beautiful, profoundly human text which invites the reader to travel, with the author, in the mystery we all are. Thus *Poema* was born, a book full of books which sets a horizon for the reader and is an intimate companion.

"[...] written with insight and an intellectual curiosity that is quite rare among men of letters [...] A journey through unusual yet familiar territories that are both within and outside ourselves".

Hoy Extremadura



Rafael Argullol

The Reason for Evil

224 pages

2015

FICTION

NOVEL

Rights sold:

Serbian

GEOPOETIKA

Italian

LINDAU

English translation available

A strange phenomenon occurs in a prosperous cosmopolitan western city. Apparently just an annoying setback at first, it very quickly turns into a much more insidious threat, capable of overturning the citizens' most intimate convictions. With this chronicle of a phenomenon which affects every strata of society, Argullol re-creates the process of its disintegration, from denunciation, fear and suspicion through to pillage, magic and superstition. In the midst of chaos, an amorous relationship is serenely constructed, immersed in the time required to restore a mythological painting in which the artist dares to invite the viewer to dream of another destiny for Orpheus and Eurydice. Argullol reminds the reader of the all-important value of lucidity and memory. Looking back, as Orpheus did, after he had rescued his beloved from Hades, does not necessarily lead to condemnation.

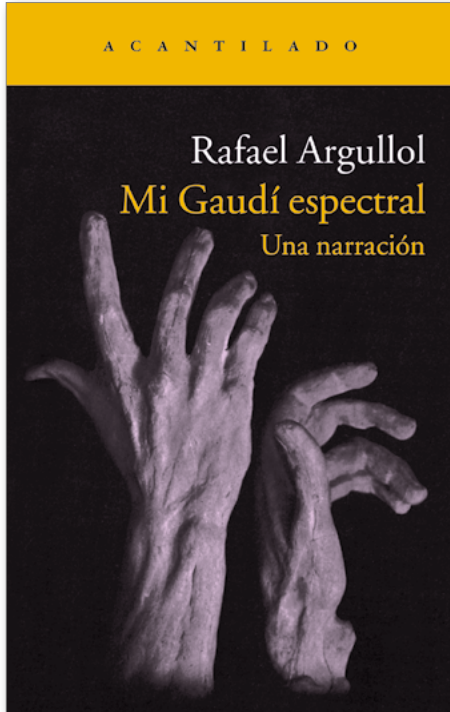
**Winner of the
Nadal Prize,
1993**

"The novel reflects on the dangers of irrationality and, more broadly, on memory and oblivion". *El País*

"This is both an inquiry into evil and a reflection on irrationality". *La Vanguardia*

"This book has an allegorical feel". *El Mundo*

Other titles by the author



My Spectral Gaudí

80 pages

2015

LITERARY ESSAY



Vision from the Bottom of the Sea

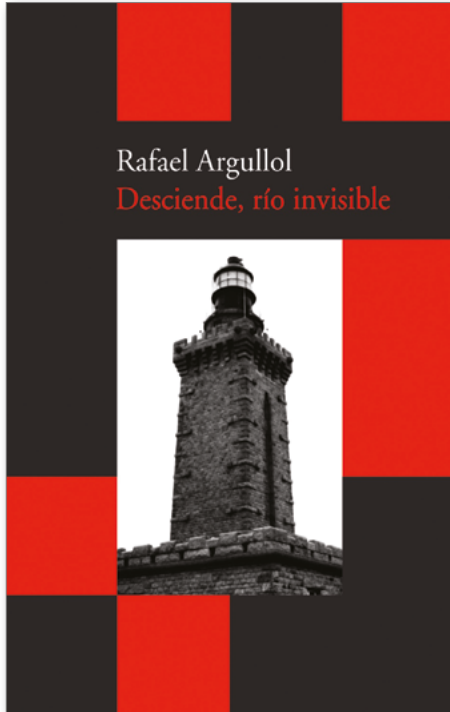
1216 pages

2010

LITERARY ESSAY

**City of Barcelona Prize,
2010**

**Cálamo Prize,
2010**



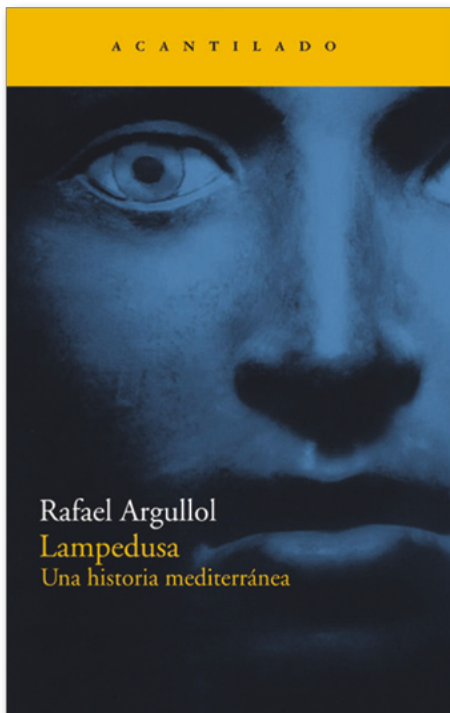
Flow Down, Invisible River

128 pages

2009

FICTION

NOVEL



**Lampedusa:
A Mediterranean Story**

144 pages

2008

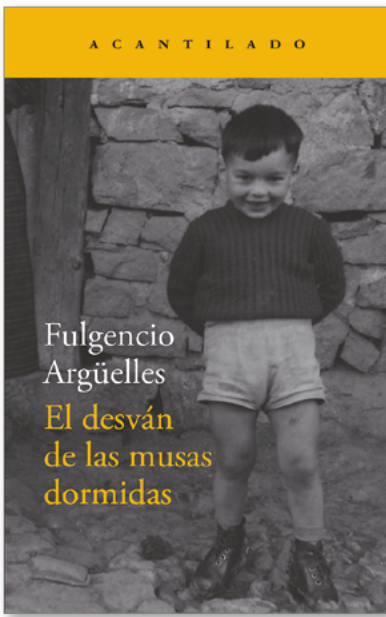
FICTION

NOVEL

Rights sold:

Serbian
GEOPOETIKA

Italian
LANTANA



Fulgencio Argüelles

The Attic of Sleeping Muses

344 pages

2025

FICTION

NOVEL

English sample available

The main characters in this evocative story, memory and imagination, keep weaving moments recalled from past times to create a profoundly intimate reality from the remnants that lie waiting in a tucked-away attic. The need to understand who we are by turning to those who came before us is the theme running through this absorbing novel which, somewhere between memoirs and an elegy, is offered like a song. Once again, the literature of Fulgencio Argüelles defies the silence and oblivion that threaten to turn the world into a desert.



FULGENCIO ARGÜELLES (Asturias, 1955). After a long period in Madrid, where he studied Psychology, he returned to Asturias and settled in the village of Cenera, where he spent his childhood. He has written half a dozen of books and won numerous awards.

"The stylistic talent of Argüelles is truly remarkable. His elegant prose envelops the reader with its fine-tuned pace."

J.M. Pozuelo Yancos, ABC



Fulgencio Argüelles

Broken Moon Nights

224 pages

2022

FICTION

NOVEL

Rights sold:

Audio Rights

AUDIBLE

English sample available

The inhabitants of Peñafonte, a small mining town, try to subsist in the particular balance established after the tragic events of recent years: the workers' revolution of 1934, the Civil War, the repression of the dictatorship and the personal vicissitudes of this singular cast of characters. The wedding of the young Jovita and Arbicio seems to restore hope to the town for a moment, offering the opportunity to leave behind the disastrous destiny that corresponds to its inhabitants by inheritance and revive a community isolated from the world and surrounded by ghosts. Fulgencio Argüelles traces in this novel a truthful and deeply moving portrait of the deep wounds that plagued our past, and elevates Peñafonte, an unmistakable microcosm of Francoist Spain, to the category of a mythical place like Rulfo, García Márquez or Cela.

"Fulgencio Argüelles' prose brims with rich sensorial evocations."

M. Pozuelo Yvancos, *ABC*

"A moving story of part of our recent history. This is a magnificent novel with echoes of magic realism."

Sagrario Fernández-Prieto, *La Razón*



Fulgencio Argüelles

The Autumn of Willows House

280 pages

2018

FICTION

NOVEL

When Zígor, a mature man and successful entrepreneur who has married an aristocrat, learns that he is terminally ill he decides to bring together in his home the seven members of the terrorist commando unit with whom he once fought to overthrow the military regime which was in power before the establishment of the Republic. The Willows House group broke up after a failed attack and, since the end of the struggle twenty years earlier, none of them have had any news of the others. However, the years have not passed in vain for these eight people whose lives have been shaped by their old struggle. Now that they are reunited, remorse, feelings of guilt and resentment come to the surface with the devastating power of a torrent of water which has been dammed up for many years, sweeping them along and bringing them to a necessary catharsis. Fulgencio Argüelles' new, moving and suspense-laden novel is a deep meditation on the contradictions of the human condition, presented in his usual meticulous and highly individual style.

"A story on the edge of the coral, where love, fatherhood or the lack of it, and the search for compassion, draw a possible way out, if not the only one, for his moral salvation".

J. Ernesto Ayala-Dip, *El País*

"*The autumn of the house of the willows* is probably just the book it aspires to be, and in this sense it could be considered successful: an allegorical novel, latent, traversed by the great themes of guilt and memory, death and love".

Nadal Suau, *El Mundo*



Fulgencio Argüelles
*I Can't Find My Face
in the Mirror*

320 pages

2014

FICTION

NOVEL

A storm is unleashed the day the aged priest Father Lubencio dies and María Casta and her teenage son Edipio try to escape the havoc it wreaks. Events like the arrival of the new priest, the appearance of the first wardrobe with a full-length mirror, or the announcement of the outbreak of the Civil War shape the life of the small mining village of Peñaforte, which is cut off from the world and slowly asphyxiating in the damp of never-ending rain. This is an extraordinary novel with fascinating glimpses of friendship, despair, tedium and mirrors that lie.

"Argüelles is a remarkably talented stylist. His prose is highly polished and the pace is gripping". *El País*

"You want it to be never-ending". *ABC*



Fulgencio Argüelles

The Blue Palace of the Belgian Engineers

320 pages

2003

FICTION

NOVEL

One day in September 1927, Nalo began to work at the blue palace of the Belgian engineers as an apprentice gardener. Spring and revolutions reached the palace before they arrived anywhere else, initiating the young man into friendship and love, understanding and analysis. Through the tender gaze of his insightful narrator, Fulgencio Argüelles presents the personal and historic upheavals of the people who lived and worked in the blue palace, while also shaping a private world that moves beyond the personal and into the universal sphere.

**Winner of the 2003 Café Gijón Prize
for the Best Novel in Asturian Literature
for the past forty years**

"A novel that will disappoint very few readers". *El Periódico*

"A splendid, intense novel". *El País*



English sample available

Julián Ayesta

Helena or the Summer Sea

88 pages

1952, 2002

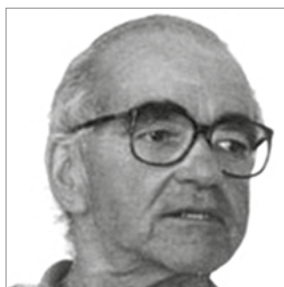
FICTION

NOVEL

Rights sold:

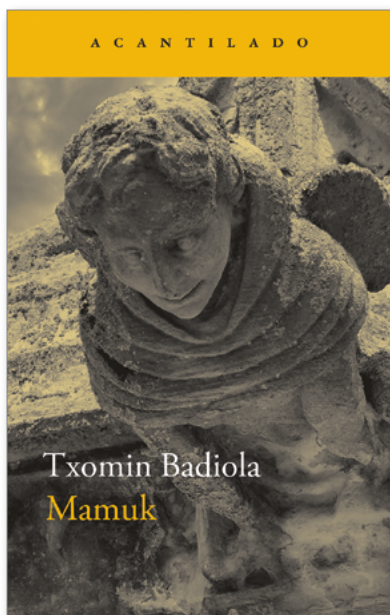
Dutch PODIUM	French LE LIVRE DE POCHE	Greek EKDOSEIS	Portuguese DON QUIXOTE
English Worldwide DEDALUS BOOKS	German C.H. BECK	Italian PASSIGLI EDITORI	

Helena o el mar del verano by Julián Ayesta is a delicate, poetic coming-of-age story set in northern Spain. Through the eyes of an adolescent boy, it captures one summer's fleeting beauty, where he meets and falls in love with his cousin Helena. The novella explores themes of first love, nostalgia, and the bittersweet passage of time, framed by the tranquility of sea-side landscapes and family gatherings. Ayesta's prose is lyrical and evocative, reflecting the innocence and tenderness of youth and the inexorable transition to adulthood. The novella stands as a reflection on lost innocence and cherished memories.



JULIÁN AYESTA (Gijón, 1919-1996) had degrees in Law, Philosophy and Literature and was a career diplomat. Author of several plays, he only wrote one novel, *Helena o el mar del verano* (Helena or the Summer Sea).

- "This is an excellent, enduringly fresh novel, and the prose is masterly". *El País*
- "One of the most beautiful books in post-war Spanish literature". *La Vanguardia*
- "The reader is moved from page one onwards". *Diario de Sevilla*
- "This novel is as little known as it is delicious". *ABC*



Txomin Badiola

Mamuk

464 pages

2025

FICTION

NOVEL

[English sample available](#)

At the end of the fifteenth century and after the sudden death of the previous master builder, Béranger de Bourgogne was commissioned to build a church in a prosperous town on the Biscay coast. His ambitious plan included prolific, mysterious decorations with reliefs and monstrous figures symbolising the struggle between good and evil. The local people soon came to call them ghosts (*mamuk*). Txomin Badiola masterfully intertwines the old story of this monumental project with the present in a magical and revelatory exchange with the church of St. Mary of Ondarroa as a longstanding witness to the evolution of humankind. In this extraordinary choral novel, populated with an array of diverse characters, he explores ancient and recent social conflicts, and the roles of art and religion, in a story told in a variety of voices, styles, and genre as he brilliantly re-creates the cacophony of the world.



TXOMIN BADIOLA (Bilbao, 1957), a visual artist with an extensive and award-winning career, has exhibited in numerous national and international galleries and institutions, a task he has combined with teaching and curating. He is also the author of an extensive essay collection that runs parallel to his visual work, and he regularly contributes to the written press. In the field of fiction, he has published the novels *Malformismo* (2020) and *El curador* (2025).

"Txomin Badiola's work should be understood as expressing a conflict of discourses, signs, and references. He sets about constructing and deconstructing because, for the artist, 'the work of art has been a reflection of complexity'."

Rosa Santiago, *El Mundo*



Gemma Casamajó i Solé

Like the Hidden Cactus Flower

128 pages

2025

FICTION

POETRY

“The first mother is a field of wheat”, sings Gemma Casamajó in this extraordinary book in which she delves deep into the generalised experience of maternity. Intuitively, clairvoyantly and, like Jane Lazarre, she traces her ancestral trail, as wonderful as it is contradictory, to offer a complex, exuberant and yet intimate portrayal of the “flour milled with truth and enigma” of this incontrovertible female endowment which, if not always fulsome is certainly renewing as it goes back to the very origins of life. *Mares* (mothers), *amares* (imbuers), water mothers, *mar* (sea) mothers, machine mothers, all of them give and grieve in these earthy, incandescent verses that fluctuate between “the mythicised yes of being mother” and “the countercurrent no that I also feel”.



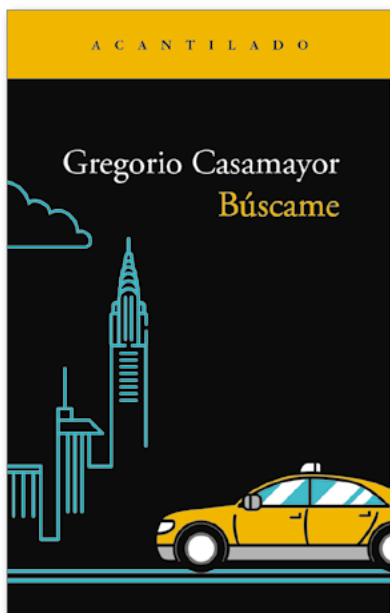
GEMMA CASAMAJÓ I SOLÉ has published the poetry collections *Bloc de notes* (Notepad, winner of the 1999 Les Talúries Prize), *Terra campà* (Cropland, winner of the 2013 Jordi Pàmias Prize), *Domèstica maragda* (Domestic Emerald, Quaderns Crema, 2022), and *Com l'oculta flor d'un cactus* (Like the Hidden Cactus Flower, Quaderns Crema, 2025). Her poems have also been published in the anthologies *Flamarades sortiran* (Flare-ups Will Come, and *Poetes de Ponent (de la Renaixença als nostres dies)* (Poets from Western Catalonia: From the Renaissance to Today).

"A book of poems exploring the lights and shadows of motherhood. Casamajó gives a complex, intimate, and not always fulsome account of what it means to be a mother but she also finds inspiration in experiences other than her own and, specifically, those of some twenty women of different generations whom she interviewed."

Lluís Lloret, *El Punt Avui*

"For years I have admired Gemma Casamajó's ability to express the power of this long-accepted, well-worked emotion, and the power of knowing she is heir and perhaps the only witness to a world that is being left behind, that is fading away."

Francesc Parcerisas



Gregorio Casamayor

Look for Me

384 pages

2023

FICTION

NOVEL

English sample available

One rainy morning, photographer Paul Knobel finds a personal diary in a Brooklyn cab stand. As he examines it, the notebook opens by chance at the entry for 5 July, where he reads an enigmatic sentence that takes him back to the last summer he spent with his mother. Perhaps because of this coincidence, Paul decides to return the diary to its rightful owner, even though this means dealing with his own ghosts. In *Búscame*, Gregorio Casamayor constructs a choral tale in which Paul Knobel and his assistant, Rufus, take readers on their puzzling quest and introduce them to the singular cast of characters they meet along the way. This detective-style novel turns out to be an insightful story about identity, affective ties, and the second chances that fate offers us.



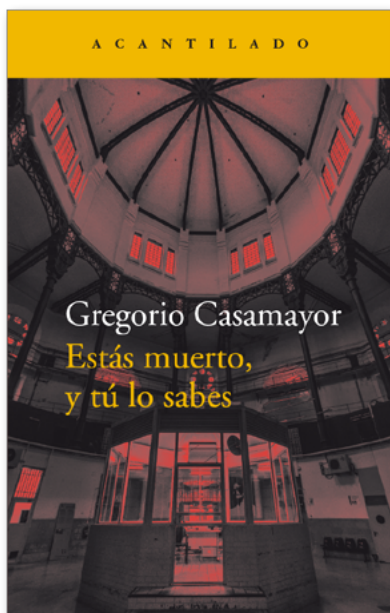
GREGORIO CASAMAYOR (Cañadajuncosa, Cuenca, 1955) was awarded the 2010 Memorial Silverio Cañada Prize for the Best Crime Novel for his first novel *God's Soup*. Meticulously paced, his novels shun all artificiality with prose that is always at the service of what needs to be explained.

"Although Casamayor's novels are often about intrigues and criminals, they're not what might be expected of a crime novel. Fortunately, his books transcend the limits of genre, so they offer a bit of the thriller, true, but also of the psychological novel, of the social novel, and even of the urban novel."

Ignasi Moya, *La Vanguardia*

"Gregorio Casamayor is an author who never disappoints. He should be more widely read."

Darío Luque



Gregorio Casamayor

Estás muerto, y tú lo sabes

208 pages

2021

FICTION

NOVEL

English sample available

In the early morning of All Souls' Day of a year that doesn't matter, after almost two years of being locked in a cell in Barcelona's La Modelo Prison, Pacho Heredia is awake and uneasy about the provisional release that is finally within his reach. He has had plenty of time to weigh up his priorities and make detailed plans. And he only has twenty-four and, at most, forty-eight hours to carry them out. There's no time to lose. He can't make a single error, but will he be able to escape what, at this point in his life, looks very much like inexorable destiny.

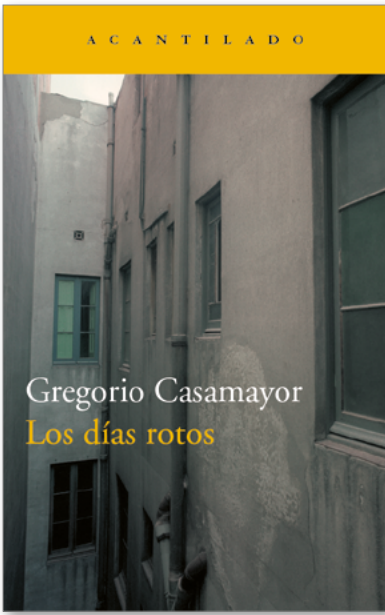
Gregorio Casamayor tells a story that is at once classical, like the tragedies of old, and original, thanks to a peculiar narrator who, although moved by the fate of his hero, does not have the power to change the course of events.

"A gem of a crime novel in which everything is well dosed and carefully calculated. An unforgettable book".

Sagrario Fernández-Prieto, *La Razón*

"Gregorio Casamayor is a writer who never lets you down. He should be read more".

Darío Luque, *Anika entre libros*



Gregorio Casamayor
Broken Days

320 pages

2018

FICTION

NOVEL

This is the story of seven months in the life of Tomás Sepúlveda who, at fifty-five, has taken early retirement. His two children live elsewhere and his father is in a nursing home. He is so unexceptional he almost seems to be a parody of normality. But his jottings, written perhaps to fill the many free hours of his new life, reveal an intense, lively character who is so lucid that his thoughts bear witness for a whole generation—that of men who feel like any other person but who are not in the habit of talking about it.



Gregorio Casamayor
& A. G. Porta

Another Life in the Suitcase

240 pages

2012

FICTION

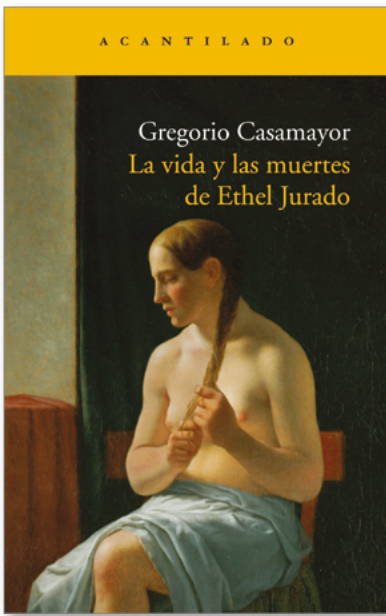
NOVEL

Co-authored by Gregorio Casamayor and A. G. Porta, this book tells the story of África Bonal, who after eight years in prison, decides to reveal to a couple of alleged journalists what she believes is the true story of her mother, Natalia Bonal, a writer who is better known by her pen name, Virginia Solano and whose life before her literary success is a mystery. This is the story of an innocent lie which, in order to not to be discovered, leads to other lies, half-truths, small distortions and whole range of falsehoods. África Bonal's life begins like this, with an innocent invention that conceals the dreams and frustrations of her mother. In the end, it will cause irreparable harm.

"A gorgeous novel about psychology and disillusionment, identity crisis and being reborn". *El Comercio*

"The latest surprise in co-authored Spanish fiction, *Otra vida en la maleta* is a chronicle of a traumatic awakening, the story of a family in which reality and fiction mingle". *La Vanguardia*

"A tense, questioning work of meticulous interrogative precision. The reader willingly surrenders to this passionate story". *El País*



Gregorio Casamayor

The Life and Deaths of Ethel Jurado

304 pages

2011

FICTION

NOVEL

La vida y las muertes de Ethel Jurado by Gregorio Casamayor follows the life of Ether Jurado, a character deeply affected by trauma and loss. The narrative unfolds as Ether grapples with the implications of his name, which signifies "ether," a substance often associated with the unknown and the ephemeral. The plot explores his journey through various phases of existence, emphasizing moments of crisis that lead to metaphorical "deaths," such as the end of relationships and the loss of identity.

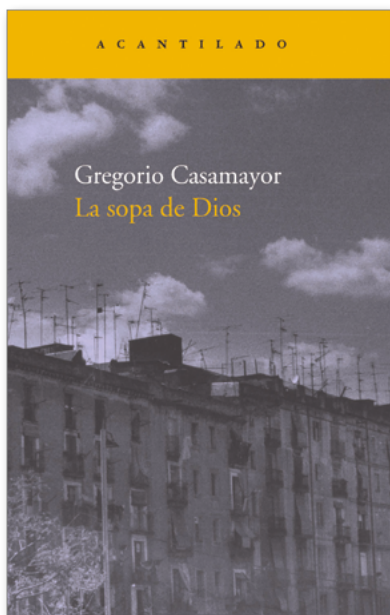
As Ether reflects on his past and confronts his inner demons, he encounters a cast of characters that shape his understanding of love, loss, and the human experience. The novel delves into existential themes, questioning the nature of life and the connections that define us.

Casamayor's writing captures the complexity of Ether's psyche, inviting readers to engage with the philosophical underpinnings of his journey.

"Rarely have a few voices said so much about and spoken so clearly of another voice that opts for silence". *Qué Leer*

"This thrilling page-turner keeps the reader on tenterhooks". *El País*

"An astonishingly tense and perfectly structured novel". *Ara*



Gregorio Casamayor

God's Soup

192 pages

2009

FICTION

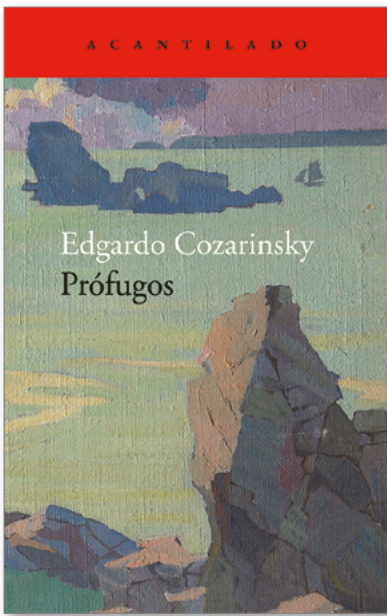
NOVEL

During his convalescence in a prison infirmary, Fede Cortés, former alcoholic from a dormitory town on the outskirts of Barcelona, revisits the events that led to his current imprisonment, after being charged with several counts of murder. Although no evidence has been found against him and, indeed, his advanced age and frail constitution would make him an unlikely serial killer, he has pleaded guilty, in bizarre circumstances. Fede's witty, pithy voice tells a stunning story, roaming back to his early years of poverty and solitude, his change of fortune, and a darkly humorous life from hanging around in a corner pub to running amok. *La sopa de Dios* shows how fortune and misfortune often come together and that happiness and suffering seem to be allotted in accordance with some kind of blind cosmic balance: "If I am happy, my neighbour is bound to have an excruciating toothache. This is how life works".

**Silverio Cañada Memorial
Prize for the best crime
novel, 2010**

"Sarcastic, brilliant humour and spare, refined style".

La Vanguardia



Edgardo Cozarinsky

Fugitives

96 pages

2025

FICTION

NOVEL

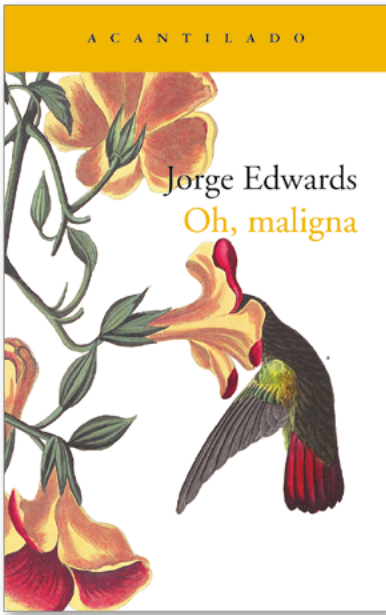
Late one winter's night, a man flees Buenos Aires to find refuge in an isolated part of Patagonia where he hopes to join his father whom he has not seen since adolescence. However, the perfunctory reencounter with the man who raised him but now separated from him by an unbridgeable divide sends him off into bitter rootlessness in an eerie coastal settlement inhabited by other fugitives like himself. Here, he drifts into an "inert, sleepwalking surrender to the chain of empty days". This is an extraordinary, bitter, and deeply evocative account of the ravages of repression and social and individual trauma.



EDGARDO COZARINSKY (Buenos Aires, 1939-2024), prolific cinematographic and literary author, studied Literature in Buenos Aires and moved in the circles of Silvina Ocampo, Bioy Casares, and Borges. After making his first underground film, he went into exile in Paris where he continued to work in cinema. After returning to Argentina, he published *Urban Voodoo* in 1985. This unclassifiable work, somewhere between essay and fiction, soon became a cult classic. Throughout his career, he received numerous awards in Argentina and abroad, among them the Gabriel García Márquez Spanish-American Short Story Award.

"Cozarinsky conveys a sense of urgency and nostalgia with messages that seem to come from the past or some place that does not exist."

Ricardo Piglia



Jorge Edwards

Oh, Malignant

240 pages

2019

FICTION

NOVEL

Oh, maligna follows the trail of the young poet Pablo Neruda in Burma (now Myanmar) where he arrived in 1927 to take up the post of Honorary Consul of Chile. There, he was to meet Josie Bliss—the Malignant, the Furious, as he called her—with whom he embarked on a relationship that was so fiery, so stormy, that he ended up being forced to flee to Ceylon (now Sri Lanka). The memory of this youthful love, which Neruda captured in one of his most famous poems “El tango del viudo” (The Widower’s Tango), stayed with him until his death. Jorge Edwards, Neruda’s compatriot and friend, offers a masterly re-creation of the story in this work, which is not only his personal tribute to Neruda but, also and especially, one to literature and the words with which it is created.



JORGE EDWARDS (Santiago de Chile, 1931) is one of the leading figures of Spanish-language literature today. He studied Law and Philosophy at the University of Chile and at Princeton University and, from 1957 to 1973, occupied various diplomatic positions in Latin America and Europe. He writes novels and stories as well as essays and his work has been translated into several languages. Among other awards, he has received the Chile National Prize for Literature and the Miguel de Cervantes Prize. Acantilado has published his book *La última hermana* (The Last Sister, 2016).

"A fragrant story of a poisonous love". *Faro de Vigo*

"An extraordinary formal beauty". *ABC, Cultural*

"It can be read as a passionate love story or an account of a decisive event in the great Neruda's personal story". *Diario de Sevilla*



Sònia Hernández

Exercises in Immobility

176 pages

2024

FICTION

STORIES

Rights sold:

El hombre que se creía Vicente Rojo

English Worldwide

SCRIBE AUSTRALIA

Audio Rights

AUDIBLE

The female characters in *Ejercicios de inmovilidad* feel a bitter estrangement from the world around them. Afflicted by paralysing indolence, these gallery owners, writers, muses, and carers condemned to seclusion in disquieting liminal spaces know that something is lacking. The refined narrative voice of Sònia Hernández, inheritor of the best literature of the absurd, constructs a tangible reality that then becomes a toehold for words giving shape to disconcerting stories that venture into the meanderings of fantasy, while also testifying to the skills of a born storyteller.



SÒNIA HERNÁNDEZ (Terrassa, 1976) has published four collections of poems—*La casa del mar* (2006), *Los nombres del tiempo* (2010), *La quietud de metal* (2018), and *Del tot inacabat* (2018)—two of short stories—*Los enfermos erróneos* (2008) and *La propagación del silencio* (2013)—and the novels *La mujer de Rapallo* (2010), *Los Pissimboni* (Acantilado, 2015), *El hombre que se creía Vicente Rojo* (Acantilado, 2017) and *El lugar de la espera* (Acantilado, 2019). In 2010, *Granta* included her in its selection of the best young Spanish fiction writers. She is a frequent contributor to *Cultura|s*, the literary supplement of the daily *La Vanguardia*.

"It would be difficult not to be left spellbound by her lucid, truly captivating writing."

Pilar Castro, *El Cultural*



Sònia Hernández

Ways of Leaving

152 pages

2021

FICTION

STORIES

Rights sold:

El hombre que se creía Vicente Rojo

English Worldwide

SCRIBE AUSTRALIA

Audio Rights

AUDIBLE

English sample available

The thirteen stories of this volume ponder several forms of loss, including those that come with the passing of the years, with the death of loved ones, and with the feeling of estrangement from the world. They are all different expressions of a sensibility that is constantly driving Hernández to write as she also pays intimate homage to people who endure in her memory and places to which nostalgia allows her to return. Easily recognisable in the succinct prose of these stories, resounding once again with echoes of the despair and humour that are so typical of literature of the absurd, is Hernández's highly personal voice, one that has brought her awards for the poetry and fiction she has published in Spanish.

"Resounding in all these texts are the voices of Borges, Pessoa, Tabucchi, and Bioy Casares, the best legacy for melding in such disconcerting, compelling stories. Sònia Hernández vouches for the power of writing to make possible the real and the fantastic, existence and absence. It is difficult not to be in thrall to her lucid, truly captivating writing".

Pilar Castro, *El Cultural*



Sònia Hernández
*The Man Who Thought
He Was Vicente Rojo*

144 pages

2017

FICTION

NOVEL

Rights sold:

English Worldwide

SCRIBE AUSTRALIA

Audio Rights

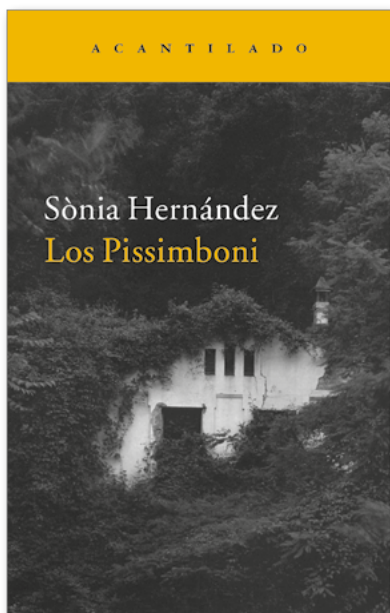
AUDIBLE

Full English Translation Available

Berta believes that she is fated to have only disagreeable experiences in her life and is therefore searching for something that might give her a different view of reality. Her mother hides behind an appearance and decisions she does not always recognise as her own. A man comes into their lives, saying he is the well-known Mexican artist Vicente Rojo, thus setting off a surprising back-and-forth of identities in which it is difficult for the characters to recognise themselves or distinguish between what is within their reach and what is impossible: life gives an enigmatic lesson. "I can say that I have not only found peace but that I have done great work. I have worked hard for culture, the only thing that has interested me. I know of no more pleasurable sensation than that of reading a good poem, listening to music or looking at a beautiful painting. This is the only meaning of everything, the place from which we were expelled and what we spend our whole lives searching for".

"Disturbing, unconventional writing, notable for its total independence with regard to the prevailing norms in Spanish fiction today".

El Mundo



Sònia Hernández
The Pissimboni

128 pages

2015

FICTION

NOVEL

Rights sold:

Serbian

PARTIZANSKA KNJIGA

“Nobody loved the Pissimboni. They lived in an ivy-covered house on top of a hill, far enough away from the other houses for everyone to consider that they didn’t live in the town. There were many brothers and sisters in the family and nobody knew whether the patriarch, Ignacio Pissimboni, or his wife Martina were still alive. Nobody in the town had seen them and the locals had gotten used to forgetting all about them. No one loved them and no one cared about that family. Neither did they care about or love anyone”. Sònia Hernández offers a surprising story with Kafkaesque overtones, skilfully defying the limits of fiction to fashion a beautiful metaphor for freedom.

"A strange novel, different. Fascinating". Enrique Vila-Matas

"This is disquieting, unconventional writing, notable for its total independence from the prevailing codes in present-day Spanish fiction". *El Periódico*

"Reflexive, hypnotic and uneasing". *Ara*



English sample available

Sònia Hernández

El lugar de la espera

176 pages

2019

FICTION

NOVEL

Rights sold:

El hombre que se creía Vicente Rojo

English Worldwide

SCRIBE AUSTRALIA

Audio Rights

AUDIBLE

“Born around the same time as we were, democracy and the Constitution told us that we all had the right to do whatever we liked. The whole society, conniving to protect our wishes and desires, was in agreement. We were going to be what we wanted to be, and they were constantly asking us what we wanted to be when we were grownup”.

In this choral novel, narrated in first-person plural, the characters share something more than the voice that speaks in all their names: they live in a single symbolic space, that of a generation not yet lost but gone astray because of waiting for a sign that would indicate the decisive moment to do the job or make the decision that would give sense to their lives. Maturity has brought to these accidental emulators of Beckett’s burlesque characters an awareness that nobody is going to give them this sign, that nobody expects anything of them. If they have some opportunity to give purpose to their lives, perhaps it is to live them for themselves alone, in other words, simply act without an audience.

“One of the most personal voices of her generation”.

La Vanguardia

“A fascinating story, brimming with sensitivity and throbbing with creativity, enigmas and doubts. It should not go unnoticed”. Pilar Castro, *El Cultural*

“*El lugar de la espera* is excellent. Sònia Hernández makes universal the perplexity of a generation that was promised it could be whatever it wanted. A work threaded through with a critical spirit”. Enrique Andrés Ruiz, *El País – Babelia*



Mikhail Kurayev

Petya on his Way to the Heavenly Kingdom

168 pages

2008

FICTION

NOVEL

Rights sold:

English Worldwide

UNIVERSITY OF
CALIFORNIA

This is a particularly impressive story about the ways in which people put up with a long tyranny without getting discouraged. Its simple, spontaneous language is exceptionally well suited to this portrayal of the impenetrable, inscrutable, dark and oppressive world of Stalinism.



MIKHAIL KURAYEV (Saint Petersburg, 1939) published his first book, *Captain Dickstein* (titled *El capitán Dikshtein* in Spanish), in 1987 after many years working as a film scriptwriter. Since then he has become a major Russian writer, a real discovery for those who have not yet come across this author of intense, intelligent and delicate stories.

"An intelligent, sweeping novel in the style of the great European writers, it is tender, cruel and closer to Dostoyevsky than to Tolstoy". *El Mundo*

"This book perfectly captures a world where routine terror and silence is the people's daily fare". *El Faro de Cartagena*



Mikhail Kurayev

Night Patrol

112 pages

2007

FICTION

NOVEL

Rights sold:

English Worldwide

UNIVERSITY
OF CAROLINA

French

ALBIN MICHEL

German

VOLK UND WELT

Italian

IL MELANGOLO

Kurayev simply and effectively describes the impenetrable, dark and oppressive world of Stalinism. What is particularly interesting about the story is the way it focuses on the unchallenged nature of his long reign.

"A short story of remarkable intensity and delicacy". *El Periódico*

"An excellent, perturbing story". *ABC*



Aurora Luque

The Sirens of the Deep

592 pages

2023

FICTION

POETRY

The poems of Aurora Luque—"the most Greek of our women writers today", in the words of Jaime Siles—start from an affinity with the classical tradition, giving her a time in which to poeticise present-day concerns with extraordinary sensitivity, while creating a kinship with all humanity. From the early verses of *Hiperiónida* (1981, Hyperion) through to the highly praised poems of *Un número finito de veranos* (2021, An Infinite Number of Summers), winner of the 2022 National Poetry Award, this hymn to Mediterranean culture and life, hedonism as a response to finitude, exaltation of the senses, and nurturing of the spirit are some of the coves where her "solar poetics" anchors in its celebration of fragile but abundant life and its ambivalent offerings of beauty, friendship, and desire, as well as the incorruptible autonomy of poetry. As "Icarus's comrade" she has spent twenty years cultivating the skies while searching for "the splendour of experience" that lets us know we are alive. Her poetry, collected and edited in this book offers the reader an extraordinarily intrepid and exuberant journey.



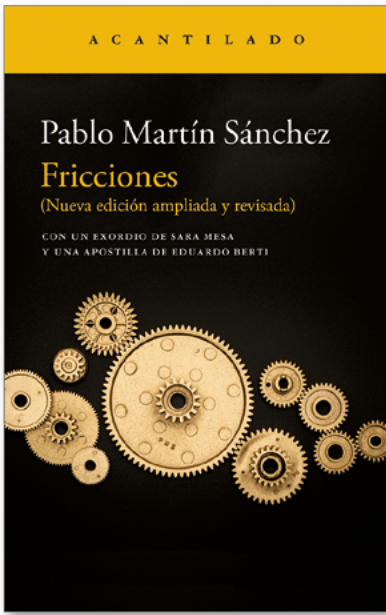
AURORA LUQUE (b. Almería, 1962) is a Classical philologist, poet, translator and writer of articles. The author of *Hiperiónida*, *Problems of Dubbing*, *Carpe noctem*, *Transitoria*, *Comrades of Icarus* and *Haikus of Narila*, her poems have been translated into various languages. Our publishing house brought out her edition (which has now been enlarged) and her translation of Sappho's book *Poems and Testimonies*, as well as Louise Labé's *Sonnets and Elegies* and the anthology *Living from the Sea. The Sea in Greek Poetry*.

"In Luque's imaginary world, with time folded back on itself, yesterday and now are made to coexist. *Las sirenas de abajo* (*The Sirens of the Deep*) is a celebration of great poetry."

Túa Blesa, *El Cultural*

"Luque is an expert in reflecting an inner world that runs parallel to a Greco-Latin past, which establishes bridges between what is lived, what is read, and what is dreamed."

D. Hdez. De La Fuente, *La Razón*



Pablo Martín Sánchez

Fricciones

New expanded and revised edition

256 pages

2024

FICTION

STORIES

In her Prologue to *Fricciones*, Sara Mesa writes, “You are about to witness a show of fireworks or a play of (profound and unequivocally literary) artifice that will astound you and elicit your most heartfelt applause”. And this book is indeed a brilliant exhibition of the fiendish sense of humour, the exquisite irony, and enviable intelligence of a writer in a state of grace. Told by Pablo Martín Sánchez, these savvy, irreverent, tricky stories form a fascinating literary puzzle that celebrates the potential of literature, fragmentation, and intertextuality and that, in this new expanded and revised edition will delight the most demanding readers.



PABLO MARTÍN SÁNCHEZ (near Reus, 1977) has a PhD in Language and Literature from the University of Lille III and another doctorate in Theory of Literature and Art and Comparative Literature from the University of Granada. He is a member of the Collège de Pataphysique and also of Ouvroir de Littérature Potentielle (Oulipo). In addition to the present work, he has published the novel *El anarquista que se llamaba como yo* (The Anarchist Who Bore My Name – Acantilado, 2012), which *El Cultural* named best debut book of the year in 2012. Some of his work has been translated into other languages, including French, English, Czech and Dutch.

"These stories from the micro to the macro capture the reader with their finely honed prose, intense, succinct style, and an always playful background with characters and situations that move from the ordinary to the anomalous [...]. The singular voice of Martín Sánchez cultivates ground where the adverb and the comma become flesh."

Iñigo Urrutia, *El Diario Vasco*



Pablo Martín Sánchez
Diary of a Stubborn Old Man
(Reus, 2066)

384 pages

2020

FICTION

NOVEL

Reus, southern Catalonia, summer 2066. The Iberian Peninsula is being emptied of its inhabitants, but a small group of rebels, most of them old men, disabled in the war, is ensconced inside the Pere Mata Institute, a former modernist insane asylum in the city, now without electricity, water, or provisions. One of them, an old writer who hasn't produced anything for decades, starts a diary on the blank pages of the dusty books he finds in the asylum's abandoned library. The authorities have decreed a deadline for leaving the country. Hardly anyone is left now, and the few who remain are desperate.

In this story with apocalyptic and dystopian overtones, Pablo Martín Sánchez once again explores the ambiguous boundaries separating reality and fiction and concludes his singular trilogy of novels by peering into the future to capture fears of the present

"This novel completes a highly original trilogy about identity, which includes name, date, and place of birth of this author from Reus. It is one of those seamless works with gifts on every page".

Màrius Serra, *La Vanguardia*

"A dystopian thriller and final instalment of Martín Sánchez's unique trilogy of novels".

Enrique Vila-Matas, *El País*



Pablo Martín Sánchez

Tomorrow Is Yours

224 pages

2016

FICTION

NOVEL

Rights sold:

French

LA CONTRE

ALLÉE EDITIONS

English sample available

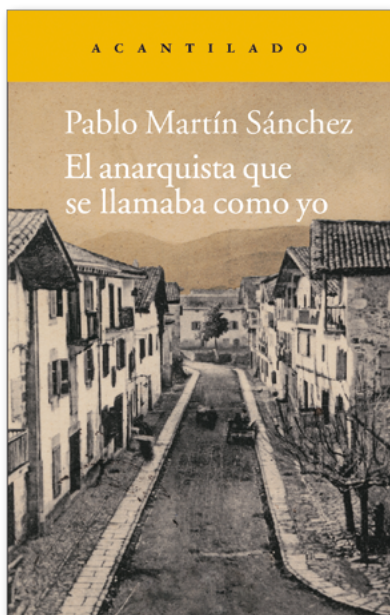
«You're going to be born today. You shouldn't but you're going to. You shouldn't because it's hell out there. There are demonstrations day in, day out. People are talking about elections. About attacks. About amnesties. And you're just fine in your cave. So nice and warm. So weightless. [...] Life gives you so much, people say. But the first thing it gives you is a couple of slaps on the bum. [...] The frequency of the contractions suggests that it's nearly time for you to poke your head out into the world. A world in which a lot of things are going to happen today. Good things and bad things. In Congo, they're going to kill the president, Marien Ngouabi. There's going to be a general strike in Italy. In Spain, the Government Gazette is going to announce a new pardon. But the story that will mark your life is going to happen much closer to home, a few kilometres from here [...] You can hear the bells of a nearby church. You can feel a new contraction. You're going to be born today. You shouldn't but you're going to».

**Shortlisted as
best fiction book
for 2016 by
*La Vanguardia***

"This novel is not only ingenious but also intelligent". *El periódico de Catalunya*

"It constructs an intelligent, intense, credible plot". *El Comercio-Cultura*

"The work of a deft demiurge". *Faro de Vigo*



Pablo Martín Sánchez
*The Anarchist Who
Bore My Name*

624 pages

2012

FICTION

NOVEL

Rights sold:

English Worldwide

DEEP VELLUM

Spanish Club

CÍRCULO DE LECTORES

English sample available

Fruit of the painstaking research which Martín describes in his Prologue, this novel relates the real-life story of the staunch anarchist Pablo Martín Sánchez, who was involved in one of the most controversial chapters of Spanish history in the early twentieth century. Martín reconstructs the life of the anarchist who bore his name, using this as a pretext to write a novel brimming with adventure. Discerningly structured, the book offers a chapter-by-chapter portrayal of a character whose real-life experiences linked up with a number of events that are revealed here in a plural fresco depicting the society of the time.

El Mundo's Best

Literary Debut,

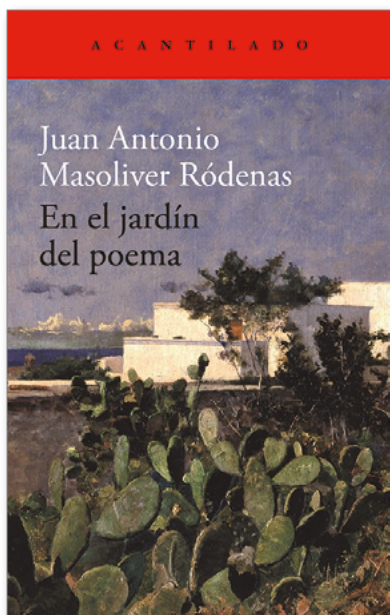
2012

"A novel of 600 pages that never loses its grip, a novel in which nothing lacks or is left over". *El País*

"A mature work, interesting, captivating and perfectly narrated". *Time Out*

"A brilliant début. One of the most important novels of recent years". *El País*

"A marvellous novel". *El Periódico*



Juan Antonio
Masoliver Ródenas
In the Poem's Garden

64 pages

2024

FICTION

POETRY

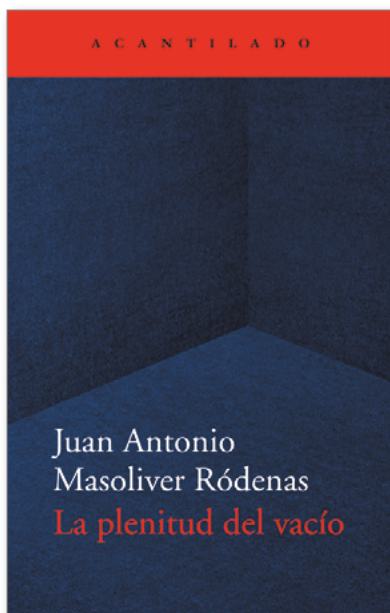
With these introspective poems, Juan Antonio Masoliver Ródenas plumbs the memories of his childhood in El Masnou, luminously projecting them into the present which is transformed by his verses into a mythical space beyond the bounds of time. The poem, a kind of idyllic, peaceful, protected garden, invites evocation or rediscovery of desires, fears, and old or recent visions, as a space that offers a fresh opportunity to look back on a quicksilver past, while turning the poet into a tireless pilgrim of the landscape that shelters his last poem.



JUAN ANTONIO MASOLIVER RÓDENAS (Barcelona, 1939) is Professor Emeritus of Spanish and Latin American Literature at the University of Westminster in London. He has published a great number of essays, poems, short stories and novels and has translated authors such as Cesare Pavese, Giorgio Saviane, Carson McCullers, Djuna Barnes and Vladimir Nabokov into Spanish.

"Masoliver knows how to give voice to emotional power and a lucid reflection on the drama of man through time. And he knows how to do it with a language that never abandons tension, strength, and expressiveness."

Diego Doncel, ABC



Juan Antonio Masoliver Ródenas

Plenitude of the Void

144 pages

2022

FICTION

POETRY

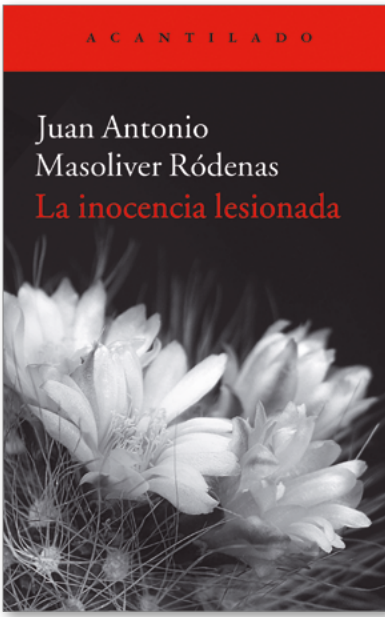
La plenitud del vacío (Plenitude of the Void) is the culmination of Juan Antonio Masoliver Ródenas' mature poetic work. In these pages he returns to his usual themes—erotism, fascination with the female body, and familiarity with death, understood as both plenitude and void—while also surrendering to the desire to remember friends who are no more, to settle accounts with his own past, and to cling to memory, the last great refuge of love at the final threshold we will all cross alone. Sometimes wrenching and bitter, and sometimes full of the lucidity and serenity endowed by the vantage point of years, these verses attest to the extraordinary power of poetry to re-create memory and give sense to existence.



JUAN ANTONIO MASOLIVER RÓDENAS (Barcelona, 1939) is Professor Emeritus of Spanish and Latin American Literature at the University of Westminster in London. He has published a great number of essays, poems, short stories and novels and has translated authors such as Cesare Pavese, Giorgio Saviane, Carson McCullers, Djuna Barnes and Vladimir Nabokov into Spanish.

"A poet who unhesitatingly dives into memory and oblivion. A truly singular voice".

Luis García Jambriana, *ABC*



Juan Antonio Masoliver
Ródenas

Wounded Innocence

144 pages

2016

FICTION

NOVEL

In the first decade after the Spanish Civil War, life in Masnou, a coastal village not far from Barcelona, sedately flows around a respectable middle-class family, symbol of domestic harmony. Carlos is immersed in this apparently friction-free world but rancour, violence, police reprisals and sexual brutality soon start corroding its idyllic facade. He begins to see the sordid reality of a tragedy which will end up devouring the whole town and, with it, the Oria dynasty. This is the most disconcerting, tender and painful novel Masoliver Ródenas has written to date.

"A provocative novel in which Masoliver's greatest virtue as a writer shines through: freedom".

"Masoliver sketches a devastating portrait of the closing years of the 1940s".

"There is no emotional respite for the reader in this story".

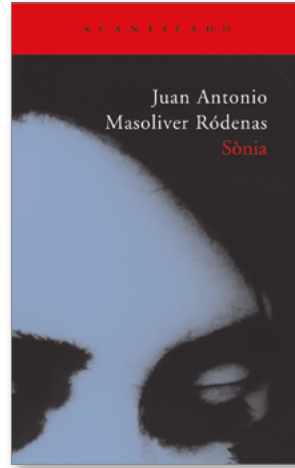
La Vanguardia

Other titles by the author

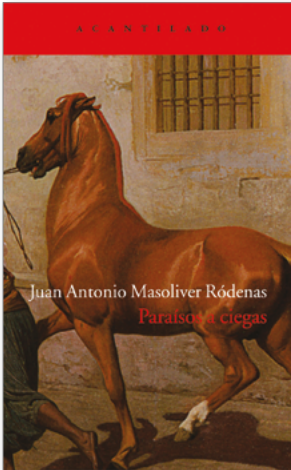


The Blind Man in the Window: Monotonies

144 pages
2014
APHORISMS



Sònia
224 pages
2008
POETRY



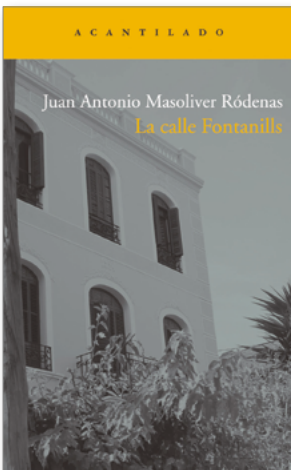
Paradises Blindly

96 pages
2012
POETRY



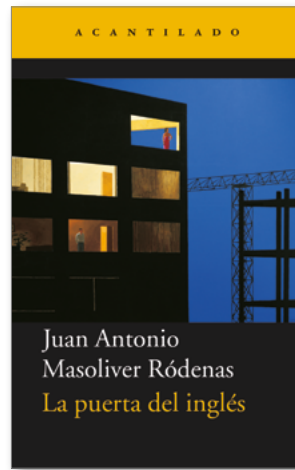
The Night of Gunpowder Plot

232 pages
2006
FICTION
SHORT STORIES



Fontanills Street

224 pages
2010
FICTION
SHORT STORIES



The Englishman's Door

414 pages
2001
FICTION
NOVEL



Javier Mije

The Long Night

160 pages

2014

FICTION

NOVEL

“He’d received Almeida’s hand-written note in the producer’s Barcelona headquarters. It looked like a page from a school notebook, or one ripped out of the Notes section of a diary and the big, untidily scribbled letters invaded the margins: the barest summary of a plot and the film’s title, *The Long Night*. There were hardly any other instructions for writing the script, the first draft of which had to be ready within sixteen weeks [...] Although Almeida’s note made no explicit mention of any historic episode, it vaguely reminded him of ‘The Long Night’ of Madrid’s resistance during the Civil War”.



JAVIER MIJE (Seville, 1969) has degrees in Theory of Literature and Comparative Literature.

"A novel to keep you awake. Javier Mije’s finely wrought prose shines in this book where some truly impressive pages will make you want to get out your pen and underline them from start to finish". *ABC*

"Brilliant style. Splendid, deep, luminous and dark". *El País*

"Mije’s literature is subtle. There is nothing gratuitous about it". *La Opinión de Málaga*



Javier Mije

The Fabulous World of Nothing

104 pages

2010

FICTION

SHORT STORIES

Everything is tolerable if one lacks imagination, or if one only plays the white keys of the piano without touching the black ones which conceal the more strident sounds. At what point does the score narrow down to the final limits of a monochord melody, and at what point does life start to make decisions for you? These pages are full of love, violence, loneliness and failure, traversed by bewildered hearts, stars which keep pulsing out pain long after they are extinguished, signs that warn of the end of time, and clocks that invariably stop at the same cruel hour. This is a book which embraces South London residential neighbourhoods, a night train to Lisbon and the most chic Barcelona which, without warning, descends into the stench of a fairground stall.

"A beautiful, subtle book with nothing redundant about it". *La Vanguardia*

"A hundred pages replete with literary beauty". *El País*

"Short, intense stories, full of wrecked, unbalanced, stubborn, solitary, selfish characters who are desperate for love". *elboomeran.com*



Javier Mije

The Path of the Caterpillar

128 pages

2003

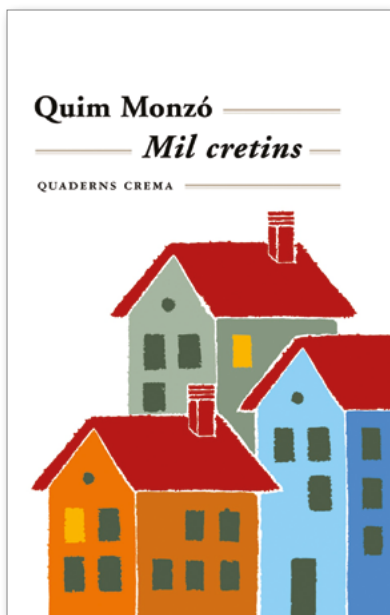
FICTION

SHORT STORIES

Like an open curtain that unveils the most silenced reality, these short stories explore the dark side of characters who are spied on in their hideaways where normal eyes cannot see, where decency would counsel going no further. In his first book, Javier Mije probes the depths of the obscurest human condition with great determination and skill. With a style rich in imagery, he builds his stories on these foundations, entering the recondite rooms in which we hide, reaching the core of dark secrets wrestling with the structures of our own conventions.

"Anyone who loves true literature should read this book immediately". *La Vanguardia*

"Meticulous, dreamlike prose". *El País*



Quim Monzó

A Thousand Morons

176 pages

2007

FICTION

SHORT STORIES

Rights sold:

English (Worldwide Rights) OPEN LETTER	French ÉDITIONS JACQUELINE CHAMBON	German FRANKFURTER VERLAG	Spanish ANAGRAMA
	Galician XERAIS	Italian MARCOS Y MARCOS	Swedish SADURA BOKFÖRLAG

English sample available

Whenever he's asked about it, Quim Monzó says that *Mil cretins* is his happiest book but that's not true. Yes, it has humour, black humour running through the nineteen stories of this volume. More than happiness, there is consolation because it's happily comforting to settle accounts with pain, with old age, with death and with love. Brave, making no concessions, Monzó confronts in this work the difficult balance between life and human wretchedness.



According to *The Independent*, QUIM MONZÓ (Barcelona, 1952) is now the best known writer in Catalan. He has composed scripts for radio, television and cinema, and adapted texts for the stage. He writes a regular column in the newspaper *La Vanguardia*. He has published three novels and several collections of short stories and essays. His work has been translated into twenty-two languages.

**Maria Àngels
Anglada Prize,
2008**

"What might please people most in *Mil cretins* is the cheerily forlorn tone that functions as background music from start to finish". *La Vanguardia*

"With each work he goes deeper with his probing of human nature... The greatest tenderness is disguised behind merciless cruelty. How great Quim Monzó is". *El Periódico*

"Like Nabokov, Monzó has sufficient virtuosity to push his wordplays to extreme limits". *Le Monde*

"We have at last gained the opportunity to read one of the most original writers of our time". *Independent*



Quim Monzó

Guadalajara

208 pages

1996

FICTION

SHORT STORIES

Three pages into the opening story of Quim Monzó's new collection, a seven-year-old makes a startling discovery: every male member over the age of nine in his family of carpenters is missing the ring finger of his left hand, and this is no accident. Welcome to "Family Life", which is set in the morbid territory of Guadalajara—a realm where fables are subverted, where everyday tasks lead to existential confrontation, where absurdity masks philosophical power, and where grim uncertainty and playful possibility coexist. Armand is terrified, and perhaps the reader should be too: in Monzó's hands, the possibilities are limitless and entirely unpredictable.

Rights sold:

English
(Worldwide Rights)
OPEN LETTER

German
FRANKFURTER
VERLAG

Italian
MARCOS Y
MARCOS

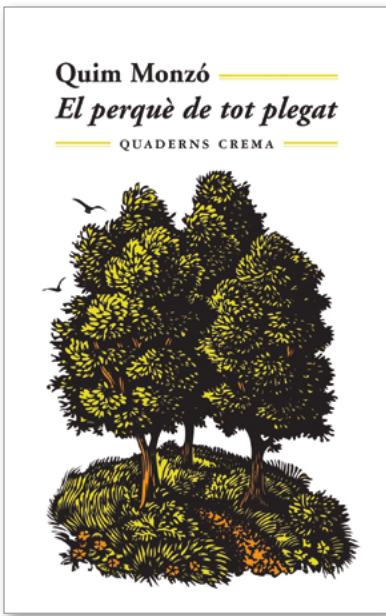
French
ÉDITIONS
JACQUELINE
CHAMBON

Hungarian
EUROPA
PUBLISHERS

Spanish
ANAGRAMA

Serra d'Or Prize,
1997

"Every new book by Monzó is an event. *Guadalajara* is no exception". *La Vanguardia*



Quim Monzó

The Reason for Everything

176 pages

1993

FICTION

SHORT STORIES

The thirty stories making up this collection complement each other to form a whole that reveals with tremendous precision the eternal human condition of uncertainty. In *El perquè de tot plegat* Monzó's synthesising skills reach great heights of purity: apparently simple and schematic, they are a vigorous demonstration of his mastery.

Rights sold:

Spanish
ANAGRAMA

English
OPEN LETTER

Basque
ERKARLANEAN

Bulgarian
COLIBRI
PUBLISHERS

German
FRANKFURTER
VERLAG

Hungarian
PATAKIS

Italian
MARCOS Y
MARCOS

Serbian
RENDE

Greek
SIDERIS
BOOKS

Hebrew
RIMONIM

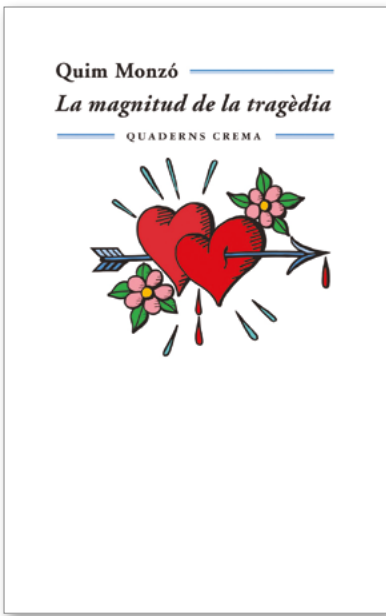
Galician
KALANDRAKA

Croatian
PETRINE
KNJIGE

City of Barcelona
Prize, 1993

Serra d'Or Prize,
1994

"One of the keys to the Monzó's success is that his work allows for different readings. He has often been valorized as the reformer of modern literary Catalan". Julià Guillamón



Quim Monzó

The Enormity of The Tragedy

280 pages

1989

FICTION

NOVEL

A trumpeter's dream, one he's been cherishing for weeks, finally comes true: he's going out with the star at the theatre where he works. Trying to work up his courage over dinner, he drinks a lot more than he knows is good for him. He realises that that he's so drunk that if he actually manages to bed the actress, he may not be up to it. This is the opening of *La magnitud de la tragèdia*, a novel about love, hate, loneliness, the implacable passing of time and the inevitability of death.

Rights sold:

English
(Worldwide)
PETER OWEN

German
FRANKFURTER
VERLAG

Macedonian
GOTEN PUBLISHING

Albanian
OMBRA

Bulgarian
COLIBRI

Greek
PAPYROS
PUBLISHING
GROUP

Spanish
ANAGRAMA

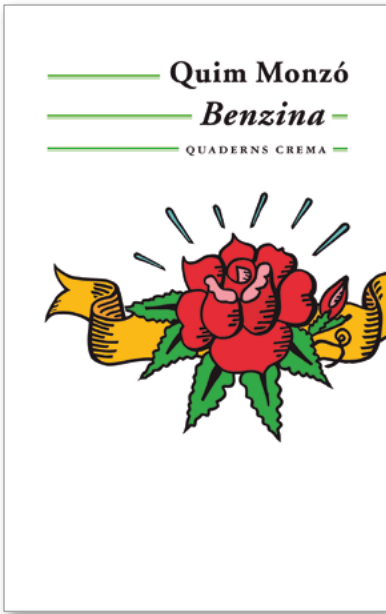
Dutch
UITGEVERIJ
BROOKLY

French
BELFOND

Italian
MARCOS Y MARCOS

**El Temps Readers'
Prize for the Best
Novel, 1989**

"With an incomparable narrative rhythm, page after page multiplies and augments and surprises the imaginative capacity of the reader". *El País*



Quim Monzó

Benzina

224 pages

1983

FICTION

NOVEL

Rights sold:

English
(Worldwide Rights)
OPEN LETTER

Portuguese
(Worldwide)
TEOREMA

Serbian
BIBLIOTEKA
ALEXANDRIA

Malayalam
DC BOOKS

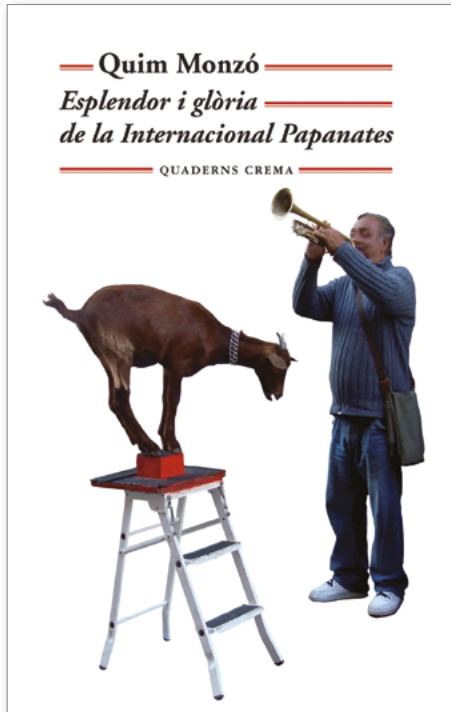
Spanish
ANAGRAMA

German
FRANKFURTER
VERLAG

With its backdrop of a hazy, abstract New York, *Benzina* opens with a series of spotlight flashes from the life of Heribert, a painter who's scabbled his way up to the pinnacle of success. He enters the scene one New Year's Day, lying between the sheets of his lover's bed with the vague impression that, apart from the year, the way he used to look at the world has also changed: the objects and people surrounding him are increasingly distant and unjustifiable. An artist at the height of arduously conquered fame, he's now lost the will to paint for the first time in his life. In his boredom he drops off to sleep while making love with Hildergarda, does the rounds of cocktail bars and parties and discovers that Helena, his wife and art dealer, is cuckolding him with a flamboyant new painter. He's disarmed when he tries to seduce an adolescent (and in the end, she's the one who seduces Heribert, who listlessly lets her have her way).

"What awesome lucidity Monzó has when he's engaged in his ferocious dissection of the lies of our daily doings". *El Mundo*

Other titles by the author

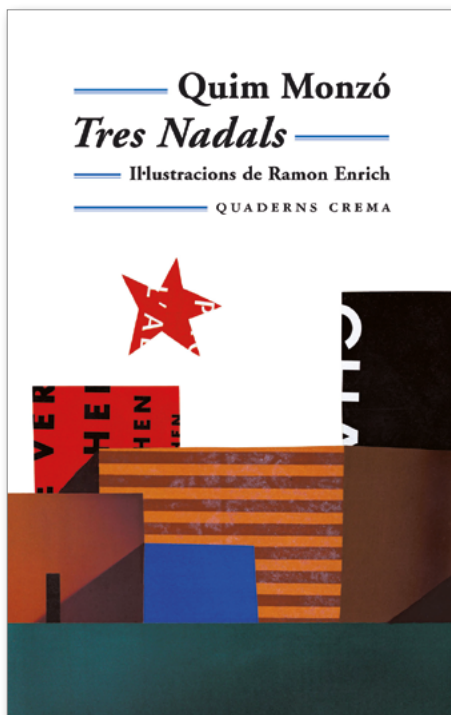


Splendour and Glory of the International Dupe

256 pages

2010

ARTICLES

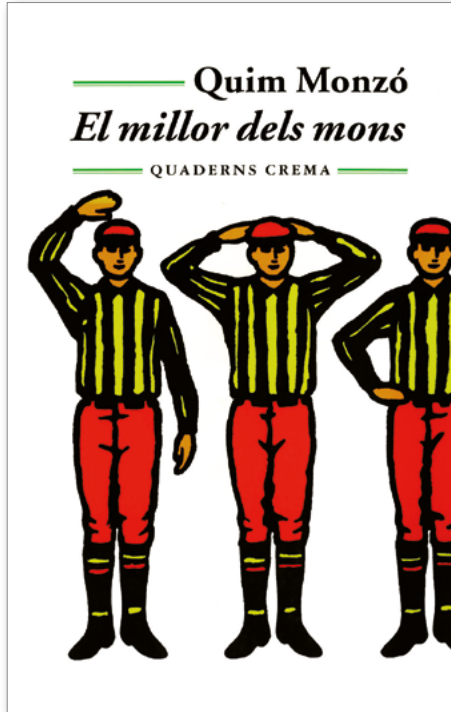


Three Christmases

64 pages

2003

SHORT STORIES



The Best of Worlds

288 pages

2001

SHORT STORIES

Rights sold:

Hungarian

PATAK KÖNYVEK

Italian

EINAUDI

Spanish

ANAGRAMA



Eighty-six Stories

640 pages

1999

SHORT STORIES

Rights sold:

German

FRANKFURTER

VERLAG

Russian

ATTICUS

Spanish

ANAGRAMA

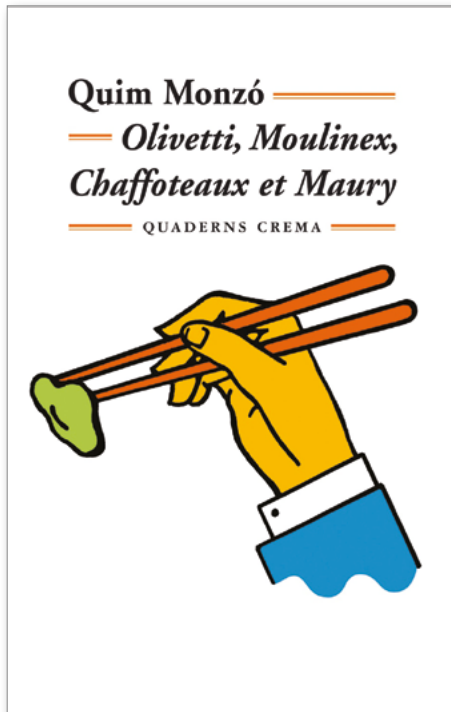


Maians' Island

184 pages

1985

SHORT STORIES



**Olivetti, Moulinex,
Chaffoteaux et Maury**

144 pages

1980

SHORT STORIES

Rights sold:

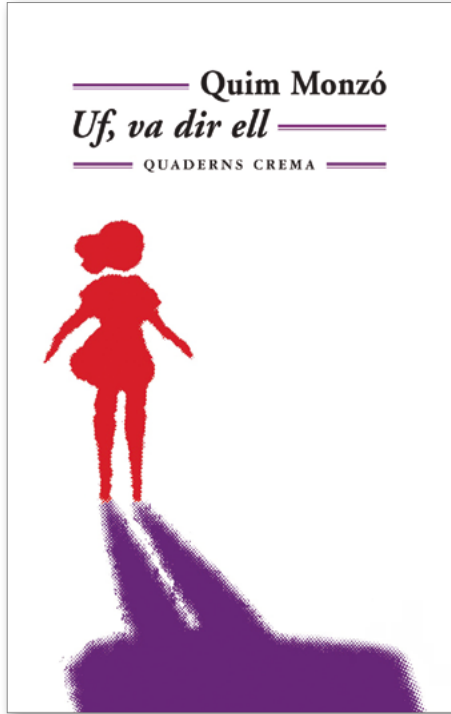
English
(Worldwide)
BALLANTINE
BOOKS

Italian
MARCOS Y MARCOS

Polish
WYDAWNICTWO

Spanish
ANAGRAMA

Serra d'Or Prize,
1981

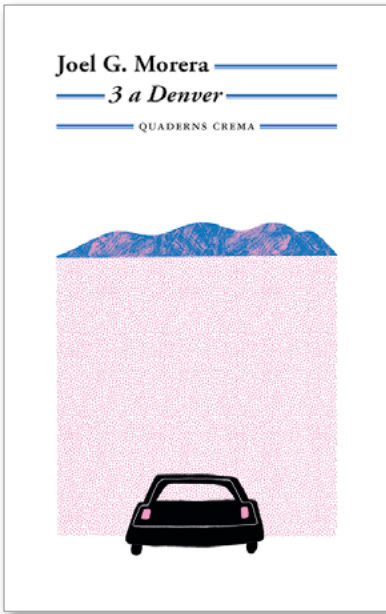


Oof, He Said

104 pages

1978

SHORT STORIES



Joel G. Morera

3 in Denver

152 pages

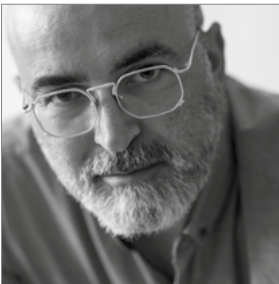
2024

FICTION

NOVEL

[English sample available](#)

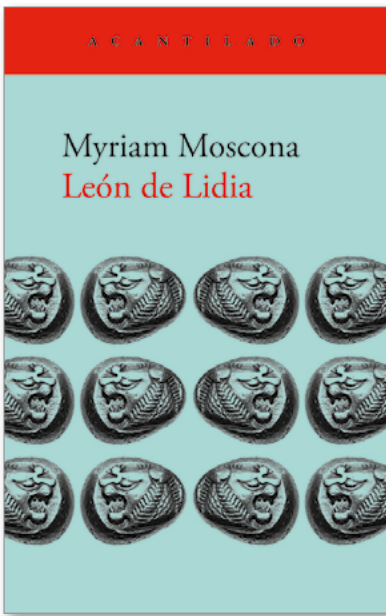
Three salespeople from a digital marketing company travel to Denver to attend an outdoor activities fair. Thanks to contacts of their boss, they stay in a blue, rationalist-style house which, uninhabited for decades, has an increasingly unsettling influence on them. The clues left behind by the former owner of the house come together in an irresistible but disquieting enigma that will lead them along such surprising paths as the bellicose history of the United States and that of modern American architecture. From start to finish, readers will be gripped by this sophisticated, deep-delving tale with reminiscences of Auster.



JOEL G. MORERA (Barcelona, 1977), gazer by profession, is both son and father. A cinephile, he also loves reading and table games. He has lived in London, Tokyo, and Hong Kong. *3 a Denver* (3 in Denver) is his first published book.

"Joel G. Morera has made a great debut. This is an important book. Not an important first book. Without any overloading, Morera's story flows in this novel with elegant prose and precise words, but not as much as one too many."

David Castillo, *El Punt Avui*



Myriam Moscona

Lydian Lion

208 pages

2024

FICTION

LITERARY ESSAY

León de Lidia is a fragmentary, unclassifiable novel consisting of self-contained stories. A notebook of drawings and images, and collection of family or imaginary portraits, this moving tribute to origins also pays homage to Ladino, a childhood language, both familiar and remote, resounding with echoes of Cervantes' Renaissance Castilian. In prose drawing from her Mexican, Bulgarian, and Sephardic heritage, Myriam Moscona reconstructs the miracle and mystery of memory which, as in Proust, "requires just one tap to unravel a whole involuntary string of associations". The various characters who dwell in her memories, including a raging grandmother and a "libertine" sister, add dashes of humour, as well as tenderness and heartbreak to the pages of this book which interweaves dreaming and wakefulness.



MYRIAM MOSCONA, a Mexican writer from a Bulgarian Sephardic family, is a novelist and poet in Ladino and Spanish. Her collection of poems *Negro Marfil* (translated into English by Jen Hofer with the title *Ivory Black*) was awarded prizes by the Academy of American Poets and the PEN International Center. She also received one of Mexico's most prestigious literary prizes, the Xavier Villaurrutia Writers Award for Writers (2012), for her book *Tela de sevoya* (*Onion Skin*, Acantilado, 2014).



Myriam Moscona

Onion Skin

280 pages

2014

FICTION

LITERARY ESSAY

Rights sold:

French

LIOR ÉDITIONS

Somewhere between novel, poetry and memoir, this extraordinary book delves deep into the secret realms of the word and its power of salvation. In this process, the Sephardic Jewish writer Myriam Moscona revives the shadowy figures and voices of her past. Ladino, the ancient Spanish language which is still spoken today by Sephardic Jews, becomes a valuable travelling companion on her journey to Sofia, Plovdiv, Istanbul, Smyrna and Salonika, where family ghosts reside.

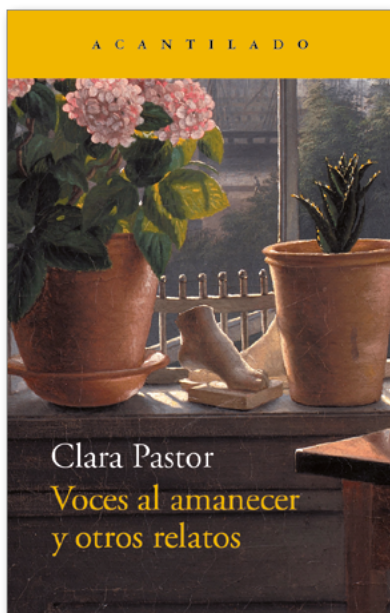


MYRIAM MOSCONA, a Mexican writer from a Bulgarian Sephardic family, is a novelist and poet in Ladino and Spanish. Her collection of poems *Negro Marfil* (translated into English by Jen Hofer with the title *Ivory Black*) was awarded prizes by the Academy of American Poets and the PEN International Center. She also received one of Mexico's most prestigious literary prizes, the Xavier Villaurrutia Writers Award for Writers (2012), for her book *Tela de sevoya* (Fabric from an Onion, Acantilado, 2014).

**Xavier Villaurrutia
Prize, 2012**

"*Tela de sevoya* is an absolutely extraordinary text". *La Vanguardia*

"A story with astonishing and startling ramifications". *El Periódico*



Clara Pastor

Voices of Dawn

144 pages

2023

FICTION

STORIES

English sample available

Four stories, in settings that are different but with a similar atmosphere, make up the microcosm skilfully created by Clara Pastor in this volume built upon the prowings of memory as it branches out into infinite paths, and the attempts of her characters to bridge the distance—sometimes an abyss—that frequently separates them from the people they are closest to. Childhood homes and the protective network of the family thus become a longed-for refuge of memory in the face of the disenchantments of adult life, but they are also invisible spiderwebs. Subtle and suggestive, the stories of *Voces al amanecer* are told to the reader with the intimacy of a shared secret.



CLARA PASTOR (Cambridge, Massachusetts, 1970) is a translator and editor. She studied International Relations in Barcelona and Comparative Literature in the United States, although she has never put either of her degrees to practical use. After living on both sides of the Atlantic for several years, she now resides in Barcelona. *The Good Neighbours* is her first book, and now she hopes to add to her literary production with a recipe book.

"In these four stories, all of them equally refined and subtle, intelligence and great sensitivity—traits that define the author—come together in an outstanding book. A must read."

José Carlos Llop, *Diario de Mallorca*

"Beauty, specificity, and perfection. The power of silence, of what is not said and hushed, is at the heart of this second book of stories by Clara Pastor."

Anna Maria Iglesia, *La Lectura (El Mundo)*

"With exquisite sensitivity, Clara Pastor captures the emptiness of the relationships of her characters and, at the same time, their feelings, with intensity but without drama."

Juan Antonio Masoliver Ródenas, *La Vanguardia*



Clara Pastor

The Good Neighbours

152 pages

2021

FICTION

STORIES

The eleven stories in this book shape Clara Pastor's singular imaginary universe which covers several geographies but also very precise milieus that are recognisable because of the characters' feelings, which almost always emerge subtly because most of them try to avoid ruffling the calm surface of appearances. In many of these stories, things are born and die almost unnoticed by the characters unless, perhaps, when the latter are children.

"Clara Pastor is revealed as a writer who should be kept very much in mind, for she has brilliantly made her debut with what is perhaps the most difficult literary genre".

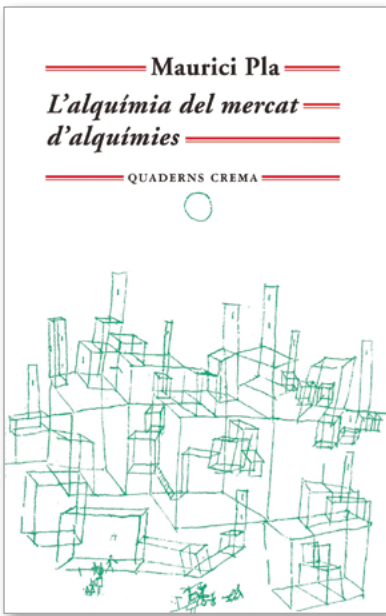
ABC

"A beautiful book, delightful in both its natural, easily flowing prose and the skill with which the author pulls the strings of the plot. It fascinates with everything it hints at and delivers to the reader's imagination and sensibility".

El Boomeran(g)

"Very high doses of imagination, intelligence and sensibility".

Fulgencio Argüelles, *El comercio*



Maurici Pla
*The Alchemy
of the Alchemies Market*

152 pages

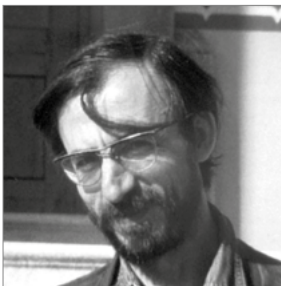
2011

FICTION

NOVEL

L'alquímia del mercat d'alquímies by Maurici Pla presents a narrative that intertwines the world of alchemy with the dynamics of contemporary marketplaces. The protagonist navigates through various facets of trade and transformation, exploring how both commerce and alchemy seek to create value from the ordinary.

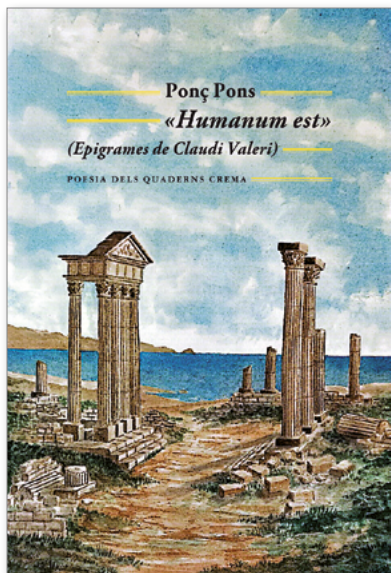
The plot centers on the notion that the essence of alchemy lies not only in the transmutation of base metals into gold but also in the deeper understanding of human relationships and societal values. Through vivid storytelling, Pla illustrates how the alchemical process mirrors the complexities of modern life, emphasizing themes of creation, change, and the pursuit of meaning.



MAURICI PLA (Barcelona, 1959-2017) was an architect and writer and, moreover, a translator from French, English and Italian. He combined writing for publications in his academic field with producing works of fiction. Quaders Crema published his novel *Dissabte a les fosques* (Saturday in the Dark) and *L'alquímia del mercat d'alquímies* (The Alchemy of the Alchemies Market).

"The way in which Maurici Pla combines art, sex and drugs through the ambiguous and apparently naïve character of Alexander Kahn is truly exceptional". *La Vanguardia*

"Sometimes, stimulating and mesmerising literary innovations appear. *L'Alquímia del mercat d'alquímies* is a good example of this". *El País*



Ponç Pons

«*Humanum est*»

(*Epigrammes de Claudi Valeri*)

112 pages

2023

FICTION

POETRY

Claudi Valeri, Pons's nom de plume, was born on a trip to Rome as a voice that comes to us from a very present past expressed in epigrams. An only child, rich by inheritance but with no interest in business, he didn't believe in the gods or in other lives. His two great passions, poetry and love, made him faithful to many muses. His way of writing is personal, vital, like breathing, always seeking brevity and concision. These lines, running in his blood, are the last vestige of his—poetic, of course, yet absolutely real—existence.



PONÇ PONS (Menorca, 1956) is a professor at the Institute of Catalan Language and Literature. As a poet, he has published *Al Marge*, *Lira de Bova*, *Desert encès* (Quaderns Crema, 1989), *On s'acaba el sender*, *Estigma*, *El salobre*, *Abissínia*, *Pessoanes*, *Nura* (Quaderns Crema, 2006—winner of the *Viola d'Or* in the *Jocs Florals* literary competition, the *Serra d'Or* Critics Prize, and the National Critics Prize), and *Camp de Bard*. He has also received the *Cavall Verd* Prize for Poetry Translation. His work, translated into several languages, appears in the most prestigious anthologies and, as an oeuvre, has been awarded the Ramon Llull Prize among others.

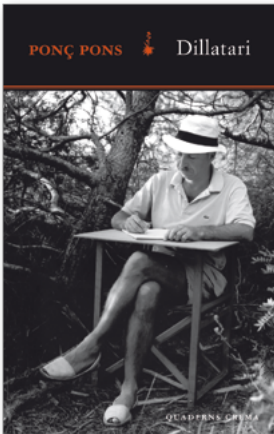
"Let's be clear about this, Ponç Pons is a poet of great stature, one of the best of the Catalan language literary scene, and one of the few among the country's men of letters who has produced a leisurely, serene, work that is measured in its poetry and contemplated in the workshop of thought and experience."

Jordi Llovet, *El País*

"Ponç Pons is a kind of Menorcan Montaigne. Listen to the free, ironic, wise voice of this island lover who is enamoured with words, nature, and humanity."

Ignasi Aragay, *Ara*

Ponç Pons



National Critics Award,
2006

Critics Serra d'Or Award,
2007

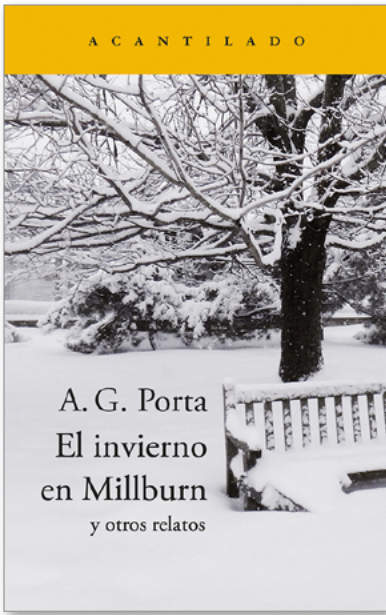
Rights sold:

Nura

Galician
EDICIÓNS LAIOVENTO

"Ponç Pons is a poet of great stature, one of the best of the Catalan language literary scene, and one of the few among the country's men of letters who has produced a leisurely, serene, work that is measured in its poetry and contemplated in the workshop of thought and experience".

Jordi Llovet, *El País*



A. G. Porta

Winter in Millburn

288 pages

2025

FICTION

SHORT STORIES

This collection of stories opens with “Sunday Afternoon”, a series of nine tales that gradually unfold and take shape as part of something greater—an intangible whole that, together with the work of Claude Simon, changed the author’s understanding of his craft, literature, and much more, leaving him as astonished by the discovery as the reader. Obsession has led him to repeatedly reread his own texts, rewarding him with countless new ideas. Yet in recent days, faced with his notes, he has come up blank. Until today, until now—a dreary winter night when sleep eludes him. A few minutes past four in the morning, he sits down to write, pouring out his reflections on why it seems impossible to tackle that old project of Nine Stories... In the three stories that follow—“An Unusual Story with Florence Cambray Bronchard,” “Silver Kane Revisited,” and “Winter in Millburn”—equally fascinating and astonishing, A. G. Porta, whether by instinct or vocation, dares to attempt everything.



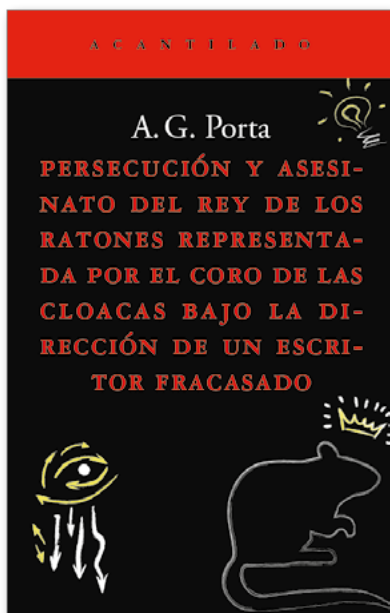
A. G. PORTA (Barcelona, 1954) was awarded the Literary Scene for Fiction Prize in 1984 for the book, co-authored with Roberto Bolaño, titled *Consejos de un discípulo de Morrison a un fanático de Joyce* (Advice from a Disciple of Morrison to a Fan of Joyce). He also received the 2005 Café Gijón Prize for his novel *Concierto del No Mundo* (No World Concerto). Acantilado has published all his fictional work.

"A. G. Porta's fiction is marked by radical originality, astonishing plots, and prose of elaborate irony."

Jesús Ferrer, *La Razón*

"Porta makes us smile and marvel at his blessed literary madness."

Publishers Weekly



A. G. Porta

Pursuit and murder of the mouse king performed by the sewer choir and conducted by a failed writer.

192 pages

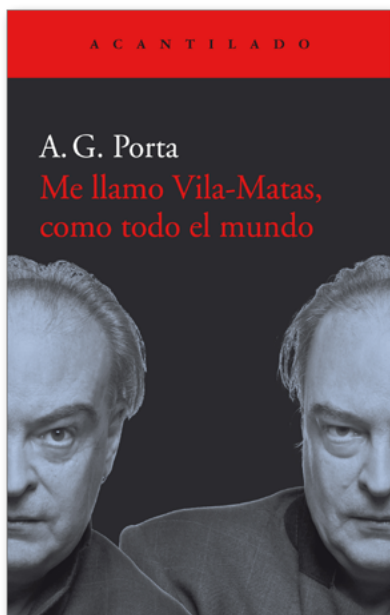
2022

FICTION

When the failed writer sets out to tell his traditional Christmas story, as he does every year, he is unaware of what the adventure has in store for him. Along the way, he will come across some of the great authors who have engaged with the genre, including Andersen, Calders, Capote, Dickens, Hoffmann, and Monzó, not to mention the omnipresent Kafka and Shakespeare. The result will be a most colourful and dashing tale performed by a small chorus of rodents and a mixed cast consisting not only of the customary Scrooges, but also mice of the calibre of Philip Marlowe, Josephine the Singer, the one and only Charles Bukowski, and none other than Lieutenant Colombo. In short this is a special Christmas story which will take shape as the reader becomes familiar with the author's tricks on his quest to find a work that may only exist inside his own head.

"His writing is as limpid as a Hockney painting. Anyone who starts reading him will be hooked until the last page".

Roberto Bolaño



A. G. Porta

*I'm Called Vila-Matas,
Like Everyone Else*

80 pages

2019

FICTION

Enrique Vila-Matas announces to Porta that he's been invited to take part as an actor in an Off-Broadway show. However, the heart and soul of the project, a woman called Allison, has vanished and neither Vila-Matas nor his New York-based friend Eduardo Lago can find her. Saying goodbye and engrossed in an increasingly absurd conversation, Porta and Vila-Matas fantasise about the possibility that the play-induced madness could end up with two texts titled *Looking for Alison* and *Off Off Off Broadway*. When he gets back home, Porta writes a parody of the conversation. He thinks about sending it to Vila-Matas but then doesn't. Hence, *Me llamo Vila-Matas, como todo el mundo* appears and, true to the absurdity that engendered it, this dialogue will bring the reader closer to the personal world of Enrique Vila-Matas.

"A delirious dialogue. It probes the very essence of literature, understanding it as a game, as boundless space". Anna Maria Iglesia, *El Mundo*



A. G. Porta
Braudel by Braudel

206 pages

1999

FICTION

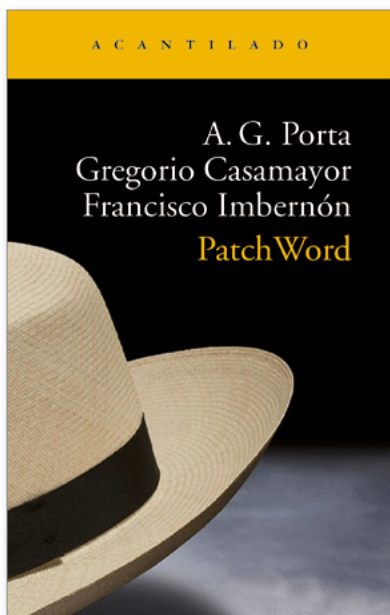
NOVEL

“The day Ricardo Duarte disembarked in the port of Mahón, he did so using the name of Gustavo Braudel and his excuse was that he needed a refuge...” Thus begins this novel in which, strictly speaking, nothing seems to happen yet the reader, spellbound by a sense of throbbing subterranean events, won't be able to put it down. From an apparently fragmentary sketch there emerges, as in a process of revelation, a story of fascinating magnetism that will transport the reader into the space of pure literature.

"The writing of *Braudel por Braudel* is as clear as a Hockney painting. Anyone who starts reading him won't be able to stop until the last page". Roberto Bolaño

"A mature, elegant, wisely reticent novel, one of those books where what happens is much more than what is told". Javier Cercas, *El País*

"The references to music, cinema, theatre, and literature give a special air to this novel which, full of hints, is read with unsettling calm". J. A. Masoliver Ródenas, *La Vanguardia*



A. G. Porta,
Gregorio Casamayor
y Francisco Imbernón
PatchWord

336 pages

2019

FICTION

NOVEL

The narrator of this literary artefact, none other than a hat most recently named Athanasius Pernath, describes the adventures of the motley characters it has accompanied over the years. The story of this Genuine Panama Hat 58 takes the form of a compendium of things it has heard and perceived, while it also offers its opinions about the world and even the reader, who won't be indifferent. Hence, if you, patient readers, dare to reach the last page, you'll understand something you may not know yet: stories don't only exist when someone tells them but, also and especially, when someone reads them.



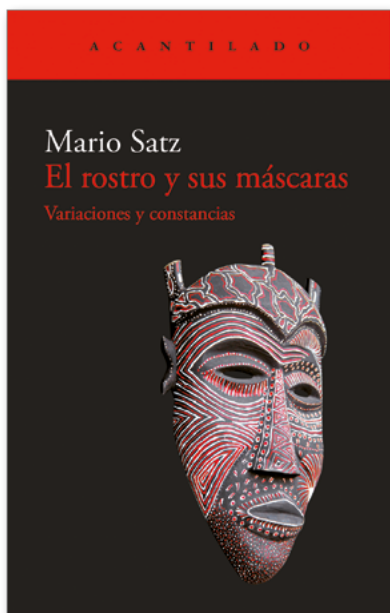
A. G. PORTA (Barcelona, 1954) was awarded the Literary Scene for Fiction Prize in 1984 for the book, co-authored with Roberto Bolaño, titled *Advice from a Disciple of Morrison to a Fan of Joyce*. He also received the 2005 Café Gijón Prize for his novel *No World Concerto*. Acantilado has published all his fictional work.



GREGORIO CASAMAYOR (Cañadajuncosa, Cuenca, 1955) was awarded the 2010 Memorial Silverio Cañada Prize for the Best Crime Novel for his first novel *God's Soup*. Meticulously paced, his novels shun all artificiality with prose that is always at the service of what needs to be explained.



FRANCISCO IMBERNÓN (1952) is a professor of Didactics and Educational Organization at the University of Barcelona. This is his first novel.



Mario Satz

The Face and Its Masks
Variations and Constants

208 pages

2024

NON-FICTION

ESSAY

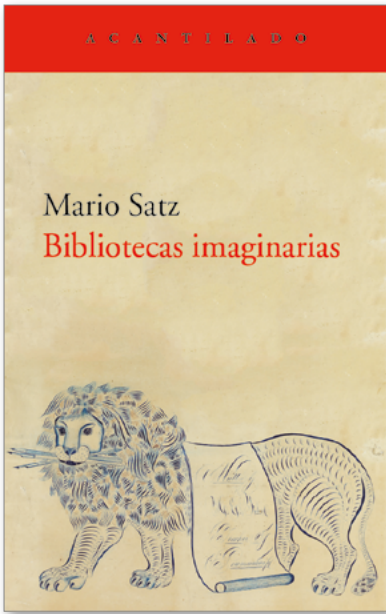
We can't see our own face directly, without a mirror, but the countenance reveals our identity, what it is that makes us unique to the eye. Ever since human beings have been human, they have wanted to see their essence in people's physiognomy, while masks have been used either to hide this, or protect it from malign intentions, or establish new personalities, or nourish states of mind. Through history, fables, and myths, this riveting essay transports the reader to such fascinating places as Ancient Egypt or to the Carnival of Venice to reveal this fascination for the mirror of the soul and its countless reflections.



MARIO SATZ (Buenos Aires, 1944) is a philologist, essayist, poet, novelist and translator. After completing secondary school in Argentina, he travelled widely in South America, the United States and Europe. Between 1970 and 1973 he lived in Jerusalem where he studied the Kabbalah, the Bible, anthropology and the history of the Middle East. In 1977, the Italian Government awarded him a scholarship to study the work of the Renaissance humanist Giovanni Pico della Mirandola. Mario Satz writes on a regular basis for numerous Spanish and American magazines and has published several essays, poetry collections and novels.

"An absorbing investigation that takes the face as a principle of identity, subject to all the phantasmagorias of the personal mask, and to a history, even more mysterious, rich, and complex, that runs through the vast cabinet of masks conceived by mankind."

Lorenzo Luengo, *El Periódico Abril*



Mario Satz

Bibliotecas imaginarias

216 pages

2021

FICTION

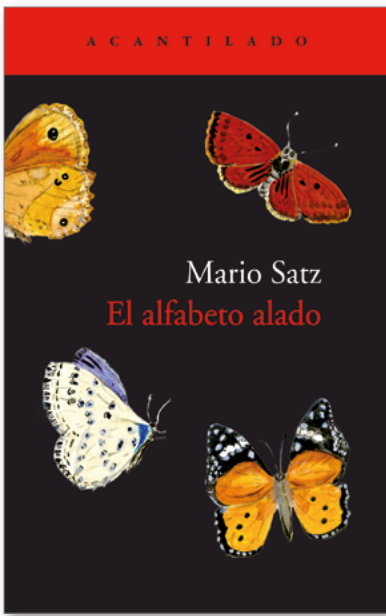
Ever since books and libraries have existed, the voices and ideas of the past have been conserved as true treasures of knowledge and pleasure. That something invisible like language survives in silence through writing until some hand awakens it for the delight of the eyes and joy of the heart, is endurance's ambush of time. Mario Satz's *Bibliotecas imaginarias* (Imaginary Libraries) seeks out and revives the atmosphere of these places of study where repose and inspiration came together to reveal their respective blessings to visitors. Hence, amid losses, fires, robberies, and donations of books, we travel through the history of these fantastic libraries with a sense of contemplating humanity as a whole in its quest to acquire knowledge, true to itself, or enemy of its best causes. As a result, more than a story of books, Mario Satz tells that of their indispensable readers.

"When intelligence and culture are crossed with an exquisite, poetic command of language, the result could be a book by Mario Satz".

Sagrario Fernández-Prieto, *La Razón*

"This small book is an enormous feat of the imagination, once again expressed in the endless struggle of the human being to write, read, preserve, and learn".

La Vanguardia



Mario Satz

The Winged Alphabet

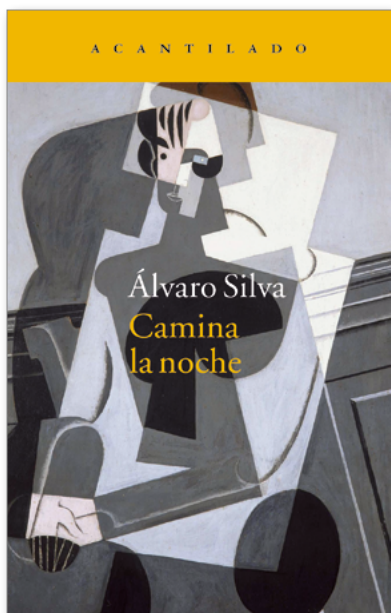
216 pages

2019

FICTION

SHORT STORIES

There is a close relationship between the human soul and butterflies: what in one is oscillation and ascent is, in the others, fluttering and colour. Aristotle was the first to coin the word psyche to represent this nexus and, after him, poets and painters represented a winged, fragile, elusive yet lovely soul. Today it is photography that documents the lives of these splendid insects whose miraculous existence shows in turn how volatile and extraordinary human life is. Brief and intense, the stories that Mario Satz has brought together in this very beautiful book relate the adventures and misadventures of these winged jewels that have inspired so many the myths, legends, and fables that are worthy of being recorded.



Álvaro Silva

Walk the Night

432 pages

2015

FICTION

NOVEL

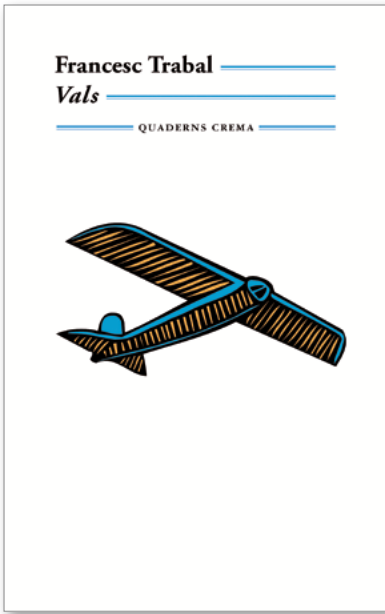
Isabel's father disappeared in the early days of the Civil War and the mysterious figure of the absent man has marked her existence ever since. One day she receives a strange phone call which signals a turning point in her life. The narrator then goes back in time to reveal the highs and lows of love and the decisions that determine the destiny of the characters. This is a subtle novel and a penetrating inquiry into the consequences of our acts.



ÁLVARO SILVA (Vitoria, 1949) has written *Tomás Moro: un hombre para todas las horas* (Thomas More, a Man for All Hours, 2007) and has edited several works by More, including those he has titled *Piensa la muerte* (Thinking about Death, 2006), *Carta a un monje* (Letter to a Monk, 2009) and *The Last Letters of Thomas More* (2001 – published as *Últimas cartas*, Acantilado, 2010).

"A subtle novel and deep reflection on the consequences of our acts". *La Vanguardia*

"A beautiful parable about forgiveness and second chances". *El Mundo*



Francesc Trbal

Vals

264 pages

1935, 1998

FICTION

NOVEL

Rights sold:

English
(Worldwide)
DALKEY
ARCHIVE
PRESS

Dutch
MKW MENKEN
KASANDER &
WIGMAN
UITGEVERS

Following the structure of a musical piece in crescendo, Francesc Trbal weaves, against the backdrop of an urban environment and bourgeois issues, the story and failure of a twenty-year-old boy who is sensitive, aimless, and romantic; a romanticism that makes him somewhat unconscious, a bit cowardly, and very unhappy. *Vals* is written with narrative simplicity and fluidity, and the cinematic resources in its language, along with the expressionism that reveals the most essential aspects for understanding each situation, demonstrate Trbal's sensitivity to the aesthetic means of his time and also his quality as a writer.



FRANCESC FRABAL (Sabadell, 1899 - Santiago de Chile, 1957) was a novelist, journalist and humorist with a deep commitment to his generation and his country. Brilliant and of restless disposition, he played an active and notable role in the Catalan cultural world of his times. After the outbreak of the Spanish Civil War he went into exile in Chile where he created the Chilean-Catalan Institute for Culture while also engaging in different publishing initiatives. In general, his work deals with the unsatisfactory nature of human relations in well-to-do society, with a sense of humour associated with the vanguard tradition in tending towards the absurd.

**Creixells Prize,
1936**

"A truly obscure object of desire. A long neglected author". *The World Street Journal*



Francesc Trabal

She Was Just Another Woman

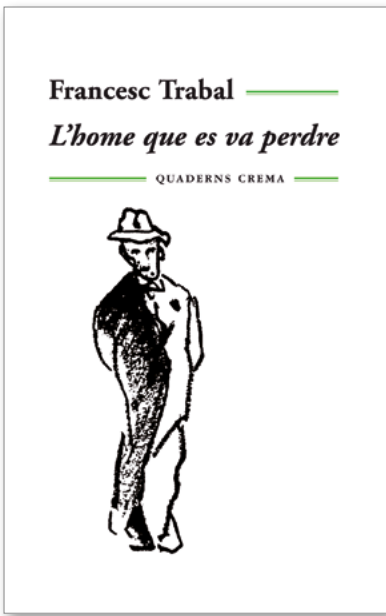
144 pages

1932, 1994

FICTION

NOVEL

The theme of this novel is unhappiness. Two acquaintances meet up at the burial of an old friend, Erènia. On the way from the church to the cemetery they strike up a conversation about how the deceased—the little girl who grew up to be a woman without knowing it, and in whom “a pair of pigeons billing and cooing on the windowsill awakened a kind of thirst that she was never able to slake”—has died in strange circumstances. In his usual resolute style, shunning melodrama, psychologism and vehemence, Francesc Trabal takes the story of Erènia’s thirst and the impossibility of quenching it, links it with the constraints and hypocrisies of Catalan social life in the first three decades of the century, and sifts the action through the fine filter of irony.



Francesc Trabal

The Man Who Got Lost

162 pages

1929, 1982

FICTION

NOVEL

Rights sold:

French

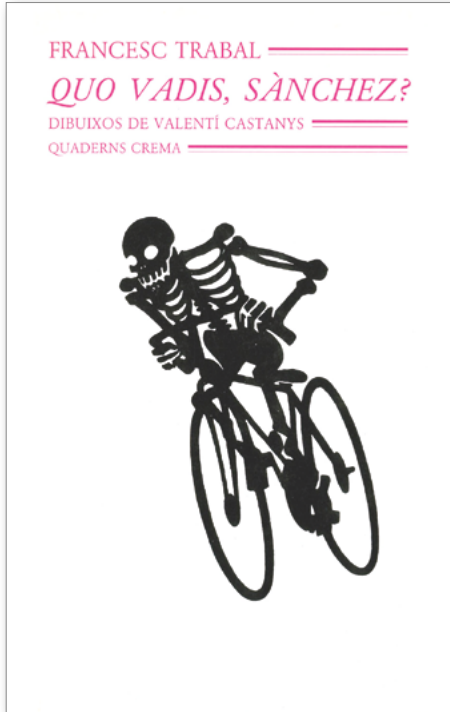
LES ÉDITIONS

AUTREMENT

Lluís Frederic Picàbia loses his fiancée. Shortly afterwards, he loses his cigar case. Then he loses ten umbrellas, a wristwatch, a comb belonging to his mother—may she rest in peace—three cameras, eighteen walking sticks, two monocles, a suitcase, four raincoats, thirteen pipes, three wallets, a secretary, *senyoreta Virgili*, etcetera. Losing things becomes a career in which Picàbia performs miraculous feats. He loses a twenty-four-store building in Fifth Avenue, New York, three elephants on a riverbank, one thousand eight hundred Fords in the middle of a racing track in Honduras, five thousand Chinese children in Tampico (Mexico) and the Swedish crown jewels... This is a book of delirious humour, absurd situations and complicated adventures that will all end in tragedy for the demented hero is lost to himself.

"Francesc Trabal, a writer, of unique temperament and highly personal technique, nudges at the limits of the genre of the novel with his *L'home que es va perdre*". *La Vanguardia*

Other titles by the author



Quo vadis, Sánchez?

160 pages

1931, 1988

FICTION

NOVEL

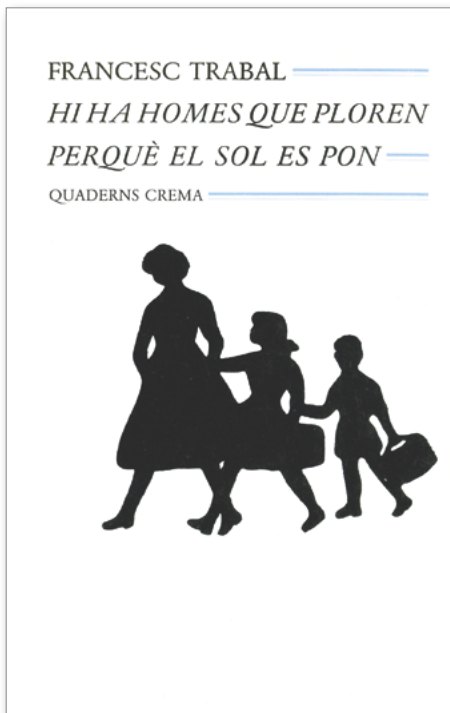
Rights sold:

French

LES ÉDITIONS AUTREMENT

Spanish

CABALLITO DE ACERO



Some Men Cry because the Sun Sets

152 pages

1933, 1987

FICTION

NOVEL

FRANCESC TRABAL
TEMPERATURA
QUADERNS CREMA



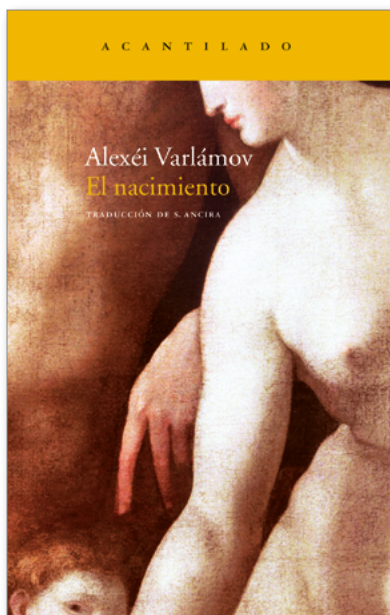
Temperature

224 pages

1947, 1986

FICTION

NOVEL



Aleksei Varlamov

The Birth

160 pages

2009

FICTION

NOVEL

Rights sold:

Vietnamese

WOMEN'S PUBLISHING HOUSE

Serbian

ŠTAMPAR MAKARIJE

Macedonian

MAKEDONIKA LITERA

An estranged middle-aged couple share a rundown apartment paying little attention to one another. Almost mindlessly they conceive a child. Through this development, they rediscover themselves and their relationship flourishes, strengthened by fear of a miscarriage. The portrayal of the couple's life is succinct, without dwelling on details, and an engaging atmosphere is conveyed through the most delicate and austere of narrative styles. Varlamov describes the power of love that knows no fear.



ALEKSEI VARLAMOV (Moscow, 1963) made his debut as a writer in 1987 with the short story "Roaches" and subsequently attained fame in 1995 with the novel *The Wild Olive*. He has received numerous awards, including the Solzhenitsyn Prize in 2000. *El nacimiento* (The Birth), published for the first time in 1995, definitively consolidated his reputation as a writer.

"Varlamov is one of the most interesting Russian fiction writers today.

Not to be missed". *La Vanguardia*

"Varlamov's art as a fiction writer is astounding, balance, emotional and genuine". *El País*



Berta Vias Mahou
*They Came Looking
for Him*

232 pages

2010

FICTION

NOVEL

Jacques, alter ego of Albert Camus, re-creates the last years of his life. Well-known for his opposition to any form of violence, not only to the death penalty and the terrorism that has grown out of the opposition in his country to the French colonial regime, but also to the notion that the end justifies the means, he comes into direct confrontation with the majority of the intellectuals of his time. After receiving numerous death threats, the Algerian-born writer is persecuted—as he has described in his novel *The First Man*—by a nightmare that frequently assails him in different forms but with only one theme: his executioners come looking for him.



BERTA VIAS MAHOU (Madrid, 1961) has a degree in Ancient History. She has translated Ödön von Horváth, Stefan Zweig, Arthur Schnitzler, Joseph Roth.

**Dulce Chacón Prize
for Spanish Fiction, 2011**

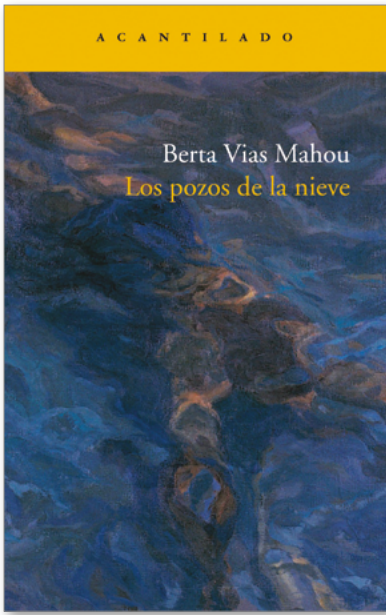
**Finalist for the
Critics' Prize, 2011**

"A book mingling history and fiction, reviving different aspects of Albert Camus". *Diario Vasco*

"An exceptional novel. Superb". *ABC*

"An interesting reflection on violence. A text of great literary merit". *El Mundo*

"One of the best books of the year". *elplacerdelalectura.com*



Berta Vias Mahou

Snow Pits

224 pages

2008

FICTION

SHORT STORIES

Intent on capturing whatever past he can derive from the objects around him (not unlike Walter Benjamin in the city of Paris), the narrator delves into the lives of a number of people who were embroiled in some of the murkiest events of the twentieth century, including the Spanish Civil War and the Second World War. Trapped between the voices of the masses and the conscience of the individual, the narrator, disillusioned with words, is paradoxically left with only his own voice.

**Finalist for the Critics
Award, 2008**

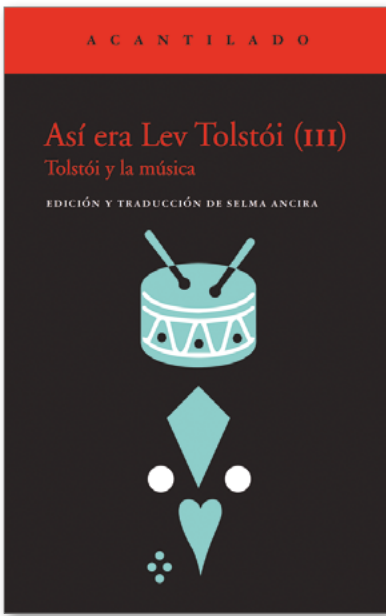
**Sintagma Award,
2008**

"A moving novel". *El Mundo*

"A book that will not be ignored". *Público*

"A small literary gem". *El País*

NON-FICTION



This Was Lev Tolstoy (III) *Tolstoy and Music*

216 pages

2022

NON-FICTION

BIOGRAPHIES

The complex, multifaceted figure of Tolstoy fascinated both his contemporaries and anyone who comes to his work today. The texts brought together in this volume reveal a writer who is an ascetic and moral thinker, but also a music lover whose fondness for the most abstract of the arts contains some of the keys to his thinking about creation and life. Each one of these essays—like tesserae which, piece by piece, come together in a complex mosaic—reflects an aspect of the fascinating, larger-than-life personality of this man who was capable of inspiring sincere admiration in anyone who met him.

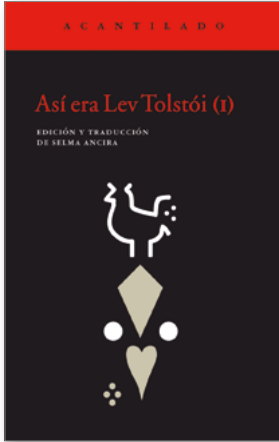


SELMA ANCIRA (Mexico City, 1956) is a translator of Russian and Modern Greek literature. Among the authors she has translated are Pushkin, Dostoyevsky, Bunin, Bulgakov, and Pasternak, as well as Seferis, Kazantzakis, Ritsos, Kambanellis and Maria Iordanidou. She has also introduced Spanish readers to the work of Marina Tsvetaeva, whose prose she has translated almost in its entirety, and has received major awards throughout her career, including the Pushkin Medal—the most prestigious Russian state decoration for foreign artists—the Angel Crespo Prize for Translation, the Marina Tsvetaeva Prize for Literature, the Maximilian Voloshin Prize for Literature, the National Prize for Translation, the Tomás Segovia Prize for Literary Translation, and the Read Russia Literary Prize.

"On this occasion, we learn about Tolstoy's musical tastes, his relationship with music, and his relations with some notable composers and performers. This book offers glimpses that come together in a portrayal of Tolstoy's complex, multifaceted personality".

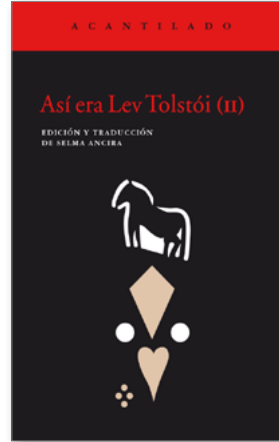
Iñaki Urdanibia, *Kaos en la red*

This Was Lev Tolstoy (I, II)



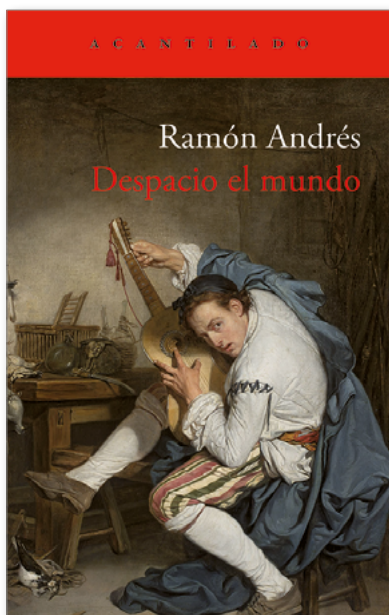
144 pages
2017
ESSAY
BIOGRAPHIES

Rights sold:
Turkish
ÇEVIRIBILIM



192 pages
2018
ESSAY
BIOGRAPHIES

The series *Así era Lev Tolstói* (This Was Lev Tolstoy) brings together the accounts of friends, acquaintances and other people who had the opportunity to speak with him. Through their singular chronicles we discover not only the great writer but the great man that he was.



Ramón Andrés

Slowly Goes the World

400 pages

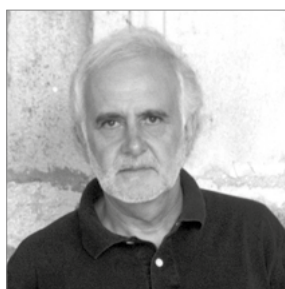
2024

NON-FICTION

ESSAY

English sample available

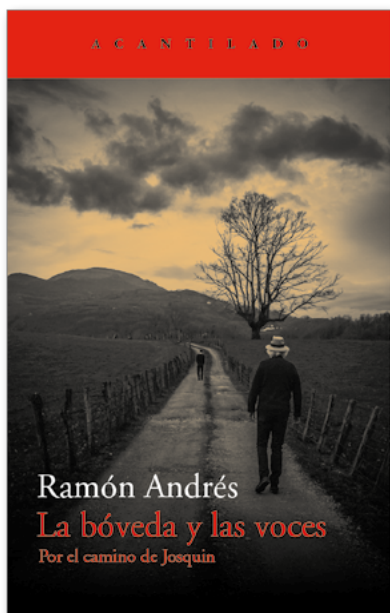
Tuning an instrument, Ramón Andrés reminds us, is in some sense an attempt to fix in an instant of perfection the eternal fluctuations of the world around us, an endeavour not only of musicians but also of a multitude of painters from all eras. Hence, this particular art gallery of the ear offers the reader a splendid, leisurely journey through the history of painting from the fifteenth to the eighteenth century with music as a harmonious guide linking together more than fifty paintings featuring musicians and their instruments. Ramón Andrés draws on them to trace a highly personal, sensitive, and erudite history of music, art, and Renaissance and Baroque thought in this essential essay for anyone who seeks consolation in both the beauty of music and quiet contemplation of a painting.



RAMÓN ANDRÉS (Pamplona, 1955) is a thinker, essayist and poet. He has written numerous articles and books about music and literature for which he has received many awards. In 2015 the Prince of Viana Prize for Culture, for his intellectual and literary career, in 2020 the SER Navarra Prize and in 2021 the National Essay Award for his book *Filosofía y consuelo de la música* (Philosophy and the Consolation of Music).

"*Slowly the World* is an invitation to a slower world, to pause, to rest, to recover the small gestures that slip through our hands and to focus on one in particular: tuning an instrument."

Laura Puy Muguero, *Diario de Navarra*



Ramón Andrés
The Vault and the Voices
Down the Josquin's Path

384 pages

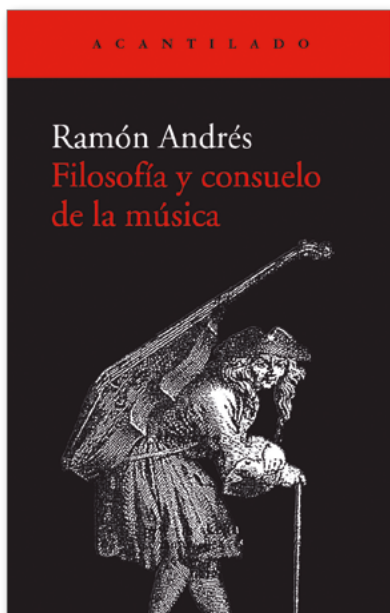
2022

NON-FICTION

ESSAY

Walking a path means recognising the steps of those who have gone before, surrendering to the fate of their stars. As if he, too, were a citizen of those long-ago times, Ramón Andrés follows the trail of another age, in the footsteps of Josquin Desprez, the first maestro of the Franco-Flemish School. In fact, despite the fame he achieved in his lifetime, the tracks of Desprez, prince of polyphony, stay in the shadows, making of him a figure that is both enigmatic and elusive. From the beginning of his musical education, as a choirboy in Saint-Quentin, France, to the collegiate church in Condé-sur-l'Escaut where he ended his days as a provost—after having passed through the courts of Milan, Rome, Florence, and Ferrara, where he had moved in search of greater economic stability—his journey allows us to discover Renaissance society and to encounter many of the personalities who helped to shape this unique era, among them Leonardo da Vinci, Lucrecia Borgia, Pietro Bembo, Gaffurio, and Pinturicchio.

This bold, original work takes us closer to an extraordinary past that is still seeking echoes in the present.



Ramón Andrés
*Philosophy and
the Consolation of Music*

1168 pages

2020

ESSAY

National Essay Award 2021

Rights sold:

Chinese

CITIC PRESS CORPORATION

In this extraordinary book, Ramón Andrés converses with authors of the past while offering, in a way that is new in Spanish studies, a history of the philosophy of music. Following Boethius, who spoke of the “consolation of philosophy”, Andrés writes about the “consolation of music”, offering a text that is both wise and approachable in which the reader will discover that writing about music is not only a way of prolonging the consolation, but also of keeping our inalienable reserve of freedom.

"This book is an exquisite rarity. Who but Ramón Andrés would be able to offer us such a complete, original volume that brings together not only philosophy and music but also many other disciplines?"

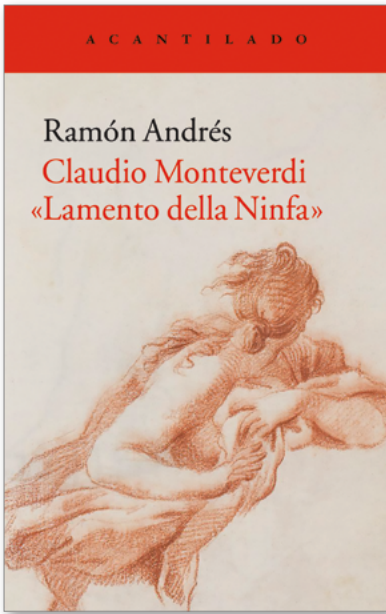
Jordi Llavina, *La Vanguardia*

"Ramón Andrés erudition inspires a logical amazement. I believe this sense of wonder is an integral part of the appeal of his books".

Stefano Russomanno, *Scherzo*

"Ramón Andrés adds a narrative tone of evident literary resonance, accompanying and enhancing the reading of the thousand pages of this book".

Alejandro Martínez, *Platea Magazine*



Ramón Andrés

Claudio Monteverdi
«Lamento della Ninfa»

144 pages

2017

ESSAY

MUSIC

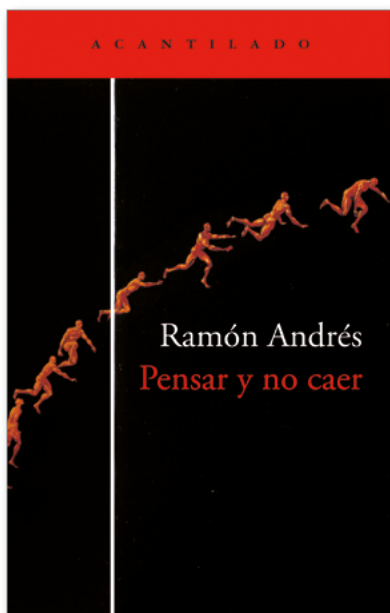
Rights sold:

French

EDITIONS FARIO

The nymphs, daughters of Zeus and Thetis, live “in a fountain’s first foam, in the sparkle of a jet of spray, in reflections on the water when the foliage lets sunrays peep through. They bathe downstream, leaving the wake of their bodies [...] They sing, play their instruments and dance. They do not want to be seen and yet are yearned for by hidden eyes of gods and men, lying in wait behind the bushes. They are loved and only sometimes do they love”.

Claudio Monteverdi, leafing through the *Poesie del sr. Ottavio Rinuccini*, noticed the canzonetta which, fortunately, was to become the *Lamento della Ninfa*, a work of delicate, unforgettable, singular beauty. Only such a transgressive musician, who aspired to achieving in melody an appropriate match for emotion in order to make audible what had previously been silenced, could give voice to the torn existence of creatures living between two worlds but not wholly belonging to either. Through art, literature and music, this beautiful text tells the story of the magical meeting of the Italian maestro and his nymph. This work is an incomparable tribute to love for beauty.



Ramón Andrés

To Think and Not to Fall

224 pages

2016

ESSAY

PHILOSOPHY

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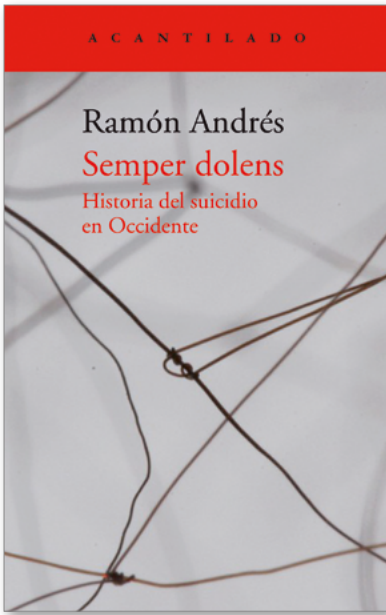
AUDIBLE

With this book, Ramón Andrés offers ten essays or meditations on a range of subjects, although the reader recognises a single sensibility in all of them, the same subtle, patient, penetrating gaze. Starting out from works of literature, music or film, with a selection (ranging from Sebald's poem *After Nature* to Béla Tarr's film *The Turin Horse* by way of Ligeti's "Requiem") which, in itself, is nothing less than a message to the reader, he ponders matters like the values entailed in breaking bread at the table, the relationship between humanity and animality, the chimeras of today and yesterday, calumnies, death, nothingness and exclusion and, through them all, he keeps whispering a diagnosis of our times.

"An admirable, moving book. A necessary moral treatise". *Ara*

"Andrés reflects in a subtly combative way about present-day society". *La Voz de Galicia*

"An extraordinary reading of our society and our times". *Faro de Vigo*



Ramón Andrés

Semper dolens

A History of Suicide in the West

512 pages

2015

ESSAY

Rights sold:

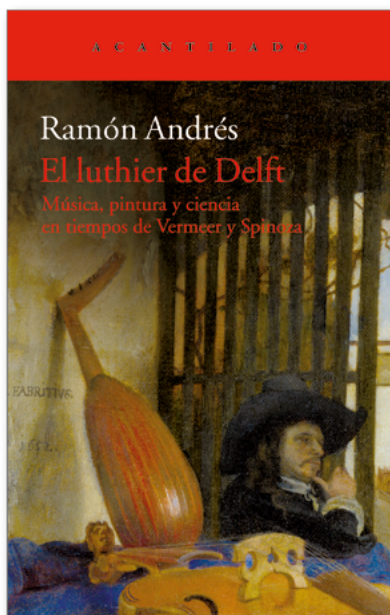
Portuguese

ALMEDINA

According to the World Health Organization, suicide is the leading cause of violent death in the world, ahead of murder and armed conflicts. Many psychiatric studies in recent years suggest that ninety per cent of suicides are the result of mental illness. However, reducing the voluntary act of suicide to pathology only means simplifying one of the most decisive aspects of human experience: pain. A history of suicide in the West should therefore be a history of pain, taking into account all the forms of our fragility.

"His enormous erudition allows him to leap with natural elegance from science to letters and the arts, and thus to dazzle us". Francisco Calvo Serraller, *El País*

"An incomparable voice of the contemporary Spanish essay". Iker Seisdedos, *El País*



Ramón Andrés

The Luthier of Delft

*Music, Painting and Science
in the Times of Vermeer and Spinoza*

336 pages

2013

ESSAY

MUSIC

Rights sold:

Chinese

CITIC PRESS CORPORATION

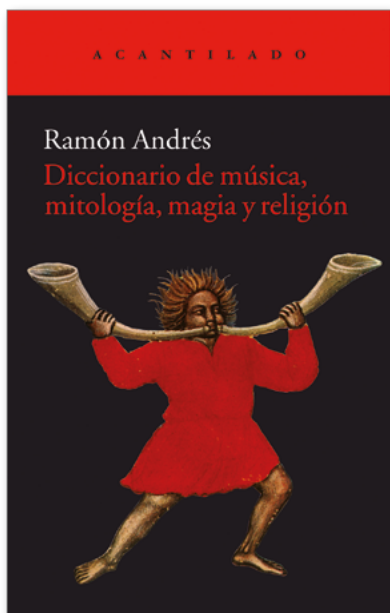
French

EDITIONS FARIO

El Luthier de Delft examines seventeenth-century music (but also art and science), with particular attention to Dutch culture. The book revolves around three main characters, the painter Jan Vermeer, the philosopher Baruch Spinoza and the musician Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck. They guide the reader through the construction of musical instruments with all their woods and varnishes, the presence of women in art and music, the lives of painters and the symbolic world of their works, and studies in optics and the popularisation of the telescope. This book abounds in resonances and harmonies, wisdom and subtlety.

"A succulent and erudite explosion of refined humanism". *El País*

"An essay of exuberant erudition". *El Mundo*



Ramón Andrés
*Dictionary of Music,
Mythology, Magic
and Religion*

1776 pages

2012

ESSAY

MUSIC

Rights sold:

Russian

AST

This book examines the relationship of music with mythology and religion, which is to say the origins of the art of music as a vehicle for ideas and ancient beliefs. Drawing on the Indo-European cultures as well as the decisive presence of ancient Egypt, it takes music as its unifying theme in order to delve into the origins of present-day culture in its most diverse aspects. Readers, thus presented with the keys to their past, can learn about religions and customs as well as the moral and ethical foundations of today's world in ancient Greece, Persia and India, and also in the Celtic, Roman, Germanic and Scandinavian realms, where music had a very significant role.

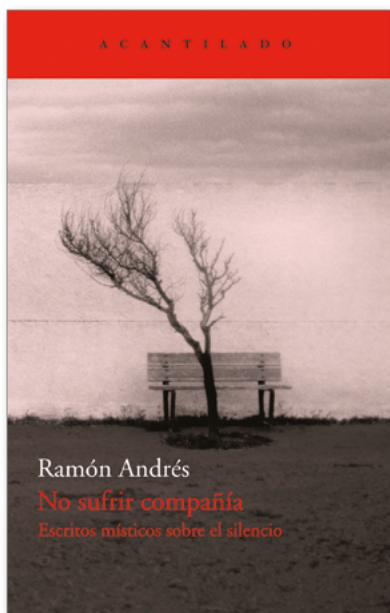
***El País* Best Essay of 2012**

**Shortlisted by *La Vanguardia* as
one of the top 10 essays of 2012**

"An extraordinary reference work and, moreover, a delicious intellectual and creative adventure". *El País*

"A book that is destined to become a major work of reference". *El Mundo*

"A gigantic work. Poetic, erudite, absorbing". *La Vanguardia*



Ramón Andrés
Company Unwelcome
Mystical Writings on Silence

392 pages

2010

ESSAY

RELIGION

Silence, which means more than an interruption of sounds or seeking the reverse of oral language, possesses, though it may seem contradictory, a powerful communicative dimension and a strange capacity for facilitating access into the world of the spirit, thought and the arts. It is, as much as speaking is, a form of knowledge, the key that gives access to the complexity of consciousness. From silence one may analyse another angle of human conduct, critically interpret culture and explain subtly and in quite an atypical fashion any metaphysical construction. This book, in which the wide-ranging preliminary study discusses the origins and development of spiritual and philosophical traditions of East and West, offers a painstaking selection of writings on silence, the work of the great masters of Spanish mysticism of the 16th and 17th centuries, representatives of the apogee of European spiritual literature.

"A fascinating anthology of texts".

Gara



Ramón Andrés

A World in the Ear

The Birth of Music in Culture

576 pages

2008

ESSAY

MUSIC

Rights sold:

Italian

ADELPHI

Chinese

CITIC PRESS CORPORATION

When was music born? This is the question that guides Ramón Andrés' work, from the earliest human encounters with sound through to works of contemporary composers, via China, Mesopotamia, India, Egypt, Greece and Rome. *A World in the Ear* is both a richly documented essay and a thrilling, intense tour through a discipline that, century after century, has proven to be a matchless source of knowledge and delight. Music is a key element of human culture. Not only does it contribute towards our understanding of the cosmos but it also has a healing function which transports us to other worlds and opens our minds to other states of consciousness. To quote the author: "There is no culture anywhere in which music does not serve as a precious means to knowledge".

"A skilfully and zestfully told story which conveys its passion to the reader". *El Mundo*

"An impressive work that shouldn't be missed by any music lover". *ABC*

Other titles by the author



Johann Sebastian Bach: Days, Ideas and Books

344 pages

2005

ESSAY

City of Barcelona Prize, 2009

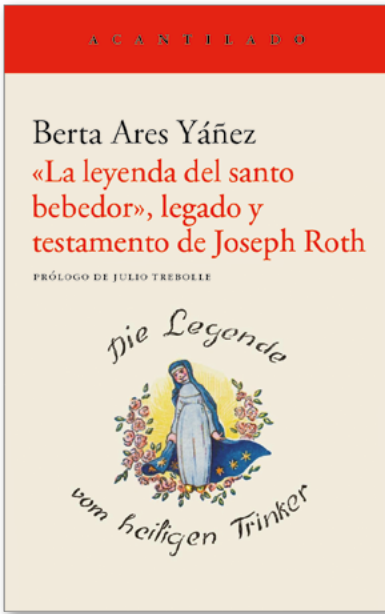
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Chinese

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Spanish worldwide Audio rights

SCRIBD



Berta Ares Yáñez

«*The Legend of the Holy Drinker*», *Legacy and Testament of Joseph Roth*

280 pages

2022

NON-FICTION

ESSAY

English sample available

Joseph Roth concluded *The Legend of the Holy Drinker* two weeks before he died in Paris, an alcoholic and stateless. Written in the autumn of 1938 and spring of 1939, his final *nouvelle* is considered to be the legacy of and testament to his most intimate thought but, as happens with the rest of his work, it has been read exclusively within the Western canon, and thus ignoring its indisputable place within the European Jewish tradition. In this illuminating essay, the researcher Berta Ares Yáñez explores the *topos*, symbols, metaphors, and literary motifs that characterise the work of Roth, prophet of modernity, in the light of the literature of the eastern *shtetl* and Lurian mysticism. She therefore reconciles this work with what Hannah Arendt called the “hidden tradition” when referring to texts that cannot be understood if they are made to comply with the canon with which Europe has explained itself.



BERTA ARES, with a PhD (Extraordinary Doctorate Award) in Humanities from the Pompeu Fabra University, Barcelona, is a cultural journalist and researcher. She has worked with several media outlets, including *Jot Down*, *Letras Libres*, and *Revista de Letras*. «*La leyenda del santo bebedor*», *legado y testamento de Joseph Roth* is her first book.



Rafael Argullol

Passion of the God Who Wanted to Be Man

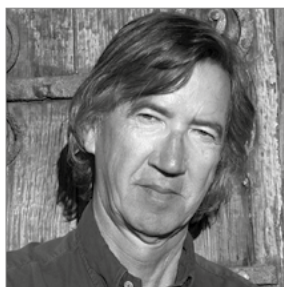
88 pages

2014

ESSAY

RELIGION

Rafael Argullol examines the death of Jesus of Nazareth. His account is equally nourished by the Gospels and successive images based on the story bequeathed to us by artists. Christ is like the hero in a Greek tragedy, a profoundly human figure around which every aspect of existence is in turmoil. Love, friendship, eroticism, freedom and betrayal are stages along an itinerary marked out by an exceptional destiny. *Pasión del Dios que quiso ser hombre* is a moving text shining with the beauty of a disturbing and highly fascinating story.



RAFAEL ARGULLOL (Barcelona, 1949), Professor of Aesthetics and Theory of Art at the University of Barcelona, is a writer, poet and essayist. He has written more than twenty-five books in diverse literary genres, including novels, essays and poetry.

"This is a gripping, provocative book, vibrant with brilliant intuitions and, in cultural terms, impeccable". *La Vanguardia*

"A little gem of a book". *Ara*

"Brief but intense". *El País*



Rafael Argullol

Damn Perfection

*Writings on the Sacrifice
and Celebration of Beauty*

240 pages

2013

ESSAY

Rights sold:

Slovenian

LUD LITERATURA

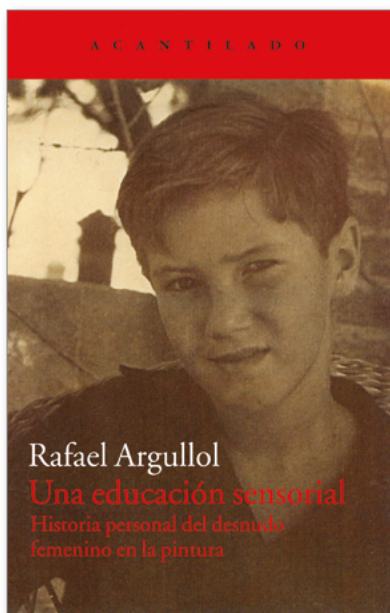
Argullol is always concerned about the relationship between man and artistic inquiry, in each and every one of its disciplines, as a path to knowledge. This time he embarks on a journey of twenty-two stops in which one finds, among other characters, phenomena and places, Michelangelo, Honoré de Balzac, Goethe, Lucretius, Dante, Thomas Mann, Victor Hugo, Montaigne, Shakespeare, Dürer, Picasso, Nietzsche, Rilke, Dostoyevsky, Mantegna, the Cappella Sansevero, the Soyuz spacecraft, the sculptor's stone, spectres, mountains and silence. This is a book full of echoes summoned up by one of our most brilliant writers.

"One of this year's great books". *Diario de Sevilla*

"A splendid collection of essays". *El Mundo*

"An intelligent, essential book". *La Vanguardia*

"Delicious perfection". *El País*



Rafael Argullol

A Sensory Education

*A Personal History of the Female
Nude in Painting*

192 pages

2012

ESSAY

ART

Una educación sensorial is not only a title but also an exact description of this book's contents, delivered through the experience of a teenager who discovers in art what life has so far failed to offer, and of an adult who recalls, years later, what was an exceptional and, in many senses, a magical apprenticeship. The subtitle, too, is accurate since, as the reader will find, Argullol also reflects on eroticism, offering a veritable history of nudes in painting based on his own subjective experience.

**Casa de America Prize
for the Best Essay, 2012**

"A rich, enjoyable book". Luis Antonio de Villena

"An exceptional essay". *La voz de Galicia*

Other titles by the author



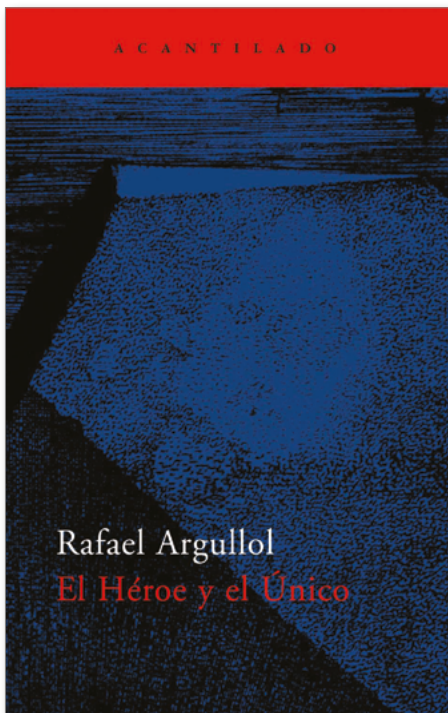
Theological-Erotic Treatise

96 pages

2016

NON-FICTION

SHORT NOVEL



The Hero and the One

480 pages

2008

ESSAY



Rafael Argullol
Aventura. Una filosofía nómada

**Adventure:
A Nomadic Philosophy**

120 pages

2008

ESSAY



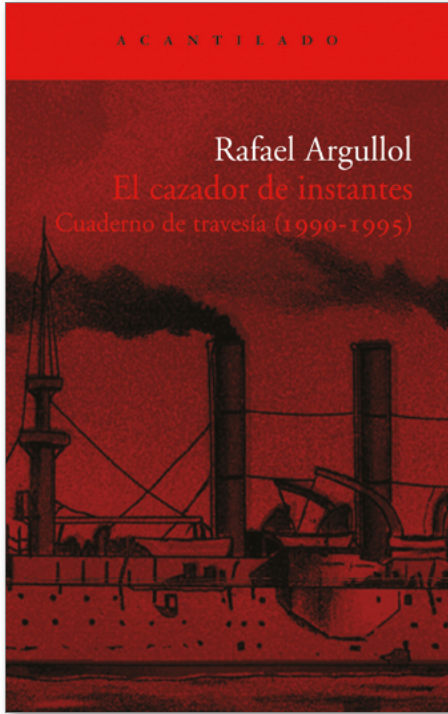
Rafael Argullol
*El fin del mundo
como obra de arte*

**The End of the World
as a Work of Art**

160 pages

2007

ESSAY

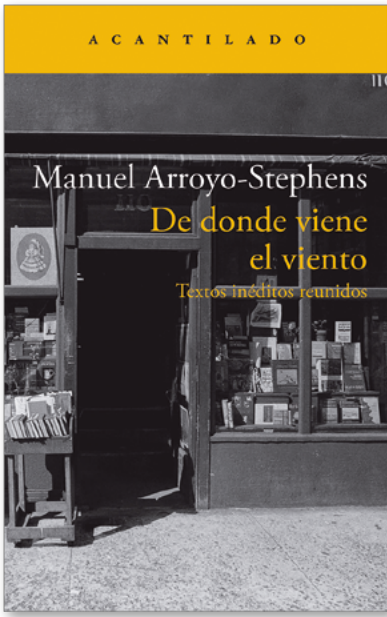


**The Hunter of Moments:
A Travel Journal (1990-1995)**

136 pages

2007

ESSAY



Manuel Arroyo-Stephens

Where the wind comes from

Collected unpublished texts

296 pages

2024

FICTION

“An acute observer of human nature, Manuel Arroyo-Stephens was a clandestine writer. When his unpublished works come to light, he will become a posthumous writer”, wrote Luis Gago after the death of this outstanding publisher in the Spain of the post-dictatorship years, discerning and indefatigable reader, and brilliant writer. *De donde viene el viento* (Where the Wind Comes From) brings together five unpublished pieces by Arroyo-Stephens—*Mi madre es una trucha* (My Mother Is a Trout), *Cuatro Quijotes* (Four Quijotes), *Un hombre de negocios* (A Businessman), *Las ciudades* (The Cities), and *Desperdicios* (Waste)—which, somewhere between fiction and report, sparkle with his customary wit.



MANUEL ARROYO-STEPHENS (Bilbao, 1945 – El Escorial, 2020) studied Law and Economics but soon focused his efforts on his true passion: books. In the 1970s, he founded in Madrid the Turner publishing house and bookshop where he sold books that were censored by the Franco regime and published such essential titles as *La forja de un rebelde* (The Forging of a Rebel) by Arturo Barea, and the late work of José Bergamín. Acantilado has published the books *Mexicana* (Mexican, 2021) and *De donde viene el viento* (Where the Wind Comes From, 2024).

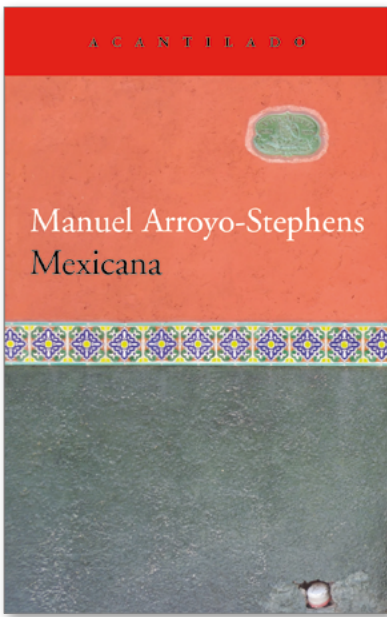
"Arroyo-Stephens worked until his last day on this final book, and especially the first text, the novella *Mi madre es una trucha* (My Mother Is a Trout) which, told with unforgettable dark humour, is perhaps the rawest, most moving family story I know.

I can't imagine a reader who wouldn't enjoy this."

Pilar Álvarez, *La Lectura*

"His work as a writer, scant but enduring, stands out for its depth and distinctive personality."

Ernesto Baltar, *The Objective*



Manuel Arroyo-Stephens

Mexicana

112 pages

2021

FICTION

Mexicana is Manuel Arroyo-Stephens' highly personal, original, and entertaining tribute to Mexico, to its overwhelming capital, its past and present, its tastes, smells, colours, skies, lands and seas and, above all, its own and adopted characters like the painter and poet Alfredo Castaneda, the singer Manuela Vargas, the writer and translator Javier García-Galiano, the poet Manuel Ulacia Altolaquirre, and many others Arroyo-Stephens had the good luck to come across during the years he lived between Mexico and Spain. In this book, combining memoirs, a chronicle, and a diary, the reader will find an able storyteller who re-creates with splendid veracity not only the speech and idiosyncrasies of the *chilangos* (proud inhabitants of the Federal District) but also all the disconcertment and fascination that outsiders experience with the episodes Mexico seems able to use, again and again, as if wanting to keep them there.

"His work as a writer, scant but enduring, is outstanding for its depth and distinctive personality".

Ernesto Baltar, *The Objective*



P. A. Balcells

Self-Portrait of Mozart

464 pages

2000

ESSAY

Quite apart from his condition as a musical genius, the human figure of Mozart is so extraordinary, exuberant, and contradictory—submissive yet rebellious, prankster and exacting, idealistic, proud and emotionally needy—that he has often been misleadingly presented by oversimplifying clichés. In portraying what we know about his character, this book draws on exceptional, unmediated documentation: his correspondence. P. A. Balcells, a connoisseur with thoroughgoing knowledge of Mozart and his work, has used this source to offer a complete and accurate portrait of the composer. *Autorretrato de Mozart* is not a chronological biography (although the data concerning his life and works are provided in an Appendix) but, rather, a rigorous, attractive account of the different aspects of a fascinating character.



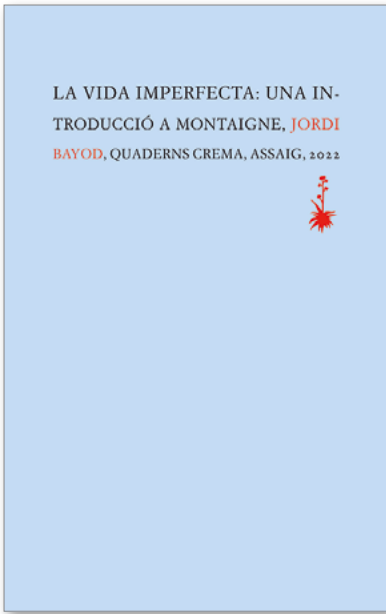
P. A. BALCELLS (Barcelona, 1957) is a musician, piano teacher, and lecturer in Musical Analysis. He has worked at the Barcelona Centre for Musical Studies and with L'Escolania (Boys' Choir) of Montserrat. As a musical populariser he has also worked with several institutions including the Barcelona Auditorium and the Gran Liceu opera house. Moreover, he has been a scriptwriter and commentator on concerts by the Barcelona Symphony and Catalonia National Orchestra for the radio station Catalunya Música.

"An interesting approach and inspirational work, bringing us closer to the personality of the great musician".

Jorge de Persia, *La Vanguardia*

"Balcells has achieved a fascinating, demystifying approach to the music and to the man".

Pablo Meléndez-Haddad, *ABC*



Jordi Bayod

The Imperfect Life: An Introduction to Montaigne

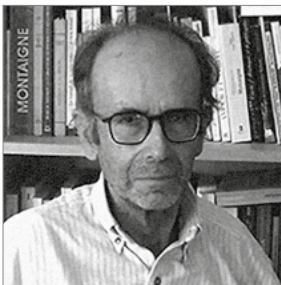
280 pages

2022

NON-FICTION

ESSAY

After a hedonistic youth, Michel de Montaigne left his post in the parliament of Bordeaux and withdrew to his castle to devote himself to contemplation and study. However, the experiment failed as the solitude plunged him into an excruciating state of melancholy. His masterpiece, the famous *The Complete Essays* is his response to this malaise. Montaigne not only developed a vital philosophy inspired by the classical tradition but also, in an exercise of absolute modernity, makes writing a means by which to become reconciled with himself and with life itself in all its imperfection. Jordi Bayod, a specialist in Montaigne's work and translator of a highly regarded edition of the *Essays* in Spanish (*Los ensayos*), explores in this scholarly and clarifying book the life and intellectual trajectory of a writer who, seeking happiness, was able to reconcile humanity's noblest aspirations with the inescapable finitude of existence.



JORDI BAYOD (Viladecans, 1959) has been a lecturer in Philosophy at the University of Barcelona and has translated works by such contemporary authors as Nuccio Ordine and Alain Corbin. A specialist in the work of Montaigne, he has published *Los ensayos (según la edición de 1595 de Marie de Gournay)* (2007), a translation that is widely deemed to be the work of reference in Spanish and, in 2020, *Diario del viaje a Italia* (in English, *The Diary of Montaigne's Journey to Italy in 1580 and 1581*).



María Belmonte

The Murmuring of Water

Fountains, Gardens, and Aquatic Divinities

208 pages

2024

NON-FICTION

ESSAY

English sample available

Rights sold:

Italian

TOURING CLUB

“Over the years I have discovered that fountains are magical, liminal places that should be come to without haste, as if visiting a friend [...]. Fountains sing and speak directly to the subconscious. They are musical soundscapes. Near a fountain, we listen to the music of life bubbling around it [...]. But fountains are not only pleasing to the ear. They are a total sensorial experience. They claim the attention of our five senses and shape a microcosm in which the forms, colours, and sounds of their setting are orchestrated by the water.” In vivid, evocative prose, María Belmonte takes her readers to places that are material and historical, and also personal and intimate, and calling up along the way ancient and modern authors to talk with her about water and fountains from the most charming perspectives.



MARÍA BELMONTE BARRENECHEA (Bilbao) has a degree in History and Anthropology and a PhD on Social Anthropology.

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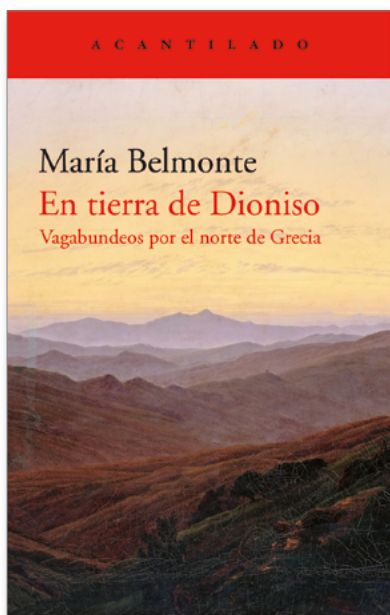
Peregrinos de la belleza *Los senderos del mar* *En tierra de Dioniso*

Portuguese (Brazil only)
MARTINS EDITORA

Audio Rights
AUDIBLE

Audio Rights
AUDIBLE

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María Belmonte
In the Land of Dionysius
Wanderings in the North of Greece

216 pages

2021

ESSAY

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Peregrinos de la belleza

Portuguese (Brazil only)

MARTINS EDITORA

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AUDIBLE

True to Kazantzakis's words, "Every perfect traveller always creates the country where he travels", María Belmonte conceives and re-creates Macedonia in the north of Greece, revealing it to her readers as a melancholic and mysterious land but also as exuberant as sunny Greece, and full of corners capable of offering moments of true exaltation. A frontier landscape which, for Belmonte, does not only consist of dividing lines but also fascinating zones where different realities, both material and spiritual, flow together. The result is an extraordinary story combining history, journeys, anthropology, and literature woven together by summoning up images, memories, readings, legends, and people, doing justice to a region that has been, and continues to be nothing less than a meeting point between two worlds, East and West.

"Belmonte manages to capture the reader's attention with the dynamism of her prose, richness of content, and the virtue of putting into writing inner thoughts that are projected out through the context, the external setting that is the real main character of the plot".

Jordi Corominas, *Leer*

"In Belmonte there is always an urge to decipher the invisible and, to achieve this, she summons characters from history and other travellers to get to know the soul of each place.

This requires time and devotion".

Alfredo Urdaci, *FanFan*



María Belmonte
The Paths of the Sea
A Journey on Foot

240 pages

2017

ESSAY

Rights sold:

Peregrinos de la belleza

Portuguese (Brazil only)

MARTINS EDITORA

Audio Rights

AUDIBLE

In the company of Aristotle, Goethe, Victor Hugo, Darwin, Jane Austen and many other writers, painters and adventurers, María Belmonte invites her readers to walk along the Basque coast. A sentimental journey to the places of her adolescence becomes an exploration of old coastal paths, a trip through human and geological history, recorded in a particularly revealing way in the landscapes and stones of the coast, the primordial threshold where two worlds meet. This is an inspiring text which urges us to observe nature and delight in it, to contemplate the subtleties of life in their pure state and to feel their deep throb.

"An inspirational text urging us to observe nature
and feel the heartbeat of life".

Faro de Vigo



María Belmonte
Pilgrims of Beauty
Travellers in Italy and Greece

320 pages

2015

ESSAY

LITERARY BIOGRAPHY

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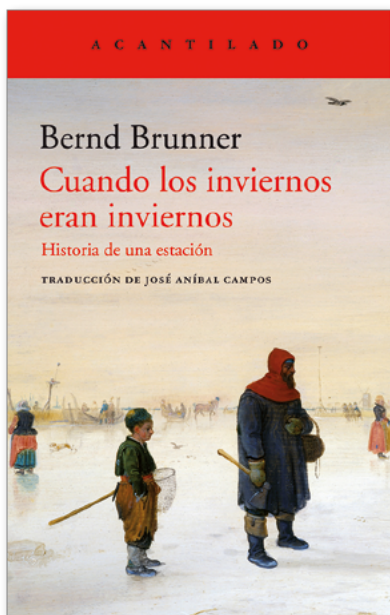
AUDIBLE

In the eighteenth century, Italy and Greece became places of veneration and obligatory pilgrimage for young aristocrats whose education was not considered to be complete without visiting these countries to ponder their beauty in situ. Books like Goethe's *Italian Journey* made a decisive contribution towards it, in particular as it was one of the first works to express the transformations that inhabitants of northern lands were going to undergo after coming into contact with Mediterranean essences.

"This book instructs and delights. Who could ask for more?". *El Mundo*

"This treasure trove of a book will surprise the reader with its many marvellous passages, dazzling anecdotes and exquisite sensibility". *El País*

"Masterly". *La Razón*



Bernd Brunner

Winterlust

Finding beauty in the fiercest season

256 pages

2020

NON-FICTION

ESSAY

Rights sold:

English Worldwide GREYSTONE	German KIWI VERLAG	Simplified Chinese THINKINGDOM MEDIA GROUP
Spanish ACANTILADO	Turkey IS BANKASI	

Full English translation available

The history of civilisations seems to show that human beings have a clear preference for heat and that we flee from the cold. Heat is associated with life, while cold seems to be united with death. Spring is the time of flowering, summer of ripening, and autumn the mournful harbinger of the arduous months ahead when everything dies or lies dormant waiting for the next spring. Yet there are cultures—as exotic, rich, and fascinating as those of the tropics—which have flourished in conditions of extreme cold. Devoted to them, this book ponders winter from its many historical, biological, and anthropological viewpoints, capturing some of its voluptuous delights, like the sheer joy of gliding on skis down a slope of virgin snow, or coming across a hut, warm and steamy, like an island in a sea of frozen white. Bernd Brunner captures the essence of this season, which one can love for all its rigours, one that is more precious than ever in these times of climate change.



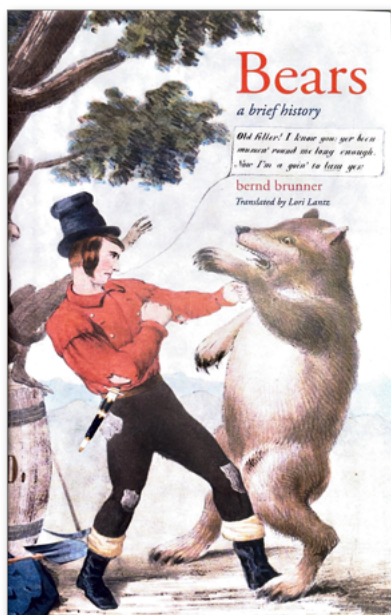
BERND BRUNNER (Berlin, 1964) is an essayist and author of several books in which he combines history, anthropology, and the sciences to offer wide-ranging insights on unusual subjects like aquariums, bears, the moon, the Christmas tree, the art of resting, and a passion for birds. His works have been translated into English and he is a regular contributor to such publications as *Frankfurter Allgemeine Sonntagszeitung*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Times Literary Supplement*, and *The Huffington Post*.

"Brunner considers both winter's terrors and its fascination. ... His winter's tales are edifying as well, because even as he explores the past he looks to a present and future marked by climate change".

Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

"Mr. Brunner's winning book is a reassuring, nostalgic reminder that winter is the season of both play and regeneration, which may yet turn to glorious summer".

The Wall Street Journal



Bernd Brunner

Bears

A Brief History

272 pages

NON-FICTION

ESSAY

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YALE UNIVERSITY PRESS

Italy

BOLLATI BORINGHERI

Russian

AST

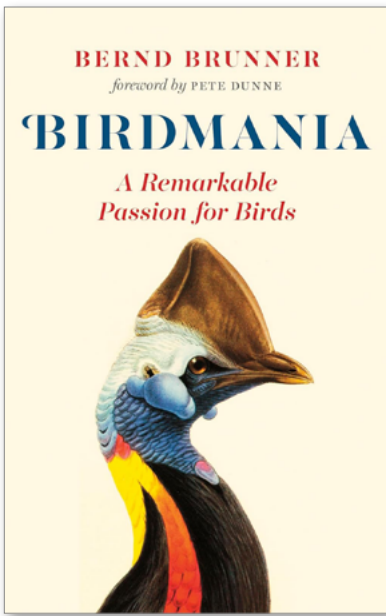
Japan

HAKUSUISHA

Turkey

E YAYINLARI

This engaging book examines the shared history of people and bears. Hopscotching through history, literature, and science, Bernd Brunner presents a rich compendium of the interactions between the two species and explores how bears have become central figures in our inventory of myths and dreams. He reveals the remarkable extent to which human feelings about bears have been, and still are, mixed. People have venerated, killed, caressed, tortured, nurtured, eaten, worshipped, and despised bears. Interestingly, the varied dealings of humans with bears raise the same question over and over again: do our images of bears have much in common with the animal as it really is? The book uncovers new and little-known stories and facts about bears in European, North American, Japanese, Russian, and South and South-east Asian cultures. Taken together, these perspectives show us new things about the animals we thought we knew so well. Quirky and bizarre anecdotes, scientific information on bears threatened with extinction in some areas, a discussion of the phenomenon of 'bearanoia', and more than one hundred historical illustrations contribute to this unique account of the shared history between bears and humans and the continuing presence of bears in our personal and collective dreams.



Bernd Brunner

Birdmania

A Remarkable Passion for Birds

288 pages

NON-FICTION

ESSAY

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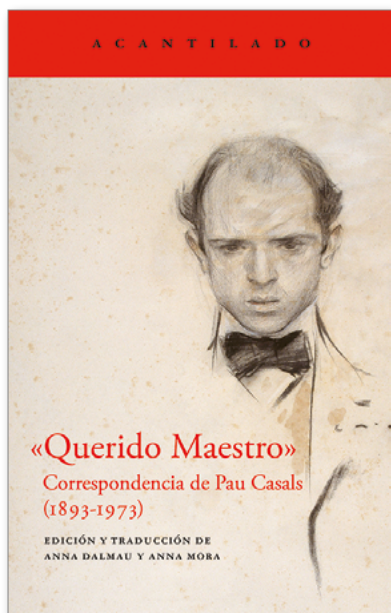
Germany
GALIANI BERLIN |
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LIBROS DEL JATA

There is no denying that many people are crazy for birds. Packed with intriguing facts and exquisite and rare artwork, *Birdmania* showcases an eclectic and fascinating selection of bird devotees who would do anything for their feathered friends. In addition to well-known enthusiasts such as Aristotle, Charles Darwin, and Helen Macdonald, Brunner introduces readers to Karl Russ, the pioneer of "bird rooms", who had difficulty renting lodgings when landlords realized who he was; George Lupton, a wealthy Yorkshire lawyer, who commissioned the theft of uniquely patterned eggs every year for twenty years from the same unfortunate female guillemot who never had a chance to raise a chick; George Archibald, who performed mating dances for an endangered whooping crane called Tex to encourage her to lay; and Mervyn Shorthouse, who posed as a wheelchair-bound invalid to steal an estimated ten thousand eggs from the Natural History Museum in Tring. As this book illustrates, people who love birds, whether they are amateurs or professionals, are as captivating and varied as the birds that give flight to their dreams.

"An exquisitely beautiful book... These stories about birds are ultimately reflections on the curious nature of humanity itself."

Helen Macdonald, author of *H Is for Hawk*



Pau Casals

Dear Maestro

Correspondence of Pau Casals (1893–1973)

704 pages

2024

NON-FICTION

ESSAY

The first collection covering the entire life of Pau Casals, this correspondence is of inestimable value. This enormous epistolary exchange with his numerous contacts—including composers, instrumentalists, poets, politicians, intellectuals of the twentieth century—reveals Casals' personality and what he understood as the inextricable relationship between life and art. As a privileged observer of events and phenomena of his times that were branded onto the contemporary world, among them the First World War, the Second World War, the Russian Revolution, the Spanish Civil War, and Vichy France, he presents in the letters collected in these pages not only the ideas, concerns, and beliefs of a great cellist, meticulous teacher, composer, and conductor, but also a committed artist who became a symbol of peace around the world.



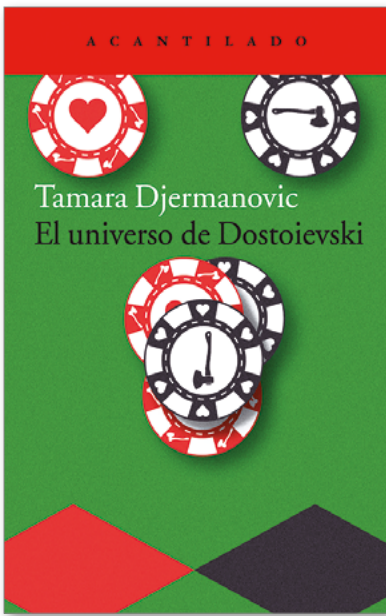
PAU CASALS (El Vendrell, 1876 – San Juan, Puerto Rico, 1973) cellist, composer, and conductor, was one of the most influential musicians of the twentieth century. After Franco's victory in the Civil War in 1939, he went into exile and France and, in 1965, to Puerto Rico where he continued his personal struggle for peace until his death.

"This correspondence helps us understand how Pau Casals's life was structured around two impulses: that of art and that of humanism. The effort of Anna Dalmau and Anna Mora, editors and translators, is admirable, because beyond the archival research, it is their work with footnotes, explanations, and sensitivity toward the artist that makes this document essential."

Use Lahoz, *El País Babelia*

"Pau Casals was a revolutionary thinker and an active humanist, both witness and victim of a 20th century prone to fanaticism. This valuable compilation of his correspondence bears witness to the intensity of his life. In a way, this is a book of contemporary history that speaks not only of music but also of life."

Arturo Reverter, *El Cultural*



Tamara Djermanovic

Dostoyevsky's Universe

272 pages

2022

NON-FICTION

ESSAY

Dostoyevsky's voice, which probes the depths of the human soul to portray the most sublime and the most terrible sentiments, continues to fascinate readers who recognise in his works a shared universe that is both dazzling and dangerously close and present. After several years of ardent reading, Tamara Djermanovic has been able to step back enough to offer a concise, illuminating analysis that does justice to the richness of a work replete with light and shadow, and an author that is both angelic and diabolical.



TAMARA DJERMANOVIC (Belgrade, 1965) is a writer and professor of Aesthetics and Slavic Literatures at Pompeu Fabra University, where she created and directs the Slavic Studies Seminar. Author of numerous articles in specialized and cultural magazines, she has published the essays *Dostoyevski between Russia and the West* (2006), *I come from Belgrade* (1996) and *Trip to my country that no longer exists* (2013). She is also a regular contributor to *La Vanguardia*.

"A most agreeably readable and profound account of the literary constellation of this brilliant novelist, offering understanding of the Russian soul".

Rafael Fuentes, *ABC*

"This book is an excellent introduction to Dostoyevsky. Djermanovic has distilled her more than twenty years' reading of his work into a text that goes from Dostoyevsky's childhood to his death".

Toni Montesinos, *La Razón*

"A brilliant synthesis conveying an ability to bring the complexity of Dostoyevsky's work and personality to an average reader who is not familiar with him".

José Ángel López Jiménez, *Librújula*



Josep María Esquirol

School of the Soul

From the way of educating to the way of living

192 pages

2024

NON-FICTION

ESSAY

English sample available

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Portuguese

PAULINAS

More than a book, *La escuela del alma* (School of the Soul) is a surprising, indefinable invitation to the reader to set out on a path leading from the true foundations of education to the horizon of a mature, fruitful, and spiritual life. With each step, realities that speak words like *place, teaching, company, attention, world, care, contemplation, creation* keep illuminating the path with their own light, and reveal new meanings. Each human being is shown as an origin, and a meeting between two people as a “soul touching another soul”. Once again, in his quest for the essence of things, Josep Maria Esquirol holds out a luminous and hopeful proposal in times of bewilderment and discouragement. This is a most singular conspiracy: *the philosophical order of love*.



JOSEP MARIA ESQUIROL is professor of Philosophy at the University of Barcelona. He has published more than a hundred articles in specialist journals as well as a dozen books.

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Humano, más humano

Portuguese

PAULINAS EDITORA

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Josep Maria Esquirol

Human, More Human

An Anthropology of the Infinite Wound

Apparently simple questions like, “What’s up with you”, “What’s your name?” or “Where are you from?” are slowly approaching the deepest centre of our soul, where the wound originating in the four essential infinitudes—life, death, you, and world—is discovered. We shall never be *too* human; if any horizon makes sense, it is that of coming to be *more* human. This, then, doesn’t mean going beyond the human, as Nietzsche wanted, but intensifying and going deeper into what is most human. Josep Maria Esquirol shows us how, from this dent in the human being, there emerges the most beneficial action which guides us and strengthens us because it is able to bring together, without confusion, gravity and lightness, day and night, heaven and earth, the present and hope... *Humano, más humano* is a truly philosophical essay written in language that is precise and understandable, and also evocative.



JOSEP MARIA ESQUIROL is professor of Philosophy at the University of Barcelona where he teaches Contemporary Philosophy and heads the research group Aporia which studies the relationship between philosophy and psychiatry. He has published more than a hundred articles in specialist journals as well as a dozen books, notable amongst which are *Uno mismo y los otros* (Oneself and Others, 2005), *El respeto o la mirada atenta* (Respect or the Attentive Gaze, 2006), *El respirar de los días* (The Breathing of Days, 2009), *Los filósofos contemporáneos y la técnica* (Contemporary Philosophers and Technique, 2011), *La penúltima bondad* (The Penultimate Goodness, Acantilado, 2018), *Humano, más humano* (Human, More Than Human, Acantilado, 2021) and, in particular, *La resistencia íntima* (Acantilado, 2015 – published in English as *The Intimate Resistance: A Philosophy of Proximity*, Fum d’Estampa, 2021), winner of the City of Barcelona and National prizes for the essay, and also published in Italian, Portuguese, and German.

"Esquirol’s books have a tremendous power of attraction because of their content and also the evocative strength of his poetic style".

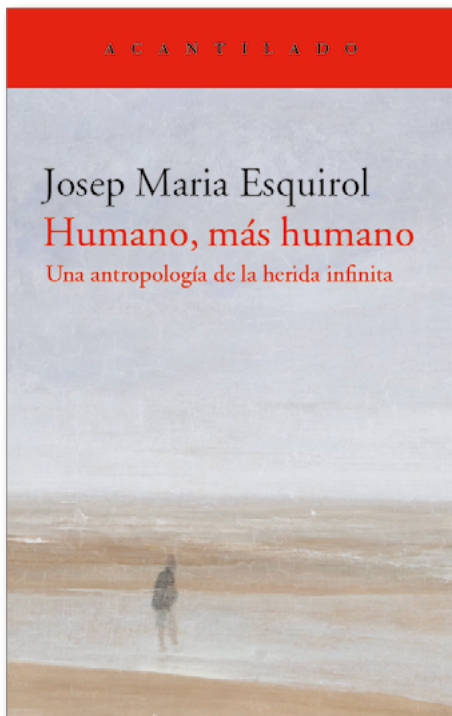
Sagrario Fernández-Prieto, *La Razón*

"Esquirol’s writing is a joy. This work is one more milestone in his construction of an accessible philosophy and, once again, the beauty of his writing combines with rigorous analysis and an original point of view. *Humano, más humano* is a magnificent book!".

Jordi Llavina, *Ara*

"Having a new essay by Josep Maria Esquirol in the bookshops is cause for celebration, just as it is each time that any of our philosophers helps to pave the way for accompanying us in thought".

Xavier Graset, *El Punt Avui*



176 pages

2021

NON-FICTION

ESSAY

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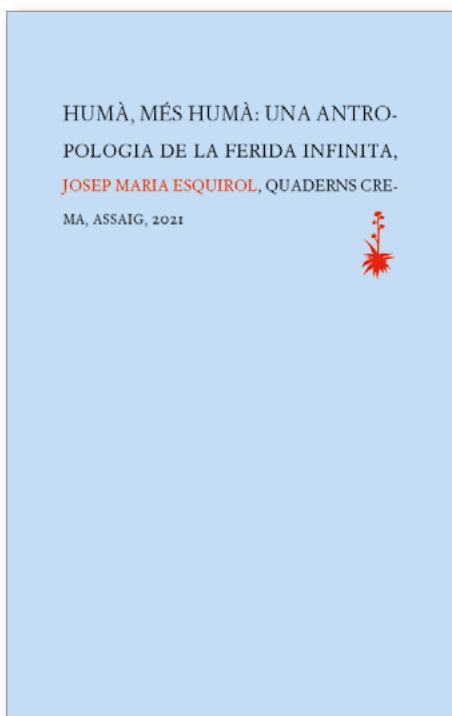
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Josep Maria Esquirol

The Penultimate Goodness

An Essay on Human Life

192 pages

2018

ESSAY

PHILOSOPHY

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English sample available

This essay subtly and surprisingly explores the human being's "essential infinitives": to live, to think, and to love. Starting out from the concept of "withdrawal from feeling", this is an unquestionably valuable contribution to philosophy. Like fine rain, Esquirol's distinctive style serenely but tenaciously soaks into the reader, setting out a revealing itinerary through pages devoted to shock, desire, creation, friendship, revolution, and gratitude.

From the very beginning he signals the heart of the matter: "Out here, on the fringes, genesis and degeneration, life and death, the human and the inhuman—since only the human can be inhuman—closeness and indifference. Out here, on the fringes, evil runs very deep but goodness runs still deeper. Out here, on the fringes, nothing makes more sense than shelter and generosity. Out here, on the fringes, we don't just live, but we are capable of life"

"A most beautiful essay on giving shelter and generosity, a turning inward of feeling and a capacity for life". *El País*

"His style is clear, precise, elegant, and rigorous but also a long way from the sometimes pointless aridity of a good part of academic production". *Mercurio*

"In ^EESQUIROL's literary style there is great persuasive power and the big issues of philosophy appear in his discourse as everyday, inevitable questions". Fulgencio Argüelles, *El Comercio*

Josep Maria Esquirol

Intimate Resistance

Essay on a proximity of philosophy

192 pages

2015

ESSAY

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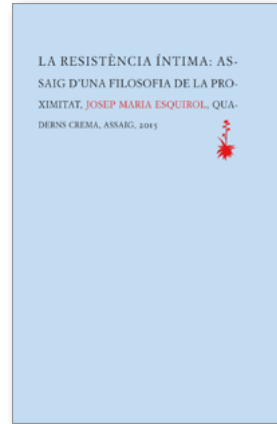
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Dutch

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**Samples in English, French
and German available**

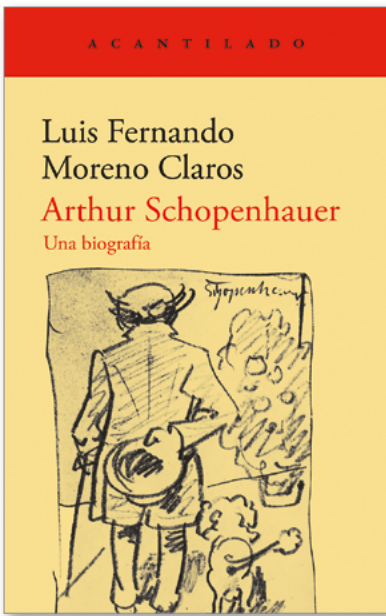
La resistència íntima is a percipient, profound essay on the human condition. Esquirol reveals how proper care of oneself gives light and warmth to those around us, protecting them and showing the way ahead. "We recognise that intimate resistance is what we call an experience belonging to the region of proximity; a region that is not visited in a day, but where one tends to stay. Yet today it is hard to remain there. Proximity is not measured in metres or centimetres. Its opposite is not distance but, rather, the ubiquitous monochrome of a world in thrall to technology. We have seen how everyday matters, and what is communicated by a home are extremely important modes of the experience of proximity".

**National Award
of Essay 2016**

**Ciutat de
Barcelona
Prize for the Best
Essay 2015**

"A work that is read with real enjoyment. A splendid book!". *La Vanguardia*

"Thoughts are expressed in accessible words with this unusual and profound proximity to things which an autonomous human being can attain". *El Mundo*



Luis Fernando Moreno Claros

Arthur Schopenhauer

Una biografía

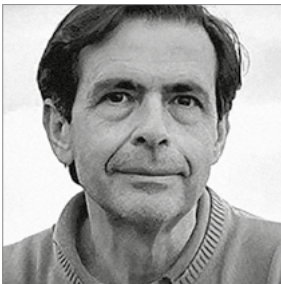
496 pages

2024

NON-FICTION

ESSAY

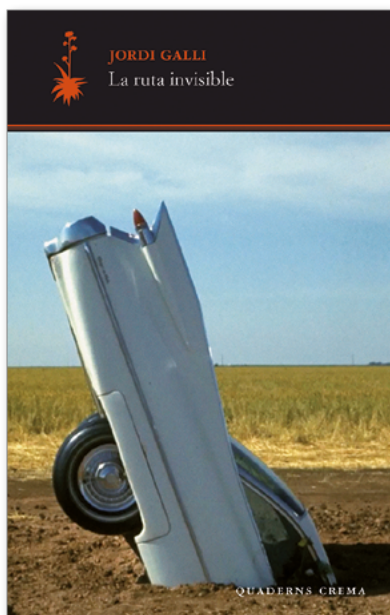
Schopenhauer is unquestionably one of the most widely read thinkers of modernity. Aware from a very early age of his genius, and convinced that life is a “miserable thing”, he devoted his own to questioning the meaning of existence and thinking about the best way to avoid suffering. When he was thirty, he set out his metaphysical system in the extraordinary book, *The World as Will and Representation*, although the academic and learned public circles of his time ignored it for decades, during which time Fichte, Hegel, and Schelling became established. The magnum opus of this pessimistic philosopher took a long time to be recognised but when it was, at the end of his life, it was to be an enduring success. A contemporary of Goethe and Napoleon, Schopenhauer travelled around Europe and learned to think from experience. Moreno Claros, with his thoroughgoing knowledge and deep understanding of Schopenhauer’s life and work, offers an instructive and entertaining account of the complexities of a thinker who has fascinated such a wide range of writers as Nietzsche, Tolstoy, Proust, Mann, Zweig, Wittgenstein, and Borges.



LUIS FERNANDO MORENO CLAROS (Cáceres, 1961), with a PhD in Philosophy, extended his studies of philosophy and German in Munich, Tübingen, and Weimar. He has translated into Spanish works by Goethe, Schopenhauer, Nietzsche, Kafka, and Stefan Zweig and is author, inter alia of the books *Introducción a Heidegger* (2016), *Introducción a Schopenhauer* (2023), and the biography *Stefan Zweig. Vida y obra de un gigante de la literatura* (2023). As a literary critic, he has written for the cultural magazines *Letras libres* and *Revista de Occidente*, as well as for the supplements “El Cultural” of *ABC* and “Babelia” of *El País*.

"With this complete biography Moreno Claros manages to offer a profound portrayal not only of the renowned and popular philosopher himself but also of his work. Moreover, it is written with a lovely feeling of clarity"

Diego Gándara, *La Razón*



Jordi Galli

The invisible route

192 pages
2024
NON-FICTION
ESSAY

[English sample available](#)

In this book, somewhere between essay and travelogue, Jordi Galli invites us to follow the trail of the old Route 66 which crosses the United States from Chicago to Santa Monica, thus emulating the paths opened up by the “Mayflower” colonists in their westwards expansion. Indeed, the famous Mother Road not only covers the country’s vast landscapes but also its rich history, from the birthplace of Black music to the sunset towns of the Jim Crow laws, from gold fever to the rain of black gold dollars, from genocide of the original inhabitants to assimilation of Mexican mortuary culture, from the “American dream” to anti-Americanism. Galli focuses his acute gaze on the spaces—significant or arbitrary—that are integral to our imaginary and makes of every landmark along the way an opportunity to go further while, at the same time, to look inward.



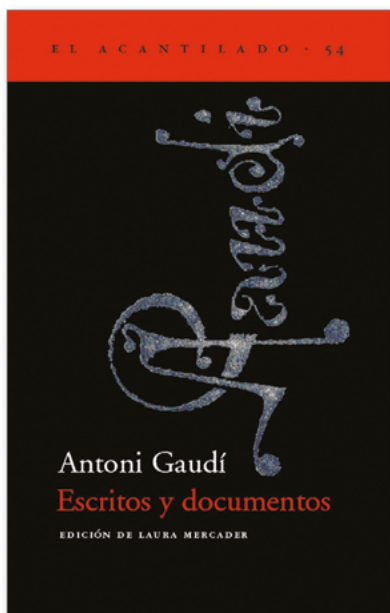
JORDI GALLI (Barcelona, 1965) has an Arts degree and has always worked in the publishing domain as a proofreader, translator, bookseller and, mainly, as manager of reference, essay, and non-fiction collections.

"In some paragraphs, a very enjoyable history book; in some pages, especially those that stop in eerie towns that are nothing more than a street with a barber shop and a motel, a scene from a David Lynch film—*Invisible Route* is the perfect guide (that doesn't try to be a guide) to delve into a Mother Road that, ironically, has not existed for decades."

Oriol Rodríguez, *El Nacional*

"*Invisible Route* is a book with touches of real travel, but heavily reinforced with cultural substance. It's not easy to write a debut book with this ambition and this level."

Julià Guillamon, *La Vanguardia*



Antoni Gaudí

Writings and Documents

336 pages

2002

ESSAY

ART

Rights sold:

Italian

ELECTA

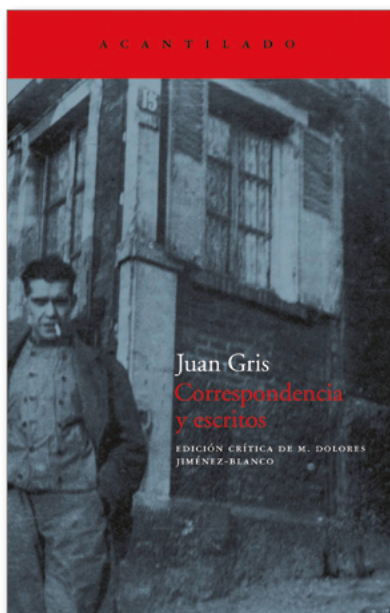
Russian

AST

Gaudí very rarely expressed in writing his ideas on architecture, construction and ornamentation or his favourite architectural types, namely, the temple and the hearth. Laura Mercader now offers the first critical edition of the written legacy of one of the twentieth century's greatest architects, including a number of unpublished texts. This is a major historical document in which Gaudí shows his interest in writing as a means of presenting his ideas, a key essay that will shine a new spotlight on his architectural work.



ANTONI GAUDÍ (Reus, 1852-1926) is one of Spain's most famous architects, both nationally and internationally. Born in Reus, he graduated in Barcelona in 1878. His fame derives not only from the originality of his technical solutions, but also from the audacious design of his buildings, furniture and decoration. Combining tradition, crafts and the most resolute innovation, his works show great brilliance and efficiency in terms of their construction.



Juan Gris

Correspondence and Documents

520 pages

2008

NON-FICTION

CORRESPONDENCE

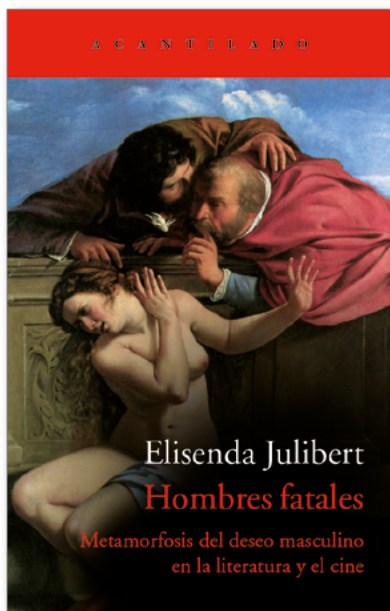
Although Juan Gris, a cubist *par excellence*, is one of the most important painters of the twentieth century many people today are ignorant of the artist and his work. This book reveals intimate details of Gris's life, while also portraying art and culture in Paris in the early years of the last century. Celebrities of all sorts offer a sweeping vision of a time of vertiginous changes in a world marked by a swift succession of avant-garde movements and the impact of war. His correspondence with Pablo Picasso, Daniel-Henry Kahnweiler, Léonce Rosenberg, Gertrude Stein, Maurice Raynal, Pierre Reverdy, Jacques Lipschitz, Tristan Tzara and Picabia, amongst others, reveals his intimate knowledge of the aesthetic trends of his time. Like other celebrities, including Gerardo Diego, Guillermo de Torre, María Blanchard and Vicente Huidobro, Gris also shows his interest in the new work being done in Spain.

Now available for the first time in Spanish, this book includes previously unpublished material, including the correspondence between Gris and Josep Maria Junoy after 1912 as well as some theoretical writings by the painter.



JOSÉ VICTORIANO (CARMELO CARLOS) GONZÁLEZ-PÉREZ (1887-1927), better known as Juan Gris, was a Spanish painter and sculptor who was born in Madrid but lived and worked in France most of his life. His works, which are closely associated with the emergence of an innovative artistic genre, namely Cubism, are among the most distinctive produced by the movement.

"A great testimony to Juan Gris's many relationships with other celebrities of his time". *El País*



Elisenda Julibert

The «Homme Fatal»

*Metamorphosis of masculine desire
in literature and cinema*

176 pages

2022

NON-FICTION

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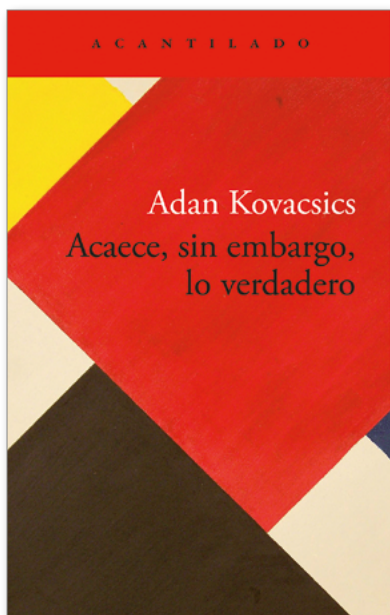
AUDIBLE

English sample available

Of the many fabulous creatures that have populated literature and film, the *femme fatale* is one of the most recurrent and protean of the last two centuries, although she belongs to an ancient lineage that goes back to the fickle Helen of the classics who set off the Trojan War and the biblical Eve who doomed all of humanity with her recklessness. In her analysis of literary and film characters, from Carmen to Lolita in the former case, and the Madeleine of *Vertigo* and Conchita of *That Obscure Object of Desire*, in the latter, Julibert explores the myth of the terrible *femme fatale*, but with a change of standpoint. What if, rather than attesting to the baleful character of certain women, the stereotype reveals a particularly sinister manifestation of male desire? Like a thriller, this book invites the reader to follow the trails of the men behind these mythical women who have been singled out by tradition, perhaps as a ploy for distracting attention and concealing the most crucial evidence.



ELISENDA JULIBERT (Barcelona, 1974) who studied Philosophy, has worked with publishers for more than two decades. She has translated, from French, George Sand, Guy de Maupassant, Marcel Proust, Albert Camus, and Claude Lévi-Strauss and, from English, Sylvia Plath, Zygmunt Bauman, and Simon Critchley. She currently works as a desk editor, translates, and writes on an occasional basis for the magazine *ctxt*.



Adan Kovacsics

But the True Comes to Pass

208 pages

2025

NON-FICTION

ESSAY

Echoing the lines of Hölderlin's poem "Mnemosyne"—Time is / Long, but the true / Comes to pass—Adan Kovacsics crafts his own memoir giving himself poetic freedom to reveal different facets of his experience as a translator, reader, and writer, three passions that have led him to travel to various European capitals, perhaps to trace his identity of many facets, among them the vocational translator who values his calling and, above all, the polyglot humanist that he is. Through fiction and essay, through the tensions of experience, memory, and language, he summons people who are still present even after they have departed, possibly because they are part of the elusive truth that gives content to existence and saves it from the abyss which, according to Hölderlin, only the gods can escape.



ADAN KOVACSICS (1953), son of Hungarian immigrants and born in Santiago de Chile, was educated in Vienna. Since 1980 he has lived in Spain where he works as a translator and writer. A member of the German Academy for Language and Literature, he has translated Karl Kraus, Arthur Schnitzler, Stefan Zweig, Franz Kafka, Imre Kertész, Ádám Bodor, and László Krasznahorkai, among many other authors, and has received many awards for his work, notable amongst which are the National Culture Award of the Spanish Ministry of Culture for his work as a whole and the National Prize of Austria, both in 2010, the Hungarian Balassi Grand Prize for Literary Translation, in 2017, and the Straelen Translation Award of Germany in 2022.

"Kovacsics is one of those authors who—away from spotlights that are not needed by those who go about their work out of pure conviction—discretely and conscientiously strengthens the foundations of a culture."

Ignacio F. Garmendia, *Diario de Sevilla*



Adan Kovacsics

War and Language

160 pages

2008

ESSAY

HISTORY

In four separate texts, Adan Kovacsics analyses the role of the press during wars, the impact of war on literature, its influence on language, and how modernity affects the ways in which people express themselves. No writer is unaffected by the impact of war on language, as demonstrated in the work of Rainer Maria Rilke, Ludwig Wittgenstein, Walter Benjamin, Paul Celan, Elfriede Jelinek and Ingeborg Bachmann. Kovacsics examines how wars are born and bred in the power of words and discusses the interesting case of Colin Powell's presentation before the United Nations justifying his country's attack on Iraq and thereby exemplifying Karl Kraus's early alert about language propaganda in the United States. As Kovacsics puts it, "War consists not only of actions and sufferings, but also of a stream of words".



ADAN KOVACSICS (1953), son of Hungarian immigrants and born in Santiago de Chile, was educated in Vienna. Since 1980 he has lived in Spain where he works as a translator and writer. A member of the German Academy for Language and Literature, he has translated Karl Kraus, Arthur Schnitzler, Stefan Zweig, Franz Kafka, Imre Kertész, Ádám Bodor, and László Krasznahorkai, among many other authors, and has received many awards for his work, notable amongst which are the National Culture Award of the Spanish Ministry of Culture for his work as a whole and the National Prize of Austria, both in 2010, the Hungarian Balassi Grand Prize for Literary Translation, in 2017, and the Straelen Translation Award of Germany in 2022.

"This is a magnificent book and now more pertinent than ever". *ABC*

"A caustic essay with marvellous narrative touches illustrating the disastrous consequences of the corruption of language". *El País*



Marta Llorente

Between Nature and Architecture

432 pages

2023

NON-FICTION

ESSAY

English sample available

Since its very beginnings, the garden has been a hybrid place, born of the human desire to tame nature and our eternal search for beauty. For all these reasons, it represents the space of greatest tension between the natural and the artificial. As a depiction of paradise lost, it is also universal and, hence, throughout history, countless idyllic leafy and blooming oases have sprung from the imagination, aspirations, and needs of specific societies. In these extraordinary pages, Marta Llorente subtly beckons us to consider the reality of the garden from a variety of perspectives with this journey through past and present, real and fictitious Edens, helping us to understand its function in the urban fabric, its manifestations in literature and art, and its future as a natural space in a context of climate emergency.



MARTA LLORENTE (Girona, 1957) is an architect. She has also studied music and painting. In 1992, she obtained a PhD in Architecture from the Barcelona School of Architecture, where she is a tenured lecturer in Composition. She has taught courses in Theory of Architecture and the Arts and has introduced the course Anthropology of the City. She has also given a workshop on reading and writing.

"According to Marta Llorente, we need architects who, like musicians, are able to listen to the beat of urban life and turn it into harmony."

Judit Carrera, *El País*

"A delightful journey."

La Voz de Galicia



Marta Llorente
*The City: Traces in
Inhabited Space*

496 pages

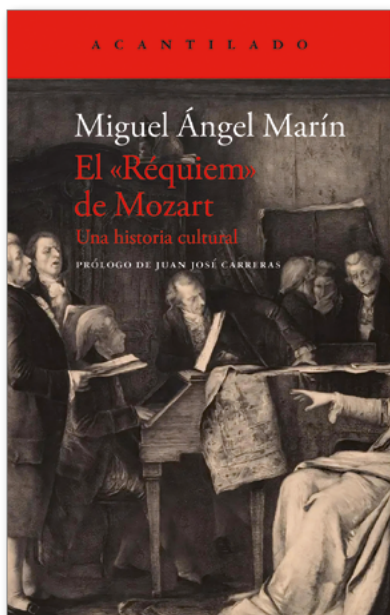
2015

ESSAY

ART

Humanity has not always known or, of course, inhabited the city. Neither could humans imagine or desire it. The city is not a mere structure that essentially acquired dimensions from beginnings as a simple spore. It is much more than that. Marta Llorente traces a history of the city as an abstract conception that defines the condition of the civilised human, one who is aware of being inscribed in a space that is radically different from natural space. This is an essential text for anyone who wishes to understand our evolution as human beings.

"Llorente's impeccable prose, with its admirable compilation and assimilation of documentation, flows along lines that are never conventional". *ABC*



Miguel Ángel Marín

Mozart's Requiem

A Cultural History

512 pages

2024

NON-FICTION

ESSAY

English sample available

Two historiographical tasks would seem to be essential for better understanding, today, of Mozart's music, first, situating his work in the culture of his late Enlightenment time and, second, considering the relationship between certain aspects of his compositions and the aesthetics of early German Romanticism. This approach is especially apposite when studying Mozart's Requiem as its history is not only fascinating, rich, and complex, but also fraught with mirages, pitfalls, and misunderstandings. Miguel Ángel Marín brilliantly analyses and explains all these aspects in order to pave the way for better understanding of the impact of performances of the Requiem in Spain (and some parts of Latin America) throughout the long nineteenth century. This study of one of the few musical works to have achieved universal popularity in the millennial history of music is both exhaustive and a lucid, enjoyable read.



MIGUEL ÁNGEL MARÍN has a PhD in Musicology from the University of London and is Professor of Music at the University of La Rioja. Since 2009, he has been director of the Music Programme of the Juan March Foundation and is author or editor of a dozen books, notable amongst which are *Joseph Haydn y el cuarteto de cuerda* (2009), *Clementina: Zarzuela in Two Acts (G 540) for the Boccherini Complete Edition* (2013), the co-edition of *Instrumental Music in Eighteenth-Century Spain* (2014), and *Remapping the Classics: Haydn, Mozart and Beethoven in Spain in the Long Nineteenth Century* (forthcoming).

"A monumental essay that dismantles the prejudices about the influence Mozart's Requiem had in Spain."

Benjamín G. Rosado, *La Lectura*

"*Mozart's Requiem. A Cultural History* documents, church by church, cathedral by cathedral, the milestones of the Iberian expansion of the Requiem."

Alberto Ojeda, *El Cultural*



José María Micó
From Dante to Borges
Pages on Classics

240 pages

2023

NON-FICTION

ESSAY

English sample available

The great authors of the literary canon are ill-treated by an error which, according to José María Micó, should be corrected. People tend to see them as outstanding representatives of the history, culture, and thinking of their times when, in fact, their works are classics because they transgressed the norms, because they went beyond the forcefield of their day. The fifteen essays brought together in this volume succinctly explain—sometimes reviewing, and sometimes focusing on neglected or little-known aspects of their work—why Dante, Petrarch, Manrique, Ariosto, Lazarillo, Cervantes, Gracián, Rubén Darío, Borges, and the remarkable poets of the Golden Age were, and still are, so singular. This book, devoted to the works with which Micó has spent a good part of his life, has made of philological study and hermeneutics a true act of creation.



JOSÉ MARÍA MICÓ (Barcelona, 1961) is a poet, translator and professor of Literature at the Pompeu Fabra University of Barcelona. His philological work includes books on Spanish writers – Alemán, Cervantes, Góngora and Quevedo – annotated anthologies of Spanish poetry, studies and essays, the most recent among them being *Las razones del poeta* (The Poet's Reasons) and *Clásicos vividos* (Classics I have Lived). He has also translated some of the great European classical authors including Petrarch, Jordi de Sant Jordi, Ausiàs March and Ariosto. His translation of Ariosto's *Orlando furioso* (The Frenzy of Orlando) was awarded the National Prize for Translation in both Spain and Italy.



José María Micó

Understanding Góngora

384 pages

2015

ESSAY

LITERARY STUDIES

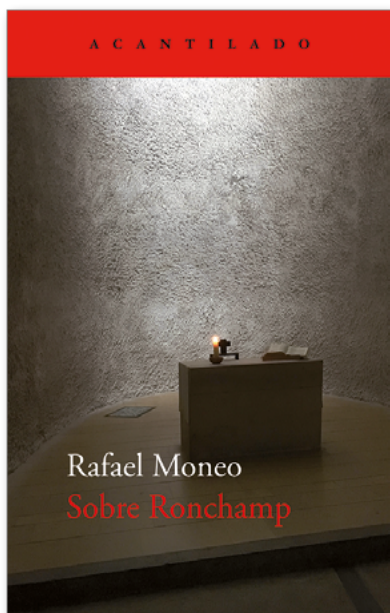
José María Micó, who has devoted a good part of his life to studying Góngora, brings together in this volume his key writings on the poet from Cordoba, combining philological and historical rigour with the finely wrought style of the literary essay. In this endeavour to understand Góngora, he reconstructs the context in which his texts were written and circulated, offering keys to his poetry against the background of his times together with in-depth analysis of some of his best poems (with particular attention to the so-called “great poems”, namely “Polyphemus” and “The Solitudes”). This meticulous study enables Micó to demonstrate that Góngora’s poetry, one of the high points of literary creation in any language, is intelligible and that there are very few paths as pleasurable as that leading to full understanding of his work.



JOSÉ MARÍA MICÓ (Barcelona, 1961) is a poet, translator and professor of Literature at the Pompeu Fabra University of Barcelona. His philological work includes books on Spanish writers – Alemán, Cervantes, Góngora and Quevedo – annotated anthologies of Spanish poetry, studies and essays, the most recent among them being *Las razones del poeta* (The Poet’s Reasons) and *Clásicos vividos* (Classics I have Lived). He has also translated some of the great European classical authors including Petrarch, Jordi de Sant Jordi, Ausiàs March and Ariosto. His translation of Ariosto’s *Orlando furioso* (The Frenzy of Orlando) was awarded the National Prize for Translation in both Spain and Italy.

"An essential essay for anyone wishing to learn more about one of the greatest works of poetry in any language". *Quimera*

"This approach to his work becomes much more patent and potent, making its accessibility much more possible". *El Diario Vasco*



Rafael Moneo

About Ronchamp

128 pages

2022

NON-FICTION

ESSAY

The chapel of Notre-Dame du Haut (Our Lady of the Heights), Ronchamp, in the Franche-Comté region of eastern France is one of the most remarkable, fascinating buildings of twentieth-century religious architecture. Inaugurated in 1955, Le Corbusier's singular project was nothing less than a reinvention of sacred space in which light is given an important symbolic role. In this essay, Rafael Moneo turns his expert, penetrating attention to this extraordinary place that has been part of his architectural imaginary for so long and, in doing so, helps to unveil the enigmas that confront the visitor who crosses its threshold, while also situating the chapel not only in Le Corbusier's oeuvre but also in contemporary religious architecture in general.



RAFAEL MONEO (Tudela, 1937) is one of Spain's most internationally renowned and award-winning architects, with a long teaching career in the Barcelona School of Architecture, the Institute for Architecture and Urban Studies, New York, the schools of Lausanne, Princeton, and Harvard, and also as dean of the Harvard Graduate School of Design between 1985 and 1990. In 1996 he received what is widely considered to be the most prestigious international award, the Pritzker Architecture Prize, for his extensive architectural oeuvre in many countries.

"Moneo's crystal-clear yet intimate writing achieves a perfect balance between hermeneutic rigour and the flexibility and freedom of the notebook".

Pedro A. Cruz Sánchez, *La Razón*



Antonio Monegal

The Silence of War

320 pages

2024

NON-FICTION

ESSAY

English sample available

Rights sold:

Portuguese

OBJECTIVA (PRH)

There is no era that has been completely free of conflict, when war has not been part of culture. It is a burden from our past and its shadow looms threateningly over our future. But what is war for those who have not experienced it firsthand? Whence comes the flow of images and stories that feed into and shape our knowledge of this phenomenon? Would they be impartial, not obeying certain codes and purposes? This is not a book about what wars are but about how representations of them offered in literature, the visual arts, and the mass media have become the means by which individual and collective memory are interwoven. More than a subject for research, this is an intellectual challenge: how are we to think and speak about war? Antonio Monegal explores some of the questions arising from the way war is traditionally treated, from epic to tragedy and elegy, in this attempt to find an ethics of representation that is able to do justice to the unutterable.



ANTONIO MONEGAL (Barcelona, 1957) is Professor of Literature and Comparative Literature at the Pompeu Fabra University, Barcelona. With a degree in Philosophy from the University of Barcelona, he obtained a PhD from Harvard University in 1989 and taught at Cornell University until he returned to Spain. In 2023 he was awarded the Spanish National Essay Prize for *Como el aire que respiramos* (Like the Air We Breathe, Acantilado, 2022).



Antonio Monegal

Like the Air We Breathe

176 pages

2022

NON-FICTION

ESSAY

Rights sold:

Portuguese
OBJECTIVA (PRH)

Audio Rights
AUDIBLE

**National Award
of Essay 2023**

English sample available

What is culture and what is it for? Beyond simplistic, hackneyed definitions that would present it either as a mere intellectual, artistic product of the elite or a manifestation of humanity in the anthropological sense, this illuminating essay focuses on the collective dimension of cultural phenomena or, in other words, the social relevance which, independently of personal considerations, concerns us all, for what is the point if it doesn't help us to think about a better world and make it possible? Engaging with the main reference works in the field, Monegal sees culture as an intrinsically political activity, and inseparable from our place and our intervention in the world and, above all, as an essential common good for facing the challenges of existence.



Carles Morell

Variations of the Pulse

256 pages

2025

NON-FICTION

ESSAY

“The habituated gaze is like a tamed wild beast”, Carlos Morell observes in these capricious, meandering, always brilliant pages impelled by a voice that struggles to be unhabituated to the world as it assents to writing as a vital act. This is a voice that strenuously strives to find word and style, controlled and uncontrollable, static and overflowing, affectionate and destructive, honed and basic, establishing horizontal dialogue with its literary “parents”—Platón and Montaigne, Foix and Vinyoli, Flaubert and Mann, Yeats and Eliot—with whom Morell relates existentially and critically, as a writer who “reading took well to the pen”. The pulse that must be heard, he reminds us, is none other than the “throb of words” which, after all, is the poet’s only beat in the perpetual oscillation between tradition and novelty, theory and instinct, form and substance, writing and life.



CARLES MORELL (Artés, 1992) has published the poetry collections *Els vapors que maten* (Vapours That Kill, 2014, winner of the Amadeu Oller Prize), *Escola de cecs* (School of the Blind, 2015), *Canyes, llumins* (Reeds, Matches, 2018), *Disponibilitat* (Availability, 2018, winner of the Màrius Torres Prize), and the diary *Notes per a un solo de Scriabin* (Notes for a Scriabin Solo, 2017). He has also edited the correspondence between Joan Vinyoli and Eudald Puig (2018). *Les variacions del pols* (2025) is published by Quaderns Crema.



María Negroni

The Natural Idea

208 pages

2024

NON-FICTION

ESSAY

English sample available

Rights sold:

Audio Rights

AUDIBLE

The famous French naturalist Georges-Louis Leclerc, Comte de Buffon, once wrote that “the discourse of nature is nothing but nature transformed into discourse”. María Negroni sets out to trace the representations of nature—or to immerse herself in written nature—where the union of the visible and the enunciable yields a whole endowed with meaning. Hence, with immense lyricism she recreates the dreams of the Greek and medieval classics, the naturalistic fervour expressed in the voyages of exploration and ‘discovery’ of the Renaissance, and the fascinated curiosity of the Age of Enlightenment which led to the *Encyclopédie*. This evocative and captivating journey, from the time of Lucretius through to the present day, is a tribute to nature as one of the most fabulous of literary creations.



María Negroni is an Argentine writer and translator. She has received a Guggenheim Fellowship for Poetry, the Siglo XXI International Essay Prize, the PEN Award for Poetry in Translation (PEN America, New York), and the Margarita Hierro International Poetry Prize. Her work has been translated into English, French, Italian, Swedish, and Portuguese. Alcantilado has published her essay *La idea natural* (*The Natural Idea*, 2024).

"In *La idea natural*, María Negroni presents brief notes—written with the astonishment of the curious and the delicacy of poets—on some fifty personalities who, in some way and at some point in their lives, set about producing a written discourse on nature. This is an odd and beautiful book."

Fulgencio Argüelles, *El Comercio*

"The Cuadernos collection of Acantilado could be called 'Delights of Acantilado' and no one would protest. *La idea natural* is a good argument for this. Negroni offers short pieces transformed into delicate leaves that shape a most exceptional herbarium."

Pedro Bosqued, *Heraldo de Aragón*



Pedro Olalla

Words from the Aegean

The Sea, the Greek Language,

and the Dawn of Civilisation

400 pages

2022

NON-FICTION

ESSAY

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Audio Rights

AUDIBLE

These words, written by a man who is waiting for his son in a remote corner of the Aegean, are the vivid, conscious testimony of a writer of humanistic sensitivity and great knowledge of Greece; a surprising reflection by the sea on the singularity and magic of the Greek language as an exegesis of the world; a deep, heterodox book; and a vibrant, poetic story that will, without a doubt, change the reader's understanding of language, of the history of the Greeks, and even the history of civilisation. *Palabras del Egeo* brings together extraordinary findings from anthropology, archaeology, history, nautical science, genetics, geology, mythology, philology, linguistics, and etymology, inviting us to contemplate them with Socratic wonder, and discover them now turned into literature. This is a book about the deepest roots of classical civilisation for true lovers of Greece.



PEDRO OLALLA (Oviedo, 1966) is a teacher, writer, Hellenist, photographer and filmmaker. He has gained the admiration of audiences and the respect of prestigious institutions like the Academy of Athens, the A. S. Onassis Foundation and Harvard University. Among other prestigious awards, Pedro Olalla has been conceded the title of Hellenist Ambassador.

"With his deep knowledge of history and culture and his grasp of reality and everyday life, Pedro Olalla has become a reference, a valuable interpreter of Hellenic existence. Read Olalla. And then tell us what you think. Do tell us what you think".

Héctor J, Porto, *La Voz de Galicia*



Pedro Olalla

De senectute politica

Letter to Cicero without Response

96 pages

2018

ESSAY

HISTORY, POLITICS

Rights sold:

Audio Rights

AUDIBLE

“It is precisely this other consolation in the face of old age [...] which moves me now [...] to write you this long letter from Athens. [...] You have made it clear in your work, when telling us that the difficulties of age do not derive so much from a person’s years as from character and outlook on life, and that ageing is, to a high degree, an ethical endeavour. And I would like us to reflect now on whether, depending on how our society is or is not organised and equipped to make this endeavour possible, ageing is a political matter”.

Old age has existed since humankind has existed but, by contrast with what happened in Cicero’s day, our societies are unable to contemplate old age without associating it with decrepitude. In this letter without a response, Pedro Olalla strikes up a lively conversation with a thinker of Antiquity who was as committed as he is to the destiny of his community and, with this, he demonstrates that the passing of time does not always mean falling into decline.

"De senectute politica is an appeal for humanising the economy which is all too often confused with mathematics". Sergi Doria, *ABC*

"A moving, intelligent, necessary work in praise of old age. Olalla constantly reminds the reader of the enduring relevance of the works of the wise men of classical times". *La Verdad*



Pedro Olalla

Greece in the Air

Legacies and Challenges of Ancient Athenian Democracy as Seen from Athens Today

192 pages

2015

ESSAY

HISTORY

Rights sold:

Greek

PAPAZISIS

German

BERENBERG VERLAG

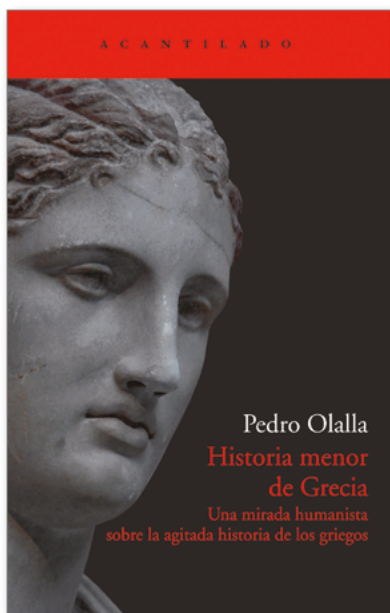
Audio Rights

AUDIBLE

“From the very start of this Greek effort to construct an artificial human space where justice would be possible and the peoples’ common destiny would be governed by the will of men, the citizens were the city and hence the state. There was no such thing as a state detached from the citizens. Ever since Solon’s bold measures aimed at involving everyone in decision-making, the state had appeared as an organisation geared to defending the common interest, upholding individual rights against private interests and the arbitrariness of powerful families and their instruments of subjugation ... It therefore still makes sense, even today, to scour the corners of this indefatigable city in search of clues that might suggest what led to this impressive achievement”.

"An unclassifiable work. A passionate defence of the humanism that is increasingly ignored by the urgent roar of utility". *El Periódico*

"His succinct, precise prose shuns any superfluous digression in a comparative exercise which, in its quest for the vestiges of true democracy, could become a life-saving feat". *El Norte de Castilla*



Pedro Olalla

Greece's Minor History

A Humanist Look at an Agitated Past

384 pages

2012

ESSAY

HISTORY, POLITICS

Rights sold:

Audio Rights

AUDIBLE

Historia menor de Grecia goes directly to historical sources to capture in literary form a revealing collection of human gestures: decisions, testimonies, examples of good behaviour, history's minor facts and "second-fiddle" characters all of which illustrate the shaping and survival of the humanist spirit from Antiquity through to the present day. This is a vibrant account of minor episodes, all of them surprising and hitherto unknown. Their heroes are not Greek or Persian, but men. *Historia menor de Grecia* is a warning about the fragility of culture and helps us to understand that the only possible civilisation is one that unites men against barbarism.

"An indispensable book". *El País*

"*Historia menor de Grecia* is an exceptional, perfectly accessible book that will endure through time. It instructs, delights, invites reflection, while also acting as a warning". *El Correo*

"Each small chapter is like a Polaroid snapshot in which the literary imagination unites with the most serious historical knowledge". *El País*

"This splendid book, of essential cultural importance, takes the form of a series of brief vignettes". *La Vanguardia*



Manel Ollé

*Islands of Silver,
Empires of Silk*

Junks and Galleons in the South Seas

528 pages

2022

NON-FICTION

ESSAY

Rights sold:

Chinese

CITIC PRESS CORPORATION

Western historiography has frequently relegated the Pacific Ocean to the edges of the political and economic sphere of action of the Modern Age, even though it was the seedbed of today's globalised market. In that period, between the shores of South America and Asia, there existed a vast, sophisticated trading network led by China, which surpassed intra-European commercial activity prior to 1800. Manel Ollé speaks of this East Asian colonial setting in the decades from 1570 to 1680 as a dynamic space where the interests of empires, sultanates, port cities, migrant flows, cultures, and creeds converged. This fascinating essay offers a lively fresco of a trans-Pacific community consisting of merchants, sailors, emigrants, missionaries, corsairs, and European and Asian rulers, thus debunking clichés about the role played by Asian states in proto-globalisation, while also situating historically certain aspects of today's geopolitics.



MANEL OLLÉ (1962), lecturer in Literature and History of East Asia at the Pompeu Fabra University (UPF) of Barcelona, has translated, together with Chün Chin, a selection of stories by Pu Songling and Mianmian. He is also a literary critic in several media outlets, and a member of the Jaume Vicens Vives University Institute of History and also of the School of East Asia Studies (UPF). He has published with Acantilado *La empresa de China. De la Armada Invencible al Galeón de Manila* (2002 – The Chinese Business: From the Invincible Armada to the Galleon of Manila).



Manel Ollé

The China Enterprise

304 pages

2002

NON-FICTION

ESSAY

Rights sold:

Chinese

CITIC PRESS CORPORATION

This book traces the history of a mirage. After the conquest of the Philippines in 1565, the Chinese Empire appeared on the Spanish conquistadors' horizon as an unknown and hostile challenge, but one that was fully loaded with the promise of riches. During the first years of the Spanish presence in Eastern Asia, there was no lack of men who dreamt of emulating Hernan Cortés, believing that with a mere handful of men it would be possible to conquer the great celestial empire. Within that context, the Philippine colony put together a perfectly detailed plan for the conquest of China. An ambitious project which, however, following the disaster of the Invincible Armada, was never put into action. The work we present today binds together, with historical rigour and detailed documentation, the main lines of one of the most crucial—and intriguing—moments in Spanish history.

"A necessary book on a thrilling subject".

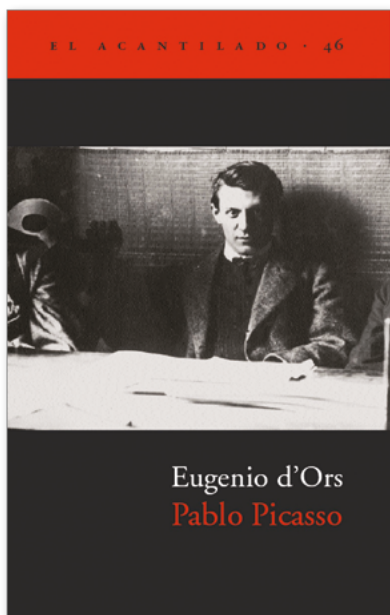
Florentino Rodao, *ABC*

"A good example of the historical reorientation that is required in order to correct the kind of Eurocentric preconception that still clouds Western thought".

Sean Golden, *La Vanguardia*

"The work captures very well, both the reality existent in the China of the Ming dynasty and that in the recently conquered Philippines".

Francisco Marhuenda, *La Razón*



Eugenio d'Ors *Pablo Picasso*

128 pages

2001

ESSAY

ART

Pablo Picasso was first published in Spanish in 1946, although its origins go back to the 1930 French edition on which Ors worked closely with Picasso. The present edition combines the text of the Spanish edition and 37 illustrations from the French edition. Rather more than offering material for a critical analysis of Picasso's work, these documents represent the culmination of a friendship. This book is an essential work for anyone who wishes to learn more about the artistic thought of two key figures of the 20th century.



EUGENIO D'ORS (Barcelona, 1881-1954) is the most influential Catalan intellectual figure of the first three decades of the twentieth century. Philosopher, essayist, art critic and journalist, he is also author of such works as *La Ben Plantada* (A Fine Figure of a Woman, 1911), *Oceanografía del tedi* (Oceanography of Tedium, 1916), *Tres horas en el Museo del Prado* (Three Hours in the Prado Museum, 1923), and the immense, widely acclaimed *Glosari* (Glossary).

"A wonderfully lucid approximation to Picasso's early period". *La Razón*

"A brilliant, passionate exercise in art criticism". *El País*



Eugenio d'Ors

Cézanne

200 pages

1999

ESSAY

ART

From an early age, Eugenio d'Ors found in Paul Cézanne a worthy counterpart in his search for order, balance and structure as his resolute response to the anecdotal, subjective and musical art of the nineteenth century. Cézanne was the precursor and master of a whole new generation of artists who would transform the artistic landscape of the twentieth century. Eugenio d'Ors describes one of the most exciting adventures in modern art.

"A magnificent critical study and deep reflection on the artist's creative activity". *La Vanguardia*
"A combative, incisive, programmatic book". *ABC*



Francesc Parcerisas

Triomf of the Present

544 pages

2024

FICTION

POETRY

Triomf del present brings together a large number of the poems written by Francesc Parcerisas over thirty-five years. The poems and poetic prose in this collection, from early titles that are impossible to find today (or even unpublished) and from absolutely essential volumes of his literary biography, are a unique testimony to the emotional, aesthetic, and political shaping of this writer, a leading figure in modern Catalan poetry. These poems are born of experience, of Horace's *carpe diem*, celebrating the ephemeral and contingent in an attempt to lighten the burden of the past and explore the bitter pleasures of life.



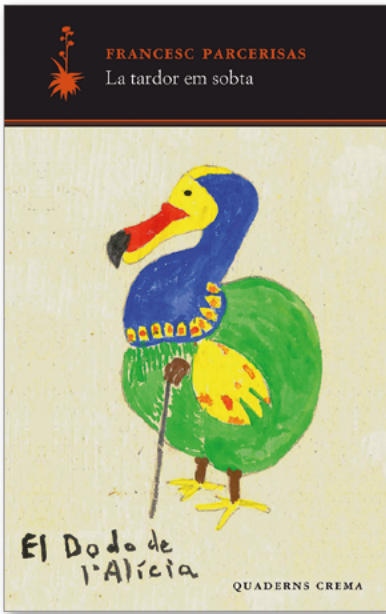
FRANCESC PARCERISAS (Barcelona, 1944), a poet, translator and literary critic has made one of the most consistent contributions to modern Catalan poetry. Quaderns Crema has published most of his collections of poems and the diary *La primavera a Pequín* (Spring in Peking, 2013), which was awarded the Fourteenth Booksellers Prize. In 2015 he received the National Prize for Culture for the importance of his work as a whole and, in 2018, the Jaume Fuster Prize of the Association of Catalan Language Writers.

"Parcerisas's writing is clear, transparent, and precise. It is full of details that give consistency to the descriptions. Images that, like the clouds he watches unravel, illuminate the triviality of life."

Maria Dasca, *El País*

"Francesc Parcerisas is an excellent poet. For me, the most interesting in the current Catalan scene."

Jordi Llavina, *El Punt Avui*



Francesc Parcerisas

Autumn Takes Me by Surprise

208 pages

2022

NON-FICTION

ESSAY

La tardor em sobta is a diary in which Francesc Parcerisas ponders the fragmentation of experience, and the modern impossibility of making sense of the whole. If, for Stendhal, “a novel is a mirror carried along a high road”, the texts coming together in this book are nothing more than bits of mirrors that Parcerisas has painstakingly gathered along many waysides: thoughts, readings, annotations, quotations, sketches, and more. These are chipped or elusive fragments that suddenly reveal crucial parts of meaning because they hide, beneath words that often fail us, the curiosity with which Parcerisas has always gazed upon life, or that of life’s gaze upon him, twinkling like a distant lighthouse in the night. These morsels give him the opportunity to imaginatively reconstruct—as he previously did with *La primavera a Pequín* (2013) and *Un estiu* (2018)—the part of the whole to which they may have once belonged, like fleeting glimmers of the life story we are always rewriting.

"Parcerisas excels at giving voice to pleasures and moods. He describes sensations, memories, and thoughts that overlap in a disorderly, harmonious way".

Vicenç Pagès Jordà, *El Periódico de Catalunya*



Francesc Parcerisas

One Summer

144 pages

2018

MEMOIRS

**Winner of the 2018
Jaume Fuster Award**

In the pages of this diary, Francesc Parcerisas brings together heterogeneous, roving observations written one summer between strolls, visits to relatives and friends, and quiet moments spent reading and writing. Here, the summer months seem to go by at another pace and they are, like childhood memories, the perfect background for leisurely contemplation and incisive reflection. "In fact it was some years ago that I, who am the I writing these lines, came to the end of the summer which is just now beginning in these pages [...]: I know how the story's going to end [...] and this, contrary to how things might appear, makes an evicted, ridiculous, powerless god of me". In this acute, elegant text with touches of humour and some astonishing moments, Parcerisas once again draws the reader into the project of making sense of reality through writing.

"Francesc Parcerisas has been one of the outstanding names of poetry in Catalan in the last four decades". Jordi Llavina, *El Punt Avui*

"One of the books of the year, of many years". Julià Guillamon, *La Vanguardia*

"I was hooked from the very first paragraphs". *El 3 de vuit*



Irene Polo

The Fascination of Journalism Chronicles (1930-1936)

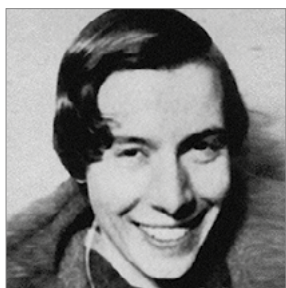
464 pages

2025

NON-FICTION

ESSAY

Irene Polo set out on her career as a journalist in 1927 with articles about cinema and, after 1930, began to publish in the general press. Until 1936 she practised her profession in Barcelona, passionately and often belligerently. The articles she published have left an invaluable, ironic, and brilliant account of the society and politics of those times. There are descriptions of the uses of fashion (the introduction of trousers for women, and the appearance of low necklines), reports denouncing social injustice (begging in Barcelona, and the terrible living conditions of workers and immigrants), political alerts (like the report she wrote after passing as a follower of *Juventudes de Acción Nacional* (Youth for Popular Action, the radicalised youth wing of the main Catholic party during the Second Republic)), and other pieces about censorship, to which she herself was subjected. The power and courage of these texts offer the surprise of their present relevance, while also presenting, in all the fieriness and freedom of her own words, a portrait of an exceptional woman.



IRENE POLO (Barcelona, 1908 – Buenos Aires, 1942) worked as a journalist in Barcelona where she stood out for the columns and current affairs articles she wrote in various media outlets of the times. In 1936 she went to South America where she took charge of organising the tours of Margarida Xirgu's theatre company through almost all the republics of the continent. Unable to return to Spain, she settled in Buenos Aires, where she ended her own life in 1942 at the age of thirty-three.

"An excellent book by a writer of unquestionable talent."

Josep Sala i Cullerell, *Quatre ratlles*



Jordi Pons
The Way to Form
Goethe, Webern, Balthasar

320 pages

2015

ESSAY

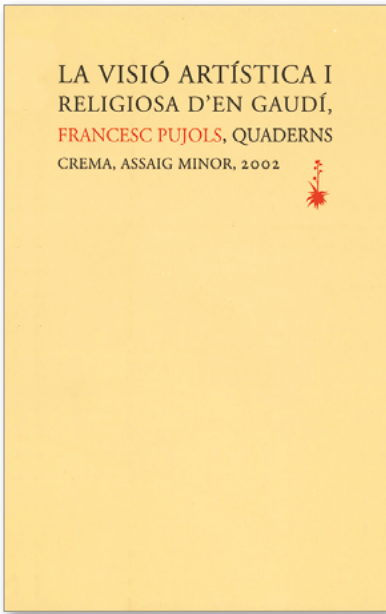
PHILOSOPHY

El camino hacia la forma by Jordi Pons is a reflective exploration of the creative process, focusing on the evolution of artistic expression and its significance. The author delves into various art forms, discussing how artists shape their identities and ideas through their work.

Pons draws connections between creativity and personal experience, emphasizing the transformative power of art in both individual lives and society at large. He shares insights on different artistic techniques and philosophies, encouraging readers to consider their own journeys in shaping form and meaning through creativity.



JORDI PONS (Tarragona, 1960), who has a PhD in the Humanities and a Higher Degree in Music, currently works and teaches in the fields of philosophy and aesthetics. Acantilado has also published his book *Arnold Schönberg. Ética, estética, religión* (Arnold Schönberg: Ethics, Aesthetics, Religion, 2006).



Francesc Pujols

The Artistic and Religious Vision of Gaudí

96 pages

1996

NON-FICTION

ESSAY

When a prestigious Swiss publisher asked Salvador Dalí to write a text for a major book he was planning to devote to Gaudí, Dalí replied that the best possible text about Gaudí had already been written. With this book, readers will have new access to this relatively unknown essay which, first published almost a hundred years ago, is one of the essential texts of Gaudí's bibliography.



FRANCESC PUJOLS (Barcelona, 1882 – Martorell, 1962), writer, philosopher, and essayist, was admired and respected by such different people as Salvador Dalí, Joan de Sagarra, and Josep Pla. In Pla's view, "Pujols was a unique, exceptional, fabulous man who effortlessly combined peerless expressive powers, an enormous vernacular range, and descriptive abilities that, in his day, were perhaps his and his alone". Among other works, Pujols was the author of *El concepte general de la ciència catalana* (The General Concept of Catalan Science, 1918) and *Història de l'hegemonia catalana en la política espanyola durant el segle XIX* (A History of Catalan Hegemony in Nineteenth-Century Spanish Politics, 1926). Quaderns Crema has published a selection of Pujols' writings, among them a collection of his best journalistic texts, *Articles* (1983), *La visió artística i religiosa d'en Gaudí* (1996), and *Llibre que conté les poesies d'en Francesc Pujols* (Book with the Poems of Francesc Pujols), with a Prologue by Joan Maragall and an Epilogue by Enric Casasses (2004).



Francisco Rico *A Long Fidelity*

280 pages

2022

NON-FICTION

ESSAY

This book brings together the essays Francisco Rico has written over the years in appreciation of authors, philologists, and philology devotees towards all of whom he professes, to borrow the words of Gianfranco Contini, *una lunga fedeltà* (a long fidelity). Reading and interacting with figures of the stature of Ramón Menéndez Pidal, Eduard Valentí, Dámaso Alonso, Martín de Riquer, Mario Vargas Llosa, José Manuel and Alberto Blecha, Roberto Calasso, Fernando Lázaro Carreter, Claudio Guillén, José María Valverde, Yakov Malkiel, and María Rosa Lida, among many others, has profoundly influenced his life and career. Besides being a remarkable testimony to gratitude, the profiles and critical notes in this book offer the reader a valuable overview of literary studies in the last five decades.



FRANCISCO RICO (1942) a philologist and historian, has taught literature for half a century. Notable among his publications are his new editions of *Lazarillo de Tormes* and *Don Quijote de la Mancha* in the Classical Library of the Royal Spanish Academy; *Ritratti allo specchio (Boccaccio, Petrarca)* (Editrice Antenore, Rome-Padua); *Gabbiani* and *I venerdì del Petrarca* (Adelphi, Milan); *Anales cervantinos. Notas al margen de un centenario* (Arpa, Barcelona); and the prologue to the correspondence between Yakov Malkiel and María Rosa Lida, in *Amor y filología* (Acantilado, 2017). Acantilado has also published the essay *Tiempos del «Quijote»* (2012).

"The good humour, clarity, lightly worn erudition, elegance of exposition, and a characteristic touch of graciousness are typical of Rico's writing".

Ignacio F. Garmendia, *Mercurio*

"Pen portraits constitute a whole literary genre that should combine admiration for the person being described with documentary rigour, critical perception, and congenial exposition. Rico achieves all of this in *Una larga lealtad*".

Jesús Ferrer, *La Razón*



Martín de Riquer

Cervantes in Barcelona

136 pages

2005

ESSAY

LITERARY STUDIES

Cervantes' praise of Barcelona in his great work *Don Quixote* and his comment that he would eventually reside at number 2, Paseo de Colón is evidence that he spent some time in Barcelona. The historian Martín de Riquer offers a detailed study of Cervantes' life in the city at the beginning of the seventeenth century. Through a meticulous reading of *Las dos doncellas* and chapters from the second part of *Don Quixote*, he definitively establishes that Cervantes lived in Barcelona in the summer of 1610, and very probably in the house that still bears his name. This study is a decisive contribution to the biography of Cervantes and the history of the city of Barcelona.



MARTÍN DE RIQUER (Barcelona, 1914-2013) was a member of the Spanish Royal Academy and recipient of prestigious several awards including the National Essay Prize and the Prince of Asturias Prize. His vast bibliography includes major works on many aspects of medieval literature and society. He has written highly significant works on *Don Quixote*, the troubadours, *Tirant lo Blanch*, the story of the Holy Grail, the *Song of Roland* and many other literary themes.

"This is an essential work for anyone wishing to learn about Don Quixote's adventures in the seventeenth-century city". *El Periódico*



Martín de Riquer

Reading Cervantes

584 pages

2003

ESSAY

LITERARY STUDIES

Rights sold:

Italian

EINAUDI

An internationally renowned Cervantes scholar, Martín de Riquer was also a well-known authority in the fields of medieval literature, heraldry and weaponry. An eminent philologist with a passion for literature, a field to which he devoted more than sixty years of study and research, he produced works of major importance. This fascinating, stimulating book brings together the best of his studies which are particularly notable for their clarity.

**Bartolomé March
Award for the best
book of Literary
Criticism, 2003**

**Shortlisted by
La Vanguardia
as one of the best
books of essays
in 2003**

"An essential work for anyone wanting to read Cervantes". *El País*

"Fine, intelligent and playful prose". *El Mundo*



Rosa Sala Rose

Critical Dictionary of Myths and Symbols of Nazism

512 pages

2003

ESSAY

HISTORY, RELIGION

Rights sold:

Polish

Spanish Club

SIC PUBLISHERS

CÍRCULO DE LECTORES

Romanian

PARALELA 45

With rigorous analysis and literary skill, Rosa Sala delves into the darkest depths of National Socialism. It is important to face this horror in order to acknowledge its atrociousness, without philistinism or intellectual abdication. Condemnation is not enough to ensure that it will never happen again. True bravery lies in understanding.



ROSA SALA ROSE (Barcelona, 1969) has degrees in German and the Romance languages. As an expert on German culture and language, she has translated works by Goethe and Thomas Mann, including J. P. Eckermann's *Conversaciones con Goethe* (Conversations with Goethe, 2005). Rights for her *Diccionario crítico de mitos y símbolos del nazismo* (Critical Dictionary of Myths and Symbols of Nazism, 2003) have been sold for three languages.

**Shortlisted by
El Mundo as one of
the best books
of essays for 2003**

"This discussion of the foundations of barbarism takes the form of an expert analysis of the iconography of Nazism". *El Mundo*

"A brilliantly written study of profound erudition". *La Vanguardia*

"A splendid analysis of the iconography of Nazism". *El Periódico*

"A book that is bound to become an essential reference". *El País*



Mario Satz

Small Paradises

The Spirit of Gardens

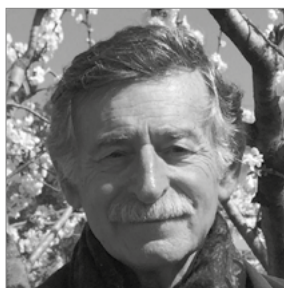
176 pages

2017

ESSAY

PHILOSOPHY

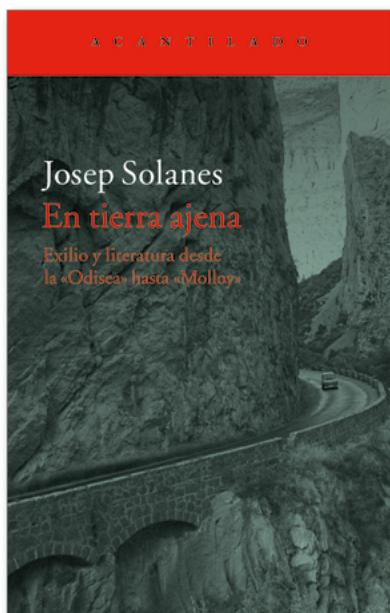
Throughout the centuries and in all cultures from Babylonia, Greece, Persia and China to Japan, human beings have created, patiently and sometimes making enormous efforts, verdant monuments with irrigation channels carved into stone, seeking to evoke a mythical, leafy, ideal place where spring is eternal, where animals are placid, humans few and peaceable, and food is abundant. In brief, impassioned chapters, Mario Satz explores the construction of these vegetal works of art which, even today, surprise and impress us. Yet a garden is rather more than a delicate expression of nostalgia since we do not only pursue paradise in the past but also project it into the future, in the hope that it still endures, for anyone able to perceive it, in our surroundings. Perhaps paradise never disappeared from Earth and we only need to learn how to see it.



MARIO SATZ (Buenos Aires, 1944) is a philologist, essayist, poet, novelist and translator. After completing secondary school in Argentina, he travelled widely in South America, the United States and Europe. Between 1970 and 1973 he lived in Jerusalem where he studied the Kabbalah, the Bible, anthropology and the history of the Middle East. In 1977, the Italian Government awarded him a scholarship to study the work of the Renaissance humanist Giovanni Pico della Mirandola. Mario Satz writes on a regular basis for numerous Spanish and American magazines and has published several essays, poetry collections and novels.

"A neat, documented and sagacious essayist".

La Vanguardia



Josep Solanes

In Distant Lands

Exile and Literature from Odyssey to Molloy

336 pages

2016

ESSAY

HISTORY

Anyone going into exile leaves behind people, places, landscapes and objects, all of them inseparable from personal experiences and memories. Josep Solanes, begins this lovely text by speaking of the need to reflect upon his own reality in order to explore and fathom the figure of the expatriate as a paradigm of the human condition. Through a range of philosophical and literary works, he identifies the true dimensions of the experience of being uprooted, revealing it in all its ambivalence, and offering the reader his beautiful, lucid, timeless thoughts on exile.



JOSEP SOLANES (Pla de Santa Maria, 1909-Valencia, Venezuela, 1991) graduated in Medicine from the University of Barcelona in 1932. After the Civil War he went into exile in France where he worked in producing several Catalan publications. In 1949 he went to live in Caracas where he became a well-known psychiatrist and his work, devoted to the figure of the exile, was widely discussed in the domains of education, research and medical practice.

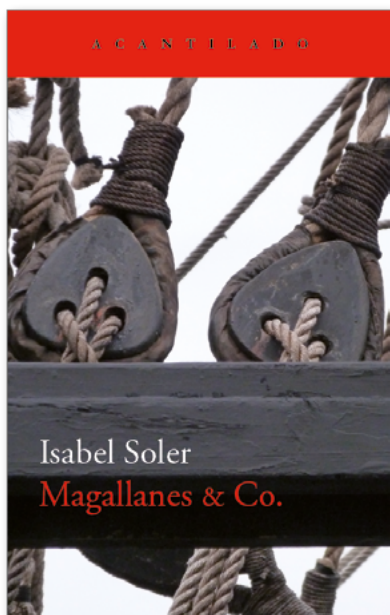
"Readable and apt for anyone looking for pleasure and food for thought". *Ara*

"An enriching journey through the texts". *El Diario Vasco*

"This is a valuable, intense, Mediterranean book". Enrique Vila-Matas

"A book that is as saddening as it is enlightening". *La Opinión A Coruña*

"A delicious book". *Ara*



Isabel Soler *Magellan & Co.*

488 pages

2022

NON-FICTION

ESSAY

This book tells the story of the most spectacular of maritime feats, the first circumnavigation of the globe by an expedition which, led by Ferdinand Magellan, set sail from Sanlúcar de Barrameda in September 1519 and returned to Spain three years later, successful but tragically diminished. Although this extraordinary achievement changed forever the *Imago Mundi* that had dominated western thought for centuries, it was also full of contradictions that have frequently been ignored in official accounts. In *Magallanes & Co.*, Isabel Soler draws on the testimonies of seafarers, adventurers, and merchants, as well as other numerous sources on the Moluccan enterprise, to construct a vivid, exhaustive record of Magellan's voyage, as well as of the eight years—essential for his later endeavour—when, as a young man, he had been enlisted in the fleet of the first viceroy of Portuguese India. Told by a leading specialist, this vibrant story will transport the reader back to the age of great voyages and discoveries.



ISABEL SOLER (Barcelona, 1964) is a lecturer in Portuguese Literature and Culture at the University of Barcelona and translator, inter alia, of Jorge Amado, Manuel Rui and Vergílio Ferreira. She also writes for several literary magazines. Her research and studies on Portuguese journeys and letters of the Renaissance have culminated in the works *El nudo y la esfera* (The Knot and the Sphere, Acantilado, 2003), *Los mares náufragos* (Shipwreck Seas, Acantilado, 2004) and *Derrota de Vasco de Gama* (The Course of Vasco de Gama, Acantilado, 2011).

"Isabel Soler combines the ingredients of the best literary chronicle with a probing gaze and the analytical skills of a virtuoso researcher".

David Barreira, *El Cultural*

"A thrilling story in which one of the leading specialists in the field will transport the reader to the epoch of great voyages and discoveries".

Publishers Weekly

A CANTILADO

Isabel Soler
Miguel de Cervantes:
los años de Argel

Comedia llamada teatro
de zerbantes que se ha
Jornada primera interse
de Aurelio, fatima criada de z
Un hombre por la edad
ni se es olví tu amarga
donde el lagena tan larga
quam curto el bien ya breuado -
3.ª jornada en la vida
In finno guado en el mundo
mal que no tiene de uido
el bello do no ay ali da
la grade q de los
rezoate en los dolo

Isabel Soler *Miguel de Cervantes: The Algiers Years*

128 pages

2016

ESSAY

LITERARY BIOGRAPHY

This hybrid, innovative and fascinating text sheds light on one of the lesser known episodes in the life of Miguel de Cervantes: the five years he spent in the prisons of Algiers during which he led four breakout attempts. The reader will find accounts by direct witnesses of the time who, testifying to his exemplary behaviour and courage, deemed him worthy of the ransom paid for his release. This is a dazzling document consisting of twenty-five questions and their answers, which Isabel Soler has restructured and fused into a harmonious whole through which the different voices are interspersed. The result is a gripping biographical account of the vicissitudes of a soon-to-be great writer.

"A hybrid, innovative and fascinating work, it gives the reader a glimpse of one of the least known episodes in the life of Miguel de Cervantes". *El Faro de Vigo*

"Novelistic boldness". *Diario de Jerez*

"A dazzling document". *El Faro de Vigo*



Isabel Soler

The King's Dream

*Journeys and Messianism in
the Peninsular Renaissance*

352 pages

2015

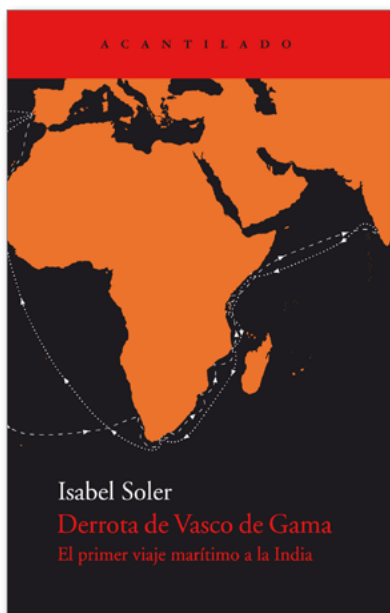
ESSAY

HISTORY, POLITICS

This book deals with the forced dovetailing of imagination and authenticity in an attempt to understand the consequences in the West of the stories of all the travellers who set out to see the world. It seeks to discover how imagination is also born from the real, and how it rebels before the prospect of being restricted to the space of the fictional or the creativity of fiction. In theatrical terms, the imagination shapes a complex and frequently paradoxical representation of the real, and this is where *El sueño del rey* has sought to understand, from the most generically classical sense, the tragic re-enactment staged by the routes of Renaissance ships.

"A veritable master class on sixteenth-century voyaging and culture".

El Mundo



Isabel Soler
The Course of Vasco da Gama
His First Sea Voyage to India

232 pages

2011

ESSAY

“We’ve come for Christians and spices” one of Vasco da Gama’s men replied to the merchants with whom he spoke on arriving in Hindustan’s Calicut on 21 May 1498. Owing to its far-reaching consequences, Vasco da Gama’s first voyage to India (1497-1499) is one of the most fraught episodes in the history of western maritime expeditions. Nevertheless, Vasco da Gama’s course—a *derrota* (which also means defeat)—was full of dark points, just as his own life was. The biographical silences of its narrators, the chronicler who accompanied him on his expedition and the poet who rhymed his deeds eighty years later, contributed positively to this shadow play. Isabel Soler, who has minutely studied the consequences of the renaissance voyages, presents that of Vasco da Gama with its lights and shadows and, once again, illuminates an essential moment in the creation of the modern world.

"The most interesting aspect of this book is the intelligence with which the text relating the facts is compared with the other text that, this time yes, evokes the exploits and adventures of Vasco da Gama, the great Portuguese epic poem, Camões' *Los Luisiadas*". Andrés Barba, *El Mundo*

"A refreshing read and a real-life Iberian odyssey, a return journey where Ithaca smells of pepper, cinnamon, and ginger". Jordi Joan Baños, *La Vanguardia*



The Eternity of a Day *Classics of German Literary Journalism* *(1823-1934)*

408 pages

2016

ARTICLES

HISTORY, POLITICS

This is an attractive, wide-ranging, revealing anthology of articles by great German novelists and thinkers (H. Heine, K. Kraus, R. Walser, S. Zweig, J. Roth, T. Mann, H. Hesse, *inter alia*), published from the earliest days of literary journalism at the beginning of the nineteenth century through to the rise to power of National Socialism.



FRANCISCO UZCANGA MEINECKE has a degree in German and Romance Philology from the University of Tübingen and a PhD in the Arts from the University of Konstanz. He has taught in several European universities and is presently director of the departments of Spanish and Cultural Studies in the Centre for Languages and Philology at Ulm University. Most of his publications are concerned with literary journalism as a genre, an outstanding example being the anthology of articles from *El censor* (The Censor), which was one of the most emblematic publications of enlightened eighteenth-century Spain.

"Audacious prose, capable of thinking without the slightest repression; powerful journalism in the form of free cultural criticism". Enrique Vila-Matas

"A little gem of a publishing event". *El Mundo*



Jaume Vallcorba

From Springtime to Paradise

Love, from the Troubadours to Dante

104 pages

2013

ESSAY

LITERARY STUDIES

It is generally agreed that the troubadours—those twelfth- and thirteenth-century Mediterranean poets who composed refined poems in everyday language and set them to music—gave expression to a form of love that was to have enormous consequences in the realms of literature and social mores. In this book, Jaume Vallcorba analyses the substance of their innovation together with some aspects of the forms in which it lingered on Italian soil until the appearance of Dante Alighieri. Addressed to the non-specialist reader, Vallcorba's book takes into account and explains the contrast between run-of-the mill experience and this special kind of love, shedding light on its nature and specificities.

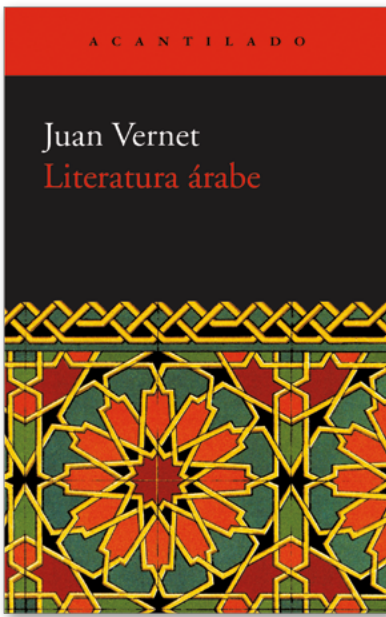


JAUME VALLCORBA PLANA (Tarragona, 1949 - Barcelona, 2014), founder of the publishing houses Quaderns Crema (1979) and Acantilado (1999), was a permanent member of the Royal Academy of Doctors of Catalonia and a scholar of medieval aesthetics and literature. In 2002 the Ministry of Education and Cultural Affairs awarded him the National Prize for the Best Individual Contribution to Publishing, and in 2005 he received the Barcelona City Council Gold Medal for Cultural Merit. He also received the Grand Order of Merit for Cultural Contribution from the Republic of Poland. In 2010 he was presented with the Publishing Merit Award at the Guadalajara International Book Fair (Mexico), and in 2014 he received the Catalan National Prize for Culture.

"An excellent way to enter the world of troubadour poetry". *El Mundo*

"A gem of a work". *La Vanguardia*

"A revealing essay". *El País*



Juan Vernet

Arabic Literature

354 pages

2002

ESSAY

LITERARY STUDIES

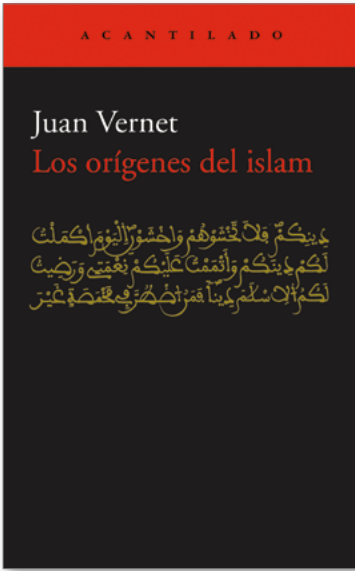
This book, a clear synthesis and overview of Arabic literature, offers many surprises in its discussion of a little-known culture. Moving from pre-Islamic poetry to the most relevant twentieth-century authors, Vernet has added a number of texts that not only illustrate the literary corpus in Arabic but also draws attention to links between the Arab and European civilisations.



JUAN VERNET (Barcelona, 1923-2011) was an international authority on Arabic science. He was Professor of Arabic Language and Literature at the University of Barcelona, a member of the Royal Academy of Literature and the Institute for Catalan Studies of Barcelona and also of the International Académie des Sciences and the Royal Islamic Strategic Studies Centre in Amman. He was an honorary member of the Royal Asiatic Society in London and the Société Asiatique in Paris.

"This title should become a major work of reference because of the clear understanding of Arabic literature it will give to students". *ABC*

Other titles by the author



The Origins of Islam

264 pages

2001

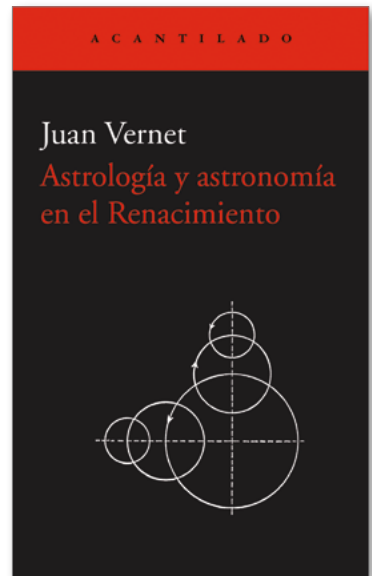
ESSAY

Renaissance Astrology and Astronomy

176 pages

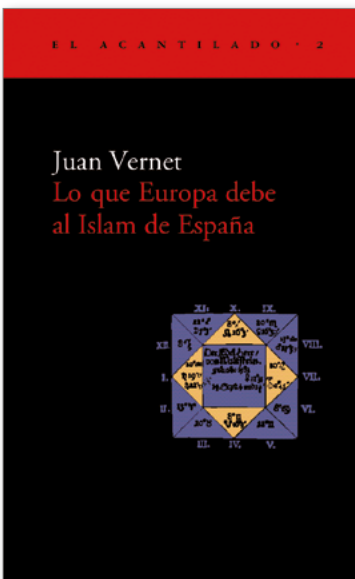
2000

ESSAY



Juan Vernet

Astrología y astronomía
en el Renacimiento



What Europe Owes to Spanish Islam

562 pages

1999

ESSAY

Rights sold:

Serbian

ČIGOJA ŠTAMPA DOO



Mauricio Wiesenthal
Queens of the Sea
Memoirs of an Adventurous Life

448 pages
2024
NON-FICTION
MEMOIRS

"I should, perhaps, start by explaining that my life as a writer has been quite adventurous, more fun than safe, and much riskier and tumultuous than lucrative. This isn't surprising, either, if we think of the craft of writing as a task of horizon: a dream-making of the heavens, as in navigating." In this fascinating epic—at times happy memory, chronicle of a thousand journeys told in scenes of a novel or a film—Mauricio Wiesenthal takes the reader on board legendary vessels, replete with romantic stories, loves, places, and passionate lives whose memory is recovered by this inveterate traveller. *Las reinas del mar* shows that the best part of the voyage is not returning to the safe port of home, but it is in the people, the experiences, the stories we amass throughout the journey of life, this infinite theatre on a constantly changing stage.



MAURICIO WIESENTHAL was born in Barcelona in 1943. Author of many books, he has also been a lecturer in Cultural History and a guest speaker in several universities. A passionate traveller, he has published travel books and studies on pre-Colombian cultures and Latin-American countries.

"In England, cradle of the great creators of literary memoirs,
Mauricio Wiesenthal would be a cult author."

Antoni Gual, *El Periódico*

"A man of extraordinary erudition and infinite culture such as hardly anyone has today: a lively, critical, penetrating culture that, as it interprets the past, turns it into a reflection on the present."

Toni Montesinos, *La Razón*



Mauricio Wiesenthal

The Right to Dissent

400 pages

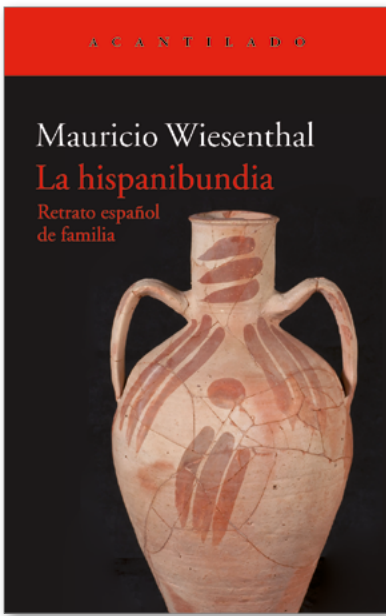
2021

NON-FICTION

ESSAY

English sample available

This book brings together essays in which Mauricio Wiesenthal tries to “settle accounts” with his times because, as he puts it, “being free consists in knowing how to escape from the prison of our circumstances so that we can organise our lives and ideas from a more distant perspective”. Written in a thousand places around the world, these pages are a celebration—a true feast—of the gift of “intemperately” contemplating and assessing, in a way that is both critical and unaccommodating (rebellious against circumstances), the times in which it is our lot to live, “For history—if you rewind it or watch it in slow motion—is like football matches when you examine the moves that are most applauded by the fans of each team, those details which, not infrequently, are the worst and the most shameful of each game”. With its many flashes of brilliance and crystal clear, expressive prose, this book will fascinate (besides encouraging and comforting) the reader as it reveals treasures from the museum of time and shows the way to wide-open horizons.



Mauricio Wiesenthal
Hispanibundance
A Spanish Family Portrait

320 pages

2018

ESSAY

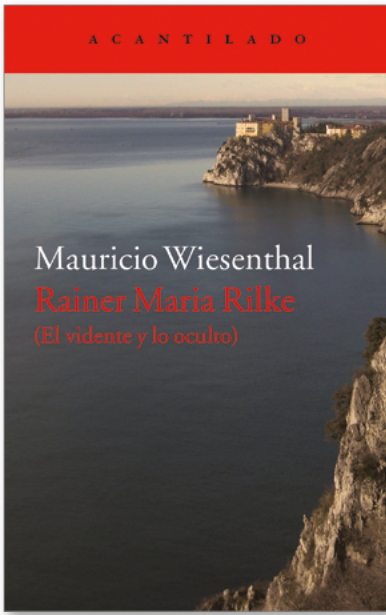
“It is possible that hispanibundance is nothing more than *vehementia cordis* (the ardent heart) which, in Pliny’s view, was a distinctively Spanish trait. Counterreformation theologians responded to Luther’s theses with hispanibundance. Driven by the fever of hispanibundance, the conquistadors ventured into the deserts, sacred mountain ranges, and forests of the New World. Hispanibundance propelled the Invincible Spanish Armada to attack the coasts of Great Britain and Ireland. And with the pain of hispanibundance the best pages of our literature were written. Hispanibundance is the vibrant energy the Spaniard produces on being alive, whether believing that he is Spanish or not, accepting it or not, whether in forced exile or attempting to be a stranger in his homeland, a foreigner amongst his own people”.

Convinced that peoples can only change when they make an honest effort to know their history, Mauricio Wiesenthal makes his contribution in seeking to understand this complex reality which has been taking shape for centuries. For better or worse, we are part of it and heirs to it.

“Presenting a tour through the history and clichés of Spain, Wiesenthal does not lose sight of the European horizon which he has explored in such detail in earlier works”.

Toni Montesinos, *La Razón*

“In this essay with more than fifty years of work behind it, Wiesenthal aims to explain Spanishness within the European paradigm”. Carlos Sala, *La Razón*



Mauricio Wiesenthal
Rainer Maria Rilke
(The Seer and the Unseen)

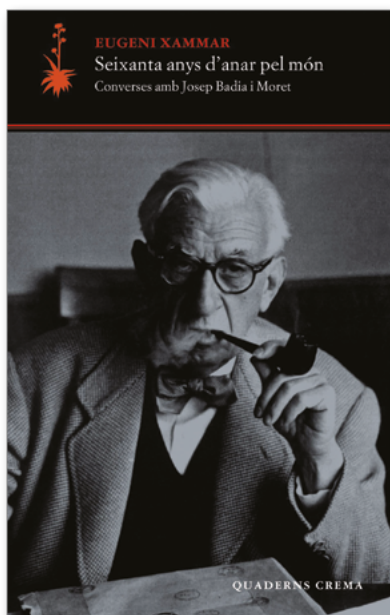
1168 pages

2015

ESSAY

Rainer Maria Rilke, cult poet of a fascinating, complex personality, always protected by women—in whom he sought shelter and instruction—and frequently adored by them, was a long way from the romantic, angelic image which tradition tends to offer us. After years of attentive reading and careful study of Rilke's work, letters and documents, some of them hitherto unpublished, Mauricio Wiesenthal delves into the man and comes up with a much more intricate, subtle and human portrait of the prophet of the requiems and the elegies.

"You wish it would never end". *La Vanguardia*



Eugeni Xammar

Sixty Years

Wandering the World

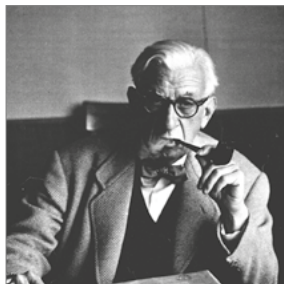
584 pages

1947, 2007

ESSAY

LITERARY BIOGRAPHY

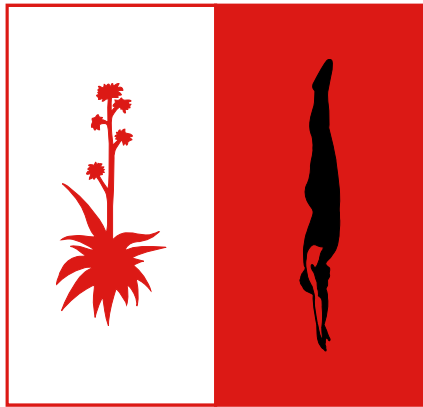
This is a singular book for several reasons. First, it was the only volume that Xammar himself gave to the printer. Second, it bears exceptional human and historic witness to the events of the last century. Finally, as a memoir, it has the all the freshness and charm of a friendly conversation with a most gregarious and insightful man.



EUGENI XAMMAR (Barcelona, 1888 – L’Ametlla del Vallès, 1973) is a member of the extraordinary generation of journalists—among them Assía, Corpus Barga, Julio Camba, Manuel Chaves Nogales, Gaziell and Josep Pla—which emerged in Spain during the 1930s. The Acantilado catalogue offers further information about his works *El huevo de la serpiente* (The Snake’s Egg) and *Crónicas desde Berlín* (Chronicles from Berlin).

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2002 NATIONAL PRIZE FOR BEST
PUBLISHING CONTRIBUTION
AWARDED BY THE SPANISH
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CULTURE AND SPORT

PUBLISHING MERIT AWARD
GUADALAJARA INTERNATIONAL
BOOK FAIR, 2010

JAUME VALLCORBA
2014 NATIONAL PRIZE FOR
CULTURE AWARDED BY THE
GENERALITAT (PROVINCIAL
GOVERNMENT) OF
CATALONIA

NATIONAL AWARD
FOR BEST CULTURAL PUBLISHING WORK 2024.
AWARDED BY THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION,
CULTURE AND SPORT OF SPAIN

Founder
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