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LONDON BOOKFAIR 2022

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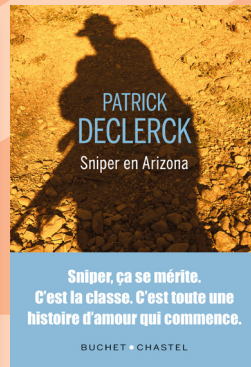
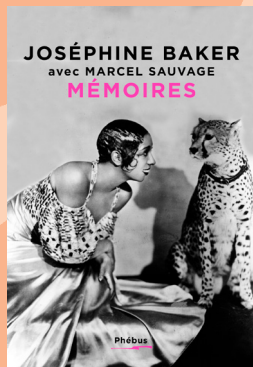


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FRENCH FICTION

ASPHALTE (ASPHALT)

MATTHIEU ZACCAGNA



At age 17, Victor flees a life of absolute violence. With no money, no ties, no help from anyone, he runs through Paris to the point of suffering, to the point of obliteration. He'll meet people, challenge himself, defy death time and again in order to reclaim his body and his past.

“Run with grueling determination, in a solid, resistant block. Force yourself, grit your teeth, squint your eyes, crush the asphalt. Run fast, feel alive, keep it urgent, never slow down, never give in. Breathe hard, mechanically, breathe in three times, breathe out three times, always, even when you're going uphill. Feel the burn, feel that you're ripping something out, something you're holding onto with your sweaty fingers and shaky hands. That thing you're gripping, wearing down, wearing out; that body you're purging, what in the name of all that's unholy can be inside it for you to need to punish it so? Progress through the neighborhoods in the north of the city. My thighs are a wreck. My knees are no better. I don't stop. I obliterate the pain. In the nascent dawn, the mist melts into the water of the canal. I don't know how much longer I can go on like this.”

An extremely powerful, physical and modern first novel with a rare sense of absolute necessity. A deep and dense text with violent sensations and sentiments, yet one that is without pathos, carried along by changes of rhythm and the burning hot breath of the race and of running away.

About the author: Matthieu Zaccagna was born in 1980. After studying business and communication, he moved to Paris, where he held all sorts of jobs in the cultural sector. Since 2006, he has been contributing to producing concerts at the Cité de la musique-Philharmonie de Paris. *Asphalte* is his first novel.

Worldwide translation rights : Editions Noir sur Blanc (Notabilia)

Publication date : January 6th 2022

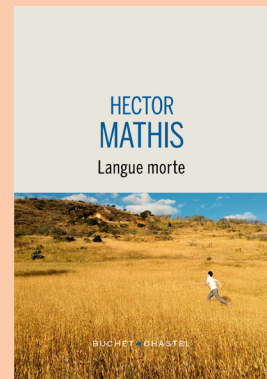
Number of pages : 144

Retail price : 14 €

Available material : PDF / Finished copy

LANGUE MORTE (DEAD LANGUAGE)

HECTOR MATHIS



A lone and distraught, the narrator of *Langue morte* is roaming around the streets of his childhood. He wanders through time as well, bringing his neighbors, parents and brother back to life. Introduced to the theatre by his father, to foolishness by school and to death by his grandmother, he will be forced to flee to escape his own demons... From that bleakness to Austria, via Paris, southern France, Germany and Italy, the narrator will be confronted with his own idleness, suffering and anger, but will also find love, music and friendship. Those obsessive memories from his youth will lead him through the night to the dawn of a new era.

Langue morte describes the birth of a world. A disenchanted world with neither ideals nor gods, where relationships between humans are either economic or conflictual. The book has no black-and-white good and bad, and it's not nostalgic, either. It's just a boy's life tipping from one era into another. The whole is well served by a poetic and powerful writing style.

Standing in front of the apartment building where he grew up, a man remembers. End of an era, emergence of a new world. *Langue morte* is a fierce, funny and finely crafted novel.

About the author: Born in 1993, Hector Mathis was raised in the suburbs of Paris, influenced by both literature and his friends. He is currently in charge of cultural relations for the Zola House/ Dreyfus Museum. His two former novels, *KO* and *Carnaval* were both published by Buchet Chastel.

Worldwide translation rights : Editions Buchet Chastel

Publication date : January 6th 2022

Number of pages : 256

Retail price : 17,90 €

Available material : PDF / Finished copy

LE LIVRE DES HEURES (THE BOOK OF HOURS)

ANNE DELAFLOTTE MEDHEVI



Marguerite, the daughter and granddaughter of illuminators – craftspeople who “illuminate” or decorate the pages of books with bright colors and even gilding, lives on Pont Notre-Dame, a bridge in Paris. Her twin brother suffers from epilepsy. Marguerite watches over him, literally keeping him alive. Her mother would have preferred that Marguerite had been sick rather than her brother. She is constantly scolding and overburdening her daughter with chores. To make up for and escape from her confined existence, Marguerite clings to a vital manifestation of life: light and color.

She will earn her spot in the family business, but only after a fight.

Her entire life she has walked a line, a path circumscribed by Pont Notre-Dame and the Petit Pont. Every day, she crosses the Île de la Cité, from the illumination workshop to her godfather’s apothecary, where she buys pigments.

Until the day Marguerite meets Daoud. He’s a Moor – her people’s sworn enemy.

Before him, Marguerite’s physical world was clearly defined. She was tenacious for what was essential and knew how to make calculated compromises, but adventure and risk-taking used to be limited to abstractions and art. But all that will change with Daoud. Meeting him will force her out of herself and into life and the world.

With its historical setting, portrait of a woman, love of color and life, and descriptions of mediaeval bookmaking... Anne Delaflotte-Mehdevi’s latest novel is truly charming.

An enchanting immersion in the world of color and the life of a young woman whose vocation is book illuminating in the late 15th century, on Paris’s Pont Notre-Dame.

About the author: Anne Delaflotte-Medhevi was born in the Burgundy region in 1967. She grew up near Saint Sauveur en Puisaye, studied political science and international law, and moved to Prague, where her partner opened a bookstore in the early ‘90s. There she learned the bookbinder’s trade and began writing. Her previous novels have all been published by Gaïa. Some of them were translated in foreign languages.

Worldwide translation rights : Editions Buchet Chastel

Publication date : January 6th 2022

Number of pages : 224

Retail price : 17,50 €

Available material : PDF / Finished copy

LE GANG DU BIBERON (THE BABY BOTTLE GANG)

PHILIPPE SÉGUR



Nobody ever said it was easy to be a modern family in the dying days of patriarchal society, in a world undermined by the fear of terrorism and collapse. Alma, the mother, recently joined FUCK, a radical feminist movement that believes in zero compromise with the opposite sex. Granted, she's already married and recently gave birth to Lino, her third child. But she keeps a careful eye on both her own independence, and that of her daughters: Marnie, a gifted eight-year-old, and Lilirose, 4, a curly-haired tyrant. Hank, the father, takes his wife's revolutionary discourse philosophically. It's true that he's been having trouble shaking a case of post-partum depression, and his main concern is not dealing with the baby's midnight bottle. He dreams of escaping to more adventurous skies, far from the hassle of daily life.

One drunken night, Hank scores a major victory: though it's hardly his hoped-for trip to India, he does manage to convince Alma to leave the very next day for Spain, without a GPS or a cell phone.

The lack of an itinerary will be their only itinerary, and surprising twists and turns will pile up fast. All the faster, in fact, in that the parents soon realize that they've accidentally taken their three little terrorists with them.

A road trip, a family saga and an amused portrait of an era, *Le Gang du biberon* is Philippe Ségur's tenth novel.

About the author: Professor of constitutional law and political philosophy, Philippe Ségur's debut novel, *Métaphysique du chien*, was published in 2002 and translated in Germany, Korea, Portugal and Greece. It also received the Renaudot des Lycéens Prize.

Then came *Autoportrait à l'ouvre-boîte* in 2003, a wickedly funny, fierce and flamboyant second novel and then *Poétique de l'égorgeur* in 2005 (rights sold to Germany, Spain, Greece and Poland), *Seulement l'amour* in 2006 and *Écrivain (en dix leçons)* in 2007 (rights sold to Spain and Poland). Film rights of *Poétique de l'égorgeur* and *Seulement l'amour* have both been optioned by French producers. In 2008 and 2012 he published *Vacance au pays perdu* and *Le Rêve de l'homme lucide*. *Extermination des cloportes* and *Le Chien Rouge* both met critical success.

Worldwide translation rights : Editions Buchet Chastel

Publication date : February 3rd 2022

Number of pages : 224

Retail price : 17,50 €

Available material : PDF / Finished copy

QU'UNE SEULE ÂME SUR LA TERRE (BUT ONE SINGLE SOUL ON EARTH)

RAPHAËL AUBERT



The novel opens with the famous concert conducted by Wilhelm Furtwängler, a symbol of resistance to Nazism when the Bayreuth Festival reopened. A concert that was attended by Antonin Tcherniakovsky, a Soviet officer posted to Berlin.

Like so many others, Antonin Tcherniakovsky's life was overturned by World War II. Although he had been preparing for a career as a violinist, history decided otherwise. Having enlisted in the Polish division, he was in France early in the war. After the defeat, he winds up interned in Switzerland, where he meets a young woman, Alberte, the novel's other main character. She is teaching the interns French, but she too, had wanted to be a violonist.

The third major character is the narrator, who is unnamed. Perhaps because his own life story seems to elude his grasp. There are so many questions he would have liked to be able to ask Alberte, his mother, who hardly knew how to love him. And there's that stranger from his past, who seems to have been there, at a distance, ever since. His quest, which has the feel of a thriller at times, takes him to both Rome and Berlin, and will, despite the obstacles, allow him to reconnect with his buried past.

An intimate 20th-century saga told through the thwarted fates of three musicians whose lives overlap with both World War II and the Cold War.

About the author: Raphaël Aubert has written nearly two dozen books – essentially non-fiction essays. In 2014, he received the Vaud State Literature Prize, and in 2015, he was made a knight in the Order of Arts and Letters. He divides his time between Switzerland and France.

Worldwide translation rights : Editions Buchet Chastel

Publication date : March 3rd 2022

Number of pages : 224

Retail price : 18 €

Available material : PDF / Finished copy

AU RENDEZ-VOUS DES PAS PAREILS (WHERE THE UNORDINARY MEET)

JEAN-PIERRE ANCÈLE



On the outskirts of a big city, in the middle of a wood disfigured by an abandoned construction site, a group of people who have had more than their share of hard knocks is just getting by. They are all living with the imminent threat of a landslide. But they meet up every day at the local café, Le Cran d'Arrêt (The Switchblade) where talkative Comdinitch tells his tall tales.

The Cran d'Arrêt's regulars, a rogue's gallery of endearing characters, find a refuge in a run-down bar on the outskirts of a large city. The torrential rain, the mud and the absurdity of their situation all contribute to their exclusion from ordinary life. But the most important thing is still there: the warmth of shared humanity. Their daily reunion is a celebration. Gathered around Comdinitch, the teller of larger-than-life stories, they laugh, they cry, they lend each other a helping hand.

This bittersweet comedy is borne aloft by a spoken style that is both virtuoso and affectionate. Readers will sense a range of different influences: Jean-Pierre Jeunet, Simenon, Céline, Beckett, Lemaitre and more.

A debut novel that leans towards darkness while also paying tribute to the French language and celebrating alterity and difference.

About the author: Jean-Pierre Ancèle is a former professor of British literature in France's competitive "prep school" system.

An author with an excellent and intriguing style, overflowing with influences, from Beckett to Louis-Ferdinand Céline.

Worldwide translation rights : Editions Phébus

Publication date : March 3rd 2022

Number of pages : 224

Retail price : 18,50 €

Available material : PDF / Finished copy

ET RECOUDRE LE SOLEIL (AND STITCH THE SUN UP AGAIN)

GAËLLE JOSSE



Gaëlle Josse first came to writing through poetry. She now has a bountiful body of novelistic work and faithful readers who look forward impatiently to each new book, but poetry has never ceased to be a part of her life. Always traveling, always leaving, at readings in bookstores and festivals, at writing workshops and residencies, high school and libraries, she writes, tirelessly. Today, she shares the gift of that private harvest, those scattered notes, snatched from the moment, those words that accompany her each day.

Hers is a poetry of the present. She casts her eye on the quotidian all around us, the fleeting, ephemeral, fragile moments that speak to the essential. They are spare, sleek instants that dive straight to the heart of each emotion, be it melancholy, loneliness or amazement. Her simple words go straight to the heart of things, with the art of celebrating the moment, of allowing herself to be touched by beauty. Hers is a vagabond, sensitive poetry composed of sensations, emotions and an inner music that resonates with the world around her.

“I wrote these texts in train stations, hotels, cafés, at home, in the Metro, in town and elsewhere. Today I want to share this harvest of words gathered day after day, whether they were found in storms or in joy. But alive. Yes, alive, and lively, always.” Gaëlle Josse

About the author: With degrees in law, journalism and clinical psychology, Gaëlle Josse works in Paris and lives nearby. She started out as a poet. Notabilia published *Le dernier gardien d'Ellis Island* (*The Last Guardian of Ellis Island*) which had a tremendous success in 2014, won a number of literary prizes, including the European Union Prize for Literature and was translated into ten countries.

In 2016 Notabilia released *The Shadow of our Nights* followed by *A Long Impatience* in 2018 (30,000 copies sold in France) and in 2019 *Une femme en contre-jour* based upon the character of the north-american photographer, Vivian Maier (33,000 copies sold in France). Rights were sold to Italy, Hungary and Korea. In 2021 came out *Ce matin-là* (28,000 copies sold in France).

Worldwide translation rights : Editions Noir sur Blanc (Notabilia)

Publication date : February 10th 2022

Number of pages : 96

Retail price : 10 €

Available material : PDF / Finished copy

VOICI DES AILES (HERE, TAKE WING)

MAURICE LEBLANC



Two fashionable couples who have decided to tour Normandy and Brittany by bike assume at first that they have overestimated their strength... but then it is decupled thanks to an unexpected elixir: Love. All four of them soon realize that their original pairing wasn't the right one. So they exchange partners – not without some hesitation and sneaking around at first. And then they ride as though they had wings on their feet.

Readers will discover a novelist whose ideas were quite bold for his day, who extols nudity in body and mind, advocates for free love and all sorts of emancipation, and doesn't hesitate to make his female characters the better people.

We're bringing one of the "sporty" novels by the creator of Arsène Lupin (1898) back into the spotlight: a love song to the glory of bicycles.

About the author: Maurice Leblanc (1864-1941), "the French Conan Doyle," wrote dozens of detective and adventure novels. He created the ever-popular character Arsène Lupin, gentleman-thief, who was recently brought back into the spotlight by the Netflix series

Worldwide translation rights : Editions Libretto

Publication date : February 10th 2022

Number of pages : 96

Retail price : 7,10 €

Available material : PDF / Finished copy

GAÏA

VALÉRIE CLO



Epidemics, hurricanes, tsunamis, heat waves and more. Nature, which has gone out of control, is reducing mankind to powerlessness. To enable readers to better understand climate disturbances, a science journalist investigates the series of hurricanes that struck her region 50 years before.

In the middle of nowhere, in the ruins of a small town that used to be in the avant-garde, she finds two sisters' letters in an abandoned house. Mel sought refuge there with her family when she became pregnant just before the catastrophe. While Laura, a doctor, chose to stay in the city to tend to the sick.

In the face of adversity: two temperaments, two points of view.

An initiatory journey to the heart of climate madness.

In the near future, as the world is subjected to enormous pressure from climate change, two sisters try, each in her own way, to find a way to survive.

About the author: Valérie Clo lives and works as a therapist with elderly persons near Paris. So far she has published four novels with Buchet Chastel : *Plein soleil*, *Les Gosses*, *La Tyrannie des apparences* and *Une vie et des poussières* in March 2020.

Worldwide translation rights : Editions Buchet Chastel

Publication date : April 7th 2022

Number of pages : 176

Retail price : 16,50 €

Available material : PDF / Finished copy

LE JARDIN DES SANGARDE (THE SANGARDE GARDEN)

MARIE BARTHELET



Eve is a devoted, demanding academic who pours all of her time and energy into her research and teaching. Her career has impressed everyone around her, when the first symptoms of a strange malady appear. Although the malady is clearly winning, she tries to ignore the warning signs, stubbornly acting as though nothing's wrong until the day she collapses at a major conference. Then she finally takes a good look at herself and wonders: who is that anxious, wasted looking woman staring at me in the mirror?

Obligated to take sick leave, Eve tries to find meaning in the pain that has laid her low. Like it or not, she lets her mother and her friend Laura tend to her. Then a serious accident caused by Eve's weakness changes everything.

Unable to bear her city or her life any longer, Eve flees to her grandmother's house in the snow-covered Morvan countryside. There she tries to forget and to forgive herself. While taming her ancestor's garden as it emerges from winter, she is gradually able to connect with, understand, accept and even love the other she has become. A springtime to find a new place for herself in the world of the living.

Le Jardin des Sangarde opens like a tale of disillusionment and evolves into a story of letting go, rebuilding and redemption.

About the author: Marie Barthelet, 33, lives in southern France. She is a heritage professional, in charge of the Pont Saint-Esprit Museum. So far she has published two novels with Buchet Chastel, *Celui-là est mon frère* in 2016 and *Damalis*, in 2018. *Celui-là est mon frère* was longlisted for the First Novel Award.

Worldwide translation rights : Editions Buchet Chastel

Publication date : May 5th 2022

Number of pages : 368

Retail price : 19,50 €

Available material : PDF / Uncorrected bound proofs

MON TRÈS CHER CUEILLEUR DE ROSES (MY DEAR ROSE PICKER)

CHRISTIAN CHAVASSIEUX



A writer leaves the city to take shelter in Malvoisie, a house in the middle of nowhere that she inherited from her now-deceased lover. The out-of-the-way location is conducive to sharing secrets, and Floriane soon finds material for her next novel in the tale of Antoine, a gardener with a serious criminal record. She warns him that fiction is always a rearrangement of reality: he might not recognize himself in the story she weaves from the threads of his. But had she realized the extent to which she would be confronted with her own demons? Reliving through Antoine's story the traumatism of a femicide, she finds herself becoming unintentionally woven into a story that mirrors her own and forced to confront a past she thought she had buried forever.

Autopsy of a femicide, by both a victim and a predator.

About the author: Christian Chavassieux was born in 1960 near Roanne, his hometown. Although novel-writing remains his main occupation, he also delves into a wide range of other forms, including plays, short stories, essays, blogging, poetry and art criticism. For him, writing is a way of engaging with the world.

In 2014, Phébus published his historical novel *L'Affaire des vivants* and in 2017, *La vie volée de Martin Sourire* which both met critical success. In March 2020 he published a crime novel, *Noir Canicule*.

Worldwide translation rights : Editions Phébus

Publication date : May 5th 2022

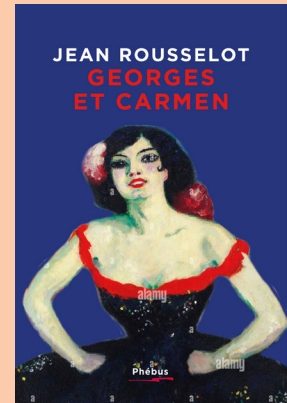
Number of pages : 272

Retail price : 21 €

Available material : PDF / Uncorrected bound proofs

GEORGES ET CARMEN

JEAN ROUSSELOT



Georges Bizet died at the age of 36, unaware that his *Carmen*, which premiered at Paris's Opéra-Comique in 1875, would come to be seen as one of the great operatic masterpieces of all times. This historical novel, written in a lively, cinematographic style, portrays the life of the young composer, from his birth to composing his most famous work. But it is above all a love story between an ill-fated artist and his subject: the passionate Carmen. Georges Bizet was a shy young man with low self-confidence, who worried about rejection. Meeting the mezzo-soprano Célestine Galli-Marié, who would become his muse, enabled the artist to bring his heroine – who was a tad too scandalous for her day – to life.

The making of the most popular opera in history. A well-documented historical novel, but above all, a magnificent love story.

About the author: Jean Rousselot is a filmmaker with a number of documentaries to his credit, including several for the French-German TV channel, Arte. *Georges et Carmen* is his first novel.

Worldwide translation rights : Editions Phébus

Publication date : May 5th 2022

Number of pages : 384

Retail price : 19 €

Available material : PDF / Uncorrected bound proofs

NON FICTION

JOSEPHINE BAKER'S MEMOIRS (WITH AN UNPUBLISHED FOREWORD BY JEAN-CLAUDE BOUILLON BAKER)

MARCEL SAUVAGE



Rediscover one of our great heroines through a first-hand account : a 20th-century legend : the Black Venus !

Covering her life from 1926 to 1949, these *Memoirs* – as told to Marcel Sauvage (a well-known French journalist) form a tribute to an extraordinary and extraordinarily endearing character.

What an amazing life Freda Josephine McDonald, born in Saint Louis (Missouri) to a poor, single black woman and an unnamed white man, would wind up having ! The international star describes in her own words the hardship of her early life in an unabashedly racist society, her arrival in France, her start in Paris with the 'Revue Nègre', her triumph at the Folies Bergères, her love affairs and much more...

During WW2, Lieutenant Josephine Baker stood out for her bravery : although she underwent several medical operations, she joined General de Gaulle despite her physical pain. As a member of the Secret Services, she risked her life in the name of Freedom. She also boosted soldiers's morale whenever she could and accepted to sing when one of the worst concentration camps was liberated. In addition to her career as a singer, dancer and soldier, at the Château de Milandes, in southwestern France, Josephine Baker gathered her 'Rainbow Tribe' of a dozen adopted children of different ethnic and religious backgrounds. This exceptional woman bares her soul in this book, which is finally being republished in honor of her becoming the first black woman to enter France's Pantheon on November 30th, 2021.

World-English rights sold to Vintage Classics (Penguin Random House) at auctions

Worldwide translation rights : Editions Phébus

Publication date : March 10th 2022

Number of pages : 336

Retail price : 21 €

Available material : PDF / Finished copy

QUAND LES ANIMAUX NOUS FONT DU BIEN (WHEN ANIMALS DO US GOOD)

LAURENCE PAOLI



Students who overcome exam stress.

SChildren on the autism spectrum who find comfort.

Victims of abuse who feel more confident when they need to give testimony.

Lonely elderly people who get their zest for life back.

Convicts whose rehabilitation process becomes a little less difficult.

All that thanks to the benefits of spending time with horses, guinea pigs, cats... or even snakes.

Laurence Paoli went to meet people whose animal companions changed their lives, as well as to scientists who study those relationships.

Their combined points of view blaze a trail to a new relationship between people and animals.

Why do we seek out the company of animals? What do they bring us? Do they contribute to our well-being? Can they help us feel more connected to others and understand ourselves better? Laurence Paoli investigates the subject thoroughly in order to answer those questions.

About the author: A renowned specialist in animal-human relations, Laurence Paoli has also written *Zoos – Un Nouveau Pacte avec la nature*, published by Buchet-Chastel in 2019.

Worldwide translation rights : Editions Buchet Chastel

Publication date : January 20th 2022

Number of pages : 256

Retail price : 19,90 €

Available material : PDF / Finished copy

L'AUTRE XX^E SIÈCLE (THE OTHER MUSICAL TWENTIETH CENTURY)

KAROL BEFFA



Contemporary music has a reputation for being complicated, inharmonious, and hermetic for anyone who doesn't know the codes. In a nutshell: elitist and pretentious.

Yet there is another “musical twentieth century” that make room for pleasure and emotion. It is a century of music that rests on refined craftsmanship; rejects the Modernists' insistence on purity – they were so taken by theory and refuses to bend to abstract rules.

In this book, Karol Beffa, one of the great living French composers, reveals his personal pantheon, which includes Maurice Ravel, Richard Strauss, Gabriel Fauré, Claude Debussy, Nadia Boulanger, Francis Poulenc, Steve Reich, John Adams, Vladimir Cosma and others.

From pieces that are so well known that we hardly really hear them anymore (like Ravel's *Bolero*) to film scores, via the American Minimalists' pranks, Karol Beffa introduces us, in an accessible yet thoughtful tone, to his “other musical twentieth century.”

An evocation of some important 20th-century composers who have long been disdained or ignored by French music historians. The author's intention is dual: to introduce readers to little-known composers and to reintroduce composers who are so well-known that we no longer even realize what is so moving about their work.

About the author: Karol Beffa, composer and performer, has won numerous prizes, including the SACEM's 2017 Grand Prix de la Musique Symphonique, for the body of his work. He held the Artistic Creation Chair at the Collège de France in 2013-2014 and was named “Composer of the Year” at the “Victoires de la Musique Classique” in both 2013 and 2018. He frequently performs as a soloist with orchestras, gives improvisation concerts, and accompanies staged readings.

Worldwide translation rights : Editions Buchet Chastel

Publication date : January 27th 2022

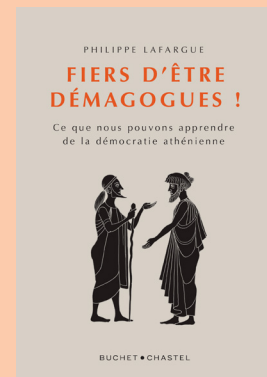
Number of pages : 240

Retail price : 22,90 €

Available material : PDF / Finished copy

FIERS D'ÊTRE DÉMAGOGUES ! (PROUD TO BE DEMAGOGUES !)

PHILIPPE LAFARGUE



Donald Trump, Boris Johnson, Jair Bolsonaro and more. For several years now, politicians who are frequently described as demagogues have invaded the media.

But rather than being a recent disease afflicting democracy, demagoguery is actually consubstantial to it. Because it has always been there: the Ancient Greeks, especially the Athenians, who invented democracy nearly 2,500 years ago, invented demagoguery, too.

After all, in a system based on the will of the people, how else can you conquer power except by appealing to the largest number?

By establishing relevant connections between Antiquity and the present day, by showing us that politics has hardly changed since the time of Cleon and Pericles – except that slurs are less common now than in the 5th century B.C.E. – Philippe Lafargue leads us to reflect upon the deeper meaning of electoral theatrics. And allows us to better understand the impasses we have gotten ourselves into.

A history of 5th-century B.C.E. Athenian democracy that focuses on the role of politicians identified as demagogues in establishing institutions that enable people to be self-governed.

About the author: A historian specialized in Ancient Greece, Philippe Lafargue is the author of *La Bataille de Pylos* (Alma éditeur, 2015).

Worldwide translation rights : Editions Buchet Chastel

Publication date : February 10th 2022

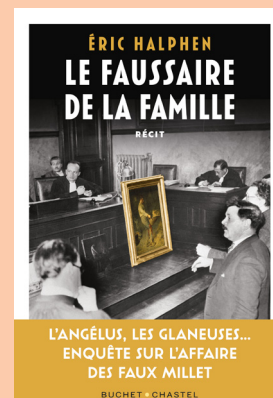
Number of pages : 368

Retail price : 24,90 €

Available material : PDF / Finished copy

LE FAUSSAIRE DE LA FAMILLE (THE FORGER OF THE FAMILY)

ÉRIC HALPHEN



It is well-known that talent isn't hereditary. And that's what's makes Jean-Charles Millet so miserable. He is the grandson of Jean-François Millet, the artist who made such well-known paintings as *The Angelus and Gleaners*, as well as many drawings and engravings.

He may not be talented, but the grandson is cunning. He comes up with the idea of selling fake works by his grandfather (which he has done by a brilliant forger), then applying the artist's own seal to them. Just like that, he gets rich selling paintings that have shown up providentially in the attic, unfinished works that were set aside, studies that were never completed and more to unsuspecting (or unwilling to suspect) art dealers. But jealousy and greed will bring the whole system crashing down...

Éric Halphen tells the true, but little-known story (that ends so very badly) with the precision of a judge reconstituting the facts and the deadpan humor of a Jean Echenoz taking on the lives of Maurice Ravel, Nikolas Tesla or Emil Zatopek.

The amazing tale of a forgery attributed to Jean-François Millet, the most prominent member of the Barbizon school, in the 1920s.

About the author: Éric Halphen is a retired judge (in the 90s and early 2000s, he was in charge of the investigation into a financial scandal involving well-known politicians, which he later wrote about in a best-selling book, *Seven Years of Solitude*), as well as the author of several police procedurals. He is an art collector, with a focus on 19th century drawings.

Worldwide translation rights : Editions Buchet Chastel

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Number of pages : 240

Retail price : 19,90 €

Available material : PDF / Finished copy

SOUVENIRS DE MA VIE (MEMORIES OF MY LIFE)

ROSA BONHEUR



Anna Klumpke (1846-1942) first entered the life of Rosa Bonheur (1822-1899) in 1889, as an interpreter – Anna Klumpke was an American who had been schooled in Europe – for an admirer from New York who was passing through France. Rosa Bonheur, the French painter, was so well known in the United States at the time that her painting *The Horse Market*, was hanging in the Metropolitan Museum.

Nine years after they had first met, Anna Klumpke was back at Château de By, Rosa's home. A deep affinity sprang up between the two women. Although she had only intended to stay for a few weeks, Anna wound up moving in. Admiring, enthusiastic and attentive, Anna was sure that the world would be fascinated by what Rosa Bonheur had to say. Anna put Rosa's words on paper, turning them into literature and history. Over the months of interviews and conversations that wound up in this book, Rosa Bonheur discussed her background and training, as well as her personal life.

Feminism, women's rights, and women painters' status – both in France and in the United States – are all here. Bonheur talks about official recognition and being the first woman artist to be made Chevalière de la Légion d'honneur, as well as how her success on the art market enabled her to be financially independent. She describes the famous people of her era whose company she enjoyed – from Buffalo Bill to the Duke of Aumale, Empress Eugenie and many others.

This book paints the portrait of an artist worth rediscovering, one whose life covered almost the entire 19th century.

About the authors:

Rosa Bonheur was one of France's best-known women painters, one whose reputation stretched well beyond France's borders.

Anna Klumpke was an American painter who shared Rosa Bonheur's life and made a written record of Bonheur's own account of her life as an artist and a free, independent woman.

Worldwide translation rights : Editions Phébus

Publication date : February 10th 2022

Number of pages : 240

Retail price : 19,90 €

Available material : PDF / Finished copy

PEAU A PEAU (SKIN TO SKIN)

HÉLOÏSE DES MONSTIERS



Pierre and Héloïse have it all: they've been madly in love for five years, they have great jobs and an enviable lifestyle. Then suddenly, their life is overturned. Their first child, a very premature baby, was born three months preterm, 600 kilometers from home. A battle for life and against death is engaged.

In France alone, 60,000 “preemies” are born every year, accounting for 8% of all births: that’s 165 a day, one every eight minutes. But nobody ever talks about them. Not health professionals, not their loved ones, no one.

In this poignant account, Héloïse des Monstiers describes her difficult path to parenthood with sincerity and realism. *Peau à peau* lifts the veil shrouding prematurity, a subject that is still taboo in our society that exalts giving birth.

Héloïse des Monstiers is director of development for the online dating service *Meetic*. Her first child was born three months premature. She shares the tale of the painful periods of doubt and the marvelous moments of hope she experienced until her daughter had been saved.

About the author: A former journalist at *Le Figaro*, Héloïse des Monstiers is the head of the French division of the online dating services *Meetic* and *Disons Demain*.

Worldwide translation rights : Editions Buchet Chastel

Publication date : March 3rd 2022

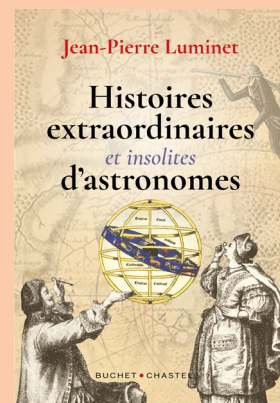
Number of pages : 240

Retail price : 18 €

Available material : PDF / Finished copy

HISTOIRES EXTRAORDINAIRES ET INSOLITES D'ASTRONOMES (EXTRAORDINARY AND UNEXPECTED STORIES ABOUT ASTRONOMERS)

JEAN-PIERRE LUMINET



9 little-known but fabulous stories about great astronomers who risked their lives, accumulated extraordinary discoveries and definitively transformed our view of the world and of the universe.

But scholars – oh, My Lordship – and astronomers in particular, never do anything like everyone else. That's why the adventures they get into are not like those of ordinary people.

Scheherazade, on her 849th night with Sultan Shahryar.

With his in-depth knowledge of astrophysics and his novelist's knack for writing, J.-P. Luminet illustrates that comment from Scheherazade by revealing 9 little-known anecdotes about great and singular astronomers : from Regiomontanus, famous for his measurements of cosmic dimensions, who was assassinated inside the Vatican for having made fun of one of his colleagues' slapdash theories, to the court gown that the famous Halley gave to the wife of Hevelius to thank her for the nights they'd spent together on an observatory platform watching the stars' orbs; from Maupertuis's escapades with pretty Laplanders, when he was trying to find out if the earth was shaped like a mandarin or a lemon, to the beheading of Bailly, mayor of Paris during the French Revolution and an illustrious astronomer who scorned the calculations of mere mortals; from Victor Hugo, who, in his poem *The Comet*, from *The Legend of the Ages*, mangles the history of science to shape it to his own needs, to Camille Flammarion, whose library had manuals bound in human flesh... and other amazing adventures.

About the author: Astrophysicist, writer, poet and musician, J.-P. Luminet is an internationally renowned specialist in black holes and cosmology. Director of Research at the CNRS (National Scientific Research Center), he has won numerous prizes, including the 2007 European Scientific Communication Prize. In 2021, he received the Kalinga Prize, which has, in the past, been awarded to Bertrand Russell, Jean Rostand, Konrad Lorenz, Margaret Mead, Yves Coppens, Trinh Xuan Thuan and others. The Luminet asteroid was named after him to honor his work.

He has published over a dozen essays, seven novels, and seven books of poetry, been translated into a dozen languages, and has co-directed several documentaries/has co-authored several works of non-fiction.

Translation rights sold to Italy (La Lepre Edizioni)

Worldwide translation rights : Editions Buchet Chastel

Publication date : March 3rd 2022

Number of pages : 270

Retail price : 20,50 €

Available material : PDF / Finished copy

LIBÉRONNS-NOUS DE LA DOULEUR (LET'S FREE OURSELVES FROM PAIN)

MARC LÉVÊQUE



Lumbago, neuralgia, endometriosis, arthritis and more... In France, pain is the most common reason for seeing a doctor. Chronic pain affects 14 million people in France, and 70% of them believe that they are not getting sufficient relief!

The opioid crisis and the advent of therapeutic cannabis got a lot of hype in the media, while other new, non-medicinal modes of treatment, including meditation, hypnosis, cognitive therapies, music therapy and more, are still little known, despite having been scientifically proven as providing “exceedingly desirable effects.” Neuro-modulation (electrical stimulation of the skin, nerves, spinal cord and brain) also offers innovative therapeutic resources, while, alas, being almost unheard of and not reimbursed by the national health system.

Why are people still suffering from pain in the modern world, and why will they be suffering more and more? What makes this plague as social as it is medical? Why does morphine pose such troublesome problems to public health? How can we explain the exaggerated appeal of cannabis? Why have no new pain-killers been discovered in the last thirty years? What are the benefits of non-medicinal therapies? How can we prevent pain?

With tremendous clarity, Dr. Marc Lévêque answers those questions, explains how both pain-killers and these new techniques affect the body, contributing to this crucial debate and revealing alternative solutions that are now available to everyone who is in pain.

About the author: Marc Lévêque, neuro-surgeon and pain specialist, trained in France, Belgium and Canada. He has written for both specialists and the general public about psychosurgery and surgery for chronic pain.

Worldwide translation rights : Editions Buchet Chastel

Publication date : March 17th 2022

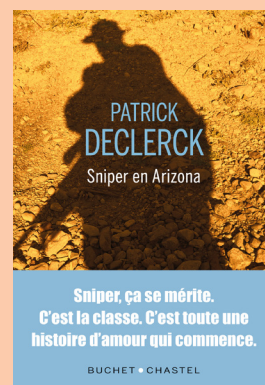
Number of pages : 240

Retail price : 18,50 €

Available material : PDF / Finished copy

SNIPER EN ARIZONA

PATRICK DECLERCK



When Patrick Declerck finds out that he has to have massive brain surgery, he decides to go for sniper training in Arizona. The idea of doing the job right if the operation goes wrong is what triggers the strange journey. Granted, he hardly needs a sniper's degree to put an end to it all, but Patrick Declerck comes from a family where guns have always been part of the landscape. And while he is aware of the danger they represent, he also knows their fatal attraction. Not having much else to do before his probably imminent death, he goes back to New York, his hometown, to pay tribute to the victims of 9/11, then hops on a plane to his paramilitary sniper training program in Arizona.

Sniper in Arizona is the tale of that training program in the middle of the desert, in 100° heat. The group – trainers and trainees alike -- is made up mostly of veterans: a collection of individuals who have had more than their share of hard knocks that Declerck observes with his anthropologist's gaze. In the evening, after a day spent shooting, each of them returns to their own place. For Declerck, that means a typical local motel. As usual, in this new book, Declerck explores the outer limits of the absurdity of human existence in a world that it is perpetually torn between the void and collective imbecility.

All that's left to help him survive is the music of words. And it's up to that particular music (which changes key in each of his books) to bear the meaning and dark beauty of his journey.

About the author: Declerck, anthropologist, provides an astonishing account of firearms training in Arizona. Downtrodden people, dread of war, omnipresent violence... Evocation of a certain facet of America... and human beings' enduring fascination with weapons and warfare.

Worldwide translation rights : Editions Buchet Chastel

Publication date : May 5th 2022

Number of pages : 384

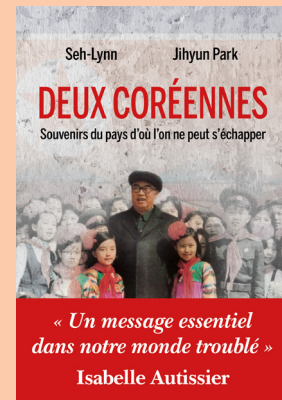
Retail price : 19 €

Available material : PDF / Uncorrected bound proofs

FULL ENGLISH
TRANSLATION AVAILABLE

DEUX CORÉENNES (TWO KOREAN WOMEN)

SEE-LYNN & JIHYUN PARK



After a fairly happy childhood, Jihyun's life came crashing down around her. As she was a young teacher, part of her family was carried off by the famine; then her younger brother was shot and killed for attempting to flee to China. Jihyun herself was sold by her own family to a Chinese man. Chul, a baby-boy was born of that union. Betrayed by her own family (mother and sister) and sent back to North Korea, she was detained for six months before escaping and being reunited with her son. Trekking across China and Mongolia, she managed to reach the democratic state of South-Korea. She's currently living in Manchester with her children and husband

Two Korean Women is the poignant story of a North-Korean woman, Jihyun Park told by a South-Korean woman, See-lynn Chai. The tale of the childhood, education, imprisonment and escape of the one (Jihyun) intertwines with the constant sense of guilt of the other (See-lynn).

About the authors:

Jihyun Park was born in Chongjin, North Korea in 1968. Since she arrived in the United Kingdom, in 2008, she has been an activist for human rights in her native land.

See-lynn Chai lives with her family in London, but is very involved in the dramatic changes taking place on the Korean peninsula.

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Worldwide translation rights : Editions Buchet Chastel

Publication date : May 6th 2021

Number of pages : 264

Retail price : 19 €

Available material : PDF / Finished copy

ILLUSTRATED BOOKS

NEW YORK UKRAINE

NIELS ACKERMAN
& SÉBASTIEN GOBERT



Photographer Niels Ackermann and journalist Sébastien Gobert are passionate observers of Ukraine, a country they have traveled extensively. Here they lead us on a journey to a town in the Donbass region that used to be called New York. Just a few miles from the front lines, in the midst of the Russian-Ukrainian conflict, they meet with the inhabitants, listening to them, looking at them and sharing a bit of their everyday life. All of them describe their struggle to live freely in their native land.

New York, Ukraine acts as a guide to a city you were never expecting to visit. Quite unlike our cliché images of eastern Europe, the author and photographer lead us through the city, revealing surprising places, and the rich legacy of German colonists' Mennonite traditions. In Niels Ackermann's splendidly lively photos, in Sébastien Gobert's amusing or serious interviews, readers will find out about the war's repercussions on the lives of the city's inhabitants. The book lets us sense their formidable life energy. Today's Novhorodskians dreamed of rechristening their city with its original name, New York, for a fresh start. In July, 2021, the Ukrainian Parliament approved the proposal; a new life is starting for New York!

About the authors:

Born in 1987, Niels Ackermann is a photographer for the most respected international newspapers. His work, from an immersion in the youth and loves of the post-Chernobyl generation (*L'Ange Blanc* (*The White Angel*), Noir sur Blanc, 2016) or how hard it is to cope with a nation's painful past (*Looking for Lenin*, Noir sur Blanc, 2017) has been shown in galleries around the world.

Born in 1985, Sébastien Gobert is an inveterate traveler, fascinated by the post-Communist region. A journalist in Ukraine since 2011, he is the local correspondent for *Radio France internationale*, *Mediapart* and *La Tribune de Genève*. He is the co-founder of Daleko-Blisko, an independent journalists' collective. In 2017, he published *Looking for Lenin* with Niels Ackermann.

Worldwide translation rights : Editions Noir sur Blanc

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