HONOUR LIST 2010
© International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY), 2010

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We wish to kindly thank the International Youth Library, Munich for their help with the Bibliographic data and subject headings, and Grupo EDEBÉ for their generous sponsoring of the printing of this catalogue.
The IBBY Honour List is a biennial selection of outstanding, recently published books, honouring writers, illustrators and translators from IBBY member countries.

The first Honour List in 1956 was a selection of 15 entries from 12 countries. For the 2010 Honour List, 54 countries have sent 164 nominations in 44 different languages. Selected for the 2010 list are 64 entries in the category of Writing; 52 in the category Illustration; and 48 in the category Translation. Included for the first time are titles from Lebanon, as well as a new entry from Canada in Dogrib and from Russia in Karalian.

The titles are selected by the National Sections of IBBY, who are invited to nominate books characteristic of their country and suitable to recommend for publication in different languages. One book can be nominated for each of the three categories: Writing, Illustration and Translation. For a country where there is a substantial and continuing production of children’s books in more than one language, more books may be submitted for writing and translation in the different languages of the country.

The Honour List has become one of the most important activities of IBBY. For many National Sections the selection process presents a welcome opportunity to study and review the production of children’s and juvenile books in their country on a continuing basis. Moreover, it offers a unique opportunity to the member countries, especially those with less well-known languages, to present their best books to an international audience. The exhibition of Honour List Books is shown at conferences and fairs around the world and the catalogue is translated into different languages and thus reaches more and more people. Each Honour List catalogue from 1980 onwards is also available through IBBY’s web
page – making it even more accessible throughout the world. This activity is one of the most effective ways of furthering IBBY’s objective of encouraging international understanding and cooperation through children’s literature.

An IBBY Honour List has been published every two years since 1956. Originally it was called ‘The Hans Christian Andersen Honour List’, because the same jury that selected the recipients of the Hans Christian Andersen Awards identified the books selected for the Honour List. Until 1974 there was one general category for an Honour Book, i.e. ‘a good book’. That year the category for Illustration was added, soon followed by Translation in 1978. Thus, the base was widened for the National Sections who now took on the role of the selection jury. Although it was not until 1980 that the name IBBY Honour List was first used and the annotated catalogue that we see today was published.

Great care is taken to provide up-to-date information about the authors, illustrators, translators and their publishers, including the subject and language indexes. Even though space and funds are often limited, it is our wish to provide as much information as possible in a concise way and to promote access to the books.

We wish to sincerely thank our colleagues of the International Youth Library in Munich for their invaluable cooperation and support in preparing this catalogue. They have once again studied and classified the books, given valuable advice concerning bibliographical practice, transliteration of scripts that are not in Latin letters, as well as the very useful subject indexing.

The bibliographical practice that we use in the annotations is not, however, identical with that of the IYL. This is because the catalogue is in English and we follow the practice of spelling foreign names of people and places in standard English. We have respected the way in which the nominees themselves spell their names in Latin letters, which is usually identical with the transliteration used in their passports.

As a rule, we have written published book titles in italics and, whenever possible, added English translation in brackets. There are some exceptions when space or information is not available.

The IBBY Honour List 2008 is the result of excellent cooperation between the IBBY Secretariat, the participating National Sections who selected the entries and prepared the nominations, and the publishers of the nominated books who donated seven copies of each title for exhibitions and the permanent collections. We wish to thank all of them very much indeed.

We gratefully acknowledge the support of grupo edebé, Barcelona, Spain for sponsoring the printing and donating the paper for this catalogue.

The IBBY Honour List 2010 will be introduced and the diplomas presented at the 32nd IBBY Congress in Santiago de Compostela, Spain, on Thursday, 9 September 2010.

Liz Page
Forest Zhang

Basel, May 2010
Writing
**ARGENTINA (Spanish)**

De Santis, Pablo  
*El buscador de finales*  
(The seeker of the ends)  
Buenos Aires: Alfaguara, 2008 (Serie Roja)  
151pp; 130x215mm  
Creativity, Imagination, Inspiration

This novel tells the story of Juan Brum who loves comics, especially those of his favourite character Cormack. Wanting to be part of the publishing world, he gets a job as a cadet. There, while delivering scripts for the comics, he discovers that Sanders, a tall and bony old man, is responsible for the endings when the author does not know how to end their own stories. The old man gives suggestions and encourages the authors find the ending they are seeking. Through contact with him, Juan has many interesting experiences. Clearly and with expertise, De Santis tells a creative and witty story for teenagers.

Pablo De Santis was born in Buenos Aires in 1963. His first novel, *The Palace of the night*, was published in 1987. He has published many books for adolescents: *From the fish’s eye, Nightmare for hackers, Lucas Lenz and the Museum of the Universe*, among others. His novel *The translation* was finalist for the Planeta Prize in 1997. His latest novel, *Philosophy and Literature*, was published in Spain in 1998. As a writer and editor for the magazine *Fierro*, his cartoons were published with artist Max Cachimba in *Puzzle*. He has also published books of criticism of comics. He directs the collections *Obsessions* and *The move*, aimed at teenage readers, and *Enedé*, which gathers the classic comic characters in Argentina.

**AUSTRALIA (English)**

Hartnett, Sonya  
*The Ghost’s Child*  
Camberwell, VIC: Viking, 2007  
178pp; 135x205mm  
Death, Love, Loss

*The Ghost’s Child* is part fable, part fairytale and part magical realism. The story is narrated by the elderly Matilda, or Maddy as she was known in her younger years, to a boy who appears one afternoon in her lounge in time for tea. The day she leaves school Maddy is unable to answer her father’s question: “What is the most beautiful thing in the world?” So he takes her on a world tour to find a suitable answer. The trip, though wonderful, only confuses her more. On their return she falls in love with a strange young man whom she calls Feather and they live a fairy-tale existence together. In time Feather starts to waste away as he pines for his freedom from the domesticity Maddy has created around them. In this story about grief and loss Hartnett does not shy away from the painful predicament and melancholy themes of the story, and provides gentle and genuine comfort for the reader with the growing relationship between Matilda and the boy.

Born in 1968, Sonya Hartnett’s first novel was published when she was 16. She has since become one of Australia’s best known and highly acclaimed writers for young adults and children. She has won numerous national and international awards including: The Children’s Book Council of Australia Book of the Year for Younger Readers in 2005 for *The Silver Donkey* (IBBY HL 2006), and for Older Readers in 2008 for *The Ghost’s Child*. In 2008 she was awarded the Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award. Her books, with their many layers of meaning and metaphorical characters as well as her lyrical style of writing have equal appeal to young people and adults. Her latest book is *Butterfly* (2009).
Through Pino and Esad and their mother, Renate Welsh tells of people whose own country has so been devastated by war that they have to leave and take refuge in Austria. The children are good pupils, the parents work hard and find friends until after a few years they are told “off with you – go home!” Where is that? They are allowed to take two suitcases, but everything else they have to leave behind. What about their achievements at school, the hard work hardly anyone else wants to do, and their friends? They wait daily in fear of receiving their deportation notice. However, there are many friends who want to help – more than they thought there would be. In this book the author shows again her dedication to the disadvantaged, her commitment against injustice and her understanding for the helpless rage and despair of young people like Esad.

Since 1969, Renate Welsh has written over fifty books for young adults, always aware that what she experienced as a teen can never match the experience of today’s youth. Because of this, she is careful to observe, listen to and cultivate relationships with young people. Welsh believes that “language is a very clear indicator of when honesty is relinquished in favour of a self-image enabling one to find a passably comfortable existence…[but]…language also uncovers whatever one has artificially tried to cover up”. In her books for young adults, she works to articulate those moments when such sacrifices and artifices are made clear, to locate the disorderly behind the orderly. She has earned many honours for her work, including the Austrian Awards for Children’s Literature.

1945, the war is over, normal life has resumed in Flanders. In a few months Renée will graduate from high school. And then what? Maybe she should look for a job, like her brother Jef, who, like all men in the village, works in the mines. Jef is not a special person – until people find out that during the war he had rescued several members of the resistance and he is honoured with a medal for his heroic deeds. And then Ward returns… In 1943 Ward had left and gone to the Eastern Front to fight. Ward used to be Jef’s best friend and had been the high-school sweetheart of Renée. The war is over, but it looks like it has just started – because nothing is what it seems anymore.

Els Beerten, born in 1959, is an English teacher and had her first book published in 1987. Her 2003 title Lopen voor je leven (Run for your life) was awarded with the Gouden Zoen (Golden Kiss), the Dutch award for the best young adult novel of the year. Allemaal willen we de hemel received the Flemish award the Boekenleeuw (Book lion) for the best book of the year in children’s literature.
In Latin Letícia means “happiness” and Lucia means “light”. This dead language is still alive in the unconsciousness of Latin writers and readers. So, it is no surprise that the two main characters in this story are called “happiness” and “light”. Lucia is the stepmother of Leticia, who tries to find her own place in the child’s heart. By playing hopscotch together the little girl deals with the agony of losing her birth mother and come to terms with the presence of a stepmother in her life.

Graziela Bozano Hetzel was born in 1945 in Rio de Janeiro, where she still lives. At the age of twelve she started to play with words and write stories for herself. In 1990 after attending a course in children’s literature, she began her career as a writer. She has published several books and most of them have been awarded. Her works include: O problema do Godofredo (Godofredo’s problem, 1991), O último peixe-boi (The last fish-ox, 1994), Aí tem coisa... (There is something in the air..., 1999), O colar de pérolas (The pearl necklace, 2002), Colégio novo é fogo! (New school is rough! 2007), and O lobo (The wolf, 2009).

Before Green Gables brings us the story of Lucy Maud Montgomery’s beloved heroine in her early years. This is the story of Anne’s sad and lonesome childhood that begins with the very early deaths of her parents and goes on to describe the harsh and loveless homes in which Anne finds herself thereafter. Shuffled from one unhappy household to another, her life is one of unending toil, hardship and want. It is filled with drudgery and hard work as she bravely tackles never-ending household chores and childcare duties. Wilson shows us hints of the fiery and passionate spirit that we come to love in her, and it is that passion, coupled with her vivid and irrepressible imagination, that sees her through these very difficult years. This tale takes us right up to Anne’s journey to Prince Edward Island and her life at Green Gables.

Budge Wilson was born in Halifax, Nova Scotia where she studied at Dalhousie University before completing her graduate studies in English at the University of Toronto. She published her first book, The Best/Worst Christmas Present Ever, in 1984 and has since published 33 books. She has received many accolades including the Halifax Mayor’s Award for Cultural Achievement in Literature in 2003, the City of Dartmouth Book Award, Canadian Library Association Young Adult Book Award and the Ann Connor Brimer Award. Her book Friendships was named a finalist for the 2006 Governor General’s Award and in 2004 she was made a Member of the Order of Canada. Budge has given readings, talks and workshops in libraries, schools and universities across Canada, and in the UK and Germany.
This is an adventure story that stands out as a brutal and striking testimony of the life of an Anishnabe native community in the 1950s. The story, inspired by the author’s childhood, relates the story of 14-year-old Ojipik who lives on the banks of Lake Cabonga with his family and their dogs. Like his ancestors he dreams of hunting and fishing and of becoming a great musher flying on the snow shouting “hush! hush!” But in the spring of 1950 the Canadian Federal Government orders the slaughter of all the dogs in the community, depriving the residents of the only way to reach their hunting territories. Ojipik's father says that the only way to defend native rights is through education. Therefore, his son starts studies at the White’s school. “You will stand up and speak,” he tells his son.

Michel Noël describes himself as a Quebecois of native origin and lived with the Algonquin community in Abitibi until he was 14 years old. Today, he spends most of his time on the reserve or his ancestral territories. He has written more than 50 books including picture books, art books, craft books, theatre plays, poetry, youth and adult fiction. He has received many prizes including Governor General of Canada Award in 1997 for the quality of his works and his contribution to the harmonization of relations between communities. Noël calls himself a storyteller and maintains that his role is to pass on to others, especially to the young generation, all the knowledge and wisdom that he inherited. He was awarded Citizen of the World by the Canadian Association for the United Nation for his involvement in the research of a better understanding between people.

This is a story about a lion that has known better days and now looks more like a wildcat, or a rabbit or even a squirrel. He is old and shabby and has become the laughing stock of the neighbourhood children. Finally the lion gets a job with a travelling circus and joins the troupe for a week-long adventure at the coast. The circus finally makes it to the seaside only to find a village of very poor fishermen who are not able to pay for tickets to see the circus perform. The circus faces a very difficult decision and the story has an unexpected ending. The book deals with issues such as friendship, endeavour, generosity, sacrifice and hope.

Alfonso Alcalde was born in Punta Arenas and died in 1992 leaving behind a vast and varied literary wealth. He was a writer, journalist and poet who wrote over 30 books of diverse genres including poetry, short stories, novels, children's books and biographies. He and his family went into exile first in Bucharest, Romania, and then to Israel, finally arriving in Ibiza, Spain. He eventually returned to Chile in 1979. Alcade's adults titles include: Variaciones sobre el tema del amor y la muerte (Variations on the issues of love and death, a poetry collection, 1958), La consagración de la pobreza (Poverty established, a novel. 1969); and for children are Las aventuras de la pulga Micaela (The adventures of Micaela, the flea), and Siempre escrito en el agua (Forever written in water, a poetry collection, 1992).
A researcher finds an antique manuscript called *La biblioteca* in a library. The document is divided into two parts: the first part tells how during the XVIII century the young native author of the manuscript searches in the library of a monastery for a document that will lead towards an indigenous treasure; the second part is written by the same author when he is an old man imprisoned for his participation in a revolution against the Spaniards. In the later part he tells how he and his family took part in the revolution before Colombia's war of independence. This chronicle explores themes that are not often found in Colombian children's literature: the feelings and beliefs of the indigenous nation subjugated by the conqueror and the way in which the country achieved its independence.

Gonzalo España, born in Bucaramanga in 1945, is writer, an amateur historian, and corresponding member of an Academy of History. In 1994 his book *Galería de piratas y bandidos de América* (Gallery of pirates and bandits of America) was selected for the IBBY Honour List. His other books include *Historia imaginaria de conquistadores e indios* (Imaginary history of conquerors and Indians, 1992); *Historia imaginaria de amores y desvaríos* (Imaginary history of loves and raving, 1992); *Historia imaginaria de sucesos extraordinarios* (Imaginary history of extraordinary events, 1992); *Relatos precolombinos* (Pre-Colombian stories, 1994); *La suerte cambia la vida* (Luck changes life, 2004); *Cuentos famosos de árboles fabulosos y animales enojosos* (Famous tales about fabulous trees and annoying animals, 2006).
Yolky, a sweet little chicken was the pride of her mother. One day, while burrowing the soil, Yolky asked her mother: kot kot kot, why can't I fly like other birds? But, her mother had no answer and Yolky tried hard to fly. The swallows, the sparrow and the seagulls all teased her. Upset, Yolky ran far away from her mother with her strong feet and reached the woods. She sat under a huge tree to rest, cry and think. Night came along and Yolky was cold, afraid and missed her mother terribly. Listening to her own crying, Yolky understood one thing: chickens have wings, but don't fly so they must embrace their children on firm ground with love.

Maria Olympiou was born in Nicosia where she still lives. She studied journalism, public relations, pedagogies and the environment. Her books Dangerous journalism assignment, State Prose 2005, A mayor to weep about, Ghosts hunters and the Why don’t... series: Why don’t chickens fly? Why don’t chickens sing? and Why do chickens gossip? Her collection of short stories Tiger in a cage (Ethos) received the first prize given by the Cyprus Board on Books for Young People. She has also published a collection of short stories Parsley on your tooth and a collection of poems under the title Sundays, both with Aegean Publications.
DENMARK (Danish)  13
K., Oskar

Børnenes bedemand
(The children’s undertaker)
Ill. Dorte Karrebæk
Copenhagen: Gyldendal, 2008
[58pp]; 178x245mm
ISBN 978-87-02-06498-8 Ages: 8+

Death, Undertaker, Mourning, Compassion

The undertaker washes the children who have died, dresses them and lays them into their little coffins that he has made especially. He is always very sad when a child dies and tries to be cheerful by talking to them and singing the joyful songs he sings in a Barbershop quartet. He lives by himself but is in love with Miss Lone and they go out to the cinema and cafés together. One day the police bring a little girl for burial, but there is no family. A dog leads them to her three siblings who are living under a bridge in the snow. The homeless children help the undertaker to bury their older sister. Miss Lone tap dances and the undertaker sings at the bitter-sweet last goodbye that seems to put smile on the dead little girl’s face.

As far as we know Oskar K. is a dog. A very special one who writes stories for children and lives in Spain. Apparently the dog was born in Breslau in 1948. Among his important works is a series of books called The Famous Three (2006–). Recently he wrote Little Miss Nobody (2008) and Idiot! (2009). Ole Dalgaard, Oskar K.’s secretary, was born in 1950 in Fredericia. He has been working with theatre and television and since 1994 he has been living in Spain where he writes novels, theatre plays and books for children.

ECUADOR (Spanish)  14
Bravo Velásquez, Leonor

Dos cigüeñas, una bruja y un dragón
(Two storks, a witch and a dragon)
Ill. Santiago González
Quito: Manthra Ed., 2008
[38pp]; 205x235mm
ISBN 978-9978-353-10-3 Ages: 8-12

Grandfather, Grandson, Curiosity

A boy and his grandfather sit by the fire and between the boy’s insatiable questions and his grandfather’s answers, the author builds a fantastic history with grace and freshness. Some fairytale characters such the Raton Pérez (tooth fairy), the Bogeyman and Santa Claus, among others, visit the couple. They all stay and join the boy and his grandfather for a cup of hot chocolate in front of the fire. However, the big finale is when the author and illustrator show up at the gathering and join the magical characters. At the end of the story the author invites the storks to tell the tale from their perspective, so circles back on itself.

Leonor Bravo was born in Quito in 1953. For the last four years she has been giving creative writing workshops for children of all ages. She has published 20 books of short stories and novels. Her novel La Biblioteca Secreta de la Escondida (The secret library of La Escondida) won in 2004 the Darío Guevara Mayorga National Award and was listed in the IBBY Honour List 2006. The Banco del Libro of Venezuela included her novel Esta es la ciudad de Quito (This is the city of Quito) as one of the best books of 2008. Tzakela, el Tigre de la oscuridad (Tzakela, the tiger of darkness) won the Alicia Yanez Cossio National Award and was published on the website Viaje alrededor de los libros. Bravo is the President of Girandula, the Ecuadorian association of children’s literature and President of IBBY Ecuador. She has been the General Coordinator of the Maratón del Cuento (the reading marathon) since 2006.
Sika and Mokka are two brothers and close friends. Their grandfather gave them a beautiful house and their only desire was to peacefully live together. But they found many problems because the house was only designed for one person. This book teaches the reader about problem solving and sharing. It asks: would the home that was designed by our great grandfathers suit us now? Or, should we remake it to suit our own needs?

Afaf Tobalah was born in 1941 and later graduated from the Faculty of Arts, Cairo University. She worked as the Director of Nile Drama Channel from 1996 until 2001, and as a programme supervisor for the Egyptian Space Channel from 1994 to 1995. Her other television work includes the society issues programme manager for Channel One from 1982, and as the manager of programme coordination section for Egyptian television from 1976 until 1981. She has also written a number of books for children and many of them have won national and international awards. Her most prominent title *The Silver Fish* won the Bologna Ragazzi Award in 2006.

In 1951 when Leelo is only three years old armed men take her mother away. Although she thinks that if she is a good girl her mother will come back, but she does not. Her father, who is a teacher, a former athlete and good at everything he does, becomes her best friend. But Leelo is often alone and soon teaches herself to read. Sometimes she is taken to the city to stay with her aunts. There she sees queues for food and listens to the Voice of America behind closed doors. She is clever and notices everything, but can never mention the things whispered about at home: deportations, prison camps and secret police. The story, both tragic and joyful, shows that childhood can remain happy even at the toughest times as long as you are surrounded with loving people.

Leelo Tungal, born in 1947, is poet, writer, translator and editor-in-chief of the children’s magazine *Hea Laps* (Good Child). She has written more than 70 books for children and young people – both prose and poetry. Her work is characterised by optimism, smooth storytelling and wittiness. Her works include *Kristiina, see keskmine* (Kristiina, the middle one, 1989), *Marjajuur lume all* (Root of a berry under the snow, 2000) and *Lepatriinu faksiga* (Ladybird by fax, 2004). She has received many honours and awards, including the Children’s Literature Award of the Cultural Endowment of Estonia in 1997, the Nukits Children’s Choice Award in 1992, 1994 and 2006. She was awarded the IV Class Order of the White Star of the Republic of Estonia in 2005 and the Pearl of Culture of Harjumaa Award in 2008.
Marenkikeiju is a wistfully sweet story about a ten-year-old girl named Ulpu. She is lonely and does not have any friends to play with. So she escapes her loneliness in her imagination: by dancing in her favourite forest nearby and eating. Even though Marenkikeiju is a touching children’s novel about the girl’s dreams and hopes, it brings up important questions about over-eating, bullying and loneliness. However, the ending gives consolation for the reader: Ulpu finally finds a friend, and she does not comfort herself with food anymore. Marenkikeiju received the Arvid Lydecken Prize in 2007.

Laura Lähteenmäki was born in 1973. She studied Literature and Finnish at Jyväskylä University and graduated with a Master of Philosophy. Since 1998 she has written novels for children and young people. She has also written adventure books with her husband Ville Lähteenmäki.

I think that the black holes exist not only in space. They exist in all of us, maybe already since birth, as black dots on our wrinkled cerebral cortex. For people that are always happy, the holes are so tiny they don’t matter. Happy people don’t even know they’re carrying them around…until something happens – a divorce, an illness or an accident. Then the hole starts to grow, it grows and ingests nourishment from everywhere. A hole like that is starting to develop in my brain. I close my eyes and I am absorbed into nothing. Is that where you are? Emma is 14 years old and her life is full of insecurity and longing. She writes about the things she can’t tell anyone: about Kata, who is sometimes her best friend, sometimes the one spreading mean rumours about her; about her love for Sandor, nice, special Sandor, who suddenly moves to Paris; Rainer, who warms her fingers by kissing them one by one; and, the throbbing headache that won’t go away.

Earlier books by Henrika Andersson are Nagu-Nalles egen bok (Nagu-Nalle’s own book, 2005) and Emma Gloria och de Levande Varslarna (Emma Gloria and the living omens, 2006), which was nominated for the Finlandia Junior Award. She worked at the Theatre Academy Helsinki in 1989 as an actor and has done a great deal of directing. Her writing reflects her theatrical training. She says that she writes about what she would have wanted to read as a teenager, her latest book is about longing and about daring.
Charity is a little girl. She is, like all children, full of curiosity. But a little girl from a good family in the 1880s must remain silent and not show herself too much. The adults around her don’t pay attention to her and her little sisters have died. And so Charity takes refuge on the third floor of her house. She raises mice in the nursery, studies mushrooms under a microscope and learns Shakespeare by heart. All of this to save herself from not going crazy with boredom, and with the hope that one day something is going to happen to her. Marie-Aude Murail says: “I wrote Miss Charity to pay homage to the creative women of the 19th century, to their iron will that was necessary to clear a path in a world ruled by men. I transformed a true life into a fake autobiography, that of Charity Tiddler. She is a heroine who at heart resembles me: a little girl locked in a magic circle, who, little by little, slowly, succeeds at existing in the eyes of others. Charity does this through drawing, and I did it through writing.”

Marie-Aude Murail was born in 1954 in Le Havre into a family of artists. Her father, her brother Lorris and her sister Elvire are writers. She wrote a doctoral thesis at the Sorbonne on “Poor Robinson or why and how classical novels are adapted for children”. When she was 23 she started writing short stories for romance magazines. In 1985, she wrote her first novel for adults. Since 1986 she has just been writing for children. She has been awarded the most French prizes in the field of children books. Murail was the French nominee for the Hans Christian Andersen Author Award in 1996 and 1998.

Rico lives with his mother in Berlin and describes himself as “lowly gifted”. He is unable to retain instructions, mixes up left and right, dislikes any change to his routine, and takes metaphors literally. When he meets the highly gifted Oskar the two unlikely friends have no inkling that they will soon play a major part in a kidnapping case. During the search for the victim, Rico turns out to be quite a shrewd investigator. The story is a mixture of big-city adventure and mystery story with speed, humour, wonderful ideas for speech and a lot of fondness. Steinhöfel delves into Rico’s world without whitewashing and opens a new cosmos for children’s literature. The succinct illustrations of Peter Schössow complete this fascinating and exceptional children’s book.

Andreas Steinhöfel was born in Battenberg in 1962. After initially pursuing a teaching degree in biology and English, he studied English and Media at the University of Marburg. He now works as a translator, literary critic and writer of screenplays, but he is best known for his many prize-winning books for children and young adults. His bestseller Die Mitte der Welt (The centre of the world) was included in the IBBY Honour List 2000 and was also nominated for the prestigious German Youth Literature Award in 1999 – as was Rico, Oskar und die Tieferschatten in 2009.
This is a story about eyesight and colour. We usually see the same things as each other, but for some they see in black and white, while others see in colour! Is it the colours that are different or the eye that sees them? What colour are bananas anyway? The crow, frog and butterfly see yellow bananas, but the owl, the cat and the dog say that they are grey. Who is right and who is wrong?

Sofia Madouvalou was born in Athens in 1949. As soon as she opened her eyes she fell in love with life. Still a child she made two good friends: Imagination and Humour. It seems that playing and studying together for so many years helped her to realize how important they are for a creative life. As soon as she finished her studies in Developmental Psychology, Educational Technology and Film Directing she started writing for children. In the last thirty years she has created 55 books for children and about 150 scripts for Educational Television. Her work has been honoured with Greek and European prizes. Two of her books have been translated into English, Chinese and Korean. She tries to offer children the means that will help them achieve the three things she desires more in life: love, freedom and peace of mind. Important works of hers are: I give you a little heart (1985), The little somersault (1989), The cloud which burst into tears (1997), Eros, Olympic champion (2003), The hen that became an egg (2003), A dress for the moon (2005), and The teacher with the messy head (2006).

Maxi’s grandparents live a long way away up in the North and he misses them so much. He really wants to see his grandmother and one day he decides to visit her. But when he tries to get there by bus he gets lost on the way. Maxi has lots of adventures on the way: travelling in a police car, appearing on the local TV and found himself in many other funny and not quite so funny situations. Eventually Maxi returns home safe and sound.

Marie-Claude Lévy Ambroise has written several stories for children, including Le tap tap du bonheur (The happy car), which was selected for the 2008 IBBY Honour list for its translation by Edy Fils-Aime. Her other titles include La petite cirique (The little crab) and Maxi réalise son rêve (Maxi’s dream). She writes mainly in French, although all her books are translated into Creole and published. Her stories are about the lives of children in Haiti.
HAITI (French)  23
Roumain, Jacques
Jacques Roumain parle aux enfants
(Jacques Roumain talks to children)
Ill. Lyll-Martine René
Port-au-Prince: Editions CUC Univ. Caraïbe, 2007
42pp; 135x210mm
ISBN 978-99935-7-199-5 Ages: 8-10
Poetry, Folk tale, Nature, Social justice

As part of the celebrations of the author's 100th anniversary these series of poems and folk tales about nature and social injustices were published especially for children. The tone is soft without sadness or harsh feelings. The texts are historical in the sense that they were written while the author was in jail under the dictatorship and were written for his son who was only five at the time. A lot of the poems are allegoric and are very relevant to children.

Jacques Roumain (1907-1944) was a very well-known and prominent Haitian author and politician whose most prominent novel Gouverneurs de la Rosée (Masters of the dew, 1944) has continued to be published and is considered one of the greats of Caribbean literature. He was fervently opposed to Duvalier, and thanks to his activism was jailed several times, and even exiled. Until recently his writing for children, specially the ones for his son – most of which were created while in exile or in jail, were unknown to most people. This collection of his poems and stories is a tribute to him and to children’s literature as an acknowledgment of his beautiful writing.

HUNGARY (Hungarian)  24
Czigány, Zoltán
Csoda és Kósza
(Lollipop and Marvel)
Ill. András Baranyai
Budapest: Pozsony Pagony, 2007
103pp; 165x215mm
Horse, Adventure

This is a book that neither child nor parent can stop laughing about while reading! Lollipop and Marvel are two dizzy horses that always have the most peculiar and amusing adventures. Once they travel to Mars in a spaceship made from the pigpen of their master, then they accidentally return to the age of the dinosaurs, another time they visit the transport museum causing incredible disorder. Czigány’s absurd humour, together with his brilliant style that is full of jokes, wordplay and irony make this book entertaining and hilarious reading for all. The caricature-like illustrations fit perfectly with the text.

Zoltán Czigány was born in 1965 in Zebegény on the River Danube. He began his studies as a composer and finished them as a philologist. He started working in Hungarian Television as an assistant director in 1985 and directed his first documentary in 1990. He also worked for Duna Television and RTL. Since 2003 he has been chief editor of an artistic programme for Hungarian Television. He says: It was my son who persuaded me to write down the originally improvised evening tales of Lollipop and Marvel, the two horses. In my mind they symbolize the two sides of our souls and lifestyles. His works include Zendülés az idő ellen (Revolt against time, 1994, 1996), Magyarországi levelek (Letters from Hungary, 1999) and Várok ránk (I am waiting for us, 2003). He has received several literary prizes, including the Children’s Book of the Year in 2008 – the award of IBBY Hungary – for Csoda és Kósza.
Eyvindur and his grandmother live with their two cats in an old house by the lake. Life has been pretty much routine for all of Eyvindur’s thirteen years, but now strange things are afoot. Along with his mother, whom he is just getting to know after years of separation, Eyvindur heads for the Icelandic highlands where they intend to spend the summer. A remarkable and compelling adventure unfolds as Eyvindur journeys into the terrain of outlaws, ghosts and gets tangled up in a complicated web of recent events.

Kristín Helga Gunnarsdóttir has established herself as one of the most popular writers in Iceland. Since her debut in 1997 she has written 14 children’s books, all of which have been very popular among Icelandic children. She has received the Reykjavik City Children’s Book Award and library visitors between six and 12 years old have chosen four of her books as Book of the Year. For Draugaslóð she received the West-Nordic Children’s Book Award and was nominated for the Nordic Children’s Book Prize. She is on the board of the Icelandic Writers Union and the Icelandic Nature Conservation Association. Gunnarsdóttir has a degree in Journalism and Spanish language and literature. She lives in Gardabaer with her three daughters and enjoys hiking and fly-fishing.

Fourteen-year-old twins Siddharth and Sowmya are amateur SETI – Search for Extra-Terrestrial Intelligence – volunteers. They are unable to understand a signal that their home observatory receives at a particular time everyday. NASA is also perplexed by the focus of the unknown satellite moving in orbit around the earth. However, Gregory Perkins and Daniel Hawthorne have long been waiting for this. They must thwart the Pentagon’s plans to kidnap the twins and ensure that the message being beamed from somewhere outside the earth is conveyed to the world through the ‘chosen two’. From Somewhere Out There is a racy science fiction story for teenagers.

Karthika Dass holds a Masters degree in Social Work. She worked as a primary level educator for two years in rural areas of Tamil Nadu before moving to the United Arab Emirates for a few years. She organizes children’s cultural summer camps in rural Tamil Nadu and is currently engaged in doing translations of children’s scripts from Tamil into English for the Nigazh Theatre Centre for Alternate Art and Culture, based in Madurai, Tamil Nadu. Her other publishing credits include The Cat Spirit (2003), a science fiction story for children, and, Yaaro Yezhuthiya Kathaigal (2009), which is a collection of short stories in Tamil.
Anila’s Journey

When Anila Tandy’s guardians, the Hickeys, decide to leave Calcutta for Madras they beg her to accompany them. However, she stubbornly refuses to leave in case her father returns as he had promised many years ago. Miss Hickey then sets her up with everything that she will need to survive by herself. Most importantly, Miss Hickey finds Anila a job as a bird painter on an expedition that is going up the Ganges River. Going on this voyage might provide her with tantalizing clues in her search for her beloved father, missing for years and presumed dead. The novel powerfully combines menace and mystery with lyrical yet precise language. The atmosphere and culture of 18th century Bengal is richly evoked with panache and skill. The novel pulses with the sights and sounds of the period. This is an accomplished and polished work of historical fiction, suitable not just for the young teenager readership but as a crossover novel for adults too.

Mary Finn lives in Dublin and currently works as a freelance writer. She has worked for many years as a well-established and widely respected magazine journalist with Radio Telefis Éireann, the Irish broadcasting service. She was always been particularly dedicated to promoting children’s literature and has often worked with children’s authors and illustrators. Anila’s Journey is her debut novel and was inspired by her lifelong fascination with India that began with her introduction to stories from the Mahabharata and also by an original 18th century portrait of an Indian lady that hangs in the National Gallery of Ireland, which is reproduced on the novel’s front cover.
This collection of 40 poems on the theme of dreams encompasses an interesting range of voices guaranteed to bring a fresh perspective to the ordinary. A mouse dreams of sprouting wings to swoop like a bird-of-prey on its enemy the cat, while a dinosaur skeleton in the natural history museum imagines falling in love and fathering the first dinosaur babies in sixty-five million years. A school trip to Mars, a library in which characters are dislodged from their books and a flirtation between the sun and a grey cloud, are just some of the surprising happenings in this vibrant collection. The poems are rhythmic, the imagery vivid and the language musical. While each poem is a gem in itself, the themes are beautifully developed in the collection as a whole.

Áine Ní Ghlinn was born in Tipperary in 1955. She was educated at University College, Dublin and has worked as a teacher, lecturer, writer and journalist. She has published fifteen books for children, including four for teenagers, and four poetry collections for adults. She received a Gradam Chlann Lir award for Céard atá sa Bhosca? (What is in the box?) in 2003 and an Oireachtas award for Fuadach (Abduction) in 2005. Other literary awards include the Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Féile Filíochta Irish Language Poetry Award (2002) and the Belmullet Irish Language Poetry Award (2003). Her titles include: Daifní Dineasár (Daphne dinosaur, 2001), Lámhainní Glasa (Green gloves, 2004), Éasca Péasca (Easy peasy, 2007), Daoine agus Déithe (Humans and Gods, 1996) and most recently Tromlúí (Nightmare, 2009).

Ten-year-old Roni does not like her new glasses and neither does she like her father’s new girl friend. Life is very difficult for Roni since her mother died. One day a lost little duckling appears in her life and she starts to study new things about herself and the people around her. These, together with a new friend, help to make things better for her.

Orit Raz was born in 1953 and earned an MA in creative writing. She has published about 50 books for children and young people and to date has won four literature awards. She also teaches creative writing and visits school classes where she talks about her work.
ITALY (Italian)  Quarenghi, Giusi
**E sulle case il cielo**
(The sky above the houses)
Ill. Chiara Carrer
Milan: Topipittori, 2007 (Parola magica)
61pp; 140x200mm
Poetry

One whole year of poetry: four seasons pulse with the beat of verses and landscapes of land and soul, experience and mood. Verses and images, figures, colours and sounds, form a symbolically rich and delicate map of the passage of time. Searching for the internal beauty of things the words and pictures invite the reader on a journey through the forms, observations and feelings of the secret life of being.

Giusi Quarenghi, the pen name of Maria Giuseppina Quarenghi, began her career as a writer in the 1980s. Today, she is among the most loved and celebrated Italian authors of children's books. Born in the small mountain village of Sottocchieza near Bergamo in 1951, she lives now in Bergamo. As a poet and novelist, she has experimented with different types of writing: from short stories to nursery rhymes, from non-fiction and documentary to screenplay and novels. She has re-written fables and offered a successful modern version of the Psalms, aimed at young readers. Her works have been published by the most important Italian publishers and have been translated into Korean, Greek, Portuguese and Spanish. In 2006 she was awarded the **Premio Andersen** as “Best Italian Writer of the year”. She frequently gives public readings for children as well as for adults and primary school teachers. In 2009, a theatrical show was inspired by this book of poems **E sulle case il cielo**.

JAPAN (Japanese)  Hamano, Kyoko
**Fusion**
(Double-dutch)
Ill. Shun Itagaki
Tokyo: Kodansha, 2008
250pp; 135x195mm
ISBN 978-4-06-214484-1 Ages: 12+
Sport, Competition, Self-confidence

The book’s heroine Tomoka is in the second year of junior high school, and she is a smart girl who does not yet know what she wants in life. She is shocked when she sees straight-A student Misaki, misfit Rena and her sidekick Kumi play the jump rope game of Double Dutch together in the park. After joining their group, Tomoka slowly develops a close relationship with them, leading her to think about her older brother who ran away from home against their parents’ wishes. This book shows Tomoka’s life and urges us to consider what real communication is.

Kyoko Hamano was born in Kumamoto in 1956 and graduated from the Waseda University in Tokyo. She was awarded the outstanding performance award of the Mainichi-children’s novel contest in 1999, and won the highest award of the same contest in 2002. She made her writing debut in 2006 with **Tenkamuteki no ojosama** (The lady without a rival). She has also written novels for young adults including **Sono kado wo magareba** (When I turn the corner, 2007) and **Red Shine** (2009).
Yu Eun Sil

Meoljjeonghan Lee Yujeong
(Lee Yujeong, the perfect)
Ill. Young Mee Byun
Paju-si: Prunsoop, 2008
148pp; 180x230mm

Disability

Yujeong is an eleven-year-old girl with a very poor sense of direction. Children of her age are supposed to be able to find the way home by themselves. But she has to follow her younger brother after school everyday, otherwise she will get lost because all the buildings look the same to her. One day, after fighting with her brother, she has to walk home alone – but of course she gets lost! It was an anxious time for her, but luckily she bumps into her private tutor. Unexpectedly her tutor says, “How nice to see you here. I was coming to see you, but have lost my way, can you take me home with you?” The book contains four more short stories about people with disabilities. The author vividly describes cheerful children in this stories, who are not always as able as others, but try what they can to get through life. The author asks us to accept weakness with humanity through these heart-warming stories.

Yu Eun Sil was born in 1974. In 2005 she was highly acclaimed for My Teacher, Lindgren, which is a story about a girl who lives with her single mother in the outskirt of a big city. The girl grows up by making an imaginary friend called Ms Lindgren. This story is regarded as a tribute to Astrid Lindgren. Her book, Grandma Mago visits my house gained public favour with its vivid description of a family’s ordinary life mixed with a mythical imagination. Her book of short stories The Bunting Boy, won the 28th Korean Children’s Book Award.

LATVIA (Latvian)

Juris, Zvirgzdiņš

Knorke! jeb Tobiass un Fufū meklē Mocartu
(Knorke! Or Tobias and Fufu are looking for Mozart)
Ill. Signe Ėrmane-Litvina
Riga: Liels un mazs, 2007; 77pp; 210x250mm
ISBN 978-9984-9846-6-4 Ages: 6-10
Teddy bear, Dog, Journey, Mozart

Knorke is a story of Tobias the Latvian teddy bear and Fufu the Chinese dog that have an unusually musical and very tasty trip to Austria. In Vienna the two friends meet Lieber Augustin – a monument to a street musician of olden times to whom the famous eponymous ditty was dedicated. They also learn who Mozart really is and help archivist Herr Strudle catch a thief who has stolen the two high F notes of the Queen of the Night Aria from Mozart’s Die Zauberflöte opera! In Vienna Tobias comes to the conclusion that his previous views that teddy bears are tone-deaf are just plain wrong!

Born in 1941 in Riga, Juris Zvirgzdiņš always includes a bit of an adventure story in his work, and often something striking from his collection of interesting historic facts, funny stories or legends. One of his best-loved characters is Tobias the Bear. He has three books about Tobias – Tobias’ Silly stories (2003), Tobias ventures into the world (2005) and Knorke! Or Tobias and Fufu are looking for Mozart (2007). Among his other works are: Once upon a time in Courland (1999), Return of the beavers (2001, 2005), Franklin’s hat (2005) The Last of dragons and Arthur You-Hoo! (2006), Mouse, point and Gutenberg (2009), Our Latvia (2008). Zvirgzdiņš’ numerous works have made him one of the most important figures in Latvian contemporary children’s literature. He is the winner of the 2006 Literature Award for his stories Franklin’s hat and Tobias ventures into the world (2005), the Janis Baltvilks Prize for Children’s literature (2009) and the Pastarinš Prize (2001, 2009).
An albatross, the “bird of happiness”, visits the same Greek island each year and spends time accompanying the fishermen during their work. The island’s inhabitants love the bird and wait for it every year. But the people of the neighbouring island grow jealous and want the bird to come to them, so they organize the kidnapping of the bird. A conflict erupts between the two islands, that is eventually solved thanks to the wisdom of the elders.

Elias Zogheib was born 1947. He has a PhD in Education and specialized in children’s literature. He is a professor at the Education Department of the Lebanese University. He has published around 40 children’s books.

Not long after she is born Vilija mysteriously disappears. Twelve years later she returns to her family in her village and begins school. Almost nothing is known about Vilija’s twelve-year absence. But she is different from others and it is difficult for her to conform to the contemporary world. She observes and analyses some of the grown ups, trying to understand their way of living and moral values. The book raises questions of conformity and bullying and is deeply psychological. However, some very important elements of the book are fragments of magical realism filled with visions. The book has a very original plot and the narrator ruminates over events, although is sarcastic at times, but most importantly the author respects the teenage readers for whom this book is written.

Gendrūtės Morkūnienė, born in 1960, graduated from Vilnius University with a PhD in Physics. Upon finishing university, Morkūnas was employed by the Physics Institute. He is the author of roughly 70 scholarly and technical articles and is the author and co-author of several books. Currently he works for the Radioactivity Safety Centre. He writes for the online journal Bernardinai.lt, the print journal Šiaures Atenai, and the newspaper Šiaures rytai. Morkūnas published his first literary work Summer with Cat-Dog in 2005, which was recognised by the Lithuanian Section of IBBY as a most significant book for adolescents. He has written four books for young people, two of them awarded by IBBY Lithuanian as the best Lithuanian book for young readers of the years 2007 and 2008.
Nonah comes from the tiny fishing village of Santubong on the coast of Sarawak. One day she joins her parents deep in the rain forest where they are teaching in a school. Nonah is not only homesick for her coastal homeland and her grandmother, but she is also a very shy girl. However, she soon loses her shyness once Payah and her friends, Usun and Precious Jade befriend her: for them shyness is an alien word. The four girls enter a story-writing competition and win a trip to Sarawak’s loveliest National Park – Gunung Mulu. The journey to the park involves crossing rapids and, for the girls, exciting plane rides. But what happens in Gunung Mulu National Park is even stranger and becomes really exciting as they uncover a plot to steal very rare orchids. This book is also selected for the quality of its illustrations (97).

Margaret H.L. Lim, born in 1947 in Kuching, Sarawak, was educated at St. Teresa’s Convent School for Girls, and St. Joseph’s School in Kuching. She has a BA in English from the University of British Columbia, Canada, and a Bachelor in Education from Queen’s University, Kingston, Ontario. She went on to teach English Literature in Sarawak. She is founder and director of the publishing house Fairy Bird Children's Books. She now divides her time between her home in Germany and Malaysia. In 2007 Lim was included in the Sarawak Women’s Museum in Kuching. She was also nominated for the Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award (ALMA) in 2008.

MEXICO (Spanish)
Paso, Fernando del
¡Hay naranjas y hay limones! Pregones refranes y adivinzas en verso
(There are oranges and lemons)
Ill. Josel
Mexico: CIDCLI, 2007; 31pp; 210x265mm
Poetry, Puzzles

The old rhymes and sayings of the vendors who sold their wares throughout the streets of Mexico up to the last century are re-created in this book of poems. The author takes a humorous journey through popular forms of poetry and invents word games, riddles, songs, re-creating the proverbs that grandparents often repeated. Through these poems and rhymes children can learn what the past generations have talked about and this helps to keep alive the vast oral tradition of Mexico. The book is complemented by comic illustrations by Josel that reproduce older images with touches of humour.

Fernando del Paso was born in Mexico City in 1953. He is an important narrator and poet whose work has earned him numerous international awards. He is recognized for his historical novels such as Noticias del imperio (News of the empire) and Jose Trigo. He is a very versatile author, particularly in his books for children. Among his works for children are De la a ala zeta por un poeta (From a to z by a poet), Maricastaña y el angel (Maricastaña and the angel) and Ripios y suspiros del mar (Doggerel and riddles of the sea).
Stories inspired by the Bible, modern fairytales, parables and legends are gathered in this book. The stories include how God created the light, and how the rabbit tricked the lion and the parrot Pirusa in order to take their power for itself. Also included are stories about the life of the famous and beloved Moldovan storyteller Ion Creanga. The author uses allegory, puns and rhyme in prose to make these very expressive texts for children.

Ion Hadârca was born in Sângerei in 1949 and studied philology at the Pedagogical University in Chisinău. He has worked as editor for different newspapers and publishing houses and as a counsellor at the Union of Writers of Moldova. He writes poetry, prose and essays for children as well as for adults. His poems and stories for children have a strong educational message and are mainstream philosophy. His books for children Duminica Mare (The great Sunday, 1999) and Bunicuta zburatoare (The flying grandmother, 2002) have both won the Book of the Year Award in Moldova. Grauncioare de lumină was recognized with an award given by the Ministry of Education and Youth. His other books for children are Aproape trei cai (Almost three horses, 2003), De ce-i mare soarele? (Why is the sun big? 2002), and Povestea Cerbului divin (The story of the divine stag, 2000).

The author draws from his childhood memories to tell today's children about the world that they live in. The first chapter is called The history about getting to know stone and describes how Mongolian children traditionally play with stones in order to learn about the world around them. Each chapter is headed getting to know... whether it is about horses, masks or songs. The books gives readers an inside look at the traditional lives of Mongolian children. It is seen as one of the best books of current Mongolian children's literature.

Lodon Tudev was born in the year of the Pig and grew up on the steppe among lambs and baby camels. As a child and a young adult, he was surrounded by newspapers and books, which were instrumental in his intellectual formation. Between 1960 and 1996 he was the editor of various literary and political periodicals. His first book, Hello, Kids, was published in 1955 and since then the main theme of his books has been childhood, with children as his main characters. The President of Mongolia has presented him with the titles of Distinguished Cultural Worker and Labour Hero of Mongolia. In addition to being a writer, Tudev is a journalist as well as an academic. He has also served as Head of the Mongolian Writers' and Journalists' Organization.
John inherits a luck-bringing little dragon called Fu from his grandfather. John writes about all kinds of adventures – real and imaginary – that he had with his grandfather before he died. In prose he tells about the story of the dragon Fu, who, at the end, is set free. The adventures with his grandfather are written as poetry. One of them is about when they fought against the big seven-headed dragon! The poems are accompanied by attractive and moving black-and-white humorous illustrations. The friendship with his grandfather and the great loss John feels, form the thread of the book. The observations and the memories are written in a beautiful literary language and are recognizable for anyone who has lost someone he or she has loved very much.

Eva Gerlach, born in 1948, writes poetry for adults and for children. She published her first collection for adults, Verder geen leed (No further distress) in 1979. Her first volume of poems for children, Hee meneer Eland (Hey Mr. Moose), was published in 1989 and promptly awarded the Zilveren Griffel (Silver Slate Pencil), an important children’s literature prize in the Netherlands. She was awarded the highly prestigious P.C. Hooft-prijs in 2000 for her complete oeuvre. At the start of her career as a poet she carefully kept herself out of the public eye, refusing to give interviews or read from her work, but that has now changed. Eva Gerlach now lives in Amsterdam and is married with two children.

In the year 1757, when the Stadtholder (steward) court still ruled the city of Leeuwarden, nine-year-old prince William of Orange sneaks out of his home in The Hague and goes to visit his grandmother Marijke Muoi in Leeuwarden. His grandmother does not want Prince William to be recognised and so he is not allowed to go outside the palace. His dull life changes abruptly when an old woman casts a spell on the porcelain cabinet making the small figures painted on the bowls and vases come to life at midnight. Strange animals, such as iguanas and elephants appear, although they were unknown at that time. The magical Lode Lakei helps William sort this mess out. The figures from the story are real and can still be seen at the former palace, which is now the ceramic museum. In a playful way, fact and fiction become one, with magical elements woven throughout the story. The photo-realistic illustrations give the book a special atmosphere.

Lida Dykstra grew up in a small Frisian village. She studied as a museum assistant in Leiden and then studied art history and archaeology. In 1986 she became a team member at the Monument-of-the-Month Foundation and later on a curator at the Museum of Joure. After the birth of her daughter, Lida decided to become a fulltime writer. She writes in both Frisian (as Dykstra) and Dutch (as Dijkstra) and has received many awards for her books including the prestigious Simke Kloosterman Award twice for the best Frisian children’s book.
Frankie Parsons is twelve going on old man; he’s a talented Year 8 student with worrying questions about the minor and major threats in his life steadily going through his head. It’s only his mother that listens to his constant anxieties, even though she herself is the most worrying question of all. She is the only one who listens to his questions every night at 10pm promptly and gives him soothing answers. Then a new girl arrives at his school with questions of her own: relentless and unavoidable questions. So begins the unravelling of Frankie’s carefully controlled world.

Kate De Goldi is a short-story writer and author of young adult fiction, children’s books and journalism pieces. She also presents book reviews regularly on radio and television. She has won both the American Express and Katherine Mansfield Memorial Awards for short stories, as well as various other prizes, including the New Zealand Post Book of the Year Award in 1997, 2005 and 2009. Her book Clubs: A Lolly Leopold Story was included in the IBBY Honour List in 2008 for the quality of its illustrations by Jacqui Colley. She was named the Arts Foundation of New Zealand Laureate for 2001.

NASA holds a historic lottery for young people and the prize is a trip to the moon. This time all three winners experience unexplained events. In a nursing home in Miami sits a man who was once in the American military. He can barely remember his own name, but he is certain that a new expedition to the moon could mean the end of everything… Darlah is the story of three young people searching for something else, something new. But it is also a thriller set in space, with secret connections to places such as New York, Normandy, Tokyo and the moon. This unique novel mixes genres, such as horror, sci-fi and thriller with great excitement and expertise.

Johan Harstad was born in 1979. He published his first collection of short prose pieces at the age of 21 and his first novel was released in 2005 to much praise. This novel Darlah, is his first novel for young people and it won the prestigious Brage award for best Youth novel in Norway in 2008. He also writes screenplays, and his sense of drama and cinematic language is part of what makes him stand out as an author. His works for adults include: Hässelby (2007), Buzz Aldrin, hvor ble det av deg i alt mylderet? (Buzz Aldrin, what became of you in all the fuss? 2005), Ambulanse (Ambulance, short stories, 2002), Herfra blir du bare elder (From here you’ll only get older, short prose, 2001).
This book tells the story of a Palestinian young girl, named Iman, who attends a festival of kites in Gaza. While she is enjoying the festival, a magic kite asks Iman to go on an journey to the world of joy and love with it. With the kite she travels away up through the clouds far above her home and far away from the dangers of the war-planes and guns that support the occupation of her homeland.

Dima Sehweil was born in Kuwait in 1974. She trained in Palestine and is now a writer and illustrator for children. She also has a BA degree in law from Jordan University. Her works include: The old man and the prince, Sultan’s journey, King of the sea, and The colour box. She has won many awards including 6th place in the Al-‘Awdah Award for the story the King of the sea; 3rd place in the Al-‘Awdah Award for the story of The Colour Box; and the Best Poster Award in 2005 for a poster about children’s rights to education and play, which was designed for the Women Studies Centre sponsored by the European Commission.

This original story includes characters from nine well-known stories. Fram, the polar bear, Snow White and the seven dwarves, the Happy Prince, the little match girl, the swallow, the Snow Queen, the Firebird, and many other story-book characters are bought into this new book. They face unexpected situations where they need certain qualities such as courage and wit to survive. The earth is in great danger and the friends seek help from the Little Prince on his planet. These stories tell the reader that we must look after the blue planet of earth.

Silvia Kerim is currently one of the most important personalities in Romanian culture. She is an author of books and songs especially for children, a producer of TV programmes and films, a cultural journalist, and a writer and translator of more than 22 books (Missy and my other friends, Remember like a perfume, The window from Venetia, Puf, etc.). She studied philology, Romanian and French literature at the University of Bucharest. She has been awarded numerous prizes and distinctions from the professional associations for her rich contribution to literature, television, cinematography and journalism in Romania.
This coming-of-age story is set in a Karelian village. The protagonist, an ordinary girl from a peasant family, is well loved and cared for by her parents but it seems that life itself places puzzles in the child’s inquisitive mind. In’aine wants to know everything – where do children come from? What is the “other world” and where is it located? Why do people feel lonely? Why is their village almost completely populated by young people? Her mother and wise grandmother give her some answers. There is nearly no plot in this novella: each small episode illustrates a search for an answer to a different “life-puzzle”. Put together these small-scale episodes comprise a unique and integral structure to the story. The author has managed to grasp and show the subtle complexity of a child’s inner world and the important role of adults in its development. Torn between loyalty to her parents and jealousy for her newly born brother, In’aine goes through a range of human emotions: she feels resentment and bitterness, which the adults try to compensate for and heal with their love.

Natalja Sinitskaja was born in 1974 in the village of Larva in the Prionezhsky region of the Karelian Republic. In 1996 she graduated from the Petrozavodsk State University. While she was a student she wrote articles for the local newspaper Oma Mua (My Land). After graduation she worked for some time as a correspondent for the same newspaper and then was promoted to the position of a senior editor. At present she works as chief editor for the joint editorial office of two Karelian-language newspapers – Oma Mua and Vienan Karjala. In’aine is her first book.
This family novel tells a story about how adolescents sometimes have to behave as adults and how adults want to become children again. During the course of one year 15-year-old Thomas resolves problems and conflicts with his parents, bridging gaps in their communication, his father’s departure from the family, his great-grandmother’s death, and great-grandfather’s rapidly deteriorating health condition. He also has problems at school, his first love as well as his first disappointments to deal with. Thomas’ sense of humour is very helpful to him, and when that begins to fail his dachshund Sophia, his sister and a psychologist, rescue him. Sophia maybe just a dog and no hero, but she is an important family member: people help her and she helps them. The novel is set in contemporary Slovakia and addresses the current attitudes of young people.

Juraj Šebesta, born in 1964, graduated from Bratislava’s Comenius University in Aesthetics and Theatre History, Theory, and Criticism. He publishes short stories and articles in a variety of magazines, newspapers and almanacs. In 1996, he was awarded a literary prize for his story Waiting for a Miracle. Slovak Radio has broadcast his play The Fiddle. In 2005, he published a collection of short stories called Sobering Up. He translates theatre plays from English and has prepared a collection of works by the American playwrights Sam Shepard and David Mamet. Ked’ sa pes smeje has been appreciated by both BIBIANA and the IBBY Slovak Section and awarded the 2008 Winter’s Best Children’s Book Award.

This novel subtly deals with the controversial relationship between an immature hippy mother and an agoraphobic daughter. It depicts a modern dysfunctional family with great feeling and no clichés. Without moralising, she tells us about a world without a father, a world of the paradoxical exchange of roles between parents and children, about psychological disturbances, panic and a painfully unembellished reality. The author thus brings fresh, maturely articulate and original thinking about today’s world to Slovene children’s literature.

Janja Vidmar (1962) is a professional author of fiction and scriptwriter, and one of Slovenia’s most eminent writers for the young. Her texts, in the genres of science fiction, crime stories, thrillers, as well as social problems, are favourites with young readers. Her books have also been translated into Croatian, German and Italian. She has received several Slovene awards for youth literature: the novel Princeska z napako (Faulty Princess) won the Veremica Award in 1999, and the novel Zoo (Zoo) won the Desetnica Award in 2006. Her novel Debeluška (Miss Chubby) ranked second in the young readers “My Favourite Book” selection. She has twice received the award at the literary competition Parole senza Frontiere (Words without borders, in Italian Trento), first for the novel Princeska z napako in 1999 and then for the novel Sence poletja (The shadows of summer). Her book Moja Nina (My Nina) was chosen for the 2009 selection of the IBBY Documentation Centre for Young People with Disabilities, in Norway. Since 2003, Janja Vidmar has been President of the Youth Section of the Slovene Writers’ Association.
Lien, her brother and mother must move from their comfortable house in a well-to-do suburb to a downtown block of flats after her attorney father is found guilty of fraud. They struggle to survive, both financially and emotionally. Lien takes matters in her own hands when her mother’s alcoholism starts impacting negatively on their family life. In order to have money for the bare necessities, Lien disguises herself and starts begging for money on a street corner. It is in this improbable surrounding that Lien finds acceptance of who she is and confirmation of the person she wants to become.

Derick van der Walt is the owner of a Pretoria-based communications consultancy, specialising in corporate publishing. He has been writing professionally for many years and, although he won his first award for creative writing when he was only 11 years old in a competition organized by the South African Broadcasting Corporation, only recently did he try his hand at serious writing. Lien se Lankstaanskoene was a Gold Winner in the Sanlam Prize for Youth Literature 2007 and was awarded the M.E.R. Prize for Youth Literature in 2008. He plans to continue writing novels for young people, as it is a genre he feels at home with. However, he has also written a number of short stories aimed at adult readers.

In this exciting story of teenage dreams, ambition and risks, meet Katy, a strong new character from one of South Africa’s best-loved writers for teenagers Dianne Case, and new writer Yvonne Hart. Follow Katy on her journey towards independence, as she finds herself torn between the ‘cool’ hip-hop champion, Ricardo, and her strict, conservative father, Hector. What will she have to do to follow her heart? A gripping story of a teenager’s quest for respect, trust, personal recognition and independence. Deftly written, it is spiced with humour, suffused with love and textured with everyday speech. A truly memorable and authentic tale of growing up today. (Professor Andries Oliphant, judge of the Maskew Miller Longman Literature Awards.)

Dianne Case is an award-winning writer for teenagers and adults. Her writing has been honoured in Paris and at the Bologna Book Fair and her adult novel has been translated into German. Titles include: Love, David, 92 Queens Road, What a Gentleman and Albatross Winter.

Yvonne Hart is an experienced script-writer, academic and TV documentary producer.
Ane is eight years old and yesterday she heard a new word from an old lady: anecdote. She loved the new word, maybe because each time it is pronounced her name is also mentioned. And, today she learnt what this word means. She also discovered that she can use the word story instead. But Ane prefers to say anecdote. She decides to write down all of the things that happen to her and this is the book of her anecdotes.

Ruben Ruiz Perez was born in Vitoria-Gasteiz in 1973 and now lives in Aizarotz. He trained as a schoolteacher in Vitoria-Gasteiz and went on to finish his studies in Psychology and Pedagogy in San Sebastian. He currently works as a schoolteacher in Nafarroa. He has published the following books in Basque for children: Itsasoaren lezioa (The lesson of the sea, 2002), Azken giltsa (The last key, 2003), Eta txorimaloa mintzatu zen (And the scarecrow talked, 2003), Txokolatezko atzamarra (The finger of chocolate, 2003), Nora joan da argia? (Where has the light gone? 2006) and Sekretnuak belarrira (Secrets to the ear, 2007). Nora joan da argia? was awarded the 1st Etxepare Prize in 2007.

The relationship between Beatrice and her grandfather becomes much closer as they look at some of his old war photos together. The story shows the nostalgic relationship of a child with her grandfather and is a great introduction to a history that has been largely hidden. Through the conversations that Beatrice has every Thursday with her grandfather in the Continental Tearoom after her chess class, both she and the reader learn of the childhood of a boy during the Spanish Civil War. A photograph in an exhibition opens the door to her grandfather’s memories and from that moment on he recalls anecdotes of his past and recreates them for Beatrice. The magical friendship between grandfather and granddaughter take on a new importance when the emotions that come with his memories start to affect the fragile health of the old man.

Josep M. Fonalleras, born in Girona in 1959, has a long list of publications to his name, both for adults and young and older children. Among his children’s books are: Gertrudis and the days (2003), The Diary of Laia (2005) and a series about F.C. Barcelona, including Tomorrow we’re going to the match, Joan (2005); The Photo of Marçal (2005) and The Final of Gorka (2005). He won the 2007 Vaixell de Vapor award for Les galetes del Saló de te Continental. He has written many short stories as well as novels. His collected short stories appear in The Long View (2003).
This book is a collection of ten stories linked by two motifs: the importance of love in everyone’s life and the presence of books as companions in the adventure called love. All of the characters in this work fall in love and discover that love is an extremely powerful emotion, able to change them completely and make them see life in a different way. We all live alongside the experience of love and all its variations: from first adolescent love, to love that lasts even after death. But, like all of us, the characters in this book also experience the other face of this reality: the bitterness of its absence, or that of broken loves. Nevertheless, they continue searching for love. The title is from a quote from Orhan Pamuk’s novel *Snow: in life, the only one left is love*.

Agustín Fernández Paz (Vilalba, 1947) is an Industrial Engineer and has a degree in Education Science. He has produced an extensive collection of narrative works written in Galician. *O único que queda é o amor* won the Spanish National Prize of Literature. Some of his most outstanding titles are: *Contos por palabras* (Advertising stories), *Lazarillo Prize*, and IBBY Honour List 1992; *Trece anos de Branca* (Branca is thirteen), *Edebé Prize*; *Cartas de inverno* (Winter letters), *Rañolas Prize*; *Cos pés no aire* (With the feet in the air), *Rañà Lupa Prize*; *As fadas verdes* (The green fairies); *O meu nome é Skywalker* (My name is Skywalker), *Barco de Vapor Prize*, and *The White Ravens 2003; Aire negro* (Black air), *Protagonista Jove Prize*, IBBY Honour List in 2002; *Corredores de sombra* (Corridors of shadow); *Lúa de Senegal* (The moon from Senegal) is his latest novel.

Futuros peligrosos is a collection of seven short stories with some alarming expectations for the next generation. Every story explores a negative theme such as: violence against immigrants; the difficulty of finding a job in spite of higher education; the consequences of an increasingly old population; and the even more dangerous idea of being able to buy a new body for your old soul, if you have the money: young, beautiful people from the Third World sell their bodies to new owners so that their families may survive, but, they can live their own lives only for four hours a day. Based on major issues such as death, poverty, violence, longer or even eternal life, these stories invite the reader to think about our society and maybe take action for a better future.

Elia Barceló, born in Elda in 1957, is a writer and literature professor at Innsbruck University in Austria. She has a PhD in Hispanic Literature and has been writing fiction for twenty years in very different genres: science fiction, mystery crime, historical, fantastic, realistic, etc.. She has published 18 novels, nine of which are for young readers: *El caso del artista cruel* (The case of the cruel artist, 1998), *Edebé Award; La mano de Fatma* (Fatma’s Hand, 2001); *El caso del crimen de la ópera* (The case of the crime at the Opera House, 2002); *El almacén de las palabras terribles* (The warehouse where the terrible words are kept, 2003); *Si un día vuelves a Brasil* (If you happen to return to Brazil, 2003); *Corde-luna* (Heart of the Moon, 2007) *Edebé Award; Caballeros de Malta* (Knights of St. John of Malta, 2007). *Futuros peligrosos* was shortlisted for the Hache Award.
It is soft, pinkish-grey and barely larger than a milk bottle. But without it we would not be able to think, see, feel or experience anything at all – we would not even know that we are here. In *Hjärnkoll* we get to learn a lot about how the brain works, its capacities and functions that we know so little about. What is consciousness? And how can we experiment with our own brain? The book is for 7-12 year-olds, but captivates readers of any age who are curious.

Jonathan Lindström is an archaeologist, and has written several articles and books about different fields of science. He is also a father of two children, which has prompted him to write books for children, which he illustrates himself. *Allt från bröjan – från urcell till människa* (All from the beginning – from primitive cell to human being, 2003) tells the history of life on this planet. For *All tom universum* (All about the universe) he was honoured with the title Public Educator of the Year 2006 and received an award for Best Book of Facts in the same year.

The impressive text of *Mercredi à la librairie* is central to this picture book, with its tight plot and intimate atmosphere with complex messages. This quiet, but strong account of a little girl’s observations and considerations about her weekly encounters in a bookshop with a very old man, who is deeply absorbed in a bulky war book that he seemed to particularly cherish, shows a high literary quality. It distinguishes itself by a fascinating emotional density, psychological complexity and a fine musical sense. Delicate associations and allusions as well as open-ended questions and thoughts, cunningly translated by the French illustrator into open perspectives and changing colours, wonder about the sense of life, the secret of age and human relations, the impact of the past, but also of reading.

Sylvie Neeman was born in 1963 on the shores of Lake Geneva in the French-speaking part of Switzerland. She gained a master degree in literature, linguistics and philosophy from the University of Lausanne. She began to collaborate regularly with the only French-Swiss professional children’s literature journal, *Parole*, published by the Swiss Institute for Children’s and Youth Media, and soon became its editor-in-chief. She also regularly writes children’s literary reviews in the cultural supplement of the Swiss daily newspaper *Le Temps* and presents books on the French-Swiss Radio. In 2001 she published her first adult novel, *Rien n’est arrivé*, (Nothing has happened). *Mercredi à la librairie* is her first book written for children.
Writing for early readers is an art form. In *Gufidaun. Martin und der Außerirdische* Bruno Blume has written an engaging story, full of wit and pace, for early readers. One day, after his ice-hockey training, Martin, a third-grader, comes across a strange creature. It talks strangely too: *Am all alone. Name is Gufidaun and come from above.* Martin takes Gufidaun home – maybe he can fix the alien’s foamy spaceship. After a turbulent night and an exciting day, Martin and his friend Sara manage to send the amiable but helpless alien back home. The story thrives on slapstick situations thanks to Gufidaun’s truly extraterrestrial naivety and the suspense – after all, his mother must not find out about Martin’s unusual guest.

Bruno Blume was born in Zug in 1972 and now lives in Mecklenburg with the illustrator Jacky Gleich and their four children. *Gufidaun* is his eleventh children’s book. His other books include: *Ein richtig schöner Tag* (A really nice day, 2001), *Mitten in der Nacht* (In the middle of the night, 2002), an adaptation of Ludwig Tieck’s *Der gestiefelte Kater* (Puss in boots, 2003), *Tamara und die Liebe* (Tamara and the nature of love, 2005), *Tamara und die Teufel* (Tamara and the devils, 2006) and *Wer liest, ist,* (Who reads, is, 2006). Bruno Blume is also a literary critic and travels throughout the German-speaking world giving lectures, readings and workshops.

*Muang Kon Dek* is a story about the deteriorating world that is segregated and divided, a world that over-consumes and destroys natural resources and nature to satisfy itself. When the adults fail to solve this problem after the children have pleaded with them to do so, the children travel in search for a new land. They build *Muang Kon Dek* or the Children’s World, by themselves and lay down rules for living together harmoniously. In this new land, they are free to do whatever they want to do and no adult is allowed to live there. Although the children live together happily, they have to face the monsters – the adults who try to exploit their new homeland. What will happen when these children grow up to become adults? *Muang Kon Dek* is a story of creating an ideal world together.

Preeda Akrachanchote graduated with a bachelor and a master degree in Media Communication from Chulalongkorn University. He is a writer, a translator, a researcher and a lecturer in Communication and Drama at the Department of Media Communication of Chulalongkorn University. His works include *Chao Chai Mai Wiset* (Not special prince, 2004), *Chao Chai Mai Pood* (Not speaking prince, 2003), and *Ka Buan Kaan Ni Taan Lae Sahai* (Stories and friends, 2005). He has also translated the Chinese picture book *Goo-ji Goo-ji* into Thai.
Prince Milla revives an ancient curse and by doing so causes a disaster in Story World. In a very short time the people of Story World forget all the words they know and become unable to speak. Princess Milla tricks the people into thinking that the little witch Sheroks is the culprit who has to run away and hide. But Sheroks is the only one who can save the people by rewriting the story that had been eaten by Rat Pib and is kept in the Room of Archives. If Sheroks cannot finish rewriting the story in time, Story World will lose both its language and its freedom!

Aslı Der was born in 1975. After graduating from Galatasaray High School, she completed her philosophy education in Bosphorus University. Her first novel Küçük Cadi Seroks (Sheroks the little witch, 2001) is a fantasy with a touch of philosophy. Her next book, Tehlikeye 3 Yolculuk (Three trips into danger, 2003) is a high-paced fantasy adventure. She has also translated many books from French and English to Turkish.

Tuziki ne sdayutsa is a collection of educational fairytales that tells modern children about the serious problems they will meet in real life. The tale King Firebrand explains rudiments of fire safety, and The land without rules tells about traffic and road policy. The adventures of the Sparkle girl and her terribly wise cat Tuzik are written in modern language and have a lot of humour, artifice and unexpected twists, which keeps the attention of young readers. This book for young children has a pedagogic message set in short stories narrated in a lively way by Sparkie and Tuzik the cat.

Jury Ligun was born in 1954. He was a professional journalist until 2000, when he became a professional writer, with sales exceeding 180,000 copies. The books Iron Bulkin, The boatswain, Chipmunk, a cat and a rat have all reached the final of the Russian competition Dreambook. The novel Ilya Muromets and force of heaven was included in the perfect list of the Russian literary award Alexander Nevsky. His book of poems The alphabet of a life and a poem The underwater fairytale have been recorded as a CD by publishing house Denika.
Hal, a boy of dual heritage, is excluded from school because he has behaved badly in response to taunts from fellow pupils about his ignorance of his father’s identity – which his mother refuses to talk about. On a stay with his aunt at the seaside, he mistakenly deduces that the African-Caribbean director of a local sports centre is his father. Though any facile ‘happy-ever-after’ ending is rejected, Hal is eventually led to feel that he has an imaginative understanding of his real father, partly through the agency of a manic-depressive artist. While issues of racism and disability are central, there is no polemic, and the story is well plotted and sensitively told.

Linda Newbery, born in Essex, was teaching English in a comprehensive school when her first novel was published in 1988. She has since written more than 30 books for various age groups, from the picture book *Posy* (2008) to young adult novels. One of these, *Set in Stone*, was a Costa Children’s Book of 2006; she has twice been shortlisted for the Carnegie Medal, for *Sisterland* (2003) and *The Shell House* (2002), and was awarded a Nestle Silver Prize for *Catcall* in 2006. Now a full-time writer, she frequently tutors courses for children, teenagers and adults, and has contributed a section on Writing for Children to the Guardian newspaper’s *How to Write* book.
Illustration
ARGENTINA

Rojas, Saúl Oscar

El camino de la luna
(The moon road)

Text: Laura Escudero
Córdoba: Comunicarte, 2008
[30pp]; 240x240mm

Love, Frustration, Fulfilment

This is the love story of a gaucho called José, who dreamt that the moon had the face of a woman with beautiful black braids. In quiet moments he wonders who sent him this dream, was it the wind, the well, the tree or the sun? However, when his love actually appears she rejects him. But José soon discovers the secret that warms her heart: fine words. Rojas uses watercolour and collage in a way that suggests the moods of José: the sorrow of rejection, the longing of the return, and the final joy. The illustrations have movement and play on the page – like José’s horse, and the phrases rise and fall in step with the vagaries of the heart.

Saúl Oscar Rojas graduated from the Fine Arts School of San Miguel de Tucumán and has worked extensively in the field of books for children and adolescents. He has undertaken artistic and advertising photography and worked as a teacher of Graphic Design at the Faculty of Architecture Design and Town Planning of Buenos Aires University (UBA). He has also worked in ceramics and pottery, as well as teaching illustration techniques for children’s books. Rojas was the Argentinean candidate for the Hans Christian Andersen Award in 1994 and 1996. His book La Pipa del Abuelo (Grandpa’s pipe, by Graciela Montes) was selected for the 1992 IBBY Honour List and he was chosen again in 2004 with Las lagartijas no vuelan (Lizards can’t fly, by María Cristina Ramos). Tres Chicos Muy Valientes (Three very brave boys) was included in the Banco del Libro recommendations in Venezuela. Rojas took part in the Biennial of Bratislava in 1993, and received the Spanish Premio Lazarillo de Ilustración Award in 2001.

AUSTRALIA

Tan, Shaun

The Arrival

Without text
Melbourne: Lothian Books, 2006
[126pp]; 240x315mm

Immigration, Loneliness, Adjustment

This wordless graphic novel has all the hallmarks of lasting literature. It explores the human condition through the plight of one man’s experience of leaving his homeland to make a new life in a strange land. Tan uses graphite pencil on paper, digitally coloured in sepia tones, to lend this book the authenticity of an historic and treasured artefact. It is the beauty and emotional depth, the fine detail as well as the broad picture that sets this book apart. As with a poem each reader is left to bring meaning to the many and at times enigmatic images and to explore the visual metaphors internally. In the strange and often repeated detail which Tan leaves open to interpretation many readers will be able to recognise feelings of loneliness and bewilderment. Images of past horrors give way to anticipation as the protagonist finds friendship and acceptance.

Shaun Tan graduated from the University of WA in 1995 with joint honours in Fine Arts and English Literature. His career began with his illustrations of speculative fiction and he came to prominence in the field of children’s and young adult publishing when he won the Crichton Award for Illustration in 1998 for The Viewer (by Gary Crew, 1997). Since then he has won numerous awards including the Children’s Book Council of Australia Picture Book of the Year for The Rabbits in 1999 (by John Marsden, 1998), and for The Arrival in 2007 and Book of the Year for Older Readers in 2009 for Tales from Outer Suburbia. The French version of The Arrival (Là où vont nos pères) won the best comic book at the 2008 Angoulême International Comic Festival. Tan has also collaborated on theatrical interpretations of his work.
Illustration

AUSTRIA  67
Habinger, Renate

BieBu oder Ameisen haben vom Blütenbestäuben wirklich keine Ahnung!
(BeeBoo or ants really have no idea about pollinating flowers!) Text: Michael Stavarič
St. Pölten: Residenz, 2008; [38pp]; 210x285mm
ISBN 978-3-7017-2034-7 Ages: 5

Bees, Plants

What’s to be done when a colony of bees falls ill? Hannah Honey, the queen bee, asks bumblebee Vince to help pollinate the plants in good time. But Vince soon finds out that pollination is not the job that he is really cut out for. However, help is at hand! Popocatepetl, a mountain of a snail, would like to help. But most of the pollen sticks to his body and he can only cope with four flowers an hour and there are millions to do! So mole, the ants, spider, rose beetle, frog and other creatures all try to stand in for the bees. And all of them fail in their own particular way. BieBu won the Austrian Children’s Book Prize in 2009.

Renate Habinger, born 1957, trained as a graphic designer in Vienna. From 1975 she has worked as a free-lance illustrator and graphic designer. Since 1997 she has lead the paper workshop Schneiderhäus in Oberndorf/Melk. She has illustrated numerous books for children and adults for which she has received several awards including the Illustration Award of the Austrian Children’s and Adolescents’ Book Award in 2009. Her works include: Alter John (Old John, by Peter Härtling, 1981), Sauberzahntiger (Clean-Teeth-Tiger, by Edith Schreiber-Wicke, 2002), Neun nackte Nilpferddamen (Nine Naked Hippo Ladies, by Gerda Anger-Schmidt, 2003), Keiner ist wie Malamu (No one is like Malamu, by Fridolin Reinagl, 2006), Gaggalagu (by Michael Stavarič, 2006), Simsalabimbabasaludosaladim (by Gerda Anger-Schmidt, 2008) and 1,2,3 dann reite ich in den Himmel (1,2,3 then I ride into the sky, by Vera Ferra-Mikura, 2009).

BELGIUM  68
Van Zeveren, Michel

La porte
(The door)
Text by the artist
Paris: École des Loisirs, 2008 (Pastel)
[60pp]; 155x195mm
ISBN 978-2-211-09097-1 Ages: 4

Privacy, Disrespect

This is a well-observed story of a big family that does not really respect individual privacy, especially in the bathroom! The very modest little pig wants to take a bath, but she is constantly disturbed by one of the family who pay little attention to her. They come and go, take a bath, clean their teeth, use the toilet… even the cat comes in. Nothing is said, but you can feel her exasperation by the carefully drawn expressions. With only one eloquent cry – La Porte – this almost wordless picture book is full of humour and an accuracy that shows us that a child is also entitled to privacy!

Michel Van Zeveren was born in 1970 in Ghent. He studied at the Ecole de Recherches Graphiques in Brussels as a cartoonist. But he found that he preferred to work with illustration, and in particular illustrations for children’s book, as well as being able to tell his own stories. Today, he splits his time between books, comic strips and collaborations with various magazines. In 2008, he received the LIBBYLIT price, awarded by the French branch of the Belgian IBBY for the best Belgian album at the children’s book fair in Namur. He uses the technique of Indian ink and watercolour. His works include: C’est à moi, ça (That belongs to me! 2009), Il est minuit (It’s midnight, 2008), Pourquoi? (And why? 2007), Moi Paprika! (Me paprika! 2004), Un jour, je serai une grande sorcière (One day, I shall be a big witch, 2003).
Using simple and communicative pictures made by crayon and watercolours, Michele Iacocca tells the delicate story of a boy who draws a dog that he would love to have and then sticks his drawing in the wall. The dog – Rabisco – comes alive! But he soon realizes that his creator would prefer a beautiful big dog. Sadly Rabisco roams the streets where he is chased by boys; avoids the crazy traffic in the city; the fury of other dogs; the rain and the scary darkness of night-time. But he does find a tramp, who shares some food with him and likes him for who he is. Eventually he finds an artist who understands what is needed and draws a beautiful dog, and gives it to Rabisco to take home. He finally gives the new picture to the boy, who again sticks it on the wall. The boy now realizes that he really loves his little crayon dog.

Michele Iacocca was born in Italy and graduated in Plastic Arts. He moved to Brazil when he was still young and has lived there since. He worked as the art manager of publishing houses and advertising agencies for many years, and as a cartoonist, translator and writer. His work has been published in some of the major Brazilian newspapers and magazines. He has written and illustrated more than a hundred books, including the award-winning Eva, Vacamundi, O que fazer? (Eva Vacamundi, what can you do?), O doente imaginario (The imaginary patient), Primeiro amor (First love), and As aventuras de Bambolina. He has also translated well-known Italian writers such as Gianni Rodari and Umberto Eco. He won the APCA Award - São Paulo Association of Art Critics Award, for his translations.

Elise wonders why her grandmother’s words keep escaping her – do they fly off to play tricks on her? Grandmother used to know so many marvellous words, but now she seems to be losing them all the time. This award-winning picture book offers a gentle exploration of the effects of Alzheimer’s on the relationships in a family, and this case the special bond it creates between a grandmother and her granddaughter. Eventually, Elise comes to believe that her grandmother has used up all her words and has passed them on to her as a gift. The soft, hazy and tragic effect of memory loss is captured through the technique of photocopying and re-photocopying her original illustrations. Her use of white space for the grandmother’s loss of words is simply heartbreaking.

Geneviève Côté studied Graphic Design at Concordia University in Montreal. She has illustrated many children’s books, working with such talented authors as Michèle Marineau, Gilles Tibo, Charlotte Gingras, Danielle Simard, Susin Nielsen and many others. Her editorial illustrations have appeared in The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal and other North American newspapers. She was president of the Quebec Association of Illustrators from 1993 to 1995. With Les 400 coups publishing house, she has also illustrated L’Affreux (Gruesome, a Native legend adapted by Michèle Marineau, 2000) and Le premier printemps du monde (First spring, an Innu legend retold by Rémy Savard and Catherine Germain, 2003). Côté was awarded the 2007 Governor General’s Literary Award for Illustration for La petite rapporteuse de mots.
Gabriela, la poeta viajera
(Gabriela, the well-travelled poet)

Text: Alejandra Toro
Santiago de Chile: Ed. Amanuta, 2007
[40pp]; 220x235mm

Gabriela Mistral

Lucila was a girl unlike the other girls growing up in her small town. She read a great deal and liked writing. When she grew up she worked as a schoolteacher and wrote essays and poems under the assumed name of Gabriela Mistral. She travelled extensively and lived in Brazil, Mexico and the U.S.A. Years later she was honoured with the Nobel Prize for Literature. Gabriela, la poeta viajera tells children about the every day life of the growing girl poet including accounts of the milestones in her life. Isabel Hojas' watercolour illustrations vividly portray the young girl Lucila as she grows up and develops into a poet. In her expressive style and inspired by Gabriela Mistral’s poems, using subdued colours and agile brush strokes, she gives life to the book by using motifs charged with colour, feeling and movement.

Isabel Hojas was born in Santiago in 1977. She studied Art at the Universidad de Chile and since then she has been illustrating books – a profession that fulfils both her love of books and the picture image. She has mainly worked as an illustrator of children's books, but she also collaborates in specialized magazines and publications. Among her works are: El Insólito Viaje de Jimmy Button (The unusual trip of Jimmy Button, by Ana Pavéz and Olaya Sanfuentes, 2008), Lágrimas de oro (Tears of gold, by Luz Philippi, 2007), Margarita Debayle (by Rubén Darío, 2006), and Cuentos de Danielle (Stories of Danielle, by Danielle Bal Simon, 2003).

With humour and tenderness, the illustrations in this book introduce us to the inner world of a girl who invites a lion home with her after school. With a minimum of text, the illustrator creates a universe where her dreams are real and through the sombre double-spread pictures shows how the girl faces harsh reality with innocence, determination and confidence. Her father has disappeared and her mother works long hours, so she takes care of her baby brother, her house as well as her exhausted mother. The illustrations give clues to readers about the lion’s identity and the political violence, which is at the root of her situation. The text fuses with the intimate moving atmosphere of the illustrations that are made by using digital techniques, to create a tale where there is no resignation but acceptance, and a lot of hope.

Born in Peru in 1976 Rafael Yockteng has lived in Colombia since 1980. He began as a graphic designer and has developed his career further as an illustrator. He illustrated the ICBD poster in 2003, sponsored by IBBY Brazil. With the Canadian publisher Groundwood Books he has published Los Mandaderos de la lluvia (Messengers of rain, by Claudia Lee, 2001), which is an anthology of Latin American poetry, Los árboles están colgando del cielo (Trees are hanging from the sky, by Jorge Argueta, 2002), and Blanca Flor (White flower, by Victor Montejo 2005). Camino a casa won the A la orilla del viento del Fondo de Cultura Económica de México award.
This book is radically different from every other book in the world, because it is written not by a human being, but by a real monster! We have always believed that monsters belong to the realm of fantasy, creations of the human mind. But monsters do exist; yet, until the publication of this book they have systematically avoided being seen by humans. This book gives the reason for their appearance: the irresponsible human behaviour towards nature and mankind has begun to threaten the realm of monsters. This encyclopedia is written to introduce the reader to the world of monsters and introduces the new science: teratologia nova. The Enciklopedija čudovišta includes more than 100 illustrated pages with watercolour illustrations.

Stanislav Marijanović was born in 1957, in Tomislavgrad, Bosnia-Herzegovina. He graduated from the Graphics Department of the Academy of Fine Arts in Zagreb, and worked from 1989 to 1990 at the Ecole Nationale Superieure des Beaux Arts, in Paris. From 1992 he lives and works in Thessaloniki and Paris. He has had 25 solo exhibitions and participated in more than 100 group exhibitions around the world. He writes and illustrates books for children, including Kućna čudovišta 1, 2 (The house monsters 1, 2), Izgubljenje papuče (The lost sleepers), Basne po basnama Jeana de La Fontainea (The fables after the fables of Jean de La Fontaine), Mica Poštarica (The post cat, by Nada Horvat). Characters from Marijanović’s books have been adopted for school books, theatre and television programmes in several countries.

Eleni Lambrou was born in 1949, in Larnaca and later studied at the Glasgow School of Art. She taught art in high school and later became actively involved in the research and preservation of Folk Art. At the same time she began producing illustrations for books, posters and commercial publications. In 1996 she received a special commendation from the Nicosia through the Leontios Machairas and George Voustronios competition, organized by the Nicosia Municipal Art Centre. Her two children’s books have been awarded first prize in the State Literature Awards: Three raindrop fairies by Stella Spyrou in 1996-97 and To nisi pou oli ithelan in 2007. The illustrations from Three raindrop fairies were exhibited in the Biennale of Illustrations Bratislava in 1999 and were among the 65 selected to participate in the Bratislava World Illustrations 2000 exhibition in Japan.
CZECH REPUBLIC  
Skála, František  
Žabi zámek  
(The frog castle)  
Text: Jostein Gaarder  
Prague: Knižní klub, 2008  
92pp; 200x260mm  
Dreams, Adventure, Misuse of power

This is the story of Kristoffer Poffer and his exciting adventures in a faraway land somewhere beyond the arch of the sky. This meeting between two widely disparate worlds is set amid a remarkable assortment of red deckchairs, giant frogs, wily marshals, cousins from Norway’s Telemark valley, gnomes and salamanders, and is presided over by the Frog King himself, who looks very much like Kristoffer’s own late grandfather. With humour and wonder, the book delightfully plays with words and phrases; but it also deals with grief and yearnings in a warm and wise way. The fairy-tale adventures of little Kristoffer are accompanied by the artist’s imaginative collages and artwork that appeal to young and old alike.

František Skála was born in 1956 to a family of artists. He studied at the VŠUP in Prague (The University of Arts, Architecture and Design). He produces free art ranging from small objects to large installations. He has illustrated books by authors such as Michael Ende, Astrid Lindgren, Mary Norton, Carl Sandburg, as well as by Karel Šiktanc and many other Czech authors. He also creates his own books, among them comics, such as The great peregrinations of hair and chin and the photo comic Cecil’s quest. Skála has been awarded many prizes in the Czech Republic, Italy and the USA. He was nominated for the IBBY Honour List in 1990 for his illustrations for Phádky z bramborových rádku (Rootabaga stories, by Carl Sandburg, 1988) and again in 2002 for O dobré a o zlé moci (The forces of good and evil, by Karel Šiktanc, 2000). He won a BIB Golden Apple in 2009.

DENMARK  
Bregnhøi, Rasmus  
Snabels herbarium  
(Snabel’s herbarium)  
Text: Christina Weise  
Copenhagen: Carlsen, 2008  
[26pp]; 215x285mm  
ISBN 978-87-626-0815-3 Ages: 4+  
Plants, Friendship, Quarrel, Reconciliation

Snabel loves his collection of pressed dried plants. One day his best friend Lille accidentally spills a glass of juice all over his collection! Lille is horrified at what he has done and runs away. When Snabel discovers what has happened he gets very angry and writes a nasty letter to Lille. The following days they avoid each other, but despite the current bad feeling between them they miss each other so much. Who will be the first to shake hands and make up? The drawings are full of humour and are wonderfully expressive showing the two boys’ hurt feelings. With colourful and sharp illustrations, the illustrator tells a fantastic story about friendship, and how it is much more important to the boys than the ruined plants.

Rasmus Bregnhøi was born in 1965 and is the son of the famous Danish illustrator Palle Bregnhøi. He is not only a children’s book illustrator, but he also makes drawings for magazines, newspapers and is a free artist. His usual drawing style is expressive, naïve and provocative. He produced the artwork for the Danish Aquarium and the main library of the community Gentofte, in Sjælland. He has illustrated more than 20 titles and in 2008 he received the Danish Culture Ministry’s Illustrator prize.
This is a book of poems that has a strong connection between sound, rhythm, *haikus* and illustration. A *haiku* is a three-line poem made from two lines of five syllables and the middle one of seven. It is the synthesis between each poem and the uncomplicated drawings by the illustrator that results in a profound connection between the two components of the book. The techniques used are combined, with great importance given to handmade paper, enabling readers see and feel its textures. The illustrator regards the form and colour for each *haiku* to be minimalist, at the same time they communicate perfectly the rhythm and meaning of the poems to the reader.

Born in 1975, Marco Chamorro has illustrated more than twenty books with important publishers in Ecuador such as Alfaguara, Altea, Norma, Libresa and Manthra Editores. He is an active member of the design agency Sesos Creación Visual. In 2001 and 2005 he won the Dario Guevara Mayorga National Award, which is given to the best children’s illustrator in Ecuador. He received an Encouragement Prize at the XV Noma Concours for Picture Book Illustration in 2006 for his book *Don Cat*. Chamorro also received an Honourable Recognition for his work in the XI A la orilla del viento del Fondo de Cultura Económica de México, in 2007.

*Chamorro, Marco*

*Cielos descalzos*  
(Barefoot skies)  
Text: Wafi Salih  
Quito: Manthra Ed., 2009  
[68pp]; 150x150mm  
*Poetry, Haiku*

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Serrar malekat al molouk is about the great pharaoh queen Hatchepsut who ruled Egypt 3,500 years ago. Her uniqueness can be witnessed at her beautiful temple on the eastern bank of the river Nile at Luxor, which is considered one of the most magnificent architectural constructions ever. Monks from one generation to the next told her story until historians eventually recorded it. People had never forgotten the years of prosperity and peace they lived in at the time of Queen Hatchepsut.

Hassan Abdel Aal, born in Cairo in 1944, is a distinguished illustrator for children. He graduated from the Faculty Fine Arts in 1966. He has illustrated a number of important children’s books and contributed to children’s magazines in Egypt and the Arab world. He has been presented with certificates of honour from different distinguished organizations. His most renowned works are exhibited in the Egyptian Modern Art Museum, the Palestine Museum and the People’s Assembly Museum.

*Abdel Aal, Hassan*

*Serrar malekat al molouk*  
(The secret of the Queen of Queens)  
Text: Ya’qub Asharuni  
Cairo: Nahdet Misr, 2006  
40pp; 230x330mm  
ISBN 977-14-3510-8 Ages: 10-12  
*Egypt BC 1490-1468, Hatchepsut*
A little girl lives by a river and dreams of becoming a fisherman. As her dream comes true, she meets the little riverman and they become good friends. The little riverman is a peculiar little fellow – funny and kind-hearted, who can play tricks, help and surprise people. Sometimes he is just good to talk to, but most importantly he understands and loves nature and teaches the girl to see and notice the miracles of nature. The story takes the girl into the curious and fascinating world of the mystic river. The beautiful illustrations, where brilliant drawing technique is combined with excellent composition and innovative computer design, bring the river to life.

Urmas Viik, born in Tallinn in 1961, is a recognized artist and book designer. He graduated in Graphic Arts from the Estonian Academy of Art in 1991. After graduation he worked as a freelance artist and was later professor at the Tallinn University. Since 2005, he has been professor and the Chair of Graphics at the Estonian Academy of Art. He has illustrated 18 children’s books including *Olivia ja esimene maailm* (Olivia and the first world, by Kerttu Soans, 2003), *Miia ja Friida* (Miia and Friida, by Kadri Hinrikus, 2008), and *Seltsimes ja suured inimesed* (Comrade child and grown-ups, by Leelo Tungal, 2008: selected for the IBBY HL 2010 for the quality of its text). Between 2003 and 2008 he has been awarded the Golden Book Prize and several certificates of merit at the 25 Best Designed Books Competition and at the 5 Best Designed Children’s Books Competition.

Christel Rönns, born in 1960, is a graphic designer by profession. At present she works as an illustrator of children’s books and has illustrated both her own and other authors’ texts. She also makes the layouts for almost all the books she illustrates. Rönns has illustrated and written two books in Swedish and Finnish: *Pärlemo får ett hem/ Helmi saa kodin* (Pearl gets a home, 2002) and *Den lilla farbrorn med det långa skägget/ Tarina liehupartaisesta pikku sedästä* (The little uncle with the long beard, 2003). Other well-known books with illustrations by Rönns are *Taljantti, lempeä jättiläinen* (Taljantti the gentle giant, 2000), *Nagu-nalle* (Nagu the teddy bear, 2005), *Tonttutytö Tarleena* (Tarlena the elf-girl, 2003) and *Tarleena tonttutytö ja talven ihme* (Tarlena, the elf-girl on a journey to Christmas, 2006), which has been translated into English.
Francois Bataille was born in Paris in 1963. When she was 19 she studied for one year at the École des Beaux Arts in Paris and went on to attend the École supérieure d'Arts graphiques where she graduated in 1988. She worked as a photographer in London before she set up her own graphic studio where she creates covers for books and illustrations for the press. Her first children’s book was published in 1999. She continues working on her exploration of typography. The forerunner of ABC 3D was Pop-Up, of which only 30 copies were made.

ABC 3D is as much a work of art as it is a children’s pop-up book. Under the lenticular cover of this thick hand-size book, each of the 26 three-dimensional letters move and change before your eyes: C turns into D with a snap; M stands at attention; X becomes Y with a flick of the wrist, all in a black, red, and white palette. Each letter comes into view in a unique way, so that you are never really prepared for what is on the next page. *One of the most delightful and innovative pop-up books I have ever seen*, wrote the well-known paper engineer Robert Sabuda.

Marion Bataille was born in Paris in 1963. When she was 19 she studied for one year at the École des Beaux Arts in Paris and went on to attend the École supérieure d’Arts graphiques where she graduated in 1988. She worked as a photographer in London before she set up her own graphic studio where she creates covers for books and illustrations for the press. Her first children’s book was published in 1999. She continues working on her exploration of typography. The forerunner of ABC 3D was Pop-Up, of which only 30 copies were made.

Susanne Janssen unveils the layers of this well-known fairytale like an archaeologist. This tall book comprises enormous plates, double-page spreads, filigree drawings and delicate impressions of nature. Janssen has borrowed from the Romantic and Renaissance ages and continued to Constructivism, as well as from the old masters. Using digital techniques she has opened up the text and inaugurated new prospects with photo-realistic images. Text and illustration are composed and interlocked masterfully, intelligently constructing and suspending a bridge between tradition and modernity. With her sense for the archaic and her cool yet powerful images, the artist seizes on the psychological undercurrents in this tale and thereby brings it vividly to life for today’s young readers.

Susanne Janssen was born in Aachen in 1965. She studied graphic arts and design with Wolf Erlbruch at the University of Applied Sciences in Düsseldorf. She is currently one of the most renowned illustrators in Germany. Hänsel und Gretel was awarded the German Youth Literature Award in 2008. She has also won awards for her illustrations for the stories of Italo Calvino, Amado and Jutta Richter, among others. Susanne Janssen lives with her family in the Alsace region in France.
As usual, the little girl woke up to go to school, but that morning the rain was so heavy. Really very heavy: it was raining countless little stars! So many stars fell from the sky that they flooded the town – the chimneys and the yards of the houses, the streets, the big church as well as the school. Why were little stars falling from the sky? And, if they were lying all around on the ground, how could all these fallen stars shine in the sky again? The little girl wanted to keep a star for herself, but what would happen then? However, the most important question was: could wishing on a star be true? Would her wishes come true? These tender illustrations are made with aquarelle and gouache.

The illustration of children’s book has always been Effie Lada’s main interest, and she has been working exclusively in this field since 1991. She has illustrated covers of many books and in 1998 her illustrations for the book The Emperor’s New Clothes was included in the 15th Mostra internazionale d’ illustrazione per l’infanzia in Sarmede, Italy. In 2004 she participated in the International Illustrators’ Exhibition in Bologna. In early 2005 she held a one-woman exhibition in Athens under the title: Once upon a time in Athens…. Then in December the same year, she designed the set for the musical performance of the Irish tale The Christmas Cuckoo at the Music Hall of Thessalonica. Her book Infanta’s birthday has been translated in Italian and Korean. In 2006 her book Sundays in the park was nominated for the Greek National Illustration Award. E Vrohi ton Asteryon was included in the 26th International Exhibition of Illustrations where it was honoured by the Greek Section of IBBY.

This is the story of a friendship between Milo, a young boy and his beloved pencil named Kreyoni. Both of them play and learn together, both having a good time. However, Milo did not realize that by sharpening Kreyoni constantly, his friend was slowly disappearing! Lyll-Martine René captures the essence of the text, making Kreyoni looking happy or sad, depending on the events. Her fine lines are simple and the soft colours clearly communicate the emotions. She has achieved very intricate and highly detailed effects with her friends – her pencils.

Lyll-Martine René has been drawing since she was in the third grade at school. She went on to win special awards and later gained a BA in Arts at the Haiti State University, and currently teaches art education in schools in Port au Prince. She has illustrated more than ten books for children and participated in various exhibitions. Among the books that she has illustrated are: Gougou pè chyen (Gougou is afraid of dogs), Ala yon bèl ti wòb (What a nice dress), Vwayaj Nouyòk (A trip to New York), and Fifi pè peny (Fifi does not like to comb her hair). Jacques Roumain parle aux enfants/ Jak Woumen ap rakonte (Story by Jacques Roumain) is selected for the IBBY Honour List 2010 for the quality of its writing by the late Jacques Roumain.
Békés, Rozi
Muzi. A múzeumkerti fiúk
(Muzi. The museum-garden boys)
Text: Árpád Pásztor
Budapest: Móra, 2008
220pp; 110x185mm

Budapest 1880-90, Everyday life
Piki is a pesky child through and through. Day after day after school he hangs about with the other city youths. They hold a meeting in a Roman sarcophagus, where they swear to protect Muzi – their museum-garden playground – to the death from the barefoot street-boys of Kistér. The months pass by and Piki moves up to the grammar school and the rules and laws of his beloved Muzi gardens are swallowed up by the past, along with the simple justice of childhood friendships and first love. This classic novel for young people conjures up the modernising world of Budapest at the end of the 19th century. Árpád Pásztor, friend of Ferenc Molnár and the inspiration for one of the heroes of The Paul Street Boys, re-dreams his own childhood in this sensitive adventure story.

In 1980 Rozi Békés graduated in Bookart from the University of Applied Art and Design in Budapest (now MOME University). She works as an illustrator, teacher and graphic designer. She has illustrated a lot of books in many styles and has also been working as an animated filmmaker and stage and costume designer. Currently she is enrolled in the DLA Programme of the MOME University. She is a member of the Society of Hungarian Illustrators and the Hungarian Artist's Association of Books as Art Objects. She was granted the Hungarian IBBY award in 2009. Her important books include: Grimm mesék (Grimm's Tales, 2005), A fiú aki a hóban aludt (The boy who slept in the snow, 2004), Győnyörű nyár (Wonderful summer, 2004), Puskin mesék (Pushkin’s tales, 2003), Alkonyatkor nőnek az árnyak (Shadows grow at twilight, 2003), as well as Muzi.

Bjarkadóttir, Björk
Elsku besti pabbi
(Darling dad)
Text by the artist
Reykjavík: Mál og menning, 2008
[26pp]; 200x215 mm
ISBN 978-9979-3-2949-7 Ages: 2+

Father & Daughter
Dad is number one on Emilia’s list. She has the best dad in the entire world, as funny as a clown, as lithe as a monkey and as strong as a bear. But when dad gets ill, Emilia has to act responsibly and do her bit to help him get well again quickly. Elsku besti pabbi is a companion volume to the popular Mamma er best. The short and simple text is brought to life by the lively and humorous illustrations that make this book an instant hit with children.

Björk Bjarkadóttir studied illustrations, graphic design and photography at the École Superieure d’Art Graphique in Paris, where she obtained a master’s degree in 1997. She made her debut as an author and illustrator with Gíri stýri og skrýtni draumurinn (Giraffe’s strange dream) in 1999 and since then has written and illustrated several books for young children. She won the Icelandic Picture Book Award in 2006 for Amma fer í sumarfrí (Granny takes a vacation) and the IBBY-Iceland award for her contribution to children’s literature. Her beautiful book on getting a sibling, Mamma er best (Best mummy) was published in Austria and Norway and My Very First Atlas of the World and My Very First Dictionary was published simultaneously in Iceland and Norway, where Bjarkadóttir lives and works as a freelance writer, illustrator and graphic designer.
Bhajju Shyam has illustrated Sirish Rao’s humorous and profound tale about the power of art and the imagination. Siena Baba is a happy artist with a weird and wonderful way of seeing the world – and an even weirder and more wonderful way of painting it. People say his pictures look like nothing they know, but that doesn’t bother him. Until one day, he starts to paint an extraordinary set of animals that do not seem to appreciate just how fantastic they are. Populated with such charming and disgruntled creatures as the Pea-pig, the Croco-rooster and the Monk-upine, children and adults alike will never want to leave the vibrant and surreal world of Siena Baba.

Bhajju Shyam was born in 1971 in the Gond tribal village of Patangarh deep in the forests of central India. Like most Gond children he grew up helping his mother paint the walls of their village home. At the age of sixteen, he moved to the city of Bhopal and worked at several odd jobs, before becoming an apprentice with Jangarh Singh Shyam, his uncle who was the most brilliant Gond artist of the time, and the one who brought the Gond art from the walls of the village into the public eye. Bhajju then went on to become one of the finest living artists of the Gond tribe. Intricate and colourful, Bhajju’s work is well known throughout India and has been exhibited in the UK, Germany, Holland and Russia. He has also illustrated *The Flight of the Mermaid* by Gita Wolf (2009). Amongst other awards, he has won the State award by *Hasta Shilp Vikas Nigam* for *The Origin of Man and the Earth* in 2002 and the State award for Best Indigenous Artist in 2001.

The naughty fox drank the old woman’s goat milk every night. One night she cut off his tail! To get it back he had to do chores for other animals, until finally he rejoiced at having back his tail. The main character, the fox, has been drawn simply but at the same time showing its feelings of anxiety, sadness and urgency. The small size and gloomy colours of the fox in comparison to the other characters brings out a sense of helplessness. On the last page appears a big fox with an exaggerated tail in red to show his victory. Accurate drawings, creative colouring, skilful techniques and varied compositions used by the illustrator leads the reader to search and discover new aspects.

Ali Boozari was born in Tehran in 1978. He studied at the University of Art, graduated in Graphic Design in 2000 and obtained his MA in Book Illustration in 2003. He illustrated his first book in 1999 and has illustrated 15 books to date. His works have also been published outside Iran and he has won many national and international awards. He uses different techniques according to the nature of his subjects, including collage, linocut and ink. He is also a researcher in illustration and lectures at the Tehran University. He is a member of the Board of Directors of the Artistic Cultural Society of Iranian Illustrators. He works with children both as a storyteller and painter, and arranges exhibits of their works in collaboration with the Children’s Book Council. His work has been included at the BIB and the Bologna Illustrators’ Exhibition.
Gaiscíoch na Beilte Uaine (The warrior of the green belt) is a story from the Irish tradition of oral storytelling. It celebrates a great hero, a warrior travelling through the ancient worlds of the East and the West. The only son of a widow, the hero leaves his home in Ireland to seek his fortune. With magical powers of speed and agility he overcomes all obstacles: brave opponents, fearsome giants and wicked sorcerers in a mystical world where enchanted creatures, birds and beasts exist to aid the fearless and the brave. The artist has employed watercolour, gouache, drawing and innovative design to convey an imaginary world through a distinctive visual text, successfully creating a new richly textured cloth of story from the ancient threads of telling.

Belfast born artist Andrew Whitson graduated from the University of Ulster with a degree in Design specializing in Illustration. His first book, A Field Guide to Irish Fairies, was published in 1997, released in America and in German, Italian and French. A Celtic Alphabet, Welsh Quotations, Scottish Quotations and The Devil’s Dictionary followed. Other books include: Hands Up for Andie (1998), The Creatures of Celtic Myth (2000, America and in Japanese) and The Dark Spirit (2001). Completing his PhD in 2003, he began to concentrate on illustrating elaborate oral tales in Irish under his own publishing house An tSnáthaid Mhór/Dragonfly Press. Gaiscíoch na Beilte Uaine won the Clár na Leabhar Gaeilge Réics Carló Award and was nominated for the Bisto Book of the Year. Whitson believes in the magic of storytelling married with an innovative visual text.

Lea wants her mother to draw her portrait and when it is done she asks her mother to add wings to it. Her mother draws all kinds of wings – feathers, candy, steel, clouds and letters – but these are not the wings Lea wants, and eventually she goes to sleep without the desired wings. In her dreams Lea finds herself in the centre of a bizarre circus stage. Everyone is expecting her to fly, and finally, Lea does and takes all circus figures with her. In the morning, Lea wakes up and realizes that she doesn’t need her mother to draw wings for her – she can draw them herself. The book is illustrated with a combination of two techniques: one is a light, thin pencil drawing on paper, which represents the personal world and perception of the mother/illustrator; the other is warm acrylic paint on paper and is used to portray reality as sensed by Lea giving us a glimpse into her inner world.

Ofra Amit was born in Israel in 1966 and studied Graphic Design at the Wizo Canada Institute of Design in Haifa. Since 2000 she has been illustrating children’s books, among which are the picture books Hatarnegolim Vehashual (The hens and the fox) and Yalda Misham (A girl from there), both books received a silver medal for the Ben Yizhak Award for Children’s Book Illustration from the Israel Museum (2006 and 2008). Her work has appeared in the Illustrating Andersen exhibition at the Bologna Children’s Books Fair in 2005, The Original Art Show of The Society of Illustrators of Children’s Books Exhibition (New York 2008), and the 2009 Children’s Book Illustration Annual of 3X3 Magazine, as well as in various illustration annuals.
Tobias cannot talk and is autistic. The story of the everyday challenge for him and his mother takes place in a special poetic space halfway between fantasy and reality. Teachers can look like dragons and children like dwarfs, but every mother has special powers that can transform everyday objects into special and effective life tools. Ferri decided to create illustrations in which the mother and child are very realistic and their environment is very empty and simple, showing the emphasis is on their relationship. His paintings create a very sensitive, respectful and delicate visual text that enriches the beautiful story, giving it a warm and refined visual setting and atmosphere.

Michele Ferri, painter and illustrator, was born in Fano in 1963. After studying Fine Arts and Music in Urbino and Pesaro, in 1988 he abandoned music to devote himself completely to painting and illustrating. In 1993 he moved to Paris to do an internship at the Polygamo Graphic Studio. In 1994 the first book both authored and illustrated by him, Simon et le géant (Simon and the giant), was published in Paris. But it was his book Paroles d’espoir (Words of hope, 1995) that made him known in France. He has also illustrated a series of biblical psalms for children in Italian. He recently illustrated Il Cacciatore (The hunter) (chosen by the specialized Italian magazine LIBER as one of the five best illustrated books) in 2006 and Il Narratore (The storyteller) in 2007. His latest work as writer and illustrator is Le Nuage Immobile (The still cloud). His works have been included in personal and collective exhibitions both in Italy and abroad.
Once upon a time a boy listened to many stories and he wrote them all down. He put the stories inside a bag and fastened it up very tightly. He kept the bag inside his closet and never told anyone about it. After some years, the trapped stories decided to take their revenge on the boy on his wedding day. However, boy’s servant overheard the stories talking and saved the wedding at the last minute. To make amends the boy opened the story bag and let the stories fly into the world.

The illustrator used traditional Korean paper and watercolours. He focused his illustrations on the natural environment and the structure of Korean traditional houses in order to boost the dramatic effect of the stories. Also, he has included the traditional household and wedding ceremony in every detail creating the atmosphere of old stories.

Lee Uk Bae was born in Yongin in Kyunggee-do in 1960. The natural environment and his childhood in the country still has a strong influence on his work. He studied sculpture at Hongik University in Seoul and he has taught woodcut printing to ordinary people and labourers. He has produced various kinds of artwork such as posters, illustrations for magazines, wall paintings etc. He is impressed by the Korean traditional painting form from the 18th century and is very interested in old animal tales and stories. His pictures for The Strongest Rooster of the World (by Lee Ho Baek, 1997) was selected to participate at the BIB’97. His other works are Solyee’s Chusuk story (1995), A big dumpling of big-hand grandmother (1998), A mosquito and a bull (2003), and The naughty boy ABC (2005).

This book is a 22-poem cycle telling the story of a family with a new addition – a newborn baby. It is a chronicle of the events of the first year of its life and their place within the context of family, nation, nature, the course of seasons, language and traditions. The red thread of the cycle – the tiny baby – is also the key to awareness of family togetherness. The illustrations enhance the imagery of the poems and extend the boundaries of the written text. The artist has created a magical world of anthropomorphic beings that, nevertheless, is ruled by the universal order of things and human relationships on which a child can safely rely.

Animator and computer graphic artist, Edmunds Jansons trained at the Trade School of Polygraphy and later studied TV and Animation Production, and Audio Visual Arts at the Latvian Academy of Culture and the State Institute of Cinematography in Moscow. His illustrated books include: Limonade (2005), If you were a piglet (2006), and Teacher Jaap can do anything (2009). He is the author of the animated films The White One (2000), The Black Spawn (2003, Grand Prix at Khanty Mansiysk Film Festival, Russia), Scissorhand (2005), Little Bird’s Diary (2007, awarded Best Baltic Film at the Baltic Film Competition at the 18th Riga International Film Forum), “ARSENALS” (awarded as the best short Latvian animation film of the year at National Film Festival Lielais Kristaps, awarded Best Animation film at XI Eurasian Teleforum, Moscow 2008), Springtime on Varnu Street (2009, nominated for National film award Lielais Kristaps 2009). He is the winner of the 2009 Janis Baltvilks Prize for the children’s literature.
Mahmoud was my best friend. Once, when playing, we quarrelled: Mahmoud pushed me over and I was angry so paid him back twofold. Friends tried to intervene to solve the problem, but they could not do it. The dispute became more serious when they insulted each other. From then onwards they stopped talking to each other and avoided meeting each other. The days passed. They wanted to become friends again, but both were convinced that the other should be the first to apologise. One day the narrator found a letter from Mahmoud in his schoolbag suggesting a meeting after school under the olive tree for a ceasefire. They met and were very happy, even when they found out that they had both received the same letter! Whoever had written those two letters had good faith and had succeeded in healing the rift between the two best friends. The artist used watercolours to illustrate this tender story of friendship.


A seagull, dying from the effects of an oil spill, lands on a balcony where Zorba the cat lives. Zorba promises not to eat the egg the seagull is about to lay and to teach the chick to fly. This moving and funny story tells how the cat and his friends keep these promises. The book deals with several themes and questions, including life and death, friendship, devotion, courage, the importance of keeping one’s word, and the damage that humans inflict on nature. However, the main message of the book is diversity and tolerance. Lina Dūdaitė’s many-coloured aquarelle illustrations are realistic by nature, and not only present the main scenes of the story, but also convey the humorous, slightly ironical, and the little bit grotesque mode of narration. (see also entry 162)

Lina Dūdaitė was born in 1974 in Kaunas. She graduated from Kaunas’ Art Gymnasium in 1998 and then studied Graphic Design at the Kaunas subdivision of Vilnius Art Academy. From 1992 until 2000 she worked as illustrator for the magazine for children Penki (Five). She then began to collaborate with publishing house Nieko Rimto and illustrated four books. The first one was Sixten by the Swedish author Ulf Stark (2007); two books based on mythology and folklore by the Lithuanian scholar and writer Gintaras Beresnevicius, Kaukutis ir Varinis Šernas (Little Brownie and the Copper Boar, 2007) and Kaukučių šeimyn (Little Brownie Brood, 2009) and Apie žuvedrą ir katiną, kuris išmokė ją skraidyti.
Nonah comes from the tiny fishing village of Santubong on the coast of Sarawak. One day she joins her parents deep in the rain forest where they are teaching in a school. Nonah is not only homesick for her coastal homeland and her grandmother, but she is also a very shy girl. However, she soon loses her shyness once Payah and her friends, Usun and Precious Jade befriend her: for them shyness is an alien word. The four girls enter a story-writing competition and win a trip to Sarawak’s loveliest National Park – *Gunung Mulu*. The journey to the park involves crossing rapids and, for the girls, exciting plane rides. Su Jen Buchheim is able to capture Sarawak’s environment exceptionally well and reflect its vibrant culture in her extremely perceptive artwork. Her illustrations stay fresh and invite the reader to explore the many comic details she includes. This book is also selected for the quality of its writing (37).

Su Jen Buchheim, the daughter of Margaret Lim, was born in 1978 in Berlin. She graduated with Honours from Otis College of Art and Design in Los Angeles, and has been working as a freelance illustrator since then. Su Jen Buchheim has done artwork for clients such as Disney, Wellness Publishing and Reproductions Inc., Reagan’s Recipe Inc, Deva Communications and the design firm Adams Morioka. She mainly uses *Adobe Photoshop* and *Adobe Illustrator* to create her artwork. Su Jen Buchheim was nominated for the Astrid Lindgren Memorial Awards (ALMA) in 2008.

Alejandro Magallanes was born in Mexico City in 1971. He studied graphic design at the *Escuela Nacional de Artes Plásticas* of the *Universidad Nacional* (UNAM). As an illustrator of children’s books, he is known for seeking an aesthetic alternative to traditional illustration. His work has been exhibited in various countries and has earned him several awards among which are a Mention at the *Bologna Ragazzi Awards*. Among his books for children some of the most important are: *Esto no es* (This is not), and *Come, Fairy!*
The story of the steadfast tin soldier is a fascinating love story written by Hans Christian Andersen. Samsonov has succeeded in reproducing in his illustrations the interweaving of the reality with the fantasy that characterizes this story. Each illustration is a composition that underlines one of the main episodes. The image of the Danish house with its specific architecture is the element used by the artist to transpose the reader to the time and place of Andersen's life. Although the illustrations are made using computer graphics, they impress the reader by their plasticity and colourfulness.

Serghei Samsonov was born in Solikamsk, Russia, in 1954. Today he lives and works in Chişinău where he graduated from the Graphics Department of the Pedagogical University. For many years he has worked in mural painting, stained-glass windows, posters and caricature, and more recently he has worked for magazines and publishing houses. He has illustrated about 50 books in Moldova, Romania, Russia and USA; mainly for children. Amongst them a series of fairy tales by H.Ch. Andersen, Charles Perrault, and the Brothers Grimm. Other works include Aventurile lui Huckleberry Finn (The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn, by Mark Twain, 2008), Kastanka (Kashtanka by Anton Chekhov, 2008), Piciu (Little Good-For-Nothing, by Alphonse Daudet, 2006) and Insula comorii (Treasure Island, by Robert Louis Stevenson, 2004). He won 1st Prize at the International Book Fair Bookarest 2004 in Romania and the Best Graphical Presentation of Book Award at the International Children and Youth Book Fair in Chişinău for the series Cheita de aur (Golden key) in 2009.

This is the story about a tangible journey in the dark. Tortoise, bat, octopus, bird and goat sleep together in a hammock. It is a dark night – there is not even a moon. All of a sudden tortoise hears something. The animals go and investigate. Tortoise feels a foot, bat a wing and octopus a tentacle. Bird feels a bill and goat to his own surprise a goatee beard. What kind of animal could this be? The five animals all feel a different part of an animal and are fantasising about what it can be. The story is inspired by an old Sufi-legend and this version is told in an invigorating and thrilling way, with a lot of dialogue, repetition and surprises. The magnificent acrylic illustrations of multicoloured animals are bright against the dark, black, night background. The expressive liveliness and humour of the animals, makes this picture book a book to pick up time and time again.

Martijn van der Linden was born in 1979 in Oostburg. From 1997 to 2001 he studied illustration at the Willem de Kooning Academy in Rotterdam. In his third year he made his first book cover for publisher Lemniscaat. Nowadays he works for many different publishers making picture books, interior illustrations and book covers. Other picture books he has made with Maranke Rinck are Meisjes om te zoenen (The sweetest kiss) and Het prinsenkind (The prince child) and have been very successful and been translated into several languages. He has received several awards, including the Golden Prize of Parent's Choice, USA, 2008 and a boekenpluim prize. He also gives illustration workshops for children. Ik voel een voet was exhibited at the Biennial of Illustrations Bratislava in 2009.
Off the east coast of New Zealand the seas are being progressively fished-out by the brothers Gruff. The brothers are the meanest and greediest fishermen ever to fish in Poverty Bay. They fished and fished until one day there were no more fish to be caught. So they decide to start fishing in the next bay – the Bay of Plenty. The guardian of the sea, Minke Whale tried to stop them but she is injured and so they fish on and on until there are no fish, no birds and the sea is empty and covered with brown sludge and rubbish. The situation deteriorates until the frustrated townspeople destroy two of the brothers’ boats. Minke Whale returns and finishes off the third one as well as the three brothers. This is a wonderful and funny book about sharing and caring for nature and the environment. The humorous illustrations are full of quirky details and snippets about the damage we are doing to the oceans and environment.

Ben Galbraith lives in a house on the beach, at a small place called Makorori on the east coast of New Zealand. After completing a Design Degree in Wellington he went on to work for a surfboard company and dabbled in a bit of freelance illustration and graphic design on the side. Despite being an artist he is quite colour blind. In his spare time he surfs a lot and occasionally goes fishing.

Yesper and Noper are good friends in spite of their differences. Yesper will always answer Yes, and Noper no. This makes it impossible for the two friends to live together. Yesper comes up with a clever plan to get Noper to agree to go on a trip with him, and they set of into the world in the car. Because of Yesper’s inability to ever say no, they end up eaten by a crocodile. That is when Noper takes charge, and turns saying No into a positive thing for them both. The story is amusing and has a playful text. The illustrations are reminiscent of the 1950s, but the book still has a modern feel to it. The technique uses cut-outs in bright colours that are put together to make the most amazing scenes.

Kari Stai was born in 1974 and now works both as an artist and illustrator. She had trained at the Norwegian Art College. Jakob og Neikob has been widely acclaimed winning several prizes in Norway, including the Debutantprize, awarded by the Church and Cultural department of Norway in 2009. Her other major works include Forteljingar om Jolver (Tales about Jolver, 2009), Tjuven (The thief, 2008) and Så kom det eit kort (Then a card arrived, 2007).
PALESTINE  103
Al-Khalidi, Ahmad
Qisas min al-Turath al-Sha’bi al-Filastini = Contes traditionnels palestiniens
(Folk stories from Palestine) Text: Sharif Kana’neh
Ramallah: Tamer, 2008
40pp+40pp; 230x305mm
Folk tale

This is a bilingual picture book in Arabic and French. It includes nine folk stories, chosen from among 50 stories, collected in the Bethlehem Area for the project The Role of Libraries in Preserving Oral Culture. The stories were edited by Dr Sharif Kana’neh and were classified under the category of legends. The illustrations were drawn by hand on paper and then photographed. The images were transferred into the computer and the designs were finished using a graphic programme.

Ahmad Al-Khalidi completed an Advanced Diploma (AD) in Graphics, Animation and Multimedia studies at the Dublin Technology College in 1996. He went on to study Graphic Design at the Applied Science University in Amman between 1992 and 1994, and later a Fine Arts course at the Jordan University in 1993. He trained in computer design, ceramics, furniture design and crafts, still and video photography, as well as in oil and water painting. He is a web/graphic designer and gives Graphic and Web Design lectures. He is also a creative director and managing partner, as well as participating in local and international art exhibitions.

POLAND  104
Machowiak, Aleksandra & Mizielinski, Daniel
D.O.M.E.K. (H.O.U.S.E)
Text by the artists
Warsaw: Dwie Siostry, 2009
155pp; 205x205mm
House, Architecture

An amusing and intelligent idea is skillfully carried through this entire book. The authors/illustrators have created a readable graphic system that makes it easy to take in a lot of information about modern architecture in a friendly and cheerful way. By combining various areas of science from biology to geography and ecology to sociology, they encourage the reader to study further and to make their own creations. The book has universal appeal and is accessible for people of all ages. Here the reader will find inventiveness, charm, coherence, as well as a fun pretension-free text. This is a revelatory idea that encourages the readers to make their own creative experiments, raises questions and opens minds, without limiting itself to art and design questions alone.

Both authors/illustrators were born in 1982, and studied under the guidance of Professor Buszewicz. They graduated from Warsaw Academy of Fine Arts in 2007. Together they design internet pages and book editions at their Hipopotam Studio. D.O.M.E.K. is their first and only book that they have written, illustrated and designed. D.O.M.E.K. received the Polish IBBY Section’s Book of the Year 2008 Award.
The fairytale *Harap Alb*, adapted by the 19th century storyteller Ion Creangă, follows the adventures of Prince Harap Alb. Helped by his magic horse, Harap Alb goes on a long journey to the kingdom of his uncle. On his way, he experiences difficult trials, but he is helped by some travelling companions: Gerila, Setila, Pasari-Lati-Lungila, Ochila and Flamanzila. The cover of the book and the ten wonderful pictures capture Harap Alb's battles with wild animals, his way through forests, and life at the castle when he finally arrives with the members of the royal court. All scenes are lively and include many pictorial techniques. The pages of text are framed with motifs.

Valentin Tănase was born in 1954. He studied plastic art and graduated in 1978. Being one of the most acclaimed Romanian painters, sculptors and illustrators, his works could be found in private collections in Romania, Germany, France, Belgium, Greece, Finland, USA, Israel, Canada and Argentina. From 1978 he has produced thousands of illustrations and book covers for most of the publishing houses in Romania. During the years 1980-1994 he published more than 1,000 pages of comic stories in Romania, France, Belgium and Canada. He is also the author (text and illustrations) of books, such as *Andra and Gera, Love story in the University Square*, as well as a book of Romanian Legends.

This is a Russian version of Ann’s (Alice’s) adventures in Wonderland with animated cards, talking animals and flowers. The style of illustration is coloured illustrations with brown and white drawings, printed on brown-toned paper. The artist has used watercolour, pen and ink, and acrylic. She says that literature like this classic tale is a gift for any artist as it gives many opportunities for creativity. She wanted to make bright and unusual illustrations, and include some elements of jokes and puzzles, which would project the fantastic atmosphere of Wonderland.

Anna Yudina was born in 1971 in Moscow. In 1990 she graduated from the Moscow College of Arts, and went on to graduate in 1997 from the Moscow S. G. Stroganov State Industrial University. Yudina was honoured with 2nd place for the book called *About Ones in Feather and Fur* by B. Zahoder at the Russian competition *Art of the Book*. Her published books include *The Tsokotuha-Fly, Hippo that flew to the fur-tree*, and *Ray of the sun*. Anna Yudina exhibited her work at the BIB-2009 in Bratislava. She is a member of the section for graphic artists of Moscow Union of Artists.
Drevený tato is a collection for children and their parents of nine humorous and self-critical fairy tales about a father. The book is adapted from a play with an archetypal family that is perceived through the eyes of children’s fantasy. The author’s role as a writer and father of two daughters is presented in a satirical manner. Characters and family relationships are lampooned, while the esprit de corps and solidarity among family members dominates to their mutual teasing. The book has entertained previous generations of children and this new issue will do the same for today’s children. The composition, graphic design and the overall tone of the book is compact and playful.

Martina Matlovičová (1975) graduated from the Academy of Performing Arts in Bratislava. Her work is extraordinarily lively and brisk, inventive and fresh. She combines her painting style with the technique of collage; her colours are always brilliant, dense, determining, and dominant. She regards her books as one whole, and her literary output is typical for its innovative way of thinking and her sense of creativity. So far, she has illustrated more than ten books for children, of which several have been awarded prizes for excellence: Ohňostroj pre deduška (Fireworks for Grandpa) won the Most Beautiful Books of Slovakia 2000 and the Most Beautiful Book of Autumn 2000; Denis a jeho sestry (Dennis and his sisters) won the Most Beautiful Book of Spring 2007; and Drevený tato won the Most Beautiful Books of Slovakia 2007 and the Most Beautiful Book of Autumn 2007.

This bilingual (Slovene-English) volume of poetry by Tone Pavček was published to present one of the most prominent of contemporary Slovene poets to readers worldwide. The selection in this collection offers the poet’s best works, which are mostly poems for children and young readers, but also some poems for adult readers. In the foreword Pavček has given an informative portrait of himself and his work. The illustrator has given the poems unique and surrealistic, sometimes almost dream-like images. The colours of his double-page illustrations, which delineate the collection, together with the vignettes in sepia, breathe a touch of the old and a lyricism. The illustrator is characterised by his use of various artistic means of expression.

Damijan Stepänčič (1969) graduated from the Academy of Fine Arts in Ljubljana. He creates book illustration, strips, animation and puppets, as well as collaborating with periodicals for children and youth. He has illustrated about 30 books for children and young people. He strives to ensure with his illustrations that the literary and artistic elements work homogeneously and creating a totality, thus satisfying the ever more demanding reader. He does this subtly and extremelyimaginatively. In 2006, he took part in the Croatian Biennale of Illustration in Zagreb, and he has similarly been selected several times in the Slovene Biennale in Ljubljana. He has received important national awards for his work.
Siyolo loves wearing his red and yellow jersey. But when he put it on one day he felt something tickling his hand and he discovered that the sleeve was unraveling. With bits of wool from his jersey he helps several people he comes across – each in a unique and thoughtful way. But then he starts to feel cold, and he realizes that there is almost nothing left of his jersey. This is a gentle tale illustrating the effects of simple acts of kindness to others. The technique used is collage with crayon and watercolour, combining tissue paper, material, wool, thread, pastel, eyeliner, love and tears.

Besides illustrating children's books, Elizabeth Pulles is also a commercial illustrator, painter and sculptress. She started illustrating children's books in 1985, whilst completing a Master's Thesis on the subject. She has illustrated between 20-30 titles, and received several awards in the field, such as the 1993/94 Katherine Harries Award finalist, 1994; ATKV Children's book awards: follow-up award for illustration, 1994 and 1996: Children's book of the year; Bookchat, 1995 and 2008; Vivian Wilkes Award winner, 1999; ATKV Children's Book Award: winner for illustrations, 2008. *Siyolo se trui* won the MER Prize for children's book illustration. She has collaborated with author Mari Grobler on a number of books, such as *Musa's journey* (1997) and *Lulama's magic blanket* (1997). She has also illustrated books with author Martie Preller: *Die Balkieboek* (2000) and *Balkie en die kleurdiéf* (2004).

Ever since he was a boy, the main character of the story has wondered why the elephant at the circus, who is so strong and powerful, does not break loose from the chain he is tied up with. One day, a very wise friend offers him an answer: *The elephant does not run away because he's been chained since he was very, very small. When he was little, he tried as hard as he could, but he couldn't get away. And since then, he believes it's impossible to escape.* With this beautiful tale, taken from an Indian parable, the author tells us about the importance of knowing our abilities and possibilities. The gentle watercolours and details, such as the postcard motif complete with accompanying stamps, perfectly matches the story.

Gusti, the pen name of Gustavo Ariel Rosemffet Abramovich, was born in Buenos Aires, Argentina, where he studied Graphic Arts. He has received many awards, including a Golden Apple at the Bratislava Biennial of Illustration, the Lazarillo Award for Illustration twice, the Edelvives Award, and the Honour Diploma for the IBBY Spanish American Illustration Award in Seville. His most famous books are: *La mosca* (The fly), and *Ernesto el león hambriento* (Ernest, the hungry lion).
In *Vem är söt?* we are faced with an emotional drama for the youngest children. Teddy Bear and Teddy Pid both think Cat is ugly because he is yellow. But then Bird, who is also yellow, joins them and the tables are suddenly turned. All become upset and start to cry, but just then brown Rabbit joins them bringing chocolate, which he shares. The friends are reunited and decide that maybe brown is the best colour to be. Stina Wirsén's drawings are naïve, but very expressive.

Stina Wirsén was born in 1968 in Stockholm. She is famous for her illustrations in the main morning newspaper in Sweden, *Dagens Nyheter*. In DN she illustrates articles about fashion, literature and psychology and has won several awards for her work. She is also a well-established illustrator for children’s books. Together with her mother, writer Carin Wirsén, she has made a series of books about a brother and sister in *Rut och Knut* (*Rut and Knut*), for which they received the Heffaklumpen award in 2007. Stina Wirsén has published four more titles in the *Vem är…* series: *Vem är arg*? (*Who is angry?*), *Vems byxor*? (*Whose trousers?*), *Vem blöder* (*Who is bleeding*)? and *Vem är ensam*? (*Who is alone*?). Her other titles include: *Små flickor och stora* (*Small girls and big*) and *Leka tre* (*To play three*).

La rumeur de Venise is a book without text created from a scenario by Germano Zullo. It humorously shows how a piece of news can alter and swell when it passes by word of mouth – without being seen. When a Venetian fisherman comes back to port, all along the canal, from house to house, the rumour spreads that he has brought back an enormous catch, which becomes bigger and bigger as the rumour spreads: a swordfish, a whale, a monster, even a mermaid! The surprise is at the end and no one can verify the truth, except maybe the fisherman. The illustrations are created from artfully touched-up photos of Venetian waterfronts and completed by little characters spreading the news from one window to another. The book is made in the form of a *leporello* and makes a long colourful frieze. The lines are clear cut, the colours (gouache) vivid and harmonious. The general effect is cheerful, light and childish, but it has enough depth to charm readers who are not that young anymore.

Albertine was born in Dardagny in 1967. Between 1983 and 1990 she trained at the *Ecole des Arts décoratifs* and the *Ecole supérieure d’art visuel* of Geneva. Since then, she has been teaching screen printing at the *Ecole des Arts décoratifs* and at the *Haute Ecole d’Art et de Design* (HEAD) in Geneva. She has illustrated different texts by Germano Zullo for young children: all published in the collection *La joie de lire*. Albertine’s drawings are lively and full of humour and a very fine line contains her bright and cheerful colours. *Marta et la bicyclette* (*Marta and the bicycle, 1999*) won a Golden Apple at BIB’99.
Ning

(Still)

Text by the artist
Bangkok: Krucheewan, 2007
[24pp]; 210x210mm
ISBN 978-974-88219-3-1 Age: 3+

Meaning of life

Ning is one of the most outstanding picture books currently found in Thailand. The title and illustrations are deep and meaningful. It is illustrated in a continuous style and makes the reader feel like they are watching an animated film. Despite the stillness of the image of Ning, the illustrator makes the surroundings move instead. He uses cool colours to create calmness and dark colours to create fear. Ning is a story of a character facing many frightening events and obstacles, told in a form of a meaningful poem of few words. Ning is written for both children and adults and uses Buddhist philosophy to symbolize life in the midst of confusion and chaos, and teaches readers to live wisely and conscientiously.

Cheewan Wisasa received a Vocational Certificate of Arts from Srinakarinwirot University. He worked as an art teacher at Sampran Wittaya School in Nakorn Pathom for many years before he became a children’s book writer and illustrator. Some of his works are translated into other languages, such as English, Japanese, Spanish, Portuguese and Chinese. His translated works include Khun Ta Nuad Yao (Grandpa with long beard) and Mod Sip Tua (Ten marching ants). His picture books are popular among Thai children, such as Eleng-Keng-Kong (A noisy goose) and Khun Fong Nak Prang Fun (Tooth brushing Mr Fong). He was formerly also a writer and editor for Preaw Puan Dek (Amarin Children’s Books) and Waddaw (Plan for Kids). He also enjoys storytelling in kindergartens and primary schools all over Thailand.

This book aims at encouraging children to learn about their own planet, our neighbouring planets and the Solar System. Furthermore, it shows the reader how our concept of time on earth is so different when we look towards the stars and planets. A simple glossary of the planets and other phenomenon of the universe is included in the book, with a further link to the Turkish Astronomy Society. The illustrations in Küçük Sırlar are made with aquarelle.

Gözde Bitir Sındırı graduated from Mimar Sinan University Fine Arts Academy Graphical Department in 2001. Since then she has been painting the invisible world as told in books written for children. She has combines graphic design with her illustrations. Her works include the classics such as Parmak Çocuk (Tom Thumb), Kırmızı Başılıklı Kız (Little Red Riding Hood) and Parmak Kız (Thumbelina), as well as the new stories such as Sanat Sınavı (Art exam) and Küçük Sırlar.
An imaginative foray into the world of fear, combined with an innovative use of language with exquisite drawings and collage. Little Mouse inhabits a textual world of worn, stained and crumpled pages, replete with nibbled edges. The witty use of collage includes press cuttings, scraps of paper, feathers and old photos, which appear to be attached to the book with bits of tape, rusty staples and sticking plasters. A fold-out map of the Isle of Fright is convincingly authentic. Emily Gravett’s pencil and wash drawings convey a range of emotions; the vigour of a bird of prey is sketched with spare, dark lines, a bed (and whatever lurks beneath it) is pencilled in with haphazard, grainy scribbles while Little Mouse himself is lovingly crafted with detailed sensitivity. Readers are encouraged to consider their own anxieties and to record them in blank spaces provided. Little Mouse’s constant prop is a huge pencil – a fitting testament to the value of drawing and writing.

Emily Gravett was born in Brighton and after leaving school she spent eight years living and travelling around the UK in a bus. Following the birth of her daughter, she settled back in Brighton and enrolled on an illustration course at Brighton University. In 2004 she won the Macmillan Prize for Illustration for Wolves and went on to be awarded the CILIP Kate Greenaway Medal in 2005 for the same title. She has since won many major book prizes, including the 2008 CILIP Kate Greenaway Medal for Little Mouse’s Big Book of Fears. Macmillan has now published eight more titles written and illustrated by Gravett, including Monkey and Me, The Rabbit Problem, Orange Pear Apple Bear and Merkat Mail.
Translation
For as long as ten-year-old Moon can remember he has lived in a shelter in the forest with his father. They keep to themselves; their only contact with other human beings is an occasional trip to the nearest general store. When Moon’s father dies, Moon follows his father’s last instructions: to travel to Alaska to find others like themselves. But Moon is soon caught and entangled in a world he doesn’t know or understand – he becomes the property of the very government that he has been avoiding all his life. As the spirited and resourceful Moon encounters constables, jails, institutions, lawyers, true friends and true enemies, he adapts his wilderness survival skills and learns to survive in his new world, and will even, perhaps, make his home there.

Jacqueline Csuss was born in Vienna in 1960 and went to school in Vienna and the USA. She spent six years abroad, primarily in Great Britain and the USA, but also in Spain and Latin America, before studying translation at the University of Vienna. She has translated fiction and non-fiction for both adults and children and developed a special affinity for teenage fiction and the translation of slang and socio-linguistic particularities. She is also active in lobbying for translators’ status and rights, as well as promoting literary translation in public. Among other awards she has won the Austrian Award for Children’s Literature. Her translations include I was a Teenage Worrier by Ros Asquith, Tomorrow when the War Began by John Marsden, (Un)arranged Marriage and Rani and Sukh both by Bali Rai.

Astrid sees a star falling and although she does not really believe in such things, she shuts her eyes and wishes for the first thing she can think of. “I wish,” she thinks, “I wish I was a dog!” And when Astrid opens her eyes, nothing is the same as it was before... This book about 11-year-old Astrid who turns into a dog is funny, thought inspiring, easy-to-read and magical. A book you read at a furious pace and one that turns your world upside-down.

Besides being a teacher, Reina Ollivier (1956) writes books for children and young adults and translates books for several Flemish publishers. She loves reading books in their original language and has studied English, French, German, Spanish, Swedish, Danish, Norwegian and Italian. Her own titles include: De brieven van Viktor (Victor’s letters, 2008), Nee, Rune! (No, Rune! 2001). Her translated titles include: Moek gaat op wereldreis: met de fiets (Mouk travels the world: by bike, by Marc Boutavant, 2008), Als ik niet toevallig de waarheid gezegd had (If only I hadn’t told the truth by mistake, by Ingelin Angerborn, 2007), and Als ik niet toevallig de hond van tante Doris verwisseld had (If only I hadn’t swapped Aunt Doris’ dog, by Ingelin Angerborn 2004), which was selected for the IBBY Honour List in 2006 for the quality of its translation by Ollivier.
The story takes place in Paris in the 1930’s. Twelve-year-old Hugo Cabret, orphan of a watchmaker, lives hidden one of the main railway stations, where he mends the big clocks – the mechanisms and the hands. Thanks to his skills Hugo also fixes toys and other objects. He is clever and discovers the secret passages inside the clocks and the walls of the station, and there he lives in his real and imaginary world. The exciting narrative attracts the reader not only by its verbal text, but also by the images, interacting with sequences and scenes of angles and framings. Thus, the effect is the same as sequential graphic art, sometimes close to cinematographic art.

Marcos Bagno began his career as a writer in 1988 when receiving the IV Biennial Nestlé Literature Award for his book A invenção das horas (The invention of the hours). Later, he published books mainly for children and adolescents; to date he has published 30 titles. As a translator, Bagno has been working for some of the main Brazilian publishing houses. He has translated more than 50 books from English, French, Spanish and Italian to Portuguese. He has been awarded some of Brazil’s most important prizes, such as: João de Barro (Literatura infantilé, 1988), Cidade do Recife (Poetry, 1988), Cidade de Belo Horizonte (Short story, 1988), Estado do Paraná (Short story, 1989), and Carlos Drummond de Andrade (Poetry, 1989). Some of his books have received a Highly Commended Mention from FNLIIJ.

This bilingual telling of a legend of the Dene people has been passed down through generations, and as part of their oral storytelling tradition it conveys a sense of the rich heritage and vibrant culture of this First Nations community. It tells of Yamozha, a respected medicine man whose wife is transformed into a beaver when he forgets a promise that he had made to her. He chases her throughout the Dogrib territory and outlying area, and in the process he gives names and shape to the landscape of his people, bringing to light and life the laws and traditions that guide their relationships with the land and one another. It is a legend that reminds readers of the wisdom of the Elders, the ancient customs and beliefs that teach mutual respect between all creatures, and of respect for the land and all its gifts. The book features English and Dogrib on each page, and exemplifies the work of Aboriginal communities in Canada, in revitalizing the languages of their communities.

Mary Siemens has long been involved with the Tāîchô language as a translator, a teacher and curriculum development coordinator. She was instrumental in the translation of the Bible into Dogrib and is currently working on the Dogrib dictionary project in partnership with the University of Victoria. Her contributions to the Tāîchô language have been invaluable.
Mira is a lonely teen who longs for friendship and for a different life than the one she finds herself in. She feels stifled by her mother’s eccentricities and paranoia, and she deeply resents her father for having left them; especially for leaving her to deal with her mother alone. She finds solace in her art, and when a new girl arrives in her art class, it looks like Mira may have found a friend. But friendships can be fragile and scary things. Mira feels vulnerable and tentative as she tries to navigate this foreign terrain, and things grow more complicated still when she opens herself to deal with her mother alone. She finds solace in her art, and when a new girl arrives in her art class, it looks like Mira may have found a friend.

In the Perilous Realm, where all the tales in our world come from, Malabron the Night King seeks to bind up all stories into one: his story – a nightmare of cruel and absolute power. The book opens in the present day, when Will Lightfoot, a rebellious teenager, steals his father’s motorcycle and crashes it. He wakes up in a strange land and is soon caught up in the struggle against the evil wrought long ago by Malabron. Before Will can find the gateless gate that will take him home, he must undertake a dangerous journey marked by encounters with ghosts, monsters and unexpected heroes. He is helped in his quest by some of the Storyfolk, including the spirited Rowen, Pendrake the lore master, Finn Madoc, a knight-in-training, and Shade, the wise and loyal wolf that becomes his companion. The Shadow of Malabron is high fantasy on a grand scale, reminiscent of Tolkien, the Brothers Grimm and the Arthurian Legends.

Based in Calgary, Alberta, Susan Ouriou is a novelist, interpreter and translator of fiction with more than twenty translations of adult, young adult and children’s books to her credit. She has translated novels from both French and Spanish into English and has written one novel, Damselfish, which was published in 2003. She has also had numerous short stories published in literary magazines in Canada and the United States, as well as featured on CBC radio’s Alberta Anthology. Two of her translations, The Road to Chilifa, by Michele Marineau (1995) and Necessary Betrayals, by Guillaume Vigneault (2002), have been shortlisted for the Governor General’s Award.

Born in Quebec City in 1972, Dominique Fortier holds a PhD in French literature from McGill University in Montreal, where she now lives and works as an editor and translator. She is a two-time finalist for the Governor General’s Award in Translation. Her first novel, Du bon usage des étoiles, published in 2008, was a finalist for the Prix des librairies du Québec, is nominated for the Prix Senghor de la création littéraire and will be adapted for the screen by Quebec film-maker Jean-Marc Vallée.
This dual-language book talks about a childhood spent among nature, running freely through wooded lands, chasing sheep and sitting around a bonfire listening to stories told by the elderly in an atmosphere of tenderness and freedom. Slowly, the boy learns about nature’s diversity and about a certain cosmic vitality that is hidden to those unwatchful. It was his family life in this environment that helped the author grow and later develop into a poet. Through his poetry and the subtle and beautiful illustrations that complement it, this book helps the reader get an insight into the cultural richness, traditions and earthly wisdom of one of Chile’s largest and main indigenous peoples.

Elicura Chihuailaf was born in 1952 in Quechuehue. He is a Mapuche Chilean poet and author whose works are written both in Mapudungun and in Spanish. He has been referred to as the lonco or chieftain of Mapudungun poetry, and works at recording and preserving the oral tradition of his people. Elicura is from the mapudungun phrase for “transparent stone” and Chihuailaf means “fog spreading on a lake”. His other works include: El invierno y su imagen (Winter and its vision image, 1977), La Palabra: Sueño y Flor de América (The word: flower and dream of América, 1997), Recado Confidencial a los chilenos, (A confidential message to the Chileans, 2006), Sueños de Luna Azul (Blue moon dreams, 2008).

The protagonist of this story loses his smile when the last day of kindergarten arrives and Tania, his classmate, declares her love for him asking bluntly: Will you marry me? Terrified, he says yes, and so began the worst vacation of his lifetime, a period in which he thinks of this promise that tortures him, imagining his old age next to Tania or exploring the meaning of words like ‘promise’. However, both the protagonist and Tania have the same sentimental advisor – a friend who has lived more than others, and thanks to him the tricky situation has an unexpected and surprising solution. This view of how relationships can be conceived towards the end of early childhood is rooted as much in the illustrations and typography as in the texts. The translation conveys the grace of the games with words and rhythm, and successfully involves the reader in the oscillation between exaggeration and drama: the key to this tale’s humour.

Mariana Infante Villarroel has translated for Panamericana Editorial titles such as Historias increíbles (Incredible stories by Geert de Kockere), De una niña que juega al escondite con el viento (About a girl who plays on the sly with the wind, by Hilde Vandermeeren), as well as Me voy a casar con Tania.
**CROATIA (Croatian)**  125

Hölbling Matković, Lara

**Olivin Ocean**

(Orig. English: *Olive’s Ocean* by Kevin Henkes)

Zagreb: Algoritam, 2007 (Biblioteka “Arboretum”)

215pp; 130x190mm


*Fatal accident, Grief, Love*

12-year-old Olive could have been friends with Martha, but it’s too late. All that remains after the tragic accident is Martha’s diary, a part of which Martha’s mother gives to Olive. The shared thoughts and secrets are a starting point for Olive to think about her own life and future, to analyze members of her family, their interactions and her feelings towards each of them. The summer the family spends at grandmother’s turns out to be formative for Olive – decisions for the future are made, she experiences her first kiss, her first betrayal, her first thoughts of mortality. This realistic Newbery Honour book is a wonderful story of a girl’s journey from childhood into the start of the rest of her life.

Lara Hölbling Matković has been member of Društvo hrvatskih književnih prevodilaca (the National Association of Literary Translators in Croatia) since 1997. She has translated some 80 plays, novels, non-fiction books, essays, articles, animated classics and picture books. She was awarded the Kiklop Award for Best Children’s Book in 2005 for her *Moj prvi hrvatski rječnik* (First Croatian dictionary, 2005) and the Croatian Literary Translators Association’s Best Translation of Non-Fiction Award for *Elizabetinska slika svijeta* (The Elizabethan world picture, 2006). She has translated works by Kate DiCamillo, Eleanor H. Porter, Holly Hobbie, John Grogan, amongst others, and has edited a children’s modern classics series with works ranging from Roald Dahl, Edith Nesbit and Meindert de Jong to Karen Cushman and Jostein Gaarder.

**CZECH REPUBLIC (Czech)**  126

Křesťanová, Dominika

**Tajemství prstenců Saturnu**

(Orig. English: *Larklight* by Philip Reeve)

Prague: Mladá fronta, 2008

356pp; 135x205mm


*Space, Robbery, Escape, Adventure*

Arthur (Art) Mumby and his irritating sister Myrtle live with their father in the huge and rambling house, Larklight, in which they travel through space on a remote orbit far beyond the Moon. One ordinary sort of morning they receive a letter informing them that a gentleman is on his way to visit them: a Mr Webster. Visitors to Larklight are rare, if not unique, and a frenzy of preparation ensues. But it is entirely the wrong sort of preparation, as they discover when their guest arrives, and a dreadful and terrifying (and marvellous) adventure begins. It takes them to the furthest reaches of Known Space, where they must battle the evil First Ones in a desperate attempt to save each other – and the Universe.

Dominika Křesťanová was born in 1966 in Prague and after graduating in 1992 from the Charles University in Prague she has been working as a freelance translator and editor. In the years 2001–2008 she worked as a book editor for the Czech section of Reader’s Digest and since 2008 she has been teaching English at a secondary school in Prague. Her translations include works by authors such as William Trevor, John McGahern, Anne Enright, Mervyn Peake, Philip Pullman, Philip Reeve and Fiona E. Higgins. In 2003 she was awarded a honorary prize (Tvůrčí odměna v soutěži Josefa Jungmanna) by the Czech Translators’ Guild for Peter Carey’s *True History of the Kelly Gang*, in 2006 she received Golden Ribbon for Philip Pullman’s *Clockwork* and in 2008 Golden Ribbon for *Tajemství prstenců Saturnu*. 
**ESTONIA (Estonian)**

Märtamaa, Leelo

**Tiiger virgub**
(Orig. English: *The Tiger Rising* by Kate DiCamillo)

Tallinn: Draakon & Kuu, 2008
139pp; 130x205mm

Death, Isolation, Friendship, Freedom

*Tiiger virgub* is an emotionally powerful story of young Rob who loses his mother and moves with his father to a new town and a fresh start. In the woods behind their new home, the Kentucky Star Motel, Rob discovers a caged tiger. In the same extraordinary day, he meets Sistine, a strange girl whose honesty and anger challenge Rob's spell of silence and loneliness. Rob starts to understand that some things like tigers, memories and grief cannot be kept locked up forever.

Leelo Märtamaa, a native Estonian, graduated from Rutgers University in the USA where she studied English and Psychology. During her college years, she started to translate and write poetry for children. In 2000 she founded the children's publishing house *Draakon & Kuu*. She has translated works by Roald Dahl, Louis Sachar and Shel Silverstein among other authors, and was awarded the Tower of Babel Honour Diploma in 2006. She has returned to Estonia and now lives in Tallinn.

**FINLAND (Finnish)**

Kyrö, Marja

**Avoimille vesille**
(Open Seas. Orig. Swedish: *Öppet hav* by Annika Thor)

Helsinki: Tammi, 2008
237pp; 135x200mm

World War II, Persecution, Refugees

*Avoimille vesille* is the fourth and last book in a series about Jewish sisters Steffi and Nelli who escape to Sweden from Austria during the war. In a small fishing village the girls are separated and placed in different foster homes. Their parents stayed in Vienna and the girls found adjusting to their new life, language, culture and modest living conditions hard and slow. They also worried about their parents. In this last book of the series, Steffi has graduated from high school. The war is over. Along with the peace comes good news: the girls’ father has survived the concentration camp. Their decisions about the future are not easy but yet very clear. The story takes the reader on an unforgettable journey about two different sisters growing up and developing in difficult times. The war turned neighbours into enemies and the tolerant became intolerant. But their dreams gave strength and hope for a better future.

Marja Kyrö (1948) has been translating German and Swedish literature into Finnish for over 30 years. She has a Master's degree in Social Sciences and she is a Qualified Translator. She has translated over 200 books ranging from children’s and young people’s literature to artistic prose into Finnish. Recently she has translated books by such authors as Walter Moers, Cornelia Funke and Stieg Larsson.
FINLAND (Swedish) 129
Orlov, Janina
Det här är Finland
(This is Finland. Orig. Finnish: Tatun ja Patun
Suomi by Aino Havukainen and Sami Toivonen)
Helsinki: Otava, 2007
47pp; 235x295mm
ISBN 978-951-1-22189-0 Ages: all
Finland, Geography, History

Det här är Finland received the Finlandia
Junior Prize in 2007. Sixten and Blixten
try to find out what “Finnishness” is. It is
important for children of the Swedish-speak-
ing minority in Finland
to find these things
translated into their
mother tongue. The main characters of the book
examine Finnish clichés and icons. Their hypoth-
esis and conclusions about the nature of things
are refreshingly funny. How and why do Finns
go to the sauna or celebrate Midsummer? What
do they eat? How did Finns end up living in the
North surrounded by mosquitoes and ice? The
book is composed of different kinds of perfor-
manee, with comic strips, reports, advertisements,
lectures and nature notes.

Janina Orlov (born in 1955) has translated Finn-
ish children’s and youth books into Swedish,
such as Älskade Mikael (Dear Michael, 2001) by
Marja-Leena Tiainen. She has translated other
books about Sixten and Blixten by Aino Havu-
kainen and Sami Toivonen including Sixtens &
Blixtens underliga uppfinningar (Tatu & Patu
and incredible inventions, 2008), Sixten & Blixten
på dagis (Tatu & Patu in the Kindergarten,
2008) and Sixten & Blixten går till jobbet (Tatu
& Patu go to work, 2009). Janina Orlov holds
a PhD in Russian language and literature from
the Åbo Akademi University. She has published
articles on children’s literary history, Finland-
Swedish and Finnish children’s literature and
Russian literature.

FRANCE (French) 130
Coursaud, Jean-Baptiste
Le garçon qui voulait changer de nom
(The boy who wanted to change his name.
Orig. Danish: Alek by Bodil Bredsdorff)
Paris: Magnier, 2008
123pp; 120x210mm
Denmark 1800-1950, Rural life

Le garçon qui voulait changer de nom is the fourth
volume of the wonderful series called Les Enfants de
la baie aux Corneilles by Bodil Bredsdorff. The series
starts somewhere in the
world and somewhere in
time. The girl lives here with
her grandmother and has an
impoverished, hungry life.

When the grandmother dies she leaves nothing
but a list of simple maxims: you should trust your
own instinct as to whether a person is likely to be
good to you or harm you; the door to a person’s
heart can only be opened from the inside. A
small community is gradually established during
the course of the four books. The books draw
their strength from the sensuous descriptions
of the interplay between nature, climate, the
changing seasons and the daily battle to hold
hunger at bay. Eva Glistrup wrote: The language
of the books is pleasing, simple and genuine, in
admirable harmony with the respect for nature,
animal life and the simple existence and the
genuine feeling it expresses.

Jean-Baptiste Coursaud was born in 1969. He is
a specialist in the literatures of the Scandinavian
countries for adults as well as for children and
he works to promote Scandinavian literature in
France. He is the editor of the collection Taille
unique for the publishing house Gaïa, which
offers to the French readers another world and
another way to see. He recommends books
for children and young people to the French
publishers. He translates from Norwegian, Neo-
Norwegian, Danish and Swedish into French.
The brothers Simpel and Colbert are sitting in the Paris metro. One of them is speaking to his cuddly toy, closely watched by the other. One of them stages epic battles with his Lego figures; the other one is searching for a place to live. Simpel, 22 years old, possesses the mental level and relentless honesty of a three-year-old. Together with his 17-year-old brother Colbert, who took him away from the institution he was in, Simpel moves into a shared student flat where he at first receives little sympathy due to his disposition towards chaos and his unmasking naiveté. Author Marie-Aude Murail surprises the reader with a complex and realistic plot, of which Simpel is the pivotal element. He recognizes the core of supposed problems of those around him. Straightforward without any taboo he unknowingly offers them advice for their lives. Murail powerfully conveys the fundamental dilemma in dealing with the handicapped: isolation in a home, or integration into the community?

Tobias Scheffel was born in 1964. He studied Romance Languages at the universities of Tübingen, Tour (France) and Freiburg. Since 1992 he has been translating novels, essays and children’s literature from French into German, among them were works from Robert Bober, Fred Vargas, Gustave Flaubert, Jacques Le Goff and Viviane Forrester.

Clarice Bean is a funky character with real girl power. Clarice is in non-stop trouble on account of being friends with Karl, the naughtiest boy in the school. If only she could be more like her favourite book character, Ruby Redfort the girl detective, who is very good at getting out of trouble. The problem is she needs to stay in her teacher’s good books because she desperately wants a part in the school play, The Sound of Music; so, with a spelling bee coming up, she tackles the dictionary with ‘exceptionordinary’ zeal. But when her friend Karl goes off the rails, Clarice does something beyond the call of friendship – even though it puts paid to her acting prospects.

Filippos Mandilaras was born in Athens in 1965. He studied French language and literature and has worked in social anthropology and ethnography. He has developed Creative Writing Workshops for Children (CD-Rom with a teacher’s guide). He has also written and published many books for children of all ages. In addition, he has translated and adopted numerous French and English titles for children into Greek. He lives in the island of Chios.
This is the story of ten-year-old Vyezo who lives in the small town of Petit Goave where everybody knows everybody else. It is summer time and Vyezo, who lives with his grandmother, is truly happy. Vyezo is in love with Vava who goes to the girls’ school over the way. However, he is so shy that at the party where he had to dance with Vava, he actually faints! He still sees Vava in his dreams and when he is better he cycles over to Vava’s house and leaves some flowers for her.

Antoine Lyonel Trouillot is a well-known Haitian writer who has published more than eight novels in France with Actes Sud and in Haiti with various publishers. Among his books are Les fous de St Antoine (The crazy people of St Antoine) and Therese en mille morceaux (Therese in a thousand pieces). Mwen damou pou Vava is his first translation for children. His work on this colourful book has a simple touch and delightful language that respects the original work. The freshness and the exquisite style of the original French text is very well rendered in this Creole translation.

AM PM is a dual-language book about twins and their separate identities. The twins were so much alike that their parents did not give them specific names: they were just called Twins. Of course, they were not happy with that and decided to have their own names. They realized that although they looked alike, they have very different tastes. When the doctor told them that they were born a few minutes apart – one before noon and the other one slightly after noon. The doctor used the terms AM and PM to describe the timing of their birth. The twins found this very amusing and so they decided to call themselves AM and PM.

Jocelyne Trouillot, who writes under the name Joslin Twouyo, has written more than 20 books for children and young adults, mostly in Haitian Creole. She initially trained in psychology and education. She has published several series of stories for children, including one about the boy Gougous: Gougou pè dlo (Gougou is scared of water), Gougou pè chyen (Gougou is scared of dogs), Gougou ap ekri (Gougou is writing); and the another featuring Fifi and Jennjan: Sekre Fif (Fifi’s secrets), Fifi pe peny (Fifi is scared of the comb), Jennjan kontan (Johnny the happy boy), Jennjan pwop (Johnny the clean), Jennjan debyen (Johnny the handsome) and many other titles. Her title Betsy was selected for the IBBY Honour List in 2008 for the quality of its writing.
**Hungary (Hungarian)**

Pacskovszky, Zsolt

Ágrólszakadt Tóbiás: 1. Kötet – A számkivetett
(Tobie Lolness: the suspended life. Orig. French: Tobie Lolness: La vie suspendue by Timothée de Fombelle)

Budapest: Móra, 2008; 316pp; 160x255mm

*Nature, Threat, Environment*

Tobie is one-and-a-half millimetres tall, not too high for his age. He lives among the tree-dwellers who know nothing beyond their home constructed in the Great Oak tree. His father discovers a way to turn the tree sap into energy and as a result the Lolness family is banished; only the mysterious Lilia remains a friend. Tobie eventually saves his family and comes to learn the value of the tree. This is an unforgettable Lilliputian world.

The book, which has won numerous awards, has a new and exciting approach to friendship, strife, love, nature, family and humanity.

Zsolt Pacskovszky was born in 1968, in Celldömölk, and has lived in Budapest since 1989. He studied French literature at ELTE University in Budapest and at Université Libre de Bruxelles. He has translated French literature since 1995, including short stories by B. Vian, D. Boulanger, M. Trembley, novels by J-Ph. Tous-saint, J. Echenoz, G. Simenon, J-C. Carriere and plays by Beaumarchais, Marivaux, J. Cocteau, B. Vian. He won the Hungarian IBBY Prize in 2009 for this translation of the first volume of Tobie Lolness. His short stories have been published since 1990 by various illustrious Hungarian periodicals. He is the author of one volume of short stories (*Záróra*, 1995) and two novels (*Intim*, 1998; *Moribond*, 1999). Movies that are based on his scripts and short stories (such as: *Angst*, *Altamira*, and *Kornél*) have won several prizes at Hungarian and international film festivals.

**Iceland (Icelandic)**

Vignisson, Rúnar Helgi

Göngin
(Orig. English: *Tunnels* by Roderick Gordon and Brian Williams)

Reykjavik: Bjartur, 2008
396pp; 145x220mm

*Fantasy world, Secret, Violence*

Fourteen-year-old Will Burrows lives with his family in London. He has little in common with them except for a passion for digging, which he shares with his father. When his father suddenly disappears down an unknown tunnel, Will decides to investigate with his friend Chester. Soon they find themselves deep underground, where they unearth a dark and terrifying secret – a secret that may cost them their lives.

Rúnar Helgi Vignisson studied at the University of Iceland and later earned an MA in English from the University of Iowa, USA, in 1987. He has written six novels and a collection of short stories, and is a respected translator. His translations include: *Leikur hlæjandi láns* (*The Joy Luck Club*, by Amy Tan), *Fröken Peakody hlotnast arfur* (*Miss Peabody’s Inheritance*, by Elizabeth Jolley), *Hin feiga skepna* (*The Dying Animal*, by Philip Roth), and *Barndómur* (*Boyhood*, by J.M. Coetzee). He is currently professor of Creative Writing at the University of Iceland.
When everyone is asleep, invisible good creatures enter houses, touch different objects, feel everyone’s past and offer the good memories to the dwellers in their dreams. Parnian, a trainee dream-giver, accompanies his master into a house where a woman lives with her dog and who is temporarily looking after a young boy called John. The child has family problems, is nervous, behaves badly and he does not like the woman or the dog. He has nightmares and screams in his sleep. Parnian discovers his good memories by touching his belongings and bestows John with the gift of good dreams, which calms him.

Kaivan Abidi Ashtiani was born in Tehran in 1956. She studied business at Allameh Tabatabai University, and worked as an accountant. She began her career as a full time freelance translator in 1999. She loves her work; her translations include: Bakhshandeh (Giver, 2000), Ba Kafsh-haye Digaran Rah Boro (Walk to the Moon, 2006), and Raqse Rooye Labeh (Dancing on the Edge, 2009). She has won the Salaam Bacheha Young Jurors Award in 2001 and the prestigious Parvin Etesami National Award in 2008.

Adolf is a lonely middle-aged crane driver who works at the docks and falls in love with his new cleaning lady, Ramona. He invites her to join him in his crane cabin for coffee and cake, but when the fateful evening arrives, kind-hearted Adolf discovers a kitten trapped at the end of the crane’s jib. He misses his appointment with Ramona when he rescues the kitten. He phones a newspaper and places an advertisement, hoping to trace the owner. Next day a journalist arrives at his cabin and photographs Adolf holding flowers intended for Ramona, which had been abandoned in the crane. News of his heroism reaches Ramona, and all ends happily when she comes to the quay to visit him a few days later. The clarity of the Irish translation of this heart-warming story blends well with the expansive illustrations, which are both atmospheric and full of humorous detail.

Treasa Ní Bhrua is from Naas, Co. Kildare and she attended University College Dublin. She is a professional translator who has worked for several years in Rannóg an Aistriúcháin, the Translation Department of the Houses of the Oireachtas (the Irish Houses of Parliament). Her other published translation work includes Poll agus a Mhac (Poll and his son, by Frode Grytten and Marvin Halleraker). The translation of Adolf sna harda was done in collaboration with Magnus Vestvoll.
The Adventures of Tom Sawyer (published 1876) is a very well known and popular story concerning an American boy on a voyage of growth and discovery. Set in pre-Civil war Missouri, this novel is the story of Tom Sawyer and his best friend Huckleberry Finn, whose playfulness and sense of mischief lead them into all sorts of adventure: racing bugs during class, impressing girls, especially Becky Thatcher, fights and stunts in the schoolyard, getting lost in a cave, and playing pirates on the Mississippi River.

Sharon Preminger was born in Israel in 1960. She is a graduate of the Theatre Studies and Literature Departments at Tel-Aviv University. She has translated over 50 books into Hebrew, including English and French classics, works of philosophy, plays, thrillers and children’s books. Her most important translations include: A Suitable Boy by Vikram Seth, The Last Days of Pompeii by Sir Edward Bulwer-Lytton, Frankenstein by Mary Shelley, The Sea by John Banville, Jane Eyre by Charlotte Brontë, Orlando by Virginia Woolf, and Mrs Dalloway also by Virginia Woolf.

Fourteen-year-old Siméon, eight-year-old Morgane, and five-year-old Venise, are three children without parents: their mother committed suicide and their father left them many years ago. What they fear most is the idea of being separated. Thus, they are ready to do anything as long as their custody is granted to their half brother Barthélémy, 26, even though they have never met him before. Bart is a young homosexual with a satisfying life on his own, without worries or responsibilities. Oh, boy! is a book about a family that deals with homosexuality without prejudices and fears. The issue of difference is treated in the story in a way that is funny and touching, ironic and moving.

Federica Angelini graduated in 1997 from the Scuola Superiore Interpreti e Traduttori at the University of Bologna, specializing in Translation Studies with a graduation thesis on Italian History of Translation at the beginning of XIX century. She has been translating novels from English and more often from French since 1998 and has worked for many different Italian publishing houses. In particular, she has translated crime novels, such as, the series about Nestor Burma by Leo Malet, as well as books for children and young readers, such as Il cane maltese, e/o, 1999 and a number of popular scientific books and dictionaries. Beside Oh boy! she has translated Guardatemi by Gudule (2006), Baby Sitter Blues (2007) and Mio Fratello Simple (2009) by Marie-Aude Murail, Linus Hoppe contro il destino by Anne-Laure Bondoux (2007), and Una bottiglia nel mare di Gaza by Valérie Zenatti (2009).
Daido to to-chan is the first Japanese translation from the series of The Wolves of Willoughby Chase by Joan Aiken. This story is historical fantasy set during a fictional 19th century Britain. The heroine Dido Twite returns for a new adventure in this eighth volume of the Wolves series. Kodama’s translation gives an accessible feeling and is easily understandable for children, and the viewpoint of the story nurtures children’s spiritual well being.

Tomoko Kodama was born in 1942, and graduated from Waseda University in Tokyo. She worked for several years on a magazine before becoming a freelance translator and writer. She has a good reputation for her high quality translations in Japanese and translates books ranging from children’s picture books to books for young adults. Her first book, published in 1977, was Sanji no ocha ni kitekudasai (Invitation to a 3 o’clock tea party). Among the many books she has translated are Make Lemonade by Virginia Euwer Wolff, Al Capone Does My Shirts by Gennifer Choldenko, Learning to Read by Margaret Meek and The Three Little Wolves and the Big Bad Pig by Eugene Trivizas and Helen Oxenbury. She is now a lecturer at Shirayuri College in Tokyo.

Mr and Mrs Willoughby and their four children hate each other. One day the parents formulate a diabolical plan to leave on vacation and abandon their children as in the story of Hansel and Gretel. Surprisingly however, the Willoughby children also concoct a plot to get rid of their odious parents and become good orphans like Anne of Green Gables. But unexpected accidents and happenings disturb their plans. This hilarious novel is a clever parody of old-fashioned children’s books featuring uncaring parents, orphans, a good nanny, a rich benefactor and the like. Even though it is full of the twists and turns of bizarre happenings among family members, this book provides readers with a valuable chance to think about the meaning of family and love.

Young Sun Kim was born in 1966 in Suncheon. He studied English Education at Seoul National University in Korea, and Linguistics at Cornell University in the US, receiving MEd and MA degrees. He worked as a middle school English teacher and taught Linguistics at a college in Seoul. He has translated more than 90 books, most of which are for children and young adults. He has made special effort to translate classic books for children such as Treasure Island, Peter Pan, and Animal Farm accurately and beautifully into Korean.
This collection was originally published in 1959 by Astrid Lindgren and contains four fairytales. These lyrical narratives reveal Lindgren’s sensitive approach to the world, her ability to feel deeply for other people’s sorrows and to look for solutions. The characters in these fairytales, both grown-ups and children, although affected by poverty and loneliness, each in their own way yearn and strive for something good and beautiful. The longings of the characters for all things noble and beautiful are reflected in the words overheard through the kitchen door by the orphan girl Malin. These words and the ideas behind them become the main criterion for the value of life, especially if we keep asking ourselves at crucial moments: does my linden play? Does my nightingale sing?

Mudīte Treimane (1948) has worked in the field of children’s literature for many years. Besides her work at the Latvian National Library, she has always been active in translating from Swedish, Norwegian, Danish and English. The works of Astrid Lindgren and Tove Jansson are among the great loves of her life and she began to translate Astrid Lindgren’s works in 1983. She has translated about 20 titles by these two authors. She has also written biography of Astrid Lindgren (2007), in which the personality and life of Astrid Lindgren has been portrayed in a true and lively way. In 1992 she received a Premium by Writers’ Foundation of Sweden. Treimane has also been a member of two award juries in Latvia: the Annual Literary Award and Zvaigzne’s Book: Latvian literature for children and young people.

LEBANON (Arabic) 144
Sharafeddine, Fatima
Uridu An Asshar! Wa Lan Azhab Lil-nawm
(Orig. English: I am not sleepy and I will not go to bed by Lauren Child)
Beirut: Asala, 2008
[34pp]; 255x285mm
Siblings, Going to bed

Charlie has a little sister called Lola who is always busy and has a rich imagination. Sometimes Charlie has to try and get Lola to go to bed. This is a hard job because Lola likes to stay up late. Lola says I am not slightly sleepy at 6 or 7 or 8 o’clock. I’m still wide awake at 9 and not at all tired at 10, 11 or 12 o’clock and I will probably still be perky at even one o’clock in the morning! Lola says she never gets tired, which makes it very difficult to make her go to bed as Charlie finds out.

Fatima Sharafeddine is a writer and translator from Beirut. She received her BA in Early Childhood Education from the Lebanese American University in 1989, and immediately went to study in the USA where she completed her Master’s degree in Educational Theory and Practice (1993), with focus on Children’s Literature, and her Master’s degree in Modern Arabic Literature (1996), both from Ohio State University. She became a full-time writer of children’s books in 2001. She currently lives in Belgium, and publishes her books in Arabic in Lebanon, and in French in Belgium. Three of her titles have been translated to several European and Asian languages. Among her works are The dance of colours, Tala and the sea, Jamila’s neighbours, Happy Sad, and Mountain rooster.
Although these tales are based on Grimm's fairytales the reader cannot always immediately recognize the plots of the original tales. Many of the tales are relocated to a contemporary setting, plots and characters are inverted, new incidents added. Some of them are also inspired by fierce social criticism. Grimm's plots are retold in a caustic, often paradoxical manner using modern slang, idiomatic expressions and pointed references to deplorable living conditions in affluent societies. These stylistic peculiarities were a great challenge for the translator.

Rūta Jonynaitė-Kumžienė was born in 1955 in Vilnius. She studied German philology at Vilnius University, where later she taught German language for seven years after graduation. Since 1987 she has worked as the editor for children and youth literature in the Vyturys publishing house, where she began to translate books into Lithuanian. Panama labai graži, 1989 (Oh, wie schön ist Panama, by Janosch) was among the first and the most popular books translated by her. Some of her important translations include Benas myli Aną, 1999 (Ben liebt Anna, by Peter Härtling), Ateina šuo!, 2009 (Der Hund kommt! by Christine Nöstlinger), Ponja Majer, paukštelė, 2009 (Frau Meier, die Amsel, by Wolf Erlbruch), and Mama, tėtė, aš ir ji (Mutter, Vater, ich und sie, by Jürg Schubiger). Ruta Jonynaitē has translated 20 books, the majority of them are books for children and young adults.

The main characters in this book of tales are animals, birds, fishes and plants. The stories are amusing and tender and include tales about the elephant that plays with mouse, the old duck Maca-Macu who gives a swimming lesson to duckling Fresco, the fish called Einstein who plays football, golf, volley-ball, and basket-ball, and many other others. The readers can learn a lot of useful things from these stories: how to be a good friend, why it is important to brush your teeth, what is good to give as present to somebody on his or her birthday, how to grow a flower, etc. The translator has adapted the names of some of the characters and locations to those more appropriate for children in Moldova and Romania.

Ala Bujor was born in the Gălăşeni, Râşcani district in 1963. She studied French Philology at the State University of Moldova. In 2003 she received the doctor’s degree in Philology. She worked as a schoolteacher and university lecturer and works now as an editor at the Epigraf Publishing House. She has published about 30 scientific and didactical books, such as textbooks, dictionaries as well as guides for teachers. She has made the selection for many of the anthologies of children’s literature published by Epigraf. Poveşti adevărate is the first children’s book that she has translated from French into Romanian.
The book is about thirteen-year-old Baatar who passes through many dangerous obstacles and great challenges that require both his courage and cleverness. Although he wants to stay at school, he has to leave to help his parents who are old and sick. He looks after their animals, which are the only source of income for the family. Later he works in a canteen, preparing the vegetables for meals, as well as doing many other jobs there. During this time he encounters cruel criminals who are illegally trafficking people: an event that profoundly changes his life. After many difficulties and challenges, eventually Baatar overcomes them and the criminals are caught – to the great delight and relief of everyone.

H. Zandraabaidii was born in Tsagaan ovoo village of the Dundgobi province in 1934. Now he is a novelist, dramatist and author of journalistic essays. After his graduation from the National University of Mongolia in 1973, he worked for the Association of Mongolian Writers, Ministry of Culture. The plays Zad Stone, Golden Ring with Corall, Great Obstacle and the films Sheep Feast, Fragrance of the Blue Grass have been adapted from his books. He initiated the publications of the famous Mongolian writers’ such as D. Namdag and Ch. Chimid. His book Gods Without Future won the prize of AMW in 1998 and the D. Natsagdorj prize in 2002. He also won the honoured prize D. Namdag in 2001 and honoured prize S. Buyannemekh in 2002 for his book In memory of S. Buyannemekh.

In the winter of 1962, 16-year-old Hilary leaves for his boarding school without any enthusiasm. Then he meets Finn and falls under the spell of this boy living in a fishing cottage by the sea, who represents the freedom Hilary always wanted to have. Hilary enraptured by his newfound friend, makes it his business to spend as much time as possible with Finn – a major challenge considering school curfews and that Finn’s home can only be accessed during low tide. Weeks go by and Finn falls ill, setting the stage for a surprising revelation that will dramatically transform both boys. The main issue of the book is the misleading picture of idealized images and the transience of memories, represented by the landscape of Hilary’s youth, slowly disappearing into the sea. Neither rushing through exquisite descriptive passages nor exaggerating the potential for horrible disaster, the author remains true to the voice of a man reflecting on his life. Wat ik was will attract thoughtful teens, who will see themselves in the intensely passionate relationship between the two young people.

For 21 years Jenny de Jonge taught Dutch language and literature at Het Stedelijk Gymnasium in Haarlem. Besides teaching she started her own publishing company for juvenile books in 1991 and also worked as a publisher at Gottmer. In 2003 she started to work as a translator and advisor of children’s and young adult books. Her books included titles by Meg Rosoff, Linzi Glass, John Boyne, Jenny Valentine, Kevin Brooks and many other writers of YA-Books.
In the years gone by, generations of people used to welcome the return of the albatrosses as they arrived to make their nests and lay eggs on the cliffs. By mid summer as the weather became warmer, the children watched the chicks hatch and become stronger. They watched them through all the storms and perils of winter, until the time came for them to join their parents and fly to sea. However, over the years the older people of the village died and the younger ones moved away to towns and cities until only Maraea remained. She stayed to call the albatrosses back to the cliffs as generations of Maori had done before her. But even she will need to leave when her time comes giving Ko Maraea Me Nga Toroa an unexpected and magical ending.

Waiairiki Grace was educated in a small Maori school in Gisborne. He gained a BA and began teaching. In 1989 he was appointed District Manager of Wellington Schools until he retired in 1995. He has written a number of books in Maori for primary schools and has previously translated some of Patricia Grace’s other books into Maori.

Hobbiten eller Ditut og attende is the newest Norwegian translation of the classic fantasy novel for children by J.R.R. Tolkien. Set in the time between the dawn of fairies and the domination of men, the story follows the quest of the hobbit Bilbo Baggins to win a share of the treasure guarded by Smaug the dragon. Bilbo’s journey takes him from the light-hearted, rural surroundings of his home in the Shire into darker, deeper territory, passing through the Misty Mountains and Mirkwood. New and dangerous characters are met along the way, as well as friends and steadfast companions. By accepting the disreputable, romantic, fey and adventurous side of his nature and applying his wits and common sense, Bilbo develops a new level of maturity, competence and wisdom. The original book was published in 1937 to wide critical acclaim, and was nominated for the Carnegie Medal and awarded a prize from the New York Herald Tribune for best juvenile fiction.

Eilev Groven Myhren, born in 1973, is a Norwegian philologist, musician and translator. Myhren has a masters degree in music, with Norwegian, Norse language and Folkloristics amongst his subjects. His translation of J.R.R. Tolkien’s Lord of the Rings (2006), called Ringdrotten in nynorsk (New Norwegian), distinguished itself by its use of New Norwegian combined with different dialects to characterise the different nations of Middle Earth. Myhren was awarded The New Norwegian Literary Price for Ringdrotten – only the second translator ever to be awarded.
In search of answers to questions about death, three Japanese boys learn about life in this beautifully unfolding novel. They begin spying on a reclusive old man near their school: the most likely candidate for death that they know. But the old man, whose life is spare and lonely, who is indeed, physically alive but barely engaged in the act of living, catches them and puts them to work repairing his dilapidated house. However, a very intimate and interesting friendship develops between them. The boys come to care deeply about him and the old man’s interest in life is renewed. When he eventually dies the boys realize that they have learned as much about living from him as about dying.

Sulafah Hijjawi is a writer, poet and political scientist. She obtained a MA in political science in 1982 and a BA in the English Language and Literature in 1960 from Baghdad University. She is the author of several books: poetical collections, political and literary books and articles. She is a teacher of English and Political Science and Political Terminology. She has translated several titles from English to Arabic and vice versa as well as reports and articles for several institutions.

Svetlana Likhacheva was born in 1970. She graduated from the Moscow State Linguistic University and made her debut as a fiction translator in 1994. She currently teaches English Literature at her former alma mater and works as a freelance translator for several prominent publishing-houses. She translates both prose and poetry, and has published over 50 translations of English and American authors, both classical and modern, including books for children and young adults. She also translates works from French, Spanish and Occitan. She won the Zerkalo award from the BastCon Literary Conference for the best fantasy translation (2003) and the award of the Modern British Poetry Translation Competition held by the British Council (2005). Her translations include work by poets such as Tennyson, Southey and Housman.
SLOVAKIA (Slovak)  153
Lozanová, Daniela
*Môj dedko je čerešňa*
(My grandpa is a cherry tree. Orig. Italian: *Mio nonno era un ciliegio* by Angela Nanetti)
96pp; 145x225mm
ISBN: 978-80-89208-74-6 Ages: 5-12
*Grandfather, Death, Love, Optimism*

This is a story about a small boy called Tonin and his family. Tonin's tells us about his adventures, his always-busy parents and his loving grandfather Ottaviano. His grandfather lives in an old fashioned farm and always has time for his little grandson. He is always tolerant and supportive and understands Tonin and giving him something special and mysterious. Grandfather also has the courage to defend his spreading cherry tree against attacks by developers with bulldozers and chain saws. But who will save the beloved cherry tree when Ottaviano is no longer there? The Italian atmosphere and lively descriptions of expressive situations enhance the impressiveness of this story of three generations of a family.

Having majored in the History of Philosophy and the Italian Language, Daniela Lozanová (1962) graduated from two Slovakian universities – the University of Prešov, and Constantine the Philosopher University in Nitra. She teaches Italian at a language school and a gymnasium in Spišská Nová Ves. In 2000 she published a series of her translated short stories, humorous features and short literary pieces by Italian writers in various magazines. Slovak Radio has broadcast four of her short stories dedicated to the lives of Italian Renaissance artists and a radio adaptation of the book by Francisco de Holanda: *Dialogues With Michelangelo*. *Môj dedko je čerešňa* has been appreciated by both BIBIANA and the IBBY Slovak Section and awarded the 2007 Winter's Best Children's Book Award.

SLOVENIA (Slovenian)  154
Dekleva, Milan
*Bi se gnetli na tej metli?*
(Orig. English: *Room on the Broom* by Julia Donaldson)
Ljubljana: Mladinska knjiga, 2008
[28pp]; 285x255mm
ISBN 978-951-01-0636-4 Ages: 3-7
*Witch, Journey, Friendship*

There is always room for one more on the witch's broomstick! A witch and her cat fly through the wind on their broomstick without a care in the world – until suddenly her black pointy hat is blown away. A dog helps to find the hat and joins them on the broomstick. After several more “accidents” the broom is full and snaps in half! Milan Dekleva has done an excellent and masterful translation of the amusing story in verse with droll illustrations. The wit and message of the original story has been successfully re-created in Slovenian.

Milan Dekleva (1946) is a poet, novelist, short narrative prose writer, playwright, script-writer, essayist, author of radio plays, publicist, journalist, editor of programmes for national radio and TV for children and young people, composer as well as a musician. He is well known in Slovenia, and has been recognised several times with awards, including the most important literary awards. His bibliography extends to around 50 titles of original prose, poetry and plays, including works for children and young people. He has also translated around 70 works, the majority of them for children and young people. He translated from English *Odvratne rime* (Revolting Rhymes, by Roald Dahl) and Čarli in tovarna čokolade (Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, by Roald Dahl). In recent years, he has translated five picture books by Julia Donaldson: *Zverjasec* (The Gruffalo), *Zverjašček* (The Gruffalo’s Child), *Zverjaščeva sestavljenka* (The Gruffalo Jigsaw Book) and *Zverjaškova sestavljenka* (The Gruffalo’s Child Jigsaw Book).
Meet Willemien van Rooyen and her best friend, Mr Knuffel. They live in a stylish apartment in Big City and look after the Van Rooyen family’s eclectic collections and dabble in spot of detective work. No puzzle is ever too tricky for them to solve. A string of daring burglaries has taken place in Big City and precious lapdogs are disappearing all over town. Can Willemien and Mr Knuffel come up with a clever plan? They go undercover and expose an ingenious scam masterminded by furry feline crook: the Yellow Cat.

Jaco Jacobs, born in 1980, is the author of 47 children’s books and has translated more than 120 books into Afrikaans. He was awarded the Alba Bouwer Prize, the MML Literature Award and the C.P. Hoogenhout Medal, as well as nine ATKV Children’s Book Awards. In 2008, his novel for young people Suurlemoen! was listed in the IBBY Honour List. In 2009 his translation Willemien en die geel kat was awarded the Elsabe Steenberg Prize for Afrikaans Children’s Book Translation. This translation was also shortlisted for the South African Translators Institute (SATI) Prize. His most important works include Liefde laat jou Rice Krispies anders proe (When you’re in love, your cereal will taste different, 2002), Wurms met tamatiesous en ander lawwe rympies (Worms with tomato sauce and other funny rhymes, 2005), Suurlemoen! ’n storie oor rock, liefde en ’n tuinkabouter (Lemon! a story about rock and roll, love and a garden gnome, 2007).

Set in the time between the dawn of fairies and the dominion of men, the story follows the quest of the hobbit Bilbo Baggins to win a share of the treasure guarded by Smaug the dragon. Bilbo’s journey takes him from the light-hearted, rural surroundings of his home in the Shire into darker, deeper territory, passing through the Misty Mountains and Mirkwood. New and dangerous characters are met along the way, as well as friends and steadfast companions. By accepting the disreputable, romantic, fey and adventurous side of his nature and applying his wits and common sense, Bilbo develops a new level of maturity, competence and wisdom. The original book was published in 1937 to wide critical acclaim, and was nominated for the Carnegie Medal and awarded a prize from the New York Herald Tribune for best juvenile fiction and today is recognised as a classic children’s book.

Xabier Olarra was a teacher of Basque Language and Literature from 1979 to 1988, since then he has worked as a translator at the Official Unit of the Government of Navarra. Since 1985 he has also worked as a literary translator from English or French into Basque. His translations include Sanctuary by William Faulkner, The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald, and The Master of Ballantrae by R.L. Stevenson. In 2006 his translation of Exercices de style (Exercises in Style) by Raymond Queneau was awarded the Translation Award of Euskadi. Sergio Ibarrola is mainly a translator of technical texts, as well as some literary texts, such as this version of Hobbita.
This is the seventh and final Harry Potter story. Harry finally succeeds in defeating the enemy Lord Voldemort with the help of his friends Ron and Hermione and the rest of his schoolfellows at Hogwarts school.

Xavier Pàmies was born in Barcelona in 1959. He graduated in Biology from the Universitat de Barcelona and went on to major in translation at the Universitat Pompeu Fabra. He translates from English, Portuguese and French into Catalan. He won the Giovanni Pontiero Prize for Translation and the Ciutat de Barcelona Prize for Translation (2003). He has translated works of many English and American writers, such as Jane Austen (Sense and Sensibility, 2004), Paul Auster (Timbuktu, 1999), Karen Blixen (Out of Africa, 1998), Richard F. Burton (Personal Narrative of a Pilgrimage to Al-Madina and Mecca, 2003), Charles Dickens (Bleak House, 2008, and A Christmas Carol, 2009), Scott Fitzgerald (Tales of the Jazz Age, 2009), Kazuo Ishiguro (The Unconsoled, 1997, When we were Orphans, 2001, and Never Let me Go, 2005), Harper Lee (To Kill a Mockingbird, 2006), Cormac McCarthy (All the Pretty Horses, 1999), V.S. Naipaul (Half a Life, 2002), Henry Roth (Call It Sleep, 2008), Philip Roth (The Human Stain, 2001, The Dying Animal, 2002, The Plot Against America, 2005, Exit Ghost, 2008, and Indignation, 2009), J.K. Rowling (Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix, 2004, Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince, 2006), J.D. Salinger (Franny and Zooey, 1999), William Thackeray (The Book of Snobs, 2009), Edith Wharton (Ethan Frome, 2001), and Oscar Wilde (The Portrait of W.H., 2007).

Forty years ago while taking shelter in the fishermen’s tavern of a small Cantabrian village from an unusually violent and lengthy storm, a group of sailors and mysterious men tell stories about shipwrecks, drowned mariners and storms. The narrator spends an unforgettable night among them, and his memories are coloured by the dark tales told by the seamen. This is a short scary story of the mysteries that surround tales of the sea and its ways.

Ignacio Chão, born in 1968, is an editor, poet and translator specializing in children’s and young adult literature; a genre for which he has translated more than 50 titles into Galician. He is currently in charge of coordinating the Literature Department at the publishing house Edelvives. He has edited the Galician books Nun lugar chamado Labirinto (At a place called Labyrinth, by Ramón Trigo, 2005) and O carteiro de Bagdad (The Postman of Baghdad, by Miguel Angel Díez, 2007), both included in the White Ravens list: 2006 and 2008 respectively. He is the author of the poetry books Corazón de segundas partes (The heart of the second half – winner of the Esquío Prize in 1997) and Taciturno peregrino (Taciturn Pilgrim, Ed. Fotoxoguete, 2006). His poems are included in several anthologies of Galician and Spanish poets.
Los niños del agua has been commonly mistaken for a children’s short story, but really this book can interest all age groups and is often seen as a Victorian didactic moral tale. The story tells the story of Tom, a ten-year-old chimney sweep, who is treated cruelly by his master Mr Grimes. As a result of a fall down a chimney during work, Tom is scared and runs off and apparently drowns in a nearby lake. However, he survives, and transforms into a water baby. Helped by fairies and water creatures, Tom grows up to become a free and responsible person. Kingsley introduces everything he was interested in at that time, and he creates a dialogue with the reader in which everything is possible thanks to fantasy. The book is satirical as well as a strong criticism against child labour, which was common then.

Berta Roda graduated as a history major and later on took several courses in oral and online communication, and French civilization. She has worked in the media – in online and print newspapers, as well as in the contents, features and interviews section of a local television channel. She spent five years working for a publishing company as the coordinator of the Postgraduate Communication and Culture programmes. During that time, she undertook various projects: as a translator for Rey Lear editors, as part of the travel guides and reports editorial staff for different magazines, and in the production and documentation of audiovisuals. Currently she coordinates design and communication projects in a design studio.

Den absolut sanna historien om mitt liv som halvtidsindian has been commonly mistaken as possible! Almost everyone on the reservation sees Junior as a traitor when he listens to his teacher’s advice and signs on to attend an all-white middle-class school 22 miles away from the reservation. The only American Indian there, apart from himself, is the school’s mascot. But he has a huge talent for basketball, which earns him the respect of his fellow students. He slowly comes to be proud of who he is and what he represents.

Ingela Jernberg was born in 1968. After studying at the Gothenburg University she began to work as a subtitle translator for films and television programmes. She looked for more creative work using languages and began to translate fiction. To date she has translated about ten novels from English into Swedish, including Not Quite a Mermaid: Mermaid Island by Linda Chapman, Lottery by Patricia Wood, Under the Duvet by Marian Keyes, and Chasing Harry Winston by Lauren Weisberger. Her translation of Den absolut sanna historien om mitt liv som halvtidsindian won the Swedish IBBY’s Peter Pan-Award in 2009 for the best translated book of the year.
This is the unforgettable and very curious story of the boy whose dreams tended to meld with reality when he woke up. It is told with humour and a naturalness that is childlike, but nevertheless with plenty of surprises and gags! While evolving, it becomes very adventurous, and in the second part, when the penguin’s ways and human civilization confront each other in the Antarctic, the satire becomes obvious. The translation of Ursula Gaillard follows the many different moods as well as the ambience of the original story by Franz Hohler.

Ursula Gaillard was born in 1947 in the German-speaking part of Switzerland and went to school in the French-speaking part. She graduated from the University of Lausanne and since 1990 she has been a freelance translator of literary and historical books. She has translated famous authors such as Peter Bichsel, Niklaus Meienberg, Hanna Johansen and Andersen Award winner Jürg Schubiger. She excels in rendering the simplicity and the subtlety of the German texts, and in finding equivalents in historical contexts. As a writer herself, she knows the importance of style for an author and manages to transmit their expressions with precision as well as with playful enthusiasm.

The mother seagull was caught in an oil slick that had leaked from a ship, and she could no longer fly. Before she died, she left her egg with a cat and asked it to promise to watch over the egg and to bring up the baby gull and teach it to fly. But flying is beyond the nature of cats, so the cat and its friends have to try to find out how to teach the little seagull to fly. This moving and funny story tells how the cat keeps its promises. The author impressively describes how the little bird learns to fly, and includes the philosophy of living life harmoniously. Finally the little bird fulfils her dream and flies! (see also entry 96)

Sathaporn Tippayasak graduated from Chulalongkorn University and gained a BA in Spanish Language. He went on to earn an MA and a PhD in Spanish Language Linguistics at the Universidad Complutense de Madrid in Spain. He is an Associate Professor of Spanish Language and the Director of the Centre for Latin American Studies at the Department of Western Languages, Faculty of Arts, at Chulalongkorn University. He is also the official translator of Spanish-Thai and Thai-Spanish as accredited by the Royal Embassy of Spain in Thailand, and the interpreter of Spanish-Thai and Thai-Spanish for the government agencies. His translations include Royal Writings and Documents on the First Royal Expedition to Europe of King Rama V, 1997 (Thai-Spanish), Platero y Yo, 2004 (Platero and I), and La Tierra de Las Papas, 2006 (The Land of Potatoes).
As Josh Stephenson starts his 13th year, his life begins to change. His father works on a cargo ship, and since his parents split up, Josh has only seen him infrequently and misses him very much. When 17-year-old cousin Trudy moves into their house with his bedroom becoming a corridor to her room, he feels that his private space has been invaded. One day he finds himself trapped hiding in the bathroom while Trudy is having a bath and from then on everything changes, not least himself. He plays truant from school, rebel against his teachers and experiences the pangs of ‘first love’ as he searches for answers to explain the way he feels. *Fish in the Sky* is a powerful piece of literature that endeavours to explore the juxtaposition of teenage angst and sexual awakening. Complex moral questions full of literary symbolism are posed by Josh with no simple solution ever offered. It tackles serious themes, but always with an equal measure of compassion and humour.

Fridrik Erlings was born in Reykjavik in 1962. As a writer, screenwriter, graphic designer and musician, he is one of the most accomplished Icelanders of his generation. In 1986 he founded the alternative rock band *The Sugarcubes* with Bjork before leaving music to pursue his writing. Erlings has written and translated numerous lyrics, scripts for film and television as well as biographies for people of all ages. His first novel, *Benjamin Dove*, has been translated into seven languages and made into an award-winning feature film. *Fish in the Sky* is his second published novel.

Six-year old Garmann times the end of summer by the changes in nature and by the annual arrival of his three elderly aunts. When they ask him if he is afraid of starting school, Garmann admits his fear and begins to ask them and his parents about their fears. His childhood fears of not yet losing a tooth and feeling inferior to the adventurous six-year-old twins next door contrast poignantly to the real fears of the aging adults who are able to face their fears realistically and with humour. The adults tenderly express that their biggest fear is leaving Garmann, and his father tells him, “I think everyone is afraid of something.” The photo-realistm of the illustrations combined with lyricism is a perfect complement to the text.

Don Bartlett is a professional translator who also teaches at the Bell Language School in Norwich, England. He has translated over 100 books, articles and other publications, working in German, Danish, Norwegian, Swedish and Spanish. He currently lives in Norfolk, England.
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