© International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY), 2018

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The IBBY Honour List 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 and the first Honour List was a selection of 15 entries from 12 countries. 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.

We use standard British English for the spelling foreign names of people and places. Furthermore, we have respected the way in which the nominees themselves spell their names in Latin letters. As a general 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.

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The IBBY Honour List 2018 will be introduced and the diplomas presented at the 36th IBBY Congress in Athens, Greece, on Friday, 31 August 2018.

Liz Page
Luzmaria Stauffenegger
Susan Dewhirst
Basel, May 2018
**ARGENTINA (Spanish)**

Siemens, Sandra  
**Lucía, no tardes**  
(Lucía do not delay)  
Buenos Aires: SM, 2015  
92pp; 130x210mm  

*Migration, Argentina 1943-55*

Sandra Siemens was born in 1965 and lives in Wheelwright, a small town south of Santa Fe. She has attended many writing workshops, but the most important was the workshop of Alma Maritano, a well-known Argentinian writer and professor. Sandra Siemens has won several awards and distinctions: she was three times finalist for the *El Barco de Vapor* Award (2004, 2007 and 2012) and winner in 2009 for her novel *La muralía*. She won the *Alma* Award in 2008 and was twice selected for the White Ravens catalogue: in 2010 with her novel *El hombre de los pies-murciélago* and in 2016 with her novel *La muralla*. She has attended many writing workshops, but the most important was the workshop of Alma Maritano, a well-known Argentinian writer and professor. Sandra Siemens has won several awards and distinctions: she was three times finalist for the *El Barco de Vapor* Award (2004, 2007 and 2012) and winner in 2009 for her novel *La muralía*. She won the *Alma* Award in 2008 and was twice selected for the White Ravens catalogue: in 2010 with her novel *El hombre de los pies-murciélago* and in 2015 with *La tortilla de papas*. *Tatuajes* was selected by *Asociación de Literatura Infantil y Juvenil de la Argentina* (ALJIA) as the best young adult novel in 2015 and *Lucía, no tardes* was selected for the same award in 2016.

**ARmenIA (Armenian)**

Sahakyan, Yuri  
**Napo Choorrody**  
(Bunny the fourth)  
Ill. Gegvorg Foghosyan  
Yerevan: Edit Print, 2011  
83pp; 200x200mm  
ISBN 978-9939-52-021-6, Ages: 4-8

*Napo Choorrody* is a witty collection of poems for children. The main characters are animals, clowns and dwarves that display both their original nature and some human traits. In one poem, a dwarf is so kind, he never wants to upset anyone. From morning to evening he asks everyone’s opinion until he realises he never is able to do what he wants. The poems are full of humour and colourfully illustrated. The language is direct and lively and the themes are topical and interesting.

Yuri Sahakyan, born 1937 in Chaylu in the Mardakert district of Nagorno Karabakh, is one of the best-loved contemporary children’s writers in Armenia. He graduated from the Yerevan State University in philology and later studied in Moscow. He has worked for a weekly newspaper as well as for publishing houses as senior editor for children’s literature. A poet and translator, he is the author of more than forty works for children. His work *Alphabet Guide* won the Golden Pen State Award of Armenia in 1999.

**AUSTRALIA (English)**

Fraillon, Zana  
**The Bone Sparrow**  
Sydney: Hachette, 2016  
234pp; 135x210mm  

Subhi is a refugee of Rohingya origin, born in an Australian permanent detention centre, thus life behind the fences is all he has ever known. As he grows, his imagination grows too: fed by the night sea, the faraway whales and the birds. One night Jimmie, a scruffy, impatient girl appears from the other side of the fence, bringing a notebook written by the mother she lost. Unable to read it, she relies on Subhi to unravel her own family’s love songs and tragedies. Subhi and Jimmie might both find a way to freedom, but not until each of them has been braver than ever before. The writer succeeds – mostly through the first-person narrative of Subhi’s account – in presenting the claustrophobic world of the detention camp with its tedium and heartbreak, major and petty cruelties and unexpected humour. The reader is left pondering themes of hope, freedom, friendship, memory and the power of stories.

Zana Fraillon was born in Melbourne, but spent her early childhood in San Francisco. She studied history at university before training to become a primary teacher. She spent a year in China teaching English and now lives in Melbourne. She has written two picture books for young children, a series for middle readers, and the novel, *No Stars to Wish On* (2014), a story about a boy taken from home and put in an orphanage. Her most recent book is *The Ones That Disappeared* (2017), a novel for older readers about three trafficked children searching for freedom. *The Bone Sparrow* has featured on a number of award lists, including the shortlist for the 2017 CILIP Carnegie Medal.
Al-Mousli, Luna
Eine Träne. Ein Lächeln – Meine Kindheit in Damaskus
(A teardrop. A smile – My childhood in Damascus)

Morgen is een ander land
(Tomorrow is another country)
Ill. Trui Chielens
Amsterdam: Querido, 2017
[54pp]; 200x245mm

The 44 stories in Eine Träne. Ein Lächeln – Meine Kindheit in Damaskus are stories of the author’s childhood spent in one of the oldest cities in the world, Damascus. The contradictions of a childhood under a dictatorship are captured by this book’s title. On the one hand, growing up unfree; on the other, experiencing warmth and security within the family circle. Luna Al-Mousli describes her story with clippings from her family album and vignettes written in Arabic and German. It is a personal book but also a book that everyone can identify with (White Ravens 2016).

Luna Al-Mousli was born in 1990 and raised in Damascus. She lives in Vienna and works as an author, graphic designer and initiator of projects with a focus on education and integration. As an activist and interpreter, she collaborated with the Riahi brothers, Arash and Arman, on the cross-media documentation project Everyday Rebellion, which has won many awards. In 2017, she received the Austrian Award for Children’s Literature. Her main works include: Cuentos Luciérnaga (Firefly tales, 1987), published by UNICEF, La Bruja de los Cuentos (A fairy tale witch, 1997), La Revobulliprotesta (Revolufusprotest, 1991), Conquistando a Lindolfo (Tempting Lindolfo, 2008) and El Auto Gris con Vidrios Más Grises Todavía (The grey car with greyer windows, 2017).

Michael De Cock was born in 1972. He writes plays and novels for children and adults. He carefully builds up his stories and puts strong characters on the page with just a few words. In a language and style that are clear and to the point, mixed with powerful imagery, he deals with deep philosophical themes. He often adapts myths and stories of creation for children and has a great sense of social engagement. His other works include: De lange weg naar huis: het verhaal van Odysseus (The long way home: the story of Odysseus, 2008), Rosie en Moussa (Rosie and Moussa, 2010), Hannibal (2012) and Het geheim van Rosie en Moussa (The secret of Rosie and Moussa, 2014).
Hok Sothik

**Sothik, komarpheap del trov ke dok haut** (Sothik, a confiscated childhood)

ill. Tian

Phnom Penh: Sipar, 2017

111pp; 125x190mm


Cambodia 1954-75, Khmer Rouge, autobiography

Sothik, komarpheap del trov ke dok haut is the story of a strange and sad childhood in Cambodia during the civil war and bombing raids of the US military. When the author was three, the Khmer Rouge took over his village and everyday reality changed: bad became good, white became black, and fools became scholars. Even the cows were to be addressed as 'comrade cows'.

Hok Sothik was born in 1967 in Antong Sor in the Kampong Cham province of Cambodia. He studied Russian and French literature and civilisation and obtained Masters in Pedagogy and Science of Education and Training. He held several positions in SIPAR before becoming its Director in 2004. He is also President of the Cambodian Library Association and Member of the Board of Directors of several NGOs working in Cambodia for the promotion of education and culture.

Abandoned by his mother, Chris is lonely and distraught. Thankfully, the boulevard is not far away, and with it, there are cars, a flea market and a bowling alley. In this unusual universe, he meets people who become the family he does not have. For Chris, this is the beginning of an adventure that helps him to better accept his intellectual disabilities and to claim his right to happiness.

Originally an anthropologist, Jean François Sénéchal is now a writer, editor and screenwriter. His children’s works include: *Le cri de Léa* (*Lea's cries*, 2013), which received the Prix Jeunesse des libraires du Québec; *Feu* (*Fire*, 2014), which received the Prix du Gouverneur général / Jeunesse – texte; *L’enquête secrète de la ruelle* (*The secret quest in the alley*, 2015), which received the Prix Jeunesse des librairies du Québec. His most recent book is *L’enquête secrète du trésor perdu* (*The secret quest for the lost treasure*, 2017). *Le boulevard* was a finalist for the Prix du livre jeunesse des Bibliothèques de Montréal (2017) and a finalist for the Prix Adolecteurs de la Librairie Monet (2017).

In Chile, during the student movement in 2006, 35 high school students of a small private school south of the Alameda in Santiago decide to take over their school in solidarity with the public schools seeking better state education. Soon the classrooms, the yard and even the students all seem different when confronted with the student movement. Nicolás, the goalkeeper of the school’s football team, becomes bored with the student meetings and assemblies. He decides to write a diary of the events of the takeover. The text and pictures combine to create a suspenseful story.

Claudia Larraguibel (pen name Lola Larra) was born in Santiago and grew up in Caracas, Venezuela. She currently lives in Santiago and heads the small children’s literature publishing house, Ekaré Sur. Claudia Larraguibel worked for many years as a journalist in Madrid for newspapers and magazines, including *El País*, *Cinemanía*, *Rolling Stone* and *Vogue*. She has published short stories, chronicles and novels such as *Reir como ellos* (*Laugh like them*, 2004), *Reglas de Caballería* (*Rules of cavalry*, 2006), *Donde nunca es invierno* (*Where it is never winter*, 2008), *Puesta en escena* (*Staging*, 2010) and *Al sur de la Alameda* (*South of the Alameda*, 2015). *Al sur de la Alameda* has received various awards including the Premio Municipal de Santiago and Los mejores del Banco del libro y premio Cuatrogatos, and was selected for the 2014 White Ravens catalogue.

Li Weiyi, although a role model, protested at the cruelty and unfairness in his school but at times chose to yield and tolerate humiliation to protect his friends. He was suspicious that his best friend Lao Ba had been hiding a secret from him. He sensed something more significant when Lao Ba told him that his secret involved a lost diary that was disguised as a songbook. If it fell to the hands of wrong people, they could use it to incriminate his family for their crimes. To help Lao Ba and his family avoid this disastrous situation, Li Weiyi asked his friends for help to locate the diary. *Xiao Qing Chun* is imbued with the author’s real experience and memories of the Cultural Revolution. The book presents a graphic account of Shanghai city life in the 1960s.

Qin Wenjun was born in Shanghai in 1954 and has been a writer, editor and publisher of children’s literature in China for over 35 years. Her series of novels about schoolboy Jia Li and schoolgirl Jia Mei, the first of which was published in 1991 in serial form in the *Ju Ren* magazine, were regarded as innovative and enlightened. The resulting novel, *Jia Li in Junior High* (1991), has sold over three million copies and was made into a film, a TV series, a stage play and a radio play. Other well-known works include *Dear 16-Year-Old Me: Up to the Mountains in Northeast China* (*1988*), *Prince’s Long Night* (*2012*) and *Aroma’s Little Garden* (*2016*). In addition to writing, editing, and publishing, Qin Wenjun is also an activist for children’s literature and reading. For many years she has served as the President of the China-Japan Children’s Literature & Fine Arts Exchange Association. Qin Wenjun was a candidate for the 2018 Hans Christian Andersen Award.

**Qin Wenjun**

**Xiao Qing Chun** (Youthful moments)

ill. Hua Zhang

Beijing: CCPPG, 2017

175pp; 155x230mm

ISBN 978-7-5148-3767-4, Ages: 7-10

Diary, Cultural Revolution

**Diary, Cultural Revolution**

**Qin Wenjun**

**Xiao Qing Chun** (Youthful moments)

ill. Hua Zhang

Beijing: CCPPG, 2017

175pp; 155x230mm

ISBN 978-7-5148-3767-4, Ages: 7-10

Diary, Cultural Revolution
Claudia is a twelve-year-old girl living with her family in Arrayanes, a tropical Colombian town. The peaceful life of this community changes as its inhabitants have to deal everyday with the violent acts of a group of armed men. Claudia’s First Communion is affected by violence, bringing about hopelessness and resignation among the people. Bajo la luna de mayo is a beautifully-crafted story that describes the horror of Colombian armed conflict with optimism and humour.

Gerardo Meneses Claros has published around 20 books, mainly for children and young adults, which have been published in Colombia and several other Latin American countries. His works have won many prizes including Barco de Vapor Colombia, been awarded by La Secretaría de Educación Pública de México, the National Prize of Children’s Literature, and the Fonculturape prize (young adult and children’s literature). Bajo la luna de mayo was one of the finalists for the Premio Norma de Literatura Infantil y Juvenil 2016.

Un poco un todo tells the story of a child … a small child. As the story progresses the reader and the child experience fear, discover music, word games, the magic of great-grandmothers and numbers, lies and even the precise place in the body to find the ‘soul’. The reader and the child grow and discover that in life the secret is to enjoy some of everything.

Camila Schumacher was born in Argentina but moved to Costa Rica at the age of 12. She is a journalist, writer and teacher and has written scripts for short films, educational programmes and radio programmes. Her works include poetry, stories and plays.

Mali ratnik is a novel about four high school students in Zagreb. The friends meet a man from South Korea who is an expert in making virtual films and who opened his Virtual Studio in Zagreb. He wants to make a virtual film based on the famous battle fought by the local ruler Nikola Šubić Zrinski, who managed to defeat the Ottoman army when it attacked the town of Szigetvar in 1566. The four teenagers help to find the necessary information about the battle. The Korean expert invents a helmet with sensors, which helps one of the boys, Daniel, to imagine being in the midst of the besieged town. Daniel helps defend Szigetvar and meets a girl with whom he falls in love. We discover Daniel's virtual experiences with first love and the horrors of war, as well as the everyday real experiences of the high school students, their family relationships and how they deal with personal issues.

Tihomir Horvat was born in 1946 in Zagreb. He majored in Chemistry and, alongside his regular job, writes short fiction for children, novels, plays, radio plays and more. His texts appear in Croatian school textbooks and the Croatian Literary Encyclopedia. He has won several literary awards, including the Mato Lovrak Literary Award for Frika u Sitiarjevu (Snort in Šišarjevo, 1998), the Gngor Vitez Award for his novel Legenda o božićnom licitaru (The legend of the Christmas gingerbread, 2002), and the Anto Gardaš Award for Pustolovine puha Ocjija i djevojci Tonke (The adventures of Oci the dormouse and Tonka the girl, 2011). Mali ratnik won the Croatian Writers’ Association contest for the best manuscript in the children and young adult category in 2016.

Anna Kouppanou was born in Cyprus in 1979. She studied at the University of Cyprus and received her PhD in Philosophy of Education from Institute of Education, UCL in London. She has worked as a primary school teacher and as a coordinator for the implementation of the Literature Curriculum in Primary Education. She is currently a postdoctoral research fellow at the University of Cyprus. She teaches philosophy, children’s literature and creative writing and is interested in questions of literacy. She was honoured with the Cyprus State Award for Young Literature in 2010 for her book, The Argonauts of Time. In 2015, she received the same award for her book, I apistetí apokalipsi tou Sebastian Montefiore, which also received the Angnostis Award for Children’s Literature in Greece and the IBBY Cyprus Award in 2016.
As things get older what was once shiny and new now seems old and useless. Who is to blame? Well, living somewhere in our midst are little creatures who make all this ageing their business. One day, Typo, who specializes in printing errors in books, learns that when things get spoiled or old, people often are not happy about it. So, he sets out on a journey of adventure to the 'Ravages of Time' to try to bring ageing to an end.

Barbora Klárová began writing naïve poems, which were published in the anthologies Slova (Words) and Slova a slůvka (Words and little words) in 1999 and 2000. She also began to write short stories, which together with her poems were published in the well-known Czech literary magazine Dívoké víno. Her short novel, Kustodka Květa (Květa the Custodian, 2014) won a prize in the Medardo Ángel Silva Contest sponsored by the Ecuadorian National Council of Culture in 2006. Un marciano en la oreja (A Martian in the ear) is her first book for children, won the XXXIV Contest of Literature for Young People in 2016.

Hanne Kvist, born 1961, is an illustrator and a writer for children and adults. In her books, she investigates relationships between people and between people and animals. She deals with topics such as loneliness and being outside the community, and often narrates with the voice of the smallest one. She is skilled at capturing an atmosphere, a feeling and expressing it both visually and textual languages. This is not a picture book and not a graphic novel; it is a bilingual visual and textual languages. This is not a picture book and not a graphic novel; it is a bilingual visual and textual languages. This is not a picture book and not a graphic novel; it is a bilingual visual and textual languages.

A small grey rat and her large grey friend, Wilbert, are playing hide-and-seek. Wilbert is tough to find, so the rat asks a passing crocodile for help. Together, they hunt behind every tree they can see until finally, the rat spots Wilbert. But the crocodile can’t see Wilbert — even though he is a hippopotamus and he is standing right in front of them. Why not? With minimal text, spare design, and laconic style, the story introduces a big idea: that we all see the world differently, and sometimes we cannot see what is right in front of us.

Bárður Oskarsson is a Faroese author and illustrator, born in 1972. He published his first book in 2004 and has since enjoyed great success. His books include Flata kaninin (The flat rabbit, 2011), Stríðið um tað góða grasið (The battle for the good grass, 2012) and Traðið (The tree, 2017). His books have been included in the White Ravens catalogue in 2006, 2013 and 2016 and have won prizes from the Nordic Council and the Faroese Children’s Literature Award. They have also been nominated for the Nordic Council Children and Young People’s Literature Prize.
Tata, the duck, is born in the autumn in a forest in the north. Tata saves her family from the cunning fox but injures her wing in the struggle. She meets a young girl who also has a ‘broken wing’ and this meeting leaves the two creatures changed forever.

Born in Cairo in 1941, and earning a PhD in mass communications from Cairo University in 1996, Affaf Tobbala worked for television in various capacities, as a producer, director and screenwriter. In 2005, she collaborated with a renowned painter, Adly Rizkallah, to produce her first book Al-samaka Al-faddia (The silver fish), which received national and international recognition. Since 2005, she has published 14 more books for children, experimenting with different forms for different age groups and collaborating with many illustrators. Her books have gone on to win the Sheikh Zayed Award and the Eit salat Award and she was the Egyptian nominee for the 2016 Hans Christian Andersen Award.

Kaisa’s mother died when she was very young. One day, her father decides to find a new wife. Kaisa is glad and wants to help him. Together they draft a list of qualities a candidate should possess and post it on the Internet. Although the candidates meet all the requirements, the women still turn out to be unsuitable when they actually meet – something always seems wrong with each one. Kaisa’s father is disappointed and wants to abandon the plan, but then he meets someone special. Kuidas mu isa endale uue naise sai (How my dad got a new wife) tells the story about a child’s life with a single parent, relationships and love.

Reeli Reinaus was born in Keila in 1977, and currently lives in Tartu. She graduated from the Tartu Academy of Theology, and received a MA in Estonian and comparative folklore from the Tartu Academy of Theology, and received a MA in Estonian and comparative folklore from the Tartu Academy of Theology. She is a folklorist and writer. Since 2005, she has written 14 more books, primarily for children, but also poems and novels. She was nominated for the Nordic Council Children and Young People’s Literature Prize twice: for her debut title Tinka ja Taika (Tinka and Taika, 2011) and also for Maan alaiset (The secret underneath) (2013) together with Karoliina Sandelin. She has also written Potatisens dröm (Potato’s dream, 2016), Råttan Bettan och grannarna (2009) and Yokos nattbok (Yoko’s night diary, 2014) and Businnan blir kär (Businnan falls in love, 2011), Businnan (2009) and Milja och gramman (Milja and the neighbours, 2006). She studied creative writing at Åbo Akademi University in Turku and in addition to writing, works as a children’s librarian.

At Yoko’s eleventh birthday party, she realizes that her mother is the most embarrassing person on the planet. Yoko’s dad is sweet, but when he cooks sausages until they explode all her classmates laugh and Yoko secretly wishes to disappear. Yoko writes about everything in her diary. We get to know Yoko’s best friend Anna, who is so mad at her parents that she plans to move back to China from where she is adopted. The cool girls in class have started to wear make-up, and on top of everything Daniel, a boy in her class, starts texting her. Pinsamt och livsviktigt is the second book in a series of stories about Yoko that discuss important topics such as family and friendship with a humorous undertone.

Annika Sandelin, born 1972, published her first book Dikter om öden och döden (Thoughts about fate and death) in 1999. Since then she has published many books, primarily for children, but also poems and novels. She was nominated for the Finnish YA Society’s Arvid Lydecken Prize twice: for her debut title Tinka ja Taika (Tinka and Taika, 2011) and also for Maan alaiset. She has also won the Finnish MAAMAA Association’s Juvenile Literature Award twice: for her debut title Tinka ja Taika and also for Maan alaiset, which was also nominated for the Finlandia Award for the Best Children’s & Young Adult Book in 2016. Her other titles include: Tuppy ja muriseva mörkö (Tuppy and a growling bogeyman, 2016), Tuppy ja topakka tonttu (Tuppy and a gutsy elf, 2015), Tinka ja Taika – kielletty metsä (Tinka and Taika – forbidden forest, 2015), Tinka ja Taika – noidanruo- hon salaisuus (Tinka and Taika – secret of the witch grass, 2013).
Sauveur is a psychotherapist, the widowed father of Lazarus, 8 years old. Lazarus has an unfortunate tendency to listen behind the doors during his father’s consultations. Children, teenagers (and their parents) from the whole neighbourhood visit Sauveur’s practice, knotted from the inside and in often distress. Sauveur tries to patiently untie the threads of their distress. These deeply wounded and profoundly human characters all aim to find a better life for themselves and Sauveur is there to guide them. But while trying to solve the problems of others, Sauveur tends to forget his own... Sauveur et fils is the first in a series of three novels.

Marie-Aude Murail was born 1954 in Le Havre. She studied literature at the Sorbonne University where her doctoral thesis was about the adaptation of classic novels for young readers. At 23 she started writing romances for women’s magazines and eight years later she published her first novel for adults. In 1987, her first children’s novel, Mystère (Mystery), was published and from then on, she devoted herself to writing for children and young people. Marie-Aude Murail has a gift for creating characters that have a special bond with the reader. Her novels explore various themes of politics, history, love, adventure and fantasy and have been translated into more than 22 languages. She has been awarded most French prizes in the field of children’s books; the story Miss Charity (2008) was included in the 2010 IBBY Honour List. She was nominated for the Hans Christian Andersen Award in 1996 and 1998 and was a Finalist in 2018. In 2004, she was nominated by the critics’ jury and the young adult jury for the Deutscher Jugendliteraturpreis. Vierzehn was a Finalist in 2018. In 2004, she was the Hans Christian Andersen Award in 1996 and 2010 IBBY Honour List. She was nominated for 

Beh is 14 years old and the summer holidays are over. It is the first day of school again and she has missed out on a lot of things, including last year’s class trip, because she was ill. What is it like after so many weeks – time that seems like an eternity after so many weeks – time that seems like an eternity? What does it feel like when your life seems to be moving forward at full force, your parents are in the middle of a divorce, your father is starting a new family, and then you fall in love for the first time? Tamara Bach speaks directly to the reader and describes a single day in the life of Beh in this short novel.

Some parts of the story remain unspoken or open-ended. It is up to the reader to fill in these blanks. Tamara Bach portrays Beh’s experiences, expectations and fears in a marvellously simple but poetic language, that is both reticent and at the same time authentic in its expression of Beh’s perceptions and feelings. It is rare for a novel to be able to capture so well the cares, troubles and hopes that come with being fourteen.

Tamara Bach was born in 1976 in Limburg an der Lahn in Hesse. In 2004, she was awarded the Deutscher Jugendliteraturpreis for her first book Marsmädchen (Girl from Mars). She was also short-listed for the same prize in 2005 for Busfahrt mit Kuhn (Road Trip with Kuhn).

Her novella, Was vom Sommer übrig ist, was selected for the White Ravens catalogue and won the 2013 Deutscher Jugendliteraturpreis and the 2013 Katholische Kinder- und Jugendbuchpreis. Vierzehn was nominated by the critics’ jury and the young adult jury for the Deutscher Jugendliteraturpreis 2017. Tamara Bach lives and writes in Berlin.

Gizo-Gizol Tatsuniya daga Tafkin Zongo is the story of three friends: the spider, the turtle and the crab. The animals live near a river that feeds the lagoon, from which they get their food. One of the animals, the spider, decides to go and mine gold from the river. Consequently, the lagoon gets polluted, the life in it dies and spider also becomes sick. When he recovers he realises his mistake and cleans up the lagoon. The lagoon comes back to life and all the animals are happy again.

Emily Williamson is an Anthropology PhD student at Boston University, a cultural heritage consultant, and has taught landscape architecture at Rhode Island School of Design. She holds an MSc in Architectural Studies from MIT, an M.Arch degree from the University of Virginia and an undergraduate degree in Education and Art from Colby College. Working as an activist and designer, she works closely with communities to improve their quality of life through creative design strategies, one of which is the Zongo Story Project. In a series of educational workshops, she worked with the students and teachers of the Hass niyya Quranic School in Cape Coast to write Gizo-Gizol Tatsuniya daga Tafkin Zongo in English and Hausa.

Manthos is a fourteen-year-old Athenian who is forced to suddenly leave his old life to follow his family to another city where his mother has found work. There he must go to a new school, make new friends and adapt to a new life that is far from the capital.

Over time, Manthos reconciles with his new reality. He recognizes his mistakes and accepts the diversity of the ‘others’. He puts aside his xenophobia and stereotypes and ultimately, through conflicts, controversy and constant confrontation with himself and with other people around him, matures. In this process, he benefits from the unrestricted love of his parents, the warm embrace of his grandmother, his new friends, the wise Effichis and his beloved teacher, Mrs Apergi.

Anna Kondoleon studied acting and drama and works as a drama teacher, translator and writer. Since 2015 she lives and works at Chania (Crete), where she runs a creative playground. Her other works for children include: Enas planitis sto plintrio (A planet in the washing machine, 2000), E efta zoes tu Kompu (The seven lives of Kombos, 2011), Pu pai e agape otan hanete (Where does love go when it gets lost? 2014), Prigias simeni Amir (Prince means Amir, 2016) and Fevgi erhete (Leaves come, 2017).
This is a very simple poetry book with a special rhythm about the joy of painting—a popular subject in a country with so many street painters. The child dreams about painting houses where each brick is a different colour, but the roofs are all the same; about painting each wing of the bird a vivid colour; painting a garden of flowers, carnival masks. He also dreams of a giant street painting in which all children are invited to come with small buckets and small brooms to join in the painting.

Joslin Twouyo is the pen name of Jocelyne Trouillot. She has published more than 75 titles for children. Some are series (Gougou, Fifi, Jennjan) and some are for very young children. She is a strong advocate of Creole, which is the language of all Haitian children—French is spoken by only 10% of the population. Her stories also address the issue of girls in society: 10% of the population. Her stories also address the issue of girls in society: 10% of the population.

Lévy Ambroise, Marie Claude
La balade de Petit Pois Congo
(The wanderings of a Congo Bean)
Ill. Jimmy Pierre
Port au Prince: Editions CUC Université Caraïbe, 2017 [16pp]; 135x180mm
Poetry, painting

A small bean was bought with other beans at a farmers’ market. He started wondering about his future and suddenly understood that he might end up in a casseolle with his friends. So he did everything he could to distract the cooks. La balade de Petit Pois Congo is the story of his crazy exploits.

Marie Claude Ambroise Lévy lives partly in Canada and partly in her native country, Haiti. She is a former teacher and the author of six children’s books: Qui va tirer mon traineau? (Who will pull my sled), Les lunettes de Mammie (Gran-ny’s glasses), Le voyage de Maxi (Maxi’s journey), Maxi ... tap tap, La petite cirque (The little circus). Four of her books have been translated into Haitian Creole.

Everybody has an imaginary friend, even if they do not realise it: someone who we bother with questions, in a low voice while in our quiet rooms. The one who keeps us strong and takes the blame for us, who keeps talking in our heads when we are alone. But how does this imaginary friend, this someone, see us? What does he think of our parents? How does he feel when he has a rival in the shape of a real friend? The author of Dettikéról és más istenekről plays with these questions in her absurd and fresh story.

Dóra Elekes is an author and translator. She studied English and Hungarian Language and Literature at the Károli Gáspár University and then completed a PhD in Comparative Literature at the Eötvös Loránt University in 2003. She has written literature for young adults including A muter meg a dzsinnek (Mother and the Ginns, 2015), which addressed the difficult subject of living with an alcoholic parent. It was selected as Children’s Book of the Year in 2015 and included in the 2016 White Ravens catalogue. Dettikéről és más istenekről was selected as Children’s Book of the Year in 2016. In 2010 she received the IBBY-Hungarian Section Translators Award for her translation of Kipling’s Just So Stories. Dóra Elekes has also translated works for adults by authors such as Martin Amis, Agatha Christie, Margaret Atwood and Colm Toibin.
Djokolelono was born in 1944. He started to write stories during his high school years and continued when he was a student of Astronomy in the Bandung Institute of Technology. His science fiction series for children were created while watching the universe at the Bosscha Observatory. In this genre, he has written among others: Getaran (Vibration, 1972), Jatuh ke Matahari (Falling into the sun, 1976), Bintang Hitam (Black hole, 1981). He spent many years as a creative director in several international advertising agency offices in Jakarta. In his spare time he still wrote and translated books. He has written or translated 40 titles and continues to write – his Penjelajah Antariksa series has now reached its seventh episode.

The Penjelajah Antariksa series takes place in outer space, where a renegade general, General Roon, has occupied the uncharted prison planet of Kunin. He has converted Kunin into a stronghold for his armed forces, relying on the help of the planet inhabitants who are former convicts. These Kuniners, however, had their own agenda. Lead by Rahi, a die-hard convict, they plan to overthrow the General’s armed forces. Meanwhile, the High Commander in Starx has sent Expedition X to finally terminate the General. Several forces are now converging on Kunin: the armada of Expedition X, the comet Hiqxa, the indigenous people of Kunin and the armed forces of General Roon. The planet is explosive!

Melati is the story of a young girl who has lived on her own since her mother died when she was ten years old. Her father left when she was a baby. Melati’s neighbour, Cik Lili, who knew her mother, has a small shop. Her friendship with Cik Lili has given Melati a chance to learn many things. Cik Lili is keeping her busy everyday and teaching her how to save money bit by bit, in order to start a shop of her own. Melati still feels her mother’s energy; she writes her mother letters to let her know how her life is going on and what she is doing. This is a story of friendship, perseverance and hope.

Galuh Larasati is a private English teacher and writer of children’s books in Indonesian and Javanese. She previously worked in the tourist industry for twelve years. This is her first novel and is part of her informal education project. She is an active member of Society for the Advancement of Children’s Literature in Yogyakarta in Central Java.

Kunin Bergolak (lagi) (Violence in Kunin (again))

Djokolelono

INDONESIA (Indonesian) 32

KPG, 2016

33pp; 205x205mm


Family, friendship

Ziba (a name that means beautiful) is a young girl who lives in an orphanage. After many years of separation Ziba’s father calls her and asks her to help him. On her birthday, she helps her father run away from the mental hospital where he has been living, so the two of them can celebrate her birthday together. Ziba begins to realise how much her father is psychologically unbalanced. He looks at her with eyes full of fear, rage, and uses a lot of words and arguments. His eyes are as scary as Ziba’s childhood was. Nonetheless, unlike the other children in the dormitory, Ziba loves her father and he loves her. Ziba and her father need each other, even if he sometimes is a monster...

Farhad Hassanzadeh was born in 1962 in Abadan. During the Iran-Iraq war, Abadan became a war zone and many had to abandon the town. After leaving Abadan and going through many jobs, he was finally able to engage in his chosen career of creative writing. His diverse experiences have enabled him to create a broad spectrum of characters, circumstances and locations and he writes for various age groups. He has written about the effects of war on civilians, migration and vagrancy, teenage love, children in shantytowns, teenagers’ special worlds, marginalized or fringe characters, social taboos, as well as different geographical regions and areas. His best known works include the short story collection Kenare Daryache Nimkate Haftom (The seventh bench on the lake, 2006), and Hasti (2010) as well as the children’s book Gheshaye Kooti (Kooti tales, 2014). He was a finalist for the 2018 Hans Christian Andersen Award.

The Powers

Kevin Stevens

IRELAND (English) 35

Dublin: Little Island Books, 2016

248pp; 130x198mm

ISBN 978-1-910411-34-6, Ages: 15+

Music, violence, bullying, Islam

Tariq is beset by danger on the streets and conflict at home. Music is his only consolation. When he forms a new friendship with an intriguing, but volatile, record-store owner, Tariq discovers the world of jazz and the man he could become. The violence that has long threatened finally erupts and things suddenly clarify for Tariq. He takes the ultimate risk – not on behalf of his friend but on behalf of his enemy – and the disparate worlds of modern America and traditional Islam come together in an unexpected and gripping resolution. Peace and violence, faith and mistrust, thriller and literary fiction – this is a story of a young man caught between two worlds.

Kevin Stevens grew up in Great Falls, Montana, USA before moving with his family to Ireland in 1972. His first book for younger teens, This Ain’t No Video Game Kid (2010), was followed by his first book for children, The Powers (2013), which was chosen for the Dublin UNESCO Citywide Read in 2014. The adventures of the Power family continue in Pucker Power (2015). A Lonely Note is his first novel for young adults. He also writes for adults and contributes regularly to The Irish Times and the Dublin Review of Books.
Centre for Poetry in Queen's University in Belfast.

Children's Writing Fellow at the Seamus Heaney Awards and the Réics Carló Awards in 2016. In the Children's Books Ireland Book of the Year and features on the shortlist for the Literacy Association has received widespread acclaim featuring the characters, Cormac and Brídín, was shortlisted for the 2012 Book of the Year.

Máire Zepf's first book for children, Tubaiste ar an Titanic (Disaster on the Titanic, 2012) was shortlisted for the 2012 Book of the Year. Lá leis na Lochlannaigh (A day with the Vikings, 2016) and – The Story of Mahatma Gandhi (2007), – The Story of Martin Luther King (2011), and Aftershock (2015) and ll ritorno di Cantalamappa (The imperfect hero, 2008) and Difendere la Terra di Mezzo, (Defending Middle-Earth, 2016) were the elements of a summer during which the children discover once and for all the evils of life. The spectre seeks revenge and by doing so steals the boys' childhood innocence. A pair of very blond twins, an Arab and a little bear do when they are twelve years old.

It is England in the 1930s, a time of freedom and endless summer days in the countryside for the three brothers Julius, Ariadne, Fedro and their cousin. A time of scuffles, of a tree house and its treasures and of their friendship with war hero Ned, who is a rare example of an adult who knows how relate to youth. One day an ancient tomb is violated and a ghost returns to haunt the dreams of the four boys. The spectre seeks revenge and by doing so steals the boys' childhood innocence. A pair of very blond twins, an Arab and a little bear do when they are twelve years old.

This is a biography of Nelson Mandela, who fought all of his life for equality in South Africa. Because of his views, he was jailed and imprisoned for 27 years. His struggle gained worldwide support and when he was released from jail, the laws discriminating against black people were revoked and Mandela was elected to serve as President of South Africa in 1994.

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Tamar Verete-Zehavi studied education, psychology and psychoanalysis at the University of Paris VII in France, where she received a PhD for her study of socio-political images in children. She has worked for many years in Education-for-Tolerance between Jews and Arabs. Together with Abedalsalam Yunis she has published two bilingual books and won the Jerusalem Foundation Award for Furthering Tolerance. Her other books for young adults include Aftershock (2007), Juggling in Jerusalem (2008), Gandhi – The Story of Mahatma Gandhi (2011), Martin – The Story of Martin Luther King (2011) and Wangari – The Story of Wangari Maathai (2013).

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Federico Guglielmi was born in Ravenna and now lives in Bologna. He is one of the four members of Wu Ming 4 Foundation, which is a collective of writers based in Italy. He has devoted many writings to J.R.R. Tolkien including a novel entitled Stella del mattino (Morning star, 2008). He has also written two essays L'eroe imperfetto, (The imperfect hero, 2008) and Difendere la Terra di Mezzo, (Defending Middle-Earth, 2013). His novels for children written with the Wu Ming Foundation include Cantalamappa (2015) and il ritorno di Cantalamappa (The return of Cantalamappa, 2016).

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This novel starts in the early 1900s when Japan forcibly colonized Korea. It is a coming-of-age story of two girls, Soo-nam and Chae-ryung. Although they come from completely different class backgrounds, both experience extreme turmoil all through their lives. Soo-nam is a poor girl who doesn’t have any relatives to depend on. Each time she stands on the crossroads of life, she boldly chooses the dangerous and demanding way, believing she could go farther and further. Chae-ryung is an intelligent and brave girl, who helplessly breaks down in the face of the national tragedy and unfair reality. The story follows the lives of these girls not just in Korea but also in Japan (Kyoto, China (Manchuria and Shanghai) and in the USA (San Francisco).

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Lee Geum-yi, acclaimed as 'the most sincere story teller of our generation', was born in 1962, in the small town of Chungbuk. She started her career as an author in 1984, when her short story Youngu and Heukku received the Saebet Literary Award. From then she has published about 60 books. Keundori of Bamtee Town was listed as one of the ‘Ten Representative Juvenile Literatures of Korea’ in 1994. Her book, You, too are a wheel lily (1999) was popular with both children and adults. In 2004 her work, Yujin and Yujin, was one of the first Korean teen novels dealing with contemporary adolescents’ lives. Yujin and Yujin has been translated and published in France and China. Geogi, Naega Gamyeon Andwayeo? is the story of her life that took over ten years to complete.

The main character of this poetry collection is Dad, but which Dad is it? The one who stays at home with his son while Mom is out at work, or the aggressive driver? The poetry of Kārlis Vērdiņš can sound both ironic and loving when he writes about a family’s everyday life. The poems challenge readers to rethink traditional social roles and make both children and adults laugh.

Kārlis Vērdiņš was born in 1979 in Riga. He graduated in cultural theory from the Latvian Academy of Culture and received a PhD in Literature from the University of Latvia in 2009. He has been working at the Institute of Literature, Folklore and Art of the University of Latvia since 2007 and since 2016, he has been a PhD student in Comparative Literature at Washington University in St. Louis, USA. He is the author of four poetry collections for adults. His poems have been translated and included in Russian, Czech and English collections. His poem Come to Me was included in the Fifty Greatest Modern Love Poems list, chosen by jury at the London Southbank Centre in 2014. He received the Poetry Day’s Prize 2008 for the best poetry collection of the year and Latvian Annual Literary Award in 2007 and 2015. He has written two poetry books for children: Burtiņu zupa (Alphabet Soup, 2007) and Tētis, for which he received the Jānis Baltviks Prize for Children’s Literature in 2016.

Alge, the main character, feels different from her peers. She is introverted and self-conscious, she has no best friend and her life is dull and boring. So, in her imagination, Alge creates an alternative to her unexciting reality. Wondering what others might be thinking and inventing things that could happen, are this teen’s idea of fun. In her favourite coffee shop, she notices a woman who always buys two cups of coffee, but drinks just one. The rejected cup reveals the secret of the Eids. The Eids are creatures of the Intermediary World, perfect humans rushing to the aid of the people of Earth.

Ilona Ezerinytė, born 1964, studied Lithuanian language and literature in Sauliai University. In 1999 she moved to Vilnius and has been working as a teacher ever since. She began writing late in life, but her first two books have already received recognition. Šunojaus diena (The dog day, 2016), her first fairy tale book, won her the first place in the National Children’s Literature Competition. Her second book Sutikti eidą (Meeting an Eid) was among the top three books in the Young Adult Literature Competition and was awarded the prize for the Best Book for Children and Young Adults of 2016.
Teo, a twelve-year-old boy, arrives on an island to stay with his uncle Alejandro after the death of his parents. Teo stops having the hallucinating dreams that have plagued him in the past. This island is a refuge for the Creoles, but they have to live confined in the North because the islanders control all life on the island. When a Creole girl who is a blue-haired witch arrives, Teo becomes infatuated with her and he begins to live in two worlds. His parents, sister and brother, as well as a collection of poems about family members: mother, father, grandparents, and brother, as well as a collection of poems about traditional literary characters such as the Steadfast Tin Soldier, Cinderella, Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs, Winnie-the-Pooh and others. Another collection contains poems about animals, fruits and vegetables. Vasile Romanciuc encourages children to discover the beauty of the world through poetry that is full of wonderful metaphors.

Vasile Romanciuc was born in Bădăcși Noi, Edineț district in 1947. He graduated from Philology at the State University of Moldova. He is a poet and publishes for children and adults. His poetry, based on folklore, is profoundly sentimental and lyrical. Among his best-known books for children are Dacă ai un prieten (If you have a friend, 1983), Mama coase-o florica (Mother sewing a flower, 1987), Doi iei (Two kids, 1990), Ursul cu trei ochi (Giant with three eyes, 1991), Ursul – dirijor (Bear – conductor, 1992), Povestile lui Ion Creangă (Ion Creangă’s fairy tales, 1996), Floarea zburtoare (Flying flower, 1998), Toate întâmpinările se prefăc în cuvinte (All happenings turn into words, 2000), Capilul cu aripi de carte (The child with book-wings, 2006), O fumică în bibliotecă (An ant in the library, 2007), De ce plânge clovnul? (Why is the clown crying? 2000) and Am un nume frumos (I have a beautiful name, 2013).

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When men started to use stones as a weapon, people began hunting deer for food. These ancient people chased three beautiful deer through the forest. As the three deer were about to be caught, they flew into the sky to become the stars of Orion. However, three times the deer returned to Earth as they hoped that life on Earth would be peaceful and safe again. Unfortunately, each time they returned, people were more advanced in their use of weapons. So the deer had to leave their beloved Mother Earth. All three deer were injured and from Earth they look red and shiny like blood. This fable raises concern for peace and encourages the reader to reflect on the future of our planet.

Dashondog Jamba was born 1941 in Bureg- khangai soum in Bulgan Province and died in June 2017. He wrote in many literature genres including poems, stories, picture books and non-fiction and also works for stage and screen. His works present a fullness of intellectual richness, creativity, and fruitful thinking and passion. Through many of his stories, he calls for humankind to be peaceful and to care and respect each other; to love nature and the environment, while at the same time introducing Mongolian traditional nomadic culture. His best known works include Smart boy (1958), Father, mother and I (1971), Tales on horseback (1999), Stone legends (2000), Camel with seven humps (2002) and Altan Kourash (The golden neighbour, 2003). He has been named Mongolian honorary writer and won the Literature Award twice. His Mobile Library project won the 2006 IBBY-Asahi Reading Promotion Award and he was nominated for the Hans Christian Andersen Award in 2010 and 2018.

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Tjie is a shy boy who enjoys being outdoors and loves animals. When his parents find work in the city, the family moves there during the summer. The move turns Tjie’s life upside down. With both of his parents working full time, he gets a house key of his own. But nothing seems to be as simple as it used to be; the boy is often alone and he does not share his parents’ dreams and values. Making new friends is difficult and he misses the countryside, his old neighbours and their animals. Then he meets Tseard, a drifter who lives on a ramshackle boat with his pet rat. Just like Tjie, Tseard struggles to find his way in life but he has an upbeat, positive attitude and faces any problems with a smile. By the end of the summer, Tjie realises that Tseard keeps an important secret of his own. Can they still be friends?

Mirjam van Houten was born in 1977 and grew up in the Frisian village of Beetstersweach. She went on to study Dutch in Leeuwarden. In 2011, she decided to focus completely on illustrating and writing. When Frisian publisher Afoûk called for authors and illustrators for It Grutte Voor (The Great Book of Stories), she sent in her manuscript. It was published and it was an instant success, winning the 2009 edition of the White Ravens catalogue. The story resembles the post-apocalyptic horror comic series, The Walking Dead, but has a unique blend of love, friendship and sorrow.

Barney Kettle knew he would be a very famous film director one day. He was already an actual director – he’d made four fifteen-minute films – but so far only his schoolmates and the residents of the High Street had viewed them. Global fame was a little way off. It would come, though. Barney was certain about that... So begins the manuscript written from the hospital bed of an unnamed man. He has written it over many months as he recovers from serious injuries sustained in a citywide catastrophe. He has written so he can remember the street where he lived, home to a cavalcade of interesting people, singular shops, and curious stories. He has written so he can remember the summer before he was injured, the last days of a vanished world. Above all, he has written it to remember the inimitable Barney Kettle, filmmaker, part-time dictator, questing brain, theatrical friend; a boy who loved to invent stories but found a real one under his nose; a boy who explored his neighbourhood with camera in hand and stumbled on a mystery that changed everything...  

Kate De Goldi is one of New Zealand’s most loved authors, whose short fiction, novels and picture books engage children, teenagers and adults alike. Her books include The ABC with Honora Lee (2012), The 10pm Question (2008) and Sanctuary (1996). The 10pm Question won Book of the Year and Best Young Adult Fiction in the 2009 New Zealand Post Children’s and Young Adults’ Book Awards, was a runner-up in the 2009 Montana NZ Book Awards, and won the Readers’ Choice Award. It was selected for the 2009 edition of the White Ravens catalogue and the 2010 IBBY Honour List.

I morgen er alt mørkt: Marlens histoire (Tomorrow all will be darkness) was published in 2010 and is the last book of the series both perspectives offer different angles of the ordeals that the two children face. The story resembles the post-apocalyptic horror comic series, The Walking Dead, and the apocalyptic horror novel, World War Z, but has an epidemic spreading throughout the world reaches the quiet streets of Norway. A young girl named Marlen watches as the world she knows collapses. The fight to keep humanity in the face of the inhumanities that occur, embraces everything: love, friendship, family – everything is tested in the need to survive. Through a series of three books the story is told from different perspectives. The first book is told from the perspective of Brages, in this second book, Marlen, his classmate, tells the story. In the last book of the series both perspectives offer different angles of the ordeals that the two children face. The story resembles the post-apocalyptic horror comic series, The Walking Dead, and the apocalyptic horror novel, World War Z, but has a unique blend of love, friendship and sorrow.

Sigbjørn Mostue was born in 1969 and lives just outside Oslo. He has previously worked as an editor, but is now a full-time writer. His first book in 2005 was Gravbyggen våker (Awakening of the ancient tomb) is a blend of fantasy and Norwegian myths. It became an instant success, and was followed with more books in the series. The fantasy series Den siste magiker (The last magician) was published in 2010 and became hugely popular. In 2012, he started writing for adults and published a crime series with co-writer Johnny Brenna. In 2014, the first of the books in the series I morgen er alt mørkt was published and it was an instant success, winning the Norwegian Youth Literature Award, Uprisen in 2015.

A man named Mohammad to go with him to his home to carry a sack of flour to the market, promising to give him a lot of money. When they were out of the village, the man beat Mohammad and stole the donkey. For seven months, the boys and their friends disguised themselves and played detective, but they failed to find the donkey. Mohammad kept seeing the donkey in his dreams. Finally, they found the donkey with a man who had bought it from the thief. Years later, whenever Mohammad met Mahmoud, they would sit together and remember their adventure with the donkey.

Mahmoud Shukair was born in Jerusalem in 1941 and after a life spent in Beirut, Amman and Prague, he now lives back in Jerusalem. He has written 53 books including short stories, novels, biographies, memoirs and children’s stories. Among the titles are a novel for young adults, ana wa-Jumana (Jumana and I, 2001); a collection of stories Surat Shakira (Shakira’s photo, 2006); and a novel, Faras al-’a’lah (The family’s horse, 2013). His book for young adults, al-Quds madinati al-ula (Jerusalem my first city, 2014), was shortlisted for the 2015 Communication for Children’s Literature Award. His novel Madinat linisat al-’a’lah (In praise of the family’s women) was shortlisted for The International Prize for Arabic Fiction in 2016.
Juanito is a small chick that enjoys playing with his siblings. Unfortunately, one day he stumbles, falls and rolls on the ground and loses his feathers. He feels miserable and sad. Other birds, a pigeon, a parrot and a toucan, realize how unhappy and anguished he is and give him some of their own feathers. Clothing with feathers of different colours he looks like a new and special bird. Thanks to his good friends, he is happy again and he starts to think that he is the most beautiful bird in the world. This story explores the fear of every child that feels different from his friends, as well as the fear of being mistreated by those friends. It also refers to the power of solidarity and the unconditional affection of loved ones that can overcome the pain of loss.

Jaime Picasso was born in Lima in 1992. While still very young, he had an operation to remove a brain tumour and throughout most of his childhood he had to have medical treatments and special therapy to recover. Nevertheless, he grew up to be an intelligent, creative and sensitive young man devoted to painting and writing children books. His latest story *La gallina que no sabía cacarear* (The hen that didn’t know how to cluck) was published in 2017.

Nabu used to have a home where she would play a game of lights and shadows, called ‘the cracked cinema’. One day, an unexpected fire breaks out, destroying her house where she lived with her parents and brother. Soon, the whole village burns down. Nabu decides to leave the corrupt reality of her homeland in search for a place where ‘houses do not burn’. Her lonely trek leads her through a desert and a sea but she also has to confront contumacious words, invisible walls and disappearing boats, and face the reactions of the people she meets. Rich in meanings, this story is based on symbols and metaphors. A deeply touching story, it is extremely important in the context of the contemporary migration crisis. The author does not offer a simple diagnosis of the problem or a collection of ready answers, which makes his work even more powerful.

Jaroslav Mikołajewski was born in 1960. He is a poet, a writer and a translator, writing both for children and for adults. He has published several crime novels for children, including the series *Anielski kota Cagllostra* (Cagllostra the cat’s angels, 2016), poems and picture books such as *Kiedy kiedy*, czyli Kasia, Panien i Pangór (When sometime, Kasia, Panien and Pangór, 2011) and translated Italian classic stories such as Collodi’s *Pinocchio* (2012) and Rodani’s short stories (2003). In 2016 Wydrówka Nabu received honorary distinction in ‘The Book of the Year’ contest organized by IBBY Poland.

A teenager’s life often resembles a game where everything is the wrong way round: the head mischief-makers at school are straight A-students and an ordinary garden becomes a real polar station. Each story in this book is an episode from the life of its characters: amazing and interesting at the same time. Characters who are only beginning to understand the complexity of the world around them, who are trying to overcome classic teenage black-and-white thinking, and who can take disorder in their life with humour and self-irony. The heroes of this book, both adults and children, are constantly in contact with each other: together they make discoveries, solve problems and invent something new. Moreover, their relationship is warm and sincere.

Aleksandr Ginevsky was born in 1936 in Moscow and currently lives in St. Petersburg. He is a writer and poet for children, but worked in a variety of professions including serving in the army and as a radio technician for geological expeditions in the Arctic, Eastern Siberia and Kamchatka. His first book was published in 1977 and since then his works have enjoyed constant success with young readers. His work is characterised by sincerity, compassion and optimism. His best known works include: the collections of short stories *Vezuchij Bor’ka* (The lucky Bork, 1985), *Letny dozhdik v dekabre* (The summer rain in December, 1987), *Ya tak vas zhda...* (I was waiting for you... 1991), *Akvareli* (Watercolours, 2004) and *Most, prolyotka i Neva...* (The Bridge, the span and the Neva... 2015). His book *Tanec malen’kogo dinozavra* (Dance of the little dinosaur, 2011) was awarded an All-Russian prize.
Denyse Umuhuza was born in 1996. Her love for nature and eagerness to share her discovery with all the people around her led her grandmother getting a taste and inspiration to develop a talent for traditional storytelling. Her passion for nature and her interest in storytelling helped her to create stories that are both personal and universal at the same time. At the age of fourteen, her first short story was published in the youth magazine of fourteen, and from that day on, her career has been taking off. She was raised in the suburb of Kigali, Rwanda, where she grew up close to nature and animals. She was inspired by the animals she saw in the wild, such as the zebra and the lion, and she wondered what it would be like if a zebra were to fly. This is a poetic and retold story of Alžbetka—a woman who wanted to fly but lost her wings because she did not listen to other people. Eventually, she got her wings back but in an altogether different way than she had expected: her parents and her grandparents, and later on, her husband and their three children and even the grandchildren left. The entire book is actually a birth present from Daniel, the son, to his mother Alžbetka. The book is full of metaphors, but is very personal and universal at the same time. At the centre of the story is a desire and pain: from the desire for the impossible to gain and grief over a lost. This story is about the joy of having people close to you, about the patience and uniqueness of every one of us, and above all, about love.

This young adult novel is a humorous narrative dealing with a serious matter. Nika, the main character, is an outstanding pupil who occupies herself with numerous activities but is burdened by a secret that influences all her social interactions. Kit na plaži is a Bildungsroman—a novel about the teenage years focused on differences, on our fear of being different and consequently being rejected by society, and on the importance of accepting ourselves and others for what we are. After her secret—that she has a brother with Down syndrome—is revealed, Nika’s relationship with her schoolmates improves. She rebuilds her self-esteem and, most importantly, openly admits the importance of her brother in her life.

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SOUTH AFRICA (English) 60
Honikman, MJ
There Should Have Been Five
Cape Town: Tafelberg, 2016
168pp; 130x200mm
Job Maseko, WWII, prisoner, courage

Pilot in WWII.

Mystery of the SS Waratah and the Avocado began with the historical novel for children, that received positive reviews from journalists at The Weekly Mail & Guardian, but it was not until she wrote an article for the Mail & Guardian that received positive reviews that she decided to write fiction. She began with the historical novel for children, The Mystery of the SS Waratah and the Avocado Tree (2010) and then There Should Have Been Five for older children. She is now working on an historical novel about a South African fighter pilot in WWII.
This is a unique book that features a creative dialogue between the traditional oral literary heritage of Galicia and the poetry of today. It is a musical, highly imaginative work that brings together old folktales and new verses, presenting a diversity of voices and images and the fresh sound of newly written rhymes. Lendo lendas, digo versos received the award for the best bibliographic initiative at the 2016 Gala do Libro.

Antonio García Tejeiro was born in Vigo in 1952. He has contributed columns on literature and pedagogy to some of the most prestigious newspapers, journals, and magazines in Galicia and Spain. For eight years he was the director of a renowned collection of books for children and young adults. His work Na fogueira do verses (In the bonfire of verses) was awarded the Merlín Prize that year. His work has appeared in numerous essays and other works including the AELG project Polaías, which focuses on the documentation and promotion of oral literature. He has published numerous essays and other works including the retelling of traditional folktales and his books have been recognized with several awards.

Pablo is the youngest son of a wealthy Spanish family. He attends a renowned school near Galicia where the principles are: freedom, social justice, respect, tolerance and democracy. At school he meets and falls in love with Bettina. At that time life seems to be smiling at them but one morning, there is some unexpected news: Pablo’s father, a former politician and rich businessman, has been arrested, accused of many crimes all related to corruption. Pablo’s life is violently shaken; his values and principles including his daydreams have crumbled, even more so when he finds out that the charges against his father are actually true. The paradise that he has always been given by his father is full of ghosts.


En lito bok om kärlek is about the boy Fred and his life one winter in Stockholm in the 1940s. His father has been drafted into the army. After school Fred helps to provide for the family by selling Christmas trees, while his mother works as a tram conductor. Both miss the father intensely and hope that he will be on leave for Christmas. Fred is in love with his classmate Elsa and it warms his heart when he sees her fluffy hair and strong arms. With selected details and a gentle humour Ulf Stark portrays an image of a ten-year-old with civil courage at a time when many Swedes secretly harboured Nazi sympathies.

Ulf Stark was born in Stureby, near Stockholm in 1944 and died in June 2017. He made his debut as a poet in 1964 but had his breakthrough as a writer in 1984 with the teenage book Dårtrinkar och dönnickar (Fruitloops and dipsticks). Since then he has published around 50 books and earned a reputation as one of Sweden’s most important writers for children and young people. He was the recipient of the Nils Holgersson plaque in 1988 for the book Jaguaren; nominated for the August Award in 1996 for Kan du vissla Johanna? (Can you whistle Johanna?). Other well-known books include Min vän Percy’s magiska gymnastikskor (My friend Percy’s magical gym shoes, 1991) and Min vän sheiken i Stureby (My friend Sheik in Stureby, 1994) and Min vän Percy, Buffalo Bill och jag (My friend Percy, Buffalo Bill and I, 2004) in the Stureby series. Ulf Stark was nominated for the Hans Christian Andersen Award several times and was a Finalist in 2000 and 2018.

En lito bok om kärlek is a comedic and heart-warming coming-of-age story that stays close to its believable protagonist and displays an authentic interior view of a regular teenage boy. Blunt and unpolished, interspersed with Swiss slang and the language of youth, Flurin Jecker’s narrative tone seamlessly matches this fresh and genuine debut novel.

Flurin Jecker was born 1990 in Bern. He studied mathematics, engineering and biology before pursuing a degree in creative writing in 2013 at the Swiss Literature Institute of the University of Bern in Biel. During his years of studying, he maintained a blog, leading up to his final project, which became his first published novel, Lanz. He now works as a freelance journalist and teaches creative writing workshops in schools.
This is the story of a girl who loves wearing the shoes of her older relatives. She loves to wear her mother's high heel shoes; she wears her sister's shoes, her brother's sport shoes and even her grandmother's shoes. But none of the shoes really fit her – so she finally realises that her own shoes fit the best.

Ines Abassi is a poet and writer, born in 1982. Her work has received many awards, including the Tunisian Poetry Prize for Secrets of the Wind (2004) and the CREDF prize for the poetry collection, Archive of the Blind (2007). Her works have been translated into French, English, Korean, Danish and Swedish. Her books for children include: My beautiful hair (2014), Where has my tooth gone? (2017), When electricity was cut off (2014), Did my cat eat her kitten? (2014), The bubbles girl (2015) and My cat's secret (2016).

Evangeline Ledi Barongo worked as a librarian at Bayero University in Nigeria and was a member of the Ugandan Public Libraries Board from 1986. She is the author of several children’s books such as Ten Goats in a Meeting (2014), Sanga is Born (2010), Greedy Monkey (2008) and Greedy Monkey Loses a Best Friend (2004), which was included in the 2006 IBBY Honour List. Now retired, she is also a storyteller and runs reading tents for children in Uganda through her work as leader of the Ugandan Children's Writers and Illustrators Association (IBBY Uganda).

Volodymyr Rutkivskyi was born in 1937 in Khrestyteleve in the Cherkassy district. He studied at the Odessa Polytechnic Institute. During Soviet times he was accused of being a Ukrainian nationalist and his works were rejected for publishing. He has written for novels for children and young adults for more than half a century. His books include Bucktyk z tykoho zatonu (Bucktyk from silent backwater, 1981), Kanikuly u Voronivtsi (Holidays in Voronivtsi, 1989), Syni Vody (Blue waters, 2004), Storozhova zastava (Patrol bail, 1991), Dvobii z tinniy (Fight with the shadow, 2004), Poterschata (2008), Dzury kozaka Shvaiky (Dzury from Shvaiky, 1995), Dzury-kharakternyky (Dzury from Zaporozhian Sich 2009), Dzury i pidvodyni choven (Dzury and the underwater boat, 2007) and U hosti do lisovyka (Visiting Lisovyk, 2014).

Modern school children and traditional fairy tale characters combine in the story Hosti na Metli. The evil witch Yadviha Olizarivna comes to the village to find a schoolgirl to teach. She is looking for a girl who lives a horrible life and also is bullied. She finds Tanya who was left in the village by her parents to take care of her ill grandmother. Together with her friends Stepan and Vasyl, Tanya manages to change the witch and her cat and makes them more humane by helping them clean not only their house but also clean the evil in their minds. This story tells children how interesting and valuable all their classmates can be. It shows what kindness can achieve and how much kindness we all have in us, despite our troubles. Moreover, it teaches that it is not important just to conquer evil; one has to also stand up for kindness.

The girl saw the children in tents living under very bad conditions, without any heating system or any kind of entertainment. She decided to help them in her own way by bringing along bottles of the sun, the symbol of warmth, the sun mixed with thyme, the symbol of food, and other symbols. She also invited other children to join her on the journey.
UNITED KINGDOM (English) 72

Brahmachari, Sita

Tender Earth
London: Macmillan, 2017
412pp; 130x195mm
Family, friendship, activism, diversity

*Tender Earth* is the story of the coming-of-age of Laila, the youngest of the Levenson family. It is a richly textured story of personal growth and political awareness, full of causes worth fighting for and upholding the right to protest against injustices. Sita Brahmachari describes a London that is familiar today: ethnically diverse, with differing family structures, wealth and opportunity. Her young characters are positive, caring, supportive and willing to embrace integration. Its key strength is the belief that young people are committed and willing to take social action and the exploration of this through the increasingly powerful voice of its young central character, Laila. *Tender Earth* has been described by Amnesty International UK as illuminating the importance of equality, friendship and solidarity.

Sita Brahmachari, born in Derby 1966, is passionately committed to representing the diversity of UK society in her books. She is currently Writer in Residence at the Islington Centre for Refugees and Migrants, was Online Writer in Residence for the Book Trust (2015) and a judge on the CILIP Amnesty Award 2017. Her many projects and writing commissions have been produced in theatres, universities, schools and community groups throughout Britain and America. She has written a series of books about the Levenson family, including *Artichoke Hearts* (2011), that won the Waterstones Children’s Book Prize (2011). She has also written *Kite Spirit* (2013), which was nominated for UKLA Book Award and the Reading Agency ‘Book on Prescription’. She contributed to the Amnesty International UK collection *Here I Stand: Stories that Speak for Freedom* (2016).

UNITED STATES (English) 73

De la Peña, Matt

Last Stop on Market Street
Ill. Christian Robinson
[32pp]; 220x275mm
ISBN 978-0-399-25774-2, Ages: 4-8
Grandmother/grandson, diversity, poverty

In lyrical, image-rich language, Matt de la Peña describes CJ and his grandmother’s cross-town journey. As they leave the church steps, walk to the bus stop, ride the bus, and enter the soup kitchen, this intergenerational pair engages in philosophical discussion that highlights the beauties in nature, the magic of music, and the joy of human relationships. The text emphasizes the goodness in people and the importance of finding beauty despite, or because of, a lack of materialistic wealth. It also embraces harmony in diversity and enthusiastic acceptance of differences. Characterized by linguistic grace and beauty, with big ideas sandwiched between small moments, *Last Stop on Market Street* is a celebration of simplicity.

Matt de la Peña grew up in southern California and attended the University of the Pacific on a basketball scholarship. He now lives in Brooklyn, New York, where he teaches creative writing at New York University. An avid literacy enthusiast, he frequently speaks at schools and conferences across the country. Matt de la Peña’s young adult novel *The Living* was named a 2015 Pura Belpré Honor Book for narrative. His other young adult titles include *Ball Don’t Lie* (2007), *Mexican White Boy* (2010), *We Were Here* (2010), *I Will Save You* (2011), and *The Hunted* (2016). He began his career as a writer of young adult novels, but expanded into the picture book format to write *A Nation’s Hope: The Story of Boxing Legend Joe Lewis* (2013) and *Last Stop on Market Street*, which received the prestigious 2016 Newbery Medal for most distinguished Book of the Year – an honour rarely awarded a picture book.
Illustration

ARGENTINA 74
Arispe, Nicolás
La madre y la muerte. La partida
(Mother and death. The departure)
Text: Alberto Laiseca and Alberto Chimal
Mexico City: Fondo de Cultura Económica, 2015
[64pp]; 250x330mm
Mother/son, death, afterworld

La madre y la muerte and La partida are two stories that connect in the middle of the book by a common final illustration. La madre y la muerte tells the story of a poor mother who lives in the forest with her only son. One day, Death comes to her home and takes her son. The mother is driven to despair, crossing the forest, rivers and mountains in search of her child, willing to sacrifice herself to win her dead child back. La partida tells how a mother sees her son die in an earth quake. She cannot bear life without him and asks the gods to bring him to life. The gods accept, but they only return the soul, leaving the restless corpse to decay. Both stories are rooted in oral narrative tradition and use symbolism and fantasy to deal with deep and unbearable aspects of the life such as pain and the difficulty to accept the death of loved ones. The two equally heart-breaking tales come alive through the book’s illustrations. Nicolás Arispe’s double page, black and white drawings are dramatic, mysterious and full of symbolism and literary and cultural allusions (White Ravens 2016).

Nicolás Arispe is an Argentinean author and illustrator. Born in Buenos Aires in 1978, he completed his training at the National University Institute of Arts (IUNA). He has illustrated his own works as well as those of María Teresa Andruetto, Alberto Laiseca and Juan José Saer. He has also been teaching art at official programmes aimed at disadvantaged children and young adults. Other works include El camino más largo (The longest road, 2012) and El insólito ascenso de madame Pôl (The unusual rise of Madame Pôl, 2010). La madre y la muerta. La partida was selected for the White Ravens catalogue in 2016.

ARMENIA 75
Muradyan, Naira
Chipchu Nichun ev kamakornery
(Chipchu Nichu and the wayward kids)
Text: Naira Edigaryan
Yereven: Zangak, 2017
70pp; 185x225mm
Friendship, imaginary friend, adventure

The Chipchus live on the rainbow and love to eat children’s porridge. One day the yellow-eyed and large-winged Chipchu Nichu, after eating the porridge of little girl, starts a conversation with her and loses the track of the rainbow. Chipchu Nichu flies with his new friend in search of a tiny cloud to find the rainbow. After various adventures, they finally reach a little cloud called Boor, which was hiding from everyone, believing he was too small and weak to make thunder. Chipchu and the girl manage to convince Boor that even though he is small he will be able to make a real thunder. With the help of little cloud, Chipchu Nichu and the girl find the land of Chipchus and the rainbow.

Naira Muradyan is an animation director and painter. Born 1961 in Yerevan, she studied at the Panos Terlemezyan College of Fine Arts. She has worked as art director for animated films and in different theatres and for television. Her animated works have won several prizes and include Road (2005) and Ballet (2013). The story Chipchu Nichun ev kamakornery is illustrated digitally.

AUSTRALIA 76
Ottley, Matt
Teacup
Text: Rebecca Young
Lindfield NSW: Scholastic Press, 2015
[34pp]; 255x285mm
Refugee, sea voyage, self-reliance

Teacup is the story of a boy ‘who had to leave home’ and his long and arduous journey by sea, taking with him a teacup full of earth from the place where he grew up. The journey includes peaceful days and days when storms threaten to overturn his boat. When at last he reaches land, it does not feel complete . . . until another traveller joins him. The illustrator has used a combination of oil painting and digital art to create Teacup. He has brought dramatic and luminous skies and seascapes, skilful changes in perspective and studies of reflection to the spare, poetic text to create an eloquent tale of migration. Matt Ottley and author Rebecca Young have also made a multi-modal adaptation of the book, including music, art and the spoken word.

Matt Ottley was born in Papua New Guinea and moved to Sydney when he was nearly 12 years old. He worked as a stockman with live-stock in Queensland before finally studying fine arts and music. He moved to Britain and worked as a professional polo and equestrian painter and also as a flamenco guitarist, before returning to Australia where he now lives in northern NSW. He is one of Australia’s most highly regarded children’s book creators, as well as being a musician and composer. He has illustrated over 20 children’s books including Luke’s Way of Looking (1998) by Nadia Wheatley; Requiem for a Beast: a work for image, word and music (2007) and Home and Away (2009) by John Marsden; and Tree (2012) by Danny Parker.
Guten Morgen, kleine Strassenbahn!

Julie Völk was born in 1985 in Vienna and grew up in Lower Saxony in Germany. She studied illustration at the University of Applied Sciences in Hamburg. Her debut book, *Un tour de cochons* (Pig’s trick), was published in 2015. Julie Völk combines reality with fantasy to create a unique atmosphere in this picture book.

Francoise Rogier was born in Liège in 1966 and currently lives in Brussels. She studied graphic communication at l’École nationale supérieure des arts visuels de La Cambre in Brussels and currently takes courses given by Kitty Crowther, Dominique Maes and Catherine Pineur. She has been involved in graphic design and packaging for fifteen years and has focused on children’s illustration since 2010. Her first book, *C’est pour mieux te manger* (All the better to eat you up with) was published in 2012. She has since written an ABC based on fairy tales, *Les contes de A à Z* (Tales from A to Z, 2014), and *Rose cochin* (Pink pig, 2017)

The three little pigs are leaving home to settle in the forest. They decide to move into the same house, fully expecting a visit from the wolf. These pigs are, however, cheeky and ingenious, and their humorous escapades give us another perspective on this classic tale. Francoise Rogier uses a “scratch card” technique, a black card scratched to create white drawings as in gravure. Together with crayons and collage as well as her computer, she creates unique images in black, grey, white and red.

The Austrian Award for Children’s Literature for Young Talent in Illustration and the Troisdorfer Picture Book Award in 2015. She received the Austrian Award for Children’s Literature for *Guten Morgen, kleine Strassenbahn!* in 2017.

BRAZIL

Moraes, Odilon

Lá e Aqui

(There and here)

Text: Carolina Moreyra

Rio de Janeiro: Pequena Zahar, 2015

[50pp]; 160x160mm


Parents, divorce

Odilon Moraes studied architecture and has worked as an illustrator for more than twenty years. He also writes children’s books and runs workshops on the history of the picture book. His books include: *A fome do lobo* (The hunger of the wolf, 2012) by Claudia Maria De Vasconcellos, which won the FNLIJ Highly Recommended seal; *O guarda-chuva do vôô* (Grandpa’s umbrella, 2008) by Carolina Moreyra, awarded by FNLIJ as The Best for Children. He illustrated *Coleção Histórias à Brasileira* (Brazilian stories series, 2002-2010), by Ana Maria Machado, which was awarded with another FNLIJ Award.

*Lá e Aqui* tells the story of the divorce of parents from a child’s perspective with beautiful images matched with the text, giving a parallel perspective on this classic tale. The illustrations harmonize with the emotional moods by the use of colours and precious details. The story unfolds creatively and sensitively through the format of the book, the quality of the paper, the dainty illustrations and the way the images are layered as the text evolves.

Alligator wanted to clean his house, which included destroying Spider’s web. Spider promised to help Alligator clean his home and promised to be clean and tidy himself. Alligator gave Spider a chance and lived happily thereafter with a clean and tidy house that all of his friends admired. Try Samphos has created each character by mixing colour charcoal and colour pencil and then creating a detailed digital image set on a coloured charcoal background.

Try Samphos was born in 1982 in Phnom Penh. She holds a degree in tourism management, but prefers working in art, specifically painting and drawing cartoons. Besides illustrating picture books, she has designed and written children’s stories. She was part of the group of six illustrators who created *Trei kragn neng doeurm amphil* (A climbing perch and the tamarind tree, 2013), which was included in the 2016 IBBY Honour List.

CAMBODIA

Try Samphos

Krapeu Ning Pingpeang=Alligator and Spider

Text by the artist

Phnom Penh: Comics Art, 2016

18pp; 220x210mm


Alligator, spider, living together
in this wordless picture book, a little girl collects wildflowers while walking with her distracted father who spends much of the time on his cellphone. Each flower she picks becomes a gift for a dead bird, a man sleeping on a bench or a dog, and whether the gift is noticed or ignored, both giver and recipient are transformed by their encounter. The pen, ink and watercolour illustrations are nuanced. Sydney Smith adds a fragment of colour wherever the girl’s eyes are focused, whether on a flower, a woman’s dress or a piece of glass, gradually transforming the grey of an urban landscape into an understated kaleidoscope of colour.

Sydney Smith, born in rural Nova Scotia and now living in Toronto, has been drawing since an early age. Since graduating from the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design, he has illustrated many children’s books including: Town is by the Sea by Joanne Schwartz (2017), Smooth: A Rebellious Shadow by Michelle Cuevas (2017), The White Cat and the Monk by Jo Ellen Bogart (2016), Grant and Tillie Go Walking by Monica Kulling (2015), as well as Esta Spalding’s middle grade novels, Look Out for the Fitzgerald-Trouts (2016) and Knock About with the Fitzgerald-Trouts (2017), among others. He has received numerous awards for his illustrations including the Lillian Shepherd Memorial Award for Excellence in Illustration, the Elizabeth Mrazik-Cleaver Canadian Picture Book Award and the prestigious Governor General’s Literary Award.
COSTA RICA 85
Angulo, Ruth
Cuentos de mi Tía Panchita
(Tales of my aunt Panchita)
Text: Carmen Lyra
San José: Unuk Editores, 2015
129pp; 285x220mm
Folk tale, anthology

CROATIA 86
Guljašević, Ivana
Drveni neboeder
(Wooden skyscraper)
Text by the artist
Zagreb: Igubuka, 2015
23pp; 210x295mm (+DVD)
ISBN 978-953-8071-00-3, Ages: 3-7
Forest animals, community

CYPRUS 87
Theodorides, Philippos
I matithievenomi psychoula kai o kokos lykos
(The apprentice soul and the bad wolf)
Text: Costas Petridis
Limassol: Mikrolyklos, 2014
36pp; 290x270mm
ISBN: 978-9963-9984-6-3, Ages: 9-12
Red Riding Hood, wolf, fairy tale, parody

CZECH REPUBLIC 88
Pošivač, Filip
Kuba Tuba Tatubahn
(Kuba Tuba tatooline)
Text: Jana Šrámková
Prague: Běžíliška, 2015
45pp; 240x335mm
Prague, music, underground
Denmark

Horneman, Lars

Zenobia

Text: Morten Dürr

Copenhagen: Forlaget Cobolt, 2016

97pp; 170x245mm


War, escape, xenophobia, graphic novel

Zenobia is a graphic novel about the young girl Amina, who tries to flee from the war in Syria. At the beginning of the story she is in a boat crossing the Mediterranean Sea. The boat is hit by a wave and Amina ends up in the cold water. In a long flashback, we experience her life in Syria before, during and after the war changed her forever. The novel is made with digital drawing and colouring.

Lars Horneman, born 1966, is an illustrator and comic book artist. He published his first work in 1993 and has since drawn 10 comics and illustrated over 100 books, including the critically acclaimed Når jeg ikke er til stede (When I'm not present, 2014) based on his own life. Zenobia received the Danish National Illustration Award in 2017, awarded by the Danish Ministry of Culture as well as a Deueleran award for this year’s best comic and a PING award for the best children and youth series of the year.

Ecuador

Chamorro, Marco and Bossut, Alice

A ritmo enriellado de bomba
(Bomba devilish rhythm)

Text by the artists

Quito: Comoyoko ediciones, 2016

[26pp]; 250x205mm


Music, competition, the Devil

Davilara, the king of ‘la bomba’, is recognized throughout the Chota Valley for his great talent as a musician. One afternoon, a stranger appears in his yard, challenging him to find out who is the best ‘bomba’ musician. Davilara must play with the Devil himself in a musical contest that lasts for three days and three nights. The images in the book are original with each character drawn in distinct styles that eventually merge into one rhythm. The aesthetics of the book, the technique of representation, the vibrant colours, the binding and the different layers, all contribute to the narrative of the book.

Marco Chamorro, born 1975 in Ecuador, studied painting at the Daniel Reyes School of Arts in Ecuador and completed a Master’s degree in children’s illustrated books in Madrid. He has illustrated about twenty books and has won the Dario Guevara Mayagata Award, which is given to the best children’s illustrator in Ecuador, eight times. Three of his earlier books were selected for the IBBY Honour List: Cielos descalzos (Barefoot skies) in 2010, Segundo Acto (Second act) in 2012 and Mestre Wilson in 2016. He has exhibited his work in Ecuador and internationally including in Bologna and Bratislava. Alice Bossut, born 1984 in France, has a degree in Fine Arts from Angoulême, France and a Master’s degree in illustration from the Royal Academy of Fine Arts in Brussels, Belgium. Based in Ecuador, she has illustrated Mudanza (Move, 2014) by Alejandro Zamba and is the author of Mama Colacaichi & Taita Imbabura, stories base on the oral tradition of Ecuador. Marco Chamorro and Alice Bossut have also collaborated on El gigante de la laguna (The giant of the lake, 2015).

Egypt

Sileet, Hanadi

Shams
(Sun)

Text: Alfaaf Abdel-Gawad Tobbala

Cairo: Nahdet Misr, 2016

[24pp]; 200x275mm


Grandfather, mother

Amr is disappointed when his mother does not keep her promise to take him to the cinema. His mother has sent Grandpa to break the news that she has gone to the hospital and given birth to a new baby. Amr is concerned that this baby will take all his mother’s love, but as Grandpa explains, a mother’s love is like the sun’s rays, there is enough for everyone. This is the second book in the series about Amr and his Grandpa illustrated by Hanadi Sileet. She uses daring, warm acrylic colours with thick brushstrokes on insulation boards.

Hanadi Sileet was born in Giza in 1971. She graduated from the faculty of Fine Arts, Helwan University in 1994, obtained her MA in 1999 and later her PhD from the Institute of Theatrical Studies of the University of Paris, France, in 2006. She has worked as an illustrator for health and nutritional education publications for UNICEF and CEDPA and is currently an assistant professor at the Faculty of Fine Arts of Cairo and a freelance illustrator. She has illustrated many children books that have received recognition from EBBY (2004), the Anna Lindh Foundation (2011) and Etilasalat (2013 and 2016). Her work, Shagaret Al-Gmyez (Sycamore tree, 2007) was included in the 2012 IBBY Honour List.

Estonia

Raud, Piret

Trööömmmpffff ehk Eli hääl
(Trööömmmpffff or Eli’s voice)

Text by the artist

Tallinn: Tänapäev, 2016

[36pp]; 175x230mm


Identity, essence

A little bird called Eli lives on the sandy shore of a big sea. Eli has no voice. When she hears the rustling of tree leaves, the crashing of sea waves, and the pattering of rain, Eli is so sad that she wants to cry. One morning, Eli finds a trumpet on the beach. When she blows into one end of it, it makes a fantastic loud noise that goes: ‘Trööömmmpffff!’ Eli is overjoyed. But before long, she finds out that the trumpet belongs to Sim. Without his trumpet, Sim is not himself anymore: he is incomplete. What should Eli do now? The book combines text and illustrations, full of fantasy and playful humour, with interesting characters set against a minimalistic style. The monochromatic illustrations highlight the artist’s unique world where there is still room for the reader’s own imagination.

Piret Raud was born in Tallinn in 1971. She studied fine arts and printmaking at the Estonian Academy of Arts. After illustrating other authors’ books for ten years she began to write. Her inventive and fast-paced stories are matched by her lively drawings. Her book, Printsess Lulu ja härra Kere (Princess Lulu and Mr. Boney, 2008) received the Children’s Literature Award of the Cultural Endowment Foundation of Estonia and was an IBBY Honour List book in 2012. Her next books, Härra Linnu ligu (Mr. Bird’s story, 2009) and Kolm soovi (Three wishes, 2012) were included in the White Ravens catalogue in 2010 and 2013, respectively. Two recent story collections, Natuke napakad lood (Slightly silly stories, 2012) and Teistmoodi printsessilood (Princesses with a twist, 2013) combine short nonsense fairy tales with simple black and white drawings. Piret Raud was the Estonian nominee for the 2016 Hans Christian Andersen Award.
Laura Merz is an artist, textile designer and illustrator living and working in Helsinki and Berlin, Germany. *Tuhat ja yksi otusta* is her first children’s book. She is fascinated by nature and wildlife and the inspiration for her illustrations comes from real-life encounters with animals and nature. Her drawings are often humorous and rich with quirky details. Her work is a combination of minimalism and ‘maximalism’ – an eclectic mix of simplified forms and全国人民的智慧。她的作品是她对自然和动物的观察与想象的结合。她的插画常常充满幽默感和奇特的细节。她的作品是将极简主义与‘极大主义’的混合——一种简易线条和丰富质感的混搭——一种既简约又丰富的视觉体验。外文作品中的‘Tuhat ja yksi otusta’是一本充满想象力和幽默感的儿童插图书。她的作品常常是对自然和动物的观察与想象的结合，她的画作常常充满了幽默感和奇特的细节，她的作品是将极简主义与‘极大主义’的混合——一种简易线条和丰富质感的混搭——一种既简约又丰富的视觉体验。
Once upon a time, a little tortoise lived in a meadow bright with flowers. His best friend is a charming hare so tall that he reached up to the sky. One day, quite suddenly, the tortoise cried out, “This shell of mine is much too small for me. I’m off to look for something bigger to live in. I envy those who live miles away in the big city!”

This is a wise little tale in verse about greed as well as the gift of simplicity and friendship. The illustrator uses mixed media: pencil, watercolours and realistic portraits enrich the story.

Bazile Robensky is an illustrator and designer, based in Port au Prince.

Kelly Matathia Covo was born in Athens in 1959. She completed her studies at the Neri Bloomfield Academy of Art and Design in Haifa, Israel. She is a freelance graphic designer and illustrator of children’s books. In 1988 her illustrations for To Potami Trechei Na Synandisei Tin Thalassa (The river runs to meet the sea, 1988) by Maro Loizou, were selected for the IBBY Honour List and in 2004, Arithmitari Me Glossodetes (A Number Book with Tongue Twisters, 2004) by Eugenios Trivizas received a distinction by the Greek Section of IBBY. Her other works include: Poios Ekane Pipi Ston Mississippi (Who did pee-pee in the Mississippi, 1998) by Eugenios Trivizas and To Koumbi Tis Agapis Kai O Pringipas Pou Den Eine Pia Mikros (The button of love and the prince who is not little anymore, 2016) by Vagelis Iliopoulos.

This is the classic story of a child who eats too much. Nathalie liked to eat all day long and in big quantities. One day, she got the key of the big pantry and started eating. Her parents found her lying on the floor, sick, in the middle of boxes and cans. They put her to bed and from that day, she learned to control herself. The illustrations are eloquent, detailed and theatrical. The bright colours and realistic portraits enrich the story.

Bazile Robensky is an illustrator and designer, based in Port au Prince.

A little boy decides to leave his kindergarten with the purpose of finding a job. He becomes an elevator boy in a strange hotel. We follow him on his journey from the first floor to the twentieth floor of the hotel as strange passengers with strange stories crowd into the elevator. Finally, on the roof our hero takes a cloud-taxi. És most elmondom, hogyan lifteztem is an absurd and funny story with fantastic figures in an imaginary universe.

András Dániel is a graphic artist, writer, illustrator and translator. His illustrated works include: Matild és Margareta, avagy boszorkányok a Bármintő utcából (Matild and Margareta, or witches from Bármintő Street, 2012), Kicsibácsi és Kicsinéni (meg az Imikém) (Kicsibácsi and Kicsinéni (and Imikém), 2013), Kufli-sorozat (Kufli series, 2013-2017), Mit keresett Jakab az álgy alatt? És mi történt ott vele? (What did James look for under the bed? And what happened to him? 2014), Smorc Angéla nem akar legóba lépni (Angéla Smorc does not want to get bred, 2015), Viplala, A Tigris és a Motyó (The tiger and Motyó, 2015), A csupaszin oroszlán (The bare lion, 2015) and És most elmondom, hogyan lifteztem (And now I’m telling you how I got up, 2017).

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This is the story of a group of villagers who are attacked by rats. The army of rats devours the orchards and plantations and destroys everything in their way. Their population is so huge that no matter how many of them are killed, they do not surrender. Even a mountain of mouse-traps cannot defeat them. Tired and fed up with the attack, the villagers come together to discuss the disaster. The village chief suggests asking the cats to help them in this dispute and they recruit the biggest and the most powerful army of cats. Everything goes well at the beginning. The cats deliver hundred dead rats every day to the village centre. Gradually, the number of rats shrinks and the cat commander demands more meat, milk and chickens. Having no other option, the villagers agree to provide all the cats want.

Born in 1982 in Tehran, Nazanin Abbasi has a Bachelor’s degree in painting and a Master’s degree in illustration. She started her career in 2009 by illustrating children books, and has illustrated twelve story and poetry books with different painting and sculpture techniques. She was selected for the BIB’15 and has won the certificate of appreciation from the Children’s Book Council of Iran (IBBY Iran). She has also participated in more than ten group exhibitions.

IRELAND

Burke, Kathi ‘Fatti’

Irelandopedia: A compendium of maps, facts and knowledge
Text: John Burke
Dublin: Gill & Macmillan, 2015
87pp; 280x375mm
Ireland, culture, nature

Irelandopedia is a fun, accessible compendium of facts and knowledge about Ireland produced by the father-and-daughter team John and Fatti Burke. Each of the 32 counties of Ireland is treated to a map full of accurate and amusing tidbits of information covering everything from geographical features to historical events, sports celebrities and culinary traditions. A series of bright, inventive spreads take a thematic approach to looking at fauna, flora or weather. Bold and witty illustrations keep the text lively, while their deceptive simplicity is an invitation to budding artists to reach for their drawing materials.

Kathi ‘Fatti’ Burke graduated from the National College of Art and Design in Dublin in 2012. She combines drawing with a love of mapmaking and travel. Irelandopedia and her equally successful Histeropedia (2016) have been nominated for several awards. Originally from County Waterford, she now lives and works in Dublin.

ISRAEL

Benziman, Naama

Ha-tzartzar ha-taiar (The lost cricket)
Text: Lea Goldberg
Tel-Aviv: Hakibbutz Hameuchad, 2016
28pp; 205x250mm
No ISBN, Ages: 3-6
Cricket, helpfulness

An adventurous cricket gets lost in the country and cannot find his way home. He asks the help of all kinds of creatures that he meets. First is a lizard, but she does not even reply and slithers away between the rocks.

“What bad manners”, thinks the cricket, but he does not give up and asks a light-green chameleon. She changes colour, but also does not reply. Frustrated, the cricket turns to a sparrow perched in an olive tree and asks politely, “Perhaps you, from your treetop, can see my home?” But the sparrow does not answer either, and flies off. Evening comes, and out of the darkness a firefly appears. Despairing, the cricket asks for her help and the kindly firefly switches on her light and escorts the cricket all the way to his home. This tale sparks hope in the hearts of readers: even when all seems lost, and the world seems dark, someone will come to our rescue. The illustrations are created with mixed media.

Naama Benziman is an illustrator and author who lives and works in Tel Aviv. She has written two, and illustrated ten, children’s books. She was recently awarded the Israel Museum silver medal for book illustration and the Design Award of the Ministry of Culture of Israel. Her illustration work for adults is more politically oriented and deals with human rights and minorities. She has contributed illustrations and articles to Einayim (Eyes) children’s magazine for over 20 years. She has received recognition in 3×3, The Magazine of Contemporary Illustration (2014, 2015, 2016). She recently curated an exhibition of Ethiopian immigration to Israel and regularly works with members of diverse communities in Israel.

ITALY

Di Giorgio, Mariachiara

Professione Coccodrillo (Professional Crocodile)
Text: Giovanna Zoboli
Milan: Topipittori, 2017
[30pp]; 305x205mm
ISBN 978-889-852-364-1, Ages: 3-4
Crocodile, zoo, everyday life

In all big cities, at dawn, millions of people wake up, have breakfast and get ready for work. The hero of this book is no exception. We follow him in his morning routine and outside in the city. We walk by his side down the street, get on the subway, look at shop windows, smell sweets and roasted chicken. The illustrations are filled with little details: the combination of details from human life with the crocodile character works very well. On every page there are surprises, and a message for both children and adults to reflect and think about. That tension between the humans and the crocodile plays throughout the picture book, making the story a look at humanity and our lives, just as much as being a crocodile. The delicate paints, mixed media, watercolour, pastels and coloured inks make the details wonderful.

Mariachiara Di Giorgio was born in Rome in 1983. She studied illustration in Rome at IED, and in Paris (France) at ENSAD. During her time at college, she started collaborating as a cartoonist for FAO, as well as a storyboard artist and concept designer for movies and advertising agencies. Between 2010 and 2001, she worked as background artist for the making of The Dark Side of the Sun, a film by Carlo Hintermann and Lorenzo Cecchotti. She began publishing her work in 2012, illustrating for several publishers and authors, including works by Gianni Rodari. Her work has been exhibited at Bologna Children’s Book Fair Illustrators’ Exhibition in 2015 and 2016 and at the 58th edition of The New York Society of Illustrators’ Exhibition in 2016.
The main character of this picture book is the Genbakudome, in Hiroshima that was the only structure left standing after the first atomic bomb was dropped in 1945. The dome was built in 1915 as the Hiroshima Prefecture Product Exhibition Building and is now officially the Hiroshima Peace Memorial. The story is written from the dome’s point of view. It tells about the bustling times before the atomic bomb was dropped, the destruction and chain reactions of the explosion, and the long years of recovery. The dome itself remains static, but manages to keep a close eye on Japan and the rest of the world, worrying about global nuclear weapon testing and the development of nuclear power. The author, Arthur Binard is an American poet based in Japan. Arthur Binard and Koji Suzuki spent two years on the book, doing research and speaking with bomb survivors. Koji Suzuki’s illustrations are both dynamic and exquisite. His abstract depictions of scattered bits of uranium too small to see with the naked eye make a particularly strong impression.

Koji Suzuki was born in Shizuoka in 1948. His works include original picture books, collections of drawings, manga, posters for films and dramatic products, stage designs and costumes, signs, package designs, wall paintings and more. He has even produced ‘live paintings’ of which his body was a part. Many of his picture books have won prizes, including his titles Enso-kun kisha ni noru (Enso’s first trip alone, 1986), Yama no disuko (Disc on the mountain, 1989), which was selected for the 1990 IBBY Honour List, Sarubirusa (1991), and Burakkinda (It’s black, 2008).

Baek Hee-na studied educational technology at Ewha Womans University and animation at the California Institute of the Arts in Valencia, CA (USA). She is the author and illustrator of Cloud Bread (2004), which was translated into several languages and made into an animated TV programme and musical. She was selected for the Bologna Illustrator’s Exhibition 2005 for Cloud Bread and was selected for the 3rd Changwon Children’s Literature Award and the 53rd Korea Book Award for The bath fairy (2012). She is also the author and illustrator of The pink rope (2007), Moon sherbet (2010), Last night (2011), The blowfly in my dream (2014) and The strange mum (2016). Baek Hee-na is a highly praised illustrator, in particular for her 3D illustration technique: she makes dolls using Sculpey (a polymer clay), creates and arranges sets and works on photo shoots.

Baek Hee-na
Al-Sa-Tang
(Magic candies)
Text by the artist
Seoul: Bear Books, 2017
[44pp]; 255x260mm
ISBN 978-89-93242-30-0, Ages: 4-7
Shyness, magic, empathy

The little girl by the window is watching the pedestrians down on the street. She tries to attract their attention as they stand watching and waiting for the streetlight to change from red to green. She shouts and waits for them turn their heads and notice her, she waves at them, but to no avail. They stand in the rain and keep focused on the streetlight, unaware of her existence. When the light changes, each goes their own way leaving a lonely child watching and calling to them without response on their part. The style of illustration is expressive, capturing the scene at each moment. The faces of the pedestrians show only interest in the streetlight that will lead them to their planned destiny for the day.

Hassan Zahreddine is a printmaker and illustrator with a BA in Fine Arts (painting) from the Lebanese University in Beirut and from the Université du Québec à Montréal and an MA in printmaking from Concordia University in Montreal (Canada). He has participated in several individual and collective exhibitions in Canada, Lebanon, Japan, Italy, Spain, Poland and France. He has been a children’s book illustrator since 2000 and participated in the exhibition of Arab Illustrators of Children’s books at the Institut du Monde Arabe in France in 2003. He was shortlisted at the Bologna Illustrators’ Exhibition in 2009 and 2011. He was nominated for the 2010 IBBY Honour List for Al Asdiqa’ al a’adaa’ (Friends that are enemies, 2007) and won the Etisalat Award given by UAEBBY in 2012.

Zahreddine, Hassan
Muchat mahirono
(Skilful pedestrians)
Text: Nabha Mhadli
Beirut: Dar al Hadak, 2015
23pp; 205x255mm
City, traffic, pedestrian, observation

Tobias, Čarlijs un neredzamais spoks describes one of the many adventures of Tobias the teddy bear, a beloved character created by Latvian children’s book author Juris Zvirgzdiņš. In this story, Tobias and his friend Charley (also a toy bear) adopt an unwanted ghost. It soon becomes clear that the invisible creature is a dog and, as always, a number of curious events soon follow. The illustrations of the book are black and white. Although they were created digitally, Elina Braslina has endeavoured to imitate a traditional hand-drawn effect by using a number of customised brushes and scanned pencil, crayon and charcoal textures. Both the main and supporting characters are drawn with attention to detail, enhancing the quirkiness and humour that weaves throughout text.

Elina Braslina, born 1988, is an illustrator and graphic artist. She has illustrated several children’s books written by Latvian authors and a collection of poems for children: Moon juice, by the British author Kate Wakeling. She has twice received the Zelta Ābele Award for Book Design: for No Rīgas lidz Rīgai: Tobiauss un Tama bēļaļa ēriopas bibliotēku cepļumā (From Riga to Riga: Tobias and Tama on the big European library trip, 2014) by Inguna Cepite and Juris Zvirgzdiņš and Have a Nice Day: gandrīz milas stāsts (Have a nice day: almost love story, 2015) by Juris Zvirgzdiņš. She has been nominated several times for the Jānis Baltvilks Prize in Children’s Literature and Book Art, which she received in 2017 for her illustrations for two of the Mākslas detektīvi (Art detective) books by Luīze Pastore and for Tobiaiss, Čarlijs un neredzamais spoks. She is currently working as a production designer on a feature length animation film with Atom Art studio.

Braslina, Elina
Tobiaiss, Čarlijs un neredzamais spoks
(Tobias, Charly and the invisible ghost)
Text: Juris Zvirgzdiņš
Riga: Pētergailis, 2017
43pp; 165x235mm
Teddy bear, adventure, ghost
Once upon a time there was a boy who lived in a big city. He had a father, a mother and a tree house. One day a fox appeared in the boy’s life. And when a fox enters your life anything can happen. This is a sensitive story about friendship, dreams and happiness. The text is accompanied by paper collage and mixed media digital illustrations.

Aušra Kiudulaitė was born in 1978 in Vilnius. She obtained a MA in painting from Vilnius Academy of Arts in 2007 and now works as a freelance illustrator and designer. She also leads her first book and was selected for the Nami Concours 2017 and the Bologna Children’s Book Fair. Laimė yra lapė is her first book and was selected for the Nami Concours 2017 and the Bologna Children’s Book Fair. Laimė yra lapė won the main award in the category of children’s books of Lithuania’s Most Beautiful Book Competition as well as the Diploma of Vilnius 2016 Book Art Competition.

Isidro R. Esquivel was born in Mexico City, where he studied graphic design communication, specializing in illustration, at the Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana. He has collaborated in several national and international collective exhibitions. His work has been selected with honorable mention in the XVIII and XX Catálogo de Ilustradores de Publicaciones Infantiles y Juveniles de Conaculta and has been selected for the second and third Catálogo Iberoamericano de Ilustración. He has illustrated several works for children and young people, including: Diente de león (Dandelion, 2012) by María Branda, La guardia de los lechuzas (The lair of the owls, 2013) by Antonio Ramos and Miss Taqui (2013) by Catalina González Vilar. His illustrations were included in the collection of Mexican folktales, Cuentos populares mexicanos (Mexican folktales, 2014) by Fabio Morabito.

Entre noches y fantasmas is a collection of stories where the unpredictable, the fantastic and the ghostly are always present. The characters and plots include a coffin that is destined to be married as well as to be buried; a sick dog who tells of the death of his master, a young and sad poet, and the despair the dog feels when he can do nothing but watch him die; a grey suit that, tired of its frightful monotonity, decides to leave and to experience the life of the men; a strange illness that comes to a village in the form of an uninterrupted polka, which makes people disappear; a woman who does not fulfil her husband’s request to be buried with his old wooden leg, and is forever tormented. The illustrations capture the voice of the author and provide a unique interpretation of these original stories.

Lola is a very beautiful cat. She asks the dragon Gagu, the rabbit Vulpeasa to look at her mirror and say how pretty she is. She wants to be admired by everyone, so she goes to the market place. Suddenly, two police officers come looking for a thief and everybody runs in different directions. Lola is very disappointed. The next day, however, all her friends come to celebrate her birthday and she is very happy. The illustrations in Lola cea frumoasă are attractive and expressive: made with a mixed technique of coloured pencil and collage using lace, ribbons, coloured paper, and wallpaper.

When men started to use stones as a weapon, people began hunting deer for food. These ancient people chased three beautiful deer through the forest. As the three deer were about to be caught, they flew into the sky to become the stars of Orion. However, three times the deer returned to Earth as they hoped that life on Earth would be peaceful and safe again. Unfortunately, each time they returned, people were more advanced in their use of weapons. So the deer had to leave their beloved Mother Earth forever. All three deer were injured and from Earth they look red and shiny like blood. Will they ever return? This fable raises concern for peace and encourages the reader to reflect on the future of our planet. The illustrations are combinations of ancient rock paintings and modern paintings.

Dashdondog Jamba (The three fallow deer: The legend of Orion)
**De vogels** (The birds)

Text: Ted van Lieshout

Amsterdam: Leopold, 2016

[28pp]; 240x285mm


**Statue, love, birds**

The book De vogels is about two sculptures in Paris: one on the square (Auguste Rodin, _L'age d'airain_) and one in the park (Aristide Maillol, _Île de France_). They can see each other but they can never come together. They are connected by the birds that fly back and forth, each time with the same message: "He loves you, statue in the square." "She loves you, statue in the park." The birds are a plague, but cannot be avoided until one day the statues are removed and cast together into a new sculpture. This new sculpture is a poetic romance in bronze.

Ludwig Volbeda, born 1990, studied at the Art Academy Sint Joost in Breda. He is interested in themes such as love, loss and alienation and gets inspiration from science, landscapes, literature and daily life. He enjoys working in his sketchbooks and the visual thrill of horror vacui (filling the entire space of an artwork with detail). He received a grant for young illustrators from the Fiep Westendorp Foundation in 2013. His first illustrations for a children's book was for De vogels, which was nominated in 2016 for the Boekenpauw and in 2017 for the Wouterije Pieterse prijs, the most important award for children's books in the Netherlands. De vogels won the Grand Prix at the BIB'17.

**Snark**

Elliott, David

SNARK. Being a true history of the expedition that discovered the Snark and the Jabberwock ... and its tragic aftermath

Text by the artist

Dunedin: Otago University Press, 2016

219pp; 225x290mm

ISBN 978-1-877578-94-6, Ages: 10+

**Lewis Carroll, quest, diary, nonsense, poetry**

Snark is a tumultuous romp through worlds created by Lewis Carroll, brought to life through the vivid imaginings and fabulous art of David Elliott. What exactly did happen to the Snark expedition? Did his dagger-proof coat protect the Beaver from the Butcher? What befell the Boots in the Tulgey Wood? Who fell foul of the Jabberwock? The Bandersnatch? The Jub-Jub Bird? And, finally, the big question: what precisely is a Snark? David Elliott’s hero, the Boots, here reveals the whole truth for the first time, from his recruitment to the Snark expedition, to his return from a journey of unimaginable, death-defying adventure. The book has been praised as beautifully designed and splendidly illustrated with freelwheeling, sometimes frenzied illustrations, in soft-pencil scribble-line overlaid with wet colour-washes that are energetically animated.

David Elliott is an author and illustrator of children’s books, based in Port Chalmers, Dunedin. His book Snark was the winner of the 2017 Margaret Mahy Book of the Year. The Moon & Farmer McPhee (with Margaret Mahy) was New Zealand Post Children’s Book of the Year in 2011, and Pigtails the Pirate won Best Picture Book in the 2003 awards. Henry's Map was selected by the prestigious School Library Journal in the US for its Best Books list in 2013. In 2011, David Elliott received the inaugural Mallinson Rendell Illustrators Award, and in 2014, the Storylines Margaret Mahy Award. He has illustrated numerous books by others, including New Zealand authors Joy Cowley, Jack Lasenby and Margaret Mahy, UK writer Brian Jacques (the Redwall series) and T.A. Barron (_Great Tree of Avalon_ series).

**A young girl moves and finds herself isolated from the others at her new school. At night she sees a mysterious light blinking on an island and decides to go there. On the island she makes new friends and brings a friend home with her. This sparks a new interest in her and everyone at school now wants to be with her. But her new friend from the island is homesick. Is it right to keep someone with you just to make yourself feel better? Jeg rømmer is a heart-warming story of friendship and loneliness, of coping with being an outsider and of finding your own strength. The story is told without words, but the powerful illustrations in slacker or grunge style convey the feelings in a compelling way.**

Mari Kanstad Johnsen was born in 1981 and attended the Academy of Art in Norway and in Sweden. Her first illustrated book was _Barbie og pistolproblemet_ (Barbie-Ned and the gun problem) by Kari Tinnen in 2011. She has received much praise for her daring technique of using drawings, paintings and collages. She has since done illustrations for newspapers, books and magazines. Other titles include: _Livredd I Syden_ (A frightening holiday, 2013), _Balletten_ (The ball, 2014), _Tunnelen_ (The tunnel, 2015) by Hege Siri, D for Tiger (2015) by Lene Ask and Eg er eg er eg er (I am, I am, I am, 2016) by Ruth Lillegraven. She has received a wide range of prizes both nationally and internationally for her work.

**The book Sundouq al-‘Ajab is an episode taken from the literary work al-Ba‘r al-Oula, the first book written by the well-known Palestinian writer, Jabra Ibrahim Jabra, which describes his childhood. This version of the story has been edited to be suitable for young readers and is created as a ‘flying carpet’ with illustrations that are designed to take the young reader on a journey into the early 1930s when Palestine was a mandate state. The book combines photographs mixed with drawings of characters from the period, all done in white, with the background scenes and especially the drawing of Sundouq al-‘Ajab drawn in colour.**

Sameh Abboushi was born in Haifa in 1943. He graduated from the Faculty of Architecture at METU, in Ankara, Turkey. Since an early age, books have always part of his life and identity. His first book, _Hanan and her new friends_, a story about books being the child’s new friends, was written in 1988 when schools were closed by military order during the first Intifada. His other published books include: _Karma the last of the bunch_, 1999, _Faris wa- Amal_ (Faris and Amal, 1998), and _Man sayghanni li-Yasmine?_ (Who shall sing for Yasmine? 2002). He took courses in illustration for children in 1992 and 1993 with artist Amy Trabika. In 2004 and 2005 he took courses with Swedish illustrator Jens Album and in 2011 with artist-illustrator Amal Karzai. The book _Sundouq al-‘Ajab_ is the result of all these courses.
Curiosity, courage

La pequeña niña is the story of a little girl who explores the world around her with curiosity, imagination and games. She pretends to be a man who kills dragons, she walks a tightrope, swims in the soup, flies with an umbrella and gets lost in colourful spots and she is never afraid. This special little girl is not afraid of the morning or of the moon in the window. She is not afraid of spiders or of her reflection in the window. Moreover, she is not afraid of being who she is. The illustrations in La pequeña niña were made using a mixed technique: they were first drawn with pencil and then watercolour was added, then they were scanned into the computer and digitally retouched.

Beatriz Chung is a plastic artist, illustrator and teacher. She graduated from the Faculty of Art of the Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú with a specialization in sculpture in 2003 and went on to gain teaching experience in university, secondary and informal education. Since 2007, she has pursued her childhood interest in illustration and graduated from Academy of Fine Arts in Petersburg. She was born in 1981. She has illustrated many books, among them one of the most popular Polish book series for younger children Basia by Zofia Stanecka as well as the Norwegian classic series by Anne-Cath. Vestly with the Polish title 8 + 2. In 2012 she illustrated and published a new edition of Janusz Korczak’s classic fantasy novels: Król Maciusz Pierwscy (King Matt the first) and Kaftus czarodziej (Kaytek the wizard). Marianna Oklejak has also made illustrations for various music events, concerts and festivals. Cuda wianki was awarded 2015 Grand Prize in ‘The Book of the Year’ contest organized by IBBY Poland.

As an original interpretation of Polish folk art, this entertaining book blazes with colour and displays a frenzy of forms. It consists of 36 plates arranged to reflect the seasons and the rhythm of life. Each double-spread offers a revealing, sometimes sly perspective on selected presentations of Polish folklore, a result of playing with conventions and using a free mixture of styles. A field is ploughed with folk fabric stripes, a park of paper-cut trees and embroidery motifs sets the stage for a couple of lovers are examples of the way the procession of life is immersed in rural rituals. The story narrates a happy relationship, a wedding, the birth of a child, but also heartbreaking and the pain of separation. It brings wittily descriptions of people’s characters and behaviour, sounds of folk melodies and a horse template inviting the reader to play, trace and decorate or enjoy an animated shadow theatre.

Marianna Oklejak was born in 1981. She pursued her childhood interest in illustration and graduated from Academy of Fine Arts in Warsaw. She has illustrated many books, among them one of the most popular Polish book series for younger children Basia by Zofia Stanecka as well as the Norwegian classic series by Anne-Cath. Vestly with the Polish title 8 + 2. In 2012 she illustrated and published a new edition of Janusz Korczak’s classic fantasy novels: Król Maciusz Pierwscy (King Matt the first) and Kaftus czarodziej (Kaytek the wizard). Marianna Oklejak has also made illustrations for various music events, concerts and festivals. Cuda wianki was awarded 2015 Grand Prize in ‘The Book of the Year’ contest organized by IBBY Poland.
The Czechoslovakian collection of poems *Maminka* (Mother) is a classic collection by Jaroslav Seifert. The poems are nostalgic memories of the author’s childhood and express a son’s spontaneous love for his mother. The collection of intimate lyrics is a unique declaration of love and respect for his mother, a simple, hard-working woman, overflowing with kindness and industriousness. This version of *Maminka* has been published in Slovak for the first time with translation by Lubomír Feldek and with fragile, poetic illustrations by Jana Kiselová-Siteková. The illustrations are made with her characteristic style of watercolours on silk technique.

Visual and graphic artist and illustrator Jana Kiselová-Siteková was born in Prešov in 1942. She graduated from the Academy of Fine Arts and Design in Bratislava. Her illustrations for *Zbojníkova dcéra Ronja* (Ronia, the Robber's daughter) have been published in prešov in 1942. She received the BIB’09 Plaque. The illustrations in *Die Walvisse* and the Most Beautiful Books Society, which almost makes him useful to the bird’s giant size of difference. Initially, the bird’s giant size makes him useful to society, which almost goes so far as to exploit him. However, after satisfying a need of his own (drinking up a lake to sate his thirst) he is ostracized. The book’s hopeful ending underlines the value of tolerance and acceptance. Andreja Peklar uses inventive pacing to connect the series of scenes into a whole and uses a visual language that guides the reader through the narrative. The illustrations, which are executed in monotype and collage, are modern, unique, and extremely convincing both technically and aesthetically.

Andreja Peklar graduated in painting at the Academy of Fine Arts of the University of Ljubljana. She devoted herself to illustrating for children and her work can be seen in many picture books, textbooks, popular science books and magazines. She has also designed and illustrated educational materials for children for several museums in Slovenia and has presented her works at exhibitions in Slovenia and abroad including BIB from 2005 to 2017 and the Slovene Biennal of Illustration from 1999 to 2017. She has received a number of Slovenian and international awards, mostly for illustrations for her own picture books. *Ferdo z rdeče kapico* (Boy with the red hat, 2005) received the Original Slovenian Picture Book Award 2006, the International Golden Pen of Belgrade Award, 2007. *Ferdo – Veliki ptč* has received numerous awards, among others the Best of the Best Award at Hik Illustration 2016 International Competition (China) and the Slovenian Book Fair Award for Best Design in 2016.

This wordless picture book is a story of being different and of the social position of difference. Initially, the bird’s giant size makes him useful to society, which almost goes so far as to exploit him. However, after satisfying a need of his own (drinking up a lake to sate his thirst) he is ostracized. The book’s hopeful ending underlines the value of tolerance and acceptance. Andreja Peklar uses inventive pacing to connect the series of scenes into a whole and uses a visual language that guides the reader through the narrative. The illustrations, which are executed in monotype and collage, are modern, unique, and extremely convincing both technically and aesthetically.

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The orphan Isabella finds a small piece of clay. It is Oleg. They become friends and move to the city, where the adults feel threatened by the growing and now giant-sized Oleg. He is captured and put in a cage, but Isabella tries to liberate him. Oleg manages to escape only when a fire rages in the amusement park. He heroically puts out the fire and saves Isabella, who is sitting on the city hall roof to escape the fire, but sadly he perishes in the flames. A year later, Oleg is recreated and the two friends can build a life in freedom on a small island in the sea. *Jätten från havet* is a dramatic depiction of children’s vulnerability, of power and oppression, but also of freedom and friendship. It is illustrated in tones of brown, orange, pink and lilac combined with white that contribute to the suspense and innovative imagery of the writing.

Jöns Mellgren, born 1976, works as an author, filmmaker and illustrator, and lives in Stockholm. His first picture book was *Djungelnatt* (Jungle night, 1999) and since then he has published several titles, *Mustafa och stormen* (Mustafa and the storm, 2010), *Rufus i underjorden* (Rufus in the underworld, 2013) and *Sigrid och natten* (Sigrid and the night, 2014). The radio version of *Mustafa och stormen* was nominated for the Ikaros Award 2011 for the best drama production and for the *Prix Europa* 2012.

Marta loves painting. When one day she paints a giant lion, it comes to life and steps out of the picture. Marta knows how to tame the lion: it is just hungry, so she draws him a cake. Full of ideas and unbridled imagination, Marta and the lion embark on a journey through the worlds Marta creates with her brush. Everything she imagines becomes real. So real that it hurts when the lion at last takes a big jump and disappears. Marta is inconsolable. The only way out is through a fresh white piece of paper. This homage to creativity and the power of artistic creation is illustrated with dynamic and detailed pictures. Bright colours, clear lines, and splodges and splashes of paint accompany Marta and her lion on their wild adventures.

It’s Raining Elephants is an acclaimed artist duo consisting of Evelyne Laube and Nina Wehrle (1984). They have been drawing and painting together under the name It’s Raining Elephants since their art school graduation in 2008, working in various areas, from illustrating children’s books to record covers and live visuals, installations and murals. Their other works include: *Die grosse Flut* (The great flood, 2011) and *Quien es Guillermo Tell* (Who is William Tell? 2013). Additionally, they encourage others through workshops all over Europa and South America and as guest lecturers at the Lucerne School of Art and Design. Their work has received several international awards, including the BIB’13 Grand Prix for *Die grosse Flut*.

This is the story of a little girl who never fully understood the meaning of Eid – the religious festival marking the end of Ramadan. She was looking for him among neighbours, relatives and friends. She came to understand meaning of Eid only after the outbreak of war in neighbouring towns. With the absence of joy, new clothes and sweets, only then did she understand what Eid meant. Raouf Karray used ink and hand-made paper for this book. He searched the Tunisian African and Berber heritage looking for inspiration for his illustrations, showing how the signs, shapes and colours of the Tunisian artistic visual heritage can be an important language of art and contemporary expression.

Raouf Karray was born in Sfax in 1951. He is professor of visual communication, graphic design and illustration at the Higher Institute of Arts and Crafts of Sfax. His activities include the design and production of cultural, political awareness posters as well as the design, illustration and publication of children’s books in Tunisia, Europe and the Arab world. His books include *Devinettes traditionnelles de Tunisie* (Riddles of Tunisia) and *Berceuses tunisiennes* (Lullabies of Tunisia). He has been involved in personal and group exhibitions and conferences as well as workshops related to illustrations for children’s books in Tunisian and abroad. He has received prizes in the Arab world including the 2012 KITEBI of the Arab Children’s Book and has been Artist in Residence at the *Cité Internationale des Arts* in Paris, France.
Malenyki Prynys is a newly illustrated translation of the classic story *The Little Prince*. A pilot crash-lands in the Sahara Desert where he meets a unusual and mysterious boy – the Little Prince from another planet. The Little Prince likes to observe the sunset that one can see several times a day on his planet. One day the Little Prince flies away to new places in the universe, where he discovers a lot of strange grown-ups: the king who thinks he rules stars, an aristive who wants to be admired, a drunkard who drinks to forget the shame of being a drunkard, a businessman who is blind to the beauty of the stars and instead endlessly counts them in order to ‘own’ them all, a lamplighter who wastes his life blindly following orders and extinguishing and relighting a lamp, the rain. Bear is waiting for the snow. Owl is waiting for the moon. Pig is waiting for the rain. Puppy is waiting for the snow. Rabbit just enjoys looking out the window and waiting for nothing in particular. With a soft pastel palette and masterful use of line, Kevin Henkes convincingly creates a window frame that delineates the world of the dolls and stuffed animals, gently signals the awaited changes in the weather and seasons, and deftly captures the moods and feelings of the ever-patient toys. Slight variances in facial expressions, body postures, or proximity to obvious signs of how they are made, prompting children to question and discuss the pictures.

Viviane Schwarz is an illustrator and author. Her work ranges from picture books for young children to comics for older readers. She is originally from Germany and now lives in London, having graduated from Falmouth College of Arts. She won the 2010 Booktrust Best New Illustrators’ Award and has been shortlisted for the CLILP Kate Greenaway Medal. Her picture books include *There Are Cats in This Book* (2009), *There Are No Cats in This Book* (2011), *Is There a Dog in This Book?* (2015), *How to Find Gold* (2017) and *Counting with Tiny Cat* (2018). *I Am Henry Finch* is the third collaboration between picture book creators Alexis Deacon and Viviane Schwarz, earlier titles are *A Place to Call Home* (2012) and *Cheese Belongs to You* (2013). *I Am Henry Finch* won the 2016 Little Rebels Award and the English Association 4-7 Picture Book Award.

Nowayer is unpleasingly surprised when her mother tells her the family is moving to a new house. She loves their old home, cherishes her memories in it and does not want to leave. But when the family moves into the new big house, she starts to love it and feel content. The story describes the mixed feelings people experience when they leave familiar places and faces to move to a new home. It encourages readers to embrace new experiences. The story is interspersed with short poems and songs and is told in the second person, drawing the reader into the events.

Fadi Fadel graduated from the graphics section from the College of Fine Arts in Damascus, Syria and later worked there as a teacher. He is a painter and has had several single and collective exhibitions. He also works in graphic design and specializes in working with children’s stories. He has worked with several publishing houses as well as magazines. He is also a cartoonist and has participated in several Arab and international exhibitions.

Fadel, Fadi
Nowayer
Text: Talib Al Refai
Sharjah: Kalimat, 2016
[38pp]; 280x265mm
ISBN 978-1-4063-6548-1, Ages: 4+

Moving house

I am Henry Finch
Text: Alexis Deacon
[42pp]; 245x285mm
ISBN 978-1-4063-6548-1, Ages: 4+

Bird, identity, courage

UNITED KINGDOM
Schwarz, Viviane
I Am Henry Finch
Text: Alexis Deacon
[42pp]; 245x285mm
ISBN 978-1-4063-6548-1, Ages: 4+

Bird, identity, courage

UNITED STATES
Henkes, Kevin
Waiting
Text by the artist
[38pp]; 235x300mm
ISBN 987-0-06-236843-0, Ages: 4-8

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Waiting
This is the first Armenian translation of the children’s classic, *Pippi Långstrump*, written in 1944 by Astrid Lindgren. Pippi lives in Villa Villekulla with a horse, a monkey and a big suitcase full of gold coins. The grown-ups in her village try to make Pippi behave in ways that they think a little girl should, but Pippi has other ideas. She would much rather spend her days arranging wild, exciting adventures with her neighbours, Tommy and Annika, than trying to make Pippi behave in ways that they think a little girl should.

Ashkhen Bakhchinyan (Sahakyan) was born in 1973 in Yerevan. She studied at the Armenian Language and Literature department of the Faculty of Philology of the Yerevan State University. She was an invited fellow of the Swedish Institute at the Afro-Asiatic Institute of Uppsala University. She attended courses in Swedish and also worked as a teacher of Classical Armenian. She has translated several books from Swedish and English into Armenian, including the children’s books: *Karls son på taket* (Karlsson on the roof), *Emil i Lönneberga* (Emil of Lönneberga) both by Astrid Lindgren.

Galby Galaktisch. Die beste Nanny des Planeten

This is the first German translation of *Gabby Duran and the Unsittables* by Elise Allen and Daryle Connors. Gabby is only twelve, but she is the best babysitter in the world. She is babysitting the children of Hollywood’s hottest action hero. One day, she is drawn into a whirlwind of intrigue and adventure when she agrees to babysit extra-terrestrial children from the covert world of the Association Linking Intergalactics and Earthlings as Neighbours (ALIEN). Sworn to secrecy and uncertain whom she can trust, Gabby risks everything to protect her new extra-terrestrial charges. The detailed descriptions and eccentric characters enliven this science fiction story.

Jacqueline Csuss was born in Vienna in 1960. She went to school in Austria and the USA. Prior to studying translation (English, Spanish) at Vienna University, she spent six years abroad in the UK, US, Spain, as well as in Latin America. She has translated fiction and non-fiction for adults and children but has a special affinity for teenage fiction and the translation of slang and socio-linguistic particularities. She has translated works by Ros Asquith, John Marsden (*The Nightingale*) and Watt Key (*Alabama Moon*) and has received many awards including the Austrian Award for Children’s Literature.

A sumptuous feast of a book, *Frida* allows the reader to enter the world of Frida Kahlo – literally and metaphorically. A series of consecutive die-cut pages describe her life, art and creative process while exploring the themes that inspired her most, such as love, death and maternity. Excerpts from Kahlo’s personal diary alternate with the author’s poetic comments, giving fresh insight and emotional depth.

Born in 1978, Lies Lavrijsen is a translator who lives and works in Antwerp. Her working languages include English, French, Spanish and Italian, which she translates into Dutch. She studied Romance languages and completed an additional post-graduate course in Literary Translation at the Catholic University of Leuven. She began translating in 2003, with Jacqueline Wilson’s *The Story of Tracy Beaker*. Over the years, she has specialized in translating children’s books, ranging from picture books such as *Doornroosje* (*Sleeping Beauty*) by Elodie Fondacci and Nachtegaal (*The Nightingale*) by Benjamin Lacombe to novels including Saci Lloyd’s *Het onmogelijke leven* (*Fans of the Impossible Life*) and Kate Saclsa’s *Het onmogelijke leven* (*Fans of the Impossible Life*). She also writes reviews for the Flemish book review site *Mappalibri* and gives workshops about literary translation to elementary and secondary school students.
BELGIUM (French)
Cohen Beucher, Anne
Un son a disparu
(The forbidden sign. Orig. Spanish: El signo prohibido by Rodríguez Muñoz Aviá)
Brussels: Alice Éditions, [2017]
128pp; 140x210mm
ISBN 9-78-87426-338-5, Ages: 10+

Disappearance, friendship

One day, Eleanor disappears without word to anyone. Her best friend Jorge is suspicious, even more so when he discovers that the adults do not seem to be worried about her disappearance. To show he has not forgotten her, Jorge decides that he will not pronounce the letter E until she returns. Speaking, writing, working without E is complicated and his investigations uncover more troubling facts. In the original Spanish story, El signo prohibido, the letter A is left out; in this translation, Anne Cohen Beucher leaves out the letter E – the most used vowel in French.

After a ten-year career in banking and insurance in France, Anne Cohen Beucher began studies at the University College of Translators and Interpreters in Brussels in 2007. She completed her degree in English and Spanish translation and focussed on youth literary translation for several publishers. Her second translation, DJ Ice by Love Maia received the Special Mention of the Prix Piere-François Cailé in 2015 by the French Society of Translators. Her other translated works include: Ma famille parfait (My perfect family/ Los perfectos) by Rodrigo Muñoz Avia, La Théorie du Grand Tout (The Theory of Everything) by J. J. Johnson, Casse-Noisette (Nutcracker) by David Macaulay.

BRAZIL (Portuguese)
Brandão, Eduardo
O conto do carpinteiro
(The carpenter’s tale. Orig. Spanish: El cuento del carpintero by Iban Barrenetxea)
São Paulo: Companhia das Letrinhas, 2016
45pp; 210x255mm

War, soldier, disability

Carpenter Firmin is famous for his perfect sculptures and other objects. One day Baron von Bombus comes and asks him to make an arm of wood, since he had lost his own fighting in the war. With his new arm, the Baron goes back to war, but everytime he comes back home, he needs a new part of the body made of wood. Until the day he is all wood and cannot move anymore! The story is humorous, even as it deals with the serious topic of war.

Eduardo Brandão was born in 1946 in Rio de Janeiro. He worked as a journalist and then from 1970 as a translator, specializing in literary works, philosophy, history and literature for children. He translates mostly from French and Spanish, with preference for contemporary Spanish literature. Among others, he has translated books by Roberto Bolaño and Georges Simenon.

CAMBODIA (Khmer)
Prasanatma Prabhu
Panchatantra
(Orig. Sanskrit)
Phnom Pehn: Sipar Books, 2016
38pp; 140x190mm
ISBN 978-99963-05-08-1, Ages: 10+

Fables, animals, moral story

The Panchatantra is a series of Indian fables that use metaphors and anthropomorphized animals with human virtues and vices. In the fables, the stories of the animals are told for the benefit of three ignorant princes, seeking to show them the central Hindu principles of the ‘wise conduct of life’. The book is divided into an introduction and five parts. Each part contains a main story with several additional stories as one character narrates a story to another. These narrated stories also contain further embedded stories, creating these rich fables.

Prasanatma Prabhu is an accountant by training. Of Khmer origin, he has studied and written on Hindu philosophy and Sanskrit literature and has translated Indian works into Khmer, including a chapter of the Hindu epic Mahabharata, as a philosophical text for adults in 2012 and this version of the Panchatantra for children.

The jacket is a tapestry. Behind the jacket, Louise Bourgeois (1911 to 2010) was a world-renowned modern artist noted for her sculptures made of wood, steel, stone and cast rubber. Her most famous spider sculpture, Maman, stands more than 30 feet high. Just as spiders spin and repair their webs, Louise’s own mother was a weaver of tapestries. She spent her childhood in France as an apprentice to her mother before she became a tapestry artist herself. This biographical picture book shows how her childhood experiences weaving with her loving, nurturing mother provided the inspiration for her most famous works. With its beautifully nuanced and poetic story, this book stunningly captures the relationship between mother and daughter and illuminates how memories are woven into us all.

Sophie Chisogne is an editor and translator with many award-winning titles to her credit. She has translated Les Liszt (The Liszts) by Kyo Maclear; Écrit et dessinée par Enriquega (Written and Drawn by Henrietta) and Un ballon sous la pluie (The Big Wet Balloon) by Liniers; La jaquette (The Jacket) by Dasha Tolstikova and Ada, la grincheuse en tutu (Ada, the Cranky Ballerina) by Elise Gravel.

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When she was still a little girl, Eleanor Farjeon accidentally walked into the small bookroom of her family and found a wonderful world full of knowledge. She locked herself in the bookroom day after day to read and create stories. Later on as an author, she wrote *The Little Bookroom*, a collection of twenty-seven stories for children. There are stories with reality and imagination intertwined that depict children's positive and optimistic attitude toward life, as well as their kind and sincere nature. *The Little Bookroom* won the first Hans Christian Andersen Award in 1956.

**Ma Ainong**

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Schooldays in America consists of twenty-seven short stories about children who are fighting for their dignity, trying to win their place and the respect of others.

**Juan goes camping with his classmates. He cannot tell if he is anxious or not, but maybe just a little. He is afraid of doing something naughty. The truth is that he is always the one that makes mischief in the classroom. This a book that helps us reflect on how many children like Juan we know, about how many of them are fighting for their dignity, trying to win their place and the respect of others.**

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She also translated the three stories from the Meche series by Lene Fauerby and Mette Kirstine Bak, *La última oportunidad* (The ultimate opportunity) by Kennent Bog Andersen as well as the *Cuando Carlos* series of six books by Ida Jessen and Hanne Bartholin.

**Bogota: Babel Libros, 2017**

[38pp]; 205x260mm
Home, wanderlust

Everyone asks themselves, at least once in their life, where home is – the place where they feel they truly belong. In a small village by the sea, lives a child who asks himself this question while dreaming of becoming a painter. Life passes by peacefully in the village, but soon that place becomes too narrow for his dreams. He goes to a nearby city, but that still does not fulfill him. He becomes a painter and travels for many years in search of the place he dreams of – that place where his heart feels at home.

**Clara Carreño Mora**

Clara Carreño Mora studied literature in Los Andes University in Bogota. She now works as an editor at Babel Libros, including making translations to and from Spanish, English and French. In addition to *Mi casa* she has translated: *Casas* (Houses-house/Maisons-Maison) by Elisa Gehin and *La historia de Julia la niña que tenia sombra de niño* (Julie: the girl with a boy’s shadow/ Histoire de Julie qui avait un ombre de garçon) by Christian Bruel.

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Clara Guevara is a ten-year-old girl who is diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes. She thinks of her diabetes as her enemy, giving it the name ‘Glugar’. When she does not take her insulin in the evening and wakes up exhausted, thirsty and nauseous she blames it on Glugar. Then Glugar reminds her that it would be better they were friends then they could live well together for a long time. The story describes Clara’s path from denial to acceptance of her diabetes.

**Mariela Aguilar**

Mariela Aguilar was born and grew up in Costa Rica and currently lives in the USA. She is a children’s librarian and storyteller. She wrote *Clara Guevara y Glúcar Azúcar* from her own experience as a diabetic and produced this dual language book to help children understand this chronic illness.
Alfie is growing up without his mother who died when he was born. His father, a former coal miner, is in a wheelchair because the years of hard work in the pits have damaged his lungs, and his health is getting progressively worse. On the verge of poverty, Alfie wears scruffy school clothes and gets bullied. He has not been to the dentist in six years and has very rotten teeth. He soon finds out that the new dentist is a dangerous, demonic witch — an evil version of the Tooth Fairy. Zla zubarica is a warm fantasy story about friendship and family that turns into a funny, exciting roller coaster of action and emotions that send Alfie on fantastic adventures to find the truth about the dark ‘something’, and Moundshroud leads the boys on the tale of a kite through time and space to search the past for their friend and the meaning of Halloween. After witnessing a funeral procession in ancient Egypt, cavemen discovering fire, Druid rites, the persecution of witches in the Dark Ages and the gargoylees of Notre Dame, they catch up with the elusive Pipkin in the catacombs of Mexico, where each boy gives one year from the end of his life to save Pipkin. The poems scattered through the book have been translated by Jili Josek.

Jarmila Emmerová was born 1929 in Prague. She studied English and Literary Studies at the Charles University in Prague. After working as a publishing editor, she started teaching at Charles University. She has authored several university textbooks and translated many English, American and Australian books, including by classic authors such as Ray Bradbury, Arthur C. Clarke, Thomas Hardy and Carson McCuller.

Ozren Doležal is a literary translator who has translated around 50 titles, mainly novels, for major Croatian publishers. He also translates documentaries and television shows for Croatian Radiotelevision, as well as children’s graphic novels and magazines. As an author and translator, he contributed to Eko-revija, the official magazine of the Environmental Protection and Energy Efficiency Fund. He is the winner of the Josip Tabak award for the best translation of a book for children and young adults. He has translated novels by Sue Townsend, Colum McCann, Andrew Miller, Markus Zusak, Jennifer Niven and other novels by David Walliams.
‘Kids’ World’ is an enormous shop founded almost 60 years ago in Moscow. It has several floors and sells everything that children may need, from school supplies to toys. Laste Maailma Muinaslood is a collection of tales about the toys in this shop. There is a pink wolf, a giant kitten, a one-pawed teddy bear, an elephant with a trunk that is too short and many other toys. The toys are all, without doubt, alive – not only at night when the shop is closed. They walk around during the day too, interacting with each other and customers. They are kept under control by the Director: How the most important rabbit became the humblest, why the loud lion did not remain king of the animals, what kind of competitions are held at night in the shop – these and other multi-layered tales, sprinkled with adventure and the absurd, always end with unexpected twists.

Ilona Martson was born 1970 and graduated from the University of Tartu in 1993 with a degree in journalism. She is the editor-in-chief of the children’s magazine Täheke and translates fiction from Russian for both children and adults. Her first translated work was published in 2002. Her first children’s book translation in 2010 was Grigoriy Oster’s School of Horrors. She has compiled a collection of children’s jokes, biographical tales of children’s authors’ childhoods, and two collections of scary stories written by children, for which she received the Tower of Babel Honour Diploma in 2011. She was nominated for the same award again in 2012 and 2016 for Danil Kharm’s Vlijapudenevad vanaeided (Fair Tale with Trivial Things, 2011) and Grigoriy Oster’s Vallatu matimaatik (Whimsical Mathematics, 2015) respectively.

Nobody has seen these animals, but Ulf Stark created a poem and Linda Bondestam created a picture for each of them. This collection of poems is absurd nonsense. The rhymes are unexpected and the picture compositions unusual. Fantasy language games and new words are combined with contrasting images where each individual animal has a personal expression. Ennen näkymättömä eläimää captures this innovative book for Finnish readers.

Liisa Ryömä, born 1947, was one of the most distinguished translators in Finland, with a career spanning six decades. She translated novels, poetry, drama and songs from Swedish, German, Italian, French, Romanian and English. She received multiple awards, including the Finnish State prize for Literature for her translations in 2013 and the Finnish State Prize for Translation twice (1976 and 1981). She also received the Finnish Broadcasting Company’s Kääntäjäkarhu poetry translation award in 1998. She has translated the works of Bertolt Brecht, Italo Calvino and Isaac Bashevis Singer for adults and the works of Annika Sandelin for young adults. Liisa Ryömä sadly passed away in 2017.

 Alone in his room the young boy Kenny remembers a dream: in a garden where it is night and day at the same time, a rooster asks him seven questions. In order to answer these questions, Kenny has to make choices, solve conflicts, and travel between his room and the world. His room’s window is a point of junction between inside and outside, between reality and the imaginary world. A mysterious mood prevails in this book, inspired by the illustrations with their fine lines and delicate colours. Kenny’s Window, written in 1956, was the first book by Maurice Sendak as an author-illustrator. The mood and rhythm of his text is captured perfectly by this translation.

Françoise Morvan writes folk tales, poems and songs. She co-translated the complete plays of Chekhov and has translated Anglo-Irish texts, English songs and Breton laments into French. She has published several books of poetry for children and introduced poetry into classrooms. Her translations include works written by Shel Silverstein, including Le Bord du monde (Where the Side-walk Ends), Le Petit bout manquant (The Missing Piece) and Le Petit bout manquant rencontré le grand O (The Missing Piece Meets the Big O) and works illustrated by Maurice Sendak Loin, très loin (Very Far Away). Un trou, c’est pour creuser (A Hole is to Dig), Ouvrir la porte aux papillons (Open House for Butterflies) and Funambule (Circus Girl).

The events in the life of 11-year old Ruth are told here from her own point of view and her very special perspective on the world is conveyed in a convincing manner. Ruth is autistic and she is passionate about two things: collecting homophones and enjoying prime numbers. The story tells about Ruth’s single-parent father, who is overwhelmed by the situation; about her dog Rain, who goes missing when her father puts it outdoors on a stormy night; about the search for the lost dog; about a loving and understanding uncle who is able to accept his young niece as she is; and about a difficult decision that Ruth is finally forced to make. The text compels the reader to share Ruth’s enthusiasm for homophones by adding these to the text and interrupting the flow of the story. This style reflects Ruth’s own mode of perception in a very revealing manner. In her translation, Gabriele Haefs skillfully captures the English wordplay and creates an authentic German voice for her storyteller.

Gabriele Haefs was born in 1953 and studied linguistics with a focus on Celtic and Scandinavian languages. Since 1983, she has been translating from Norwegian, Danish, Swedish, English, Gaelic, Dutch and also Welsh. Among the children’s and young adult authors she has translated into German are Jostein Gaarder, Bjarne Reuter and Jakob Wegelius. She has received numerous awards for her work, including the Deutscher Jugendliteraturpreis Special Award for Lifetime Achievement in Translation in 2008. Gabriele Haefs lives in Hamburg.
This collection of four stories is about two children visiting the south of Haiti. The children learn details about the region such as the birthplace of Alexandre Dumas and the house where Simon Bolívar lived while receiving support from the Haitian government in the battle to liberate Venezuela, Colombia, Panama, Bolivia and Peru. The learn about Jeremie, which is called the City of Poets, Jacmel, the tourist town and of course the rivers, the land, the beaches and even the recipes for local dishes.

Gérard-Marie Tardieu is a well-known Haitian professional writer who is dedicated to the promotion of Creole. He is editor at Kopivit - L’Action Sociale and the author of more than 16 books. The series Rene ak Rita describe the visits of the two children as they explore different regions of Haiti.

Born in 1971, Dimitra Dotsi lives in Athens. She has a BA in Italian Language and Literature and a MA in Translation and Translation Theory. Her bibliography comprises nearly 100 translations from Italian to Greek of novels for adults by authors such as Umberto Eco, Elena Ferrante, Niccolò Ammaniti, Andrea Camilleri, Diego Marani and Melania Mazzucco, as well as works for children and young readers by Gianni Rodari, including, Tante storie per giocare (Lots of stories to play with) and Il romanzo di Cipollino (Adventures of Cipollino). In 2010 she won the European Translation Centre’s Award for her translation of Giuseppe Conte’s Il terzo ufficiale (The third officer). In 2017 she was awarded the Greek Literary Translators Association prize for the best translation of a children’s book for Frediano Sessi’s Era una bambina ad Auschwitz (A girl in Auschwitz).

This story is about Jean Merlien whose job was to cut all the big trees in the forest. He was well suited for the job and admired for his skill. He was working with his machete in the forest until one day as he was about to cut a giant tree, his arm froze in the air and he could not move. He started hearing voices from the king of the forest and thus learned how to respect trees.

Emmanuel Jean Baptiste is a dedicated translator of children’s books from French to Creole and vice versa. He is a language teacher and writer of language materials for schools. He lives in Port au Prince.

Nilou bears the title ‘Princess of the Orient’ and is elegant and beautiful. She never met her father, he flew away from their nest and never returned, but every night she heard the sound of the love song her mother would sing for him. Now, it is Nilou’s turn to take flight and learn about the voyage of migration. Nilou is very excited at the idea of leaving but cannot even imagine what she will see and whom she will meet. With her wings as her only weapon and salvation, she thinks of the euphoria of flight, the fear of the enemy, the amazement of new encounters and the melancholy of farewells as well as the fearful joy of waiting and the sweetness of returning home. From the pen of one of the great Italian authors, Guido Conti, this is a fable for adults and children about the cycle of life.
Twelve-year-old twins, Claudia and Reese, could not be more different — except in their determination to come out on top in a vicious practical joke. But when their competition escalates into an all-out battle that is fought from the cafeteria of their New York City private school all the way to the fictional universe of an online video game, the twins have to decide if their efforts to destroy each other are worth the price.

Hilmar Örn Öskarsson was born in 1975 in Reykjavik. He completed his BA in comparative literature in 2007. His short stories have been published in magazines and in 2011 he wrote his first book for children. To date he has written five books for children, four of which are about an ordinary home to attend a funeral. Although the house he lived in is long gone, he is drawn to the farm at the end of the road, where, when he was seven, he encountered a most remarkable girl, Lettie, and her mother and grandmother. He has not thought of Lettie in decades, and yet as he sits by the pond (a pond that she had claimed was an ocean) behind the ramshackle old farmhouse, the forgotten past comes flooding back. And it is a past too strange, too frightening, too dangerous to have happened to anyone, let alone a small boy. Forty years earlier, a man committed suicide in a stolen car at this farm at the end of the road. Like a firework, his death lit a fuse and resonated in unimaginable ways.

Farzad Farbod was born in 1968 in Kermanshah and completed his studies in the field of translation from English to Persian. He first concentrated on the translation of poetry but quickly gained recognition for his translations of the children's mystery Hank the Cowdog series by John R. Erickson, as well as literary fiction, horror and fantasy. Farzad Farbod attempts to stay as close to the original as possible in his translations and allow the characters to express their identities in all their diversity. In addition to Neil Gaiman, he has translated the works of Philip Pullman and Philip Ardagh. He is a translator, editor and manager of the Pariyan Publishing Company, which specializes in fantasy and horror.

Wherever it is Summer tells the story of 13-year-old Jana and 17-year-old Louise who, despite their age difference, strike up an unlikely friendship. When Jana experiences loss, it is only Louise’s tender and funny postcards that can pull her out of depression — right out of her bedroom window and off on another adventure to wherever it is summer. This is a touching story of the power of friendship. The original novella by Tamara Bach, Was vom Sommer übrig ist, was selected for the White Ravens catalogue and won the 2013 Deutscher Jugendliteraturpreis and the 2013 Katholische Kinder- und Jugendbuchpreis.

On 6 November 1939 Anna’s father, a Krakow linguistics professor, is taken away by the Nazis. Seven-year-old Anna decides to join a strange vagabond she names the ‘Swallow Man’. They travel around the countryside of Poland, making friends of strangers and turning crossing borders into theatrical acts. To the Swallow Man’s dismay, they are joined by Hirschel, a young Hassidic musician — the complete opposite of Swallow Man. They meet the Peddler, who offers them information in exchange for food. He seems to know the Swallow Man and also wants to ‘take a walk’ with Anna. Later on, after the Swallow Man kills the Peddler, Hirschel leaves them. The Swallow Man deteriorates when he cannot replenish the pills so crucial to his sanity. When they arrive in Gdansk, Anna manages to buy new pills for a high price and he recovers his health and finally sends her off to a safe haven.

Born in 1969, Dana Peleg grew up in Kiryat-Haim. She studied Art History at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem where she received her MA in 2001 and later studied creative writing and screenwriting at Cabrillo College in Aptos, California. She published a personal column in At Magazine, the first one of its kind in the Hebrew press. She has published two collections of short stories, ‘Te’emim, Ahuvati (Figs, my love, 2000) and Ishtati (Ififee, 2015). She works as a literary, theatrical and academic translator in a wide range of genres including novels, poems and children’s literature.
Ciao Cielo is a poetic translation of Blue on Blue, a story centred on a whitewashed New England farmhouse and the fields and ocean that surround it. A farming family experiences the full range of a thrilling seaside thunderstorm – from the wild wind and the very first drops, to the pouring rain, to the wonderful messy mud after the rain, to the awesome, scorching sunburn the next day. The children are so eager to experience the wildness of nature that they open a new window in the minds of Japanese readers.

Natsuu Motai was born in Nagano in 1943 and is a graduate of Tokyo Gakugei University. After working as an elementary school teacher, she moved to Israel in 1970. She lived on a kibbutz, worked for many years in theatre and now lives in Bolonia. He studied at DAMS and he now lives in Bolonia. He worked for many years in theatre and now lives in Bolonia. A farming family experiences the full range of a thrilling seaside thunderstorm – from the wild wind and the very first drops, to the pouring rain, to the wonderful messy mud after the rain, to the awesome, scorching sunburn the next day. The children are so eager to experience the wildness of nature that they open a new window in the minds of Japanese readers.

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This collection of folktales, collected from all over the world, includes some of the tales are witty and humorous, others are Old Testament stories, and others are parables. In the humorous title story, a precious gem sewn into the robe of a rabbi is lost. The rabbi’s emissaries go to a trader to buy a new one, but they are unable to complete the transaction because the key to the safe, where the replacement gem is kept, is under the pillow of the trader’s father, who is taking a nap and must not be awakened. Finally, the trader combines the virtue of filial respect with his own resourcefulness to make a huge profit. Natsuu Motai spent years collecting and translating these stories in the hopes that they open a new window in the minds of Japanese readers.

Hatsal-kwa-Namukun (meaning ‘sunshine and a woodcutter’ in Korean) is a group of translators led by Kang Moo-hong, who has led this translation group for a long time, has added comments for each one of the 157 fairy tales. These comments include hidden anecdotes, significant meaning and clearly understood sources. This collection is a beautifully translated masterpiece that has not altered the meaning of the original tales, thus leaving the books’ original literary value intact.

This book is the final volume of the complete collection of Andersen’s fairy tales. The collection consists of seven books, with one volume being published each year since the publication of the first volume in 2010. Andersen wrote 200 fairy tales, of which 157 have been translated in this collection. Kang Moo-hong, who has led this translation group for a long time, has added comments for each one of the 157 fairy tales. These comments include hidden anecdotes, significant meaning and clearly understood sources. This collection is a beautifully translated masterpiece that has not altered the meaning of the original tales, thus leaving the books’ original literary value intact.

Inga Karlsberga was born in 1971 in Riga. She acquired an MA in Philosophy at the University of Latvia and attended German language courses at the University of Vienna in Austria. She has been a teacher of the history of culture and religions, but since 2003 has worked as literary editor for Jaša Rozes Publishers and as freelance translator from German and Russian. She has translated around twenty fiction and non-fiction books, including Eine kurze Weltgeschichte für junge Leser by Ernst H. Gombrich, Oh wie schön ist Panamá! by Janosch, and Hinter dem Bahnhof liegt das Meer by Jutta Richter. Her translation of the novel Marchenerzählerin by Antonia Michaels was short-listed for the Annual Latvian Literature Prize in 2016, and in 2017 she received the Janis Baltviks Prize for Translation of Literature for Children and Young Adults for Samsona Celjums.

Mats and Samson are best friends. They are both ten years old: just the age of a schoolboy for Mats, but the age of a dog in his seventies for Samson. Mats and Samson have spent their whole lives together, sharing the most joyful and the most dreadful moments including the tragic death of Mats’ father. Now Samson is sick and the boy is told his friend has to leave for the long journey, alone and unaccompanied. Mats decides to run away to search for advice and help at the home of his paternal grandfather, a strange scientist and inventor who lives in a different part of the country. Will this plan succeed? This simple yet deeply touching story about friendship and loss is warm, heartfelt and poetic.

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One day the bear, Dubi, was sitting at the edge of the forest thinking that life was beautiful, it had so much fun, but was that all there was? Other bears did not share his ideas and he did not share their way of life. As he walked through the forest he found a book under a tree. He realized that someone must have lost the book and he became interested in finding the owner and asking him or her to teach him how to read. Dubi walked day and night to reach the city. When he arrived, all people ran away from him. He managed to stop a woman to ask her to whom did she think the book belonged? “It belongs to me,” said the woman. The uproar came to an end when the girl said. The woman took the book to her grandparents and the authorities, but they did not understand what happened. Dubi was sitting at the edge of the forest thinking what could have happened. Suddenly he heard a sound and his heart started pounding. He ran to the house and found that it was a little girl who had lost her way. Dubi asked her how she had found the house and she said that her mother had offered to take Dubi home and teach him how to read.

Lithuanian (Lithuanian) 165
Jonynaitė, Rūta
Drąmbliai nematomi
(You can’t see the elephants. Orig. German: 'Elefanten sieht man nicht by Susan Keller)
Vilnius: Lietuvos Rašytojų sąjungos leidykla, 2016
190pp; 130x200mm
Family, domestic violence

This is the story of a brave girl who takes an extreme step to protect two abused children. When thirteen-year-old Mascha is sent to her grandparents’ for the summer, she spends her days bored and lonely at a nearby playground. There she meets Julia and Max, two young siblings who are incredibly shy and withdrawn. Mascha soon begins to suspect that their father, who is a prominent member of their small community, is physically abusing them. She tells her grandparents and the authorities, but they all refuse to believe her. Mascha cannot let the abuse go on, so she takes matters into her own hands. This beautifully written novel is a haunting and timely tale.

Rūta Jonynaitė-Kumžienė was born in 1955 in Vilnius. She studied German philology at Vilnius University, where she also taught German language for seven years after graduation. Since 1987 she worked as editor for children and youth literature in Vytrys publishing house. In 2007 she started to translate books into Lithuanian and has translated 30 books, mainly for children and young adults, including the well-known Oh, wie schön ist Panama! by Janosch, Ben liegt Anna by Peter Häringler Der Hund kommt! by Christine Nöstlinger Frau Meier, die Amsel by Wolf Erbruch; and Mutter, Vater, ich und sie by Jürg Schubiger. Her translation, Janosch Brolių Gimtų pasakos kitap (Janosch erzähl't Grimm Märchen), was selected for the IBBY Honour List in 2010.

In London in the mid-seventeenth century, orphanages functioned as schools for arts and crafts. Children, from the age of eleven, could earn a living working for the teachers, who often treated them almost as slaves. Christophe, one of those orphans, is an apothecary’s apprentice. He meets the kindest and cruellest teachers, who fight each other to determine whether they will heal or destroy humanity. This richly detailed story is part history and part fantasy.

Laura Lecuona was born in Mexico City in 1968. She studied Philosophy at the National Autonomous University of Mexico and obtained a MA in Children’s and Youth Literature at the Autonomous University of Barcelona. She has always worked in publishing; as editorial coordinator of Paidós Mexicana and, after a year in the Fondo de Cultura Económica, as director for children’s literature at Ediciones SM. Now she collaborates as translator, proofreader and editor for different publishers. She writes a blog about feminist issues and is the author of the essay Las mujeres son seres humanos (Women are human beings, 2016).

Mexican (Spanish) 166
Lecuona, Laura
El Enigma de Blackthorn
(Orig. English: The Blackthorn Key by Kevin Sands)
Mexico City: Océano, 2016
344pp; 140x220mm
London 17th century, alchemist, secret society

Când părintii nu-s acasă is a story about childhood in a Moldovan city set forty to fifty years ago. What was it like when nobody had a mobile phone, computer and Internet, Skype or Facebook? How could people live without all these things? Children will find out how their parents spent time in their childhood and what kind of games they used to play. Going to Luna Park, telling scary stories in the evening or dressing up.

Nicolae Rusu was born in Risipeni, Făleşti district, in 1948. He graduated in Economics from the Technical University of Chişinău and worked as an economist at a construction company for 13 years. After attending courses in literature at the M. Gorki Institute in Moscow, he dedicated his life to writing prose and drama for adults, young adults and children. He has written more than ten books for children. His book Coada iepurasului (The rabbit’s tail) won the Book of the Year Award in 2010 and the book Alunel won the Sympathy of the Children Award in 2009. He also began translating, especially short stories for adults. Când părintii nu-s acasă is his first translation for children.
MONGOLIA (Mongolian) 168
Boldsukh Badamsed
Rasmus tenuulch khoyor
(Orig. English: *The Honest Truth* by Dan Gemeinhart)
Ulaanbaatar: Bolor Sudar, 2017
216pp; 130x175mm
Orphan, outsider, friendship

In many ways Mark is a boy like every other boy in the world. He has a dog, Beau, and a best friend, Jessy. He likes to take photos, to write poems and he dreams of climbing Mount Rainier one day. But in one way he is different: Mark is very ill and he should be in a hospital. Despite the love of his parents and Jessy’s friendship, he feels lonely and he decides to run away with Beau, to realize his dream of climbing Mount Rainier. His journey is both physically and emotionally strenuous, but it helps Mark to gain a new understanding of what life means to him.

Tjalling Bos is translator of English and German literature into Dutch. He has translated the work of authors such as Bertie Doherty, Gail Giles, E. B. White, Brigid Kemmerer and Siobhan Dowd. Many of his translations have been financially supported by the Dutch Literature Foundation.

After running away from an orphanage, nine-year-old Rasmus finds the world a cold and unfriendly place until he befriends an extraordinary tramp called Paradise Oscar. Together they have more adventures than they ever imagined. They solve a mystery and catch the culprits. In this tale by Astrid Lindgren, Rasmus has dreams of finding a family and a home someday. But when he does, will he be able to part with his new friend and leave his life on the road?

Boldsukh Badamsed was born in Mongolia and studied and worked as an ecological engineer. He has also translated several well-known authors for adults and children including Astrid Lindgren, Hans Christian Andersen as well as Alexander Volkov and other Russian children’s authors.

NETHERLANDS (Dutch) 169
Bos, Tjalling
Naar de top
(Orig. English: *The Honest Truth* by Dan Gemeinhart)
Rotterdam: Lemniscaat, 2015
227pp; 145x220mm
Illness, runaway, death

In many ways Mark is a boy like every other boy in the world. He has a dog, Beau, and a best friend, Jessy. He likes to take photos, to write poems and he dreams of climbing Mount Rainier one day. But in one way he is different: Mark is very ill and he should be in a hospital. Despite the love of his parents and Jessy’s friendship, he feels lonely and he decides to run away with Beau, to realize his dream of climbing Mount Rainier. His journey is both physically and emotionally strenuous, but it helps Mark to gain a new understanding of what life means to him.

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NETHERLANDS (Frisian) 170
Jong, Martje de
De GFR
(Orig. English: *The BFG* by Roald Dahl)
Groningen: Uitjouwerij Regaad, [2016]
176pp; 165x235mm
Travel, dream, friendship, giants

The Big Friendly Giant (BFG) brings children good dreams by emptying his ‘dream bag’ into a big horn and blowing the dreams directly into the children’s bedrooms. The BFG snatches Sophie, an eight-year-old orphan girl, from her dormitory room when she gets a glimpse of him on one of his nightly trips. Sophie is very afraid at first, until she realises that the BFG is benevolent and kind – in contrast to his nine fellow giants, who eat children from all over the world for their supper. Together, Sophie and the BFG hatch a plan to kidnap and imprison the cruel giants, a plan that involves the Queen and the army.

Martje de Jong was born in Pingjum in 1975. She previously translated poems and songs for games published as well as educational works published by the New Zealand Ministry of Education for children in Māori language schools. His children’s books include: Nga Kai Iaki a Tama (Father’s guardians, 2013) and Ngārimu Te Tohu Toa (Game’s awards, 2012). His translated titles include: Te Kaihanga Māpere (The Marble Maker) and Nga Ki (Keys) by Sacha Cotter, which was included in the 2016 IBBY Honour List; Maumahara ki tārā Noema, (Remember That November) by Jennifer Beck, which was included in the 2014 IBBY Honour List; and Nā Wai Te Waka i Totohu? (Who Sank the Boat) by Pamela Allen.

NEW ZEALAND (Te Reo Māori) 171
Teepa, Kawata
Whiti te Rā!
(Orig. English: *HAKA* by Patricia Grace)
[34pp]; 210x270mm
ISBN 978-1-77550-209-8, Ages: 4-8
Te Rauparaha (1770-1849), Māori, Haka

Ngāti Toa chief Te Rauparaha is pursued by his enemies and fears for his life. At Lake Rotoaira, he is hidden in a kūmara pit and Te Rangikoaera, a woman of great power, sits in front of its entrance. As he hears his enemies, Te Rauparaha whispers in the dark “Will I die? Will I live?” but his enemies cannot find him and he climbs back to the sunlight. As he recounts this adventure to his people, his words are repeated and the haka rings out, the haka now passed down from generation to generation.

Kawata Teepa is a writer, resource developer and Māori language translator at Hula Publishers. He has also provided translations for a number of commercial publications as well as educational works published by the New Zealand Ministry of Education for children in Māori language schools. His children’s books include: Nga Kai Iaki a Tama (Father’s guardians, 2013) and Ngārimu Te Tohu Toa (Game’s awards, 2012). His translated titles include: Te Kaihanga Māpere (The Marble Maker) and Nga Ki (Keys) by Sacha Cotter, which was included in the 2016 IBBY Honour List; Maumahara ki tārā Noema, (Remember That November) by Jennifer Beck, which was included in the 2014 IBBY Honour List; and Nā Wai Te Waka i Totohu? (Who Sank the Boat) by Pamela Allen.
Billie has decided to be a very positive person. She is on her way to a new foster home and is determined to make it a good experience. She arrives at a small, quiet town where everyone and everything has its place and everyone knows how to behave, especially her new foster family. But it does not take Billie long to stir things up, making people share their secrets and think in new, original ways. The language in this book bursts and bubbles, and resembles being in livet. Billie. Avgång 9:42 till nya livet (By Sara Kadefors) [Oslo]: Gyldendal, [2017].

Norwegian

Lisa Vesterås was born in 1977. She studied English, science of literature, linguistics and translation at the University of Oslo. She translates from English and Swedish and has made a wide range of translations, ranging from comics to complicated works of non-fiction. Her translations for children and young adults include works by Sherman Alexie and Jennifer Bell. 

The Tamer Institute for Community Education is an educational non-governmental non-profit organization established in 1989 in Jerusalem as a response to the urgent needs in the Palestinian community, namely helping people learn and become productive. The Tamer Institute creates alternative learning environments that empower Palestinian children through reading, development of literature, and self-expression through arts and creativity. Among its programmes are: The National Reading Campaign (started in 1992), The National Reading Week, My First Book Competition, Reading Passports, I Donated a Book Campaign, Summer Days Camp, and Book Fairs. Several Tamer Institute books that have been selected for the IBBY Honour List over the years including: Ismi al-haraki farash (Code Name: Butterfly, HL 2012), Omar wa Haha (HL 2012) and Abu Alhayyat, Maya (The Red Bird by Astrid Lindgren, HL 2014). The Tamer Institute won the ALMA in 2009.

Extractos de un diario: Perú, 1821 is the translation of an extract from the travel diaries of Basil Hall, a captain in the British navy, who navigated the world on diplomatic missions for the British crown. During the years 1820 to 1822 he travelled along the coasts of Chile, Peru and Mexico. He anchored in Peru in 1821 at three historical moments: before, during and after the declaration of independence by General José de San Martín. As the envoy of King George IV he and his crew were a neutral party in any confrontation. Captain Hall met with authorities and illustrious people of both the royalist side and the liberating side and his journal delights the reader with entertaining and sharp observations, as well as detailed descriptions of affairs and society in these turbulent times in Peru. 

Perú (Spanish)

León-Ciottiola, Rosali

Extractos de un diario: Perú, 1821

(Orig. English: Extract from journals written by Basil Hall)

Lima: Arsam, 2016

157pp; 130x210mm


Perú 1821, independence, journey, diary

Poland (Polish)

Sęk, Bożena

Pasztety, do boju!

(The little queens. Orig. French: Les Petites Reines by Clémentine Beauvais)

Warsaw: Dwie Siostry, 2017

274pp; 150x200mm


Journey, beauty, assertiveness

Mireille, Astrid and Hakima have just been voted the three ugliest girls in school in the so-called Pig Pageant. Nothing new or shocking for Mireille, but very disturbing for Astrid and Hakima who are new to the school. The title brings them together and inspires them to embark on an adventure. A garden party being held by the French President in Paris gives the girls a common goal. They decide to attend the party, each of them having a special personal reason to do so. Followed by the local newspaper, the girls set off and cycle to Paris. The long journey leads to friendship, self-acceptance and a joy of life. It gives hope to the girls as well as to their followers, building love and happiness and helping them grow up.

Poland (Polish)

Bożena Sęk, born in 1959, is a translator from French and Spanish. She has translated over 55 titles by such authors as Jules Verne, Salvador Dalí, Patrick Modiani, Yasmina Khadra and Blandine Le Callot. Pasztety, do boju! is the first young adult novel she has translated. The original French story, Les petites reines, was included in the 2016 IBBY Honour List.

Julia Fuchs studies at the Lycée Édouard Manet in Paris. She reads a lot and reflects on life. The teachers adore her because she is the best in her class in maths, Latin and literature. At home, she spends all her time with her little sister Judith, who is an inventor and their mother’s favourite. At school, she spends time with her friend Johana, who is not a good student but knows everything about fashion. One day, Julia learns that Paulus is in love with her, but Julia cannot believe that since Paulus is the coolest guy in the school. Julia has no experience of love and is not very self-confident. Love is everywhere, but she does not know any ‘love rules’. Why does Paulus copy Apollinaire’s poems for her? Why does he call her on the telephone? What does he want? Why does Paulus copy Apollinaire’s poems for her? Why does he call her on the telephone? What does he want? How does he think?”

Anastasiia Petrova (pen name Assya Petrova), born 1988, is a writer and translator of French literature. She graduated from St. Petersburg State University and Sorbonne IV in Paris. She reads a lot and reflects on life. The teachers adore her because she is the best in her class in maths, Latin and literature. At home, she spends all her time with her little sister Judith, who is an inventor and their mother’s favourite. At school, she spends time with her friend Johana, who is not a good student but knows everything about fashion. One day, Julia learns that Paulus is in love with her, but Julia cannot believe that since Paulus is the coolest guy in the school. Julia has no experience of love and is not very self-confident. Love is everywhere, but she does not know any ‘love rules’. Why does Paulus copy Apollinaire’s poems for her? Why does he call her on the telephone? What does he want? Maybe he is not in love and somebody is just tricking Julia?

The translation of this book was made by the editorial team of Bakame Editions, which includes: Agnès Gyris-Ukunda, Isālē Micromyiza, Jeanne d’Arc Murebwayire and Mathias Hakingamunye. Bakame Editions is one of Rwanda’s most well known publishing houses. Established in 1995, it lead the way for children’s literature in the country with a focus on the national language of Kinyarwanda and has encouraged many young authors and illustrators through its comprehensive workshop programme. Bakame was the winner of the 2008 IBBY-Asahi Reading Promotion Award.

A young girl named Mukundwa has a beautiful voice and loves singing. Her mother forbids her to sing in public because “respectable girls do not make public appearances”. Mukundwa is devastated. However, when she goes to live with her aunt, she sings under a pseudonym and starts to earn money. With this she is able to provide her village with a water pump that brings precious water at a time of severe drought. The collection of intimate lyrics is a unique declaration of love and respect for his mother – a simple, hard-working woman, overflowing with kindness and industriousness, who made her home a beautiful place to live.

The Czechoslovakian collection of poems Maminka (1954) is a classic collection by Jaroslav Seifert, Nobel Prize Laureate for Literature. The poems are nostalgic memories of the author’s childhood and express a son’s spontaneous love for his mother. The translation of this book was made by the editorial team of Bakame Editions, which includes: Agnès Gyris-Ukunda, Isālē Micromyiza, Jeanne d’Arc Murebwayire and Mathias Hakingamunye. Bakame Editions is one of Rwanda’s most well known publishing houses. Established in 1995, it lead the way for children’s literature in the country with a focus on the national language of Kinyarwanda and has encouraged many young authors and illustrators through its comprehensive workshop programme. Bakame was the winner of the 2008 IBBY-Asahi Reading Promotion Award.
and many of his poems have been set to music for several animation programmes for the SABC translator for authors such as Julia Donaldson, Dr characters in operas. Philip de Vos is the Afrikaans and singer and has portrayed more than sixty 1968. He is also an acclaimed poet, photographer and novelist for the quality of Philip de Vos’ translation. 

Philip de Vos is an award-winning author of many books such as Moenie ‘n mielei kiepie nie (Don’t tickle a mealie, 2003), Vincent van Gogga (Vincent van Go-bug, 1990), Die Dêng van Mallemeuleman (The thing of Gauteng, 1996), van die dieere (Carnival of the animals, 1998) and Mailemeuleman (Merry-go-round-man, 2004) among others. Die spree met foete (The fairy with feet. Orig. Dutch: Ziezo by Annie M.G. Schmitt) was included in the 2004 IBBY Honour List for the quality of Philip de Vos’ translation. He was born in Bloemfontein where he was a language teacher before moving to Cape Town in 1966. He is also an acclaimed poet, photographer and singer and has portrayed more than sixty characters in operas. Philip de Vos is the Afrikaans translator for authors such as Julia Donaldson, Dr Seuss and Tove Jansson. He has also written lyrics for several animation programmes for the SABC and many of his poems have been set to music and recorded.

You do not have to be big or brave to find your roar. Being small is not always easy, but when Mouse sets off on a journey to find his roar, he discovers that even the smallest creature can have the heart of a lion. Philip de Vos’ rich and rhythmic translation in Afrikaans makes this story a joy to read aloud and share with readers young and old.

In the beginning, when all things began, these were the sounds which were music to man. “Cicadas, crickets, beetles and frogs Seedpods, cocoons, hollowed out logs Crackling fires, the patter of rain

Thundering hooves on the African plain

Birds in the air, in the trees – on the land

Wind in the grass through the leaves – over sand.

With magical illustrations from Joan Rankin, and poetry from masterful storyteller, Wendy Hartmann, these rhymes lyrically captures the magic of the African sounds of nature. From the clicking of crickets to the crackle of the fire, the story follows the journey that celebrates these sounds, in the rhythm and music of Africa.

Ndabayakhe William Zulu wrote his autobiography Spring Will Come in 2004, which was a finalist in the Sunday Times Alan Paton Literary Awards in 2005. Self taught, he proceeded to translate Spring Will Come into isiZulu as Lyiyo Line Nangakithi. It was the first autobiography in the isiZulu language and won the PanSALB Literary Award in 2011. He has translated several children’s books into isiZulu including Our Story Magic by Gcina Mhlophe, Hoory Thoko by Niki Daly, An Extraordinary Egg by Leo Lionni, Mr Hare meets Mr Mandela by Chris Van Wyk and Tug of War by Naomi Howarth. Left paralysed after an operation at 18, Ndbabayakhe William Zulu lives with his family in the rural township of Emondlo near Vryheid, KwaZulu-Natal where he draws, paints and teaches printmaking.

Oz-eko azti harrigarria is the Basque translation of the classic American children’s novel, The Wonderful Wizard of Oz, written by L. Frank Baum in 1900. This novel chronicles the adventures of a young farm girl named Dorothy in the magical land of Oz after she and her dog Toto are swept away from their home in Kansas by a tornado.

Juan Kruz Igerabide was born in Aduna (Gipuzkoa) in 1956. He trained to be a teacher and taught for several years. He went on to do a PhD in Basque Philology and today works as a lecturer at the EHU-University of the Basque country. He has conducted research in the field of literature, in particular children’s literature, analysing mainly poetry. In the field of literary research he has written Bularretik mintzora: haurra, ahoz-kotasuna eta literatura (Breastfeeding: baby, oral and literature, 1993), a work that analyses children’s literature from the perspective of oral tradition, especially stories told by grandmothers. He has written numerous stories, books of poems and novels for adults, children and teenagers.

This classic book from 1952 is a loose collection of charming child-like definitions, written by Ruth Krauss and accompanied by illustrations by Maurice Sendak. These ‘first’ definitions include: A hole is to dig and Snow is to roll in or Buttons are to keep people warm.

Miquel Creus (pen name Miquel Desclot) was born in Barcelona in 1952. He studied Catalan Philology at Universitat de Barcelona and subsequently taught at Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona and Durham University in the UK. He has been a freelance writer and translator since 1991. He has written poetry for adults: Cançons de la lluna al barret (Songs of the moon in my hat, 1978); El llevant bufa un ponent (The east wind blows west, 1992); Fantasies, variaciones i fuga (Fantasies, variations and fugue, 2006), as well as poetry for children: Bestiolari de la Clara (Clara’s small bestiary, 1992); Més música, mestrel (More music, maestro! 2001); El domador de paraules (The word tamer, 2012). His translations include Roald Dahl’s Versos perversos (Revolting Rhymes) and works by William Blake, Robert Frost, Francesco Petrarca and William Shakespeare.
**Spain (Galician)**

Imai, Mona

*Botch*  
(Orig. Japanese: *Botchan* by Natsume Soseki)  
175pp; 130x215mm  
ISBN 978-84-15920-86-1, Ages: 14+  
School, teacher, bullying

A young man from Tokyo is sent to a small town to be a maths teacher at the local school, but soon finds himself in trouble. Not only does he become a victim of his pupils’ jokes because of his ‘Tokyo manners’, but also he finds himself caught up in a deviant plot carried out by the school’s pseudo-intellectual English teacher that pits the young man against the senior maths teacher – a man of samurai spirit and strength. *Botchan* is a well-known Japanese young adult story that is required reading in schools in Japan.

Mona Imai is a Japanese translator who has been living in Galicia since she was 12 years old. Although she has a degree in marine science, she has translated several literary works from Japanese into the Galician language, including: *A casa das belas adornadas* by Yasunari Kawabata (The house of the sleeping beauties); *Kitchen* by Banana Yoshimoto; *Kikujiru e Saki* by Takeshi Kitano (Kikujiru and Saki); *El oxio da sombra* by Junichiro Tanizaki (In praise of shadows); *O Maletín do mestre* by Hiromi Kawakami (The briefcase); *Tras o solpor* (After dark), translated by Berta Dávila.

**Spain (Spanish)**

Bastida, Xohana

*Historias para todo el año. 52 cuentos y leyendas de todo el mundo*  
(Orig. Spanish: *A Year Full of Stories*)  
125pp; 245x280mm  
Fairy tale, myth, legend

This treasury of stories collects together a rich resource of myths, fairy tales and legends, with a story for every week of the year. The book is divided into twelve chapters, one for each of the twelve months of the year. Throughout, the stories are matched to internationally celebrated dates, as well as seasonal events and festivals. It is a collection of stories to be enjoyed and shared by children and adults, introducing the former to the great metaphors that provide the foundation for human imagination.

Xohana Bastida was born in 1971 in Valladolid. After completing her English Philology studies at the Universidad de Alcalá de Henares, she started working as a librarian in a rural community and then as a literature promoter, participating in panels and courses in Spain, Morocco and Portugal. In 2003 she started working for an NGO coordinating human development projects, but returned to the world of literature in 2007 joining *Ediciones SM* as an editor. So far, she has translated more than 40 books from English and French into Spanish, most of them for children and young adults, including: *How I Live Now* by Meg Rosoff, *The Invention of Hugo Cabret* by Brian Selznick, *December Boys* by Michael Noonan, *Skulduggery Pleasant* by Derek Landy, *Sold* by Patricia McCormick, *Oliver and the Seawigs* by Phillip Reeve and *Blue Lily, Lily Blue* by Maggie Stiefvater.

**Sweden (Swedish)**

Hellerud, Ylva

*Noll Koll*  
(Clueless. Orig. Icelandic: *Sólvasaga unglinga*)  
Lund: Katla, 2016  
273pp; 140x210mm  
Internet, escapism, loneliness

*Noll Koll* is a book about everything that is tumultuous in a teenage soul. It is about Hannes, who is 15 years old, about loneliness and lack of self-confidence, about sleepless nights as a hero on the computer and deep sweaty teenage slumber in daytime. Hannes is sent to the Icelandic countryside in his parents’ hope that work and fresh air, the presence of his grandmother and the absence of computer and mobile phone will work wonders for him. So they thought … Hannes’ development, his defiance, anxiety and anger, his experience of sex and love and a gradually growing empathy is depicted with linguistic flair: teenagers’ jargon blends with the narrator’s literary language and Hannes’ own bold prose poems and rap.

Ylva Hellerud, born 1955, is a translator from English and Icelandic. She has long experience of working with texts for TV and feature films, such as *Les Miserables* and *Sweeney Todd*, and is particularly skilful in translating poetry, song and music lyrics. She has translated books by Arnaldur Indriðason and a wide range of genres including crime fiction, literary texts and poetry.

**Tunisia (Arabic)**

Mezghani, Wafa Thabet

*Aasidato Alaraz wa Ettineen Alsaghiir*  
(The nice porridge and the little dragon. Orig. Turkish: *Piniç lapası ve küçük ejderha*)  
Tripoli: Jarrous Press, 2016  
[46pp]; 225x300mm  
Dragon, trust, adventure

This story is about a little dragon that refused to eat rice porridge – his favourite food. Tomorrow is his birthday and he feels he is a grown-up and does not need that food anymore. “But what kind of food would you like to eat?” asks his parents. “I don’t know: not sweet or salty, perhaps a little meaty, perhaps a little fruity, perhaps neither!” he replied. The little dragon decided to go to the forest by himself to look for some kind of food that was ‘grown-up’. In the forest he had many adventures, met many animals and saw many plants. He returned home tired with an empty stomach, but with a basket filled with fruit that he collected on his journey and good memories. His mother used the fruit to make his birthday cake and he celebrated his birthday with the new friends he had met in the forest. This is a story about courage and about learning by doing as well as learning by making mistakes.

Wafa Thabet Mezghani is a researcher in children and women’s culture, translator, storyteller and children’s book writer. The stories told by her grandmother inspired her interest in children’s books and reading in foreign languages motivated her to begin translating children classics from other languages, such as *Cinderella, Thumbelina, Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs* into Arabic. She later turned to translating more recently written books, including *The blackberry fairy and yellow bead* also by Feridun Oral.
In this translation of the Swedish classic, Därför kan och dönnickar by Ulf Stark, Symona is a 12-year-old girl who has a lot of troubles in her life. Her mother is in relationship with boring Ingve, she has to move to a new house, change schools and leave friends. In addition her favourite dog, Kilroy, has disappeared. However, problems arise when Symona falls in love with Isak and at the same time Katty likes Symon-boy. After a party at Katty's house, Symona and Isak argue but agree to resolve their differences through a contest by seeing who will be the first to swim across the icy lake to the bridge and back. Both of them finish half frozen and go to warm up to the secret place where they used to meet with friends. That is how Isak sees herestranged sister, Symona. They tell each other about their feelings. Symona is happy and now she can tell the truth to her schoolmates.

Halya Kypra is a writer, translator and editor. She was born in 1950 in village Liubarits in Kyiv region. She has translated children and adult books from Swedish, Norwegian and Czech. She has translated Knut Hamsun and Per Petterson for adults and many books for children, including: Hurra för Ludwig Lurifax by Jan-Olof Ekholm, several stories about the cat Pelle Svarslöv by Gösta Knutsson, Elvis Karlsson by Maria Gripe, Zeppelin by Tommod Haugen, Markus og Diana (Markus and Diana) by Klaus Hagerup, Min vän Percy and Buffalo Bill och jag (My friend Percy, Buffalo Bill and Me) by Ulf Stark, Sunnanäng (South Wind Meadow) and Nils Karlsson-Pyssling by Astrid Lindgren.

When the kind fox dies the animals gather and start to share their memories of him. A small plant springs from where the fox lies and with each memory, the plant grows taller. With time and more memories, the plant becomes the tallest and most beautiful tree in the forest. The animals love the memory tree as it keeps the fox alive in their hearts.

Fatima Sharafeddine was born in 1966 in Beirut. She spent the first six years of her childhood in Sierra Leone, then three years in Lebanon and thereafter fifteen years moving between countries as a result of the civil war. She is a writer and translator of children’s and young adult books, currently living between Brussels and Beirut. She has won several awards, and has been nominated twice for the Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award, in 2010 and 2011. She has published over 100 books; a number of them were translated to various languages, including Dutch, Danish, Spanish, French, Turkish, Korean, Swedish, English, and German. Her best known publications include Ibn Sina (Son of Sina), Layla wa Al Himar (Layla and the donkey), which was selected for the 2016 IBBY Honour List and Lisakan Hisanak (Tongue twisters), which won the Bologna Ragazzi New Horizon Award in 2016.

In the new school Symona pretends that she is Symon-boy and at first she likes being a boy. However, problems arise when Symona falls in love with Isak and at the same time Katty likes Symon-boy. After a party at Katty’s house, Symona and Isak argue but agree to resolve their differences through a contest by seeing who will be the first to swim across the icy lake to the bridge and back. Both of them finish half frozen and go to warm up to the secret place where they used to meet with friends. That is how Isak sees her estranged sister, Symona. They tell each other about their feelings. Symona is happy and now she can tell the truth to her schoolmates.

Halya Kypra is a writer, translator and editor. She was born in 1950 in village Liubarits in Kyiv region. She has translated children and adult books from Swedish, Norwegian and Czech. She has translated Knut Hamsun and Per Petterson for adults and many books for children, including: Hurra för Ludwig Lurifax by Jan-Olof Ekholm, several stories about the cat Pelle Svarslöv by Gösta Knutsson, Elvis Karlsson by Maria Gripe, Zeppelin by Tommod Haugen, Markus og Diana (Markus and Diana) by Klaus Hagerup, Min vän Percy and Buffalo Bill och jag (My friend Percy, Buffalo Bill and Me) by Ulf Stark, Sunnanäng (South Wind Meadow) and Nils Karlsson-Pyssling by Astrid Lindgren.

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In this translation of the Swedish classic, Därför kan och dönnickar by Ulf Stark, Symona is a 12-year-old girl who has a lot of troubles in her life. Her mother is in relationship with boring Ingve, she has to move to a new house, change schools and leave friends. In addition her favourite dog, Kilroy, has disappeared. However, problems arise when Symona falls in love with Isak and at the same time Katty likes Symon-boy. After a party at Katty’s house, Symona and Isak argue but agree to resolve their differences through a contest by seeing who will be the first to swim across the icy lake to the bridge and back. Both of them finish half frozen and go to warm up to the secret place where they used to meet with friends. That is how Isak sees her estranged sister, Symona. They tell each other about their feelings. Symona is happy and now she can tell the truth to her schoolmates.

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