



iBBY

INTERNATIONAL
BOARD ON
BOOKS FOR
YOUNG PEOPLE

HONOUR LIST 2024

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for Young People (IBBY), 2024**

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HONOUR LIST 2024

IBBY Honour List 2024

The IBBY Honour List is a biennial selection of outstanding, recently published children's books, honouring writers, illustrators and translators from IBBY member countries. All IBBY Sections are invited to nominate books characteristic of their country that they would like to recommend for publication in different languages. For countries with more than one official national language, multiple entries in the categories of writing and translation are warmly accepted. However, for illustration IBBY currently continues to accept only one title from each Section.

The 2024 Honour List includes 184 nominations in 52 different languages from 59 countries. Selected for the 2024 list are 68 entries in the category of Writing; 55 in the category Illustration; and 61 in the category Translation. The 2024 selection features an unprecedented variety of languages. Included for the first time are books from Ethiopia in Afaan Oromo, Amharic, Anuak, Somali and Tigrinya; isiNdebele from South Africa; and Udmurt from Russia. The Honour List has become an enduring favourite in the children's book community and has established itself as a truly fascinating mirror of global children's book production.

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, which was simply 'a good book'. That year the category for Illustration was added, soon followed by Translation in 1978. Thus, the base was widened for the IBBY 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.

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

IBBY uses standard British English for the spelling of foreign names of people and places. Furthermore, we have respected the way in which the nominees themselves spell their names in Latin script. Generally, 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. Great care is taken to provide up-to-date information about the authors, illustrators, translators and their publishers, including the useful subject and language indexes.

We wish to sincerely thank our colleagues at the International Youth Library in Munich, Germany for their long-standing cooperation and support in preparing this catalogue. They have once again studied and classified the books, given valuable advice concerning bibliographical practice, offered transliteration of scripts that are not in Latin letters, as well as compiling the subject index. We are also pleased to be able to share their knowledge of the books during our preparation of the annotations in this catalogue.

We gratefully acknowledge the support of the China Children's Press and Publications Group (CCPPG) for sponsoring the printing of this catalogue since 2016. The IBBY Honour List 2024 is the result of excellent cooperation between the IBBY Secretariat, the participating Sections who selected the entries and prepared the nominations, and the publishers of the nominated books who have donated seven copies of each title for exhibitions and the permanent collections. We sincerely thank all of them very much indeed. I would also like to acknowledge the meticulous work of Brenda Dales and Liz Page in the preparation of this catalogue.

The IBBY Honour List 2024 will be introduced, and diplomas presented to the nominees at the Honour List ceremony scheduled in early September as part of the 39th IBBY World Congress in Trieste, Italy. The books will also be featured at the Frankfurt Book Fair in October 2024 and the Bologna Children's Book Fair in April 2025. Other showcases are already scheduled in Sweden, Japan and Korea. Please visit the IBBY website for all updates.

Carolina Ballester
IBBY Executive Director

Basel, June 2024



The title refers to the practice of burning-at-the-stake and is set during the time of the Inquisition. A girl lives in a shack by the sea and takes care of her blind father, but she is being spied upon. Not only does this story reference an ancient fable, but above all it is also a story of love. It also denounces this

period that allowed the persecution of women using the archetype of witches. The illustrations are in the form of the typical Marseille tarot cards, in which chance and characters are shuffled, including the Old Blind Man, the Girl, the Castaway, the Inquisition, the Herald and the Plague. Words and drawings flutter between the pages, and, meanwhile, the route of the sea offers another destiny to those who dare to believe in the promise of a new world. The book was awarded a Gran Premio by the Argentine Association of Children and Young Adult Literature – IBBY Argentina (ALIJA), at the Buenos Aires International Book Fair.

Gigliola Zecchin (Canela) is a poet, storyteller and pioneer of books for children in Argentina, as well as a renowned cultural journalist. Born in Vicenza (Italy), she emigrated to Argentina in 1952 during her elementary school years. She studied Spanish and Modern Literature at the National University of Córdoba. Since then, she has published numerous books of fiction and poetry for children. In 1990, she was included in *The White Ravens* catalogue for *Marisa Que Borra* (Marisa deletes, 1988) and again in 2012 for *La Silla de Imaginar* (The chair for imagining, 2011). Her writing for adults includes a collection of poetry and a novel. Creating journalistic news programmes has been a significant aspect of her career, and she was recognized as an Outstanding Personality of Culture by the City of Buenos Aires in 2010.

Apoyan, Hasmik

Astijan

(The ladder)

Ill. Lusine Yeghazaryan

Yerevan: Zangak Publishing, 2023

170x240mm, 20pp

ISBN 978-9939-99-0729, ages: 5-10

Toy, appliance, sustainability

In a mysterious house in a suburb of the city, fairy-tale characters and toys lived peacefully and harmoniously. The landlady keeps unused things and furniture in the storeroom of the house. Among these things was an old dilapidated ladder, which upon seeing that the land-

lady intends to get rid of these things makes an unexpected decision. With this development, the author shifts the narrative focus towards sustainability. The tale highlights the potential for the rejuvenation of objects that have long been forgotten or have fallen into disuse. The story underscores how these once-neglected elements can transform into not only useful, but also indispensable assets.

Hasmik Apoyan was born in Yerevan in 1954. She is renowned as the author of the best-seller, *The House of Toys* (2019), which was honoured with the esteemed Most Read Book of the Year award in 2021. Beyond her accomplishments as an author, Apoyan is also a translator, credited with translating the fairy tales of Luigi Capuana from Italian into Armenian. Her background in biology and pedagogy brings a unique blend of expertise to her writing. These two professions are seamlessly intertwined in her literary creations, adding depth and educational value to her stories, to make her a notable and versatile literary figure. Her stories inspire readers to contemplate their actions, cherish love, and appreciate the potential for renewal in the world around them.

Lim, Rebecca

Tiger Daughter

Crows Nest, NSW: Allen & Unwin, 2021

130x200mm, 206pp

ISBN 978-1-76087-764-4, ages: 11-14

Family, immigrants, racism, domestic violence

Beautifully crafted with wit and authenticity, this novel explores the experiences of Asian immigrants to Australia. Wen Zhou is dealing with her father's overbearing control of their family, helping her friend Henry Xiao develop his English skills, and planning to apply with him for

a scholarship to a selective school. But when tragedy strikes the Xiao family, Wen and her mother defy Wen's father by supporting them. References to Confucius and other Chinese writers denote philosophical tenets and morals explored in this deeply personal narrative of how Wen seeks to reconcile parental expectations with her contemporary Australian social milieu. Heavy themes are explored, such as emotional abuse, mental illness, and grief, but there is also a lightness to the writing, infused with Wen's quiet wisdom. Readers are left with the promise that two families have taken steps towards healing, and that for Wen and Henry, all will be well. This book won the 2022 CBCA Book of the Year in the Older Readers category, among additional accolades.

Rebecca Lim is a writer, illustrator, editor and the author of over twenty books. Born in Singapore, she was quite young when her family migrated to Queensland in the early 1970s. The many awards her works have received include the Queensland Literary Awards, and her books have been shortlisted for the Aurealis Award and Davitt Award, as well as long-listed for the Gold Inky Award and David Gemmell Legend Award. Her novels have been translated into German, French, Turkish, Portuguese, Polish and Vietnamese. She co-founded the Voices from the Intersection initiative to support emerging authors and illustrators for children and young adults who are First Nations, People of Colour, LGBTQIA+ and/or living with disability, and co-edited *Meet Me at the Intersection* (2018), a ground-breaking anthology of YA #OwnVoice memoir, poetry and fiction.

AUSTRIA (German)
Hammerschmid, Michael

Wer als erster

(Who first)

Ill. María José de Tellería

Vienna: Junfermann, 2022

225x255mm, 26pp

ISBN 978-3-7026-5962-2, ages: 4+

Poetry



In *Wer als erster*, Michael Hammerschmid has provided a particularly skillful selection of his poems. Using words and phrases in a playful and rhythmic manner and with unexpected twists, he opens a world that will amaze children.

The poems invite young children to fantasize about things they may already know, such as soap bubbles, or biscuits. The multi-layered and poetic illustrations by María José de Tellería succeed in capturing and intensifying the moods of the poems.

Michael Hammerschmid was born in 1972 in Salzburg and is the author of poems for children and adults, as well as prose, radio plays, and essays about literature. He curates and moderates the international poetry festival *Dichterloh* in Vienna. He also teaches poetry at the University of Music and Performing Arts in Vienna and writes poems for exhibitions at the ZOOM children's museum, among others. He has received several awards as a poet, including the Reinhard Priessnitz Award in 2009, and the Josef Guggenmos Award for children's poetry in 2018. In 2022, he received the Vienna Award for Children's and Juvenile Literature, and in 2023 the Austrian Children's and Juvenile Book Award. He says, "I love writing for children. And I love reading to them. And I love their questions and seeing and hearing how they perceive the world. Poems can be a way to find out something about yourself and others and the world."

4

AZERBAIJAN (Azeri)

Jabir, Zahira

Evvel Zaman Ichinde

(First in time)

Ill. Nermin Abdullayeva

Baku: Tehsil, 2022

250x250mm, 53pp

ISBN 978-9952-518-57-3, ages: 11+

Legend, Karabakh



Evvel zaman ichinde is the first book by Zahira Jabir. These legends are examples of forgotten folklore, and tales of monuments and historical places around the Karabakh region of

Azerbaijan. The book was first presented at the VIII International Book Fair, held in Baku. Librarians and readers have since made presentations of the book in several regions of Azerbaijan including Qusar, Khachmaz and Kurdamir.

Zahira Dadashova Jabir was born in 1958 in Sumgait. Since 1979, she has worked in the Republic Children's Library named after Firudin bey Kocharli, and from 1992 has served as the Deputy Director for Scientific Affairs. In 2015, she collected fairy tales of Turkic-speaking peoples and compiled a book of Turkish fairy tales, called *The Fairy Tale Garden of the Turkish World*. This book, along with a book she developed about Egyptian tales of mystery, was illustrated by children. Some of her projects for the promotion of children's literature over the years have included internet classrooms for children, the creation of a multi-media hall, AIDS-related training lectures for the education of young people in 20 schools, a Book Caravan project to help libraries and children in rural areas, and the Pearls in The World of Children's Literature exhibition in cooperation with the embassies in Azerbaijan.

5

BELGIUM (Flemish)

Moeyaert, Bart

Morris, de jongen die de hond vond

(Morris, the boy who found the dog)

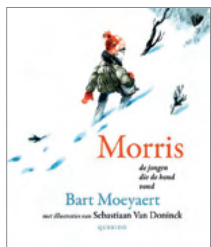
Ill. Sebastiaan Van Doninck

Amsterdam: Querido, 2022

170x200mm, 55pp

ISBN 978-90-451-2817-7, ages 7+

Family, nature, loneliness, comfort



Morris lives with his grandma at the foot of a mountain. Grandma's dog, Houdini, lives up to her name as escaping is her talent. When a snowstorm catches them by surprise, Morris climbs the mountain to fetch Houdini home safely – for the hundredth time. High in the snow, Morris meets a boy who deals very differently with all that life metes out. Here, Moeyaert again creates multi-layered yet measured sentences characteristic of his work. With masterly precision, he depicts Morris as a loner who carries sadness within him and at the same time – almost to his own surprise – does not let anyone treat him unfairly. Beautiful illustrations by Sebastiaan Van Doninck bring warmth and colour into the snow-white cold of the story, thereby hinting at the tone of the heart-warming ending.

Bart Moeyaert, born in 1964, made his writing debut in 1983. A master of the unsaid, his books are always received with great acclaim, and have been described by critics as poetic, cinematic and appealing to the senses. Moeyaert often deals with complex existential subjects in an insightful and accessible way. His suggestive, poetical, sober style makes the emotions between the lines almost tactile. Moeyaert writes novels, stories, poems, plays and goes on stage as a narrator and actor. His books have been translated into more than twenty languages and have won many awards at home and abroad. In 2019, he won the Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award, and has been a finalist for the Hans Christian Andersen Award several times. Bart Moeyaert is one of the most influential writers in Flanders and The Netherlands. He is known for *Blote handen* (Bare Hands, 1995), *Broere* (Brothers, 2019), *De scheping* (The Creation, 2003), and *Tegenwoordig heet iedereen Sorry* (Everyone's sorry nowadays, 2018).

6

BRAZIL (Portuguese)

Carelli, Rita

Amor, O Coelho

(Love, the rabbit)

Ill. by the author

São Paulo: Ed. Caixote, 2021

185x185mm, 40pp

ISBN 978-65-86666-07-6, ages: 3+

Rabbit, pets, love



While this book is about a rabbit named Amor (Love), it is also about actual love. The rabbit knows how to draw attention to the subtleties and inconveniences that are known to everyone who knows

the feeling of love. Like any rabbit, Amor is friendly yet wilful, also mischievous, and does not give in to human orders and abuses. In a poetic tone and without infantilizing childhood, Carelli not only presents a narrative about a rabbit full of personality but, has also created a layered tale of the complexities of love in both text and images. The book was considered Highly Recommended by the Brazilian section of IBBY (FNLIJ) in the Children's Category. This is the first book that she has both written and illustrated.

Rita Carelli, born in 1984 in São Paulo, is an actress, writer and illustrator. She wrote and illustrated *Minha família Enauenê* (My Enauenê Nawê family, 2018) about her childhood experience in an indigenous village; this book was included in *The White Ravens* selection in 2019. It also received a Highly Recommended award by FNLIJ and received the Butterfly Seal from the Association of Writers and Illustrators of Young People's Literature (AEILIJ) the same year, plus it was a semi-finalist for the Jabuti Award. She organized the collection *Um dia na aldeia* (A day in the village) together with the film project NGO *Vídeos nas aldeias* (Videos in the villages). She also wrote and/or illustrated additional books in the collection. One of the titles was included in *The White Ravens* in 2015: *A história de Akykysia, o dono da caça* (The story of Akykysia, the wild animals' master, 2014). Her first novel for older readers, *Terrapreta* (Black earth, 2021) was designated The Best Book for Young People by FNLIJ in 2022. She has also received awards for her films and acting.

Try, Samphos

Mak Ta Oun Gem Sockapheab Lo Or

Gem is healthy

Ill. by the author

Phnom Penh: Comics Art, 2023

200x200mm, 14pp

ISBN 978-99963-89-88-7, ages: 4+

Health, diet

In this bilingual book in Khmer and English, Gem is learning how to be healthy. She asks her mother to tell her what to eat and drink. To help Gem understand about the fundamentals of good nutri-

tion, her mother tells her to eat more vegetables, meat, fish and to drink more water. But furthermore, as a precaution, Gem should not eat salty foods, ice cream or sweets. Gem also learns that she should also wash her hands frequently with soap, especially before having a meal, and then brush her teeth after eating.

Try Samphos was born in Phnom Penh in 1982. She is the founder of Comics Art Publishing, and has been an illustrator, designer and author of children's books for almost 20 years. Since 2005, she has worked for the organization Save Cambodia's Wildlife (SCW) and has published books for children related to forests. Her first book, *Asamlanh* (Friends, 2007), was very successful. The 2018 *IBBY Honour List* included the book she wrote and illustrated, *Krapeu Ning Pingpeang* (Alligator and Spider, 2016) in the Illustration section. In addition to working, she participates in seminars and workshops related to writing books for children.

Spencer, Kim

Weird Rules to Follow

Victoria, BC: Orca Books, 2022

125x190mm, 183pp

ISBN 978-1-4598-3558-0, ages: 9-12

Indigenous people, racism, school, discrimination

Eleven-year-old Mia, and her best friend Lara, live in a coastal fishing town in northern Canada. Like most tweens in the 1980s, Mia and Lara like to hang out, compare notes on their crushes, and dream about their futures. Although they live on the same street, life is

very different for the two of them. Lara lives with her parents and little brother in a big house with two cars on the driveway and a view of the ocean. Whereas, Mia lives in a shabby wartime house full of relatives – her churchgoing grandmother, binge-drinking mother, and a rotating number of aunts, uncles and cousins. Their differences had never seemed to matter before, but now Mia notices how adults treat her differently just because she is Indigenous. Teachers, shopkeepers, even Lara's parents seem to have decided who Mia is without getting to know her first. The story is told in vignettes that are an authentic observation of cultural identity.

Kim Spencer, from Gitxala in British Columbia, is a graduate of the Writer's Studio at Simon Fraser University, where she focused on creative nonfiction. She was selected as a mentee by the Writers Union of Canada for BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Colour) Writers Connect, and the BIPOC Writers Mentorship Program by ECW Press. *Weird Rules to Follow* is her debut novel. It has won several of the Canadian Children's Book Centre (CCBC) Awards, the TD Canadian Children's Literature Award, and it was shortlisted for the Governor General's Literary Award for Young People's Literature. It received numerous regional book awards, the Indigenous Voices Awards (IVA), and was included in the *USBBY 2023 Outstanding International Books* list. Kim Spencer is from the Ts'msyen Nation in northwest British Columbia and currently lives in Vancouver, on unceded, traditional territory.

CANADA (French)

Champagne, Julie

Cancer ascendant Autruche

(Cancer ascendant ostrich)

Montréal, QC: La Courte échelle, 2022

140x210mm, 275pp

ISBN 978-2-89774-413-7, ages: 12+

Cancer, death, family, mother, daughter

10



When Sam learns that her mother has cancer, she feels as if her universe has shattered. As her father and younger brother try to deal with this heart-breaking situation, Sam shuts her feelings away and jumps into action. She secretly enrolls her best friend and

her potential boyfriend in a fundraising project to 'cure' her mother. Meanwhile, she is not admitting the reality of her mother's declining health. Infused with empathy, strength and a touch of absurd humour, the reader follows Sam on a rollercoaster of emotions.

Julie Champagne was born 1981 in Montreal, and studied marketing, then worked as a strategic planner in a promotion agency. She turned to journalism in 2010, and is currently editor of *Curium*, a magazine for teens. She has written several novels for young adults, including the series *L'escouade Fiasco* (The fiasco team), and the *Hackerboy* series. *Cancer ascendant Autruche* received the Governor General's Literary Award in 2022.

CHILE (Spanish)

Hepp, Josefina

Un nuevo barrio

(A new neighbourhood)

Ill. María José Arce

Santiago de Chile: Muñeca de Trapo, 2023

205x260mm, 48pp

ISBN 978-956-9829-23-9, ages: 7+

Waste, environment, recycling

11



Garbage is one of the biggest problems of the modern world. Garbage is taken away without us knowing exactly where it goes, but it is now accumulating in spaces where people live. Small neighbourhoods that have been simple, friendly

areas, are now changing little by little to become contaminated spaces. However, this book does not explain how to recycle, compost, or choose the best seasonal plants. It was inspired by real events, and is about a person in Santiago, who realized that she could renew her neighbourhood, and dreamed of building 'the most beautiful place in the world' and then did it. It is also a reminder that if we act together as a community, we can transform our environment and ourselves.

Josefina Hepp, born in 1982, is an agronomist and writer. Her areas of interest are the conservation of biodiversity, education, and community engagement. In recent years, her research has focused on plants from desert areas, and particularly their seeds. She works with the Chilco Fundación, whose mission is to rebuild people's connection with nature by promoting the conservation and recovery of wildlife and the health of the planet; her work is also associated with the promotion of conservation spaces, such as botanical gardens. She is a co-author with Martin Gardner and Paulina Hechenleitner of *Plants from the Woods and Forests of Chile* (2022), which is a botanical art book depicting the rich diversity and beauty of Chile's unique forested areas. The informative and fiction books she writes for children and young people are about plants, animals, nature, and the ways in which we relate to our territory and natural environment.

Xue, Tao

Xiao shan yang zou guo tian ye

(Little goat walks over the field)

Ill. Wang Xiaoxiao

Hefei City, Anhui: Anhui Children's Publishing House, 2021

150x214mm, 116pp

ISBN 978-7-5707-1225-0, ages: 6-12

Goats, friendship, nature

Once upon a time a little boy and a little goat meet and never separate again. They build a house, and live and grow up together in what seemed to them to be a very small world. However, it gets larger throughout this story that is told by the boy in first-person narration: *How many little goats are there on earth? All the goats are here in my house when I have my little goat. How many names does a little goat have? As many as the numerous places it has been in my eyes.* As we follow his eyes and listen to the voice of the boy, time slows down and we learn about everything in a new way, such as: the tender green of grass in early spring, which is so fresh; a rainbow hidden in the sunset, so beautiful it can even make us cry. The author wrote this book about his own little goat that has always lived in his childhood memory.

Xue Tao was born in 1971 in the Liaoning province in Northeast China. More than 50 of his works for children have been published and he is renowned for his novels and fairy tales. *The White Ravens* catalogue included *Sha Li yu Xing Chen* (Sand and stardust) in 2019, and *Xiao shan yang zou guo tian ye* in 2022. Among other awards, he won the National Award for Outstanding Children's Literature twice. Many of his books have been translated and published internationally. His works are unique, attracting the attention of the research community with a writing style that is profound, quiet and aesthetic. He is regarded as an outstanding representative of the 'Fifth Generation of Chinese Children's Literature Writers'.

Iriarte, Helena

Y fue entonces

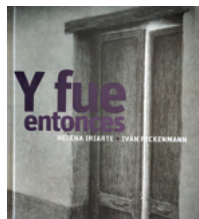
(And so it was)

Ill. by Iván Rickenmann

Bogotá: Babel Libros, 2021

185x210mm, 78pp

ISBN 978-958-5591-74-5, ages: 15+

Childhood, memory, conflict

In this novel, the author delves into layers of memory. During their later years, her characters go back in time, reviewing the events of their childhood, understanding some and justifying others, and, most importantly, forgiving. The protagonist attends a theatrical representation of her childhood, which portrays events that marked her life, but also ended her family harmony. To complement the poetic text, the book is accompanied by the illustrations of Iván Rickenmann, a plastic artist with a unique ability to recreate the atmosphere of the city, to give life and show the empty spaces of the house where objects ignite memories.

Helena Iriarte was born in Bogotá in 1937. She studied Philosophy and Literature at the Universidad de Los Andes. She specialized at the Caro and Cuervo Institute and at the Complutense University of Madrid. In 1964, she began teaching Spanish and Latin American literature. She has dedicated her life to her classes and to her students. She also likes to share her passionate love for literature with others. Her writing is born from a deep need to explain herself and the world. In October 2013, she was honoured by *Idartes*, which is part of the Secretariat of Culture of Bogotá, for her literary contribution to the city. Her most important titles are *¿Recuerdas Juana?* (Juana, do you remember? 1989), *El llamado del silencio* (The call of silence, 2006), *Bajo una luz más clara* (Under a clearer light, 2012) and *Cuando te vayas, abuelo* (When you leave, grandfather, 2017).

COSTA RICA (Spanish)

Barquero Mora, Braulio

La pesca del viejo señor Manzanillo

(Old Mr Manzanillo's fishing)

Ill. by the author

San José: Ed. Costa Rica, 2023

205x205mm, 40pp

ISBN 978-9968-05-014-2, ages 5-6

Grandfather/grandson, communication

14



Señor Manzanillo decides to go fishing, but he feels ignored by his grandson who is more interested in his electronic devices. Rhymed and musical paragraphs are accompanied by images full of

patterns and colours. Barquero Mora portrays the beautiful province of Limón in this story of family unity and electronic devices.

Braulio Barquero Mora was born in 1983, in San José. He remembers drawing for many years, and of being a graphic designer for a little less. He has used colours, shapes and textures for as long as he can remember. An author and illustrator, his book *Un árbol curioso* (A curious tree, 2021) won the Carmen Lyra Award in 2021.

CROATIA (Croatian)

Pongračić, Zoran

Krive su Seka i Seka

(Sis and Sis are to blame)

Zagreb: Knjiga u centru, 2021

145x210mm, 278pp

ISBN 978-953-8222-38-2, ages: 14+

Coming of age, crime, guilt

15



This story of the kidnapping of a monkey from a zoo and bringing the culprits to justice is more convoluted than a simple crime story. Written in a tone that is both tragic and comic, the author presents the fates as well as the personalities of the characters. The style is not linear,

yet the path from an abused and neglected child to a criminal is developed. With two police inspectors whose methods and approaches to people are completely different, the author is convincing and interesting. Serious topics show that life is not exactly the way young people see it in action movies. People are extremely complex and individualized beings, deeply determined by sociocultural, family and social situations. Humane and optimistic, this work is intended primarily for adolescents.

Zoran Pongračić was born in 1961 in Nova Gradiška and from age two has lived in Zagreb. He began his writing career as a lyricist for a rock group and has tried his hand at almost all forms of literary creativity for children, teenagers and adults. About forty of his works have been published, and many are included in anthologies, school reading books, and other collections. He is the winner of several literary awards and recognitions, including the Grigor Vitez Award for children's literature, for *Mama je kriva za sve* (It's all mum's fault, 1999) and for *Krive su Seka i Seka*. His book *41.5°C ili Kralji cijelog svijeta* (41.5°C or King of the whole world, 2003) was selected for *The White Ravens* catalogue in 2005. As well as being a novelist, playwright, and screenwriter, he has worked as a police inspector for about ten years, which helped him to write this novel.

Meloyzina

(Melusine)

Ill. Chryso Charalambous

Athens: Kaleidoscope, 2022

140x205mm, 227pp

ISBN 978-960-471-244-1, ages: 11+

Mermaid, metamorphosis, taboo, legend

Melusine, or Melusina, is a legendary mermaid with supernatural powers. The daughter of the mortal King of Scotland and the fairy Pressina, she was the mythical founder of the House of Lusignan that ruled Cyprus from 1205 until 1472, which was one of the most powerful

dynasties in Medieval times. In her youth, Melusine entombed her father with her sisters in a mountain leaving her mother heartbroken. This displeased her mother so much that as punishment Melusine was transformed into a serpent from the waist down every Saturday. Later, Raymond the Lord of Forez in Poitou, meets Melusine by a fountain in the forest. Raymond is so taken by her beauty that he falls completely love with her. Melusine agrees to marry Raymond on the condition that he vows never to attempt to see her on Saturdays when she goes into seclusion. She and Raymond had ten sons, some of whom were marked with strange signs and deformities because of their mixed heritage. Many historical monuments in Cyprus are connected to this mythical mermaid Melusine.

Despina Heracleous was born in Nicosia in 1974. She graduated from the University of Cyprus, and gained an M.Ed. in Communication, Education and Technology from the University of Manchester in the U.K., and now works as an elementary teacher in Cyprus. She also wrote *Ta papoútsia tis daskálas* (The teacher's shoes, 2023), a picture book inspired by the true story of Doris Myrianthea, a Cypriot woman who is a football referee and a teacher, and *I michaní pou éftiachne istories* (The machine that wrote stories, 2018). Her book *Ta grámmata ftaine* (The letters are to blame, 2021) was selected for the 2021 Cyprus State Literature Awards short list in the Literature for Young Children category, and the short list for the Anagnostis Prize in Greece.

Já, chobotnice

(I, octopus)

Ill. by the author

Prague: Baobab, 2022

275x375mm, 36pp

ISBN 978-80-7515-156-8, ages: 6-9

Octopus, sea, pollution, mankind

Humans have turned the oceans and seas into garbage cans during their short time on planet Earth. Discarded objects such as office chairs, vacuum cleaners, mobile phones, fishing nets, magazines and credit cards, are turning the seabed into a museum. This

catches the eye of a wise octopus who admires the human world and longs to explore it. She believes humans must be amazing, but very strange, too, if they willingly throw away so many of the incredible things they manage to invent. The octopus is waiting for an opportunity to emerge from the depths of the dark ocean where she fights for survival every day. She wants to venture out into the world and understand the mysteries of the human species. She would like to taste avocado spread, go to a concert, and most of all, find out what true friendship is. Even though many human actions remain a mystery to her, this octopus hero accepts that understanding people is an almost 'superhuman' task! And yet there are many great reasons to live among them.

Magdalena Rutová, born in 1988, studied illustration and graphic design at the UMRUM, Academy of Arts, Architecture and Design in Prague. She is the only employee at *Linostock.com* where she makes linocuts and has established the first linocut photobank. Portraiture, drawing and engraving, preparing art, writing, and outlining non-profit business plans are her interests. She creates the comic strip *Expert*, and irregularly records career growth secrets in her *Entrepreneur's Diary*.

Aakeson, Kim Fupz and Jensen, Sanne Munk

Au pair

Copenhagen: Gyldendal, 2022

140x215mm, 226pp

ISBN 978-87-02-31655-1, ages: 14+

Au pair, identity, family, wealth

The posh suburbs of Copenhagen are a far cry from rural Jutland where Irene has a job working as an au pair for a rich family – a job that turns her life upside down. She meets new people who are nothing like her friends and family back home. She experiences things that she

had never dreamed of, but also gets a view of a life that may in fact be what she has always dreamt of. However, such dreams come with a price, and soon Irene is forced to make a difficult decision – one that may radically change her future. The two authors have included class and cultural differences in a strong and serious story that is both thoughtful and humorous.

Sanne Munk Jensen, born in 1979 in Skagen, is a screenwriter as well as an established voice in Danish youth literature. Her acclaimed youth novel *Nærmest hinanden* (Somewhat close, 2002) was followed by her breakthrough title *En dag skinner solen også på en hunds røv* (One day the sun shines also on a dog's arse, 2007), which earned her a Gyldendal children's book prize. The YA novel *Dig og mig ved daggry* (You and me at dawn, 2014), which Jensen co-authored with Glenn Ringtved, earned her the prestigious author prize from the Ministry of Culture for Children and Youth Books.

Kim Fupz Aakeson, born in 1958 in Copenhagen, is a writer, illustrator and a screenwriter. He is known for his quirky, honest, serious and wonderful picture books, as well as his biting young adult fiction. He has written more than 90 books for children, young adults and adults and has received numerous awards including a Gyldendal children's book prize. Aakeson is versatile in terms of genre and theme, with a markedly oral writing style and a keen talent for including the reader in his texts.

Sozapato

Hogar

(Home)

Ill. by the author

Quito: Casa de la Cultura Ecuatoriana, 2022

200x195mm, 34pp

ISBN 978-9942-7059-2-1, ages: 6+

Home, protection

When I wake up with walls that have collapsed, windows that have broken, and doors full of cold, I cannot distinguish what is 'inside' and what is 'outside'.

Then a new possibility unfolds, and I cross the garden and become everything. I feel the warm embrace that the earth gives to the seed when it germinates. I flow along with the rhythm of the water that inhabits its own path. Is it possible to carry a house in your pocket? Perhaps 'home' is the courage that grows on our skin, the silence that shows what we really are. Perhaps it is the freedom to leave and the joy of returning. An encounter, being part of a family with everything more and everything less. Perhaps loving is how a home is made. When I wake up without walls, windows or doors I smile, because the heat that I carry inside shelters all my 'outsides'. I am home!

Sozapato is the pen name of Sofia Zapata Ochoa. She was born in 1984 in Quito and is a designer, plastic artist, master of illustrated children's books, clown actress, and activist for children's creative thinking. Her work has been published and exhibited in eleven countries in addition to in Ecuador. In 2020, the Spanish issue of the *New York Times* published her illustrated text *Inevitable Metamorphoses*, and she was a finalist with an honourable mention in the 7th Ibero-American Design Biennial in Spain. In 2018, she founded Ommani Ediciones, which is the first Ecuadorian publishing house that develops creative and philosophical thinking in children. She is the author and illustrator of the books *Colorín Colorado* (2012) and *Debajo de hoy* (Under today, 2018), which were both selected for the *IBBY Honour List* for the quality of her illustrations in 2014 and 2020, respectively.

EGYPT (Arabic)

Fathi, Mohamed

Hekayet Lubah

(The story of a toy)

Ill. Moustafa Barshoumy

Cairo: Orjouha Publishing, 2023

200x285mm, 37pp

ISBN 978-9948-796-23-7, ages: 0-5

Toy, feelings, appreciation

20

ESTONIA (Estonian)

Tomusk, Ilmar

Matemaatiline sõber. Marss Marsile

(Mathematical friend. Forward march to Mars)

Ill. Urmas Nemvalts

Tallinn: Tammerraamat, 2023

170x215mm, 91pp

ISBN 978-9916-681-43-5, ages: 8+

Adventure, Mars, extra-terrestrial

21



A toy grumbles because the grown-ups think that it is not useful. However, the children love it and always ask for it, yet it still feels that it is not as valued as it should be. Throughout its journey from the toyshop shelves until it reaches the hands of a child waiting for it,

the toy learns a lot. We can hear the thoughts of the toy and understand its feelings. The author engages the reader in the actions of the toy in this story full of empathy, morals, and appreciation.

Mohamed Fathi, born in 1980, is an Egyptian university professor, children's literature author, and content producer for schools. He is general supervisor and content developer for the Egypt Schools Olympics, and a member of the Committee of Curriculum Innovation for middle schools, which are both under the auspices of the Ministry of Education. He is also involved in publishing and media organizations and has written for several magazines in Arabic for children. Among his other books for children and adolescents are *Nazra* (A look), *Sheiy Gheyr Tabiyee* (Extraordinary), *Eterafaat Momhaa* (Confessions of an eraser), and *Al Kaboose* (The nightmare). Fathi's book *You are the hero* was written with the approval and support of the Egyptian football star Mohammed Salah for the Addiction Control and Treatment Fund in Egypt.



More fantastic and funny adventures of Marcus and his friend Peter are told in this fourth instalment of the *Matemaatiline sõber* series. Marcus is a regular boy and although Peter looks like a boy, he is an extra-terrestrial. It is the summer holidays, and the

boys decide to take a daytrip to the planet Mars. Their trip becomes more adventurous and longer than expected when they encounter problems with a NASA Mars rover and must fight a violent creature from outer space. Finally, they decide to bring the planet back to life so that the dream of Markus' grandfather can be fulfilled, which is to grow carrots there.

Ilmar Tomusk, born in 1964, is a prolific author who has written more than 30 children's books, both fiction and picture books. His humorous stories, which alternate between elements of realism and fantasy, are often about the everyday lives and adventures of children. As a testament to his popularity among young readers, he has received three Nukits Awards as well as other awards where children and young adults are asked to rate the books. His other titles include *Kops läks üle maksa* (Nettles, 2021), *Julius, mida sina tegid?* (Julius, what did you do? 2022), *Hundi sõbrad* (Wolf's friends, 2018), and *Kullakallis kass* (Precious cat, 2022).

Mulat, Worku L.

Seenaa Abdil

(Story of Hope)

Ill. Daniel Getahun

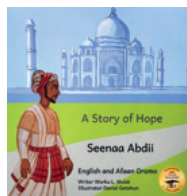
Seattle, WA, U.S.A.: Open Hearts Big Dreams/

Ready Set Go Books, 2022

215x215mm, 32pp

ISBN 979-8405644271, ages: 8-10

Ethiopia, India, Malik Ambar, slavery, freedom



Captured in Ethiopia and enslaved as a child, Malik Ambar travels throughout the Middle East until he arrives in India. Despite a lifetime of adversity and hardship, Malik's love of language and ideas helps

him persevere and inspires him to study military history. Through education, hard work and determination, Malik learns to manage the finances of his enslaver, and goes on to train legions of African horsemen as a commander in the Indian Army. As a free man, he becomes a valued diplomat and earns his place as a respected figure in Indian history. In this story of the Ethiopian boy who was enslaved and who grew to be regarded as one of the greatest leaders of central and southern India, the reader is reminded of how empowering and liberating education can be.

Worku L. Mulat was born in Ethiopia and now lives in the U.S.A. He joined the Ready Set Go Books team early in 2019, first as a translator and now as an author. He holds a Ph.D. from University College Cork in Ireland, an M.Sc. from Gent University in Belgium, and a B.Sc. from Asmara University in Eritrea. As a science writer, Mulat has published numerous professional articles and has also co-authored three books with a main theme of environmental conservation. Currently he is working for the Open Hearts Big Dreams Fund as its Innovation Center Lead in model projects being implemented in Ethiopia. He is also a research associate at the TREE Foundation, which strives to save the Ethiopian 'church forests'.

Angelidis, Ellenore and Angelidis, Leyla

Mothers and Daughters: A Special Bond

Ill. Daniel Aklilu

Seattle, WA, U.S.A.: Open Hearts Big Dreams/

Ready Set Go Books, 2023

200x255mm, 30pp

ISBN 979-8814593177, ages 7-9

Mother, daughter



This is a celebration of the ways mothers and daughters share special times together in Ethiopia. They make injera and firfir, spin and knit cotton, plant and harvest, tell stories and laugh. They braid each other's hair, enjoy the beauty of nature, dance and

play games. Some mothers share their love of wild-life conservation to inspire their daughters. Others like to gaze at the night sky and look for shooting stars. Still others raise bees and snack on the sweet honeycomb. But all of them come together for hugs and that special love that bonds mothers and daughters around the world. The charming illustrations show the beauty and strength of Ethiopian women and girls with the colourful patterns and styles of Ethiopia.

Ellenore Angelidis is a public speaker, consultant, volunteer, lawyer and aspiring writer. Equalizing educational opportunities for children in Ethiopia is a passion, which in part comes from being raised by two teacher parents and in part from raising an Ethiopian daughter. She founded and now leads both Open Hearts Big Dreams (OHBD), and a new company, L.E.A.D. (Lead Empower Activate Dream) LLC.

Leyla Marie Fasika Angelidis was born in Bahir Dar and joined the Angelidis family in Seattle as an infant. She is currently in middle school and finds it unimaginable that some children in her country of birth do not get the chance to learn to read or even go to school. So far, she has collaborated with her family to build a library in Bahir Dar, co-authored several OHBD Ready Set Go early-reader books based on family experiences and personal interests. More recently, she is a featured spokesperson for events and awareness building for OHBD literacy projects.

Ayalew, Yoseph

Qofna ma hor istaagi karo Riyadayd

(No One Stop My Dreams)

Ill. Brenda Porter

Seattle, WA, U.S.A.: Open Hearts Big Dreams Fund/
Ready Set Go Books, 2022

220x220mm, 34pp

ISBN 979-8351926261, ages 8-10

Deafness, school, perseverance

An Ethiopian girl who was born deaf dreams of going to school to learn about engineering, but her condition is considered bad luck. Her supportive family helps her find placement in a school for deaf children, where she learns the skills that she needs to make those dreams come true. This story is based on the true story of a little girl with big goals and the fierce drive to meet them. This title is part of the Mike Carr Legacy Project, which was created to provide opportunities for children with disabilities in Ethiopia.

Yoseph Ayalew is a literacy advocate in Addis Ababa. In addition to writing and doing translation for Open Hearts Big Dreams (OHBD), Ayalew is a Project Manager for OHBD, leading the printing and distribution of the Ready Set Go Books in Ethiopia. In 2022, he was recognized by OHBD with a Literacy Leader Award for his dedication to improving literacy. He has written children's books in Amharic, English and Anuak and has also been a teacher for two decades in elementary and middle schools. He was one of the founders of MYFV School, which educates children from kindergarten to grade 8, with the goal of including orphans and vulnerable children into the student population. He is also an event planner and organizes festivals, such as those to celebrate the International Day of the African Child. His family and friends know him as a 'solution architect' who looks for innovative approaches to problems.

Genet, Eyayu, Angelidis, Ellenore and Angelidis, Leyla

Nay qālay nabrana

(Our Life is on the Lake)

Ill. Eyayu Genet

Seattle, GA, U.S.A.: Open Hearts Big Dreams/Ready
Set Go Books, 2022

215X280mm, 36pp

ISBN 979-8419827998, ages: 7-9

Ethiopia, Lake Tana

Lake Tana is more than a life-giving refuge for animals and birds. It is also a sanctuary for sacred relics, which are housed on its many islands. It is also a place to relax, a must-see for international visitors, and a source of food and resources for countless locals. Each page features stunning and detailed art that expresses the beauty and complexity of this Ethiopian treasure.

Eyayu Genet was born in Durbetee in 1986 and is a visual artist and lecturer at Bahir Dar University. This book was inspired by his amazing paintings that depict life along Lake Tana and his moving words used for the title. He completed an M.F.A. at Addis Ababa University and has exhibited his work in Ethiopia and various other places including Qatar, the U.S.A., Sweden, Ecuador and Uganda. He has been awarded the Tana Media Award for his contributions towards the promotion of love and peace. He is engaged with many humanitarian and social programmes; he also works towards making Bahir Dar an 'oasis' for fine art in Ethiopia.

Ellenore Angelidis is a public speaker, consultant, volunteer, lawyer and aspiring writer. Equalizing educational opportunities for children in Ethiopia is a passion for her. She founded and now leads both Open Hearts Big Dreams (OHBD), and a new company, L.E.A.D. (Lead Empower Activate Dream) LLC. Visiting Lake Tana and Bahir Dar has been a special highlight.

Leyla Marie Fasika Angelidis was born in Bahir Dar and joined the Angelidis family in Seattle as an infant. She is currently in middle school and finds it unimaginable that some children in her country of birth do not get the chance to learn to read or even go to school. She has collaborated with her family to build a library in Bahir Dar and she supports other literacy projects through OHBD.

Teräs, Mila

Ensilumi

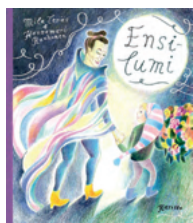
(The first snow)

Ill. Hannamari Ruohonen

Hämeenlinna: Karisto, 2022

215x260mm, 32pp

ISBN 978-951-1-40286-2, ages: 3+

Grandfather, diversity, identity

Tuisku is helping Grandpa prepare for a figure skating show. The performance outfit sparkles with all the colours of the rainbow. After seeing this miraculous costume, Tuisku has some searching questions for Grandpa. In a sensi-

tive and warm atmosphere, we hear about the long-ago childhood and the slow and lengthy journey to feel secure enough to be true to oneself. This is a beautiful and ground-breaking picture book that talks about the journey to self-discovery and how everyone has the right to be proud of themselves just the way they are. *Ensilumi* received the Punni Award and has been praised for being the first Finnish picture book to include a transgender main character. Teräs writes in a poetic, yet realistic manner as she depicts powerful stories.

Mila Teräs (born in 1975) is a versatile writer who has written for both children and young adults. Teräs has been awarded the prestigious Kaarina Helakisa Prize for her books for children's and YA literature, and her works have been nominated for, among others, the Finlandia and Topelius Prizes. Often in her work fantasy and historical elements are combined. She has written books that deal with topics such as gender identity and masculinity in a sensitive and realistic way. Her work includes: *Myyrä joka katsoi kuuta* (The vole and the moon, 2023), *Yökirjeitä* (The night letters, 2022), *Amiraali* (The red admiral, 2020), *Noitapeili* (The witch mirror, 2016), and *Hämärinkäinen* (Duskspinner, 2015).

Klingenberg, Malin

Främlingarna

(The strangers)

Ill. Maria Sann

Helsinki: Schildts & Söderströms, 2021

215x255mm, 38pp

ISBN 978-951-52-5137-4, ages 3+

Misunderstanding, fantasy, siblings

The story is based on a word misheard by children in a preschool class. The children are playing in the sandbox when Linnea shares that her father told her they were going to get strangers. Linnea is confused and intrigued

about these strangers who will be living with her family – she does not even know their names. Klingenberg writes in a short and precise style, yet she can convey intricacies of being a child in a heart-warming manner. She conveys what is like to navigate curiosity, peer-pressure and parental guidance in a world you do not yet fully understand. At the same time the text relates to the way a child manages major and minor incidents, as well as the 'here and now' that dominates childhood. Funny, intelligent and endearing writing.

Malin Klingenberg, born in 1979, is a Swedish-speaking author who writes for young people of various ages. Her work includes the *Superseniorit* (The senior squad) series for children aged 7 to 10, the young adult book, *Älgflickan* (The elk girl, 2018), for readers aged 12–15, which received wide critical acclaim. She won the Runeberg Junior Prize in 2017 for her book *Den fantastiske Alfredo* (The amazing Alfredo). *Fisens liv* (The secret life of farts, 2019) was her first rhyming books for children and was nominated for the Runeberg Junior Prize. Her books have been translated into 14 languages.

FRANCE (French)

Bertrand, Jolan C.

Là où règnent les baleines

(Where whales reign)

Ill. Hélène Let

Paris: L'école des loisirs, 2023

150x220mm, 295pp

ISBN 978-2-211-32070-2, ages 11+

Adventure, fantasy, sea, environment, family

28

GERMANY (German)

Kröner, Matthias

Der Billabongkönig

(The billabong king)

Ill. Mina Braun

Weinheim: Beltz & Gelberg, 2022

170x225mm, 162pp

ISBN 978-3-407-75641-1, ages: 8+

Fable, king, crocodile, abuse of power

29



Roanne is to spend the summer with an uncle she has never met, who lives alone in a lighthouse just off the Atlantic coast. The uncle is very strange, even frightening. The mysterious shipwrecks that have occurred in the area add to her concern; she cannot wait to leave this deserted rock in the ocean. But then she discovers her uncle's secret... The novel has many facets: extraordinary underwater adventures, evocations of the environmental damage caused by human activity, and above all, reflections on self-acceptance and acceptance of others. The richness of the marine world created by the author is fabulous, and the characters, especially the grumpy uncle, are truly endearing. The author moves from mystery to adventure with a touch of humour and demonstrates, in the broadest sense of the word, the need to have a family. A captivating and profound read.

Jolan C. Bertrand was born in 1994. He grew up surrounded by books – from *Artemis Fowl* to *The Northern Kingdoms* – and he dictated his first stories to his parents. Since then, he has never stopped writing. When he is not immersed in a book or manuscript, he travels the world with an old backpack. He also wrote *Les sœurs Hiver* (The winter sisters, 2022), illustrated by Tristan Gion.



To Australian Aborigines, a waterhole or branch of a river is called a billabong, and crocodiles who live there are called billabong kings because they are strong and dangerous. One such billabong king is Ben, and Ben has a problem. He has a terrible toothache. The only thing that can help him is a crocodile sentinel bird, which is expert in cleaning between the large crocodile teeth. Although the bird is a wonderful dentist, it asks an outrageous price for its services. This involves treason that leads to an attempted coup; this of course distresses Ben enormously. This witty story is about domination and revolution, power and powerlessness, betrayal and solidarity, as well as dictatorship and democracy. There is lively dialogue between the narrator and the main character, and Ben often interrupts the narrator as these complex themes are developed for children. For Ben, the way out of distress is through the courage to resist, loyal friendship, and the willingness to forgive.

Matthias Kröner, born in Nuremberg in 1977, has lived and worked as an author and editor near Lübeck since 2007. Among other things, he writes the *Ohrenbär* audio stories for children that are on radio and podcasts. His work has won several awards. *Der Billabongkönig* was included in *The White Ravens* in 2023. His first picture book *Omas pakete* (Grandma's packages) was published in 2023.

Lambrelli, Lily

To pérasma. Aivalí-Mytilíni, 1922

(The passage)

Ill. Katerina Veroutsou

Athens: Patakis Publishers, 2022

120x185mm, 150pp

ISBN 978-960-16-2948-3, ages: 10-16

Displacement, refugees, history

This story about five women is based on true facts. A grandmother, mother, three little girls and a baby boy, travel from Ayvalik to Mytilene in 1922 – the year of the Asia Minor Catastrophe, which describes the defeat of the Greek army in the Greco-

Turkish war (1919-22) and the subsequent atrocities. The seven men of the family have disappeared without a trace. Told by the oldest of the three girls, nine-year-old Helen, this nearly all-female journey resembles the Matryoshkas, the Russian nesting dolls, as the story unfolds revealing an unpredictable multi-layered narrative with various twists. Masterfully incorporated in the omnipresent oral tradition are fictional elements, historical facts, family memories from Lily Lambrelli's grandparents, and testimonies from Ayvalik refugees – among them the renowned Greek novelist Elias Venezis.

Lily Lambrelli was born in the port city of Piraeus. The family of her grandfather came from Aivali on the shores of Asia Minor, and the family of her grandmother came from Mytilene, the capital of Lesbos one of the northern Aegean islands. Lambrelli read law at university and studied music. After graduating, she practised law for a while, then spent many years as a translator with the European Union in Luxembourg and Brussels. After she met the French storyteller Henri Gougaud in 1998, she plunged deep into the world of fairy tales and has never resurfaced. Tales and storytelling have brought her many gifts. She has had 25 books published, as well as a CD of fairy tales. In 2016, she was nominated for the Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award. Her books include: *To krymméno neró* (The hidden water), illustrated by Fotini Stefani, and *Esú ti les polútimo pos einai*; (What would you say is the most precious thing in the world?) illustrated by Kelly Matathia-Covo; both books won the IBBY Greece Picture Book Award.

Helgason, Gunnar

Alexander Daniel Hermann Dawidsson:**Bannað að eyðileggja**

(Alexander Daniel Hermann Dawidsson:

do not destroy), Ill. Rán Flygenring

Reykjavík: Mál og menning, 2021

140x215mm, 231pp

ISBN 978-9979-3-4486-5, ages: 8-16

ADHD, football

Alexander Daniel Hermann Dawidsson has attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) and that is okay – except when life really turns on you. This is an exciting story about Alexander and his classmate Sóley, their colourful families, the mother who is gone, and the teacher who should not be allowed to work with children.

Gunnar Helgason, born in 1965 in Reykjavík, is a renowned children's book author. He has written stories from a young age and was encouraged by teachers and people around him to write. Since graduating as an actor in 1991 from the Drama School of the Icelandic Academy of the Arts, he has acted, written and directed both for TV and theatre. He founded two independent theatres, directed, and has acted in all of Iceland's professional theatres. From 1993 to 1995, he hosted one of Iceland's most popular TV shows for children and he has had a hand in many other projects concerning children's literature and culture. Since 2011, he has been a bestselling children's author in Iceland and won the Icelandic Literary Award for best children's book in 2016 and in 2023. His titles include the five-book series *Fótboltasagan mikla* (The great football saga) and the four-part series about Stella and her family, including *Mamma Klikk!* (My bonkers mum! 2015). He writes with great respect for the child's world of experience, and is unafraid to talk about difficult subjects, while at the same time approaches everything with humour and happiness.

Bemoe, Agnes

Misteri Mamoli Kuno

(The mystery of an ancient mamoli)

Ill. Asepsap. collective

Jakarta: Kiddo, 2022

130x195mm, 186pp

ISBN 978-602-481-825-8, ages: 8-13

Mystery, treasure hunt, history, war

One day, Dara went to the hospital to visit Oma, her grandmother. There she met an old man who claimed to be a friend of Oma. He asked Dara to deliver one earring from a pair of ancient Sumbanese earrings (mamoli) and a Sumbanese poem to Oma. However, when Oma saw the gifts, she suffered a heart attack. Feeling guilty but curious, Dara, with the help of her cousin Rolly, learned more about the mamoli and the poem. This led them to a treasure trove from the 20th century Kodi War between the Sumba people and the Dutch. The resistance was led by Chief Rato Loghe Kadhu, his commander Wona Kaka, and his wife's commander Warat Wona. A group of heirloom smugglers were also after the treasure, but Dara and Rolly save it and decide to return it to the government – apart from the mamoli. They had learned that the pair of mamoli was a legacy left by Warat Wona to his female descendants, and one of these descendants was Oma!

Agnes Bemoe, born in 1968, has been writing books for children for over a decade. Her picture book, *Utan for Marcia* featured traditional Flores woven fabric, was shortlisted in the SingTel Asian Picture Book Award in Singapore. Bemoe has highlighted her concern for minorities in her work, such as in her middle grade novel, *Kopral Jono*, 2016, which featured a disabled main character. Her love of the eastern part of Indonesia shows in her latest picture book, *Walde asks for rain*, which not only depicts the tradition of asking for rain, but also was written in the Muhan language, the native language used by the Tana 'Ai people of Flores. *Misteri Mamoli Kuno* was awarded the 2023 Scarlet Pen Award's Best Children Book.

Arian, Arman

Patash Khowargar #5

(Patash Khowargar Vol. 5)

Tehran: Ofoq Publishers, 2021

140x185mm, 335pp

ISBN 978-600-353-985-3, ages: 13+

Good/evil, prince, demon, legend

The five parts of the *Patash Khowargar* are based on a world described in Iran's ancient books, *Avesta* and *Bondahesh*. In a world transformed by upheaval, dark forces rise from the depths to invade the Seven Lands, a boy named Arasti receives a divine mission. Tasked by the enigmatic 'Farreh' (Khvarenah), he sets out on a quest to find Patash Khowargar. Patash Khowargar is a prince with extraordinary powers, who has lived in secrecy for years, with his existence shrouded in myths and legends. However, the battle against the malevolent demons and devils, that are aided by the conniving Queen and her devilish Minister, is no simple feat. The balance of creation is disrupted, and Patash Khowargar, along with Arasti, and their brave companions, must embark on a journey. Together, they prepare to face the daunting challenges and safeguard the world in its most perilous hour.

Arman Arian, born in 1981, is an author, novelist and researcher, best known for his first trilogy, *Parsian va Man* (Persians and I, 2006), which won the National Book Award in 2006. He is the youngest winner of the annual the Book of the Year of Iran. In addition to many national awards, he was selected for the *IBBY Honour List* 2008 for *Parsian va Man*. Although Arian is known as a fantasy writer for children and young adults, he is not limited to fantasy. More than 30 of his books have been well-received by a range of readers in all age groups. In his writings, Arian combines a rich academic background in cinema studies with an extensive knowledge of the myths, religions and history of Iran.

Close, Helena

Things I Know

Dublin: Little Island Books, 2022

130x200mm, 282pp

ISBN 978-1-91507-103-3, ages: 15+

School, suicide, mental illness, grief, bullying

Things I Know is about Saoirse, a young woman in her last year at school who is living in stressful conditions and dealing with anxiety, which is complicated by the death by suicide of her ex-boyfriend. Her classmates blame Saoirse for his death and subject her to sustained

bullying and harassment, until her anxiety escalates into a full dissociative fugue. Told with heart and humour, this is a story of moral courage and mental strength in the face of catastrophic life events. The author emphasises the value of family and friends in recovering hope even in bleak circumstances. Fresh, ironic and totally unsentimental, this novel makes no concessions to clichéd views of mental illness and its treatment.

Helena Close was born in Cork in 1959 but moved up to Limerick as a child. She has been a full-time writer for adults and young people for over twenty years. She has written or co-written seven novels for adults under the pseudonym Sarah O'Brien. She is also a highly regarded playwright. *Things I Know* is her second young adult novel and it was nominated for the Yoto Carnegie Medal 2023. Her first book for younger readers, *The Gone Book* (2020), was also nominated for the Carnegie, and was listed in *The White Ravens* in 2021.

Cinquetti, Nicola

L'estate balena

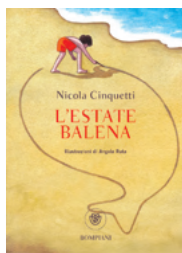
(The whale summer)

Ill. Angelo Ruta

Milan: Bompiani, 2023

130x180mm, 142pp

ISBN 978-88-301-1881-2, ages: 8+

Summer, holidays, pregnancy, sister

Mum, Dad and Carlo are going to the seaside, to the same place that they go to every year. But this year there is someone else with them, even if she is not 'here' yet – Carlo's mother is pregnant with his new sister. A few children call his mother a 'whale', which

upsets him, but the attention also makes him jealous. The ordinary as well as the intense summer adventures include the lifeguard, some unkind children, three nice sisters who are his friends, Macchia the strange child, sandcastles and rocks, and swimming. Suddenly Carlo sees a real whale coming out of the water – is this real or just a dream? This measured yet subtle novel about a unique moment, slow but also too fast, is magical and real at the same time.

Nicola Cinquetti was born in 1965 and now lives on the bank of the Adige River, which is the second longest river in Italy. He teaches history and philosophy in Verona, and at the same time, writes books for children and young adults, poems and novels. In 2017, he was a finalist for the Strega Ragazze e Ragazzi Prize with his book *Ultimo venne il verme* (The worm came last). In 2019, he published *Il giro del '44* (The tour of '44), an adventure book set during World War II, which won the Orbil Prize in 2020 and was selected as a finalist for the Laura Orvieto Prize in 2019. In 2020, he won the Italian Andersen Prize as best author with *L'incredibile notte di Billy Bologna* (Billy Bologna's incredible night).

Yashajingawa

(Yashajin River)

Ill. Chisato Tanaka

Tokyo: Kodansha, 2021

135x190mm, 235pp

ISBN 978-4-06-521852-5, ages: 13+

Short stories, horror, desire, obsession

Yashajin refers to a man-eating demon god, symbolizing the demonic feelings that lurk in the hearts of people. The book comprises five short stories that are set in a river basin. In the first story, a boy and his friend are fishing in the mountain stream. When the boy tries

to stop his friend from mistreating the creatures in the river, an eerie voice from across the misty river is heard, which terrifies the boys. The girl in the second story has been away from school and locks the spirit of the school bully in an old goldfish bowl she has found in her room. The third story tells of a student who prays at a shrine near one of the river's tributaries for the success of a classmate and curses a rival. A boy with his dog at the river in the fourth story stops an old man from trying to die because he misses his deceased wife, and in the last story a boy who lives near the river learns history of war brutality in Okinawa. The author portrays feelings and tenderness that sprout in the hearts of everyone and has created slightly scary and mysterious tales.

Mikie Ando was born in Yamanashi Prefecture in 1953. *Yashajingawa* received the Japan Children's Literature Association Award in 2022. In 1994, Ando won two awards: the Small Children's Story Award for *Fuyu no hidamari* (The winter sun); and the Imae Yoshitomo Award for *Itadakimasu* (Let's eat). She also won the Muku Hatoju Children's Literature Award for *Ten no shiso* (Heavenly seesaw) in 2000 and the Noma Children's Literature Award for *Mangetsu no musume tachi* (Daughters of the full moon) in 2017. Other recent books include *Mendori to akai tebukuro* (Hen and red glove, 2021) and *Hesomagari no majo* (A contrary witch, 2023).

Tag wa-Bila

(Taj and Bella)

Ill. Aly Al Zainy

Amman: Al Yasmine Books, 2022

240x280mm, 35pp

ISBN 978-9957-682-55-2, ages: 6+

Pets, preconception, acceptance

Taj dreams of having a dog that will play with him and that he can train to do tricks. One day, Taj's parents surprise him by bringing a cat home from the shelter. The cat, Bella, wishes to be adopted by a child who will care for her and pamper

her, and is disappointed when she knows that Taj is about to adopt her. Taj tries to treat Bella as a dog who will play with him and do tricks. Meanwhile, Bella tries to treat Taj as a girl who will brush her hair and read stories to her. Their attempts keep failing. Events carry on in parallel with Taj and Bella going through similar situations, particularly when Bella escapes from the house and Taj goes to look for her. Eventually there is a declaration of friendship between Taj and Bella as they learn to accept each other. This is a light-hearted story with a gentle, yet dramatic build up that urges both to accept others and not to rush to judgment. It demonstrates that although we think that we know best, that is not always necessarily true.

Abeer Al Taher is a pioneer of children's literature in the Arab world and a member of the Jordanian Federation of Writers and Literacies. She completed high school at Victoria School in Alexandria, Egypt and went on to receive a bachelor's degree in education from the American Lebanese University in Beirut, Lebanon. She established the Al Yasmine Publishing House. She also attended several specialized courses in children's literature in the U.S.A. Her experiences abroad allowed her to see the evolution of literature for children in terms of creative writing, drawing and design methods. She began her writing career in 1999, with the series *Yasmine*, for young children.

An, Miran

Gnyang Ssiui Dongmul Gigeop Sangdamso

(Gnyang's career counselling centre for animals)

Ill. Si-yeon Yoo

Paju-si: Changbi Publishers, 2023

150x225mm, 116pp

ISBN 978-89-364-4329-0, ages: 8-13

Wildlife, city, survival, environment, coexistence

In her work, the author consistently focuses on important social issues such as animal rights, the rights of people with disabilities, as well as environmental issues. This book is based on her reflections of the coexistence among creatures of different species. The main character

is Gnyang, whose name combines the meaning of 'just [a cat]' with the sound of a feline meow. Gnyang works tirelessly to ensure the safety of the animals living in the city, and the story celebrates the solidarity of the animals as they rely on each other and form new relationships in places that are unfamiliar to them. A wide range of issues is included, such as climate change, the lives of wild animals, housing issues, and the rights of migrant workers. The author helps us understand and reflect on the lives of creatures that share a world that consists of a multi-layered social and an ecological environment that is populated not only by human beings, but by all.

An Miran lives in Busan and studied philosophy and literature in college. She won the Grand Prize for her book *Ssiaseul jikineun saramdeul* (Guardians of the seeds) at the 5th Changbi Good Children's Books Manuscript contest. Her books encapsulate her hopes for a world in which differences are not a cause for discrimination, but for celebration and coexistence. She received the Busan Children's Literature Award for *Dongdongi siljong sageon* (The disappearance of Dong-Dong) in 2020. Her book *Jubottari, hangeureul jikida* (Bundle Ju, keeper of hangul) was selected as the Gijang County Book of the Year, and her stories *Na an hallae* (I don't want to do it!) and *Nae jajeongeorago* (I'm telling you, it's my bicycle) were included in supplementary textbooks for Korean classes.

Žebers

Ejas un asakas

(Vampires and empires)

Ill. by the author

Rīga: Liels un mazs, 2022

145x205mm, 85pp

ISBN 978-9934-574-90-0, ages: all

Poetry

In this collection of poems and short stories, the author digs for surprises in the everyday and in ordinary things, and in them he finds absurdities like hidden bones. This could be through experiments or training for readers of different ages, which

tests their way of looking at things and events from different points of view to find new meaning. The witty and direct writing style of the author is driven by curiosity and daring that is close to a child's way of exploring the world, which is through play and is free of any of the pedagogical and aesthetic clichés often found in children's literature.

Žebers, the pen name of the artist Andris Breže, is created as an anagram of his surname. He was born in 1958 and is an artist and poet and has been exhibiting and writing poetry since 1978. He has also worked in book art and design and is the author of four poetry collections. Žebers has received several professional acknowledgments for his creative work, including the National Book Art Contest Award Zelta Ābele in the category of most beautiful children's book of the year, and the International Jānis Baltvilks Prize in Children's Literature for this poetry collection *Ejas un asakas*.

Daher, Rania Zbib

Alwan Al Madina

(Colours of my city)

Ill. Teresa Pyrenees

Beirut: Dar al Saqi, 2021

230x280mm, 24pp

ISBN 978-614-03-2033-8, ages: 6-9

Creativity, solidarity, collaboration

Mona, despite living in a busy city, has a heart that dances to the rhythm of colours. Armed with a palette and lots of brushes, she transforms her grey surroundings into a vibrant canvas of life. But a shadowy hand begins erasing her art, casting a veil

over her city's beauty. Undeterred, Mona begins a journey to confront this enigmatic force, but soon discovers that her solitary struggle needs a collective spirit. In a twist of fate, a group of imaginative children join her quest, and together they weave a tale of resilience and unity, harnessing their creative powers to outshine the dark hand. In this poetic narrative, teamwork and the enduring spirit of youthful imagination is woven in a colourful tapestry of hope and beauty.

Rania Zbib Daher transitioned from TV production to creating children's tales. Her inspiring journey was sparked by parenthood, which reshaped her path in 2007. Her book *Dajaja Bak Bik* (Chicken bak bak) won Best Children's Book and started an adventure that has lasted over 15 years. She has also partnered with publishers, not only in Lebanon, but also in the U.A.E. and Jordan, to create over 60 children's books. Her storytelling has extended to the U.K.'s BBC children's TV channel with an animated programme. *Alwan Al Madina* received the ACBPF award, and her story *When Life Brings Us Closer* won the Sheikh Zayed Book Award. She has been honoured for her work with nominations and translations from LBBY and UEABBY. With each story she crafts, she hopes to inspire children to dive into their imagination and learn new things.

Žilinskas, Justinas

Bėgliai. Jūrų kelias į Ameriką

(The runaways: Across the sea to America)

Ill. Ula Šveikauskaitė

Vilnius: Aukso žuvis, 2022

175x245mm, 375pp

ISBN 978-609-8120-72-1, ages: 13+

Migration, U.S.A.

The year is 1912 and Lithuania is under occupation of the Russian Empire. Two young people, Jokūbas, son of a farmer, and Veronika, daughter of a petty nobleman, decide to leave their homes and travel to the U.S.A. They travel across Europe to reach Hamburg

where they board an old ocean liner. They endure a long and uncomfortable journey to the 'land of plenty'. But when they eventually arrive, they suffer the fate of millions of migrants who reached the States from all over the Europe: poverty, contempt, discrimination, danger, social tensions and inequality, but they still fight for their dream. This extensively illustrated book is based on the memoirs and documents of real stories of migrants, with an added dash of romance, adventure, and even a detective story. The author created this book together with the Lithuanian Maritime Museum.

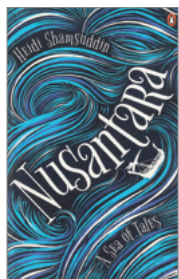
Justinas Žilinskas was born in Vilnius in 1974, and later studied Law in Vilnius University. His first science fiction/fantasy stories were published in 1999, and his first novel, *Genomas 3000* (Genome 3000), in 2004. His first critical success was his mythological fantasy book *Gugis - girių kaukas ir žmonių draugas* (Gugis – a forest kaukas and friend of humans, 2006), which was later developed into trilogy, with the final title *Kaukas Gugis ir sielų akmuo* (Kaukas Gugis and the stone of souls) published in 2023. He is one of the few Lithuanian authors writing science fiction/fantasy, and his books always rely heavily on history and mythology, such as the adventurous history of the city of Vilnius for children and YA, *Mano Vilnius mano* (My Vilnius is mine, 2013). In addition to his career as a writer, he is also a professor of International Law at the Mykolas Romeris University in Vilnius.

Nusantara: A Sea of Tales

Singapore: Penguin Random House, 2021

135x215mm, 223pp

ISBN 978-9-814-95459-4, ages: 12-18

Folk & fairy tales, myth, legend

This collection of folk tales and fairy tales comprises stories from across the Nusantara region, which is located along the ancient sea routes of Southeast Asia where the countries share the Austronesian language family. The selected stories are from East and West

Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam, Madagascar and Guam. Some of the popular folktales include *Si Tanggang*, *Bawang Putih Bawang Merah*, and the trickster tales of the brilliant mousedeer Sang Kancil, as well as the farcical tales of Pak Pandir and Pak Kadok. Other stories include those from the *Malay Annals / Sejarah Melayu*, a historical literature of the history of the Malay Sultanate during the fifteenth and early sixteenth centuries. These stories containing all manners of suffering, loss and cruelty as well as love and redemption, have been retold and reimagined countless times and, in this collection, the author has tried to retain the original tone.

Heidi Shamsuddin was born in Malaysia, and spent her childhood partly in Seattle, U.S.A., and partly in Petaling Jaya. She studied law at Nottingham University (U.K.), obtained a postgraduate degree in corporate law, and worked as a maritime lawyer in the U.K. at a London law firm. In 2007, she returned to Malaysia and began to write stories. She has written and published short stories, a historical middle-grade series, readers and picture books. Her first short story, *Johan the Honey Hunter*, won the regional prize for the Eye Level Children's Literature Award in 2012. Her screenplay for *Batik Girl* won the Intellectual Property Creators' Challenge (the IPCC Award) in 2017 and was made into an award-winning short-animated film by R&D Studio and Tudut Studio.

Kinderen van ver

(Children from far)

Ill. Saskia Halfmouw

Amsterdam: Leopold, 2022

175x245mm, 119pp

ISBN 978-90-258-8414-7, ages: 6+

War, refugees, Afghanistan, Syria

Four children, Samuel, Tamar, Azad and Fatima, live in Syria and Afghanistan. They go to school, visit family, play with friends, play football – all the usual childhood activities. But it all changes when war arrives, and they must leave everything they know behind

them. Children who have experienced war in these countries shared their stories with the author, who has created a realistic impression of what a child can encounter during and after fleeing a war, while at the same time remaining close to the child's perception. Each story begins with an introduction into the lives of the four children. Samuel must leave his grandfather behind, and 5-year-old Azad flees with his brother. Fatima ends up in a refugee camp, and Tamar is evacuated from Kabul. Ultimately, all four of them arrive in the Netherlands and become classmates. The last chapter ends on a hopeful note with the children drawing their dreams for the future.

Martine Letterie, born in 1958, is a writer for children in Dutch. She studied Dutch Language and Literature, worked as a teacher in secondary schools, and taught Children's Literature at a teacher training school before becoming a full-time writer and publishing her first children's book in 1996. She has been involved in children's literature and reading promotion for many years, and in 2021, Letterie became the chair of IBBY Netherlands. Her books often have historical themes, including the history of her ancestors. She has written many children's books about World War II, three of which are for young children. Among these, *Kinderen met een ster* (Children with a star) is the story of six children who were sent to the Westerbork concentration camp. It is also based on interviews with people who experienced war as a child and was awarded a Silver Slate Pencil award.

Hoogeveen, Tialda

Abe en de Aardichman

(Abe and the Earthyman)

Ill. Yke Reeder

Ljouwert: Afûk, 2022

170x215mm, 53pp

ISBN 978-94-93159-88-4, ages: 5+

Imagination, friendship, confidence

Abe has just moved to a new house with a big, wild garden. When he sees a girl riding her bicycle on the street, he hides under a bush, where he notices a brown lump of earth with a deep humming-like voice and waving hands that starts to

move. Puzzled at first, the mysterious creature soon becomes his secret friend that he calls the Earthyman. Meanwhile, Sibrich wants to play with him, but Abe is scared to do so because he had been bullied in his previous town. However, Earthyman helps him feel confident and he soon discovers that Sibrich also has a secret friend in her garden, the Mudman. When Abe's parents decide to re-do the garden, they remove the old bush and Earthyman is gone. Abe and Sibrich begin looking for him. This book, a beautifully illustrated ode to fantasy, is about the importance of having friends you can trust, even if they are imaginary.

Tialda Hoogeveen, born in 1974, is a writer, editor, and journalist. She writes fiction and nonfiction, short stories, articles, poetry and radio plays, for children and adults in Frisian and Dutch. History and nature frequently play a role in her books, and often the main characters in her stories are looking for their place in the world and in life. She worked as a 'school writer' at several primary schools for several years. In January 2023, Hoogeveen was appointed as Children's Laureate for the province of Friesland. In this role she promotes Frisian children's books and the joy of reading and speaking in Frisian. She is convinced there is a children's book for everyone – children and adults. In 2022, she translated the Ukrainian picture book *Maya and her friends*, by Larysa Denysenko and Masha Foya, into Frisian, with UNICEF in Ukraine receiving the proceeds.

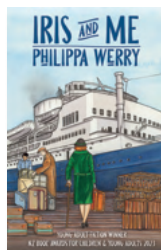
Werry, Philippa

Iris and Me

Wellington: Ahoy! 2023

130x200mm, 179pp

ISBN 978-1-99-115084-4, ages: 13-18

Journalism, China, journey, war

This is the story of one of the most significant writers of Aotearoa New Zealand, Iris Wilkinson (1906-1939), who was a journalist, who also wrote poetry and novels under the pen name Robin Hyde. On her way to England in 1938, she travelled into war-torn China,

becoming one of the first women war correspondents, even more remarkable because she struggled with her mental health and had a lifelong disability that meant she walked with a limp. In *Iris and Me*, Robin Hyde does not tell her own story, but it is narrated by a loyal and mysterious companion who thinks back over the life of the writer as they travel, including the secret child she bore and had left with a foster family in New Zealand while she tried to further her writing career to support him. This imaginative account of Hyde's life is presented in a form that the writer herself would have loved – the verse novel.

Philippa Werry, born in 1958, is a writer of fiction, nonfiction, poetry and plays. Her interest in the history of New Zealand has inspired much of her writing for children and young adults, with several titles winning or shortlisted for awards in New Zealand and Australia. *Iris and Me* was the young adult fiction winner at the NZ Book Awards for Children and Young Adults 2023, the runner-up for the NZSA Laura Solomon Cuba Press Prize, and has been longlisted for the ARA Historical Novel Prize 2023. Some of her other titles include *Anzac Day* (2013), *The Telegram* (2019), and *This is Where I Stand* (2019). Her work has been widely anthologised, including in New Zealand's *School Journal*.

Kua Whetūrangitia a Koro

(How my koro became a star)

Ill. Story Hemi-Morehouse

Wellington: Huia Publishers, 2022

240x270mm, 40pp

ISBN 978-1-77550-695-9, ages: 5-8

Māori, tradition, death, grief, grandfather

A young boy learns about the custom of celebrating the star cluster known as Matariki from his koro (grandfather). They watch the stars from the top of a mountain, prepare their offering of food for the gods, while

the boy learns about the Te Waka o Rangi sky canoe and the tradition of calling out the names of loved ones who have passed away so they can become stars. Just before the rising of Matariki the following year, the boy's Koro suddenly dies.

Brianne Te Paa, born in South Kaipara, is a teacher at Kaipara College and Head of Department of Māori Studies. She has a B.A. in Education and a Diploma in Te Pinakitanga ki te Reo Kairangi (the advanced study of Māori language and culture). *Kua Whetūrangitia a Koro* has received many awards, including the Wright Family Foundation Te Kura Pounamu Award in 2023 for a children's book in Te Reo Māori at the New Zealand Book Awards for Children and Young Adults. Te Paa is passionate about learning and working with young people and has always enjoyed writing poetry and short stories.

Ush Asfur al-Shams

(Sunbird's nest)

Ill. Victoria Tartir

Ramallah: Tamer Institute for Community

Education, 2022

200x200mm, 44pp

ISBN 978-9950-27-070-1, ages 7+

Bird, destruction, reconstruction

This story from Palestine shows the relationship between the sunbird, its nest and the land. Once upon a time the sunbird was living happily, flying, chirping and filling the air with love and free-

dom. Then one night the life of the sunbird changes completely when its nest is victimized. The sunbird decides to rebuild it by collecting materials from all over Palestine: olive branches from Bethlehem, mud from Jericho, sweets from Nablus, net threads from Gaza, roses from Haifa, feathers from Tiberius, carobs from Ramallah, oranges from Jaffa, thorns from Naqab, cactus fruit from Lod and sun from Jerusalem. With these items the sunbird rebuilds the nest giving it protection, beauty, fragrance, firmness, warmth, love and freedom.

Alaa Tartir is a Senior Researcher and the Director of the Middle East and North Africa Programme at the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) in Sweden. Tartir is also a Research Associate and Academic Coordinator at the Geneva Graduate Institute, a Global Fellow at the Peace Research Institute Oslo, and a Programme and Policy Advisor to Al-Shabaka, which is the Palestinian Policy Network. He is co-editor of *Political Economy of Palestine: Critical, Interdisciplinary, and Decolonial Perspectives* (2021) and *Palestine and Rule of Power: Local Dissent vs. International Governance* (2019).

Cholito y la serpiente cósmica

(Cholito and the cosmic snake)

Ill. Fátima Ordinola

Lima: Fondo de Cultura Económica, 2022

150x190mm, 74pp

ISBN 978-612-4395-47-8, ages: 7+

Andes, environment, extra-terrestrial

Cholito and his friend Floria are playing on the plains of Llamacunca when they hear distant and threatening voices. In messages from two unusual friends who come from the planet Apu, they learn that the extra-terrestrial Anunnaki, are stealing

the most valued resources from mountains of the Andes. With the guidance of his wise godfather and the assistance of Taita Amaru/Father Amaru, Cholito shows his bravery and wisdom in preserving the richness of the Andes. This exciting adventure transcends planetary borders and celebrates the union of friendship and ancestral spirit.

Óscar Colchado Lucio (1947-2023) was born in the Ancash region of Peru. He was a Peruvian teacher, poet, short-story writer, and novelist. He is best known for his novel *Rosa Cuchillo* (1997) and the children's literary saga of the Andean character Cholito. The multi-volume saga began with *Cholito tras los pasos de Lucero* (Cholito after the footsteps of Lucero, 1980), and includes *Cholito en los Andes mágicos* (Cholito in the magical Andes) and *Cholito y la maravillosa Amazonía* (Cholito and the wonderful Amazon). The final book in the saga, *Cholito y la serpiente cósmica*, was published just before he died in January 2023. Colchado Lucio has received several awards, such as the José María Eguren Poetry Prize (1980), two short story prizes, the National Children's Literature Award (1985), the Latin American Short Story Award (CICLA'87), the National Education Award (1995), and more recently the Juan Rulfo International Short Story Prize (2002), as well as the Casa de la Literatura Award (2018) for bringing attention back to the Andean world.

Si Cielo at ang Asong si Stella

(Cielo and the dog named Stella)

Ill. Tokwa S. Peñaflorida

Quezon City: Vibal Group Inc., 2023

215x280mm, 32pp

ISBN 978-971-07-5350-5, ages: 7-8

Dog, animal welfare, responsibility

Cielo is an only child who lives far away from her relatives and friends in a foreign country. She wants to have a dog, but first she needs to learn how to be responsible for her pet. Over time, she learns how to raise Stella and the dog becomes her companion.

This retelling of a classic tale by Cristina Pantoja Hidalgo, explores a child's first experiences of caring for an animal.

Eugene Y. Evasco is a writer, researcher, editor, translator, and collector of children's books. He is currently a professor of literature and creative writing at the University of the Philippines Diliman. He was entered into the Hall of Fame of the Carlos Palanca Awards for Literature in 2009. He has won the Makata ng Taon Award 2000, the National Children's Book Award, and the National Book Award for Young Adult Literature. He is a fellow of the UP Institute of Creative Writing. He was a research fellow in 2018 at the International Youth Library in Munich, Germany.

Cristina Pantoja Hidalgo, born in 1944 in Manila, is a writer, critic and pioneering writer of creative nonfiction. She is currently Professor Emeritus of English and Comparative Literature at the University of the Philippines Diliman and Director of the University of Santo Tomas Center for Creative Writing and Literary Studies.

Szczygielski, Marcin

Antosia w Bezkresie

(Antosia in vastness)

Warsaw: Instytut Wydawniczy Latarnik, 2022

145x210mm, 284pp

ISBN 978-83-63841-53-9, ages: 10-14

WWII, deportation, U.S.S.R.

Antosia lived in the Polish Eastern Borderlands until her happy world fell apart in September 1939, when Poland was attacked by Nazi Germany and then by Soviet Russia. Antosia's father went to war, and she and her mother were arrested by the

Soviet secret police, the NKVD, and deported to Kazakhstan. Antosia must now grow up quickly to survive in a world filled with poverty, NKVD terror, and communist propaganda. She and her new friend Rutka come up with dozens of ways to outsmart the NKVD to get a little food and protect themselves from the long and severe winter. Through Antosia's fate, Szczygielski tells the story of thousands of Polish children who were deprived of their homes on Stalin's order during World War II and forcibly deported to Siberia. This novel introduces readers to little-known events from Poland's recent history, which are now recalled in the wake of the Russian attack on Ukraine.

Marcin Szczygielski, born in 1972, is a graphic designer, author of theatrical plays, as well as novels for adults and young people. His books for young readers have received numerous awards and recognition in Polish, Austrian and German literary contests. IBBY Poland selected four of his books for the Book of the Year Award: *Omega* in 2010; *Kłątwa dziewiątych urodzin* (The curse of the ninth birthday) in 2016; *Serce Nefttydy* (The heart of Nephthys) in 2017; and this book, *Antosia w bezkresie* in 2022. Translations of his novels have been published in Bulgaria, Germany, Macedonia, Serbia, Spain, Russia and Ukraine. A translation of his novel *Teatr niewidzialnych dzieci* (Theatre of invisible children) in the Lysian language was also published in Germany. He has been nominated for the Hans Christian Andersen Award several times.

Boteva, Maria

Novoe chornoye palto

(A new black coat, and other stories)

Ill. Volga Prankevich

Moscow: Kompas Guide, 2022

145x215mm, 267pp

ISBN 978-5-00083-807-5, ages 12+

Short stories, coming of age, self reflection

In this first-person narrative, Galya is a loner and an observer. She would prefer not to go to school but loves the school archaeological club. Other characters include the new student Catherine, a boy nicknamed Diesel, and a much-loved history teacher

who was going to leave the school due to a misunderstanding but stayed because of the students. They are individuals who, while differing in personality, dreams and activities, demonstrate a vibrant spectrum of emotions and vivid imaginations, as they enthusiastically explore the world around them. For them, the inner world is much more important than the outer one. The black and white illustrations focus on the main points of the plot.

Maria Boteva, born in 1980 in Kirov in central Russia, is a poet, journalist and playwright. In 1998, she enrolled at the Faculty of Journalism in the Ural State University named after A. M. Gorky. Boteva started composing fairy tales and poems, as well as articles for Kirov's newspaper *Vesti*, when she was still in high school. Her most acclaimed books include *Svetovaya azbuka. Dve sestry, dva vetra* (Light alphabet. Two sisters, two winds, 2023) written under the pen name Sestra Lapteva, and *Zavtra k semi utra* (Tomorrow, by 7a.m., 2008). Her novels *Morozenoe v vafel'nykh statančikach* (Ice cream in wafer cups, 2013) and *Majak – smotri!* (A lighthouse – look! 2017) were included in *The White Ravens* selections in 2014 and 2018 respectively. Many of Boteva's stories and poems have been translated, including into English, French, Arabian, Chinese and Slovenian.

Boko no Moko

(Boko and Moko)

Ill. Nadezhda Kosatkina

Izhevsk: Udmurtia, 2023

150x205mm, 206pp

ISBN 978-5-7659-1338-3, ages: 6+

House spirit, unity, protection

Boko and Moko are house spirits that people in Udmurtia believe live under their houses. One is calm and sensible, and the other is outgoing and mischievous. They usually play tricks, put themselves into ridiculous situations, and even fight from

time to time. Nevertheless, Boko and Moko really stick together, and they are always ready to protect the houses of their 'hosts'. Sometimes the Udmurt people tell their children scary stories about these spirits to make them behave when they are home alone. *Boko no Moko* contains scenarios based on these fairy tales and are told in humorous ways. The little creatures save the house inhabitants from fire, which is known as the red rooster, a family of rats, the mushroom king, thieves, and so on.

Liya Malykh, was born in 1960 in the village of Malyi Kazes in the Sharkhanskii District of Udmurtia. She is an honoured journalist of the Udmurt Republic, a member of its Writer's Union, and a prize winner of the Ashalchi Oka National Award named for the first Udmurt poet Ashalchi Oka. Malykh has written a collection of children's stories, *Ektis' kizili* (Dancing star, 1997), a colouring book for family reading called *Zyotchbur, vyzhykyl!* (Hello, my fairy tale! 2015), and a book of nursery rhymes *Shundy ash utcha* (The sun wants to make friends, 2021). She also wrote a play based on *Boko no Moko*, which was staged at the Udmurt Republic State Puppet Theatre in both Udmurt and Russian (2011-2012). In 2019, the play was presented as an animated film of the same name by the 1147 Productions Studio in Udmurt.

O Malom kozmonautovi

(About the little astronaut)

Ill. Michal Souček

Bratislava: Perfekt, 2021

165x200mm, 44pp

ISBN 978-80-8226-047-5, ages: 5+

Outer space, astronaut, adventure

In the black darkness of the infinite universe, a small dot suddenly appears, getting bigger and bigger. However, it is not a dot at all, but a space rocket with an astronaut on board. He is bold, clever, and resourceful, like any astronaut, although a

little smaller so he was nicknamed the Little Astronaut. In space, the Little Astronaut experiences interesting and dangerous adventures. He sets off to the Sun, gets yellow sickness, is threatened by a giant asteroid, and even meets the Little Astronaut Girl. But every adventure has an ending. The Little Astronaut finally lands on Earth and finds himself in the arms of his parents. With this book, the author sensitively handles the issue of premature babies. *O Malom kozmonautovi* received the award for Best Children's Book of Autumn 2021.

Peter Karpinský, born in 1971, has been a writer since his secondary school years. He studied Slovak Language and History at the Faculty of Philosophy of the University of Pavol Jozef Šafárik in Prešov. Since 1995, he has been a university lecturer and the head of the Slovak Language Department at Prešov University. In addition to writing fiction, he writes reviews, mainly in the field of children's literature, as well as fairy tales for radio and theatre plays, which demonstrate his insight and literary knowledge. He has written over ten books for children. BIBIANA and the Slovak Section of IBBY have given the best children's books awards to the following: *Ako sme s Ťukťukom ťukťukovali* (How we knocked with knock knock, 2001), *Rozprávky z múzea záhad a tajomstiev* (Fairy tales from the museum of mysteries and secrets, 2007), *Sedem dní v pivnici* (Seven days in the cellar, 2011), *Adela, ani to neskušaj!* (Adela, don't even try! 2016), and *Med zľadových kvetov* (Ice flower honey, 2019).

Štefan, Anja

Medved in klobuk

(The bear and the hat)

Ill. Ana Zavadlav

Ljubljana: Mladinska knjiga, 2021

210x265mm, 34pp

ISBN 978-961-01-6440-1, ages: 4+

Forest animals, cooperation

Bear has a beautiful red hat that gives him great pleasure. But one day the wind blows it off his head. Bear runs after it but cannot catch it. He is joined by wolf, then fox, followed by rabbit, and finally mouse. They all run and hope

to catch the hat, but it only comes to a stop when it catches on the branches of the mighty oak tree. The animals retrieve it but wonder how it was possible that the flying hat was caught by something that just calmly stands so still. This dynamic and witty fairy tale contains playful repetition and variations of events. Readers reflect on how we all have varying abilities and how we tackle the same challenges in different ways. This picture book was awarded the Golden Pear award in 2022.

Anja Štefan, born in 1969, is a writer, poet and storyteller. She is one of the most popular authors for children in Slovenia. She has published 35 books of poetry, stories and adaptations of folk tales, fairy tales and puzzles, and her works have also been translated to various languages. She puts into words the world as she sees it, and the world as she would like it to be. She prefers to use fewer words rather than more, to see how they sound and to put them together, so they speak to both children and adults. Illustrated by the best Slovene illustrators, her books have often come to life on the puppet stage, while her poems have been set to music and sung at musical events in schools and kindergartens. She has received numerous awards for her work, such as the Prešeren Found Award, which is the highest award in Slovenia. An excellent performer, she makes frequent stage appearances, solo or with musicians.

Jacobs, Jaco

Die Meisie met Vlerke

(The girl with wings)

Ill. Tori Stowe

Johannesburg: Pan Macmillan South Africa, 2022

130x200mm, 175pp

ISBN 978-1-77625-176-6, ages: 9+

Friendship, adventure, secret, revenge

Wilson's life, just like her name, is anything but normal. She lives with her parents in a house on wheels, and they must move to a new town every few months. She finds this extremely annoying, almost as annoying as Errol, who has recently decided that Wilson

is his friend and that she must accompany him on silly outings, such as bird watching. Wilson expects this town to be as boring as all the others until she discovers a secret, a wonderful and extraordinary secret that must stay hidden. But someone sinister is lurking in the shadows and is determined to get revenge. Suddenly danger is much closer than Wilson ever thought possible...

Jaco Jacobs was born in 1980 and raised in a small Karoo town. He is the author of more than 260 books, many of which have been translated to English, Dutch, Italian, Slovenian and Spanish. More than a million copies of his books have been sold, and his work has received at least 47 awards. He has been nominated for the Carnegie Medal twice, and two of his books have been adapted as films. Jacobs was nominated for the Hans Christian Andersen Award in 2020. His novel for young adults, *Suurlemoen! 'n Storie oor rock, liefde en 'n tuinkabouters* (Lemon! A story about rock, love, and a garden gnome, 2007) was selected for the 2008 *IBBY Honour List*. Other books he has written include *Die Boekwinkel tussen die wolke* (The bookshop in the clouds, 2021), and *Oupa Zombie* (Grandpa Zombie, 2020). The *Krok en Dil* reading series (Croc and Pickle) and the poetry books *Ek wil nou nie snaaks wees nie* (I don't want to be funny now, 2020) and *Al staan jy op jou kop* (Even if you stand on your head, 2021).

Agur Meabe, Miren

Itsasoaren Atea

(The door of the sea)

Ill. Maite Gurrutxaga

Donostia: Elkar argitaletxea, 2021

150x215mm, 98pp

ISBN 978-84-1360-064-2, ages: 12+

Island, secret, supernatural skills

It is winter 1870 and Elora Duval is thirteen years old. Because Elora's mother has died, she must make a new life in her Grandma Brigita's house on Cormorant Island, so her father puts her aboard a ship headed to the island. She begins working as a nanny in the

Galatene Mansion, and quickly develops a strong bond with little Ariane. Elora and Ariane are not like other girls: they have a gift by which they can sense events and hear messages that no one else can. This helps them to unlock the mystery of an old legend. Many unexpected events happen to Elora in a single week, including one that put her in great danger. But most importantly, she discovers she descended from a long line of powerful women. Perhaps for this reason she is destined to find the 'door of the sea'. Cormorants, dolphins, storms, secrets, threats, and ghosts will forever change the destiny of the inhabitants of the island.

Miren Agur Meabe, born in 1962 in Lekeitio, has degrees in Education and Basque Philology. She has worked as a teacher and editor of textbooks in the Basque Language and writes literature for children and adults. Since 2022, she has been a full member of the Basque Academy of Letters, Euskaltzaindia. She was awarded the Euskadi Prize for Young Adult Literature three times: for *Itsaslabarreko etxea* (The Cliff House, 2002), *Urtebete itsasargian* (A year in the lighthouse, 2006) and *Errepidea* (The road, 2011). She received the Mikel Zarate grant for *Itsasoren Atea* in 2020. The poetry collection *Mila magnolia-lore* (Thousands of magnolia flowers, 2010) was selected for the 2012 *IBBY Honour List*. She has translated several books for children and young adults and has twice received the Vitoria-Gasteiz Prize for YA literature in translation. Her books for adults have also received multiple prizes.

Molist, Pep

Rastellera de colors

(Row of colours)

Ill. Alicia Varela

Barcelona: Babulinka Books; 2021

145x195mm, 140pp

ISBN 978-84-1208089-6, ages: 8+

Poetry, colours

There are 44 poems classified by colour families in *Rastellera de colors*. Included are the origin and name of the colours, as well as characters and unforgettable stories related to each colour. Like a brand-new set of coloured pencils, this work presents a poem

for each shade. Alicia Varela's illustration approach is innovative, offering visual poetry and suggesting games of observation that join the wordplay. This is an unusual poetry book that offers multiple readings, which is truly a bright and very colourful gift for the senses.

Pep Molist, born in 1965 in Manlleu, Barcelona, is a librarian who has worked in the children's sections of several public libraries. His profession and a passion for reading has led him to pull various threads of the pairing formed by books and children, as a reader, librarian, and critic of children's and young adult literature. He collaborates in the newspaper *El País*, in the magazine *Faristol*, which specializes in children's literature, and the blog *Llibres al replà*. In 2003, he won the Premio Rovelló award for an essay about children's literature. He has published more than 90 books. Among his most outstanding books is the series featuring the cow *Plis Plau* (2005-2015). *Rastellera de colors* was included in *The White Ravens selection* in 2022.

Casalderrey, Fina

O xenio da Cidade do Sal

(The genius from the city of salt)

Ill. Xosé Cobas

Vigo: Ed. Xerais, 2021

135x200mm, 176pp (+CD)

ISBN 978-84-1110-002-1, ages: 10+

Mozart, journey, Camino de Santiago

"Hi. My name's John... I mean, John's not my real name." Thus begins a story of magical realism with an open letter written by Mozart, age twelve, that takes the reader from 1768 to the twenty-first century. The genius is looking for a biographer, a storyteller, or maybe

a director to tell his story his way. An omniscient narrator offers a humorous account of his likes and dislikes, his fears, the day-to-day consequences of his Tourette's syndrome, the family pressures he faces in a deeply patriarchal society, and his brilliant achievements as a child prodigy. We follow him up to his extraordinary journey along the Camino de Santiago riding a white horse. This part of the story is told by the genius from Salzburg (the city of salt), as he takes leave of the narrator through another letter to tell us of his marvellous journey to Galicia.

Fina Casalderrey was born in 1951 in Pontevedra. She completed advanced studies in Galician Language and Literature and is a member of the Royal Galician Academy of Language. Beginning her career as a teacher, her work has centred on modernizing teaching techniques, inspiring reading, ethnography, gastronomy, student theatre, cinema and literature. Her books have been translated into the languages of Spain, as well as Breton, Korean, Italian, Portuguese, French, English, Cornish, Serbian and Chinese. Among her prizes and distinctions are the National Prize for Children's and Young Adult Literature (1996), the Castelpao Medal (2003) and the Escritora na súa Terra Prize (Association of Galician-Language Authors) in 2023. Her book *O neno can* (The boy dog), which was written with Francisco Castro, was included in the 2013 *IBBY Selection of Outstanding Books for Young People with Disabilities*. She was a candidate for the ALMA in 2009, 2011, and 2023, and was nominated for the 2024 Hans Christian Andersen Award.

Gómez, Ricardo

Música entre las ramas

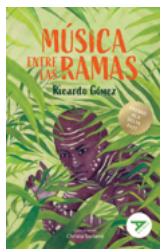
(Music among the branches)

Ill. Christa Soriano

Madrid: Ed. Edelvives, 2022

130x200mm, 174pp

ISBN 978-84-140-3283-1, ages: 10-14

Central Africa, Bayaka, environment

The setting is a jungle in central Africa, in a territory inhabited by the Bayaka tribe who have lived in harmony with nature for millennia. One day, the chainsaws of strangers from afar shatter the peace. The sapele and mukulungo trees are cut down, the large animals flee in fear, and the fluttering of the mopani butterfly wings announce great changes. The elders think this will pass, because in the jungle there are enough trees for everyone. But twelve-year-old Emeka sees how this development threatens their way of life. What can he and other children like him do to save the only world they know? *Música entre las ramas* is a tribute to nature and indigenous cultures at a time when environmental awareness is crucial. This book describes the incalculable wealth of the jungle and alerts us to the dangers of upsetting its balance.

Ricardo Gómez was born in Segovia in 1954. Long before entering the jungle with the Bayaka tribe, he studied in Madrid, and played football in the streets of the city. He was a mathematics teacher until he began publishing adult and children's literature. He has received awards such as the Felipe Trigo, the Alandar, the Gran Angular, the Barco de Vapor, and the Cervantes Chico for his entire work for children and young people. He also wrote *Ojo de nube* (The eye of the cloud, 2006) and *3333* (2005), among other books. He has a fondness for realistic stories and understands that literature can be an instrument to help us give meaning to the world around us. Several of his books have been translated.

SWEDEN (Swedish)

Rundberg, Johan

Dödsängeln

(The angel of death)

Stockholm: Natur & Kultur, 2021

140x200mm, 206pp

ISBN 978-91-27-16409-3, ages: 9-12

Detective story, history, poverty, orphan



1880s Stockholm is a merciless place for those who are poor, and especially for a girl such as thirteen-year-old Mika, who has grown up in an orphanage. Mika has learned to survive through quick thinking and her good observational skills. Her talent is discovered by the policeman Hoff, who hires her as his assistant. When this odd couple start to search for the daughter of a wealthy business owner, they are drawn into a horrible affair where new-born babies are killed by someone known as the *Angel of Death*. At the same time, Mika starts to look for the answer to the riddle of her origin. She must fight against prejudice and oppression with intelligence, judgment and a sense of right and wrong. This exciting historical novel describes an era, with its smells and sounds, and depicts the prevailing differences between social classes as well as those between men and women at that time.

Johan Rundberg, born in 1973, is the author of picture books, easy-to-read books, and chapter books for middle school children. He debuted with the picture book *Hopplösa lillasyster* (Hopeless little sister, 2001). His books for 9- to 12-year-olds, *Kärlekspizzan* (The love pizza, 2013) and *Knockad Romeo* (Knocked out Romeo, 2015), deal with love. In contrast, the trilogy *Häxknuten* (The witches knot, 2017-2019) for the same age group combines everyday life with horror. *Dödsängeln* is the third book in a series of historical novels set in Stockholm in the 1880s, with the orphaned Mika in the lead role. The first book in the series, *Nattkorpen* (The night raven, 2021), received the August Prize in 2021.

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SWITZERLAND (French)

Wyss, Nathalie

Le temps fuit

(Time flies)

Ill. Raphaël Beuchot

Toulouse, FR: Éd. Milan, 2022

140x210mm, 141pp

ISBN 978-2-408-03315-6, ages: 10-14

Old age, orphan, loneliness, friendship



Alec is an old man who runs the Tout Lu (All Read) bookshop in a small Swiss town in the canton of Vaud, but he never leaves the shop during the day. Since he lost his wife, he prefers to stay away from the crowds and lives with just the company of his books. When his eyesight

starts failing, he posts an advertisement asking for someone to read to him. Solange, a 12-year-old girl who often sticks her nose against the Tout Lu window, lost her parents in an accident a few years previously. She pretends that her grandmother is looking after her, but she lives on her own, taking it upon herself to feed the stray cats of the town every evening. Solange sees Alec's request and offers to read to him. Between books and cats, a friendship grows, and the two lonely characters learn that 'together, we dare more and better'.

Nathalie Wyss, born in 1987, is not only an author of children's books, but also works in a bookshop – she never runs out of books. She began writing when she was ten years old, and her books have been published since 2011. She has published fantasy stories such as *L'allumeur de réverbères* (The street lighter, 2018), and realistic ones such as the novel *Le roi des rois* (King of kings, 2019), which deals with poverty in India. She writes picture books and interactive gamebooks, such as *Le livre perdu* (The lost book, 2021). Her literary style plays with words, sounds, rhythm, and lends itself to reading aloud. *Le temps fuit* was selected for the final of Les petits champions de la lecture, 2023 (The little champions of reading), which is a competition where children aged 8 to 11 read extracts from books in front of an audience.

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Stamm, Peter

Theo und Marlen auf der Insel

(Theo and Marlen on the island)

Ill. Susanne Göhlich

Hamburg, DE: Carlsen, 2023

160x215mm, 74pp

ISBN 978-3-551-69033-3, ages: 6+

Friendship, imagination, Robinsonade

Theo is bored, but luckily, he meets Marlen, and together they decide not to play cowboy and vegetarian, but rather Robinson on the island – the central island of a traffic roundabout. In their imagination, they transform the world around them into Robin-

son Crusoe's Island: cars become sharks in the sea, a blanket for a tent, and they plant a sandwich tree that will grow food for the next 28 years. They even spend the night on the island, until the police shark (a police car) picks them up in the morning. The Robinson theme is a refreshing choice for an early-reader book. Narrated in short, clear sentences, the text and the heart-warming story shine with elegant simplicity, wordplay and a deep network of intertextual references, the illustrations add to the atmosphere.

Peter Stamm was born in 1963 and grew up in Weinfelden. After working as an accountant, he studied English Literature and Psychology, worked as a journalist and in various jobs in other countries, and has now returned and lives in Winterthur. He has become one of the most prolific Swiss authors and has written prose, radio drama and plays. Known for his cool and sparse writing style, his novels in particular are critically acclaimed, from his first book *Agnes* (2000) to his most recent novel *In einer dunkelblauen Stunde* (In a dark blue hour, 2023). He has won numerous literary prizes and his books have been translated into more than 30 languages. He also wrote a retelling of the Johann David Wyss book *Der schweizerische Robinson* (The Swiss Family Robinson, 2012) and a picture book adaptation of *Heidi* (2008) by Johanna Spyri, illustrated by Hannes Binder. *Theo und Marlen auf der Insel* is his first book specifically for early readers.

Sunay, Simlâ

İstanbul'un Gözleri

(The eyes of Istanbul)

Ill. Gökçe Akgül

İstanbul: Şehir Dedektifi, 2023

200x270mm, 38pp

ISBN 978-605-71552-3-8, ages: 7+

İstanbul, water

'Eye' has many meanings in Turkish, one of which is 'spring'. Istanbul has a unique water structure that has survived from the Byzantine period (or even earlier) to the present day. Aqueducts were used to transport water that fed the cisterns of the impe-

rial capital of the Roman Empire, to the present day. They continue to play an important part in Istanbul's cultural heritage. But they are now in danger of destruction. In this illustrated book, the water heritage of Istanbul is conveyed to children through a story based on the journey of a single raindrop, Çise, and its encounter with the healer Sepen. The author has associated the natural cycle of water with urban heritage and life through this allegory that she has created through the word eye.

Simlâ Sunay was born in Istanbul in 1976 and she still lives in the city. Her first children's book *Güneşten sarı baldan tatlı* (Sunset yellow and honey sweeter) was published in 2006. Not only has she continued to write for children, but she is also a critic of children's literature. Since 2007, her reviews have been published in many reputable newspapers and magazines. Sunay, who also has contributed to adult literature, won the Fakir Baykurt Storybook Award, which is one of Turkey's notable literary awards, and the Dicle Koğacioğlu Incentive Award in 2022. Sunay also works as a freelance architect and runs art and architecture workshops for children. She is currently working on her Ph.D. in gender studies at the Mimar Sinan Fine Arts University.

Havrosh, Oleksandr

Vriatuvaty Tarasa Shevchenka

(Save Taras Shevchenko)

Ill. Tetiana Kopytova

Kharkiv: Folio, 2020

145x220mm, 154pp

ISBN 978-966-03-8494-1, ages: 10-11

Time travel, history, Taras Shevchenko

One day, Roman Popadynets, the director of the Museum of Rarities, decides to go to the 19th century to save the famous Ukrainian poet and artist Taras Shevchenko from a 10-year exile in the Kazakh steppes. For this mission he uses a rocking chair in the Shevchenko Museum, which happens to be a mysterious portal of time travel. Together with his son Yas and Yana the young keeper of the museum artifacts, the director goes through a kaleidoscope of heart-breaking adventures. They visit 19th-century Kyiv, meet several historical characters, and even talk with the great Shevchenko himself. A dictionary is appended, with names of the creatures of Ukrainian mythology and places, as well as the name index of prototypes of real characters included in the story. This book is a continuation of Havrosh's book *Музей пригод* (Museum of adventures, 2018).

Oleksandr Havrosh, born in 1971 in Uzhhorod, is a Ukrainian writer, journalist and playwright. Since childhood he has followed the example of his father and read a lot. He graduated from the Faculty of Journalism of the Franko National University in Lviv and has worked for various magazines. He has also been actively published in Kyiv, Lviv, Odesa and in the foreign press. Today he is a freelance journalist and dedicated to the theatre and writing. He has published more than 40 books, half of which are for children. Among them the most popular are *Neimovirni pryhody Ivana Syly, naiduzhchoi liudyny svitu* (Incredible adventures of Ivan Syl, the strongest man in the world, 2007) and *Vriatuvaty Tarasa Shevchenka*.

Al-Najjar, Nadia

Bahar asfar ramel akhdar

(Yellow sea green sand)

Ill. Heidi Fawzy

Sharjah: Wow Publishing, 2022

220x220mm, 19pp

ISBN 978-9948-8710-5-7, ages: 5-9

Colours, colour blindness, imagination

Colour blindness is the subject of this short book. It gives explanations about some of the characteristics of this kind of 'blindness'. For example, my Aunt Mary's parrot: are the feathers green and yellow, or are they green and red, or a mixture of colours? And what is the colour of that watermelon? Is it red, blue, green, yellow? Throughout the book, the young reader learns about the actual colours of some of the things surrounding them and how they see them.

Nadia Al-Najjar is an Emirati writer with a B.A. degree in Computer Science. She has published novels, short stories and children's literature. Her story *Al Namir Al Alrqat* (The speckled tiger, 2017) was included in the Arabic language curriculum in the United Arab Emirates. She has won multiple awards including the Sharjah Book Fair Award for Best Emirati Book, the Emirates Award for Fiction, and the Dr Abdulaziz Al Mansour Award. Many of her titles have also been nominated for the Sheikh Zayed Book Award. Her novels *Thulathiat Al Dal* (Trilogy of Dall) have been translated into several languages. She participated in the collection and rewriting of Emirati folktales with a group of Emirati women writers in cooperation with the U.A.E. Board on Books for Young People.

Coelho, Joseph

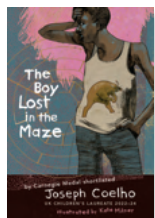
The Boy Lost in the Maze

Ill. Kate Milner

Burley Gate, HR: Otter-Barry Books, 2022

140x205mm, 320pp

ISBN 978-1-91307-433-3, ages: 14+

Coming of age, masculinity, son, myth, Theseus

The Boy Lost in the Maze is a spellbinding novel told in verse, blending the ancient myth of the Minotaur with the quest of a modern-day teenage boy to find his biological father. Joseph Coelho brilliantly blends Greek myth with this 21st century quest. Theseus

makes a dangerous and courageous journey to find his father, finally meeting the Minotaur in the Labyrinth. Meanwhile, Theo, a modern-day teenage boy in London, finds himself on a maze-like quest to find his own father. Each story tells of a boy becoming a man and discovering what true manhood really means. Doubts, difficulties and dangers must be faced as Theo discovers the man he will become. Every word is carefully wrought in these astonishing narrative poems which reward reading, re-reading and reflection.

Joseph Coelho is an award-winning performance poet, playwright and children's author based in Kent. He was the Waterstones Children's Laureate from 2022 to 2024. His debut poetry collection *Werewolf Club Rules* (2014) was winner of the CLPE CLIPPA Poetry Award 2015. His collection *Overheard in a Tower Block* (2017) was long-listed for the Carnegie Medal and shortlisted for the CLIPPA. His verse novel *The Girl who Became a Tree* (2020) was shortlisted for the CILIP Carnegie Medal and received a Special Mention at the Bologna Ragazzi Award for Poetry in 2021. His picture books for younger children include the critically acclaimed *Luna Loves...* series, illustrated by Fiona Lumbers and *If All the World Were...*, illustrated by Allison Colpoys, which won the Independent Bookshop Week Book Award 2019. Coelho aims to inspire young people of all ages through stories and characters they can recognise. *The Boy Lost in the Maze* was named as the 2024 winner of the Yoto Carnegie Medal.

Yee, Lisa

Maizy Chen's last Chance

New York, NY: Random House Children's Books, 2022

145x220mm, 276pp

ISBN 978-1-9848-3025-8, ages: 8-12

Cultural identity, prejudice, racism, grandparents

After learning that her grandfather is sick, 11-year-old Maizy Chen travels with her mother from their home in Los Angeles to the town of Last Chance in Minnesota, where her grandparents run a Chinese restaurant, the *Golden Palace*, which was founded in the nineteenth

century by her great-great-grandfather. Over a summer spent helping at the restaurant, grandfather tells stories to Maizy, and she learns about her family history as well as the history of Chinese Americans, even as she and her family confront contemporary discrimination. *Maizy Chen's Last Chance* balances sharp insights, authentic warmth and humour in a surprising, moving novel that celebrates family, food, friendship, and intergenerational stories.

Lisa Yee, born in Los Angeles in 1959, is the child of two public school teachers and is a third-generation Chinese American. Her ground-breaking book, *Millicent Min, Girl Genius* (2003), features one of the first Asian American protagonists in contemporary literature for children in the U.S.A. Since then, Yee has published over 20 books, and her work, featuring her distinctive, warm-hearted humour, has received some of the highest recognition for books for young people in the U.S.A. *Maizy Chen's Last Chance* was named a Newbery Honor winner, an Asian/Pacific American Literature Award winner, an ALA Notable Children's Book, and a National Book Award finalist, and has been selected for numerous other award lists, including those selected by young readers. She has also been honoured with the Sid Fleischman Humor Award. In addition to YA novels, her books for younger readers include the *Bobby Ellis-Chan* series. Although Yee has had many interesting careers, she says that being an author is the best job in the world.

Gómez Benet, Nuria

El berrinche de Moctezuma

(Moctezuma's tantrum)

Ill. Santiago Solís

Caracas: Ed. Ekaré, 2022

155x155mm, 39pp

ISBN 978-84-124166-8-8, ages: 7+

Aztec Empire, anger, defiance



The Mexican Emperor, Moctezuma, is having a tantrum. He shouts, stomps his feet, and even though dancers arrive, his bad mood becomes worse. He does not stop until his subjects offer him a

bowl of chocolate. This refers to the customs and food of the Aztec culture, which are recreated in text and illustration in this humorous poem that invites young readers to investigate the history of Mexico.

Nuria Gómez Benet, born in Mexico City 1959, is a renowned author. She is also a poet and script-writer for television and radio. She studied pedagogy at the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM). She was chief writer for the Mexican *Sesame Street* programme for children and has published several books for children. She also gives workshops for writers.

ARGENTINA

Turdera, Cristian

El alumno nuevo

(The new student)

Text by Pablo De Santis

Buenos Aires: Calibroscopto Ediciones, 2021

180x275mm, 34pp

ISBN 978-987-3697-49-8, ages: 7-11

School, android, perfection



A new boy joins the school, he is also new in town and lives alone with his father, who owns a model-making shop that is in their house. The new student is always perfect, always on time, always immaculate, but also quite creepy. Moreover, he is always looking into the

other children's notebooks, very quietly and very suspiciously, so much that the other students think that he surely must be hiding something, perhaps a secret. One day he is absent for three days in a row, so the teacher asks one of class if she can check on him. When she visits the new student's house, it seems empty, so she calls out for him and peeks behind a curtain. She discovers something astonishing that will totally change what she thought of her new classmate. Without being moralizing, this story invites us to reflect and sends an important message on the human condition and the often-dangerous notion of perfection.

Cristian Turdera was born in 1973 in Buenos Aires and is an illustrator and designer. He is an assistant professor in the department of Illustration at the University of Buenos Aires (UBA). More than 50 books with his illustrations have been published, including *Canción decidida* (A determined song, 2003) with text by David Wapner, three volumes of the project *El Topo ilustrado* (The illustrated mole, 2014, 2015, 2016) written by Tobías Schleider and Turdera. He currently works for advertising agencies, magazines, newspapers and publishing houses from all over the world. He developed two cartoon series, which have been released through the Argentine TV channel *Paka*. *El alumno nuevo* was included in *The White Ravens* selection in 2021.

My Strange Shrinking Parents

Text by the artist

Port Melbourne, VIC: Thames & Hudson, 2022

205x300mm, 38pp

ISBN 978-1-76076-123-3, ages: 3+

Immigration, parents, selflessness

My Strange Shrinking Parents is an expressive metaphorical exploration of the sacrifices made by immigrant parents for their children to flourish in a new country. The cover depicts a giant child dwarfing his parents; a postage stamp frames the title, and endpa-

pers depict teapots from several countries. Told as a fairy tale based on the trope of a bargain – sacrificing centimetres in height each time they give their child what he needs – this is a moving tribute to the parents' selflessness. The artwork employs light, shade and perspective to potent effect, and the metaphor of size is repeated, beginning with an iconic bonsai. His technique employs graphite powder, pencils, watercolours, art paper, photo references, and digital technology, and was inspired by Japanese woodblock printmakers. Sworder's inventiveness in format and approach, is invested with emotional weight and power, speaks in any language. This universal and timeless story of hope and resilience is a gloriously eloquent paean to Sworder's parents and to any immigrant.

Zeno Sworder is a Melbourne-based writer, artist and picture book maker, who is passionate about literacy, creativity and diversity. He was born into a multicultural (Chinese and English) family in regional Victoria and has had several jobs, including window cleaner, dish washer, journalist, an English language teacher, consular officer, and tribunal advocate for migrants and refugees. But he has always felt most himself sitting at a table drawing pictures and making up stories. His first book, *This Small Blue Dot* (2021), won the CBCA Award for New Illustrator 2021 and Australian Book Design Awards Best Designed Children's Illustrated Book 2021. *My Strange Shrinking Parents* won the CBCA Picture Book of the Year Award 2023.

Jaguar, Zebra, Nerz. Ein Jahresbuch

(Jaguar, zebra, mink)

Text by Heinz Janisch

Innsbruck: Tyrolia Verlag, 2020

215x210mm, 32pp

ISBN 978-3-7022-3869-8, ages: 6+

Month, name, sound, animals

Inspired by a poem by Christian Morgenstern, where all the names of the months are replaced with similar-sounding animal names, Janisch has written poetic, sensitive and atmospheric short texts.

Michael Roher has picked up

the individual elements of the text and combines them into fascinating images in which one can become immersed and can visit again and again.

Michael Roher was born in 1980 in Lower Austria. After graduating, he moved to Vienna to become a qualified social education worker. He combined his work with his passion for the circus and started to train children and adolescents in special circus skills. He has written and illustrated several picture books and received national book awards for most of them, including the Austrian Children's and Juvenile Book Award, the Mira Lobe Scholarship, Outstanding Artist Award in the field of children's and young people's literature, and in 2021 he received the Christine Nöstlinger Award. His books have been included the *IBBY Honour List: Fridolin Franse frisiert* (Fridolin Franse the hair stylist, 2010) in 2012, and the novel *Oma, Huhn, und Kümmelfritz* (Granny, Chicken, Caraway Joe, 2012) in 2014.

Evvel Zaman Ichinde

(First in time)

Text by Zahira Jabir

Baku: Tehsil, 2022

250x250mm, 53pp

ISBN 978-9952-518-57-3, ages: 11+

Legend, Karabakh

Evvel zaman ichinde is the first book by Zahira Jabir. These legends, examples of forgotten folklore, and tales of monuments and historical places are about the Karabakh region of Azerbaijan. The book

was presented at the VIII International Book Fair, held in Baku. Additionally, library employees as well as readers presented the book in several regions of Azerbaijan including Qusar, Khachmaz and Kurdamir.

Nermin Abdullayeva was born in 1986 in Baku. She studied at the Azerbaijan State Academy of Arts and received a B.A. in 2008, and two years later an M.A. In 2007, she became a member of the Union of Young Artists and Art Critics of the Azerbaijan Union of Artists, and a member of the Azerbaijan Union of Artists in 2011. She has had numerous exhibitions of her artwork beginning in 1995, not only in Azerbaijan, but also in Russia, Turkey, Ukraine, Poland, Latvia, Germany and Austria, among other countries. Her many honours and awards include 1st place gold medal at the international competition in Kanakawa, Japan, in 1999; 1st place in the My Native Country, My Azerbaijan competition in 2001; 1st place in Children Against Genocide exhibition/competition in 2002; and 1st place in the Japanese Through the Eyes of Azerbaijan Children competition, in 2003. In addition, she has received multiple diplomas for Best Teacher at various exhibitions. In 2013, Abdullayeva received an Honourable Mention for promoting visual arts among children and teenagers.

Een zee van liefde

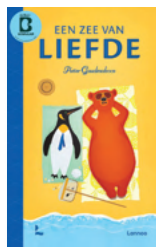
(A sea of love)

Text by the artist

Tielt: Lannoo, 2021

200x305mm, 72pp

ISBN 978-94-014-7726-0, ages: 4+

Bear, penguin, love, friendship

Penguin crosses the ocean to the house of his friend Bear. He wants to tell him a secret, a secret so big it will change everything: he is in love with Bear. But Bear does not really understand what love is, nor does he seem to feel it. Penguin decides to spend the summer with Bear in the hope that his

feelings will pass. Together, they have the time of their lives. Then Penguin decides to go home, and all the pleasure and warmth disappears from Bear's home, and he feels lonely for the first time. Without any hesitation he swims after Penguin. This must surely be love. The delightful illustrations express great tenderness. The cinematic presentation makes the emotions tangible and creates a firm connection between the two main characters. Readers will be captivated by this love story for its humour and exceptional use of colour. This book shows that love is love, no matter who you are.

Pieter Gaudesaboos, born in 1979, is an illustrator, designer and author. His work is playful and original, with absurd and nostalgic touches. Gaudesaboos integrates text and images to create a whole, which is often packed with humour. He works with digital techniques, and yet his work still has a nostalgic atmosphere, because of his love for old picture books and toys from the 1950s and 1960s. His books are a little like the stories that children make up when they are playing. His imaginative work could be described as brilliant child's play. Other books of his include *Negen Schijfjes Banaan op Zoek naar een Plekje om te Slapen* (Nine banana slices in search of a place to sleep, 2004), *Mijn Allermooiste Speelgoedwoordenboek* (My favourite dictionary of toys, 2013), and *Het grote boek van Mannelijke Koek* (The big book of Little Man Cookie, by Lorraine Francis 2022).

Os invisíveis

(The invisibles)

Text by Tino Freitas

São Paulo: Companhia das Letrinhas, 2021

175x215mm, 48pp

ISBN 978-85-7406-960-9, ages: 6-8

Respect, empathy, existence

This is the story of a boy with a superpower – he can see invisible people at home, on the street, at school, at work, everywhere. He can also be invisible, such as when his parents are absorbed in their technological life.

This makes the recurrent dimensions of our existence and what we choose to see or not to see on this journey of life explicit. In this sensitive narrative, the images and verbal text come together to signify the senses that overflow as we read. The images in black and off-white, produce fundamental contrasts such as hot and cold, what limits and what overflows, what we choose to see and what not to see. *Os invisíveis* combines the verbal with the visual, causing an explosion of senses, thanks in part to the beauty of the graphic design and the poetic adaptation of the theme. The book includes a quotation by Roberto Juarroz: *The visible is an adornment of the invisible*, which summarizes and complements with poetic force, the predominance of white throughout the pages. The book was considered Highly Recommended by Fundação Nacional do Livro Infantil e Juvenil (FNLIJ).

Odilon Moraes, born in 1966, is an award-winning illustrator with over 30 years of experience in the publishing market. He graduated in architecture from São Paulo University (USP), with an M.A. in visual arts from Campinas State University (Unicamp) and was a guest professor at the Institute of Language Studies at Unicamp. He was Curator of the exhibitions *Linhas de Histórias*, 1 and 2, about illustrated books.

Neak Sangkrou Phum

(Saviour of Sovannaphumi)

Text by Kann Haly

Phnom Penh: Room to Read Cambodia, 2022

190x250mm, 40pp

ISBN 978-9924-32-139-2, ages: 10+

Climate change, environment

Neak Sangkrou Phum is an adaptation of a well-known Khmer folktale called *Sovann Komar*. The narrator and his friend Naga, go on a journey to save their village. This book is about climate change and environmental survival.

Seng Visal was born in 1988 in Kandal Province and is now an artist based in Phnom Penh. He studied painting at the Association of Khmer Artist Friends from 2006 to 2007, while also working as a portrait artist at the Phnom Penh Night Market. Seng began studying at the Royal University of Fine Arts in 2007 and graduated in 2011. Today, he is an art teacher at the Yamada School of Art in Phnom Penh. He also works as an illustrator at the publishing and distribution house of the Ministry of Education. Since 2009, his work has been exhibited around Cambodia. His publications include: *The Body* (2011), *Super Visal* (2013), *Ob Ob* (2015), *Piglet walks on tiptoes* (2015). His book *Het Ah Vey Mous Srek Ngoang Ngoang?* (Why is the mosquito making a buzzing sound? 2019), was selected for the 2020 *IBBY Honour List*. Seng was also part of a group of six artists who wrote and illustrated *Trei kragh neng doeurm ampil* (A climbing perch and the tamarind tree, 2013) that was included in the 2016 *IBBY Honour List*.

Trèfle

(Clover)

Text by Nadine Robert

Montréal, QC: Comme des géants, 2022

200x255mm, 74pp

ISBN 978-2-924332-75-7, ages: 5+

Search, goat, forest, intuition

Young Trèfle has lost her goat Pivoine in the woods. While looking for Pivoine, she must make several decisions, such as, should she go deep into the forest, go along the river, turn right or left? Trèfle faces several challenges as these deci-

sions are not easy, but with great determination she goes ahead with her quest. Illustrator Qin Leng has created an enchanting landscape with beautiful watercolours that feel 'alive', where nature offers a welcoming surrounding for Trèfle. The gentle and poetic illustrations echo the lively story written by Nadine Robert. *Trèfle* is an inspiring and heartfelt picture book that will fill the young reader with happiness and a sense of self determination.

Qin Leng was born in China. She later moved to France and ultimately to Montréal, where she graduated from the Mel Hoppenheim School of Cinema. She is both an illustrator and author of books for children and has spent almost two decades creating content for children's television. Throughout her career Leng has illustrated picture books, chapter books, magazines and book covers for publishers around the world. *Trèfle* was the winner of the Governor General Literary Award for Young People in 2022 for best picture book in French. *Hana Hashimoto, Sixth Violin* (2014) written by Chieri Uegaki and illustrated by Leng, was a finalist for the Governor General's Literary Award for Young People 2014 and received the APALA Award for best picture book.

Paloma Voló

(Paloma flies away)

Text by the artist

Santiago: Ed. Planeta Chilena, 2021

210x220mm, 28pp

ISBN 978-956-9975-26-4, ages: 6+

Migration, exile, home, identity

The country where Paloma lives is not how it used to be since a dictator took over and stripped its citizens of their freedom and free speech. Like birds, Paloma and her family will have to fly away in search of a new home, without a chance to pack or say goodbye.

Although it is strange and like an adventure, she gets used to her new country. But as time passes, she must once again prepare to fly away, this time back to the country that she can hardly remember. A thoughtful and delicate story about family, childhood and a journey towards identity narrated through the warmth of memory.

María J. Guarda is an illustrator based in Santiago. She studied graphic design in the U.K. and received an M.A. in Illustration from the Camberwell College of Arts (University of the Arts of London), as well as an M.A. in Children's Book illustration at Cambridge School of Arts at the Anglia Ruskin University. In 2018, she won the first prize at the Macmillan Prize for illustration. Guarda splits her time between projects and teaching illustration. Her main interest is developing stories related to memory and feelings, trying not to lose the point of view of the child. She likes to experiment with different mediums and processes. She is the author and illustrator of *Pablooo* (2017) and *Tsss...* (2017), and the illustrator of *Mi Vida con las Piedras* (My life with the stones, 2022) by Karen Villeda. Currently she is working on her next picture book and developing an exhibition about children's rights.

Zhu, Chengliang

Da feng

(The gale)

Text by Mo Yan

Nanchang: 21st Century Publishing Group, 2021

270x220mm, 38pp

ISBN 978-7-5568-5550-6, ages: 4-8

Grandpa, labour, futility

Before the dawn, Star and his grandfather set out to cut grass on the beach a few miles from their home. After a whole day of hard work, they have cut enough grass to fill their cart. On their way home in the evening they were

struck by a violent tornado that came with no warning. Grandpa used all his strength to hold on to the cart, resisting the strong wind with great perseverance and courage. Star witnessed all this, learning an important lesson and was deeply touched – it was as if he had grown up overnight! Finally, the wind had blown almost all grass away, leaving only one blade of grass that had stuck in the axle, which Star tossed into the sunset.

Zhu Chengliang was born in Shanghai in 1948 and is a member of the Chinese Artists Association. In 1976, he graduated from Department of Fine Arts, Nanjing University of the Arts as an oil painting major and joined the Jiangsu Fine Arts Publishing House as editor and designer, where later he served as Senior Editor. In 2016, Zhu participated in the online class of 100,000 teachers reading action in basic education system, launched by the WeChat Public Account *San Ye Cao Gu Shi Jia Zu* (Clover Story Family). He has published more than 50 books in China and internationally. He loves creating picture books and frequently uses traditional Chinese painting styles. His works have won many domestic and foreign awards, including the Feng Zikai Children's Picture Book Award, the Award for Excellence at the Bologna Children's International Book Fair, and he has been nominated for the Hans Christian Andersen Award in 2016 and 2020. His book *Ye ye de da huoxia* (Grandpa's tinderbox, written by Lu Xu, 2013) was included in the 2014 *IBBY Honour List*.

Ariza, Julián

Hay recuerdos que llegan volando

(There are memories that fly by)

Text by the artist

Bogotá: Fondo de Cultura Económica, 2022

235x290mm, 56pp

ISBN 978-958-5197-23-7, ages: 6+

Memory, feelings

With this picture book, Ariza reminds us that we are all made of memories. In the delicate illustrations and the enveloping, nostalgic colour palette of Ariza's work, we discover a whole universe, which allows us to reflect on the memo-

ries we have left behind, the memories we have forgotten, and the memories that still visit us daily. Some days we wish to remember. Other days and nights we wish to forget. However, Ariza reminds us that whether we wish to remember or to forget, our memories of pain and laughter, losses and friendships, will always come flying back. This book invites us, while still remembering our past, to move forward, to fly hand in hand with memories that come our way, and to build our stories without fear of looking forward or back.

Julián Ariza, born in Bogotá in 1994, studied industrial design at the Universidad Nacional of Bogotá and currently works as a freelance illustrator. He has always loved illustration and storytelling. *Hay recuerdos que llegan volando* is his first book as author and illustrator, and it was the winner of the Illustrated Children's Book Award 2021 of the District Institute of the Arts (Idartes).

¿Será este un libro triste?

(Is this a sad book?)

Text by Byron Espinoza

San José: EUNED, 2021

205x200mm, 47pp

ISBN 978-9968-48-923-2, ages: 6-17

Poetry, death, grief, sadness

In this beautiful work, the poetry and the illustrations come together to invoke the fears of childhood in the face of loss and mourning for departed loved ones. The book does not shy away

from delicate matters, yet throughout it presents optimism and hope. Ultimately, this book is a form of reconciliation and love.

Alvaro Borrasé was born in Costa Rica in 1960. Since 1980, he has been working in graphic design and illustration. His work is characterized by the minimal use of backgrounds and the application of solid ink coverage with no gradations, screens or halftones, known as flat colours. His work can be found in literary works as well in textbooks. He is a member of the Costa Rican Illustrators Forum GAMA. His titles include, *La tía Poli y su gato fantasma* (Aunt Poli and her ghost cat, by Floria Jiménez Díaz, 2020), *El día que Don Melvin nos dejó* (The day Don Melvin left us, by Borrasé, 2011) and *Pachi, el camaleón que entendió su propia belleza* (Pachi, the chameleon who understood his own beauty, by Silvia Espinoza Bolaños, 2019). In his free time, he thinks a lot about recycling.

Luda kuća

(Crazy House)

Text by Sanja Lovrenčić

Zagreb: Mala zvona, 2021

215x305mm, 44pp

ISBN 978-953-8313-28-8, ages: 5-9

Community, diversity, respect

A child slowly parachutes down from their apartment building roof, describing the balconies on the way down. The child then climbs the stairs and shares details of the interiors of the apartments and their tenants. The tenants are all unique in their own way. The

building includes someone who is obsessed with English breakfast; someone who sleeps in a cage because he is convinced that he turns into a bird during the night; someone who lives in an elevator with a pet snake; someone who makes mechanical animals; someone who builds walls; and someone who tears them down. Descriptions of the occupants are fanciful, vivid and amusing, while the illustrations represent a kind of gallery through which one can move in two directions, up and down, finding a visual surprise on every page. The book becomes a symbol of possible coexistence, and of individual freedoms that are embedded in the community, which in general shows mutual respect and a harmonious whole.

Vendi Vernić, born in 1991, is a freelance illustrator and visual artist based in Zagreb. She is the 2018 winner of the IX International Award for Illustration BCBF/Fundación SM. She has received several other awards for her illustration work, including two Grigor Vitez awards for children's illustration in 2019 and 2022, and the Ovca u kutiji award for the best Croatian picture book in 2021. She has participated in numerous group exhibitions, as well as solo shows in Croatia and abroad. Vernić has illustrated 11 published books for children and young adults, including *La Casa de Fieras* (The menagerie, 2019), *La Nariz / El Abrigo* (The nose / The overcoat, 2019), *Sedam mačaka* (Seven cats, 2019), *Priče 1, 2, 3, 4* (Stories 1, 2, 3, 4, 2020), and *Mjesec od papira* (The paper moon, 2022).

Karekla, Christina

O pappous mou einai apo... tin Kythrea

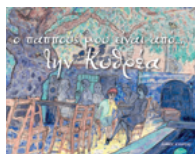
(My grandfather comes from ... Kythrea)

Text by Chrysothemis Papaconstantinou

Nicosia: Kythrea Municipality, 2021

410x300mm, 21pp

ISBN 978-9963-2309-2-1, ages: 5+

History, displacement, home, cultural identity, family

A grandfather recounts his childhood experiences in Kythrea to his granddaughter, Ariadne. He tells her how the people were once fulfilled and enriched by the small, simple joys

of life, such as the sound of running water, the taste of freshly baked bread, and the intermingling aromas of wood, stone and lemon blossoms. This vividly illustrated book abounds with symbolism and aims to take children on a journey into Kythrea prior to the Turkish invasion in 1974, while also teaching them about the tragic events in the recent history in Cyprus. The book deals with the themes of war, of being uprooted from one's place of birth and becoming a refugee, loss, memory, the transmission of old traditions to the younger generation, and eventually finding hope and new meaning.

Christina Karekla is a Cypriot visual artist working in illustration, sculptural ceramics and painting. She holds a B.A. in Ceramic Art and Visual Research from Brighton University, U.K., and an M.A. in Ceramics from the University of Wales Institute, Cardiff, U.K. (now Cardiff Metropolitan University). During her studies she explored the idea of objects holding visual narratives and how they can 'tell' their own stories. She has completed an artist residency at the International Ceramic Research Centre Guldagergaard, Skælskør, Denmark and collaborated as an animator for a children's music video. She has also taught art and sculptural ceramics to various age groups. *O pappous mou einai apo... tin Kythrea* is the first children's book that she has illustrated, and it was awarded the State Prize for Literature for Young Children for publications of the year 2021. She is working with her sister Melina Karekla on her second illustrated children's book, *Ollie and the Rescue of the Hummingbird*.

Volfová, Eva

Nitka a zatoulaný knoflíček

(Little thread and a stray button)

Text by Tereza Horváthová

Prague: Baobab, 2022

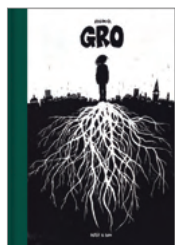
235x305mm, 44pp

ISBN 978-80-7515-145-2, ages: 5+

Helping, sewing

Nitka, whose name means little thread, is a brave girl who is not afraid of anything. When a button rolls away, she goes looking for it, and along the way helps everyone she meets that is in need. Will the elephant, the forest or the river give Nitka advice in return? Will she become lost in the swamp? Where will the birds take her? Fortunately, she brought her sewing kit with her, because on her adventurous travels she really cannot do without it. This book is a continuation of *Kočička z kávové pěny* (The cat made of coffee foam, 2011), and *Fridolína, Antonína a malá Mína* (Fridolína, Antonína and little Mína, 2019), and is a book about dolls, which is illustrated with embroidery and fabric, as sewing and embroidery are a central motif of the narrative.

Eva Volfová, born in 1979 in Teplice, in former Czechoslovakia, is an artist, graphic designer, illustrator, art teacher, author of educational programmes, and lecturer in graphic techniques. She is devoted to making picture stories for children. Her drawings are created from textile materials and threads, in which she combines new and old textiles. Her work is motivated by the tension found between austere graphic expression and malleable and changeable textiles. She is currently working on large-scale embroidery for the Thread and Line project, where she transforms textile structures into graphic ones. Volfová is dedicated to helping children develop textile skills and has designed a set of sewing kits for them. She tries to help the little embroiderers not to be discouraged by their first experiments with thread, but to discover a creative space for their own stories and play with the materials.



Gro is forced to leave home and venture into the unknown to save our stories from disappearing. Throughout her journey, she is manipulated, deceived and her life is threatened, but she also encounters help along the way from people who are ready to risk their

own lives to serve the greater good. They seem to know that this girl with the misshapen face holds the key to future stories. Inspired by classics such as Michael Ende's *Momo*, Adam O. spins a truly magical tale about the power of stories and about the alternative worlds that lurk just below the surface. The atmospheric linoleum prints of this book give it a distinctive character and adds an extra dimension to the story.

Adam O. was born in 1976 and debuted in 2011 with his graphic novel series *Ruiner* (Ruins). Over the past twenty years he has produced a wide range of illustrations and posters. He is a regular artist with the newspaper *Hus Forbi*, which is published to give a voice to the homeless, and has published several critically acclaimed picture books. Adam O.'s trilogy *Den rustne verden* (The rusted world) was nominated for Politiken's Literary Prize 2020, The Danish Ministry of Culture's Children & YA Prize 2020 and The Nordic Council Children and Young People's Literature Prize 2021.



When I wake up with walls that have collapsed, windows that have broken, and doors full of cold, I cannot distinguish what is 'inside' and what is 'outside'. Then a new possibility unfolds, and

I cross the garden and become everything. I feel the warm embrace that the earth gives to the seed when it germinates. Perhaps 'home' is the freedom to leave and the joy of returning. Perhaps loving is how a home is made. When I wake up without walls, windows or doors I smile, because the heat that I carry inside shelters all my 'outsides'. I am home! This book has a symbiosis between the text and the illustrations. The metaphor and symbolism provided by the images, talk about home and affection, but it also highlights that absurd separation that humans make from nature. It speaks of the wonderful possibilities that unfold, when we treat others as equals.

Sozapato is the pen name of Sofia Zapata Ochoa. She was born in 1984 in Quito and is a designer, plastic artist, master of illustrated children's books, clown actress, and activist for children's creative thinking. Her work has been published and exhibited in eleven countries in addition to in Ecuador. In 2020, the Spanish issue of the *New York Times* published her illustrated text *Inevitable metamorphoses*, and she was a finalist with an honourable mention in the 7th Ibero-American Design Biennial in Spain. In 2018, she founded Ommani Ediciones, which is the first Ecuadorian publishing house that develops creative and philosophical thinking in children. She is the author and illustrator of the books *Colorín Colorado* (2012) and *Debajo de hoy* (Under today, 2018), which were both selected for the *IBBY Honour List* for the quality of her illustrations in 2014 and 2020, respectively.

Mamlaket Al-Anateekh

(The Kingdom of Anateekh)

Text by Manar Hazza

Cairo: Al-Alia Publishing House, 2022

185x255mm, 36pp

ISBN 978-977-6624-48-1, ages: 6-9

Cooking, variety, tradition

The king is an expert in cuisine, and, with his head chef he is searching for a special recipe for the Kingdom of Anateekh. The Kingdom has no official dish! But they know that every country is distinguished by its history in science, civilization and food.

This story takes us to the royal palace, which is filled with paintings of food from all over the world, and then into the palace kitchen, where we see the preparation of original dishes from each country and their historical recipes. Children are introduced to authentic food from each country and the preservation of its history through the ages and can learn about a country by the way it prepares its dishes. Together, history and cooking can give children the experience of exploring places through their different foods and the distinctive scents of each cuisine. The book leads the reader through the process of cooking, beginning with the ingredients, through the method, and ends with tasting, it also illustrates that each dish can be distinguished by its enticing aroma. The value of simplicity, teamwork and complete honesty – even in the most embarrassing situations – highlight the importance of consulting experts in their fields. All of this is presented within the framework of a light-hearted narrative and delicious illustrations.

Bassma Hosam lives in Cairo and is an artist and children's book illustrator. She graduated in 2018 from the Faculty of Fine Arts in Cairo and has since worked on over 30 books around the world. She received the Abdelaziz Mansour Publishing Award in 2019, and the Etisalat Award in the category Picture Book in 2022 for her illustrations for *Mamlaket Al-Anateekh*. In 2018, she participated in an Oxford University (U.K.) project to improve the Arabic language.

Kui ma oleksin vanaisa

(If I were a grandpa)

Text by Indrek Koff

Tallinn: Härra Tee & proua Kohvi, 2020

170x235mm, 39pp

ISBN 978-9949-9861-7-0, ages: 8-12

Family, grandfather/grandson

A little boy dreams about becoming a grandpa one day. He imagines that he would always be a fantastic grandpa to his grandchildren. He would play all kinds of exciting games with them and let them do all sorts of things. His grandchildren would be very good and well-behaved, so he would never really need to scold them. He dreams that as their Grandpa they would love one another and always have fun together. This book demonstrates that intergenerational harmony and strong mutual ties are important elements of such relationships.

Kadi Kurema, born in 1963 in Pärnu, is an illustrator and printmaker who graduated in printmaking from the Estonian Academy of Arts. She has illustrated 21 children's books to date. Kurema has been repeatedly awarded in the 5 Best-Designed Estonian Children's Book competition. The artist's illustrations, which are entrancing and packed with provoking ideas, mix etching with other techniques while using very little colour. The illustrations for this book received an award at the Tallinn Illustration Triennale in 2020. Her other titles include *Elevant* (Elephant, 2021), *Kui ma oleksin vanaema* (If I were a grandma, 2021), *Väike armastuse lugu* (A little love story, 2018), *Kolm sügist* (Three autumns, 2016), and *Appi, me muutusime kassideks!* (Help, we turned into cats! 2016).

Getahun, Daniel

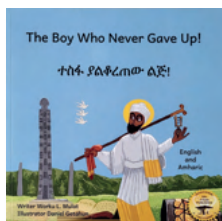
The Boy Who Never Gave Up

Text by Worku L. Mulat

Seattle, WA, USA: Open Hearts Big Dreams/Ready Set Go Books, 2020

215x215mm, 32pp

ISBN 979-85553404970, ages: 8-10

Church music, composer, Yārēd

Young Yared, sometimes known as Yārēd the Melodious, was not the best student. He failed so often that he considered giving up on school completely. Despite these failures and with

the perseverance of a caterpillar, he was inspired to untangle his heart and return to his studies with purpose. Motivated by the beauty of church music, he developed a new way to compose the music, which caught the attention of the emperor. His devotion to music and education elevated him from the streets of Axum in the Tigray Region to Saint-hood. His music is still considered sacred in the Ethiopian Orthodox Church. Beautiful illustrations by Ethiopian artist Daniel Getahun capture the style of the ancient Ethiopian Civilization and the beauty of its people. The book is also published in Anuak as well as in other Ethiopian languages.

Daniel Getahun was born in Addis Ababa and now lives in Toronto, Canada. He received a diploma in graphic art from the Addis Ababa School of Fine Arts and Design in 1980. Getahun now focuses on oil painting and digital painting.

Lucander, Jenny

Vad bestämmer jag?

(Who decides?)

Text by Jesper Wung-Sung

Helsinki: Förlaget, 2023

230x255mm, 28pp

ISBN 978-952-333-559-2, ages: 3+

Power, freedom, limitations, philosophy

Vad bestämmer jag? is a story of child and his father who talk about the limits of a child's autonomy while taking a stroll by the seashore, walking downtown, crossing the park and returning to the beach. The illustra-

tor tackles this highly philosophical book with a set of down-to-earth images that leave space for the reader's mind to roam and ponder. The different yet coherent scenes open new venues of investigation, examining who controls the public infrastructure, how our genomes and families are constituted and what it all means. The landscapes, the distance between the father and the child, the perspectives and the minor characters in the background, all speak volumes.

Jenny Lucander, born in 1975, is a picture book artist and illustrator based in Helsinki. She studied children's book illustration and creation, as well as storytelling, at The School of Design and Crafts at the University of Gothenburg in Sweden. She was nominated for the 2022 and 2024 Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award, and for the Finlandia prize with the book *Myrornas rekordbok* (The record book of ants, by Katja Bargum) in 2022. Twice her books were nominated for the Runeberg junior prize. *Vi är lajon!* (We are lions! by Jens Mattsson) won the Nordic Council Children and Young People's Literature Prize in 2020. Among other nominations is the Most Beautiful Book in 2021. Additional books she has illustrated include *Min svarta hund* (My black dog, by Sanna Tahvanainen, 2020), *Kaksi kotia* (Two homes, by Riina Katajavuori, 2020), *Fakta om pappor* (Facts about dads, by Oskar Kroon, 2021), and *Snön över Azharia* (Snow over Azharia, 2017), which was included in the *IBBY Honour List* in 2020 for the quality of its writing by Minna Lindeberg.

Le berger et l'assassin

(The shepherd and the assassin)

Text by Henri Meunier

Paris: Little Urban, 2022

300x365mm, 33pp

ISBN 978-2-3740-8332-2, ages: 13+

Dictator, resistance, escape, mountains

The splendid illustrations are immediate, showing page after page images of mountains at their most grandiose. The illustrator states in the afterword that he had never drawn the peaks, mountainsides and valleys of Haute-Savoie before, but

that Henri Meunier's text makes them obvious as a setting and as a character. In the tradition of the great Alpine narratives, Lejonc and Meunier imagine a story that could not have been told anywhere else. Escaping from the fascists, an 'assassin' on the run hopes to cross the border via the peaks. But he is wounded, and a shepherd takes him in and cares for his wounds. Forced to live together, the two men converse as they watch the majesty of nature unfold. This bleak philosophical text is built around a historical situation that echoes current events. The mountain appears as a place of passage and encounter, a metaphysical frontier to be crossed, ultimately revealing the profound humanity that can link the murderer and the shepherd in the same breath.

Régis Lejonc, born in 1967, is a French artist living in Bordeaux. He has been writing and illustrating children's literature since 1995 and has published around 80 books to date. He has won numerous awards including the Grand Prix de l'illustration in 2010 for his book *Quelles couleurs!* (What colours!). Self-taught, he is an eclectic illustrator who moves from one graphic universe to another according to his books and projects, appreciating the influence of Art Nouveau, impressionist painters, as well as poster artists from the 1930s to the 1950s. Other books he has illustrated for children include *Pitsi-Mitsi: du temps où les animaux parlaient* (Pitsi-Mitsi: from the time when animals spoke, by Marie-Aude Murail, 2022); and *Bagdan et la louve aux yeux d'or* (Bagdan and the golden-eyed she-wolf, by Ghislaine Roman, 2016).

Spinne spielt Klavier. Geräusche zum Mitmachen

(Spider plays piano. Sounds to join in with)

Text by artist

Hamburg: Carlsen Verlag, 2022

175x245mm, 160pp

ISBN 978-3-551-52222-1, ages: 3+

Sound, imitation, wordless book

In this almost textless interactive picture book, a highly stimulating character asks readers to produce different sounds. The bold and colourful pictures are done in a comic-art style and show things and figures in situations that are accompanied by

sounds. *Just imitate the sounds*, Gottwald prompts at the beginning of the book, asking, *can you hear what you see?* While this may be easily accomplished in the first few pictures, increasingly whimsical and complex scenes over the 160 pages are developed. Some double-page spreads juxtapose sounds that are similar but arise in completely different situations, such as the pattering of horse hooves and the impact of a table tennis ball on a bat. Other double-page spreads unfold small narrative contexts and creatively play with the potential of sounds and situations. As the reader turns the pages, the sounds form all by themselves in the mouths of the viewers.

Benjamin Gottwald was born in Darmstadt in 1987. He lives and works as an independent illustrator in Hamburg, draws for magazines, makes animations and builds figures out of wood. While studying illustration at the University of Applied Sciences in Hamburg, Gottwald originally wrote and illustrated *Spinne spielt Klavier* for his thesis. After it was published as a book, it won the 2023 Deutscher Kinderliteraturpreis in the best picture book category. In 2023, the book received a Special Mention in the Fiction Category for the BolognaRagazzi Award, and in 2023 it was selected for the Italian Premio Andersen as the Best Silent Book. It has been translated into several languages.

Ine Teras?

(Is it a monster?)

Text by the artist

Athens: Kaleidoscope, 2022

230x230mm, 40pp

ISBN 978-960-471-241-0, ages: 4+

Fear, imagination, monsters, wordless book

In this wordless picture book about all the dark things that scare us in life, a little boy is absolutely certain that there is a monster following him. Questions emerge: What is that grey thing that is

following us? Why is it everywhere? Why is it always there, casting its shadow upon us? The pictures, of course, tell us another story! Reality itself often leads us to a dead-end, and instead of casting our fears away, it can make them grow stronger. We must learn to take these fears and make them a part of the fairy tale of our life, otherwise our fears will always be out there following us. Pictures describe the little boy's journey from the absolute certainty of 'it is a monster' to the likelihood of 'perhaps there is no monster after all'.

Achilleas Razis was born in 1975 in Mytilene. He studied at the School of Fine Arts in Athens, at Chronis Botsoglou's studio / 2nd Painting Studio, and graduated in 2004. He also illustrated *Melák, mónos* (Melak, alone, 2016), written by Argyro Pipini, which received the 2017 Greek State Picture book Award, the 2017 Anagnostis Award for Best Illustrated Book. *Melák, mónos* was also included in *The White Ravens* in 2017.

Sólkerfið

(The Solar System)

Text by Sævar Helgi Bragason

Reykjavík: JVP Forlagið, 2021

150x215mm, 72pp

ISBN 978-9935-29-107-3, ages: 5-12

Outer space, solar system

Sólkerfið is an ideal journey through our solar system for curious and inquisitive children who want to practice reading and improve their science literacy along the way. Colourful illustrations in this nonfiction graphic novel enhance the wonders and magic of space.

Elías Rúni, born in 1993, is a comics artist, illustrator and graphic designer from Reykjavík. Rúni holds a B.A. in graphic design from the Icelandic University of the Arts and diplomas in drawing from Reykjavík School of Visual Arts, as well as in comic design from the ÉESI Angoulême in France. His focus is on documentary comics, and he has written stories about issues ranging from politics to gender in various magazines. The documentary comic *Kvár* (2022) is about how it is to be non-binary and is the first book published about the subject in Icelandic. Rúni has made a lasting impact on the children's literature world in Iceland with illustrations in the series on science literacy (*ÍS Vísindalæsi*) by explaining difficult subjects in simple drawings, adding humour and colour to science. *Sólkerfið*, is the first title in this series that is written by Bragason and illustrated by Rúni, which increases children's knowledge of modern society, helping them to make sense of all sorts of scientific matters.

To Yek Jahangardi

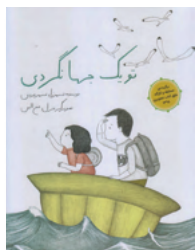
(You are an explorer)

Text by Shahrzad Shahrjerdi

Tehran: Tuti Books (Fatemi Publishing), 2021

200x260mm, 32pp

ISBN 978-622-6630-08-5, ages: 6+

War, escape, migration

A young girl is crying because her older brother has told her to pack their things as they have to immediately leave their house. Under the fire of guns and tanks, her brother explains they are going on a trip. He describes their journey

as an adventure and asks his little sister to remain brave and strong since that is how explorers are supposed to be. They reach the sea and become sailors. Their boat sinks and they become fish. They survive, no matter what. This book is a brief take on the devastating issue of war, refugees and asylum seekers. It is a story about the people, and especially children, who have become victims to the ugliness of war and yet pursue their right to a better future. A very important and profound story that everyone should read and appreciate the contrast between words and images.

Ghazal Fatollahi is a visual artist and author-illustrator based in Iran. She is a member of the Iranian Illustrators Society (IIS) and the Children's Book Council of Iran (CBC). She holds a B.A. in Graphic Design from the Tehran University of Art. In 2013, she published her first illustrated book, and since then, she has illustrated over 15 books that have received recognition and nominations in numerous international and domestic book fairs. *To Yek Jahangardi* was awarded a BIB Plaque at the 2021 Biennial of Illustrations Bratislava. Fatollahi is always eager to explore new artistic languages, often combining traditional techniques with digital effects in her illustrations.

Mip agus Blipín

(Mip and Blipin)

Text by Máire Zepf

An Spidéal: Futa Fata, 2022

230x290mm, 28pp

ISBN 978-1-910945-99-5, ages: 2-8

Mars, robot, loneliness, friendship

On planet Mars, Mip the robot receives a very special birthday present from her friends on earth – Blipin the little robot. He is clever, he is friendly, and he can fly! This action-packed and warm-hearted story about new arrivals is a sequel to the

award-winning picture book *Mip* from author Máire Zepf and illustrator Paddy Donnelly. Mip tells how the little robot was built on earth and sent to Mars to search for extra-terrestrial life. Maybe Blipin will be able to help her in her task, but why is Mip so sad?

Paddy Donnelly is a picture-book illustrator and author, originally from Antrim and now based in Belgium. He grew up on the beautiful north coast of Ireland, surrounded by mythical stories of giants, magical creatures and shape-shifting animals, prompting a love of nature, animals, the sea and storytelling. He has worked for more than 15 years as an illustrator and designer and likes working in a variety of styles. He has won several awards, including the KPMG Children's Books Ireland Award 2023 and the Ghradam Réics Carló 2022 for *An Slipéar Gloine* (The glass slipper, 2022) written by Fearghas Mac Lohlainn, and the Bishop Stortford Picture Book Award 2023 for *Hom* (2021) written by Jeanne Willis. His book *The Vanishing Lake* won a Gold Medal in the 2021 IPPY Award (Independent Publisher Book Awards).

Di Giorgio, Mariachiara

La zuppa Lepron

(Lepron's soup)

Text by Giovanna Zoboli

Milan: Topipittori, 2022

215x270mm, 42pp

ISBN 978-88-33700-92-2, ages: 7+

Hare, cooking, chef

Mr Lepron is a beautiful hare, with a shiny coat and long ears. Mr Lepron has a nice and cosy den, where he lives with many children, many grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and he loves vegetables. Mr

Lepron is indeed the best soup chef in the world – no animal in the woods can discover his secret. One day, Mr Lepron opens a factory, where huge pots of his soup cook night and day before being canned and shipped all over the world. But his success will soon be threatened...

Mariachiara Di Giorgio was born in Rome in 1983. She studied illustration in Rome, at IED, and in Paris, at ENSAD. During her time at college, she started collaborating as a cartoonist for FAO as well as working as a storyboard artist and concept designer for movies and advertising agencies. Between 2010 and 2011, she worked as a background artist in the making of the animated film, *The Dark Side of the Sun*, by Carlo Hintermann and Lorenzo Ceccotti. She started publishing in 2012 and her work has been exhibited at Bologna Children's Book Fair Illustrator's Exhibition in 2015 and 2016, and at the 58th edition of The New York Society of Illustrator's Exhibition. Her book *Professione Coccodrillo* (Professional crocodile, 2017), also written by Zoboli, was included in the *IBBY Honour List* in 2018 for the quality of its illustrations, and in the *IBBY 2019 Selection of Outstanding Books for Young People with Disabilities*.

Tajima, Yukihiko

Nakimushi Seitoku

(Seitoku, the cry-baby)

Text by artist

Tokyo: Doshinsha, 2022

255x250mm, 50pp

ISBN 978-4-494-01248-0, ages: 9+

Japan 1945, WWII, Battle of Okinawa

In Okinawa in 1945, an eight-year-old boy named Seitoku was called 'Nachibu' because he cried all the time. His father and elder brother went off to war, and Seitoku had to escape to

the South with his mother and sister. In the fierce U.S. bombardment, his mother died, and he was separated from his sister in the chaos. After the horrific Battle of Okinawa, in which he had to flee over dead bodies and fight for shelter with his allies, although known as a 'cry-baby' Seitoku could no longer cry or even shed a tear. This powerful and beautiful picture book illustrated with stencil dyeing techniques, is the culmination of the author's years of research into the Battle of Okinawa. This book won the Kodansha Picture Book Award in 2023.

Yukihiko Tajima was born in Osaka Prefecture in 1940 and spent his childhood in the Kochi Prefecture with his twin brother Seizo Tajima. After graduating from Kyoto City University of Arts, Crafts Department, he studied stencil dyeing at the post-graduate level. In 1975, he won the Kyoto Prefectural Newcomer's Award for Western-style printmaking. His first picture book *Gion matsuri* (Gion Festival, 1976) was awarded a BIB'77 Plaque at the Biennial of Illustrations Bratislava. In 1978, he won the 1st Picture Book Nippon Award for *Jigoku no Sobei* (Sobei in the Hell, 1978). In 1987, he received his second BIB Plaque for *Ten ni nobotta namazu* (A catfish up in the sky, 1985). Other titles include: *Fushigi na tomodachi* (Mysterious friend, 2014), *Imo saiban* (The trial of the potato thief, 2016), *Yanbaru no shonen* (The Boy of Yanbaru, 2019) and *Sekireimaru* (The Sekirei Maru ferry, 2020).



This is a creative text about positivity in life. It encourages us to give what we can to humanity but to avoid being negative. Every human being has amazing energies, like the springs of water that quench life to keep birds singing in

our skies, doves cooing for peace and love, flowers perfuming the air around us, and fields that give us their bounties.

Amani Yousef is a children's book illustrator from Jordan who seeks to make books more attractive to encourage children and young adults to read. She holds a B.A. in English Language and Literature, and has published many children's books across the Arab world. She has participated in working on several children's television series, including *The Pink Panther* and *Pals*. She has also worked on various projects with international organizations such as the Sesame Workshop, UNICEF, USAID and Room to Read. She has illustrated many books including, *Yinu ḡafāṭayni* (Between two banks), *Al fatay hāahu* (The boy Hud), *Alsundūqu al atīqu* (The antique box), *Ghūlu al makktabati* (The library ghoul), *Lutfu al aamakini* (The kindness of places).



Noh In-kyung's version of a fable that exists across cultures worldwide is told from the viewpoint of the man who has become the 444th king of the country. The images employ simple, repeated patterns as themes, and are successful in depicting the essence of this

story that has been told orally for centuries. Visual patterns create rhythm through carefully considered repetitions, variations, omissions and exaggerations, thus making a lively reading experience. For example, the first king of the country, known for his fortitude, is depicted as having toppled over dead due to his oversized crown, the feeble 126th king is shown as having died of a broken back due to the weight of his crown, and the active 157th is portrayed as having died of a broken toe due to the crown falling on it. The pared-down combination of patterns with vibrant orange spot colours creates curiosity about the various kings, and pulls the reader towards the next page, thus taking the weight off the sombre word 'death'.

In-kyung Noh, born in 1980 in Seoul, majored in visual design at Hongik University and went on to study art in Italy. She has written and illustrated books such as the illustrated essay 'Penny Pincher' (Jaringobi) and the picture books *Mr. Bear's Chair* (2016) and *The Train and the Fish* (2006). She was chosen as an Illustrator of the Year at the 2012 Bologna Children's Book Fair for *Soso Cancellina* (2010) and won a Golden Apple at the 2013 Bien-nial of Illustrations Bratislava (BIB) for *Mr. Tutti and the 100 Water Drops* (2012). *Goseumdochi X* (X, the hedgehog, 2014) was included in *The White Ravens* in 2015, and *Breathing* (2018) was selected in 2019 for the IBBY Silent Book Collection.

Zvēru barošana

(Animal feeding)

Text by Inese Paklone

Riga: Pētergailis Publishing, 2022

150x245mm, 61pp

ISBN 978-9984-33-546-9, ages: 5+

Zoo, animals, family, poetry

In this collection of short, witty poems for children, a little boy and his father visit the zoo. They watch hippos, ponies, pelicans, lions, giraffes, reindeer and others having lunch. The father and son talk about the life and habits of animals while walking around the zoo. Father also has some puzzles for his son, such

as: *On which side does a flamingo have more feathers?* When the boy cannot think of an answer, his father tells him, *On the outside!* The little boy's attentive eyes follow the animals' eating habits, taking the reader into the colourful world of the animals. The poems will delight the reader with apt, educational details that flow with rich language that is bright and full of unexpected rhymes. Muzikante's paper-cutting technique enhances the witty text.

Gundega Muzikante was born in 1964 in Riga. Since graduating from the Graphics Department of the Art Academy of Latvia, she has been actively engaged in book illustration, applying various techniques and approaches. Teaching children in art school and leading workshops also play an important role in her life. As illustrator of more than 40 books for children and teenagers, she has presented her work in several solo exhibitions and many international exhibitions. She was selected for the 2016 *IBBY Honour List for Grāmata Gundegai* (A book for Gundega, 2015) by Pēters Brūveris. She was nominated for the 2019 and 2020 Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award. She was also honoured by The Raisin of the Year Award 2020 and The International Jānis Baltvilks Award 2022 for *Ir Mēness zelta kuģis* (The moon is like a golden boat, 2021) by Estonian author Juhani Pyttsepp. Her artistic style varies between realistic, characterization and fantasy, that is always poetic and humorous.

Hatef Adam Al Zaki

(Adam's smartphone)

Text by Sana Chabbani

Beirut: Dar Al Majani, 2023

220x250mm, 29pp

ISBN 978-614-504-001-9, ages: 9-12

Play, smartphone, concentration

Adam is a young child who enjoys learning and playing with friends. One day, he asks his parents for a smartphone. Both parents explain he is too young to need a phone, but neverthe-

less his aunt gives him a phone. Adam then begins playing video games. He develops an attachment to his smartphone, neglecting his former lifestyle. Even though his parents try hard to help Adam reduce his time online, he spends more and more time gaming. One night, while Adam is playing games on his phone, he feels sleepy while pressing one of the buttons and finds himself trapped inside the phone. At first, he enjoys the trip, but it soon starts to make him feel fatigued, stressed, and fearful of the strange things that intimidate him. While trusting his parents to take care of him, Adam exits the phone, and when he opens his eyes, he feels the difference. After this stressful experience Adam decides to spend less time gaming and regain the positive feelings of playing in the warmth of his real environment.

Nadine Sidani is a Lebanese illustrator who studied Fine Arts at the Lebanese American University. She has illustrated more than 100 books for children and has worked with the most prestigious publishing houses in Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, U.A.E. and Tunisia. She is recognized for her unique style using collage technique, which has become her signature look and feel to her illustrations. She has won many awards, including the inaugural Etisalat Award for Arabic Children's Literature in 2009 for *Ana Oheb* (I love) written by Nabeeha Muheidli. She has also illustrated *Tambouri* (2008) and *Uprising* (2020) both by Fatima Sharafeddine.

Kiudulaitė, Aušra

Pasakojimas apie katiną ir tulpę

(The tale of a cat and a tulip)

Text by Evelina Daciūtė

Vilnius: Alma littera, 2022

220x280mm, 52pp

ISBN 978-609-01-5312-3, ages: 4+

Friendship, life/death, sadness, optimism

Once upon a time in the spring, the cat Rumtutigeris meets a tulip. He never normally pays attention to flowers, but a special friendship blossoms, one that encourages growth, fills the heart, and paints life in the brightest of colours.

So much so, that the grunting cat finally becomes happy and satisfied with life. Yet, the time will come when the tulip's life inevitably ends. This is a sensitive and symbolic story about friendship and devotion to others, life and death, the circle of life, as well as awakening from life's struggles. The playful story is full of wit and philosophical undertones. The artist uses a variety of shapes, textures, and colour combinations to create the stylish portraits of a cat, a tulip and the surrounding environment.

Aušra Kiudulaitė, the pen name of Aušra Adomavičienė, was born in 1984. She is an artist, graphic designer and freelance illustrator. She directs creative workshop for children, takes part in national and international projects and conferences, and runs seminars for professionals. She also participates in international book fairs and literary festivals. In 2020, she co-founded O! with Rasa Jančiauskaitė and Ieva Babilaitė, which is a creative collective. Her debut picture book, *Laimė yra lapė* (The Fox on the swing, 2016) written by Evelina Daciūtė, has won several awards. Kiudulaitė has also illustrated the picture books *Draugystė ant straublio galo* (Friendship on the elephant's trunk, 2017) written by Marius Marcinkevičius, and *Maksas ir 92 musės* (Maksas and 92 flies, 2020), which she also wrote.

Lim, Lay Koon

The Rainbird

Text by the artist

Kuala Lumpur: Oyez! (Integra Creative Media), 2023

220x285mm, 28pp

ISBN 978-967-2384-51-9, ages: 5-10

Myth, bird, drought, gratitude, freedom

It had not rained for weeks, and the crops were dying. The villagers hoped that the mythical rainbird would appear and bring much-needed rain. One of the villagers managed to catch a rainbird, but it refused to dance, eat or drink. The villagers became angry.

They hit and kicked the rainbird, but it still would not dance. The sun blazed fiercely every day and the villagers were too worried about their crops to care for the rainbird. Feeling sad and sorry for the bird, a boy gave the rainbird some food and untied the rope that bound the bird's leg. The bird immediately started to whirl and twirl and then it soared into the sky bringing the much-needed rain. This story of a one-legged bird that has been adapted from Chinese mythology tells how every being plays a part in maintaining balance and beauty in the world.

Lim Lay Koon was born in 1972, and lives in Ipoh, the capital city of Perak state. She is a published children's book author and illustrator of more than 15 picture books and chapter books. She comes from a computer science background and is a self-taught illustrator. She loves children's books and enjoys illustrating the little details of everyday life. She has won several awards for her work such as MyCreative Writers Unleashed 2017, the Samsung Kidstime Author's Award 2015, the Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka's Children's Picture Book Contest 2012, and The Calistro Prize 2012. Some of the books she illustrated, such as *Atuk's Amazing Sarong* (2015) and *Master & Apprentice* (2013) were written by her sister, Lim Lay Har. Lim has participated in international book fairs such as the Frankfurt Book Fair and the Bologna Children's Book Fair.

Het lied van de spreeuw

(The starling's song)

Text by the artist

Amsterdam: Ploegsma, 2021

240x340mm, 28pp

ISBN 978-90-216-8192-4, ages: 5+

Bird, birdsong, beauty

While flying over the fields, a starling is overcome by the beauty of nature. He decides to sing a song about it for everyone to listen to. He shares his idea with other birds, who all add something to the song by telling him about the things they find

beautiful. The woodpecker shows him the way the trees carry the sky. The owl praises the colours of the night. The kingfisher tells him of everything that is hidden beneath the surface of water, and the swallows speak of the wisdom of stones. This is a poetic ode to the beauty of life, illustrated with powerful black and white linocut prints. It is a picture book that reminds us to look and listen to our surroundings and find the grandeur of nature in small things – if you look carefully, you will see it.

Octavie Wolters was born in Sint Odiliënberg in 1977. She is an independent author and artist, who after completing her M.A. in Dutch Language and Literature, worked for several years in marketing and PR. She published her debut novel in 2017 and at the same time developed as a visual artist. She specializes in linocut techniques, in which she can express her love for clear and flowing lines and her fascination for dark, light and heavy contrasts. She finds her inspiration in the rural area of her hometown in southern Netherlands. *Het lied van de spreeuw* is the first book in which she combines both text and pictures, it is also her first book for children. This book was longlisted for the World Illustration Awards, was awarded a Silver Paintbrush in the Netherlands and the German translation was selected for Die Schönsten Deutschen Bücher (The most beautiful German books of the year) in 2023.

A Portrait of Leonardo.**The Life and Times of Leonardo da Vinci**

Text by the artist

Auckland: Upstart Press, 2022

210x260mm, 130pp

ISBN 978-1-990003-47-9, ages: 10+

Leonardo da Vinci, biography

Like no other biography, this illustrated book shows the real Leonardo. Layers of varnish are stripped back to reveal the man behind the masterpieces, the personality that drove one of the greatest minds in history.

Author-Illustrator Bixley

set out to discover the person behind the myth, and by using Leonardo's own massive supply of notebooks as well as a myriad of other writings from the time, he shows why, as well as what, Leonardo created in many areas of life.

Donovan Bixley, born in Perth, Australia, grew up in New Zealand, and now lives in Taupō on the North Island. He is one of New Zealand's most acclaimed picture book creators, being both an award-winning illustrator and an award-winning author. His numerous accolades include the Russell Clark Illustration Award, the Mallinson Rendel Illustrators Laureate Award, and two of his books have been selected for *The White Ravens* catalogue: *Fuzzy Doodle* (written by Melinda Szymanik) in 2017, and for *Monkey Boy: An Illustrated Novel* in 2015. Bixley's work is varied, spanning high-brow to low-brow. This is shown from his illustrated biographies *Faithfully Mozart* (2005) and *Much Ado About Shakespeare* (2016) to the three books about the mythical world of Māui, *The Great Kiwi series* (2018-20), the innovative *Draw Some Awesome* (2021) and the ridiculous hi-jinks of feline aviators in his *Flying Furballs* (2016-2020) chapter book series. In 2021, he was made an Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit for services to children's literature.

Naddaf, Lina

Indama Amtarat al-Samaa' Samakan

(When the sky rained fish)

Text by Sonia Nimr

Old Acre, IL: Dar Al-Aswar Children's Cultural Center, 2021

210x280mm, 42pp

ISBN 1407193221, ages: 10+

Treasure, fairy tale

Sa'id was a foolish man married to a clever wife, but he could never keep a job. One day his wife told him to leave and not return until he found a job. While Sa'id was sitting on a rock, he noticed a chameleon shaking its head, and he thought it was listening to him and decided to demand payment. The chameleon ran and hid behind a rock. Sa'id moved the rock, and a dark cave was revealed, where he found a pot filled with gold coins. Sa'id took some as payment and went home. After telling his wife about the treasure, she took the whole pot. This angered Sa'id so much that he went to report the theft to the judge. However, his wily wife bought some fish and scattered them around saying the sky rained fish. She did the same for the next two days with vegetables and candy. The judge asked the wife who she stole the money from, Sa'id answered – it was from the chameleon.

Lina Naddaf is a Syrian artist living in Latakia. After graduating from the Centre of Fine Arts in 2017 she has specialized in illustrating children's books. She has illustrated more than 20 books, and illustrates for two children's magazines, *Usama* and *Shama*. She won 1st prize in the Mumtaz al-Bahra competition for children's painting in 2019. Her book *Bulbul laysa kakull al-balabel* (Bulbul is not like the other skylarks, 2017) written by Najwa Al Diraawi, was included in the 2019 IBBY Selection of Outstanding Books for Young People with Disabilities. Other books include: *al-Tawoos al-ja'e* (The hungry peacock); *Hal ma zal al-qamar yal'ab ma' al-sighar?* (Is the moon still playing with the young?); *Lastu wahidan* (I am not alone); and *Hadiyyal al-Ghurab* (The gift of the crow).

Ordinola, Fátima

Sopa

(Soup)

Text by María Laura Bustamante

Lima: Mónimo, 2021

220x200mm, 36pp

ISBN 978-612-48566-1-7, ages: all

Grandmother, memory

Sopa is the story of Aurora and her relationship with her 'trans-parent' grandmother. Making soup every day brings them together in a playful manner, and the memories of her absent grandmother. Aurora plays like any girl and through her daily play she brings to life melodies, aromas, rhythms, and even the grumpiness of her grandmother who, although absent, is always with her. This is a delicate story that narrates the bond between a little girl and the figure of her grandmother.

Fátima Ordinola, born in Lima 1992, is an illustrator and graphic designer. After graduating from the Catholic University of Perú, she began working as a designer and illustrator. She also studied at the Faculty of Architecture, Designs and Urbanism at the University of Buenos Aires in Argentina. She studied for an M.A. in Children's Book Illustration at the Cambridge School of Art at the Anglia Ruskin University in the U.K. Ordinola was selected for the 2022 Bologna Children's Book Fair Illustrators Exhibition. The following year, she was a winner of the 60th anniversary Bologna Children's Book Fair contest. She was a winner of the XXIV Illustrated Books' Competition in Mexico in 2022. Other books that she has illustrated include: *200 años después: Los escolares preguntan, los historiadores responden* (200 years on: school children ask, historians answer, 2020), and *Vuelven los Mochicas* (The return of the Mochicas, 2020). Her book *Animalario del Perú* (The book of animals from Peru, written by Heriberto Tejo, 2019) was included in the CERLALC-IBBY Latin American catalogue of children's books for sustainable growth – *Leer, imaginar, actuar* (Reading, imagining, acting) in 2020.

Agawan Base

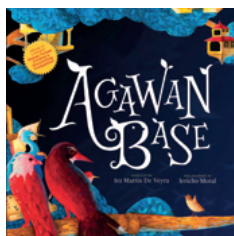
(Steal-the-base)

Text by Jez Martin De Veyra

Quezon City: CANVAS, 2021

220x225mm, 44pp

ISBN 978-971-9689-40-9, ages: 6-10

Competition, teamwork, self confidence

The birds and the insects are taking part in a competition to control the hill. They have reached the final round, and they must choose a tree as their base. Each team must touch the others' tree

first to win – steal-the-base. Even though they are bigger, faster and stronger the birds are outnumbered by the insects and are losing the game. They must think of other ways to win. Pogo wants to help but his wings are not big enough, his nails are not sharp, he is not even that fast, and yes, he is too small. What else can he do? With guile and courage, Pogo proves to himself and to the bigger birds that even though he is small and different from the other birds, he can help.

Jericho Moral, born in 1988, is a visual artist from Marikina City. His work is rooted in worldbuilding and narratives. While he was at school, one of his favourite games was steal-the-base and he developed strategies and tactics for his friends to win. This book reminds him of his childhood. He graduated from the University of the Philippines with a B.A. in Fine Arts. He was awarded the grand prize in the 2014 Lampara Illustrator's Prize competition, and an honourable mention for the Alcala Prize also in 2014. He was selected as an artist-in-residence at the Center for Art, New Ventures and Sustainable Development – CANVAS AiR 2019. Working primarily with painting, his works have been exhibited through CANVAS, Art Underground, and other galleries in the Philippines.

Beskid bez kitu. Zima

(The best of Beskids. Winter)

Text by artist

Rzeszów: Libra PL, 2021

205x255mm, 124pp

ISBN 978-83-66699-46-5, ages: 7-13

Lower Beskids, Lemkos, 1920s, cultural identity

Set in the 1920s, this literary and artistic story opens the door to the complex history of the Beskid Mountains in Southern Poland. It brings back its rightful inhabitants, the Lemkos, with their traditions and beliefs to this land with

a carefully recreated everyday life. Using woodcuts, the world is depicted in words and images that speak to us through the voices of people, animals, plants and objects. It awakens a longing for a life in which each of these voices has equal rights. This is a book for people who enjoy leisurely reading, it has a respectful look at nature without environmental moralising.

Maria Strzelecka, born in 1975 in Warsaw, holds a Ph.D. in Fine Arts. She is a painter, illustrator, author of animated films, and a graduate and lecturer at the Academy of Fine Arts in Warsaw. Strzelecka is an admirer of the far North as well as her native Beskid Niski Mountains; her *Beskid bez kitu* (The best of Beskids, 2019) was her debut book. It received the Ferdinand Wspaniały Award for the best children's book published in 2019 and the graphic design award in the 2020 Book of the Year competition of the Polish Section of IBBY. *Beskid bez kitu. Zima* is her second book, and it was awarded the literary and graphic award in the 2022 Book of the Year contest.

Bugoslavskaya, Nadezhda

Oslík Muffin i ego veseliye druzya

(Muffin the Mule and his merry friends)

Text by Anne Hogarth

Moscow: AST Malysh, 2022

215x290mm, 50pp

ISBN 978-5-17-118188-8, ages: all

Animals, friendship, adventure

Have you ever heard of Muffin the Mule? The original mule was created in 1933 for Anna Hogarth's puppet theatre in Great Britain and later starred in a TV series for children in the U.K. that ran from 1946 to 1955. The little wooden puppet became famous

around the world – he even 'wrote' his own autobiography. Muffin now returns with a book of his new adventures that is both amusing and educational. The main characters of these stories are Muffin himself and his various friends: Peregrine the Penguin, Oswald the Ostrich, Peter the Puppy and many others.

Nadezhda Bugoslavskaya, born in 1967 in Moscow, is one of the most well-known Russian painters and illustrators. She is from a family of toymakers and has been drawing since childhood. She graduated from the Surikov Art Institute in 1991 and started working there as a teacher. Her final graduate project was a series of illustrations based on Hans Christian Andersen's *The Snow Queen*. Her most acclaimed works include illustrations for: *Mother Goose* (2005), *Poems by Sergei Mikhalkov* (2006), *On the Horizon Islands* by Boris Zahoder (2008), *Pippi Longstocking* by Astrid Lindgren (2010-12). Her illustrations for *The Tales of Uncle Remus* by Joel Chandler Harris (2015) and *The Secret Messenger* by Marina Boroditskaya (2018) were represented at the Biennale of Illustrations Bratislava – BIB – in 2017 and 2019 respectively.

Maťátko, Matúš

Prešporské legendy ožívajú

(Pressburg legends come to life)

Text by Mária Ďuričková, et al

Bratislava: Litera Production, 2022

180x290mm, 196pp

ISBN 978-80-974354-0-0, ages: 10+

Short stories, legends, Bratislava

Fifteen personalities linked to the city of Bratislava, have written short stories to pay tribute to Mária Ďuričková (1919-2004), author of *Prešporský zvon* (The Pressburg Bell), *Dunajská kráľovná* (The Queen of the Danube) and *Bratislavské povesti* (Bratislava Tales). The original stories include the

good-natured and somewhat unlucky Bratislava devil, the bitter Black Lady at Michael's Tower, the offended Danube water sprite and the terrifying Bratislava lions. These and other legends from Bratislava have shaped the nature of the city, and this is why the idea of bringing modern stories inspired by the best old tales and legends of Bratislava was born. The book belongs to the Most Beautiful Books of Slovakia 2022, and its illustrations are part of the Slovak collection at the Biennial of Illustrations Bratislava in 2023.

Matúš Maťátko, born in 1984, is one of the most outstanding young Slovak visual artists. He studied Promotional Visual Art and Graphic Design at the Secondary Private Art School in Bratislava and went on to study at the Academy of Fine Arts in Bratislava, where he studied under Dušan Kállay. His characteristic work includes rougher graphics enhanced by thicker black lines framing individual objects, complemented by expressive colouring. He also works with large-scale graphics, sculpture, T-shirt design, street art, painting and even rap. His books have been selected for the Most Beautiful Books of Slovakia collection, including *Lapinovci z letiska* (The Lapins from the airport, 2015) by Viktoria Laurent-Škrabalová and *Červený vírus a kučeravý Sebastián* (Red virus and curly Sebastian, 2016) by Ivana Auxtová. BIBIANA and the Slovak Section of IBBY designated *Lapinovci z letiska* and *Jaro kripľů* (The spring of cripples, 2011) by Daniel Rušar, as the Most Beautiful Children's Books.

Žmitek, Maša P.

Po sledih velikanov. Sesalci kenozoika

(In the footsteps of the giants: Cenozoic mammals)

Text by artist and Matija Križnar

Dob pri Domžalah: MIŠ založba, 2021

290x215mm, 50pp

ISBN 978-961-272-491-7, ages: all

Mammals, palaeontology



An educational interactive literary project on extinct giant mammals in the Cenozoic era, this book delves into the less popularized field of

these megafauna during this geological period. The book presents 19 mammals using scientific illustrations. Each illustration is accompanied by a brief description of interesting characteristics and basic information about the animal. The book is equipped with a special grid overlay (ombro-cinema technique) that gives the illusion of movement. The illustrations strive for objectivity and realism but also embrace authorial freedom in interpretation. The text uses refined artistic language, and reader interaction showcases the importance of illustration in visual communications. The interactivity within a drawing or illustration fosters collaboration between the illustrator, reader, and the creation of the story.

Maša P. Žmitek (1985) is a freelance illustrator, curator, and producer. She obtained an M.A. in Illustration from the Academy of Fine Arts and Design in Ljubljana. In 2018, she took over the management of the Vodnik Homestead Gallery, where she produced and curated various exhibitions, including a comprehensive exhibition on scientific illustration in Slovenia. In 2022, she established the Slovenian Center of Illustration. She worked and taught on art projects at the E.F. Illumination Arts Foundation Inc. in New York, U.S.A. (2009-15). As an illustrator, she has exhibited at the Slovenian Biennial of Illustration and elsewhere in Slovenia, as well as around the world including at the Biennial of Illustrations Bratislava, the Golden Pen Belgrade, Serbia, and the National Gallery of Armenia in Yerevan. Her many awards and mentions include: the University Prešeren Award, Golden Pear Award, Brumen Award for excellent Slovenian design, and a Silver Award (Graphis, N.Y.C.).

Newsome, Toby

Die mooiste stories van Helena Lochner

(The most beautiful stories of Helena Lochner)

Text by Helena Lochner

Cape Town: Human & Rousseau, 2021

170x245mm, 154pp

ISBN 978-0-7981-8217-1, ages: 9-12

Short stories



Twenty stories by the famous author of children's books, Helena Lochner, are newly illustrated by Toby Newsome. The title of the 'Hans Christian Andersen of South Africa' was given to this Afrikaans author in Norway, and, although Helena Lochner died in 1951, her stories

continue to charm both young and old readers. This selection by Leoni Hofmeyr presents her best-loved tales and includes favourites like *Ou tante Langtand* (Old Aunt Longtooth), *Die pratende pot* (The talking pot), and *Die Boomprinses* (The tree princess). The illustrations in this edition will enchant a new generation of young readers.

Toby Newsome, born in 1975, is a renowned Cape Town-based artist and illustrator. After studying Graphic Design at CPU, he became a freelance illustrator and book jacket designer, now specializing in editorial and children's illustration. He was awarded the coveted Children's Africana Book Award and the Golden Baobab Prize in 2018 for his illustrations for *Grandma's List* (2018), written by the Ghanaian author Portia Dery. *Die mooiste stories van Helena Lochner* was nominated for the 2024 Exclusive Books IBBY SA Awards for the quality of its illustrations as well as for the quality of its writing. The Award celebrates the array of local children's picture books.

Mutuberria, Maite

Irrimola

(Laugh hurricane)

Text by the artist

San Sebastian/Donostia: Ikaselar, 2021

300x15mm, 26pp

ISBN 978-84-18410-33-8, ages: 0-3

Joy

This shaped board-book is a game and a hurricane of emotions. Eight friends go out to play while waiting for

the mysterious 'laugh-hurricane'. They smile, shout, cry, get impatient, before bursting into laughter. During the wait, the protagonists see the sun arrive, then the cloud, then the thunder. Each meteorological phenomenon causes very different reactions in each character. As in life, the emotions are changeable, like the weather. The *Irrimola* story-game begins with the closed book in the shape of a rainbow, a symbol of joy. Opened, it has the shape of a hurricane. The book is read by turning on itself so readers can see how each character experiences the arrival of the sun, the lightning or the rain. The narration also includes riddles and onomatopoeias for pre-readers. There is also an intruder hidden on each page, and there are many round elements that the child can point out, such as balloons, balls, bubbles... what else?

Maite Mutuberria, born in 1985 in Eltzaburu, has degrees in Communication and in Illustration. She has illustrated more than thirty children's and young adult books. Her books include: *Puegos y joemas* (Pames and goems, written by Iñigo Astiz, 2019, included in the 2022 *IBBY Honour List*), *Lilo* (Lilo, 2019, selected for *The White Ravens* 2020), *El zoo de las historias* (Zoo tales, 2020), and *Bichopoemas* (Bug poems, 2019, 3rd National Prize for the Best Edited Book of Children's and Youth Literature 2019). She is also the author of *Enorme Suciedad* (Mud, 2018), a graphic novel about mental health. Accolades include the Kirico, Lazarillo, Peru Abarka and Etxepare awards, and her work has been selected in the 13th *Iberoamérica Ilustra catalogue* (2022). In 2022, she was awarded the Euskadi Prize for Literature in Illustration for *Irrimola*.

Geffenblad, Lotta

Tant Sol

(Aunt Sun)

Text by the artist

Stockholm: Lilla Piratförlaget, 2023

205x275mm, 32pp

ISBN 978-91-7813-350-5, ages 3-6

Poetry, weather, seasons, everyday life

Combining fiction and fact in rhyming verse, the world's greatest aunt – Auntie Sun – tells an inquisitive child about the miracles she performs every day around the globe. Some originate from the firmament and affect all life from the weather, crops, animals

and people to our moods. Auntie Sun is ever-present wherever you are, at home or out and about, and when you sleep, she is on the other side of the Earth waking up another child with the sound of a rooster. We are all here together under one sun. With an interactive approach, the artist invites readers to explore, investigate, and learn about natural science and physical phenomena. Geffenblad has a pronounced sense of detail, and her images portray marvels such as heat, the different heat of sunshine, light and shadow. In *Tant Sol* there are many things to discover and learn about what distinguishes our seasons.

Lotta Geffenblad, born in 1962 in Lund, is one of Sweden's most appreciated picture book creators. She works as an animator, illustrator and author, creator of props and masks for the theatre and as a teacher at various universities. After studying at Beckmans School of Design, 1982-1985, she was an animator and won awards for her films. She has illustrated or written and illustrated more than 40 books. She wrote and illustrated *Astons stenar* (Aston's stones, 2004), which won first prize in Bonnier's script competition and became an animated film and play. She received an Elsa Beskow plaque in 2009, and the Ottilia Adelborg prize in 2018. She works with analogue and digital techniques such as collage and cut-out. Among her works are *Vinga på Villövågar* (Together with Gun Jacobson, 1989), *Syster Plus och doktor Minus*, (Sister Plus and doctor Minus, 2018), and her books about *Prick and Fläck* (Dot and Stain).

Rubli, Maeva

Bei mir, bei dir

(Face to face)

Text by Anisa Alrefaei Roomieh

Zurich: Ed. Moderne, 2021

120x170mm, 232pp

ISBN 978-3-03731-218-6, ages: all

War, migration, refugees

In 2014, Anisa's family reluctantly made the decision to leave their devastated home and culture in Syria and look for a safe haven in Switzerland. She relates their journey in a long poem at the beginning of this touching book. Rubli uses various techniques and primary colours (watercolour, gouache, pastel crayons, pencil) and her suggestive pictures become a visual echo chamber of the events between two women, based on trust and affinity. For example, red watercolour soaks into the paper and gives expression to Anisa's pain during childbirth. Moments of despair and hope are reflected in small gestures: a facial expression, a hand position, the play of light, shadow, bright day and darkness. The wars do not stop, and Europe's borders are becoming more and more fortress-like. This haunting and powerful visual record of an unprejudiced encounter is a total work of art.

Maeva Rubli, born in 1996 in the Swiss canton of Jura, studied illustration at the Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts, followed by a B.A. in Art and Design Education from the University of Applied Sciences Northwestern Switzerland FHNW. She now works as a freelance illustrator, author, art educator and project manager. She considers storytelling and illustration a powerful tool to observe and question our world, as well as a colourful way to communicate about issues with sensitivity. *Bei mir, bei dir* is her first extensive publication that she developed in collaboration with Anisa Alrefaei Roomieh, a Syrian poet living as a refugee in Switzerland. Through her images, she makes visible Anisa's memories and experiences of flight and being a stranger in a new country and traces the encounter between the two women. *Bei mir, bei dir* received a Golden Apple at the Biennial of Illustrations Bratislava in 2023.

Kanjana, Krisana and Tapsua, Vachirawan

Nānā

(Nana)

Text by the artists

Bangkok: Saanaksorn, 2021

250x250mm, 35pp

ISBN 978-616-370-070-4, ages: 3+

Imagination, adventure, empathy, friendship

Nana's journey is meaningful as she sets off with a brave and cheerful heart. She has left all her worries behind because she had her big brother and Cocoa the gorilla with her. Nana lives

in a fantasy land where every creature is friendly and eager to play with her. The book tells a fun yet heart-warming story with detailed illustrations that communicate directly with children. Children will enjoy the warm illustrations while learning about empathy and friendship.

Krisana Kanjanapa and **Vachirawan Tapsua** are the founders of the Littleblackoz Studio, which explores art and storytelling techniques to develop high-quality, engaging children's books. Their character designs are unique and intriguing, yet they have one thing in common – a good heart. Kanjanapa and Tapsua believe in planting happiness in children's hearts through picture books and hope children will pass on this enduring happiness to others. The authors-illustrators have been creating children's books for more than 20 years and have won many awards including the Rakluke Award and the Royal Thai Ministry of Education's Office of the Basic Education Commission Outstanding Book Award. Their most beloved books include: *Ba Ba* (2018); *The Stump House and the handymen* (2022); and *How do I go up? How do I go down?* (2015).

Akgül, Gökçe

İstanbul'un Gözleri

(The eyes of Istanbul)

Text by Simlâ Sunay

İstanbul: Şehir Dedektifi, 2023

200x270mm, 38pp

ISBN 978-605-71552-3-8, ages: 7+

İstanbul, water

'Eye' has many meanings in Turkish, one of which is 'spring'. Istanbul has a unique water structure that has survived from the Byzantine period (or even earlier) to the present day. Aqueducts were used to transport water that fed the cisterns of the imperial

capital of the Roman Empire, to the present day. They continue to play an important part in Istanbul's cultural heritage. But they are now in danger of destruction. In this illustrated book, the water heritage of Istanbul is conveyed to children through a story based on the journey of a single raindrop, Çiše, and its encounter with the healer Sepen. The illustrator has used warm colours to depict the natural cycle of water as it follows this allegorical story created for the word eye.

Gökçe Akgül was born in 1978 and is an illustrator from Istanbul. As long as he can remember, he has always been better with lines than with words. Drawing has always been the most enjoyable way for him to express himself. In 2005, he graduated from the Painting Department of the Mimar Sinan Fine Arts Faculty, and since then he has worked as an independent illustrator in his studio in Istanbul. He also works in the fields of character design and animation keeping his focus on comic books/graphic novels and children's books. Akgül participated in the 2024 Bologna Ragazzi Awards at the Bologna Children's Book Fair with his book *Uzakta Bir Dağ, Yakında bir Macera* (A far mountain, a close adventure, 2022) written by Özge Özdemir.

Popskyi, Rostyslav

Tam, de blukaiut' sny

(Where the dreams wander)

Text by the artist

Kyiv: A-ba-ba-ha-la-ma-ha, 2023

230x305mm, 44pp

ISBN 978-617-585-189-0, ages: 0-6

Night, sleep, dreams

Once upon a time a boy who does not like to sleep meets a moon cat. In *Tam, de blukaiut' sny*, children of all ages are invited to join the boy as he follows Moon Cat to the dream world through the dreams of other children. The details and colours of the illustrations by leading

Ukrainian illustrator Rostyslav Popskyi make this story magical.

Rostyslav Popskyi was born in 1981 in Shepetivka, in the Khmelnytskyi region. After graduating from school, he became a student at the Khmelnytskyi Institute of Management and Law and graduated in 2004. Following his passion for drawing, he worked as a drawing teacher and later a civil servant. In 2010, he sent several of his drawings to a publishing house, and received an offer to illustrate one of his favourite books of his childhood – *The Adventures of King Matsius* by Yanush Korchak. This fundamentally changed the course of his life, and as a result, he concentrated solely on book illustration and left the civil service. One of the most famous stories illustrated by Rostyslav is by the German writer Wilhelm Hauff, which was originally written in 1826 as *Der Kleine Muck*, now reissued by Popskyi as *Vilhelm Hauf. Malenkyi Muk* (Wilhelm Hauff: Little Muck, 2016). Others include, *Mene zabuly na Misyatsi* (I was forgotten on the moon, 2019), *Med i Pashtet – fantastychni vitrohony* (Honey and Pate – fantastic windbreakers, 2020, by Ulyana Chuba), and *Paroplavy i kyty* (Steamboats and whales, 2020; poems by Hryhoriy Falkovych and illustrated together with Yana Hrankovska).

Al Bahlawan

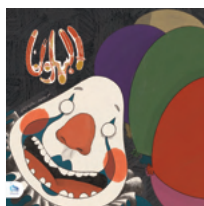
(The clown)

Text by the artist

Dubai: al-Fulk Translation and Publishing, 2022

290x290mm, 28pp

ISBN 978-9948-8859-6-2, ages: 6-9

Clown, self confidence, activism

A clown is walking down the street when he stumbles on an advertisement for a circus competition. He decides to take a leap of faith and participates in the competition. Unfortunately, he is rejected and treated

badly by the judge. The clown goes through a time of deep contemplation to find himself and discover his needs. Was working in the circus really what he wants? Will the harsh judgements stop him? He soon realises he should not stop and so continues to pursue his cherished career and finally achieves his dream.

Ayesha Jassim Albadi lives in Dubai and is an illustrator with a wide imagination and ability to tell stories visually. She graduated from Zayed University with a B.A. in Arts & Design. In 2018, she wrote and illustrated her first wordless picture book, *Ah! inahu yantafikh* (Ah, it's inflating!). The book was included as part of the first Emirati silent books collection. It was also selected for the 2019 IBBY exhibition 'Silent Books: from the world to Lampedusa and back' and included in the selection's Honour List. In 2022, she participated in the 'Folktales Reimagined' project by Sharjah's House of Wisdom in collaboration with UAEBBY and her artwork for this project was part of an exhibition shown at the 2022 Bologna Children's Book Fair.

Adoette

Text by artist

London: Andersen Press, 2023

250x300mm, 32pp

ISBN 978-1-83913-190-5, ages: 4+

Tree, change, environment, activism

Over a hundred years of changes in a city street are envisioned as though seen by a tree that has been growing there all that time. *Adoette* – French for a big tree – sees families grow and people come and go in a microcosm of social and

political history. A woman walks holding a suffragette flag, people and pets are rescued from a ruined house during World War II, a Black couple arrive and are watched with suspicion by a group of white youths. In time, *Adoette*'s presence is considered a problem, and plans are made to chop her down. However, the local community gathers in protest, but what will be the result? The setting is specifically British, and the book was inspired by a real situation where Monks lives. However, this picture book has a wider resonance, drawing on environmental concerns and the importance of trees, and demonstrating the power of people and community.

Lydia Monks, born in Surrey, is known for illustrating bestselling picture books. She earned a first-class degree in illustration from Kingston University, London. Her illustration career began with a poetry book by Roger McGough in black and white. Her first solo picture book *I Wish I Were a Dog* (1998) won the Bronze Smarties Award and her subsequent picture books such as *Aaaarrgghh*, *Spider!* (2004) are just as humorous and witty. Monk's use of vibrant colour and collage has won her critical acclaim and several awards, including the Royal Mail Scottish Children's Book Award, the Stockport Children's Book Award and multiple nominations for the CILIP Kate Greenaway Medal. Her other books include the series *What the Ladybird Heard* written by Julia Donaldson and *The Skipping Rope Snake* by Carol Ann Duffy. She lives in Sheffield, Yorkshire, where she has been campaigning against the destruction of urban trees.

James, Gordon C.

I Am Every Good Thing

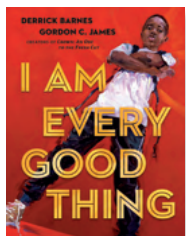
Text by Derrick Barnes

New York, NY: Nancy Paulsen Books, an imprint of Penguin Random House, 2020

225x285mm, 32pp

ISBN 978-0-525-51877-8, ages: 3-7

African American child, self confidence



A young African American boy introduces himself with lyrical affirmations: *I am / a nonstop ball of energy. / Powerful and full of light. / I am a go-getter. A difference maker. A leader.* On each page, the boy presents himself in his own terms, showing himself in

his entirety as a joyful, curious, energetic child, who also experiences vulnerability, fear, doubt, courage and hope. James' luminous oil paintings pulse with vitality in scenes of the boy moving through his days. In one particularly striking spread, he gazes back at the reader, backlit by brilliant light beams, next to the empowering words: *I am not what they call me, / and I will not answer to any name / that is not my own. / I am what I say I am.* James' masterful illustrations, together with Barnes' stirring words, are empowering reminders of every child's right to thrive. This book has been named an ALA Notable Children's Book and the winner of the NCTE Charlotte Huck Award, among numerous other honours.

Gordon C. James was born in Washington, D.C., and lives in Charlotte, North Carolina. He earned his B.A. in Fine Art from the School of Visual Arts in New York City. A renowned artist, James is the illustrator of the multi-award-winning *Crown: An Ode to the Fresh Cut* (2017) also written by Derrick Barnes. Other award-winning titles he has illustrated include *Let 'Er Buck: George Fletcher, The People's Champion* (2019) by Vaunda Micheaux Nelson, and *Just Like Jesse Owens* (2022) by Ambassador Andrew Young. In 2018, James won the Gold Medal from the American Society of Illustrators. In describing his portraits of African American boys in *I Am Every Good Thing*, James says he sought to 'celebrate the beauty, the power, the elegance, the grace, the brains of these children'.

Palmero Cáceres, Ana and Di Cristofaro, Stefano

La Caperucita Criolla

(The Latin American Little Riding Hood)

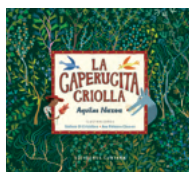
Text by Aquiles Nazoa

Caracas: Ed. Curiara, 2022

280x215mm, 26pp

ISBN 978-980-7980-00-5, ages: 9+

Folk tale, Red Riding Hood, courage



This is a newly illustrated and adapted version of 'Little Red Riding Hood' originally written by the Venezuelan journalist and humourist Aquiles Nazoa in 1955. With the title of

Caperucita criolla it was published in a bulletin of the collection of the Ateneo de Valencia cultural institution in Venezuela, dedicated to the diffusion of national poets. In this version, written in verse, Little Riding Hood defends herself against the Wolf, with a Venezuelan touch that has characterized Nazoa's dramatic reinventions of classics of the oral tradition. Sixty-seven years later the text has been published in a picture book format for the enjoyment of young and old alike. Stefano di Cristofaro and Ana Palmero conceptualized the illustrations with fun staging that enhances the original.

Ana Palmero, born in 1966 in Caracas, is a designer, illustrator and art director. She was a professor of Analytical Drawing and Color at the School of Visual Communication ProDiseño, from where she graduated. Her book *Cuéntame del 1 al 10* (Tell me from 1 to 10) received a Special Mention at the BolognaRagazzi Awards in 2017. *El bolso* (The bag, 2021), which she illustrated and was written by Maria José Ferrada, was selected for *The White Ravens* 2021 list and won the New Horizons BolognaRagazzi Award in 2023.

Stefano Di Cristofaro was born in 1991 in Caracas. He studied visual communication at the Instituto de Diseño PRO-DISEÑO in Venezuela, where he later taught analytical drawing. He has taken courses in illustration, reproduction techniques, engraving, ceramics and painting. Recognition includes winner of the People's Choice Award for the Golden Pinwheel at the Shanghai Children's Bookfair in 2019, inclusion in *The White Ravens* in 2017, and in *The Book Guide* by IBBY México 2019.

Wittner, Laura

Pájaro de Invierno

(Orig. English: *Selected poems*)

by Katherine Mansfield

Buenos Aires: Ed. Maravilla, 2020

140x215mm, 95pp

ISBN 978-987-88-1478-0, ages: young adult

Poetry



This bilingual illustrated collection introduces young readers to the wide and poignant universe of Katherine Mansfield's poems. The poems go from seemingly innocent to those that have a more complex emotional viewpoint.

Mansfield's writing tends to place different emotions, such as joy, next to threats of danger. The poems in *Pájaro de Invierno* are presented in chronological order, which allows the reader to follow Mansfield's progression from a teenager to adult. The role of the translator is also central to this edition, with Wittner giving an introduction where she writes about the specific task of translating Mansfield's poems from English to Spanish and from one century to the next. The last pages, written by the publishers, offer a thorough reflection not only on the author and her poems, but also on the way they were selected and discussed by the whole team.

Laura Wittner was born in 1967 in Buenos Aires. She has a B.A. in Literature from the University of Buenos Aires and pursued postgraduate studies at New York University, U.S.A. She currently conducts poetry and translation workshops and works as a translator for various publishing houses. In 2021, she published *Se vive y se traduce* (One lives and translates), which is an autobiographical essay on translation, for which she was awarded a National Prize in 2023. She has also written more than twenty books for children, including *Dime cómo vuelas* (Tell me how you fly, 2019), *Mi tortugo* (My turtle, 2019), *Justo antes de dormir* (Just before going to sleep, 2021), *Si mamá canta* (If mama sings, 2021), *Cual para tal* (Which for so and so, 2022), *¿Y comieron perdices?* (And did they eat partridges? 2023) and *Se pide un deseo* (You make a wish, 2023). She has also translated books written by Leonard Cohen and David Markson.

Torosyan, Nune

Alisy hrashqneri ashkharum. Hayelu mijov(Orig. English: *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland; Through the Looking Glass* by Lewis Carroll)

Yerevan: Antares, 2022

150x210mm, 226pp

ISBN 978-9939-76-885-4, ages: 8+

Fantasy, adventure

These classic stories are from the 1860s. *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* was written for three little girls to keep them amused during a riverboat trip in Oxford, U.K. The story starts with Alice falling down a rabbit hole while her sisters sleep. Down the hole, Alice finds a world of amaz-

ing creatures and events. The second book included in this volume is *Alice Through the Looking Glass*. Alice enters this world through a mirror in her family's dining room. This world is based on a chess board and Alice starts her many adventures as a pawn on the board. As its title suggests, everything here, including logic, is reversed. Many well-known figures inhabit this world, from Tweedledee and Tweedledum to the Jabberwocky.

Nune Torosyan graduated from the department of Romance and Germanic Languages at Yerevan University in 1976. She went on to teach English Language and Literature at the N67 High School named after E. Clements, while at the same time she was a professor at the university. From 1999 to 2001 Torosyan was a member of a group developing interactive manuals for Life Skills for elementary and secondary schools in Armenia. She has also worked as a translator for the UN, UNICEF, UNDP, UNHCR, UNFPA and WFP. She has written modules for teacher training courses and has facilitated workshops for teachers. She has worked since 2013 as a literary translator and has authored an interactive story book for children.

Frey, Nina

Orte, an denen ich geweint habe (wegen dir)(Orig. English: *The Places I've Cried in Public* by Holly Bourne)

Munich: dtv Verlag, 2023

130x210mm, 367pp

ISBN 978-3-423-74092-0, ages: 14+

Love, violence, mental abuse, self confidence

Amelie cried a lot while she was dating Reese, and yet it started out as the most perfect relationship she could imagine. She remembers being the new girl in class and falling in love with Reese. How he wrote her songs, took her on the best dates, slept with her for the first time and how he

said he had never felt like that for anyone... She also remembers how he started to make her feel more and more insecure, saying that she was difficult and even started to call her crazy. She remembers how he isolated her more and more. The story follows Amelie as she goes to all the places where she had shed tears. If she could just understand what went wrong in her relationship, she might find a way to finally heal.

Nina Frey is a literary translator based in Vienna. She studied German and English literature in Hamburg in Germany, before working as a rare books and early printing expert in Hamburg, London and Berlin. She has translated numerous books for young adults and for children, as well as fiction, essays and works of nonfiction. Several of her translations have been awarded grants from the German Translators' Fund and the City of Vienna.

Lavrijsen, Lies and Dumez Blocken, Els

Jefferson(Orig. French: *Jefferson* by Jean-Claude Mourlevat)

Tielt: Lannoo, 2022

150x215mm, 237pp

ISBN 978-94-014-8496-1, ages: 9+

Hedgehog, animal welfare, solidarity, detective

One morning, Jefferson the friendly hedgehog goes to town to get his crest trimmed. But when he arrives, he finds that his barber is lying dead on the ground with a pair of scissors stuck in his chest. The only witness, a goat, accuses Jefferson of the murder.

Panicked, Jefferson flees the scene. However, his best friend Gijsbert convinces him that they should investigate this crime together to unmask the real culprit. Their sleuthing leads them to the human city, where they make a gruesome discovery. This is an exciting whodunit that is full of evocative descriptions, it is original, humorous, and multi-layered. The author subtly and ironically touches on all sorts of things about the relationship between humans and animals. He holds up a mirror to human behaviour – the reflection is not pretty. The translation is smooth with appropriate names and captures the clever language play that Mourlevat uses.

Lies Lavrijsen (1978) translates from French, Italian and English and has a fondness for children's literature, from picture books to graphic novels and YA. Besides her own translation work, she also teaches literary translation at the School of Translation in Antwerp and Amsterdam and is a member of the editorial board of the magazine *PLUK*, which aims to provide new translators with a platform.

Els Dumez-Blocken (1963) started a career with Wolters Kluwer NV publishers after studying Criminology. Her passion for children's and YA literature got a boost when she moved to France with her family and discovered French children's literature. She worked for several years as a scout for Flemish and Dutch publishers, and in 2008 started to translate works by her favourite author Jean-Claude Mourlevat.

Massimini, Silvia

Kramp(Orig. Spanish: *Kramp* by María José Ferrada)

Belo Horizonte, MG: Ed. Moinhos, 2020

140x210mm, 93pp

ISBN 978-65-5681-004-1, ages: 7-12

Father/daughter, Chile 1970s, dictatorship

The fluid language of the narrative of *Kramp* expands the reader's expectations, while at the same time it is suitable for young readers. The story is about the 'education' of a seven-year-old girl while on trips made with her father, who is a salesman around Chile for the *Kramp*

hardware firm. In a metaphorical way, it presents the world through the eyes of the child. But because of the difficult situation in Chile at that time, their journey abruptly ends, and with it, childhood.

Silvia Massimini has a degree in Spanish and Italian Language and Literature from the University of São Paulo, and an M.A. in Spanish Literature from the same institution. Her dissertation was to translate and analyse two exemplary novels by Cervantes. She is a researcher and member of the group *Cervantes: Poetics, rhetoric and discursive forms in Spain in the 16th and 17th centuries*. She works as a translator from Spanish and Italian and prepares texts for several publishers. In recent years, she has dedicated herself to translating the works of contemporary Latin American writers, such as: Gabriela Cabezón Cámara and Ariana Harwicz from Argentina; María Fernanda Ampuero and Mônica Ojeda from Ecuador; Guadalupe Nettel, Cristina Rivera Garza and Jazmina Barrera from Mexico; María José Ferrada, Nona Fernández and Alia Trabucco Zerán from Chile; and Margarita García-Robayo from Colombia. *Kramp* has received awards in Chile, and this translation was Highly Recommended by Fundação Nacional do Livro Infantil e Juvenil (FNLIJ).

Lach, Ratana

Khñum 'ayu 14 chñam

(I am 14 years old and it is not good news.

Original French: *J'ai 14 ans et ce n'est pas une bonne nouvelle*, by Jo Witek)

Phnom Penh: Sipar, 2023

125x190mm, 125pp

ISBN 978-9924-34-185-7, ages: 12+

Arranged marriage, autonomy, gender

Efi returns home from school for the vacation, with a good report card and high hopes for the future. However, the bad news is that during this vacation Efi will have her 14th birthday and with that everything changes, and her dreams are crushed. The tradition is that

when a girl turns 14, she becomes marriageable. In her village, women are just for having babies. They cannot even speak – only listen to the men. Efi wants to continue to study in high school, but her father has already arranged her marriage. This is a touching portrait of a defiant teenager who represents the voices of millions of young girls caught in this archaic tradition.

Ratana Lach is an editor for a collection of documentaries for young people. She gained a B.A. in French Literature from the Department of Francophone Studies (DEF) at the Royal University of Phnom Penh, majoring in Journalism and Professorship. She went on to become a journalist and translator for the provincial newspaper *Somme Thmey*. In 2005, she was a part-time translator for the French-speaking newspaper *Cambodge Soir* and a part-time translator for the trilingual online newspaper *Ka-sef*. In 2015, she became the team leader for the documental department at the Bophana Audio-visual Resource Center. Recently, she has translated the French comic book *Culottées. Des femmes qui ne font que ce qu'elles veulent* (Culottées, women who only do what they want) by Pénélope Bagieu, for Sipar.

Ouriou, Susan

Forever Truffle(Orig. French: *Truffe* by Fanny Britt)

Toronto, ON: Groundwood Books, 2022

190x190mm, 118pp

ISBN 978-1-77306-070-5, ages: 7-10

Music, death, courage, pop culture, friendship

Meet funny, thoughtful and irrepressible Truffle in three stories about dreaming big, following your heart and saying goodbye. In *Truffle the Rockstar*, Truffle wants to form a band with Flo and Riad. They can

already picture themselves on stage, wowing the crowd with epic songs. In *Truffle Loves Nina*, Truffle and Nina have been shy around each other ever since he asked her to be his girlfriend. So, Truffle asks his parents, his friend Riad, his big brother, Louis, and even the man who works at the library for advice. In *Truffle Tackles Existence*, Truffle attends his great-grandmother's funeral, which gets him thinking about the world around him. Were grandparents young once, too? Do people stop loving each other if they do not see each other anymore?

Susan Ouriou is an award-winning writer and translator of fiction, nonfiction, children's and young adult literature. Her translations have been short-listed for Canada's prestigious Governor General's Literary Awards for Translation (French to English), most recently in 2023 for her translation of *Kukum* by Michel Jean. She previously won for her translation of the young adult novel *Pieces of Me* (*La liberté? connais pas*) by Charlotte Gingras, which was also selected for the 2010 *IBBY Honour List*. Ouriou was included in the 2020 *IBBY Honour List* for her translation of *The Courage of Elfina* (*Les quatre saisons d'Elфина*) by André Jacob. Other notable translations include *Jane, the Fox and Me* (*Jane, le renard et moi*) by Fanny Britt; and from the Spanish, *Wangari Speaks Out* (*Plantar árboles, sembrar ideas*), which is an illustrated edition of Nobel Peace Prize winner Wangari Maathai's acceptance speech (2004). In 2010, Susan was appointed *Chevalier* in France's *Ordre des Arts et des Lettres* for her work as a translator, writer and interpreter.

La dame aux livres. Une histoire inspirée par le travail remarquable de Jella Lepman(Orig. English: *The Lady with the Books* by Kathy Stinson),

Montréal, QC: Les 400 coups, 2021

260x235mm, 32pp

ISBN 978-2-89540-981-6, ages: 5+

Jella Lepman, history, library, reading

La dame aux livres is an inspiring book about the life of Jella Lepman who was IBBY's founder as well as the initiator of the International Youth Library in Munich, Germany.

It brings home the power of reading in the aftermath of the Second World War, by showing how access to quality books allowed children to use their imaginations to escape their harsh reality and to develop resilience. Dufresne's fluid translation of the story stays true to the author's literary images that capture the spirit of Lepman and her pioneering work. A wonderful picture book to discover the dreamlike universe of books and the power of reading.

MarieAndrée Dufresne is a literary translator who was born in Gaspésie, Québec. She is also a lecturer in translation at Université de Sherbrooke. Specializing in YA and children's fiction, Dufresne has translated six books, including *Contes de Coyote* (Coyote's Tales, 2021) a picture book by Aboriginal author Thomas King; *Lever de Terre*, (Earthwise by James Gladstone, 2021); *Si le monde était... (If all the World Were... by Joseph Coelho, 2018); Petit déjeuner autour du monde (Little Tables, Anytime Breakfast from Around the World by Vanessa Lewis, 2016); and Quel impoli! (How Rude! by Clare Helen Welsh, 2018).*

Café Conejo Hortensia Ausencia

(Coffee, rabbit, snowdrop, gone. Orig Danish:

Kaffe Kanin Vintergæk Væk by Betina Birkjær)

Santiago: Grafito Ediciones, 2021

220x280mm, 40pp

ISBN 978-956-935-626-1, ages: 6-12

Dementia, grandfather, grandson

Café Conejo Hortensia Ausencia is a picture book about a grandson and his grandfather. Peque not only plays games such as jigsaws and crossword puzzles, with his grandmother Gerda and his grandfather Kaj, but also

flowers and endless love are very important in the life of this family. But one day, Peque's grandfather starts to lose his memory and his words, which in this book, visibly fall from him. Peque and Gerda must find new ways to connect with Kaj and show him that he is not alone.

Camila Bunster Danklefsen was born in Denmark to a Danish mother and a Chilean father, and now lives in Valparaíso. She gained a B.A. in Hispanic Literature and M.A. in Latin American Studies from the Universidad de Chile. She has translated more than 20 children's literature titles, which have been published in Chile. She is a three-time winner of the Colibrí Medal (2016, 2020, 2022) and was included in the 2018 IBBY Honour List for *Yo soy Juan (pero los demás no siempre me dicen así)* (I am John, but I am not always called that), which she translated from the original Danish *Jeg ed Frede* by Hanne Kvist. Other books include: *Abuelo* (Grandfather) by Lilja Scherfig and Otto Dickmeiss; *Pssst* by Annete Herzog and Katrine Clante; and the *Cuando Carlos* series of six books by Ida Jessen and Hanne Bartholin.

Ma, Ainong

Yu Xue Dai Wo Qu Liu Lang(Orig. English: *Where My Wellies Take Me* by

Clare and Michael Morpurgo)

Kunming: Chenguang Publishing, 2022

260x225mm, 101pp

ISBN 978-7-5715-0556-1, ages: 7+

Poetry, country life, animals, exploration

Pippa loves staying with her Auntie Peggy, going for walks – long, meandering walks where her wellington boots (wellies) take her regardless of whether it is sunny or cold. The

book follows Pippa into the beautiful countryside as her day unfolds and she encounters the local wildlife and people. Her walk is complemented by relevant poems from some of the greatest U.K. authors, which have been chosen by Clare and Michael Morpurgo. Part a poetry anthology, part a child's scrapbook, this is a truly lavish project designed to instil a love of language in young children. Pippa is drawn with a real sense of independence and character with a clever use of colour throughout in lovely, earthy, seasonal tones. This book was short-listed for 2014 CILIP Kate Greenaway Award for the quality of its illustrations by Olivia Lomenech Gill.

Ma Ainong, was born in 1964 in Nanjing, Jiangsu. She is a well-known translator and a member of the China Writers' Association. She started translating English literature in the 1980s and her translation works include many classic children's books including, *Anne of Green Gables* by Lucy Maud Montgomery, and the *Harry Potter* series by J.K. Rowling. Other titles include *To the Lighthouse* by Virginia Woolf, and *Selected Tales* by Edgar Allan Poe. She won the title of 'Top Ten Golden Authors and Golden Translators' and in 2014 she won the inaugural Irish-Chinese Literature Translation Prize for her translation of Claire Keegan's short-story collection *Walk in the Blue Fields*. Two of her translations have been selected for the *IBBY Honour List*: in 2014, for *This is London* by M. Sasek, and in 2018 for *The Little Bookroom* by Eleanor Farjeon.

Reyes, Yolanda

Una idea toda azul(The bluest idea. Orig. Portuguese *Uma ideia toda azul* by Marina Colasanti)

Bogotá: Loqueleo, 2020

160x220mm, 60pp

ISBN 978-958-5444-58-4, ages: 8+

Short stories, literary fairy tale

Una idea toda azul is the first set of wonderful stories that Marina Colasanti wrote when she discovered the gift of understanding life through the language of fairies and created an unmistakable poetic universe.

Since its publication in Brazil, in

1978, this book has fascinated readers of all ages and has become a classic of contemporary children's literature. This is a book of ten fairy tales, complete with swans, unicorns and princesses. They are also stories for our times, because although external reality changes, our internal reality, comprised of fears and fantasies, remains the same. The author has won many awards for her work.

Yolanda Reyes is a Colombian writer and the director of Espantapájaros, a cultural project aimed at promoting early-age reading. Her works for children include *El terror de Sexto 'B'* (The terror in grade 6B, 1995), which won the Fundalectura Award in 1994 and was included in *The White Ravens* catalogue. Additionally, she received a grant from Colombia's Ministry of Culture for *Los años terribles* (The terrible years, 2000), and her work *Los agujeros negros* (Black holes, 2000) was included in the collection *Los Derechos de los Niños* (The Rights of the Child). Her book *Una cama para tres* (A bed for three, 2003) also received recognition in *The White Ravens* in 2005. Her adult book *Pasajera en tránsito* (Passenger in transit, 2006) was named to *Revista Arcadia's* Ten Best Books in 2007. She contributes to the newspaper *El Tiempo* and received a Special Mention in the Simón Bolívar Prize for Journalism in 2009.

Pipi Duga Čarapa

(Pippi Longstocking. Orig. Swedish: *Pippi Långstrump* by Astrid Lindgren)

Zagreb: Znanje, 2021

155x210mm, 355pp

ISBN 978-953-360-273-8, ages: 6-10

Autonomy, self confidence, strength



The children's classic *Pippi Långstrump* recounts the adventures of the strongest, bravest, smartest, and kindest girl in the world. Pippi's mother died when she was a baby, so she spent her early years sailing the sea on her father's boat. When he was swept overboard during a storm, Pippi left the boat with her pet monkey, Mr Nilsson, and a suitcase full of gold coins and went to live alone in the family home. She spends time with her horse, and friends Tommy and Annika, but the adults in her village are bewildered by Pippi's allegedly outrageous behaviour, so they try to make her behave in ways they think a little girl should, but the quick-witted nine-year-old thinks nothing of norms and conventions. Today, Pippi is widely regarded as one of the greatest literary heroines, inspiring children around the globe. *Pipi Duga Čarapa* (2021) marks the first unabridged and uncensored Croatian translation, comprising the original three stories in the *Pippi Långstrump* series (1945-1948).

Edin Badić, born in 1992, lives in Zagreb and holds an M.A. in English and Swedish, specialising in translation, from the University of Zagreb. He is currently a Ph.D. candidate in Interdisciplinary Humanities at the University of Zadar, focusing on strategies for translating taboos in Croatian translations of Anglophone children's literature. As part of the research project *Building Intercultural Bridges Through Children's Literature Translations: Texts, Contexts and Strategies*, financed by the Croatian Science Foundation, he has studied Croatian translations of Nordic children's literature. He has authored and co-authored several peer-reviewed research papers in linguistics and translation studies. He translates from English, Swedish, Danish and Norwegian. His translated works also include *Boken som inte ville bli las*, 2023 (*The Book That Did Not Want To Be Read*) by David Sundin, as well as books for adults.

Sibiřské haiku

(Siberian haiku. Orig. Lithuanian: *Sibiro haiku* by Jurga Vilė)

Prague: Argo, 2022

170x230mm, 239pp

ISBN 978-80-257-3756-9, ages: 9+

WWII, USSR, deportation, graphic novel



One morning in June 1941, a quiet village in Central Lithuania is shaken out of its slumber by the sudden arrival of the Soviet Army. Eight-year-old Algiukas awakens to the sound of Russian soldiers pounding on the door. His family is given 10 minutes to pack up their things. They are not told where they are going or for how long. An airless freight train carries them from the fertile lands of rural Lithuania to the snowy plains of the Siberian taiga. There, in the distant, dismal North, they begin a life marked by endless hunger and unrelenting cold. And yet the darkness of exile is lightened for Algiukas, by flights of his imagination. Drawing on her father's exile in Siberia, writer Jurga Vilė brings to light a neglected episode from the history of the Soviet Union. Beautifully drawn by Lina Itagaki, *Sibiřské haiku* uses a child's perspective to tell an unforgettable story of courage and human endurance.

Věra Kociánová (1974) lives in Pecka and studied Lithuanian and Bohemian Studies at the Faculty of Arts of Charles University, worked as a journalist, and was custodian of Pecka Castle and a museum curator. In 2014, she founded the publishing house Rural Works, focusing on the Baltics in one of its imprints. She has introduced Lithuanian novelist Jurgis Kunčinas to Czech readers; her translation of his novel *Tūla*, won the 2018 Josef Jungmann Prize. She also translated Alvydas Šlepikas' novel *Mano vardas Marytė* (*My name is Maryte*, 2012). In 2022, she received the state award, the Knight's Order of Merit, for the promotion of Lithuanian literature.

Embabi, Radwa

Yaumiyyāt tifl yaqra'(Diary of a reading child. Orig. Chinese *Nian shu de haizi* by Meng Xianming)

Cairo: Bayt Alhekma, 2022

140x200mm, 188pp

ISBN 978-977-86315-6-2, ages: 7-14

Grandfather, migrant worker, reading

Nine-year-old Kai Kai has been living with his grandfather for many years while his parents work in a distant city. Grandfather takes care of him every day, takes him to school, and reads to him. Over time, they have developed a strong relationship.

Like other children, Kai Kai sometimes talks back to his grandfather, sometimes they have a friendly discussion, sometimes they get angry. They laugh a lot, and they also cry together. In this novel, Kai Kai tells the story of the enjoyable reading experiences he has with his grandfather. *Yaumiyyāt tifl yaqra'* combines two great values, the first is the intimate human relationships between children and their parents, grandparents and friends, as well as with animals. The other value is reading, and the novel highlights how reading is both enjoyable and a source of knowledge.

Radwa Embabi studied at Cairo University's Faculty of Arts in the Chinese Language Department and graduated in 2016. She then earned a M.A. in Comparative Literature in March 2023. She won third place for translating the novel *The Disappearance of Miss Chen Jinfang*, from the Chinese Cultural Centre and the National Translation Centre in 2019. She won the Best Translated Book Award at the 54th Cairo International Book Fair in 2023 in the field of children's literature for this translation of *Yaumiyyāt tifl yaqra'*.

Kattel, Tiina

Siberi haiku(Siberian haiku. Orig. Lithuanian: *Sibiro haiku* by Jurga Vilė)

Tallinn: Draakon & Kuu, 2022

170x230mm, 240pp

ISBN 978-9949-574-55-1, ages: 10-12

WWII, USSR, deportation, graphic novel

It is June 1941. A quiet village in Central Lithuania awakens to the arrival of the Soviet Army. Young Algiukas's family is given barely ten minutes to pack before being herded onto a crowded freight train bound for the snowy plains of Siberia. Leaving

behind the fertile agricultural lands of rural village life, they are forced to adapt to living in brutal conditions. While this quickly becomes a battle for survival against hunger and the relentless cold, Algiukas learns to escape the daily rigours through the inventive power of his imagination, with the help of pencils, paper and a book of Japanese haiku poems. Based on the true story of her father, writer Jurga Vilė, along with artist Lina Itagaki, offers an unforgettable tale of a childhood in exile. In the process, they shed light on one of the darkest periods of European history that, seen through a child's eyes, underlines the courage of human endurance. The book has won several European awards, as well as becoming a best seller in Lithuania.

Tiina Kattel works at the College of Foreign Languages and Cultures in University of Tartu where she is Vice Director and head of the Department of Languages of the Baltic Region and the Department of Languages of the Asian Region, as well as a Lecturer of Estonian and Lithuanian language and culture. Kattel has been translating from Lithuanian since 2015. The publication of the Lithuanian children's book series *Kake Make* has seen more than ten books published in Estonian, the most recent being *Kakē Makē ir baisi neteisybė* (Kakē Makē and a terrible injustice, 2022). Her most recent translation from Lithuanian is the young adult book *Juodavandeniai* (Spirits of the dark waters, 2023).

Dedo Gameda, Ahmed

Daraafessoota Fiigicha Dheeraa Itoophiyaa(Orig. *English Cheetahs of Long Distance Running of Ethiopia* by Worku L. Mulat)

Seattle, WA, USA: Open Hearts Big Dreams/Ready Set Go Books, 2022

200x255mm, 34pp

ISBN 979-8838167880, ages: 8-10

Ethiopia, running, Olympic Games, success

One of the fastest animals in the world is the cheetah that streaks across the plains and valleys. Ethiopia is also home to some of the world's elite marathon and long-distance runners. These amazing runners include: Abebe Bikila, the first African Olympic gold

medallist; Belayneh Densamo, who broke the world record for long distance running; and Haile Gebreselassie, who broke a world record 27 times. Read about Tirunesh Dibaba, nicknamed the Baby-Faced Destroyer, the youngest World Champion runner, and niece to Derartu Tulu, who was the first woman to run a two-mile race in less than 10 minutes – a champion who earned two Olympic gold medals and four gold medals in other world championships. This book is filled with detailed digital portraits of 10 legends of long distance running by Ethiopian artist Daniel Getahun.

Ahmed Dedo Gameda is an Assistant Professor of English Language and Literature at Haramaya University. He is currently teaching undergraduate and postgraduate students. He is also serving as a translator, editor and reviewer on academic, technical and literary works.

Debebe, Beserat

Gämbär(Orig. English: *Jember* by Beserat Debebe)

Seattle, WA, USA: Open Hearts Big Dreams Fund/

Etan Comics, 2023

200x250mm, 24pp

ISBN 978-1-63891-200-2, ages: 6-7

Comic, superhero, protection, villain

This early reader book is based on the comic book/graphic novel *Jember*. Jember is the first Ethiopian superhero: he is smart, he plays football, he loves injera and he is a superhero! His dream is to work across Ethiopia, but his duty is

to protect the communities he loves from dangerous villains. Using the energy from the sun to charge his powers, Jember uses these powers of flight, super strength and electricity to protect his people. The story of *Jember* is an inspiring story, which in this bilingual book is designed to help emerging readers build their confidence in reading.

Beserat Debebe, based in Houston, Texas, U.S.A. was born and raised in Addis Ababa. He holds a B.A. in Aerospace Engineering from the University of Maryland and a M.A. in Business Administration from Indiana University. As a child he watched many animated stories on TV and in films. His love for animation translated into graphic novels when he realized that most of the animated stories he used to watch as a child came from their respective books. He used these books to improve his reading skills and learn about other cultures. However, he could not find stories with connections to Ethiopia, Ethiopian characters, history and folklore. He understood that most stories about Africa and Africans tended to exacerbate negative perceptions and stereotypes of Africans. In 2018, he founded Etan Comics to change these perceptions. His graphic novel *Jember* was nominated for the Best Graphic Novel award and featured on prominent sites such as BBC, OkayAfrica, ComicsBeat and more. Debebe went on to create two more titles that have been nominated for various awards: *Hawi*, an Ethiopian fantasy graphic novel featuring the first female Ethiopian superhero, and *Zufan*, a futuristic science fiction graphic novel retelling the story of Adwa, which features many African characters.

Omod, Jekap

Guur Mo Owii Kur Keere(Orig. English: *The Lonely Nile Perch*)

by Jekap Omod and Jane Kurtz)

Seattle, WA, USA: Open Hearts Big Dreams/Ready Set Go Books, 2022

220x220mm, 40pp

ISBN 979-8357817549, ages: 8-10

Difference, loneliness, prejudice, exclusion

The Nile perch is a lonely fish. Large and intimidating, it tries to make friends with the other Nile residents. But the hippo, puffer fish, electric catfish and even the crocodile all swim away.

When the lonely perch pursues the crocodile, it learns the danger of basing its self-worth upon the opinion of others. Based on an Anywaa (Anuak) folktale, this story teaches children not to judge others by their appearance.

Jekap Omod was born and raised in Gambella, bordering South Sudan in western Ethiopia. He is a member of the Anuak, also known as Anywaa or Anyuak, minority ethnic group. Omod is a survivor of genocide and grew up with no access to a better education. While growing up he only had access to school textbooks provided by the government. In 2014, Omod moved to the U.S.A. with his family and was able to take advantage of the educational opportunities and went on to study Neuroscience at the University of Minnesota. As a literacy advocate, Omod joined the Open Hearts Big Dreams project and began translating Anuak and English children's books for the first time in Anuak history. Through the help of OHBD, he works towards two goals: Preserving the Anuak language and culture abroad and back home in Gambella through literacy; and improving and increasing the representation of Anuak literacy in Ethiopia. Growing up with no access to books or reading books in his mother tongue, Omod felt that his native language was underrepresented, unvalued, and lesser compared to Amharic or English, which were the most common languages in his region's schools. He works to give children access to books that represent them as a people and show their culture – in the U.S.A. and other western countries, as well as in Ethiopia.

Hassen, Abdi Mohamed

Huruud(Orig. English: *Yellow* by Katie Bradley)

Seattle, WA, USA: Open Hearts Big Dreams/Ready Set Go Books, 2021

220x220mm, 25pp

ISBN 979-8725622115, ages: 6-8

Colours, friendship, counting

Follow young friends Adey and Lomi as they play a counting game in the streets of Harar. Bilingual side-by-side text in Somali and English, this is an engaging story that will support early readers.

Vibrant watercolours capture the colours and beauty of this ancient world heritage site as the girls explore and play. Exploring the markets of the city, sharing a bowl of lentils with a roll of injera, even doing maths homework takes on the happiness of the colour they love.

Abdi Mohamed Hassen was born in 1987 in the Sagag District, Nogob Zone in the Somali Regional State. He completed primary school in Kebribayah and secondary school in Jigjiga. Hassen graduated from Addis Ababa University with B.A. in Foreign Language and Literature (English). He also graduated with an M.A. in Educational Planning and Management from Jigjiga University. For the last 10 years he has worked for the Somali Regional Education Bureau.

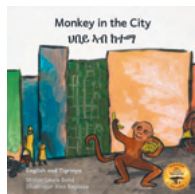
Dessalegn, Aklilu

Hebäy ab kätäma(Orig. English: *Monkey in the City* by Laura Bond)

Seattle, WA, USA: Open Hearts Big Dreams/Ready Set Go Books, 2021

215x215mm, 34pp

ISBN 979-8497119466, ages: 6-7

City, monkey, theft, search

When a curious urban monkey snatches a little girl's umbrella, she must use her wits to outsmart it and get her umbrella back. But first she must find it! Follow her through the vibrant city

streets and colourful markets of Ethiopia as she tracks down the thief and works out how to trick it into returning her yellow umbrella. Playful illustrations bring the story to life.

Aklilu Dessalegn was born in Shire Endasselassie in 1979. He graduated from the Addis Ababa University with an M.A. degree in English Literature in 2010. He then worked at the Haramaya University as a lecturer of Literature from 2010-2012. Since 2013, he has been a journal editor and lecturer at the Addis Ababa University. For the last fourteen years he has also worked as a professional translator and editor for GOs, NGOs, international organizations, businesses, as well as for M.A./Ph.D. candidates. He has edited proceedings, authored features and journal articles and a bilingual dictionary. He is a Ph.D. candidate of Literature at Addis Ababa University. In 2018, Dessalegn was selected as a juror for the second Burt Award for the Ethiopian Young Adult Literature Competition.

Menna, Outi

Kirahvin sydän on tavattoman suuri(A giraffe's heart is unbelievably large. Orig. Swedish: *Giraffens hjärta är ovanligt stort* by Sofia Chanfreau)

Helsinki: Kustantamo S&S, 2022

175x250mm, 208pp

ISBN 978-951-52-5559-4, ages: 6-12

Fantasy, mother, loss, island, longing

Vega is ten years old and lives with her father on Giraffe Island. Life goes along in its usual way, which in Vega's case means anything but usual. She sees things no one else sees, like imaginary animals that keep her company. The bathroom is home to a grey

bear whose fur is lathered with shampoo, and on the way to school she encounters Atle the asphalt beaver, and the crosswalk zebra Zacharias. Vega has never met her mother, and when she asks her father and her grandfather Hektor about her mother, they speak in riddles. When Vega's father gets a not-so-nice girlfriend and Vega gets an unexpected pen pal, she decides to set out on an adventure to find out more about her mother. This adventure, filled with magical realism, talks about the need to be part of a family, to find one's place in the world, and to be loved. The book won the most important literary award in Finland, the Finlandia Junior Prize in 2022, and was nominated for the Runeberg Junior Prize.

Outi Menna, born in 1973, has been a literary translator since 1997. She translates from Swedish, Norwegian and Danish to Finnish. *Kirahvin sydän on tavattoman suuri* captures the magical realism of the original in a mesmerizing way. Further translations include some of the *Kepler62* series by Bjørn Sortland, including *Hjertet* (Heart, 2022) and *Grotta* (The cave, 2020), and *Kärlek mysteriet, LasseMajas detektivbyrå*, by Martin Widmark (The love mystery, LasseMaja's Detective Buro) in 2018. Her most recent translation is *Zakir och Våren* by Malin Klingenberg (Zakir and the autumn) in 2023.

Huss, Mattias

Stormsommär(Summer storm. Orig. Finnish: *Kesämyrsky* by Siiri Enoranta)

Helsinki: Förlaget, 2022

135x210mm, 290pp

ISBN 978-952-333-482-3, ages: 15+

Summerhouse, mystery, murder

During a summer in the luxurious manor house of the Roy family, a game of innocence and corruption, full of riddles and drenched in sparkle and sugar, takes place. A murder scandalizes the whole city, and everyone at the manor seems to have secrets. The book is filled with

multidimensional characters and skilfully propelled language. Huss has succeeded in his translation giving it a smooth and fluent language that is so seamless it does not feel like reading a translation. A literary and precise language sharpens the senses of the reader and preserves the underlying tone of someone not telling the truth while building up the mystery. Furthermore, the internal and external dialogue is very credible. The original novel in Swedish was nominated for the Finlandia Prize for the Best C&YA Title 2020 and for the Nordic Council Children and Young People's Literature Prize 2021.

Mattias Huss lives in Sweden. He graduated in journalism in 1999 and earned an M.A. in Journalism from Gothenburg University in 2000. He grew up in a bilingual home, with both Finnish and Swedish as his mother tongue. He translates mostly non-fiction and fiction literature from Finnish to Swedish, but also from English to Swedish. He also has language skills in German and Japanese. In addition to translating *Stormsommär*, examples of his other translations include: *Krokodilen som åkte i kapp med våren / Krokotiili hihtää kevääseen* (The crocodile that raced with spring) 2016; *Svart som ebenholts / Musta kuin eebenpuu* (Black as ebony) 2015; *Vit som snö / Valkea kuin lumi* (White as snow) 2015; and *Röd som blod / Punainen kuin veri* (Red as blood) 2014).

Gnaedig, Alain

Nous, les enfants de l'archipel(We, the children of the archipelago. Orig. Swedish: *Vi på Saltkråkan* by Astrid Lindgren)

Paris: L'École des loisirs, 2022

140x210mm, 387pp

ISBN 978-2-211-30717-8, ages: 11+

Island, season, family, friendship, adventure

Previously unpublished in French and originally written for Swedish television, this story was published as a novel in 1964 and tells the story of the Melkerson family's summer stay on the fictional island of Saltkråkan. Characters include the father, a dreamy, awkward writer; his pretty eldest daughter, who was very responsible at an early age; two fearless sons who are twins; and the youngest son, an animal lover. After arriving on the island on a June day, they meet the inhabitants, including the strong-willed little Tjorven. They go swimming, fishing, and have other adventures, which will leave a lasting impression on them. The childlike tone and humour of this story, the breeze of joyous freedom on this island in the '60s, the touching characters, the emotion of the moment, all make this novel a timeless gem.

Alain Gnaedig, born in 1964, is a literary translator and writer. Having lived in Sweden, Scotland, London and Paris, he currently lives in Nantes, Brittany. He is the author of over a hundred literary translations (Danish, Norwegian, Swedish and English) by authors as varied as Karen Blixen, Thorvald Steen, Øystein Lønn, Jo Nesbø, Ingmar Bergman, Magnus Florin, Astrid Lindgren, Sven Lindqvist, Charles Dickens, Oscar Wilde, Andrew Greig and many others. His translations include: *Les trois boucs bourrus*, 2023 (*The Three Billy Goats Gruff*) by Mac Barnett; *La cavale*, 2019 (*Rymlingarna / The fugitives*) by Ulf Stark; *Le loup, le canard & la souris*, 2018 (*The Wolf, the Duck & the Mouse*) by Mac Barnett; *Le renard et le lutin*, 2018 (*Räven och tomten / The fox and the gnome*) by Astrid Lindgren; and *Tu m'attraperas pas !*, 2017 (*Can't catch me!*) by Timothy Knapman. He has also published a children's book, *Aujourd'hui en Suède: Anders Stockholm* (2011).

Kollmann, Birgitt

Birdie und ich(Orig. English: *Birdie and me* by J.M.M. Nunez)

Munich: dtv, 2022

140x215mm, 283pp

ISBN 978-3-423-64095-4, ages: 11+

Gender, diversity, bullying, family

Loss is the theme of this book. Jack, the twelve-year-old narrator, and her younger brother Birdie are thrust into a changed life after the death of their mother. While it was never a problem for Birdie earlier that she lives gender-neutral, it now causes turbulence in the new environment

with other adults, in particular for their conservative Uncle Patrick. Jack therefore must do a lot of balancing and mediating work. The sensitive first-person narrator has many questions to understand things that connect the family's past and present. That no one is judged in the process – not Birdie, not the uncle, not the dead mother – creates a successful narrative and constructive achievement. Everyone makes mistakes. Everyone has to deal with the loss of a loved one. All have experienced disappointment. But because they try to support and understand each other, all are allowed to remain as they are. Birgitt Kollmann has translated the haunting and deft narrative tone into German in an easy-flowing and sensitive manner.

Birgitt Kollmann, born in Duisburg in 1953, studied English, Spanish and Swedish in Heidelberg. She worked as a translator in the field of development aid in Germany, then for six years lived in Argentina, Kollmann now works as a freelance translator living near Darmstadt. She has translated the novels of Erin Entrada Kelly, Joyce Carol Oates and Alison McGhee, among others. She has received several awards for her work, including the Catholic Children's and Youth Book Prize in 2018 for *Das Jahr in dem ich lügen lernte* by Lauren Wolk (*Wolf Hollow*) and the German Youth Literature Prize in 2019 for *Vier Wünsche ans Universum* by Erin Entrada Kelly (*Hello Universe*).

Tzanakari, Vasia

Mas Megalosan Lykoi(Orig. English: *Fighting Words* by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley)

Athens: Papadopoulos Publishing, 2022

145x205mm, 239pp

ISBN 978-960-484-774-7, ages: 12+

Sexual abuse, suicide, siblings

Ten-year-old Della has always had Suki, her older sister. When their mother went to prison, Della had Suki. When their mother's boyfriend took them in, Della had Suki. When that same boyfriend did something so awful they had to run fast, Della had Suki. Suki is Della's own wolf

– her protector. But who has been protecting Suki? Della might get told off for swearing at school, but she has always known how to keep quiet where it counts. Then Suki tries to kill herself, and Della's world turns upside down. It feels like she is being shaken by her ankles. Maybe she has been quiet about the wrong things. Maybe it is time to be loud. This is a powerfully intense novel that explodes the stigma around child sexual abuse, which the author lightens with compassion and humour. *Mas Megalosan Lykoi* is a story about two sisters, linked by love and trauma, who must find their own voices before they can find their way back to each other.

Vasia Tzanakari, born in 1980 in Serres, is an author and literary translator. She studied English and holds an M.A. in Translation & Translation Studies. She published two short story collections, two novels and a children's book. Her book *Eleven Little Murders: Stories inspired by Nick Cave Songs* was shortlisted for Best New Writer award by the journal *Diabazo*, while her novel *Adelfiko* was nominated for the Athens Prize for Literature Award and as Best Novel by *Klepsidra* and *O Anagnosti* journals. In 2015, she received the Public Bookstores translation award for *Saints of the Shadow Bible* by Ian Rankin. In 2020, she received the Greek Literary Translators Society Award for translation of Virginia Woolf's *A Room of One's Own*. She has been editor-in-chief of the Greek edition of *Rolling Stone* magazine and *Pop+Rock* magazine.

Đinna í blíðu og stríðu

(Life, according to Dani. Orig. Swedish: *Livet enligt Dunne* by Rose Lagercrantz)

Reykjavík: Litli sæhesturinn, 2021

145x210mm, 112pp

ISBN 978-9935-9429-9-9, ages: 5-12

Father, friendship, rejection



It is summer, and Đinna gets to go out to the island with her best friend Ella Frida. Her father is in the hospital after a traffic accident, but every night they talk on the phone. One day he calls and Đinna is worried, but there is plenty to do on the island and Ella Frida can

always cheer her up. One day her father comes to visit unexpectedly, which would have been great, except he was not traveling alone. Đinna does not feel like life is as it should be anymore.

Guðrún Hannesdóttir was born in 1944 and lives in Reykjavík. She studied art history at the University of Lund in Sweden from 1968-70 and completed a B.A. in library science from the University of Iceland in 1979. Hannesdóttir has worked for most of her life as a librarian and oversaw the library of the School of Fine Arts in Reykjavík. She published the book *Gamlar visur handa nýjum börnum* (Old verses for new children) in 1994, for which she collected and illustrated verses for children. She published more children's books before turning to poetry. Since publishing her first poetry book, *Fléttur* (Lichens) in 2008, she has published many books of poetry. She has also shown her artwork at joint and solo exhibitions in Iceland and abroad. She sat on the board of IBBY Iceland for several years and served on the editorial board of Icelandic IBBY's journal *Börn og menning*. She has received awards for both her writing and illustrations, most notably the Icelandic Children's Book Award in 1996 for *Risann þjófötta og skyrfjallið* (The giant Thieffoot and Skyrfjall), written by Sigrúna Helgadóttir and with her illustrations; and Ljóðstaf Jóns úr Vör poetry award in 2007 for her poem *Offors* (Too much).

Gurg-i Mäsih-i

(The sandwolf. Orig. Swedish: *Sandvargen* by Åsa Lind)

Tehran: Parian Publications, 2021

140x190mm, 102pp

ISBN 978-600-7058-75-6, ages: 9+

Childhood, imaginary friend, philosophy



Sakarina is a seven-year-old girl who lives with her parents near the beach. Her mother goes out to work and her father works from home. One day, she goes to the beach and meets the Sand Wolf. The Sand Wolf is a classic pretend friend. For Sakarina he is from

the distant past and becomes a good companion to her. No question is too big or too small for the Sand Wolf, who is very good at answering and explaining. Whenever Sakarina is angry, bored or grumbling, she goes to the beach and talks to the Sand Wolf. Sand Wolf listens to all Sakarina's words and questions, he plays with her, and helps her to see different issues in a better way or from another angle and helps her to make fair judgements.

Namdar Nasser was born and raised in Tehran and has lived in Sweden since 1985. He is a Swedish writer and translator. He translates classical and modern Persian literature into Swedish, and modern Swedish literature into Persian. Some of his translations include: *18 mystiska gåtor* (18 mysterious riddles, 2023) and *22 sanna gåtor om uppfinningar* (22 true riddles about inventions, 2023) by Bengt Fredrikson and Andreas Palmaer; *Lilla Spöket Laban får en lillasyster* by Inger Sandberg (Little Ghost Laban gets a little sister, 2023); *Vem känner herr Rosa?* by Mojgan Kalhor (Who knows Mr. Rosa, 2020); and *Igelkottkusinerna* by Madjid Rasti (The hedgehog cousins, 2020).

Tittley, Alan

The Táin: The Great Irish Battle Epic(Orig. Irish: *Táin Bó Cuailnge* re-written

by Alan Tittley)

Dublin: Little Island Books, 2023

130x200mm, 174pp

ISBN 978-1-915071-06-4, ages: 10+

Myth, legend, Cúchulainn, Queen Medb Maeve

This is a new children's translation of Ireland's great epic legend featuring the hero Cúchulainn and the warrior Queen Maeve. Queen Maeve's army is marching north to steal the great brown bull, the Pride of Ulster. But one man stands in their way. Cúchulainn, the

Hound of Ulster, vowed in boyhood to protect his homeland – even if it means taking on an invading army himself. One by one Maeve's warriors challenge the hero, and one by one they fall. Can Cúchulainn hold out until reinforcements arrive – and how will he fare against the one man in Ireland he does not want to fight? This translation of Ireland's most important myth is retold in English for children and sparkles with wit and humour, as well as the thrill and battle of the ancient tale. Illustrations by comic artist Eoin Coveney lend a modern feel.

Alan Tittley is a respected scholar, academic and one of Ireland's most respected writers for children and adults, in both Irish and English. He has won prizes including the Children's Books Ireland Éilís Dillon Award. *The Dirty Dust*, his translation into English of *Cré na Cille* by Máirtín Ó Cadhain, was published by Yale University Press to international acclaim in 2015. His translation of *The Táin* was nominated for the Yoto Carnegie 2024 Award for writing. He writes a weekly column on current and cultural affairs for *The Irish Times* and is an Emeritus Professor of Modern Irish at the University College Cork and is a member of the Royal Irish Academy.

Cangemi, Laura

Il bambino portentoso(The miracle boy. Orig. Swedish: *Mirakelpojken*

by Ulf Stark)

Milan: Iperborea, 2022

135x205mm, 56pp

ISBN 978-88-7091-903-5, ages: 6+

Superhero, cycling, imagination

Little Ulf always gets lost. For this reason, his father forbids him from seeing the Big Bicycle Race in town. But once on his own, Ulf realizes he can become a superhero just like the character who wears a red suit in the comics! Ulf can simply wear his red pyjamas and a hockey helmet and... he is

ready! He can now streak across the sky with his bicycle and win every challenge. After a while Ulf is in the middle of the race with his little bike. Will his superpower help him from getting lost? In this funny adventure young Ulf follows his imagination when trying to comply with a really difficult task: obey his mother and father.

Laura Cangemi was born in Milan, where she attended the Cesare Beccaria High School. In 1986, she graduated in Modern Literature from the University of Milan. After graduating, she has been a translator, mainly for children's literature, from Swedish, Norwegian and English. The authors she has translated include Ulf Stark, Maria Gripe, Annika Thor, Mikael Engstrom, Henning Mankell, Per Olov Enquist and Johanna Thydell. She works with the most important Italian publishing houses and has translated over 150 books. In 1999, she was awarded the St. Jerome Prize for translation in the children's literature section.

Uno, Kazumi

Mishiranu tomo

(The unknown companion. Orig. Spanish:

El compañero desconocido by Marcelo Birmajer)

Tokyo: Fukuinkan Shoten, 2021

140x190mm, 152pp

ISBN 978-4-8340-8468-9, ages: 13+

Short stories, memory

Set in Buenos Aires, this book contains ten short stories about ordinary 'me'. The well-known Argentinean author Marcelo Birmajer has written about the anxieties and worries of teenagers, as well as their hopes and dreams for life.

The bittersweetness and small joys of life are hidden in these light-hearted stories. Each story is rich with wit and pathos and leaves a powerful aftertaste. The title story is about Lucio, a little boy in seventh grade, who discovers a stranger who is really his guardian angel and who always comes to his aid when needed. Everything goes well, but an unexpected 'truth' awaits at the end. The unique characters are fascinating, and the unexpected endings make readers think about the nature of human relationships and life.

Kazumi Uno was born in Osaka prefecture in 1960. She graduated from the Spanish Department of Tokyo University of Foreign Studies and received an M.A. degree from the Universidad Autónoma de Barcelona. She worked for a publishing house before becoming a translator, since then she has translated picture books, children's literature and novels from Spanish into Japanese. In addition to teaching at the university, she runs an online bookshop, Miranfú, specialising in children's books, where she shares the appeal of the Spanish language. Her translated books include: *Chicchai-san (El Menino)* by Isol; *Taiyo to tsuki no daichi (La tierra del Sol y la Luna)* by López Narváez; *Issho ni kaero (Camino a casa)* by Jairo Buitrago and Rafael Yockteng; *Maruko to papa (Mallko y Papá)* by Gusti; *Oniichan to boku (¡Qué suerte tengo!)* by Lawrence Schimel; and *Otona tte komacchau (Cosas que los adultos no pueden entender)* by Javier Malpica.

Abdulmalik Abdulmahdi, Ibrahim

Agūzu as-sabānih as-sagira

(The little old spinach lady. Orig. Swedish: *Den lilla spenatgumman* by Martin Widmark and Emma Karinsdotter)

Djursholm, Sweden: Dar Al-Muna, 2022

200x265mm, 24pp

ISBN 978-91-89464-38-4, ages: 3-6

Forest, anger, friendship

Deep in the forest lives a tiny and angry old woman who every year tries to stop the spring arriving. The animals and plants of the forest are afraid of this angry little creature. But one spring day when the old woman patrols the forest as usual to prevent buds from break-

ing out and the hibernating animals from waking up, something strange happens. A human boy picks up the fiery old lady and stuffs her into his pocket! What do an angry little old lady and an angry boy have in common? Maybe more than they think. This is a captivating tale of friendship and the healing power of nature.

Ibrahim Abdulmalik Abdulmahdi is a translator and poet who has studied at both at the University of Baghdad in Iraq and the University of Stockholm in Sweden. He has worked as a freelance journalist and storyteller in Arabic and Swedish, in collaboration with several libraries and schools. He has also published several collections of his own poems in Arabic. Two of his many translations are *Fi Bilad Al-Ghasaq (I Skymningslandet)*, 2013) by Astrid Lindgren, and *Tiflaa naafikh al-zujaaj (Glasblåsarens barn)*, 2015) by Maria Gripe.

Yi, Wonkyoung

Peu li wo teo(Orig. English: *Freewater* by Amina Luqman-Dawson)

Paju-si: Bageunmirae Publishing, 2023

140x200mm, 486pp

ISBN 978-89-6546-664-2, ages: 10+

African Americans, slavery, escape

This novel is based on a little-known piece of history. It chronicles, against the backdrop of 18th-century U.S.A., how enslaved 12-year-old Homer, escapes the plantation and comes to live in a settlement named Freewater. Hidden away in a swamp, the settlement is made up

of escaped men and women. The book is a masterpiece of imaginative storytelling that brings this specific period of American history to life. Although a substantial read at almost 500 pages, *Freewater* is a highly readable book due to its well-built structure, speedy development, compelling events and fully developed characters. In addition to the priceless-ness of freedom – its overarching theme — it also takes up subject matter such as friendship, courage, a teenager's coming of age, and the ties that bind a family together. This audacious first novel by Amina Luqman-Dawson has won accolades for its artistry, including a 2023 Newbery Medal. The book also won the Coretta Scott King Award.

Yi Wonkyoung was born in Seoul in 1971 and studied Korean language and literature at Kyung Hee University. After graduating, he spent several years teaching English. In 2003, he began his career in translation and has since spent about 20 years translating a wide range of English-language books into Korean, including novels and children's books, and books with topics of the humanities, culture, architecture and more. Some of his notable works are: *Hello, Universe*, by Erin Entrada Kelly; *Mercy Suarez Changes Gears*, by Meg Medina; *Scary Stories for Young Foxes*, by Christian McKay Heidicker; *Master and Commander*, by Patrick O'Brian; and the *Viking* trilogy by Tim Severin. Currently, he lives on Jeju Island where he writes, takes photographs, and enjoys life.

Meiere, Dace

Melndzelmji(The blackwaters. Orig. Lithuanian: *Juodavandeniai* by Ignė Zarambaitė)

Riga: Jānis Roze, 2022

150x205mm, 141pp

ISBN 978-9984-23-931-6, ages: 12+

Identity, coming of age, bullying, family

One day a group of teenagers visit a bleak farmhouse where something happens that changes everyone's lives. The protagonist of this thriller is the pretty and intelligent, but rebellious, sixteen-year-old Ana. Who, with her friends, must search for the right decisions

in difficult situations as well as solutions to interpersonal problems, maturing and the discovery of self.

Dace Meiere was born in 1973 in Skrunda. Since 1996, she has been a freelance translator from Italian, Lithuanian, Spanish and Catalan. She studied the Lithuanian language in Vilnius University and Italian language and culture at the University of Siena in Italy. She has translated more than 1,000 titles, including novels by Umberto Eco, Italo Calvino, Curzio Malaparte, Roberto Bolaño and Carlos Ruiz Zafón. She has been nominated for the Annual Latvian Literary Award for the Best Translation several times and won the award in 2015 for her translation of *Maladetti toscani* by Curzio Malaparte. She has received numerous awards of Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs for her achievements in translating Italian literature, as well as the St. Jerome Award for translations of Lithuanian literature in 2020, and the Balts Award by MFA of Latvia and Lithuania in 2022. She won the International Jaānis Baltvilks Award in children's and youth literature and book art for the best translation in 2019, 2020 and 2023. Her most important translations of children's literature include *Siberian Haiku* by Jurga Vilė and Lina Itagaki, *Sukeistas* (Changeling) and *Siela sumuštinis dežuteje* (Soul in a lunch box) by Kotryna Zyle. Her translation of *Mio nonno era un ciliegio* (My Grandfather was a cherry tree) by Angela Nanetti, was selected for the *IBBY Honour List* in 2020.

Jonkutė, Raimonda

Žudiko beždžionė(The murderer's ape. Orig. Swedish: *Mördarens apa* by Jakob Wegelius)

Vilnius: Aukso žuvis, 2021

150x215mm, 556pp

ISBN 978-609-8120-73-8, ages: 9+

Gorilla, travel, adventure, friendship

This middle-grade novel, *Žudiko beždžionė*, tells the story of Sally Jones, an anthropomorphic gorilla and a faithful friend of 'The Chief'. Together, the two journey around the coastlines and rivers of Europe and its surrounding areas aboard a grand cargo ship known as the

Hudson Queen. Sally Jones is not only a loyal friend but is also an extraordinary individual. Sally and the Chief are offered a job that will pay a lot, but the deal ends badly, and the Chief is falsely convicted of murder. In overalls or in a maharaja's turban, this unique gorilla moves among humans without speaking but understanding everything as she begins the harrowing quest for survival and to clear the Chief's name. However, powerful forces are working against her, and they will do anything to protect their secrets.

Raimonda Jonkutė, born in 1972, lives and works in Gothenburg, Sweden. She studied Lithuanian and Swedish languages at Vilnius and Lund Universities, obtained an M.A. in linguistics at the Free University of Berlin in German, and completed her Ph.D. in Scandinavian studies at Vilnius University, where she worked as a lecturer for some time. Since 1998, Jonkutė has translated over 40 books of fiction. She has been honoured several times as the best translator of children's books.

Atiqah Yahya, Nur

Suzume(Orig. Japanese: *Suzume no Tajimari*

by Makoto Shinkai)

Kuala Lumpur: Kadokawa Gempak Starz, 2022

140x205mm, 292pp

ISBN 978-629-7522-00-5, ages: 12+

Fantasy, journey, saving the world

Suzume tells the story of seventeen-year-old Suzume and the young man Souta on a tumultuous journey throughout Japan in their attempt to stop the Daijin from wreaking havoc. The Daijin is responsible for the magical doors that are opening all over the nation, and

through these open doors a giant can enter the real world to cause cataclysmic earthquakes. Suzume and Souta must find all the doors and shut them to prevent the destruction caused by the earthquakes. This novel highlights the complexities of human relationships. Throughout the story, the characters grapple with their own uncertainties, worries and desires. The ending is a reminder that relationships are not always straightforward and that sometimes the best course of action is to focus on ourselves and our own personal growth before committing to others.

Nur Atiqah Yahya was born in Kelantan and grew up in Kuala Lumpur. After finishing high school, she pursued her tertiary study for four years at Yamagata University, Japan, majoring in Sociology. During her third year at university, she started translating Japanese subtitles/captions for tourism videos. She also did some voluntary interpretation works for lecturers and private companies. After graduating and returning to Malaysia, she joined Kadokawa Gempak Starz as a full-time translator/writer. After a year, she left the publishing house and continued working as a freelance translator. Her translation works include *Kimi No Na Wa* (Your Name) by Makoto Shinkai; *Kokuhaku* (Confessions) by Kanae Minato; *Byosoku Go Senchi Metoru* (5 centimeters per second) by Makoto Shinkai; *Stand by Me Doraemon* by Fujiko F. Fujio and Takashi Yamazaki; and *Koi Ni Itaru Yamai* by Shasendo Yuki.

MONGOLIA (Mongolian)

Chingel, Munkhtuya

Asragch nokhoiin muu Sanaa

(The intrigue of the nurse dog. Orig. Chinese

Bao mu gou de yinmou by Yang Hongying)

Ulaanbaatar: BizMongolia, 2021

145x185mm, 153pp

ISBN 978-9919-26-005-7, ages: 9-15

Dog, cat, friendship



This is the first volume in the series *Diaries of Smiling Cat*, which is one of the most successful series written by Yang Hongying. The series comprises 23 volumes of fantasy stories based on the real

lives of children and is written in the form of a diary. The narrator is the pet cat of a little girl throughout the whole series. The stories create a literary world combining illusion and reality, where animals and children communicate with each other freely. The humorous and sentimental stories are rich in a philosophical and humane way. This first volume is based on a true story of two dogs and is the story of their relationship, but also of the communications between the children, the pet cat and the two dogs. It is a tale for young readers that includes elements of friendships, relationships, loving animals and nature. The original book has won many children's book awards in China and has been translated into several languages.

Munkhtuya Chingel graduated from the Mongolian State University of Education as a linguist and specialist in the Chinese language. She is a co-author of the dictionary of Chinese and Mongolian and has published and edited several Chinese and Mongolian books on linguistics. She loves children's books and has translated and edited several by famous Chinese authors into Mongolian.

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NETHERLANDS (Dutch)

van Nimwegen, Arjaan and van Nimwegen, Thijs

Het meisje met de luidende stem

(Orig. English: *The Girl with the Louding Voice*

by Abi Daré)

Amsterdam: Signatuur, 2021

140x215mm, 390pp

ISBN 978-90-5672-697-2, ages: 12+

Arranged marriage, self confidence, determination



Adunni grows up in an impoverished Nigerian rural village. She knows what she wants: education. This, her mother told her, is the only way to have a 'loud voice' that allows you to stand up for yourself. When Adunni's mother dies, her father sells her

as a bride to a taxi driver to pay his debts. After several traumatic experiences, Adunni flees to Lagos where she faces new challenges and hardships. Despite seemingly insurmountable obstacles, Adunni never gives up hope for a better future. By using a combination of local English dialect, more formal English, and Nigerian Pidgin, author Abi Daré succeeds in creating a language to give voice to a young Nigerian woman who is determined to be heard. The language mirrors Adunni's personality and her coming of age over the course of the story. A powerful novel that has been skilfully translated into Dutch; this translation received the award for Best Book in Translation for Youngsters in 2022.

Arjaan van Nimwegen was born in 1947. After studies in Dutch Language, he translated French comics. Since the 1970s he has been a translator of poetry and literary fiction, and since 2012 he has worked mainly with his son Thijs van Nimwegen. Since 1989, he has worked as an English subtitle translator. His debut novel was published in 2002, followed by seven more novels. He has more recently translated, in collaboration with Orsolya Réthelyi, poetry by Miklós Radnoti from Hungarian.

Thijs van Nimwegen, born in 1981, studied Comparative Literature and Literary and Cultural Studies at the universities of Utrecht, Groningen, Antwerp and Leipzig. Since 2012, he has translated over forty books, specializing in American historical fiction and postcolonial literature, translating the works of Cormac McCarthy, David Vann, Philipp Meyer, Jennifer Egan, Aravind Adiga and Petina Gappah, amongst many others.

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Zijlstra, Rymke

Lampke(Lampie. Orig. Dutch: *Lampje* by Annet Schaap)

Ljouwert: Afûk, 2023

155x220mm, 330pp

ISBN 978-94-93318-02-1, ages: 9+

Difference, exclusion, empathy, humanity

Emilia lives in a lighthouse with her father. Every evening, she climbs the sixty-one steps to light the lamp. In the harbour town, everyone calls her Lampie, or 'little lamp'. One stormy day, Lampie forgets to buy matches, so the lighthouse lamp remains unlit. That night,

disaster strikes when a ship is wrecked. As punishment, her father is locked up in the lighthouse and Lampie must work as a maid in the admiral's spooky Black House, where they say a monster lives. She becomes friends with the housekeeper and gets to know the monster, who is not at all what she had expected. Lampie is drawn into a fairytale adventure in a world of mermaids and pirates, where she must stand up for herself, for friendship, freedom and the right to be different. The award-winning book has become a modern classic in the Netherlands and abroad. This Frisian translation has been praised for its rich language that matches the atmosphere of this imaginative story.

Rymke Zijlstra, born in 1975, studied Scandinavian Languages and Cultures at universities in Groningen and Trondheim (Norway), including translation studies, Arctic & Antarctic studies and the Frisian language. Frisian is her mother tongue and Norwegian the language of her 'second homeland'. She translates from Dutch into Frisian and from the Scandinavian languages into Dutch and Frisian. She translated *Nifse Nella og vintersirkuset* (Scary Nella and the winter circus) by Unni Lindell and Fredrik Skavlan and *Alma Freng og solfangerne* (Alma Freng and the solar panels) by Ida Tufte Michelsen from Norwegian into Dutch. She also translates other genres from Swedish and Norwegian, including nonfiction and thrillers. *De bruorren Liuwehert*, her translation into Frisian of the Swedish classic *Bröderna Lejonhjärta* by Astrid Lindgren was included in the *IBBY Honour List* in 2022.

Joseph, Darryn

Ki te Moe Aotearoa(Orig. English: *The Great Kiwi Bedtime Book*

by Donovan Bixley)

Auckland: Upstart Press, 2020

280x210mm, 26pp

ISBN 978-1-990003-33-2, ages: 2-5

New Zealand, animals, bedtime

New Zealand author-illustrator Bixley, gives parents the perfect off-to-sleep book for their little ones. This is an engaging story of bedtime with all the

animals around Aotearoa being put to bed by their parents. In *Ki te Moe Aotearoa*, his bright artwork gives a vibrant look to the adorable cuddly baby animals settling down to sleep.

Darryn Joseph (Ngāti Maniapoto) has written in te reo Māori since the early 2000s. His te reo Māori works extend from readers for young tamariki (children) to short stories for adult audiences. He has a Ph.D. written in te reo and through his work both as a writer and a senior lecturer has helped the Māori language of his students and readership grow. *Hewa* (2009) won the Te Kura Pounamu Award at the LIANZA Children's Book Awards, and his short stories *Tama Tāhae Tama Ora* (2003) and *Taku Ao, Tō Mate Kanehe* (2015) won the Pikihiua Award for the Best Short Story written in Māori.

Abu-Al-Hayyat, Maya

Al-Asdiqa' – Qissat al-Sayyid Valery

(Friends. Mr Valery's story. Orig. Portuguese:

Os Amigos by Gonçalo M. Tavares)

Ramallah: Palestine Writing Workshop, 2021

240x235mm, 32pp

ISBN 978-9950-8525-3-2, ages: 7+

Body size, height



Mr Valery is a very short man who can jump very high. He says he is like any tall person but only for a short time. He can be tall for a long time if he stands on a chair although he cannot move about like tall people

can. Finally, he decides to be tall inside his head. By concentrating on looking from a high point down on tall people's heads he can feel tall. However, by looking down from a height he could not see and remember the faces of his friends. With his new tallness, he discovered that he lost his friends.

Maya Abu-Al-Hayyat, born in 1980, is a writer, translator, storyteller, and a creative writing trainer. She has published four collections of poetry, four novels and more than 40 children's books. Abu-Al-Hayyat has worked as the director of the Palestinian Writing Workshop in Ramallah since 2013, where she helps to publish many children's books and has implemented several projects to promote art, literature and professional content writing. Her translations are: *It was Easy to Set the Snow on Fire* (2019), selected poems by Zvonko Karanovic; *Kolka* (2017) from Swedish by Bengt Olson, and *The Little Old Lady Who Broke All The Rules* from Swedish by Catherine Engelmann-Sundberg. Her translation of *Sunnanag* (The red bird, 2012) by Astrid Lindgren was selected of the 2014 *IBBY Honour List*.

Castillo Vargas, Eduardo and

Salvatierra Böttger, Corina

Canto Libre en la floresta=Free Song in the Jungle

(orig. Spanish by Ana Luisa Rios)

Lima: ICPNA, 2023

240x210mm, 47pp

ISBN 978-612-5062-19-2, ages: 10+

Poetry, animals



Canto Libre en la floresta is a bilingual collection of children's poems, which show the deep relationship between the children who live a natural lifestyle without borders,

where fantasy merges with the reality of the universe in the Peruvian Amazon. Each poem has been carefully crafted, demonstrating a mastery of rhythm and musicality that will capture the attention of young readers. Children will be transported to an enchanted world, where poetry becomes a means to explore and understand the beauty and diversity of the Amazon.

Eduardo Castillo Vargas is a translator and interpreter. He graduated with a major in English and minor in German from the Ricardo Palma University, and he also has a fluent command of French and an advanced knowledge of Italian and Portuguese. He is an active member of the Peruvian Association of Professional Licensed Translators and is part of the social networks team of FIT LatAm, the Latin American Regional Centre of the International Federation of Translators. He works as Coordinator of the ICPNA Translation and Interpretation Centre (Instituto Cultural Peruano Norteamericano). Together with Corina Salvatierra Böttger, he is responsible for translating the award-winning short stories and poetry books selected at the ICPNA biennials.

Corina Salvatierra Böttger is a translator and Interpreter. She graduated with a major in English and minor in French from the Sacred Heart Women's University (UNIFE) in Lima and is fluent in German. She is an active member of the Peruvian Association of Professional Licensed Translators, and in 2021 she took on the exciting role of a subtitle writer at the Al Este Film Festival in Lima. Currently, she works as a translator and Interpreter at the ICPNA Translation and Interpretation Centre. Beyond her professional pursuits, she has a passion for poetry and storytelling.

Torres, Angela Narciso

Rene O. Villanueva's Bum Tiyaya Bum=

Philippine Nursery Rhymes, Poems and Verses

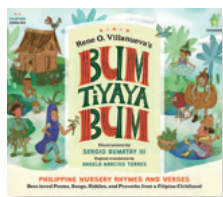
(Orig. Filipino verses collected by Rene O. Villanueva)

Makati City: Tahanan Books for Young Readers, 2023

260x215mm, 175pp

ISBN 978-621-422-048-9, ages: all

Poetry, songs, nursery rhymes



Delight and nostalgia await readers, young and old, in this landmark collection of Filipino rhymes and verses for the very young. Rene O. Villanueva's handpicked selections,

Sergio Bumatay III's stunning artwork, and Angela Narciso Torres's vibrant English translation recapture and create anew a bygone world. Over 25 years in the making and spanning 88 entries, this wondrous treasure trove is sure to be cherished by the entire family.

Angela Narciso Torres was born in Brooklyn, NY, U.S.A., raised in Manila, and currently lives in San Diego, U.S.A. She is the author of the poetry collections *What Happens Is Neither* (2021), *To the Bone* (2020) and *Blood Orange*, which won the Willow Book Literature Award for Poetry in 2013. She also won the 2019 Yeats Poetry Prize, for *The Foul Rag and Bone Shop of the Heart*, awarded by the WB Yeats Society of NY. Her recent work appears in *POETRY*, *The Missouri Review*, and *TriQuarterly*. A graduate of the Warren Wilson MFA Program and Harvard Graduate School of Education, Torres has received fellowships from the Middlebury Bread Loaf Writers' Conference and the Ragdale Foundation. She serves as a senior and reviews editor for *RHINO Poetry*.

Rusinek, Michał

Zu dę daś?

(orig. English *Du iz tak?* by Carson Ellis)

Warsaw: Wytwórnia, 2022

240x300mm, 48pp

ISBN 978-83-67032-08-7, ages: 3+

Insects, plants, artificial language



The author takes us to a meadow, where we can observe its insect inhabitants engaging with nature as if through a magnifying glass. Exquisite, detailed illustrations take us to the insect microcosm and thanks to them we understand

the meaning of the words in the invented language of insects in which the book is written. The book was translated from 'English insect' language into 'Polish insect' language to make it easier to decode by Polish readers.

Michał Rusinek, born in 1972 in Kraków, is an author, literary scholar and translator. He was secretary to Nobel Prize for Literature winner Wisława Szymborska (1996), and now he works for the Wisława Szymborska Foundation. He works at the Faculty of Polish Studies at the Jagiellonian University in Kraków, where he teaches literary theory, translation theory and creative writing. He is an author of children's books and publishes essays and columns on literature and language. His translations include: *Charlie i Fabryka czekolady* (*Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, 2021) by Roald Dahl; *Żelazny Olbrzym* (*The Iron Man*, 2021) by Ted Hughes; *Fistaszki zebrane* (*Peanuts* series) by Charles Schulz; *Gruffalo* (*The Gruffalo*, 2019) by Julia Donaldson; and *Przebłyski* (*Intimations*, 2020) by Zadie Smith.

RUSSIA (Russian)
Kovalenko, Ksenia

Gnom i lis

(Dwarf and fox, orig. Swedish *Räven och Tomten* by Astrid Lindgren)

Moscow: Albus Corvus, 2022

215x265mm, 28pp

ISBN 978-5-00114-284-3, ages: 0+

Winter, Christmas, fox, gnome, elf



One frosty winter night, Mikel the fox decided to go to a farm to get supper. Little did he know that the farm was being guarded by a dwarf who will not let anybody harm its inhabitants. So, the fox could not catch a chicken for his dinner. However, he made friends with the dwarf who treated him to delicious porridge instead. Astrid Lindgren wrote this little Christmas story based on the original poem by Karl-Erik Forslund. Eva Eriksson's illustrations featured in the book create a magical winter mood.

Ksenia Kovalenko is a Russian translator. She is founder and chief editor of the Albus Corvus publishing house, which was established in 2013 under the Latin name meaning *white crow*. Kovalenko and her team started translating the books of well-known children's literature authors from Scandinavian countries, Western Europe and North America, including Astrid Lindgren, Sven Nordqvist, Judith Kerr, Maria Gripe and Tove Jansson. Her most acclaimed translations are the series about *Pettson och Findus* (Pettson and Findus) by Sven Nordqvist (2010-2017), *Jagger, Jagger* by Frida Nilsson (2013) and *Mamma Mu och Kråkan* (Mamma Moo and Crow) by Jujja and Tomas Vislander. Kovalenko has also written articles about Astrid Lindgren and Selma Lagerlöf and published them on the Russian educational resource Arzamas. Kovalenko also translated *Aldrig våld!* (Never Violence!) by Astrid Lindgren (2018), which contains Lindgren's impassioned acceptance speech upon receiving the Peace Prize of the German Book Trade in 1978.

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SLOVAK REPUBLIC (Slovak)

Kralovičová, Ol'ga

Zimné rozprávky

(Orig. English: *Winter Tales* by Dawn Casey)

Bratislava: IKAR, 2021

245x275mm, 93pp

ISBN 978-80-551-7756-4, ages: 6+

Winter, fairy tale, anthology

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This book brings a selection of winter tales from around the world – from North America to Siberia, from China to Scotland. Winter has always been a time when people have spent long, dark evenings in front of a fire telling stories. Settle in the warmth of your home with this book and discover the frozen lands with Snow White or the Bear King. Accompany the heroes on adventurous journeys that test the power of friendship. These heroes, whether they are animals or people, will show us how important it is to stick together, to help each other and to enjoy life. BIBIANA and the Slovak Section of IBBY awarded *Zimné rozprávky* as the Best Children's Book of Summer 2021.

Ol'ga Kralovičová was born in Bratislava in 1957, where she studied translation and interpreting (Russian and English) at the Faculty of Arts of Comenius University. She worked at the Foreign Affairs Department of the Association of Slovak Writers, and later in the publishing house Mladé letá where she started translating along with her work as an editor. She studied Armenian and has translated books from Armenia. Since 1988, she has been working exclusively as a translator, especially of books for children and young adults, including five *Harry Potter* books. BIBIANA and the Slovak section of IBBY have awarded several of her translations as the best children's books: *Angus, bozky a trapasy* (2022) (*Angus, Thongs and Full-frontal Snogging* by Louise Rennison); *Jedného dňa utečiem* (2005) (*Looking for Alibrandi* by Melina Marchetta); *Tajomstvo Thornton Hallu*, (2008) (*The Making of May* by Gwyneth Rees; and *Artičokové srdcia* (2013) (*Artichoke Hearts* by Sita Brahmachari). She was included the 2000 IBBY Honour List for her translation of *Népady tetky vševedky* (1998) (*Mrs Piggie Wiggle* by Betty MacDonald).

Seliškar Kenda, Mateja

Bratje(Brothers, orig. Dutch: *Broere* by Bart Moeyaert)

Ljubljana: KUD Sodobnost International, 2021

140x215mm, 166pp

ISBN 978-961-7132-25-0, ages: 10+

Brothers

Bart Moeyaert is the youngest youngest of seven brothers. His early years were particularly happy and furnished him with an abundance of material for this much-praised autobiographical collection. The stories form a mosaic of tiny mirrors, each reflecting a glimpse of his

past. A breeze blows through these stories that will make you laugh even if you have no siblings. The reader sees the world through the eyes of the child Moeyaert was, and the man he is now, and thus the book appeals to a varied readership. In the forty-nine stories, humour, warmth and a sense of solidarity are prominent, but between the lines lies a far richer spectrum of emotions. As suggested by the subtitle *The oldest, the quietest, the realest, the farthest, the nicest, the fastest and me*, everyone is unique but also as a result sometimes terribly lonely. That loneliness and the strength required to find a place for yourself in the world come touchingly to life in this collection of stories about the youngest in a boisterous family.

Mateja Seliškar Kenda, born in 1972, studied comparative literary theory, French and Dutch in Ljubljana. She earned her doctorate in literary theory with a dissertation on Dutch and Flemish avant-garde poetry. Since 1998, she has been translating Dutch, Flemish and French literature for adults and children. She has compiled and translated anthologies of Dutch and Flemish short stories and poetry. Additionally, she has translated works by Annie M.G. Schmidt, Cees Nooteboom, Arnon Grunberg, Guus Kuijer, Gerard Reve and others. In 2017, she was nominated for the national award Sovretova for her translation of *Sorrow of Belgium* by Hugo Claus, and in 2023 for her translation of *Lampje* by Annet Schaap, and for the national award Vasja Cerarja for the best translation of books for young readers.

Geldenhuis, Kobus

The Girl with Wings(Orig. Afrikaans: *Die meise met Vlerke*

by Jaco Jacobs)

Johannesburg: Pan Macmillan South Africa, 2022

130x200mm, 175pp

ISBN 978-1-77625-188-9, ages: 9+

Friendship, adventure, secret, revenge

Wilson's life, just like her name, is anything but normal. She lives with her parents in a house on wheels, and they must move to a new town every few months. She finds this extremely annoying, almost as annoying as Errol, who has recently decided that Wilson is his friend and that

she must accompany him on silly outings, such as bird watching. Wilson expects this town to be as boring as all the others until she discovers a secret, a wonderful and extraordinary secret that must stay hidden. But someone sinister is lurking in the shadows and is determined to get revenge. Suddenly danger is much closer than Wilson ever thought possible...

Kobus Geldenhuis is a scriptwriter and translator of children's literature into Afrikaans. He has translated books by authors including J.K. Rowling, C. S. Lewis, Roald Dahl, Michael Morpurgo, David Walliams and Cressida Cowell. In 2016, he won the Alba Bouwer Prize for his translation of *Hoekom die walvisse gekom het* (*Why the Whales Came* by Michael Morpurgo). He has also translated Tove Jansson and other books by Jaco Jacobs.

Masimula, Nomvula

Igama lami Elikhulu(Orig. English: *My Big Name* by Amonge Sinxoto)

Cape Town: David Philip Publishers/New Africa Books, 2022

210x260mm, 31pp

ISBN 978-1-4856-3177-4, ages: 7-11

School, identity, assimilation, name

Isenguye is excited to start BIG school! She has a wonderful name, a name that reflects her identity and culture. But when she gets to school, her teacher gives her a name that makes her feel small... a name that the teacher finds easy to use. Isenguye

refuses to accept the anglicised replacement. Soon all her friends will learn to uncover the power in Isenguye's name – and their own names too. What is the power in your name?

Nomvula Masimula is a senior translator for the Parliament of South Africa. She has translated several children's books in recent years. These include: *Umnanya Wetiye WeSoweto* (Soweto Tea Party) by N. M. Msimang; *Umntazana onganaphimbo* (*The Girl Without a Sound*) by Buhle Ngaba; *Kweza Njani Ibhubezi Libhodle* (*How Lion Got His Roar*) by Gcina Mhlope; *Isidlo esimnandi kunazo zoke* (*The Best Meal Ever*) by Sindiwe Magona; and *Isobho Yeensasa* (*Quill Soup*) by Alan Durant.

Guzula, Xolisa

Cula Nala

(Nala sings. Orig. Sesotho

by Nonikiwe Mashologu)

Johannesburg: Jacana Media, 2020

210x290mm, 32pp

ISBN 978-1-4314-3366-7, ages: 7-11

River, singing, ogre, lullaby

Singing was Nala's favourite thing to do, but she was not allowed to sing near the river. The parents of the village were afraid that Ledimo, the giant ogre, would take the children away. But Nala loved the sound of the river, which made her parents' warnings

fade away. She listened to the gentle flow of the water with the Upupa birds singing and created beautiful melodies. One day Nala decides to take a risk, and goes to the river alone, where she meets Ledimo. Ledimo discovers something about Nala that he feels will help him. What does Ledimo want with Nala? Will she be able to get away in time? *Cula Nala* is infused with the beauty of nature that reimagines the much-loved African folktale, *Tselane and the Giant*.

Xolisa Guzula is a Senior Lecturer in Applied Language and Literacy Studies with a focus on multilingual and multiliteracies education at the University of Cape Town. She specialises in teaching children to speak, read and write in two or more languages. She is one of the founders of a network of reading clubs growing across the country starting from the Vulindlela Reading Clubs to the Nal'ibali Reading Clubs and the Stars of Today Literacy Club. She has written and translated many children's books from English to isiXhosa, including books by authors such as Astrid Lindgren, Niky Daly, Sihle-iphho Nontshokweni, and Nicholaas Maritz. She received an Exclusive Books IBBY SA Picture Book Award for her translation *linkonde eMnyango* (2017) (*The Elders at the Door* by Shale and Maryanne Bester). Her translation, *Ilitye Eliculayo* (*The Singing Stone*, by Wendy Hartmann), was selected for the 2020 IBBY Honour List. Guzula is a member of Bua-lit Language and Literacy Collective and is Vice Chair of the LITASA literacy association.

Pakade, Busisiwe

UNozincwadi, uMama Wezincwadi(Orig. English: *Nozincwadi, Mother of Books*

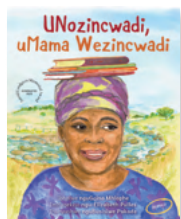
by Gcina Mhlope)

Cape Town: New Africa Books/David Philip

Publishers, 2022

210x260mm, 29pp

ISBN 978-1-4856-3174-3, ages: 7-11

Illiteracy, reading, friendship

In Dududu village, everyone knows that Mrs Zwane loves books. She collects old papers, books and magazines and keeps them neatly piled in her bedroom. Mrs Zwane never went to school. She could not read or write, but something

inside her tells her there is magic in those printed words. 'One day they will talk to me,' she says. This is the story of how Mrs Zwane helps the children of Dududu, and how a young boy gives Mrs Zwane a very special gift – the gift of reading and words. *UNozincwadi, uMama Wezincwadi* is a story about the power of reading by master storyteller Gcina Mhlope.

Busisiwe Pakade is a Senior Language Practitioner, editor, proofreader, and an isiZulu translator. She has translated several books for children and young adults, from English into isiZulu. She was also involved in the creation of the multilingual *Nalibali Supplement*, which is delivered to thousands of schools in South Africa. Books she has translated include: *Ngingumoya (I am Air)* by Thembinkosi Kohli; *Ngabe yimuphi umbala kaMpumi oyintha-ndokazi? (What is Mpumi's Favourite Colour?)* by Lebohlang Masango; *Ukuphi uLulu? (Where is Lulu?)* by Clyde Beech, Mohale Mashigo, and Nkosingiphile Mazibuko; *Ngingumlil (I am Fire)* by Thembinkosi Kohli; and *Qhawe! UMokgadi Caster Semenya (My name is Mokgadi Caster Semenya)* by Nokuthula Mazabuka Msimang.

Etbaigha, Intisar, et al.

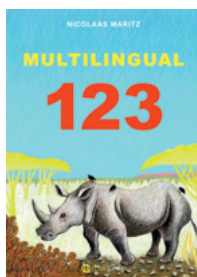
Multilingual 123(Orig. English *Multilingual 123* by Nicolaas Maritz)

Cape Town: David Philip Publishers/New Africa

Books, 2020

240x330mm, 29pp

ISBN 978-1-4856-3106-4, ages: 3-12

South Africa, animals, counting

This multilingual counting book includes images of sub-Saharan wildlife, numbered from 1 to 10 and then back again from 10 to 1. Each number and the name of animal, bird or reptile is translated into more than 20 languages used in Africa.

Nicolaas Maritz is the author and illustrator of *Multilingual 123* and, with the support of the translators, he has produced this interactive narrative that can encourage conversations across languages, thus it is great book for any age group.

Many distinguished translators contributed to this counting book: Intisar Etbaigha (Arabic); Barbara Frehse (German); Sarah Parot (French); Sylvanus Job (Khoekhoegowab); Nomvula Masimula (isiNdebele); Jose Maria Harty (Portuguese); Claudine Storbeck and Sheila Kundu (South African Sign Language); Mpho Masipa (Sepedi); Masabata Mokgesi-Seling (Sesotho); Chirikure Chirikure (Chishona); Judica Amri (KiSwahili); JJ Ncongwane (SiSwati); Hlongwani Hlongwani (Xitsonga); Lorato Trok (Setswana); Livhuwani Madiba (Tshivenda); Xolisa Guzula (IsiXhosa); and Busisiwe Pakade (IsiZulu). The translators come from countries across Africa, Tanzania, Zimbabwe, South Africa, Angola and elsewhere.

Arrula Ruiz, Garazi

Hona gu hemen. Lur planetan bizitzeko oharak(Orig. English: *Here We Are. Notes for Living on Planet Earth*, by Oliver Jeffers)

Tafalla: Txalaparta, 2020

245x290mm, 42pp

ISBN 978-84-17065-91-1, ages: 2+

Earth

Our world can be a bewildering place, especially if you have only just arrived. Your head will be filled with questions, so let us explore what makes our planet and how we live on it. From land and sky to people and time, these

notes can be your guide and start you on your journey. Just remember to leave notes for everyone else. Some things about our planet are quite complicated, but things can be simple, too: you just need to be kind. This exquisite and thought-provoking book is from the multi award-winning picture book creator Oliver Jeffers.

Garazi Arrula-Ruiz was born in 1987 in Tafalla, Navarre. She studied translation and interpretation and obtained an M.A. in Linguistics from the University of the Basque Country (UPV/EHU). She wrote her thesis on Literary Self-translation from Basque into other languages. She has participated as a teacher in courses on children's literature and publishing. In addition to academic papers and articles, she has written two literary books for adults, *Gu orduko hauek* (We then), in 2017 and *Lurraz beste* (Beside land), in 2023, and one picture book *Bidean* (On the way), in 2018. She has translated several literary texts into Basque, by authors such as Beatrice Alemagna, Anaïs Nin, Walter Benjamin, Amélie Nothomb and F. Scott Fitzgerald. Some of her recent publications as a translator include: *Kapibarak*, 2023, (*The Carpinchos*) by Alfredo Soderguit; *Hau neure zuhaitza da*, 2023, (*It's My Tree*) by Olivier Tallec; *Eta untxiak entzun*, 2021, (*The Rabbit Listened*) by Cori Doerrfeld; and *Badugu zer eraiki*, 2020, (*What We'll Build*) by Oliver Jeffers. Her translation of *The Bell Jar* by Sylvia Plath (*Beirazko kanpaia*, 2022) was nominated for the Euskadi Sariak (Basque Literary Awards) in the Translation category

Ubach, Mercè

Alma S'aixeca el vent(Alma: the wind rises, Orig. French: *Alma: le vent se lève* by Timothée de Fombelle)

Barcelona: Animalibres, 2022

155x240mm, 362pp

ISBN 978-84-18592-76-8, ages: 12-15

Caribbean 1786, slavery, freedom

It is the year 1786. On the day her younger brother disappears, Alma goes out to look for him. And so begins a long journey, far from family and the African valley that has protected them from the rest of the world. In the meantime, in the port of Lisbon in Portugal, Joseph stows away on the merchant ship the Sweet Amelie, in search of treasure. However, the ship is headed to Africa to transport enslaved Africans across the ocean. The destinies of the two will cross between Africa, Europe and the Caribbean.

Mercè Ubach, born in Barcelona in 1965, is a Catalan high school language and literature teacher, translator and proofreader. She works with young people as a clinical psychologist and has written children's books and poetry, such as *Soliloqui del gos* (Dog's soliloquy). Some of the titles she has translated are: *Chevreuse* (2023) by Nobel Prize winner Patrick Modiano; *Encre sympathique* (*Invisible ink*) by Patrick Modiano; *Quand tu écouteras cette chanson* (*When you listen to this song*) by Lola Lafon; *Rue des voleurs* (Thieves Street) by Mathias Énard; and *Accabadora* by Michela Murgia.

Almazán, Eva

Konrad ou o neno que saíu dun bote de conserva

(Konrad or the child from the tin can, Orig.

German: *Konrad oder das Kind aus der Konservenbüchse* by Christine Nöstlinger)

Cangas do Morrazo: Sushi Books, 2023

140x210mm, 148pp

ISBN 978-84-16884-66-7, ages: 10+

Education, behaviour, mother/son

Mrs Bartolotti is quite the character. She sells handmade carpets, sports colourful clothes and makeup, has two dates a week with her pharmacist boyfriend and cannot resist a good mail-order spree. One day, a gigantic can arrives in her mailbox and she suddenly finds

herself with a son, Konrad, the most well-behaved, proper and polite seven-year-old she had ever met. They may be as different as night and day, but Konrad and Mrs Bartolotti forge an instant connection. That is why they go to great lengths to stay together. This wryly funny story about individuality, embracing diversity, and discovering one's true self, serves as a reminder that love is what truly matters.

Eva Almazán, born in Pontevedra in 1976, holds a B.A. in Translation and Interpreting and a M.Res. in Translation from the University of Vigo, as well as an M.Phil. in Pragmatics and Translation from the University of Salford, U.K. Her 25-year professional career in literary translation began with her undergraduate dissertation, which was an annotated translation of *Anne of Green Gables* (by L. M. Montgomery). Almazán translates into her native languages, Spanish and Galician, mainly from English and German. Her children's literature portfolio includes Erich Kästner's *Emil und die Detectives* (Emil and the Detectives); Adela Turin's *Arturo e Clementina*; Janosch's *Post für den Tiger* (Mail for tiger); and series such as J.K. Rowling's *Harry Potter* and Jeff Kinney's *Wimpy Kid*. Her accolades for literary translation include selection for the 2006 *IBBY Honour List* for her translation *Harry Potter e a Cámara dos Segredos* (2002) and the Spanish National Prize for Best Translation (2014), among others. She is a member of ACETT (Chapter of Literary Translators of the Chartered Association of Spanish Authors) and ATG (Association of Galician Translators).

Costa, Rita da

La increíble historia de...**El monstruo supercabezón**(Orig. English: *Mega Monster* by David Walliams)

Barcelona: Montena, 2022

145x210mm, 409pp

ISBN 978-84-18798-48-1, ages: 8-12

Island, monster, school, adventure

El monstruo supercabezón is an action-packed page-turning adventure, set on an island in the middle of shark-infested waters, where the Cruel School stands on top of a dormant volcano. The lessons are appalling, the school dinners are revolting, and the teachers are terrifying

– especially the mysterious Science teacher, Doctor Doktor. When Larker is sent to the school for pulling a prank, she quickly realises something very odd is going on ... something involving Doctor Doktor, a pair of strange spectacles and a 'Monsterfication Machine'. Ultimately, she finds herself face-to-face with a real-life Mega Monster. There seems to be no escape, but for Larker nothing is impossible.

Rita da Costa was born in Lisbon, Portugal. After a rather nomadic adolescence that led her to live in several Latin American countries, she settled in Barcelona, where she studied Translation and Interpreting at the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona. Since 1996, she has been translating books, with nearly two hundred titles to her credit. She has translated over 50 children's literature titles and considers herself very fortunate to have translated authors such as Roald Dahl and David Walliams. Her favourite translations include: *La increíble historia de la abuela gánster*, 2013 (*Gangsta Granny*) by David Walliams; *Billy y los mimpins*, 2018 (*Billy and the Minpins*) by Roald Dahl; *La casa en el árbol de 13 pisos*, 2015 (*The 13 Storey Treehouse*), by A. Griffiths and T. Denton; and the *Darkmouth* series by Shane Hegarty.

Hajtänder

(Shark teeth, Orig. Dutch: *Haaientanden*
by Anna Woltz)

Stockholm: Lilla Piratförlaget, 2022

120x195mm, 94pp

ISBN 978-91-7813-327-7, ages: 9-12

Mother/daughter, cancer, cycling



Atlanta has decided that she will cycle around the great lake alone. It is a ride of 360 kilometres, and she must be home again tomorrow. It is a foolish idea, but it is the only thing she can think of doing; the only thing she can do to forget that her mother is sick and that she will find out

exactly how bad it is after the doctor's appointment tomorrow. After a few miles, Atlanta meets Finlay, who has run away from home because his mother does not care about him anymore. He has brought his mother's lucky charm – a bag of shark teeth – even though he knows she will need them the next day. Atlanta continues the trip with Finlay for two reasons: one being because he wants to escape his mother, and the other because she wants to keep hers. It will be a journey that will change them both.

Olov Hyllienmark was born in 1965 in Värmland and currently lives in Stockholm. He has been working since 1999 as a translator of fiction, nonfiction, comics, YA and children's books. He translates books from Dutch, Italian, English and Norwegian. In recent years, he has, among other titles, translated Anna Woltz's children's books *Alaska* (2020) and *Gips eller när jag fixade hela världen på en dag* (Plaster or when I fixed the whole world in a day, 2021). Hyllienmark has been praised for his translations and he was awarded the Translation of the Year award for Marieke Lucas Rijneveld's debut novel *Obehaget om kvällarna* (The discomfort of evening, 2021).

Yak znajty leva

(Orig. English: *The Lion Inside* by Rachel Bright)

Kharkiv: Ranok, 2022

240x300mm, 32pp

ISBN 978-617-09-7741-0, ages: 3-5

Courage, self confidence, friendship



Under a stone in a small house lived the smallest, quietest, gentlest brown mouse, who dreams more than anything in the world that others would pay attention to her. The mouse is tired of the fact that other animals seem to neglect

her company. Suddenly, she decides that if she roars like a lion, all the animals in the savannah will start to respect her. Mouse sets out on a mission that changes her life. She fearlessly overcomes all obstacles, reaches Leo and offers him friendship. It turns out that it does not matter who you think you are, the main thing is how you feel. And if someone was born a little brown mouse, it does not mean they cannot be as big and as brave as a lion. *Yak znajty leva* is a picture book in verse, which encourages us to stop judging others only by their appearance and convinces us that we are all free to choose who we should be and what we should do.

Hanna Yanovska, born 1980 in Kharkiv, is a translator, author and artist. She studied Applied Linguistics in Karazin Kharkiv National University from 1997 to 2002, and received a Candidate degree (Ph.D.) in General Linguistics in 2007. Her translations include scientific, fiction and poetic works and ghost-writing. She taught English in a technical university and from 2013 to 2014 worked for *National Geographic Ukraine*. Yanovska left teaching in 2015 and now works as a freelance translator for several Ukrainian publishing houses. She usually translates fiction and loves working with children's books. Due to Russian invasion, her family had to temporarily leave Kharkiv, and now she travels between Kharkiv and Lviv.

Barraj, Samar Mahfouz

Al Hayat Ala Difaf Al Naher(Orig. English: *Water Life* by Rambharos Jha)

Sharjah: Kalimat, 2021

370x230mm, 27pp

ISBN 978-9948-34-474-2, ages: 6-9

Bihar, Mithila, river life

Al Hayat Ala Difaf Al Naher is a marvellous book about Mithila Art, which is a traditional art in the Bihar Province in North-Eastern India and

is distinguished by its precise details and vibrant colours. Rambharos Jha has creatively described his childhood memories from the banks of Ganges River where he was raised. He has melded the traditional motifs of Mithila Art to fit his own artistic vision. The result is a creative combination of art, childhood memories, and popular myths. The subtle text complements the vibrant, detailed drawings.

Samar Mahfouz Barraj was born and lives in Lebanon where she holds a B.A. in Public Administration and a teaching diploma in Arabic and Social Studies from the American University of Beirut. She has worked as an Arabic language teacher and oversees the library in a private school. She participates in multiple activities in different Lebanese areas that encourage children to read. These experiences have given her an understanding of human nature and empathy for children. She has thus been able to tailor her stories to suit the tastes and language of her young readers. With her lyrical style and ability to weave a story that captures the attention of young readers, Barraj's books will be a valuable addition to every child's collection. Some of the other books she has translated are *The Elephant Loufi* by Manica Musil; *The Big Bad Mood* by Tom Jamieson; *Moonlight* by Tuba Kumaş; *Bu Salasil* by Dubai Abulhoul; and *Malala's Magic Pencil* by Malala Yousafzai. Her translation *Aldibaba la taqraa*, 2016 (*Bears don't Read*) by Emma Chichester Clark was included the 2018 *IBBY Honour List*.

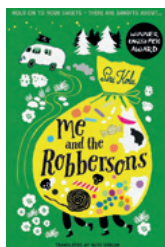
Urbom, Ruth

Me and the Robbersons(Orig. Finnish: *Me Rosvolat* by Siri Kolu)

London: Little Tiger, 2021

130x200mm, 217pp

ISBN 978-1-78895-317-7, ages: 9-12

Family, travel, kidnapping, robbers

'I was stolen the first week in June...' While on the way to what promises to be the worst family day out ever, Maisie is suddenly snatched from the car and finds herself travelling into an amazing summer of robberies, mayhem, friendship – and sweets! She has been taken by the Robbersons, which are a family of highway bandits who travel the summer roads on their way to the great Summer Shindig. Maisie must work out how to get back home. It is a journey that is full of surprises and self-discovery. There is plenty of action, and lessons to be learnt. Maisie, and the reader, emerge from their eventful summer with an appreciation of consequences, and a real enjoyment of life.

Ruth Urbom is a professional translator and former lexicographer. She translates from German, Swedish and Finnish into English. She has translated a wide variety of fiction and nonfiction books for children and adults and has a particular flair for translating humour. Other children's books she has translated from Finnish include *Cow Belle Beauty Queen* (*Miss Milky Ray*) by Leena Parkkinen, and *Bicycling to the Moon* (*Maukka ja Väykkä*) by Timo Parvela. Urbom has also translated the second book about the Robbersons, *Me and the Robbersons: Bandit Karaoke*, 2023 (*Me Rosvolat ja konnakaraoke*, 2015).

Fischer Udagawa, Avery

Temple Alley Summer(Orig. Japanese: *Kimyoji yokocho no natsu* by

Sachiko Kashiwaba)

Brooklyn, NY: Restless Books, 2021

140x220mm, 232pp

ISBN 978-1-63206-303-8, ages: 8-13

Temple, secret, ghost, friendship

Late one night, Kazu is mystified when he spots a girl in a white kimono leaving his family's home. Was he dreaming? He is even more confused when he finds that same girl sitting in his class the next day. Who is she? What are her connections to his historic neighbourhood?

And what secrets are the town's elderly residents hiding? Part mystery, part ghost story, this enchanting novel features winning characters and a supernatural story-within-a story as it explores themes of community, historical legacies, and living life without regrets. Fischer Udagawa's graceful and lively translation draws non-Japanese readers into the story's many rich layers with artistry and deft skill.

Avery Fischer Udagawa grew up in Kansas and studied English and Asian Studies at St. Olaf College in Minnesota. She then earned an M.A. in advanced Japanese studies from the University of Sheffield, U.K. She also studied in Japan at the Nanzan University in Nagoya, on a Fulbright fellowship, and at the Inter-University Center for Japanese Language Studies, Yokohama. Currently, she writes, translates, and works in international education near Bangkok, Thailand, where she lives. Udagawa has provided English translations for a number of books for young people, including *J-Boys: Kazuo's World, Tokyo, 1965* (2018), by Shogo Oketani. An advocate for making more international books available to young people, she has contributed to the #WorldKidLit Wednesday column for the Global Literature in Libraries Initiative, and she is the International and Japan Translator Coordinator for the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators. *Temple Alley Summer* was named the Mildred L. Batchelder Award winner for translation in 2022, a Junior Library Guild Gold Standard selection and a 2022 SCBWI Crystal Kite Award winner, among other honours.

Dearden, Carmen Diana

El árbol de la vida. Un libro sobre la vida de**Charles Darwin, naturalista, geólogo y pensador**(Orig. English: *The Tree of Life* by Peter Sis)

Caracas: Ed. Ekaré, 2021

230x310mm, 40pp

ISBN 978-84-123728-7-8, ages: 9+

Charles Darwin, biography

This book is a magnificently informative album about the life of the naturalist Charles Darwin, his father's influence on his life and training, and his voyage aboard the Beagle to the Galapagos. Sis based his words and art on Darwin's detailed descrip-

tions of everything he observed in his diaries, which he recreated in his *Origin of Species*, as well as on the adaptation of Margaret J. Andersen's book *Charles Darwin*. Darwin 'did not invent the idea of evolution' but contributed to the theory of natural selection with his work as a naturalist, geologist and thinker. He supported his contributions to the theory with evidence to demonstrate how evolution worked. Contributions to the theory of evolution had already been made by Aristotle, Buffon, Lamarck, and others, based on their own research in trying to understand the changes in the natural world. Sis' book introduces young people to the theory of evolution.

Carmen Diana Dearden was born in Caracas and spent the first years of her life between Caracas, the U.S.A. and Costa Rica. She studied Anthropology at McGill University in Montreal, Canada and began her professional career in the field of libraries and reading promotion. She is co-founder of the children's book publisher Ediciones Ekaré and was President of IBBY (1994-98). She has worked for several years as editor, author and translator. Her translations from English into Spanish include the *Sapo (Frog)* series by Max Velthuijs, *Madlenka* by Peter Sis, *Nana Vieja (Old Pig)* by Margaret Wild, and *León de biblioteca (Library Lion)* by Michelle Knudsen. Dearden's translations have been selected for the IBBY Honour List, in 2012 for *Doña Eremita sobre ruedas (Mrs Armitage on Wheels)* by Quentin Blake and in 2014 for *Coco y Pio (Croc and Bird)* by Alexis Deacon.

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* includes 20 languages used in Africa

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- To promote international understanding through children's books
- To give children everywhere the opportunity to have access to books with high literary and artistic standards
- To encourage the publication and distribution of quality children's books, especially in developing countries
- To provide support and training for those involved with children and children's literature
- To stimulate research and scholarly works in the field of children's literature
- To protect and uphold the Rights of the Child according to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

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