



ANASTASIA LESTER AGENCY **PRESENTS**

FICTION BACK-LIST

BEST-SELLERS

LITERARY FICTION

Boltanski, Christophe: *LA CACHE (THE HIDEOUT)*

(Stock, August, 2015 344 pages)

Movie rights sold!

Awarded the Prix Fémina and the Prix des Prix 2015!

80,000 copies sold!!!

- *Like Georges Perec's TALES OF ELLIS ISLAND, this funny and affectionate autobiographical narrative about a man searching for his own identity goes in search of the history of a family that has tried to erase every trace of its own past.*
- *An elegantly ironic writing style that intertwines descriptions of the characters to a place, as if the author were trying to anchor a rootless family.*
- *Complex, multi-faceted characters described seriously, but with humor, too. Christophe Boltanski's journalistic style grants their story factual and historical depth.*

In a similar vein to Georges Perec, Christophe Boltanski offers readers an extremely moving first novel about the story of his family, Jews who emigrated from Russia to Paris at the turn of the last century. From the massacres of Odessa to their support for the Algerian Liberation Front, the author looks back over almost a century of history, including both World Wars, the Shoah and the Occupation.

Upon arriving in France, the Boltanskis move into an apartment on Rue de Grenelle, which they immediately start calling "The Hideout." At once a refuge and a prison, it protects the family from anti-Semitism while cutting them off from the outside world. The apartment's complicated layout and many nooks and crannies are like symbols of past suffering endured. Described one by one, each member of the family is shrouded in mystery; between their murky pasts and their multiple identities multiples, they are like pieces of a puzzle that can't be solved. With restraint and a dash of self-deprecating humor, the narrator manages to follow the path of events the family lived through in order to recompose his family's painful and fragile history.

Christophe Boltanski is a journalist and war reporter for the national daily *Libération* and the magazine *Le Nouvel Observateur*. His previous book *MINERAIS DE SANG* (Gallimard, 2014) was an investigation into modern slavery. *LA CACHE* is his first novel.

Rights sold in: Germany (Hanser), Greece (Utopia), Italy (Sellerio), Netherlands (Cossee), Romania (Casa Carti de Stiinta), Spain (Siruela) and USA (University of Chicago Press, WEL); Film rights sold to ID Unlimited

"A magnificent Perec-like book." L'Obs

"Subtle and precise." Libération

“The incarnate portrait of the Boltanski family, both peculiar and fascinating” **Livres Hebdo**

Echenoz, Jean: ENVOYÉE SPÉCIALE (SPECIAL FEMALE CORRESPONDANT)

(Éditions de Minuit, January 2016, 316 pages)

- *With both humor and keen perception, the investigation offers a clever parody of spy novels, whose popularity hasn't flagged in over a century.*
- *A darkly comic and off-beat style that plays with police and secret-service jargon to draw us into a world of terribly perilous ambitions.*
- *Deliberately clichéd characters, from Constance the perfectly passive, manipulated female character in spy films, to Paul Objat, with his dubious methods.*

Famous French novelist Jean Echenoz offers readers a biting parody of spy novels that reveals with a sly grin the arcana of a world which has become totally out-of-date.

Bourgeaud, a general at the end of his career, and Paul Objat, counter-espionage agents, are looking for a woman to send on a secret mission to North Korea. They set their sights on Constance, who will be kidnapped and subjected to a period of isolation as training for the challenges that await her. She accepts the test with the passivity typical of the heroines of spy novels. Catapulted into the highest spheres of Korean power, her mission is cut short because of the extravagant amateurism and archaic practices of the secret services. The poorly organized operation fails, and Constance and Paul Objat are the only ones who manage to slip out of the country. This entertaining investigation offers readers all the pleasures they expect from a novel by Jean Echenoz, with comical twists on the genre's clichés.

Jean Echenoz was born in Orange (in the Vaucluse region) in 1947. He won the 1983 Prix Médicis for CHEROKEE, and the 1999 Prix Goncourt for JE M'EN VAIS (I'm Gone).

Rights sold in China, Italy, Germany, Spain (catalan & castilian), Poland (Noir sur Blanc), Turkey and the Netherlands (De Geus). Offers from Greece and Korea!!!

“En ces temps heurtés, commencer l'année 2016 avec un nouveau roman de Jean Echenoz, gorgé de fantaisie et d'aventure, est on ne peut plus bienvenu. Pour le dire simplement : Envoyée spéciale fait du bien. Comme de converser avec son auteur, romancier ultradoué et archi-reconnu, pourtant toujours modeste et étranger à l'esprit de sérieux, bien que fidèle à une esthétique exigeante.” Politis

“Plus sophistiquée, plus maîtrisée que jamais, la “machine à fiction” de Jean Echenoz est une incomparable fabrique de sortilèges...” Télérama

“Jean Echenoz, lui, au contraire de son compositeur en panne, est en grande forme. Envoyée spéciale fait craquer les coutures du polar dans sa première partie, du roman d'espionnage dans la seconde. C'est drôle, jouissif, subtilement ironique.” Journal du Dimanche

“Envoyée spéciale est une impeccable réussite.” La Croix

Enard, Mathias: BOUSSOLE (COMPASS)

(Actes Sud, August 2015, 378 pages)

Winner of the Prix Goncourt 2015

and Prix des Libraires de Nancy/LE POINT Magazine

Listed for the Prix Femina, Prix Interallié, Prix Jean Giono and Prix du Style

1 on Bestseller Lists, more than 300.000 copies sold !

- *The lush and masterful writing that is Mathias Enard's signature style takes readers for a whirl on a passion-filled literary merry-go-round.*
- *A dense and detailed saga bringing both Eastern and Western history to life that weaves them together with a tale of falling in love and journeys of self-discovery.*
- *A knowledgeable description of the arts and sciences of the Middle East, and of their contributions to western culture, which are still little-known and often ignored in the West.*
- *A precise evocation of Orientalism and the Orientalists, from its 19th-century roots to the present, including the controversies and key figures (Goethe, Lawrence of Arabia, Louis Massignon, Edward Said and others).*

After ZONE, PARLE-LEUR DE BATAILLES, DE ROIS ET D'ÉLÉPHANTS (“Talk to them about Battles, Kings and Elephants), and RUE DES VOLEURS (“Thief Street”)... Mathias Enard's impressive writing career blossoms into full maturity in this epic saga that is also an ode to the Middle East. A passionate love affair told over a background brimming over with fascinating information about Middle Eastern culture.

Franz Ritter is unwell. Hunkered down in his Vienna apartment, this musicologist specialized in Middle Eastern influences is suffering from insomnia. All night long, he reflects on his love for Sarah, a French Orientalist who he first met at a conference in Austria. Their story unfolds over a background of the history of Orientalism, the modern Arab world and its upheavals (the Arab spring, the Islamic Caliphate the Iranian revolution and more) as well as his own travels to Istanbul, Damascus, Teheran and elsewhere, where he frequently runs into Sarah. The bumps in their relationship will be resolved in the morning, when Franz receives an e-mail from Sarah, announcing her arrival in Vienna and her love for him.

A passion-filled inventory of the East's incredible contributions to Western culture and identity, BOUSSOLE is a melancholic, enveloping novel that digs through memories of centuries of dialogue and artistic influences in an attempt to heal the wounds of the present. BOUSSOLE is a sublime tale, a Middle-Eastern variation on Claudio Magris' DANUBE, in which the many disparate charms of a little-known world are intertwined.

Born in 1972, Mathias Enard studied Persian and had several extended stays in the Middle East. He now lives in Barcelona. This is his sixth novel published by Actes Sud, after: LA PERFECTION DU TIR (2003, Prix des Cinq Continents de la Francophonie; Babel n° 903), REMONTER L'ORENOQUE (2005), ZONE (2008, Prix Décembre, Prix du Livre Inter; Babel n° 1020), PARLE-LEUR DE BATAILLES, DE ROIS ET D'ELEPHANTS (2010, Prix Goncourt des Lycéens, Prix du Livre en Poitou-Charentes 2011) and RUE DES VOLEURS (2012).

Rights sold: US (New Directions), UK (Fitzcarraldo), Italy (e/o Edizioni), Germany (Hanser Berlin), Spain (Literatura Random House), Croatia (Fraktura), Netherlands (Arbeiderspers), Portugal (Dom Quixote), Greece (Stereoma), catalan (Empuries), China (Shanghai 99), Turkey (Can), Bulgaria (Prozoretz), Ukraine (Old Lion), Slovenia (MKZ), Serbia (Akademska Kniga), Arabic (Al-Kamel), Albania (Buzuku), Poland (Wydawnictwo Literackie), Hungary (Magveto Kiado).

"C'est l'un des plus beaux livres de l'année. (...) roman somptueux. (...) Grandiose !" **L'Express**

"Dans Boussole, le romancier invite à une nuit d'insomnie et à un voyage dans les souvenirs d'un musicologue amoureux du Proche-Orient. Hypnotique. Boussole, dont chaque page sort le lecteur de lui-même, le confronte à une infinité de sujets et de personnages dont il ignore tout pour les lui rendre plus proches." **Le Monde des Livres**

"Superbement noués dans Boussole, les liens entre Orient et Occident ressemblent à la relation entre Franz et Sarah : passionnée, contrariée, tissée de désir et de frustration, de fantasmes et d'incompréhensions. Sublime et tragique histoire d'amour." **Les Inrockuptibles**

Laurens, Camille: *CELLE QUE VOUS CROYEZ (THE PERSON YOU THINK I AM)*

(Gallimard, January 2016, 192 pages)

First print-run – 32 500 copies in France

- ***Five years after her latest book Romance nerveuse Camille Laurens returns to the novel in which thanks to a fake Facebook profile a woman manipulates a younger man enjoying herself and her readers***

This is the story of Claire Millecam, a 48 year old woman, teacher, divorced, who creates a fake profile on Facebook to try to have access to information about Jo, her occasional, elusive and inconstant lover. Under the false identity of Claire Antunès, a young and beautiful 24 year old woman, she starts a correspondence with Chris, a 36 years old friend of Jo, soon turning into a virtual love affair...

The person you think I am asks the question about feminine desire in relation to the time which passes, and more generally, gives a detailed view of love in a time of social media networks. Facebook appears to allow you to expose yourself publically, to indulge in secrets, but above all to lie, to invest in another life, a mixture of sentimental naivety and manipulative perversity, which does not compare unfavorably to the short stories and debauched novels of the 18th century.

Novelist Camille Laurens lives in Paris. She received in 2000 the prestigious literary prize "Prix Femina" for Dans ces bras-là. Her published works with Gallimard include: Tissé par mille (2008) and Romance nerveuse (2010).

Rights sold: USA (Other Press), Greece (Gema), Romania (Nemira), Serbia under negotiation.

"Un roman délicieusement roué, où se mélangent gravité et grâce joueuse avec une grande puissance de séduction." **Le Monde des Livres**

"D'une écriture brillante, Celle que vous croyez brasse avec vivacité, franchise et cruauté les questions de l'âge, de la trahison, du désir, du plaisir - sexuel et textuel." **Les Echos**

Trévidic, Marc: *AHLAM (AHLAM)*

(JC Lattes, January 2016, 340 pages)

45 000 copies sold in France

Marc Trévidic is a French judge and widely known expert on antiterrorism and terrorist networks. In this novel, he presents the unrelenting, chilling portrait of a world capsizing into madness.

When Paul, a famous French painter, arrives in Kerkennah, Tunisia, in the year 2000, the island is a tiny paradise for all those seeking peace and beauty. He settles in “the house on the sea” and begins what will become an enduring friendship with the family of a local fisherman, Farhat. The artist grows particularly close to Farhat’s children, Issam and Ahlam, both incredibly gifted in music and painting. Paul begins to hope that the three of them together might realize his dream of creating a unique and global work that would combine all the arts.

Ten years go by and the troubles of the world reach Kerkennah. Ben Ali is deposed and radical Islam is gaining ground. The clash between artistic beauty and religious fanaticism begins.

Marc Trévidic is a judge specialized in antiterrorism with the French high court in Paris and one of the leading international experts on terrorist networks. He is the author of two highly praised books, *Au Coeur de l’antiterrorisme* and *Terroristes*, both published with Lattès in 2010 and 2013. He is also president of the AFMI (Association Française des Magistrats Instructeurs).

Rights sold to: Rowholt (Germany), Utopia (Greece), Muvelt Nep (Hungary), Rizzoli (Italy), Suma (Spain)

“This first novel is a gripping portrait of Tunisian youth torn between radical Islam and progress. Proof that fiction can be as powerful as non-fiction in portraying reality.” Lire

“Like a crime novel, we are immediately caught up in a relentless, merciless forward momentum.” Télérama

“Sometimes it’s fiction that illustrates reality best. A riveting narrative that dissects its subject without judgment – the tour de force of a man of law who is also a novelist.” Le Parisien Magazine

“In his first novel, Ahlam, Marc Trevidic takes on fanaticism. Armed with his experience, he describes the mechanisms of indoctrination to better eradicate it.” Le Soir

**Daoud, Kamel: *MEURSAULT, CONTRE-ENQUÊTE (MEURSAULT, COUNTER-
INVESTIGATION)***

(Actes Sud, May 2014, 160 pages)

English samples available!

Awarded the Prix Goncourt du premier roman.

Shortlisted for the Prix Goncourt, the Prix Renaudot, the Prix François Mauriac, the Prix des Cinq Continents and the Prix Ulysse.

➤ *A superb tribute to literature and a lesson of tolerance.*

A novel inspired by Albert Camus' THE STRANGER yet creating its very own atmosphere. This is not a sequel. This is an original vision of all that the narrator in Camus' THE STRANGER did not see.

The man talking to himself in a bar night after night is the brother of the Arab killed by a certain Meursault in a famous 20th century novel: Camus' THE STRANGER. Seventy years later, with all his pent-up anger and frustration, the old man gives the dead man his name back and brings to life a figure that literature has ignored: the Arab.

MEURSAULT, CONTRE-ENQUÊTE plays with doubles and subterfuges to discuss identity issues. Kamel Daoud, known for his controversial newspapers' articles, chose literature this time to reflect the complexity of the legacies that shape the present of contemporary Algeria.

An original project that granted Daoud the following highly praising review in Le Monde: “A l’avenir L’ÉTRANGER et MEURSAULT, CONTRE-ENQUÊTE se liront comme un dyptique.” / “From now on, THE STRANGER and MEURSAULT, CONTRE-ENQUÊTE will be read as a two-part literary work.”

Born in Algeria in 1970, Kamel Daoud lives in Oran and is a journalist for the *Quotidien d’Oran* – the third largest Algerian daily in French. His articles are regularly reprinted across the world (*Libération, Le Monde, Courrier international*). He has written several narratives, some of which were collated in the collection LE MINOTAURE 504 (2011), which was first published in Algiers and won the 2008 *Mohammed Dib Prize* for the best short story collection.

Rights sold in Greece (Patakis), Italy (Bompiani), Hungary (Ab Ovo), Turkey (Epsilon), UK (Oneworld Publications), USA (Other Press), Germany (Kiepenheuer & Witsch), Denmark (Turbine) and China (Shanghai 99), Slovenia (to MKZ), the Czech Republic (to Euromedia) and Poland (to Karakter).

Binet, Laurent: *LA SEPTIÈME FONCTION DU LANGAGE (THE SEVENTH FUNCTION OF LANGUAGE)*

(Grasset, August 2015, 496 pages)

- *With the tension and structure of a crime novel, *La Septième fonction du langage* packs amusing and dramatic situations, immersing the reader in this watershed period of the early 80s – a period that was pivotal politically, intellectually, and culturally.*
- *Laurent Binet questioned the novelist's capacity and difficulty not to betray History, he brings reality and fiction together in a more playful mode, allowing him to take poetic license with historical facts.*

After the worldwide success of HHHH, selected as one of the 100 best books of 2012 by the New York Times, Laurent Binet returns with a new fast-paced novel that takes on the form of a philosophical investigation starring the great figures of 1980s French theory. In it, he imagines Roland Barthes had not died after a road accident but instead was... murdered!

On February 25th 1980, Roland Barthes was run over by a truck after having lunch with François Mitterrand. He died from his injuries one month later. The official version maintains it was an accident... but what if it were actually murder? That day, Barthes was carrying a yet-to-be published document by Jakobson about the seventh function of language. A function so powerful it gives whoever masters it the ability to convince anyone in any situation to do anything. In other words, it can coerce any individual or group through speech, offering absolute power simply through the Word.

Throughout the story, the Captain Bayard discovers an unexpected interest in French theory, and the young PhD candidate Simon Herzog shows the skills of a Sherlock Holmes, with a hint of James Bond. But Herzog slowly becomes gripped with paranoia as he begins to wonder about his ontological status, as described by Umberto Eco's writings. What if he were ultimately nothing more than a character in a novel?

Laurent Binet is a professor of literature, and the author behind HHHH, which won the *2010 Prix Goncourt for a First Novel*. It has been translated into nearly 40 languages and was a bestseller in several countries. It is currently being adapted both for the screen and as a documentary TV series.

Foreign rights sold: Czech (Argo), Catalan (Edicions 1984), Croatian (Fractura), Dutch (Meulenhoff), English (UK: Harvill Secker; USA: FSG), German (Rowohlt), Hungarian (Europa Konvykiado), Norwegian (Gyldendal Norsk), Portuguese (Brazil: Companhia das letras), Slovenian (Mladinska Knjiga Založba).

Bonnefoy, Miguel: *LE VOYAGE D'OCTAVIO (OCTAVIO'S JOURNEY)*

(Payot & Rivages, January 2015, 130 pages)

Winner of Prix Edmée de la Rochefoucauld, long-listed for Prix Ouest France, Prix Orange 2015 and Prix Goncourt du premier roman 2015!

More than 15,000 copies sold!!

- *A enchanting journey to the heart of Venezuela, with its symbols, its communities and its territories, a country where unifying myths are currently in cruelly short supply.*
- *A simple, exploited man's road to emancipation depends on acquiring knowledge and learning to be in harmony with nature and his fellow man.*
- *Characters that symbolize key figures in Venezuelan culture, like Venezuela herself, a remarkable, larger-than-life woman.*

The epic trials and tribulations of Octavio, an illiterate Venezuelan man who will take charge of his own life and learn to understand his country thanks to the people and the problems he'll meet over the course of his travels.

Having overcome the shame of not knowing how to read or write thanks to a woman he fell in love with, Octavio, who comes from a sleepy village, gets caught up in a robbery and has to get out of town. On his way west, he meets people who symbolize Venezuela. Working tirelessly, he changes the lives of each and every one of them. Exposed to individuals' and communities' joys and tragedies, he gets closer both to nature and to his fellow man and decides to go back to his hometown. The village still has complete faith in the origin myth that most Venezuelans have lost touch with except when it is periodically revived by particularly symbolic events (the transformation of the country's oldest church into a theatre, the theft and return of a wooden statue of the Nazarene, etc.). Buoyed up by what others expect from him, the power of the natural world and the intelligence of his country's origin myth, Octavio winds up turning into something that brings them all together: a wooden statue of Christ that saved the village from the Plague long ago. A legend with overtones of marvelous realism, in the same vein as Alejo Carpentier, and of magical realism, a genre that recently lost its grand master, Gabriel García Márquez.

Miguel Bonnefoy, 26, has a Venezuelan mother and a Chilean father. He produces cultural events for the city of Caracas, Venezuela. He also teaches at the Alliance française, and won the 2013 *Young Writer in French Prize* for a short story published by Buchet Chastel, ICARE.

Contact: Mrs Anastasia Lester ; Email: anastassia.lester@gmail.com

Rights sold to Italy (66th and 2nd), Greece (Utopia Publishing).

“Fait souffler sur le paysage littéraire français un vent de réalisme magique.” Livres Hebdo

“Sa manière de polir chaque phrase comme un objet précieux, de l'incruster de mots chatoyants et poétiques qui font sonner son texte comme des bijoux sonores.” ELLE

“Ce Vénézuélien transforme une fable naïve en parabole morale, historique et politique.” Lire

“un premier roman époustouflant bourré de trouvailles insolites et merveilleuses.” Page

Colin, Fabrice: LA POUPÉE DE KAFKA (KAKFA'S DOLL)
(Actes Sud, January 2016, 272 pages)

- *The mystery of Kafka's doll and lost manuscript honors the Prague writer while showcasing the modernity of his literature.*
- *A quest that leaves room for universal themes such as the father-daughter relationship and injuries of passionate and complex characters caught in the vortex of history.*
- *In a contemporary and sensitive style, the author weaves his plot from Prague to Berlin to the Alps, linking past and present.*

In a literary and yet saucy book, Fabrice Colin features a father and daughter struggling with the last secret of Franz Kafka: a hidden manuscript. A well-crafted novel that is a love story for literature and for family, as much as a historical thriller.

During a stay in Berlin, young Julie Spieler, hoping for a very unlikely reconciliation with her father – a disappointing husband, impenitent womaniser, inveterate liar, and a teacher of German literature at the Sorbonne – finds the presumed recipient of some unpublished texts by Kafka, a writer who fascinates her father to the point of obsession. She embarks on the difficult process of approaching this especially recalcitrant old woman who harbours memories of a whole century of wars, exiles and horrors. These three characters end up together in a chalet looking out towards Mont Blanc, trying to settle – severally or separately – their respective affairs.

Known for his works in science-fiction, fantasy, young adults' literature or thrillers, Fabrice Colin, born in 1972, also occasionally writes graphic novels and radio plays. In addition, he is a literary critic and Editorial Director for Editions Super 8.

“Un père, sa fille, une vieille femme mystérieuse, et Kafka dans le rôle du spectre bienveillant sont les protagonistes de ce roman, merveilleux de style et de sensibilité.” Télérama

“Bien structuré, n'abusant pas des flash backs, alternant les focalisations avec grâce et écrit dans un style résolument contemporain, Fabrice Colin ficelle un bien joli thriller. A la fois très référencé et très fluide, complexe dans ses personnages et simple dans sa narration, La poupée de Kafka est une histoire d'amour de la littérature et d'amour filial, autant qu'un thriller historique évitant avec pudeur les affres du point Godwin. Un très bon bouquin à lire et à offrir sans modération.” Toutelaculture.com

“Partant de l'épisode, Fabrice Colin, maître des sortilèges littéraires, tire une envoûtante intrigue où vont s'opposer Abel Spieler, kafkaïen fanatique et sorbonnard libertin, sa fille Julie, errant d'un compagnon à l'autre, entre Paris et Berlin, et surtout Else Falkenberg, la fillette enfin retrouvée. Autour de la poupée aux lettres, œil magnétique de ce redoutable cyclone psychodramatique, Colin fait tourner en virtuose trois êtres marqués par le siècle, dont il cisèle les portraits et millimètre l'évolution psychologique.” Le Monde des livres

“C'est une histoire d'amour entre un père et sa fille, une histoire d'appropriation sur lequel plane la figure silencieuse et tutélaire de Kafka (...) c'est un très joli livre.” Radio Classique

Delaflotte Mehdevi, Anne: LE PORTEFEUILLE ROUGE (THE RED PORTFOLIO)
(Gaïa, May 2015, 288 pages)

- *The theatre makes cameo appearances in the book, through quotes, situations, actors and characters*
- *An endearing group of friends and shopkeepers who care deeply about artisans and their craft*
- *The fictitious story of the astounding discovery of documents hand-written by Shakespeare. So little is actually known about his life that his handwriting – and even his very existence – are the subject of endless scholarly debate.*

After LA RELIEUSE DU GUÉ (The Bookbinder by the Ford), here is the latest adventure of Anne Delaflotte Mehdevi's character Mathilde Berger, a young bookbinder in the town of Montlaudun. Readers will enjoy catching up with the young woman as she finds herself drawn into a fascinating plot: discovering a mysterious diary written by Shakespeare's brother.

One ordinary day, Mathilde Berger is hard at work in her studio when a prestigious visitor bursts in on her unexpectedly: the famous bookbinder-gilder Astride Malinger. Both frightening and fascinating, Astride has a tempting offer for Mathilde: she wants the younger woman's help in restoring an original copy of Shakespeare's First Folio, one of the rarest of rare books. When Mathilde accepts the offer, she doesn't know how much trouble it will cause, or that it will lead to the discovery of a lifetime: Astride has invested her entire fortune in an ordinary-looking diary inside a red portfolio. The book is actually the diary of one of Shakespeare's little brothers, and it contains the playwright's own writing.

Anne Delaflotte's masterfully written plot has two main strands: our heroine, Mathilde, not only gets caught up in gripping research into a hitherto unknown manuscript, but also gradually comes to grasp the true past and personality of her colleague and competitor, who is actually a dangerous murderer.

Having studied diplomacy and international law, Anne Delaflotte Medhevi is now a bookbinder and a writer. Her previous books: LA RELIEUSE DU GUÉ (Gaïa, 2008), FUGUE (Gaïa, 2010) and SANDERLING (Gaïa, 2013). LE PORTEFEUILLE ROUGE is her fourth novel.

Minard, Céline: *FAILLIR ÊTRE FLINGUÉ (ALMOST SHOT DEAD)*

(Rivages, August 2013, 326 pages)

German translation available !

Awarded the 2014 Prix du Livre Inter & the 2013 Prix du Style

Long-listed for the Prix Médicis, the Prix Femina & the Prix Wepler

Over 70,000 copies sold & new reprint of 20,000 copies !!

A Western with roots, a veritable founding saga that ranges from lyrical to dramatic to burlesque, Faillir être flingué is first and foremost a vibrant celebration of the shifting limits of the imagination.

On the outskirts of a burgeoning town that all trails lead to, a fresh breath is blowing over the inhospitable prairies of the Far West. That breath belongs to Water-Running-Over-the-Plains, a young Indian woman whose clan was decimated and who has been using her skills as a healer for the good of both Whites and Indians ever since.

She will meet plenty of people : Brad and Jeff, brothers who are crossing the great open spaces along with their dying old mother in a rickety cart drawn by two stubborn old oxen; Gifford, who would have died of smallpox if Water-Running hadn't saved him in the nick of time; Elie, who's on the run from Bird Boisverd, whose horse he stole; Arcadia, a wandering musician whose bow was stolen by the Quibble Gang. And plenty of other characters whose singular fates, like the entwined strands of a colorful skein of wool, are woven into a boldly revisited Western tale in which that mythically untamed American landscape becomes a shared, still-permeable space open to all sorts of trafficking, transits and wanderings.

Céline Minard's novels include LE DERNIER MONDE (2007), BASTARD BATTLE (2008, *Prix Wepler* Special Mention), OLIMPIA (2010) and SO LONG LUISE (2011). All of her books have been critically acclaimed for their demanding style and their narrative virtuosity. She is seen as one of the most unusual voices in contemporary literature.

Rights sold to Germany (Matthes & Seitz VG), Spain (RBA) & Italy (66thand2nd).

"Céline Minard handles things with admirably authoritative skill. She is by turns a painter, a geographer, a surveyor and a magician. In a word, a novelist." **Livres Hebdo**

"Faillir être flingué [is] a marvel of intelligence and originality, one of the gems of this year's crop of new books." **Le Monde des Livres**

"With perfect aim, Céline Minard's entertaining characters, drawn over a poetic and contemplative background, bring this unique western blazingly to life." **Télérama**

Gaudé, Laurent: *DANSER LES OMBRES (DANCE THE SHADOWS)*

(Actes Sud, January 2015, 256 pages)

- *After "The House of Scorta", Laurent Gaudé once again draws us, with the same exceptional skill, into a disconcerting world.*
- *A tale that is lush with the social, historical and cultural realities of Haiti.*
- *A book that portrays, in the chiaroscuro of its style and of voodoo magic, both the fragility and the beauty of the human condition.*

With a huge array of characters, Laurent Gaudé, winner of the 2004 Goncourt Prize, allows us to feel the atmosphere and the very character of Haiti through a universal and accessible tale.

Lucine has come back to Port-au-Prince to announce the death of her sister Nine. She had left the capital five years before. Almost as soon as she arrives, she realizes that she won't leave again. Through her, we meet the book's other characters: Saul – both a doctor and the illegitimate offspring of a bigwig and a housemaid, who becomes her

lover; Lily, a rich girl with an incurable disease who has come back to Haiti to die; Matrak, a former *tonton macoute* (paramilitary militiaman) who is now a taxi driver... They all dance through their memories of the past and the dramas of the present.

Then, just as everything seems to be resolved, the earthquake strikes.

Everything is overturned once again: the dead rise up from under the ground, fraternizing with the living and offering a unique chance to heal old wounds and reestablish friendships before they sink back into their graves, because the world belongs to the future, and only the living have one.

But Lucine gets stuck between the two worlds, a voodoo spirit who comes out every night, wandering in Matrak's taxi, searching for Saul.

Laurent Gaudé was born in Paris in 1972 à Paris. In 2004, he won the *Goncourt Prize* for LE SOLEIL DES SCORTA, which has since been translated in 34 countries. DANSER LES OMBRES is his eighth novel

Menegoz, Mathias: *KARPATHIA*
(Editions POL, August 2014, 695 pages)
Longlisted for the 2014 Prix Goncourt !
Longlisted for the 2014 Prix Wepler!
45 000 copies sold in France!

- *Alexander Korvanyi's character doesn't realize that he's out of step with history – even though it is on the march by the early 19th century. He believes in his feudal rights, and will defend them – to death if need be.*
- *Avoiding clichés, the author explores the idea of noblesse – of spirit, of action and of internalized values.*
- *The adventure is based on conflicts between the land-owners, the Korvanyi, and the Vlachs, but the novel avoids clichés and each character is an individual: both good and evil are within reach of anyone – powerful or poor – and Menegoz brings his characters to life without judging them.*

The author explores the idea of noblesse through the character's spirit, actions and values.

1833: Alexander Korvanyi, a young Hungarian Army captain, marries Cara, an Austrian noblewoman. The young couple goes to Transylvania, to live on his ancestors' domain. There they will find a complex and explosive mosaic of ethnicities (Magyar, Saxon and Vlachs), languages (Hungarian, German and Romanian), religions and jurisdictions. Crisis follows upon crisis, and each confrontation reveals the ambitions and personalities of the characters – from nobles to serfs, peasants, servants and bandits – who are all walking a tightrope between power-seeking and crime.

Mathias Menegoz was born in France in 1968, of a Normand father and a Danube Swabian mother. After pursuing scientific study in Paris all the way to a Ph.D. in neuro-bio-chemistry, he abandoned science to devote himself to writing. In Budapest, where he was spending time with the Swabian side of his family, he became interested in the Mitteleuropa communities that coexisted in the shadow of great empires. That gave him the material for his first novel, KARPATHIA.

Rights sold to: the Netherlands (Meridiaan), Germany (Frankfurter Verlagsanstalt)

"Karpathia is a historical novel, in Dumas' or Tolstoi's style, with a plethora of characters, cavalcades and great battle scenes. [...] One comes out of it with the persistent feeling of an outstanding book dealing with something tremendously current. [...] A great first novel." **Le Nouvel Observateur**

"The extent of the adventures and Mathias Menegoz' perfect language are a true pleasure. An absolute crush!" **Ouest France**

"A debut with an epic inspiration and with the novelistic strength and power of the great Russian novels."
Marie France

"A novel in which Jules Verne flirts with Joseph Roth." **L'Humanité**

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Marie France

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“La richesse des descriptions, la profondeur psychologique des principaux personnages, le goût pour le suspense et le récit d’aventures, autant d’ingrédients pour un premier roman convaincant, qui ne néglige en rien la complexité historique et géographique qu’impliquent le sujet choisi par l’auteur.” **La Quinzaine Littéraire**

Winckler, Martin: *ABRAHAM ET FILS (ABRAHAM & SON)*
(P.O.L, February 2016, 576 pages)

- *A book that intertwines history with a personal story through the careful explorations of a young fan of adventure literature.*
- *The setting is 1960’s France: the human and social consequences of World War II, life in a small town in the country.*
- *The book’s two plots are interwoven smoothly and cleverly: while investigating other people’s pasts, Franz yearns towards his own. Like a nod to Georges Pérec, the story is told by an unusual omniscient narrator: the house itself.*

Staying true to his own style, Martin Winckler’s latest book is almost a detective story. Filled with enigmas, it handles filial relations with great insight and subtlety.

1963: After a mysterious journey from Algeria to France via the USA, Abraham, a doctor, and his 10-year-old son, Franz, arrive in a small town in the Loiret. Franz lost his memory a year before, after an accident that his father refuses to talk about, and doesn’t know the circumstances of his mother’s death. Father and son maintain a strange relationship: founded on secrets, but full of love. Abraham replaces one of the town’s doctors, and father and son move into the old doctor’s house. Franz finds a secret passageway as well as the diary of a young Jewish man who hid there during the war and who writes about his love for a partisan woman. Unable to access his own memories, and a fan of adventure stories, Franz investigates the town’s past, particularly the people who lived in his house. When he finds the couple’s hidden letters, Franz faints, and winds up in the hospital. His father realizes that it’s time for his son to learn about his own past.

A story that reads like a police investigation or an adventure tale: hidden letters, secret passageways and an impossible love affair, the plot’s many unexpected twists and turns draw readers to the center of the characters’ lives.

Martin Winckler is a doctor, novelist, essayist and journalist who is very well-known for his book *LA MALADIE DE SACHS* (The Case of Doctor Sachs: A Novel), which was translated into many languages and adapted for the screen. He has also written many other novels, including *LE CHOEUR DES FEMMES* (Women’s Choir).

Le Corre, Hervé: *APRÈS LA GUERRE (AFTER WAR)*
(Rivages, March 2014, 520 pages)

Winner of the Prix « Le Point » du Polar Européen 2014 !

Shortlisted for the 2014 Prix Polar Michel Lebrun !

50,000 copies sold !!

- *Bordeaux, 1950. World War II is still vivid in everyone’s memories, yet a new conflict has already broken out: the Algerian War. Daniel knows that he too, will have to go.*
- *The loss of loved ones, childhood violence, social injustice and solitude are craftily evoked by Hervé Le Corre in an intimate and overwhelming manner.*
- *With his work’s beauty and precise style, he follows in the footsteps of Robin Cook.*

An orphan who lost his parents in the camps, Daniel, now a mechanic, spends most evenings at the movies. One day, a stranger comes to the garage to get his motorcycle repaired. He seems to cast a shadow that poisons the atmosphere even after he’s gone. The man didn’t go there by chance. A series of violent incidents takes place. A high-school girl is mugged by someone who threatens her. She is the daughter of Albert Darlac, a police commissioner who had had no qualms about arresting Jews during the Occupation, and who now rules the city with an iron hand. A short time later, the bar that is Darlac’s unofficial headquarters gets blown up. He gets drawn into a spiral of violence just as Daniel ships out to Algeria...

After several novels in the *Série Noire*, Hervé Le Corre’s acclaimed *L’HOMME AUX LEVRES DE SAPHIR* – a hit with critics and readers alike with more than 42, 000 copies sold – won the *Mystère de la Critique Prize*. His next novel, *LES CŒURS DECHIQUETES*, won him the *Mystère Prize* yet again, as well as the *Grand Prix de Littérature policière*.

Rights sold to: UK (MacLehose Press), Italy (E/O Edizioni)

“Composé en virtuose, son roman joue de deux registres de langue, l’argot savoureux des bistrots et des mauvais garçons (...) et une prose limpide, sèche et sensible, qui vous transperce d’émotion. Superbe.” **Télérama**

“C’est un roman d’une noirceur désespérante, agité par des salauds flamboyants, avec des fusillades, des embuscades, des dialogues qui fusent sous une plume magistrale.” **Julie Malaure, Le Point**

“APRÈS LA GUERRE est un livre plein et entier. Qui dit les parcours chaotiques, les compromissions des uns face au pouvoir et les révoltes des autres devant l’injustice. Le monde défait les hommes, mais les hommes font le monde. Un paradoxe aux allures métaphysiques que Le Corre ancre dans le quotidien de chacun. C’est banal. C’est extraordinaire.” **Eric Libiot, L’Express**

**Arditi, Metin: JULIETTE DANS SON BAIN (JULIETTE IN HER BATH)
(Grasset, January 2015, 336 pages)**

Brilliantly mixing police investigation and sociale satire, Metin Ardit paints the portrait of a man with an ambiguous life, torn between success and isolation, talent and ambition, cynicism and humanity.

Millionaires don’t always make friends. And renowned art-collector Ronald Kandiotis is about to find out the hard way. After his daughter is kidnapped, he watches his private life suddenly become public... With its backdrop of two famous paintings that share the same name, *Juliette dans son bain* lures the reader into a riveting investigation that also raises serious questions about generosity, paternity, and the power of the media.

Ronald Kandiotis, wealthy magnate and patron of the arts, is invited to appear on the evening news to announce he is donating two paintings to the French state, one by Picasso, the other by Braque, and both bearing the same name: *Juliette dans son bain*.

Immediately after his televised appearance, his daughter Lara is kidnapped. A group named the “Association for the Victims of Ronald Arkady Kandiotis” claims responsibility. Every mysterious message they publish brings with it another real or supposed depraved act he has committed.

Two officers investigate the affair. Kandiotis, aka RAK, will have to confront his past, the key to which may be hidden in the two cubist paintings both representing a woman named Juliette. The same goes for his beloved daughter Lara. Is one’s career always built up to the detriment of family and friends? And, perhaps, even of love itself?

Born in Turkey in 1958, Metin Ardit lives in Geneva where he was the President of the Orchestre de Suisse Romande from 2000 to 2013. He is the author of several novels: VICTORIA HALL (2004, winner of the *Sablet First Novel Prize*), LE TURQUETTO (2011, awarded many prizes, including the *Prix Jean Giono*), LA CONFRÉRIE DES MOINES VOLANTS (2012). Since 2012, he has been a UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador.

Foreign rights previously sold for LA CONFRÉRIE DES MOINES VOLANTS: Greek (Patakis)

**Bayard, Pierre: IL EXISTE D'AUTRES MONDES
(Minuit, February 2014, 160 pages)**

- *A new book, in the same vein as the preceding ones, that toys with paradoxes.*
- *A book that is crammed with fascinating literary and scientific references. The narrator invites readers to revise their classics.*
- *An unsettling reading experience: readers get caught in a cleverly set trap.*

Pierre Bayard, author of the best-selling COMMENT PARLER DES LIVRES QUE L’ON N’A PAS LUS, is back with another one of those wonderfully insightful books that are his specialty.

This one is on the cusp between fiction and non-fiction. In IL EXISTE D'AUTRES MONDES, he takes as his subject the theory of parallel worlds that so many writers have explored, then uses that as a lens through which to examine the life of certain authors and artists whose sensitivity and imagination are heightened.

In IL EXISTE D'AUTRES MONDES, Pierre Bayard tries to convince his readers that different worlds – the “other worlds” of the title – really do exist, and that these parallel worlds are where artists find their inspiration. While the book reads like a serious essay, it is actually a sophisticated literary hoax. The method is simple: each section develops one idea. The author draws on everything from quantum physics, psychology and literature to experiences from daily life as well as from TV series. He supports his arguments with in-depth analysis and plenty of examples.

Delving into the text is both enlightening and entertaining; the analyses and comments are brilliantly unexpected. It is an active read. Granted, readers are being manipulated, but they get their eyes opened as well: they learn a lot and are forced to think for themselves. This is truly a euphoria-inducing book.

Reading IL EXISTE D'AUTRES MONDES is a literary experience; like Borges, the author enjoys leading readers into confusion.

Pierre Bayard is both a professor of literature at the University Paris VIII and a psychoanalyst. He has had many non-fiction books published, including the best-selling COMMENT PARLER DES LIVRES QUE L’ON A PAS

LUS (rights sold in 12 languages: Korea, Holland, Germany, Norway, Russia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, China, Japan, USA, UK and Brasil).

Blondel, Jean-Philippe: 06:41
(Editions Buchet Chastel/Libella, January 2013, 224 pages)

Cécile Duffaut has just spent a weekend at her parents' place in Troyes. Neither her husband nor her daughter would come with her. The old folks are too boring. Despite two days of silence and incomprehension, she stayed over on Sunday night anyway! On Monday morning, furious with herself, she is waiting impatiently for the 6:41 train to Paris.

A few feet away, Philippe Leduc is pacing. He's waiting for the 6:41 too. An atypical day is starting for him, he'll let the office know later. He is thinking that he could disappear. No one's expecting him. He's divorced. His children are indifferent. He's lost touch with his friends. Well, not all of them, because this journey is to go see Matthieu, his childhood friend.

For once, the train is on time. Everyone shoves their way on board, and the train pulls away. Philippe Leduc wanders through the cars and finally finds an empty seat. Right next to Cécile Duffaut. They recognize each other right away, but they act like nothing's up...

You'll find everything that makes Jean-Philippe Blondel's novels so enjoyable in *6:41*. Empathy for his characters – for their oversights, their compromises, their paths and their hesitations. A sensitive evocation of fates that could be our own. Welcome on board!

They had been lovers once, but they broke up long ago. They had never forgotten each other, even though they'd never seen each other again. Chance and the 6:41 train for Paris brought them together that morning...

A teacher in Troyes, Jean-Philippe Blondel's novels for adults and teens have been published by Actes Sud. Amongst those published by Buchet Chastel, *LE BABY-SITTER*, G229 (Virgin Prize - Version femina and 15,000 copies sold) and *ET RESTER VIVANT* were particularly successful. Sales of Jean-Philippe Blondel's previous books:

Rights sold to: Espagne (La Esfera de los Libros), Germany (Deuticke (Hanser Verlag), Italy (Einaudi)

“Habile récit à deux voix sur la destinée et les hasards qui parfois en décident, ludique, piquant, romanesque et vivant, 06H41 ouvre grand le champ des possibles.” L’Hebdo

“Jean-Philippe Blondel dévoile avec humour et bienveillance les failles de ses personnages terriblement normaux. Et confirme que la vie se charge toujours de redistribuer les cartes.” Point de Vue

“L’auteur de ET RESTER VIVANT revient avec un roman sensible et des personnages toute en sobriété, que l’on quitte à regret au terminus.” Télé 7 Jours

Chevillard, Eric: JUSTE CIEL (HEAVEN SENT)
(Éditions de Minuit, February 2015, 145 pages)

- *A madcap description of the after-life*
- *An entertainingly funny and off-beat plot*
- *A novel in the absurdist-humor tradition, along the lines of Benoit Duteurtre (SERVICE CLIENTELE, 2003, Gallimard) or Patrik Ouředník (EUROPEANA, 2004, Allia)*

In this madcap stroll through the hereafter, Chevillard reveals what goes on behind the scenes in heaven, in a tale that's reminiscent of Patrik Ouředník's Europeana. Chevillard's hero, Albert Moindre, will find out that the devil is in the details and that nothing's really what we think.

Albert Moindre is dead. Hit by an “Olives & Dates” truck. He's in heaven. Or at least, that's where he thinks he must be. Because he's floating, bodiless and alone, in a complete fog. There's nothing but his own awareness. Then he encounters Clarisse, an American woman who was almost crowned Miss Colorado 1931. Together, they wind up being taken to several different offices. Each in turn gets the mysteries of their life explained to them, through minor but revealing details. Albert Moindre finds out that as a bridge engineer, he was one of the best, but as a poet, one of the worst. So he is to be tortured for his offending literary oeuvre. But as it turns out, God needs for a bridge to be built, so Albert Moindre will be brought back to life, with no memory of his experience.

In *Juste Ciel*, Chevillard introduces us to an off-beat, unexpectedly funny afterlife, in a smoothly flowing tale that you just can't put down.

Eric Chevillard was born in La Roche-sur-Yon (Vendée) in 1964. His first novel, *MOURIR M'ENRHUME* was published by Editions Minuit in 1987. He has written over 15 novels that have been translated into numerous languages.

“On suit sans peine et mort de rire, cette visite supraterrrestre avec comme fils d’Ariane le typique burlesque ravageur de Chevillard.” Livres Hebdo

Leclair, Bertrand: *LE VERTIGE DANOIS DE PAUL GAUGUIN*

(Actes Sud, February 2014, 192 pages)

- *A dizzying plunge into the suffering spirit of a budding artist.*
- *Both a biographical novel and the account of an investigation, the search for a legendary artist whose reputation is considered scandalous even now, over a century after his death.*
- *A stunning style that recreates both the distress and the passion of a beleaguered being.*

In this astonishing investigation, Bernard Leclair restitutes six months in the life of Paul Gauguin – a period of doubt, heartbreak and artistic growth in the city of Copenhagen.

Obligated to join his wife and their five children in Copenhagen in November, 1884, Gauguin isn’t the Gauguin yet, but, confronted with the hostility he inspires both in academic circles in this conservative city and within his own family, he will become that man.

On the trail of one of the world’s most beloved painters, Bertrand Leclair draws on archive materials, pictorial analysis and empathy to represent the distress of a man torn between his family and his art, and to highlight the paradoxes behind the legend: devoted father and egotistical artist, haughty provocateur and insecure painter desperate for recognition. The hero who sacrificed everything for the sake of painting, and the man who abandoned his wife and children to spread syphilis across Polynesia.

With his ample sentences, the author draws us into the world of a character who is still resistant to critical and biographical discourse.

Bertrand Leclair is a French writer of fiction, non-fiction and plays.

“Cette parenthèse danoise de Gauguin ressemble à un purgatoire avant l’éclosion. [...] Magistral roman sur l’entre-deux.” Libération

“Un roman qui donne à la personnalité de Gauguin de plus en plus de grandeur [...] Les lecteurs qui ne jugent le peintre que d’après ses tableaux, et non d’après son tempérament, son invités à se rendre sans retard chez leur libraire.” La Marseillaise

“Très documenté sur son sujet, l’auteur [...] redessine avec une écriture nette et limpide le premier exil d’un Gauguin tiraillé entre deux exigences contradictoires et incompatibles.” Livres Hebdo

Nedjma: *D’AMBRE ET DE SOIE (OF AMBER AND SILK)*

(Plon, January 2015, 288 pages)

- *After the tremendous succes of L’AMANDE, Nedjma explores the sexuality of Muslim men, a largely avoided subject that she unveils in a subtle and uncompromising novel.*
- *An intense novel that looks at the Muslim religion, and Moroccan Arab culture – as well as sexuality – head on, written in a blunt, but well-composed style.*

D’AMBRE ET DE SOIE is more than just another erotic novel; it shows how religion and culture can affect human relationships.

Karim has always been very curious about sex. At the age of 20, he decides to leave for Paris to study journalism and meet women. He’ll learn everything from Parisian women on a sexual level – except love and commitment. He feels that for Malika, an Algerian woman who has suffered and been near death. But the relation ends painfully, and Karim winds up going back to Imchouk, in Morocco, and tries to kill himself. But he meets Badra there, and little by little, she gets him to open up and helps him gain perspective on his own love and sex life. Nedjma’s story’s clear, well-composed narrative structure intertwines the voices of Badra and Karim. Both voices use blunt but rich vocabulary and speak freely, truthfully and uncompromisingly about sexuality, love, religion and culture. Nedjma’s style carries the plot and grants D’AMBRE ET DE SOIE an appealing depth.

Nedjma is a Muslim woman living in the Middle East. She is the author of L’AMANDE, the novel whose international success led to its publication in 25 countries (with over 120,000 copies sold in France alone), standing out as the first erotic novel written by a Muslim woman. Since she received a number of death threats when L’AMANDE was published, the author prefers to stick to her nom de plume, Nedjma, rather than reveal her true identity. D’AMBRE ET DE SOIE is her new publication.

Rights sold to: Taiwan (Aquarius), Serbia (Laguna)

“À rebours de l’actuelle radicalisation du monde musulman, Nedjma prêche pour ‘le savoir-aimer, le sexe, les femmes, la nature, l’autre et soi-même en définitive.” Livres hebdo

“Ce roman audacieux, dans tous les sens du terme, reprend le schéma des MILLE ET UNE NUITS en l’inversant : ici, c’est l’homme qui raconte à la femme.” **L’obs**

“Si quelqu’un représente l’islam dans sa grande tradition, dans sa splendeur, c’est moi, pas les imams”
Nedjma

**Pujol, Pascale: *PETITS PLATS DE RÉSISTANCE (SMALL RECIPES OF RESISTANCE)*
(Le Dilettante, August 2015, 256 pages)**

- *With its abrasive sense of humour, it feels good to make fun of our fellow men, of society, of ourselves.*
- *A gallery of endearing characters with an assortment of off-the-wall adventures and humour on every page keeps us going till we can get back to our book in the evening*
- *A caustically hilarious novel, which uncovers the unembellished but delightful quirks of our world.*

In contemporary Paris, Sandrine, who works for an employment agency, decides to reduce the unemployment figures in her own way! A wonderful cook, she has a flair for finding skivers, especially men! She never runs out of energy and has a talent for coming up with new ideas to activate idlers.

Sandrine wanted to be a cook? She’s a consultant in an unemployment agency in the 18th district in Paris, and she hunts down the "winners of the first stage of the Unemployment Tour de France". For example Antoine Lacuenta, an ultra-qualified antiglobalist who lives in a workers’ hostel. In the evening, she cooks up little dishes for her husband, an ex-rugbyman who rips off newspaper kiosks, her fashion-victim daughter, and her mother-in-law, a former Pigalle celeb. Then there’s Marcel, a press magnate, together with his hopeless son and his wheeler-dealing right-hand man, who is doing all he can not to go out of business. From blackmail thanks to family secrets and a hearing at a commercial court which turns into a boxing match, this multi-voiced novel plays with the worst clichés and preconceived ideas to better ridicule them.

With caustic humour, invigorating characters and an unbridled pace, Pascale Pujol turns the unemployment curve around, settles the illegal immigrant problem and solves the press crisis. A must-read for our politicians at the Élysée!

After frenetically buying books for several decades, Pascale Pujol decided to reverse the trend and sell them until her dying day. For added security, she has now chosen to slip under the covers and write them herself”.

Rights sold in Italy (E/O)

“Love, family secrets, economic and social hardship, employment benefit frauds, [...] you’ll devour this colourful, tantalizing first novel with relish.” **Le Télégramme**

“It’s intelligent and original, funny and fiery but, beyond the artful, facetious exercise, it is also the observation of a society in crisis and the ability of those who suffer the consequences to invent new solutions, driven by a principle based on ingenuity and solidarity that this unconventional bunch cooks up in its own special way. Realism and fantasy seamlessly intertwine by relying on the observation of the little things that make up our daily lives, on credible protagonists even if they do go overboard at times, a well-crafted tale and a very plastic style that sleekly adapts to all the different spheres and contexts, not to mention her Audiard-style witticism, all for a show worthy of a clown who laughs at everything for fear of crying.” **Encres vagabondes**

**Scherrer, Pierre-Emmanuel: *LA DEFENSE FISCHER*
(Denoël, November 2013, 224 pages)**

- *The fascinating story of Robert James Fischer the most famous chess player who ever lived, who experienced everything from fame and fortune to poverty, exile and torture; from love to prison and loneliness.*
- *An original point of view that puts a new twist on the life of the world’s most famous chess player.*
- *An obsessive writing style that sucks readers into experiencing the main character’s paranoid delusion.*
- *A novel that makes you want to learn more about this secretive and paradoxical personality.*

Pierre-Emmanuel Scherrer invents the last months of the life of Robert James Fischer, a controversial 20th-century character who is generally considered to be the greatest chess player who ever lived. A disorienting plunge into the twisted psyche of an obsessive and paranoid genius.

Fall 2007, a man is wandering through the streets of Reykjavik by night. The man is Bobby Fischer, and he’s convinced that he is being followed by an elusive man in red, who has been hovering around his entourage for weeks. Fischer is tramping through the streets in an attempt to identify the ghostly figure who keeps eluding him, and who could as easily be an FBI, Mossad, or KGB agent as a former challenger for the title of World Chess Champion.

The author draws us into the paranoid delusion of a man who is cracking up – both physically and psychologically. The attention paid to each minute detail reflects the obsessiveness of a brilliant but tormented mind for which chess is a metaphor for the world, and most of the time, the world is no more than a metaphor for chess.

A fascinating novel that reinterprets the events and scandals that marked Bobby Fischer's life, as seen through the prism of his obsessions and his persecution complex.

Pierre-Emmanuel Scherrer was born in 1976. He lives and works in the South of France. His first novel, DESERT PEARL HOTEL, was published by Éditions de la Table Ronde in 2010.

Toussaint, Jean-Philippe: *NUE*
(Minuit, August 2013, 176 pages)

- *The final chapter in a passionate, exciting love story roaming from Tokyo to the Isle of Elba to Paris.*
- *Marie, a fascinating and emblematic character, bares her all, taking on a clearly defined shape by the end of this book cycle devoted to her.*
- *A chiseled style focusing on the delicately elusive atmosphere of different places and on the changes in the seasons that mirror the characters' feelings.*
- *This intimate personal story is skillfully portrayed in a way that feels accurate, credible and universal.*

The continuing romantic adventures of Marie unfold to the rhythm of the seasons. *NUE*, the fourth and last volume, opens in Paris in the autumn, after the narrator and Marie's stay on the Isle of Elba – an ephemeral halcyon moment after their break up, which took place several months earlier. The return to daily life leaves things up in the air, but affords the narrator the thrill of hoping that the relationship will soon pick up where it left off. Absent in the first half of the novel, Marie is all the more present in that she appears only in memories invoked to help the narrator await her hoped-for return. Then suddenly she appears, and with her, *NUE* takes a livelier, gentler turn. The two lovers' second visit to Elba is a study in contrasts with the preceding one, and it bares Marie's all, exposing the exceptional being as an ordinary woman: complex and fragile. This transformation establishes a happy ending, and the novel finishes with the announcement that Marie is pregnant. The arrival of this third person, who creates a bond between Marie and the narrator, allows the couple to envisage the future both more concretely and more serenely, too.

Jean-Philippe Toussaint is a writer and a filmmaker. His novels, which have all been published by Editions de Minuit and have been translated into some 20-odd languages, include *LA SALLE DE BAIN* (1985), *LA TELEVISION* (1997, *Prix Victor Rossel*), *FAIRE L'AMOUR* (2002), *FUIR* (2005, *Prix Medicis*). *LA VERITE SUR MARIE* (2009, *Prix Decembre*). *NUE* is the 4th and final volume in the series about Marie.

Rights sold: Germany, Offers from: Italy, Spain and USA.

Le Nouvel Observateur “*La réussite de *NUE* est telle qu'on peut lire ce roman sans connaître les trois précédents.*”

Le Monde “*Jean-Philippe Toussaint est] connu pour faire naître l'apparente simplicité de ses textes d'un long travail.*”

“*Jean-Philippe Toussaint clôt en beauté sa tétralogie sur Marie.*” **Le Monde**

“*Marie [...] présente ou absente - attendue, espérée - occupe tout l'espace.*” **Télérama**

“*Le quatrième volet d'un grand roman d'amour à la grâce limpide.*” **Télérama**

“**NUE* évolue, comme les trois autres volets, dans des espaces vidés par l'élégance. Marie est parfaite dans ses moindres gestes, ses absences, ses caprices.*” **Libération**

“*Toussaint a un art efficace et discret de la composition : des scènes pâles, d'une texture presque transparente...*” **Libération**

“*C'est un amour d'aujourd'hui, du début du XXIe siècle [...] mais c'est aussi un amour intemporel, que bercent les saisons et que mettent à l'épreuve les déchainements immémoriaux de la nature...*” **Le Nouvel Observateur**

Gallay, Claudie: *UNE PART DU CIEL*
(Actes Sud, August 2013, 446 pages)

- *An affectionate, melancholic novel about childhood, the wounds of the past, the unspoken, searching for who you are, and finding your place in your family.*
- *An insightful and poetical style that gets up close and personal to the characters and places, and reveals their deepest feelings. A book about everyday life and the repetition of simple yet meaningful acts.*

- ***The characters are moving, flaws and all. They must cope with both the weight of the past and their hopes for the future as they try to understand each other despite their differences, and the passing of time.***

Carole, who has gone back to the little village where she grew up for the holidays, tries to reestablish a bond with her brother and sister, as they wait for their father, who asked them all to come.

The past rears its head, especially the tragic night in their childhood when their house caught fire and their mother was forced to choose to rescue just two of her three children. There's no news from their father, and the siblings' attempts at conversation are awkward at this first family reunion in years. Although Philippe and Gaby have a lot in common and understand each other well, Carole can't shake off her role as the one who left the others behind, and who asks too many questions. She winds up going back to her own life in January, without ever having seen her father.

After the bestselling LES DEFERLANTES, Claudie Gally delivers another moving and intensely personal tale whose atmosphere is set by the siblings' mutual affection.

Born in 1961, Claudie Gally has had six novels published by Editions du Rouergue since the year 2000. They have all been released in paperback by Babel as well. Her 2008 novel, LES DEFERLANTES received the *Grand Prix des lectrices de ELLE* and sold over 600,000 copies. In 2010, L'AMOUR EST UNE ÎLE was published by Actes Sud.

"On le sait, la famille et ses non-dits, la transmission, consciente ou non, les casseroles qu'on se trimballe de génération en génération sont un formidable moteur romanesque. Tout comme la notion de terre, la puissance fictionnelle du microcosme des origines. On le sait, oui, mais Claudie Gally le met joliment en émotions, sans jamais tomber dans l'affectation." **Le Point.fr**

"Un univers âpre et mélancolique, à la fois hyperréaliste et intimiste jusqu'à la grâce."

"Des cabossés vivant à coup d'expédients. Des mal-aimés qui tentent d'aimer quand même. Claudie Gally pose sur eux un regard profondément juste et bouleversant." **La Vie**

Arditi, Metin: *LE TURQUETTO*

(Actes Sud, August 2011, 288 pages)

100 000 copies sold in France

4th on the bestsellers list

Awarded the *Prix des Libraires de Nancy* – *Le Point*

Short-listed for the *Prix Roman Fnac*

Could it be possible that a famous painting - whose signature bears a discrete anomaly is the only work to remain by one of the greatest painters of the Venetian Renaissance, equal to Titian or Veronese?

Born in Constantinople in about 1519, Elias Soriano was very young when he immigrated to Venice under a secret identity. He changed his name to Elias Troyanos, spent a lot of time in Titian's workshop, and made an outstanding career as the Turquetto: the "Little Turk", as Titian used to nickname him.

This colourful novel is the story of the life of a man, who had an unstoppable passion for art and painting, and who denied and hid his religion that forbade him to be a painter in the context of the Renaissance. It is a rhythmic and richly chromatic account that focuses on themes such as filiation, the complex connection between the art world and power, and the religious influences on Turquetto's work.

Metin Ardit was born in Turkey and is at the confluence of several Mediterranean civilizations and cultures. He now lives in Switzerland where he is a lecturer at Ecole polytechnique. He is also the author of VICTORIA-HALL (2004, *Prix du Premier Roman de Sablet*), L'IMPREVISIBLE (2006, *Prix des lecteurs Fnac Riviera*) and LA FILLE DES LOUGANIS (2007, *Prix Version Femina Virgin Megastore*, rights sold to Germany (H&C), Russia (Ripol), Greece (Livani), TV rights sold to Europacorp).

Foreign rights sold to: Club (Grand Livre du Mois, France), Italy (Neri Pozza), Turkey (Can Yayinlari), Greece (Kalendis), Poland (Noir sur Blanc), Serbia (Laguna). French Rights : Canada (Leméac), club (Grand Livre du Mois), grands caractères (Feryane).

"Metin Ardit a composé une espèce de conte philosophique et humaniste, une célébration optimiste de la création artistique, plus forte que tout et qui finit par triompher des pires obstacles : la pauvreté, le fanatisme, la mort même". **Livres Hebdo**

"Un mélange irrésistible d'expériences et de connaissances" **Edmonde Charles-Roux de l'Académie Goncourt, in *La Provence***

"Roman historique, roman d'aventures, impeccablement construit". **Le Point**

"Entre ombre et lumière, avec force de détails, Metin Ardit met magistralement en perspective l'art pictural avec les contradictions du pouvoir, de la religion et de la filiation". **Page**

Fottorino, Eric: *LE DOS CRAWLÉ*
(Gallimard, September 2011, 208 pages)
60 000 copies sold in France

It is the summer of 1976 on the Atlantic coast. Two children dream of faraway lands. Parents are so disappointing. Marin is thirteen, Lisa is ten. Marin talks of the burning sand and other things that he is not able to express when watching Lisa and her mother, a former Miss Pontailiac. Hearts are tormented, childhood pines away.

Fortunately, there is Uncle Abel quietly watching over all, as well as Mister Archibouveau with his big muscles, Mister Maxence who listens to the shipping forecast, and father July who pedals his bike like a young man. Fortunately, there are the fishing expeditions, fish couscous, the smell of lemon trees and mint, the gentleness of Grizzly the cat and Plouff the dog. Fortunately, there is doctor Malik and his bouquets of jasmine, the Corniche, the Casino, the beaches of the Cote Sauvage, the ice cream from chez Judici. Fortunately, there is the kitchen garden, the beautiful villas, the lights of Cordouan across the bay. One day, Marin and Lisa run away swimming the backstroke, and who cares that death is lurking in the sea.

Fottorino, Eric Fottorino is very famous French author. His previous novels CARESSE DE ROUGE and BAISER DE CINEMA were highly appreciated by critics.

Foreign rights sold: Germany (Ullstein), Italy (Marsilio), Spain (Destino)

Malzieu, Mathias: *MÉTAMORPHOSE EN BORD DE CIEL*
(Flammarion, March 2011, 160 pages)

Tom Cloudman is undoubtedly the world's worst stuntman. His unintentionally comical acrobatics propel him to the height of glory, promising bright days ahead. Until a doctor treating his umpteenth fracture detects an incurable disease eating away at him.

Thus begins a long hospital stay for Tom, in an attempt to win the fight against what he calls "the Beetroot". During one of his nocturnal wanderings in the hospital corridors, this man who has always dreamed of devouring the clouds, meets a strange creature, half-woman, half-bird, who offers him the following pact: "I can transform you into a bird, which will save your life, but you have to accept the consequences. To trigger your metamorphosis, you will have to make love with me. From this union, a child will perhaps be born. A risk you will have to accept."

In the tradition of his tales for grown-up children, Mathias Malzieu tells the marvellous story of a man who yearns to defy death and to be on familiar terms with the skies. In so doing, he delivers a rare reflection on the power of life and of love.

Mathias Malzieu is the energetic singer of the leading group in French alternative rock: Dionysos. After a highly-praised collection of short stories, 38 mini western (Pimientos, 2002), and two best-selling novels: *Maintenant qu'il fait tout le temps nuit sur toi* (Flammarion, 2005), and *La Mécanique du cœur* (Flammarion, 2007), both of which received enormous critical acclaim, Mathias Malzieu is signing his third much-awaited novel. The national and international success of his previous books, notably *LA MÉCANIQUE DU CŒUR*: with over 200,000 copies sold in France, 200,000 copies sold in Spain and translation rights sold into eighteen languages. An adaptation is in production for the cinema with a 3D animated film to be released in October 2012, produced by Luc Besson and directed by Mathias Malzieu.

The Russian rights for *LA MÉCANIQUE DU CŒUR* are sold to Corpus

Foreign rights sold to: Spain, Catalan

Leroy, Gilles: *ZOLA JACKSON*
(Mercure de France, January 2010, 140 pages)

August 2005, Mississippi Delta. Hurricane Katrina is imminent. Zola, a retired black schoolteacher lives alone with her old dog, Lady. Zola has had her share of hurricanes. No way she is going to flee before this one... Anyhow it's been ten years since she's been scared, ever since Caryl died of cancer... He was her pride, her reason for living, her only son turned a brilliant professor. She loved him dearly but couldn't understand him and felt betrayed when he fell in love with a young white man and moved to Atlanta. Before his death, he'd left her Lady. She was only a pup then. Outside the storm is raging. The muddy and putrid waters are rising, and Zola and Lady take refuge upstairs. In the morning, corpses are floating beneath the windows. Trapped by the floodwater and in the trouble waters of her memories, the old woman unwinds the thread of her life. Will she survive Katrina?

Thanks to Gilles Leroy's subtle writing, *Zola Jackson* becomes much more than a *mater dolorosa*, a brave woman, a touching mother and wins her place in the small world of romantic heroines. With his incredibly elegant and intense style, Leroy develops a rare strength of evocation and emotion.

Gilles Leroy is the author of several novels published by *Mercure de France*, including *ALABAMA SONG*, which received the *prix Goncourt* in 2007 and has been translated into 25 languages.

Foreign rights sold to: Germany (Kein & Aber) and the Netherlands (Cossée) - Offers from Catalonia

"Gilles Leroy a construit son roman avec son habileté coutumière." Livres Hebdo

"Grâce à l'habile construction d'un récit qui avance par glissements successifs, au gré des flash-backs et des associations d'idées, Gilles Leroy livre l'autoportrait d'un personnage dont on n'oublie ni la force de caractère ni les fêlures." Le Nouvel Observateur

"Le livre de Gilles Leroy est, de manière surprenante et discrète, un livre politique. Avec en filigrane, au-delà de l'horreur de l'ouragan et du scandale de sa gestion, toute l'histoire de cette région, la question de l'émancipation des Noirs et celle, complexe, du métissage." La Croix

"Plus de deux ans après son pris Goncourt (ALABAMA SONG, Mercure de France), Gilles Leroy signe un huis clos poignant." Le Monde

"C'est le combat contre l'adversité qu'incarne la vieille femme, en même temps que la douleur universelle."

La Vie

"(...) c'est d'une écriture vive, épurée, que l'auteur confie les pensées de cette femme. Rendant plus forts les sentiments de déroute, de solitude, parfois aux limites de la folie. Gilles Leroy (...) nous offre ici un livre poignant (...)." Le Magazine Littéraire

Szalowski, Pierre: *LE FROID MODIFIE LA TRAJECTOIRE DES POISSONS*

(Hurtubise, November 2007, 296 pages)

Grand prix de la relève littéraire Archambault 2009

An excerpt in English is available

January 4, 1998. A ten-year-old boy learns that his parents plan to separate. In desperation, he asks heaven for help. The next day, Quebec is gripped by the greatest ice-storm ever. This icy invasion does change the lives of everyone in the street. Events, both unremarkable and incredible, will gradually alter a great many things. Julie, a love-lorn exotic dancer, shelters Boris, a self-absorbed scientist who cares only for his experiments with fish; Michel and Simon, two "brothers", welcome Alexis, their homophobic neighbour. Adversity forges new bonds, and cold, charity, solidarity and altruism warm their hearts.

Pierre Szalowski has worked as a press photographer, journalist, graphist, artistic director and creative director in advertising, Vice-President of Ubisoft, and now works as a script-writer and author.

Foreign rights sold to: in Spain, Italy, Germany, Lituania, Poland, France, Holland, England

"With a fascinating collection of characters, people as complex as humanity itself, this novel is both a learning experience and an initiation, in some ways, a romance novel as well..." Le Journal de Montréal

"A heart-warming novel interwoven with humour." Le Libraire

Fermine, Maxime: *LE PAPILLON DE SIAM*

(Albin Michel, March 2010, 196 pages)

The novelised biography of an unknown explorer: Henri Mouhot who discovered the ruins of Angkor.

Student, Henri Mouhot is dreaming of exploring and traveling. As an adult, his desire for escape still follows him: he wants to go to Siam. An exploration company decides to finance a mission for him to bring back a very rare species, the Siamese butterfly. When he arrives in Bangkok, Henri is welcomed by a French missionary bishop, author of the travel tales about Siam that were at the origin of his vocation. The bishop warns him about the capture of this sacred insect, the reincarnation of the first King of Siam. But Henri is stubborn. His obstinate pursuit of the lepidopteran will lead him in 1860 to the discovery of the Angkor ruins in the jungle and its legends. As usual, one is seduced and carried away with delight by Maxence Fermine's storyteller talent.

Born in 1968, Maxence Fermine lived in Paris before moving to Africa. He now lives in Haute-Savoie with his family. Among his numerous novels, we could name NEIGE, L'APICULTEUR (*Prix del Duca* and *Prix Murat* in 2001), OPIUM and AMAZONE (*Prix Europe 1* 2004). His works have been translated in several countries, among which Italy, where he is a bestseller. Russian rights for the previous books sold to *Symposium Publishers*.

Ferney, Alice: *PASSÉ SOUS SILENCE*

(Actes Sud, August 2010, 199 pages)

These are troubled times for the Old Country: attempts to pacify the Southern Land are failing, the Army is floundering and public opinion is divided. These exceptional circumstances offer an opportunity for former war hero General de Grandberger to reclaim power. He has secretly chosen to act, while everyone is expecting him to behave with the dignity and honour of his status. One of his admirers, Colonel Donadieu, has even stronger expectations. To him, Grandberger embodies the righteousness of the army, and values of a bygone time. Donadieu will be so

disappointed by the General's lack of fortitude that he will join in a plot to assassinate Grandberger. In this confrontation, two world views clash, as History is made by men's actions.

Based on real events, PASSÉ SOUS SILENCE doesn't reveal them explicitly, but prefers to use them as symbols. Alice Ferney's emphatic style creates a striking atmosphere. Donadieu refers to himself as "you", taking the reader inside his tormented mind, while Grandberger is "He": placed on a pedestal, a victim-to-be, yet someone who will go down in History. PASSÉ SOUS SILENCE is masterfully structured to achieve a single goal: questioning to what extent Reasons of State are simply individuals' wishes and desires.

Alice Ferney is the celebrated author of, among other works, LA CONVERSATION AMOUREUSE (2000), which sold over 150,000 trade copies in France alone and was translated into more than twenty languages (including English). LES AUTRES, published in 2003, was long-listed for the *Prix Medicis*, *Prix Femina*, *Prix Goncourt* and the *Prix Goncourt des Lycéens*.

"C'est le roman que certains attendaient de lire depuis 1963." **Le Figaro Magazine**

"Alice Ferney délivre un roman particulièrement fort qui, sous les dehors de la fiction, met en scène les acteurs de l'attentat manqué du Petit-Clamart avec une finesse rare" **Page**

Kim Thúy: RU

(Librex, January 2010, 143 pages)

Awarded the Prix RTL/Lire 2010

Shortlisted for numerous prizes in France and Quebec: Prix Nicolas Bouvier 2010, Prix Ouest-France/Étonnants Voyageurs 2010 and Prix Première (RTBF).

42,000 copies sold in Quebec and already 55,000 copies sold in France

Ru is an intimate journey in the untidiness of memories, a nostalgic evocation of the Vietnam that relates the itinerary of a Vietnamese who left Saigon after the communists have arrived. Composed by a series of linked vignettes, Ru is more than a simple "slice-of-life" account. It draws connections between the events experienced by the narrator : her birth in Vietnam during the war, her exodus with the boat people, her introduction to a small Quebec town, her studies, family ties, the birth of her autistic child, etc. As she recounts her story - filled with charming, unusual people and difficult or absurd situations—she shifts effortlessly from tragedy to comedy, from the everyday to the deeply spiritual, carrying the reader along with her.

Written in a warm and poignant style, this first autobiographical novel, reveals the writer's ability to use her memories first as an invitation to play, then as a gateway to reflection. The story of a likeable survivor, this book is a testimony to the richness of life.

Kim Thúy left Vietnam as a boat people at the age of 10, and arrived in Quebec. She has been living in Montreal for 30 years now, working as a seamstress, interpreter, lawyer, restaurant owner and also as film director before devoting herself to writing.

Foreign rights sold to: France (Liana Levi), Italy (Nottetempo), Sweden (Sekwa), Germany (Kunstmann), Spain and Latin America (Alfaguara), the Netherlands (Van Genep), Portugal (Objectiva) Canada (World English rights : Knopf) and Czech Republic (Emitos)

"Kim Thúy nous berce autant qu'elle nous bouleverse." **Elle**

"La romancière se dévoile, mais avec grâce et pudeur." **Télérama**

"Fragments de mémoire poétiquement entremêlés." **La Vie**

"Ru est plus qu'un livre, une révélation." **Les Echos**

"Peu de descriptions, et, pourtant, des images fortes qui viennent se greffer dans l'esprit du lecteur. Une remarquable entrée en littérature." **L'Express**

"... elle refuse en effet l'apitoiement, travestit le misérabilisme, ignore la rancoeur et se moque de la chronologie. Même le malheur, elle le traite à la légère..." **"RU"est du jamais lu** **Le Nouvel Observateur**

COMMERCIAL FICTION

Barbérat, Angélique: *LOLA OU L'APPRENTISSAGE DU BONHEUR (LOLA OR LEARNING TO BE HAPPY)*

(Michel Lafon, March 2016, 512 pages)

The sequel of Bertrand and Lola, the emotional story of an impossible love affair which sold more than 30,000 copies.

- *Readers will be delighted to discover Bertrand and Lola's evolution.*
- *A moving writing style.*
- *Getting through daily events and hard times, the characters are living an outstanding love story.*

Bertrand has been held hostage in Africa and Lola got divorced. But both want to forget about the past. Still deeply in love with each other and willing to form a family, they decide to move in together. But Bertrand is haunted by what he has been through, he cannot stop having nightmares and little by little feels depressed. Lola is trying to do her best but Bertrand is hiding his feelings from her and she cannot perceive how deep is his despair.

One day, truth comes to light. Will Bertrand and Lola find a way to live together despite their indelible scars?

Angélique Barbérat brings to life a beautiful novel, highlighting the delicate border between trust and destruction, silence and truth, passion and love.

Raised by a Russian grandfather that told her fairy tales throughout her childhood, Angélique Barbérat writes since she's a child. After the success of *L'INSTANT PRÉCIS OÙ LES DESTINS S'ENTREMÊLENT* and *BERTRAND ET LOLA*, she offers a new and beautiful novel.

Barbérat, Angélique: *BERTRAND ET LOLA (BERTRAND AND LOLA)*

(Michel Lafon, February 2015, 500 pages)

30,000 copies sold in France !

- *A new novel from Angélique Barbérat after the highly successful *L'instant précis où les destins s'entremêlent* (more than 20,000 copies sold in bookstores and over 30,000 by the France-Loisirs book club).*
- *The keen expectations of the bloggers and critics who loved her first book.*
- *The emotional story of an impossible love affair.*

Why did Lola ring that doorbell? Why did Bertrand let a stranger in? And how can you fall madly in love with someone in just a few seconds?

Life would never be the same after that hot June day. For a few blissful, carefree hours, Bertrand and Lola forget all their other concerns: Lola, that she is getting married in a week; international reporter and photographer Bertrand, that he refuses to be tied down.

Finally, in spite of their sudden overwhelming passion, they make the most cautious and worst decision possible: to go their separate ways and return to their former lives. So Lola gets married and continues to work as a flight attendant, while Bertrand flies off to a distant country. But despite their decision, each is still obsessed with the other. And even if they might be strong enough to live their lives apart, fate seems to take a wicked pleasure in throwing them together... until the day Bertrand is captured and held hostage by an armed group while reporting from Africa.

So do they have the slightest chance of being reunited one day?

Bertholon, Delphine: *LES CORPS INUTILES (USELESS BODIES)*

(JC Lattes, February 2015, 360 pages)

- *How do you survive when you cannot feel the touch of a raindrop on your skin or the warmth of a caress on your body?*
- *Clémence has just turned 15 when she is the victim of an assault in the middle of a street by a man with a knife. This traumatic incident will have long term repercussions on her life. To start with, she begins to lose the sense of touch...*

At age 30, Clémence is a confirmed bachelorette, solitary and withdrawn. After working as a makeup artist for the cinema, she finds a job with a very particular type of factory that makes life-size, hyper-realistic dolls.

The novel alternates between the voices of Clémence adolescent, haunted by the assault that she never dared speak of to her family, and that of Clémence adult, trying to work through the physical and psychological consequences of her past. But life, as always, is full of surprises...

Delphine Bertholon is the author of TWIST, L'EFFET LARSEN, of the critically acclaimed *Grâce* (translated in Russian, Spanish, German and Dutch) and, more recently, of LE SOLEIL À MES PIEDS, all published with Lattès.

"A striking, heart-stopper of a book. [...] A pen sharpened by talent and a highly sensitive way with words."

Version Femina

"Delphine Bertholon signs an engrossing and absolutely essential novel." Elle "A story that will hit you in the gut." Marie-Claire

Sardou, Romain: *FRÄULEIN FRANCE*
(Editions XO, May 2014, approx.. 320 pages)
Partial English translation available

➤ *France plays a dangerous and thrilling game in times of war.*

In a French village, a large town house is requisitioned. One evening, two drunk men rape the woman of the house and brutally murder her husband.

In Paris, German soldiers take advantage of *la vie Parisienne*: the brothels have opened back up. Word gets around about one of their residents who is causing quite a stir: France is not only drop-dead gorgeous, she is also very demanding. She and she alone decides which men will have the pleasure of her services. What is she hiding behind her cold exterior? Nothing that she does is left to chance because she has a master plan driving her forward. With Paris in the hands of the enemy, she enters into the highest circles of power and mingles with the worst collaborators. The secret she hides would certainly come as a shock to many... n

Born in 1974 of a long line of artists, Romain Sardou developed a passion at a young age for opera, theatre and literature. He left the lycée in the year before graduation with the firm intention of becoming a playwright. After living 2 years in Los Angeles, where he wrote scripts for children, he came back to France and wrote a very successful first novel FORGIVE US OUR SINS followed by other successful medieval thrillers, contemporary thrillers, as well as a philosophical novel.

Révay, Thérèse: *L'AUTRE RIVE DU BOSPHORE*
(Belfond, October 2013, 416 pages)

➤ *L'AUTRE RIVE DU BOSPHORE is a powerful novel set during the occupation of Istanbul by the Allied Forces after WWI.*

Leyla, a modern, intelligent woman with political ties to the Sultan, is caught between her duty to her family and her duty to her nation. Her comfortable life with her two children and husband is threatened once the Allies occupy Istanbul. As her brother and friends fight for survival and the independence of their country, Leyla must find a way to join the struggle without sacrificing too much in the process.

A distinguished Turkish family in danger, a daring German archaeologist, a French military officer who risks his reputation in search of love, desperate Russian refugees...

As East meets West, gripping characters bring alive this thoroughly researched, moving novel about a changing world. While a new Turkey rises from the ashes of the dazzling Ottoman Empire, Leyla learns the price she must pay for her independence and freedom.

Theresa Révay is a European writer with a French twist who has published several novels with Belfond including LA LOUVE BLANCHE and its sequel TOUS LES RÊVES DU MONDE, both translated into 8 languages and with combined sales of over 300,000 copies.

Rights sold: Ediciones B (Spain) Der Club Berterlsmann/Golmann (Germany) Turkey-auction in progress

Bourdin, Françoise: *SERMENT D'AUTOMNE*
(Belfond, March 2012, 308 pages,)
70 000 copies sold in France

A sensitive and touching novel about the complex relationship between twin brothers by one of France's foremost writers of commercial women's fiction.

Guillaume, a brilliant architect, runs a successful company in Versailles. When his twin brother Robin, a wine grower in Burgundy, asks for his help, Guillaume joins him for a few days. Robin is gravely ill, suffering from a cancer, and can't manage the grape harvest alone. Moreover, his wife is pregnant and will soon give birth... Once

there, Guillaume finally decides to stay even if he has to put aside his thriving professional career and renounce to his former Parisian life...

A best-selling author in France, Françoise Bourdin has published more than thirty novels at Belfond and is renowned in the realm of French commercial women's fiction. Her novels have been translated into eleven languages. The Russian rights for several previous books are sold to Hemiro/Family Leisure Club.

"Françoise Bourdin signe un drame à la fois contemporain et intemporel." Le Nouvel Observateur

Bourdin, Françoise: *D'EAU ET DE FEU*
(Belfond, September 2013, 330 pages)

➤ ***The latest blockbuster from mega-selling author Françoise Bourdin set in a Scottish whiskey distillery...***

Rivalries, old wounds, revenge, love...D'EAU ET DE FEU is Françoise Bourdin at her best. After travelling abroad, Scott, 20s, returns to his family's estate and whiskey distillery stupefied to discover that his authoritative and aging father Angus has remarried a much younger French woman. Amélie, his new step-mother, has every intention of marking her territory with her four children in tow – three unruly boys and a teenage girl. As Amélie does her best to push Scott away, personalities clash and jealousy sets in. The tension mounts over what's really at stake: who will inherit the estate and operate the distillery? Each side readies its weapons but an improbable love will blossom and surprise everyone.

D'EAU ET DE FEU is Françoise Bourdin's 33rd novel published by Belfond, her publisher of the past 20 years.

Rights sold: Maeva (Spain); the Russian rights for several titles sold to: Family Leisure Club

Teulé, Jean: *CHARLY 9*
(Robert Laffont, March 2011, 240 pages)
N#1 in best-selling list

The tragicomic pen of Jean Teulé strikes again. His subject this time – Charles IX, the French king notorious for the St. Bartholomew's Day Massacre of 1572 in which thousands of Huguenots were brutally murdered.

Teulé begins his latest novel portraying Charly 9, 22 years old, as a mere puppet who is pressured to give in to his mother Catherine de Médicis's wishes to go ahead with the massacre. The guilt over these murders will lead to Charly's rapid descent into madness which is at the heart of this darkly entertaining tale. Charly loves to hunt so when winter sets in, he has animals brought into the palace so that he could hunt in the warmth.

The New Year traditionally began on April 1 and was considered a Spring holiday when people would dance half naked. Charly's decision to begin the New Year on January 1 leads to the deaths of many who continued to celebrate without clothing. He even believes that he could simply replenish the Kingdom's treasures by producing false money, with his head engraved on each coin. These are just some of the examples of Charly's madness, at times both absurd and deadly, that will quickly lead to his own death just two years after the massacre.

Jean Teulé has written the following works published by Julliard: RAINBOW POUR RIMBAUD, DARLING (recently adapted for the cinema), LES LOIS DE LA GRAVITÉ, Ô VERLAINE!, JE FRANÇOIS VILLON (130,000 copies sold), LE MAGASIN DES SUICIDES (350,000 copies sold, animated film in production), LE MONTESPAN (prix Maison de la Presse, 550,000 copies sold) and MANGEZ-LE SI VOUS VOULEZ (180,000 copies sold)

Teulé, Jean: *FLEUR DE TONNERRE*
(Julliard/Robert Laffont, March 2013, 288 pages)
100 000 copies already sold in France !

Hélène Jegado, known as Flower of Thunder, is the most notorious serial killer in France, and even the entire world.

Throughout the moors and forests of Bretagne, outrageous legends run wild. Without doubt the most fearful is that of Ankou, the worker of death. A young Hélène Jegado persuaded herself that she was his reincarnation. She therefore had to kill everything in her path in order to fulfil her destiny with a bloodcurdling composure. After having poisoned her own mother who had nicknamed her Flower of Thunder, she ploughed through Bretagne, ruthlessly murdering anyone who had the kindness to welcome this seemingly perfect cook into their home. No one was safe; men, women, children, babies. She was so good that no one suspected her. Until the day she attacked a former judge, an expert in criminal matters, and was finally guillotined on 26th February, 1852.

Jean Teulé is the author of fourteen novels, among which THE SUICIDE SHOP (350,000 copies sold, translated into 19 languages and adapted into a film by Patrice Leconte), MONSIEUR MONTESPAN, (600,000 copies sold, winner of *Maison de la Presse* prize, currently being adapted into a film by Olivier Marchal). His latest

book, CHARLY 9, was published in 2011 and excellently reviewed by both critics and readers. The entirety of Jean Teulé's fiction has been published by Éditions Julliard

JM Erre: *LA FIN DU MONDE A DU RETARD*
(Buchen Chastel/Libella, February 2014, 416 pages)

- *A side-splitting tribute to esoteric thrillers. In this brilliant, off-the-wall and absolutely hilarious new novel, J-M Erre draws us into a paranoid amnesiac's epic quest to save the world.*

Composed like a thriller, LA FIN DU MONDE A DU RETARD features Alice and Julius, two amnesiacs who have escaped from the psychiatric ward where they are being treated. Julius is convinced that he has a mission to save humanity from a dastardly plot. As he is chased by the police, the press and mysterious, shadowy figures, adventures and plot twists pile up until the incredible final revelation.

As with all of his novels, J. M. Erre plays fast and free with the codes of a popular genre (B movies in SÉRIE Z, detective novels in LE MYSTÈRE SHERLOCK). In LA FIN DU MONDE A DU RETARD, esoteric thrillers like the DA VINCI CODE are his new playground.

LA FIN DU MONDE A DU RETARD questions in an off-beat way how each of us comes to our beliefs, but above all, it is a joyful tale about what is both so horrible and so wonderful about being human: our ability to tell stories.

J.M. Erre is a professor in Sète and lives in Montpellier. He has had four previous novels published by Buchen Chastel: PRENEZ SOIN DU CHIEN (2006), MADE IN CHINA (2008), SÉRIE Z (2010) and LE MYSTÈRE SHERLOCK (2012).

Rights for previous books sold to: Korea (Moeum & Jaeum), China (Shanghai Translation Publishing House), Italy (Clichy Edizioni) and Russia (Inostranka)

Grand, Emmanuel: *TERMINUS BELZ*
(Liana Levi, January 2014, 368 pages)

20 000 copie sold in France

English sample available !

TERMINUS BELZ has entered the French bestsellers' list.

Longlisted for the *Prix du Polar Européen*, the *Prix Landernau Policier*

Shortlisted for the *Prix des Maisons de la Presse* and the *2014 Prix Polar Michel Lebrun* !

In the Top 10 for Best Thriller of the Year (*LIRE Magazine*)

- *Listed for Prizes: Prix of european detectif Le Point, Deuxième liste du Prix des Maisons de la presse, Prix Landernau policier*
- *An unsettling tale in a magnificent and menacing natural setting that is the only true master of sailors and other men's fates.*
- *Human folly and superstition, as well as small-town gossip, make for a threatening atmosphere.*
- *The plot weaves social commentary in with themes like illegal immigration and sailors' difficult working conditions.*

Marko, an illegal alien with the Rumanian mafia on his trail, is hiding out on the island of Belz, in Brittany, where he works on a fishing boat. He is confronted with a world steeped in superstition. A thriller with a threatening atmosphere and relentless suspense.

Marko has decided to leave Ukraine for France, illegally. But the trip doesn't go as planned: the two guides rape the young woman who is traveling with them. Three men step in, take their money, and slip away. With the Rumanian mafia on their trail, they part ways. Marko heads west, eventually finding a job on a fishing boat on a small island called Belz. What seemed like a perfect situation quickly turns into a nightmare: everybody on the island knows everybody else, fishermen live in miserable conditions, and there's not enough work to go around. When a man is viciously murdered, the police lock the island down in order to interrogate everyone. But if they interrogate Marko, they'll find out that he's an illegal alien, and he'll be deported. Once he has hidden from the police, he has to continue to lay low.

Other strange events ensue, and fishermen's superstitions crop up. Marko feels trapped between the demons of his own past, a threatening community, the police manhunt and the Rumanian mafia. Masks finally fall, and having faced down both his fear of the sea and of death, Marko is welcomed into the community.

In this masterful tale, Emmanuel Grand's Marko is captive to a hopeless situation and a police investigation on an island whose closets are filled with skeletons, where the madness and supernatural events evoke David Lynch's Twin Peaks.

Born in 1966, Emmanuel Grand spent his childhood on the Atlantic coast. TERMINUS BELZ is his *first novel*.

Rights sold to: Germany (AufBau), Spain (Salamandra), French Pocket rights sold (Seuil)

"At times a sobering thriller, at others an inspired social novel, Terminus Belz deploys its beautiful architecture and musical style right to the last page." **Télérama**

"The thriller revelation of the new season." **RTL**

"Grand strings us along right to the last sentence." **Métro**

"A first thriller that speaks of resilience, of masculine fraternity, and of insularity." **Psychologies**

"Cursed be the reader who misses this diabolical book." **Paris Match**

"Right from the start of play, he proves he's got the soul of a storyteller. A detour to Belz is a must." **Livres Hebdo**

"A 'devilishly' disturbing road movie punctuated with murders and peopled with feisty yet profoundly humane characters." **Actualité**

"A windswept island is the harrowing no-exit setting for this first novel that combines Stephen King and Simenon." **Télé Z**

**Sylvain, Dominique: *L'ARCHANGE DU CHAOS (THE ARCHANGEL OF CHAOS)*
(Viviane Hamy, January 2015, 300 pages)**

- **Franka Kehlmann tracks a serial killer who takes his victims through the Gehenna of their worst nightmares.**

Franka Kehlmann started out with a shining career in finance. When she joins the world of crime herosivenothing top redict that she will find her place in CommandantaCarat's section. As a protégé of Chief Superintendent Christine Santini, she will have to prove herself in the field.

The martyred body of a nurse is found in a Parisian warehouse: the victim has been chained up and tortured to death, and her tongue torn out. But the killer has carefully prepared and laid out the body post-mortem. The torturer's obsessive profile suggests he will not stop there...

Under pressure, Franka Kehlmann turns out to be an excellent sleuth. But the demons of her past catch up with her: the memory of her mother, a singer who committed suicide, and the burden of her psychologically traumatised little brother. Not to mention her father, a historian specialising in punishment who she avoids but will have to cooperate with to carry out the investigation.

Will she discover the Archangel of Chaos?

Rights sold: Germany (Piper)

"It is not intrigue which makes this a good story. No, the atmosphere, the relations between colleagues, the humanity, and the errors in the investigation reveal something else altogether more thrilling [...]. It only remains to be said that The Archangel of Chaos, despite the darkness surrounding the case, successfully slips in a lot of tenderness and poetry". **Le Figaro littéraire**

**d'Aillon, Jean: *LE GRAND ARCANE DES ROIS DE FRANCE (THE GREAT SECRET OF THE KINGS OF FRANCE)*
(Flammarion, March 2015, 540 pages)**

1663. While attending the performance of Molière's *L'Impromptu de Versailles* in Paris, Louis Fronsac is robbed of his watch. Fortunately, Gaston de Tilly knows the culprit, a young woman called Anne Lupin who has already had brushes with the law. He compels her to return her loot, but soon after, a band of Englishmen kidnap her, and at the same time severely hurt M. de Tilly.

When Anne Lupin manages to escape, she gets hold of a number of precious papers belonging to her captors, who are led by Lady Percy, an accomplished spy working in the service of Cardinal de Richelieu. Gaining possession of these documents as well as the memoirs of Olivier Hauteville, Louis Fronsac, a companion of Henri IV, unveils a secret that the kings of France have been passing on for a thousand years: the Great Arcanum.

Jean-Baptiste Colbert and the Marquis de Louvois, who have just been admitted to the Council of State by Louis XIV, want to take ownership of the secret in order to reveal it to the King, and thus prove their value to the throne.

Fronsac and M. de Tilly enter the gigantic underground cavern of Etretat of which Olivier Hauteville has spoken, with Louvois' cavalry, Colbert's henchmen and Milady Carlisle's crooks all hard on their heels.

Jean d'Aillon has been recounting for several years, with both talent and accuracy, the adventures of Louis Fronsac.

Barde-Cabuçon, Olivier: *LES ENQUÊTES DU COMMISSAIRE AUX MORTS ÉTRANGES (INVESTIGATIONS OF THE COMMISSIONER OF DEAD STRANGE)*
(Actes Sud, 2012-2013)

A series of historical crime novels featuring Volnay, a police commissioner whose title is Inspector of Suspicious Deaths, and his no-less-unusual partner, a heretic monk, who poke into the darkest corners of the Age of Enlightenment.

- *A light-hearted police procedural, full of unexpected plot twists, that transports us to 18th-century Paris.*

Vol I: *CASANOVA ET LA FEMME SANS VISAGE*
(Actes Sud, February 2012, 328 pages)
Grand Prix Sang d'Encre 2012

The first exhilarating installment of a promising set of historical detective novels starring Volnay, the Inspector of Suspicious Deaths. In 1759 a faceless woman is found dead in Paris...

Vol II: *MESSE NOIRE*
(Actes Sud, March 2013, 368 pages)
Historia magazine's *Grand Prix du roman policier* 2013

A not very peaceful night in 1749, in a Paris cemetery. A young girl's body is found on a tomb. She may well have been sacrificed as part of a Satanic rite...

Vol III: *TUEZ QUI VOUS VOULEZ*
(Actes Sud, February 2014, 384 pages)

- *This droll and light-hearted crime novel makes for a very enjoyable read.*
- *Entertaining characters that make you want to read more books featuring them.*
- *18th century Paris seen from a novel point of view.*

In 18th century Paris, the Inspector of Suspicious Deaths and his partner, a heretic monk, have to investigate the unresolved assassinations of three young men of very different backgrounds.

Over a backdrop of political intrigue and religious tension – as well as the cheerful chaos caused by the Feast of Fools – a sort of Saturnalia – they learn that the assassin is the father of a young woman. The first two victims had gotten a bit too close to his daughter for the man's liking. Then he killed the third young man at random, as a red herring.

Olivier Barde-Cabuçon lives in Lyon. Fascinated by books, art and history, his taste for crime novels combined with his interest in the 18th century led him to create the character of an Inspector of Suspicious Deaths. TUEZ QUI VOUS VOULEZ is his third investigation, after CASANOVA ET LA FEMME SANS VISAGE (2012, winner of the 2012 *Grand Prix Sang d'Encre*) and MESSE NOIRE (winner of *Historia magazine's 2013 Grand Prix du roman policier*).

“Entre fait divers et affaire d'Etat, cette nouvelle enquête d'Olivier Barde-Cabuçon fait le portrait d'une ville au bord de l'implosion” **Telerama**

Aubert, Brigitte: *THE CINEMATOGRAPH DETECTIVE*
1. *THE MIRROR OF SHADOWS*
2. *THE DANCE OF ILLUSIONS*
3. *MACABRE SCREENINGS*
4. *THE SECRET OF THE ABBAYE*
(Fleuve Noir-10/18, 420 pages)

Louis Denfert is a young and dashing reporter who happens to investigate a series of dark mysteries. Like a precursor to Rouletabille, he hunts the truth down across Europe. This series covers the years 1890 to 1900 and the highly original plots are based on the cinema, the opium of the decade that totally remodeled the 20th Century's imaginary.

Savory anecdotes and references to the cinema, all from an expert who passionately distills everything you have always wanted to know about the beginnings of the 7th art.

Brigitte Aubert was born in Cannes in 1956. She works as a program planner for the cinema and has published fifteen or so thrillers (Le Seuil), including *La Mort des bois*, which received the Grand Prize for Detective Novels in 1997, as well as detective novels for young adults.

“Orchestrating unstoppable suspense and skillfully manipulating the art of the cliffhanger and the unexpected, Brigitte Aubert has begun a promising series.” **Ciné Live**

“The first two volumes are a delight and can be read like a comic book.” **Cosmopolitan**

**Monfils, Nadine: *LA PETITE FÊLEE AUX ALLUMETTES*
(Belfond, February 2012, 264 pages)**

A new thriller, full of black humour and poetry, by one of the most comical writers of crime novels.

One night, in the streets of Pandore, Nake, a young woman, meets a crazy man who abducted her. She manages to escape and takes refuge at her grandmother's place. Her grandmother raised her since her mother died when she was only a child. But Nake finds her grandmother dead, with a box of matches in her hand, which reminds our heroine of the famous *Little Match Girl's* story... She soon realises that each time she strikes a match, she can see a dreadful crime scene, one that really does take place only a few hours later...

Born in Belgium, Nadine Monfils is renown in the realm of crime novels. She has published several and has made her mark with her original writing style. Her last novel *LES VACANCES D'UN SERIAL KILLER* (Belfond, 2011) was a great success and has been translated into Italian (Neri Pozza).

“Really poignant, colourful, joyful!” **Jean-Pierre Jeunet (film maker)**

**Monfils, Nadine: *LES VACANCES D'UN SERIAL KILLER*
(Belfond/Place des editeurs, June-November 2012, 300 pages)
50,000 copies sold in France**

In this black comedy, the Destrooper family is on holiday at a bed & breakfast where another one of the guests is a serial killer who recently escaped from prison. After filming one of his murders, the teenage kids try to blackmail him. It's probably not wise to confront a serial killer, but then again, nobody has a Granny quite like theirs.

Rights sold to: Italy (Neri Pozza)

**Monfils, Nadine: *LES ENQUÊTES DU COMMISSAIRE LÉON VOL 1 & 2*
(Belfond/Place des editeurs, February 2012, 230 pages)**

In two volumes, rediscover the first four investigations of the quirky Commissioner Léon, the cop who secretly knits ever since he quit smoking, makes old-fashioned clothing for his dog, spends all of his time in a bistrot in Montmartre and still lives with his mother...Nadine Monfils in all her splendor!

**Pevel, Pierre: *L'ALCHIMIE DES OMBRES*
(*LES LAMES DU CARDINAL, VOL. 2*)
(Bragelonne, June 2009, 304 pages)**

**Continuation of the first book *LES LAMES DU CARDINAL*:
David Gemmell Legend Award 2010 !!!**

The book got a Starred Review in Publishers Weekly for its US publication in September 2010: “[A] breathless, swashbuckling tale of intrigue, spying, and swordfights. (...) A mostly straightforward adventure plot leaves plenty of room for character development, drama, and excitement.” Publishers Weekly

A great historical adventure of fantasy, full of suspense and new developments.

Paris, 1633. In the one hand, dragons under a human appearance are using witchcraft in order to reign supreme over Europe. In the other hand, Cardinal Richelieu who created a unit of elites with the bravest, the strongest and the cleverest men he could find. Six men and one woman who are ready to risk their own lives for the King: they are the Cardinal's Blades. They just cannot imagine the dangers that are awaiting them and that will force them to fight their most dangerous enemy: the Alchemist in the Shadows...

Pierre Pevel, born in 1968, is one of the foremost writers of French fantasy today. The author of seven novels, he was awarded the Grand Prix de l'Imaginaire in 2002 and the Prix Imaginales in 2005, both for best novel. He is the French translator for the James Bond series and an expert on TV series scriptwriting.

Foreign rights for the first volume sold to: World English rights (Orion Gollancz), Germany (Heyne), Netherlands (Mynx), Spain (Edhasa), Czech Republic (Albatros), Russia (Geleos), Estonian (Varrak) and Finland (Gummerus).

Sire Cédric: *DECHIRURES*

(Le Pré aux Clercs, November 2010, 252 pages)

Nine short stories that artfully blend fantasy and horror. This collection is full of evil twin sisters, romantic ghosts, demons and strange hybrid creatures on deserted highways...

Sire Cédric mixes beauty and horror, fears and dreams in these mesmerizing and chilling tales. Sire Cédric has written two collection of short stories and two novels for Le Pré aux Clercs.

Sire Cédric: *DE FIÈVRE ET DE SANG*

(Le Pré aux Clercs, March 2010, 456 pages)

A race against time to defeat a deadly force in this fast paced supernatural thriller. At the term of an investigation led by inspector Vauvert and Svärta, an albino profiler, the Salaville brothers are killed. The twosome had perpetrated sadistic ritual murders on young women. One year later however, the killings start again, but in Paris this time. All forensic evidence point to the brothers, but how can that be? Their investigation leads Svärta and Vauvert to Judith Saint-Clair, the deathly ill patient of a mental institution that also housed the Salavilles. They discover the incredible truth: Saint-Clair had manipulated the Salavilles into killing young women in order for her to accomplish magic rituals to stave off death. Nothing and no one will stop her from reaching her goal...

Sire Cédric: *DREAMWORLD*

(Le Pré aux Clercs, November 2009, 288 pages)

A selection of nine short stories in which Sire Cédric explores the world of dreams and nightmares.

Sire Cédric is a figure in the French Goth world. He is the singer in a rock band, a translator and a novelist. He has already published four novels, *DÉCHIRURES*, *ANGEMORT*, *L'ENFANT DES CIMETIÈRES* (2009) and *DREAMWORLD* (2009) by *Le Pré aux Clercs*.

ALL TITLES

| | |
|---|----|
| FICTION BACK-LIST | 1 |
| BEST-SELLERS | 1 |
| LITERARY FICTION | 1 |
| Boltanski, Christophe: <i>LA CACHE (THE HIDEOUT)</i> | 1 |
| Echenoz, Jean: <i>ENVOYEE SPECIALE (SPECIAL FEMALE CORRESPONDANT)</i> | 2 |
| Enard, Mathias: <i>BOUSSOLE (COMPASS)</i> | 2 |
| Laurens, Camille: <i>CELLE QUE VOUS CROYEZ (THE PERSON YOU THINK I AM)</i> | 3 |
| Trévidic, Marc: <i>AHLAM (AHLAM)</i> | 4 |
| Daoud, Kamel: <i>MEURSAULT, CONTRE-ENQUETE (MEURSAULT, COUNTER- INVESTIGATION)</i> | 4 |
| Binet, Laurent: <i>LA SEPTIEME FONCTION DU LANGAGE (THE SEVENTH FUNCTION OF LANGUAGE)</i> | 5 |
| Bonnefoy, Miguel: <i>LE VOYAGE D'OCTAVIO (OCTAVIO'S JOURNEY)</i> | 5 |
| Colin, Fabrice: <i>LA POUPEE DE KAFKA (KAKFA'S DOLL)</i> | 6 |
| Delaflotte Mehdevi, Anne: <i>LE PORTEFEUILLE ROUGE (THE RED PORTFOLIO)</i> | 6 |
| Minard, Céline: <i>FAILLIR ETRE FLINGUE (ALMOST SHOT DEAD)</i> | 7 |
| Gaudé, Laurent: <i>DANSER LES OMBRES (DANCE THE SHADOWS)</i> | 7 |
| Menegoz, Mathias: <i>KARPATHIA</i> | 8 |
| Winckler, Martin: <i>ABRAHAM ET FILS (ABRAHAM & SON)</i> | 9 |
| Le Corre, Hervé: <i>APRÈS LA GUERRE (AFTER WAR)</i> | 9 |
| Arditi, Metin: <i>JULIETTE DANS SON BAIN (JULIETTE IN HER BATH)</i> | 10 |
| Bayard, Pierre: <i>IL EXISTE D'AUTRES MONDES</i> | 10 |
| Blondel, Jean-Philippe: <i>06:41</i> | 11 |
| Chevillard, Eric: <i>JUSTE CIEL (HEAVEN SENT)</i> | 11 |
| Leclair, Bertrand: <i>LE VERTIGE DANOIS DE PAUL GAUGUIN</i> | 12 |
| Nedjma: <i>D'AMBRE ET DE SOIE (OF AMBER AND SILK)</i> | 12 |
| Pujol, Pascale: <i>PETITS PLATS DE RESISTANCE (SMALL RECIPES OF RESISTANCE)</i> ... | 13 |
| Scherrer, Pierre-Emmanuel: <i>LA DEFENSE FISCHER</i> | 13 |
| Toussaint, Jean-Philippe: <i>NUE</i> | 14 |
| Gallay, Claudie: <i>UNE PART DU CIEL</i> | 14 |
| Arditi, Metin: <i>LE TURQUETTO</i> | 15 |
| Fottorino, Eric: <i>LE DOS CRAWLÉ</i> | 16 |
| Malzieu, Mathias: <i>METAMORPHOSE EN BORD DE CIEL</i> | 16 |
| Leroy, Gilles: <i>ZOLA JACKSON</i> | 16 |
| Szalowski, Pierre: <i>LE FROID MODIFIE LA TRAJECTOIRE DES POISSONS</i> | 17 |
| Fermine, Maxime: <i>LE PAPILLON DE SIAM</i> | 17 |
| Ferney, Alice: <i>PASSÉ SOUS SILENCE</i> | 17 |
| Kim Thúy: <i>RU</i> | 18 |
| COMMERCIAL FICTION | 19 |
| Barbérat, Angélique: <i>LOLA OU L'APPRENTISSAGE DU BONHEUR (LOLA OR LEARNING TO BE HAPPY)</i> | 19 |
| Barbérat, Angélique: <i>BERTRAND ET LOLA (BERTRAND AND LOLA)</i> | 19 |
| Bertholon, Delphine: <i>LES CORPS INUTILES (USELESS BODIES)</i> | 19 |
| Sardou, Romain: <i>FRÁULEIN FRANCE</i> | 20 |
| Révay, Thérèse: <i>L'AUTRE RIVE DU BOSPHORE</i> | 20 |
| Bourdin, Françoise: <i>SERMENT D'AUTOMNE</i> | 20 |
| Bourdin, Françoise: <i>D'EAU ET DE FEU</i> | 21 |
| Teulé, Jean: <i>CHARLY 9</i> | 21 |
| Teulé, Jean: <i>FLEUR DE TONNERRE</i> | 21 |
| JM Erre: <i>LA FIN DU MONDE A DU RETARD</i> | 22 |

| | |
|--|----|
| Grand, Emmanuel: <i>TERMINUS BELZ</i> | 22 |
| Sylvain, Dominique: <i>L'ARCHANGE DU CHAOS (THE ARCHANGEL OF CHAOS)</i> | 23 |
| d'Aillon, Jean: <i>LE GRAND ARCANE DES ROIS DE FRANCE (THE GREAT SECRET OF THE KINGS OF FRANCE)</i> | 23 |
| Barde-Cabuçon, Olivier: <i>LES ENQUETES DU COMMISSAIRE AUX MORTS ETRANGES (INVESTIGATIONS OF THE COMMISSIONER OF DEAD STRANGE)</i> | 24 |
| Aubert, Brigitte: <i>THE CINEMATOGRAPH DETECTIVE</i> | 24 |
| Monfils, Nadine: <i>LA PETITE FÊLEE AUX ALLUMETTES</i> | 25 |
| Monfils, Nadine: <i>LES VACANCES D'UN SERIAL KILLER</i> | 25 |
| Monfils, Nadine: <i>LES ENQUÊTES DU COMMISSAIRE LÉON VOL 1 & 2</i> | 25 |
| Pevel, Pierre: <i>L'ALCHIMIE DES OMBRES</i> | 25 |
| Sire Cédric: <i>DECHIRURES</i> | 26 |
| Sire Cédric: <i>DE FIÈVRE ET DE SANG</i> | 26 |
| Sire Cédric: <i>DREAMWORLD</i> | 26 |