



Swiss Books Agency

French-language literature in Switzerland is made up of a diversity of authors whose origins are as varied as the subjects of their works. This richness is a real heritage waiting to be discovered by the rest of the world.

Swiss Books Agency is an association created in 2020 by several Swiss publishing houses. It has the effective role of a literary agency to represent French-speaking Swiss publishers and their publications, whether fiction, essays or comics. It promotes their authors by ensuring their international presence.

More info on [swissbooksagency.ch](https://www.swissbooksagency.ch)

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art&fiction

Since 2000, art&fiction has been a point of reference in French-speaking Switzerland, publishing works by, for and about Swiss artists. Documenting the works of visual artists in the realm of books and writing, as its name suggests, the collective also publishes authors of fiction.

More info on artfiction.ch



art&fiction

GENRE
novel

FORMAT
paperback

PUBLICATION
2025

EXTENT
300 pages



VIDYA GASTALDON *Ecstasy in Blue*

An exploration of the 1970s rave parties, techno music and utopian childhood



Ecstasy in Blue follows the life of Fleur, a young woman growing up in a bohemian yet structured environment, shaped by her intellectual and free-spirited parents.

She navigates childhood, adolescence, and early adulthood with a mix of responsibility, quiet rebellion, and introspection, finding solace in aesthetics and structure while resisting the chaotic spontaneity of the world around her.

As she encounters love, friendships, and societal expectations, Fleur wrestles with her inner contradictions—seeking both independence and belonging—while remaining skeptical of passionate, unrestrained emotions.



Vidya Gastaldon is a Franco-Swiss artist. Born in 1974 in Besançon, she lives and works in Geneva and in the Ain region on a farm on the Hautevilles-Lompnes plateau. From 1994 to 2001 she worked in collaboration with Jean-Michel Wicker. Over the years, she has developed a world close to the hippie and psychedelic aesthetic, New Age and abstract minimalism.

Publisher art&fiction [ShushLarry]
ISBN 978-2-88964-084-3
Price CHF 22 / € 15



art&fiction

GENRE
autobiography

FORMAT
paperback

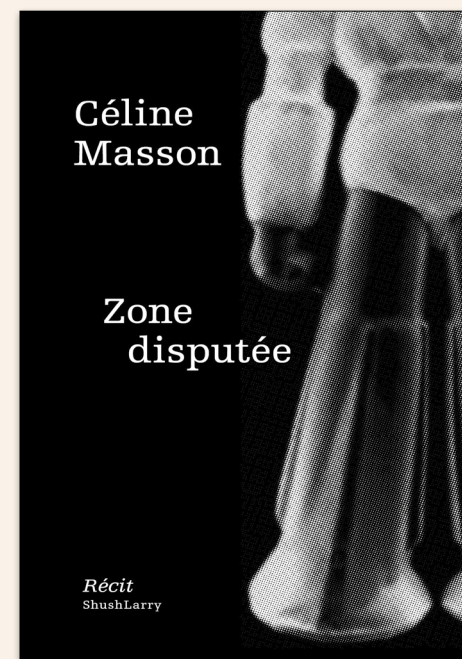
PUBLICATION
2025

EXTENT
300 pages



CÉLINE MASSON *Contested Area*

A story about reclaiming a body alienated by sports in the 1970s and 1980s



1982. A young girl is running. She runs and there is noise in her head. The orders of her coach, the song from the film *Fame*, strange mantras about the twist of her knuckles and the length of her hair. Before the race there was swimming and then gymnastics. And meanwhile, on the television, the bodies of Nadia Comăneci, Super Jaimie, Véronique and Davina suggest possibilities of movement, power and ecstasy. But there are also tears and that unbearable failure of triumphant medicine that transforms a birthmark on the thigh into a surgical massacre. A trauma in the face of which you have to put on a brave face to stay in your club, with the others. 'Effort, willpower, tenacity, surpassing oneself.'

With *Contested Area*, Céline Masson has composed an autobiography with fragments of memories, documents and a deeply moving correspondence with her mother.



The body is the main research tool of *Céline Masson* (*1973), a Swiss artist trained in Manchester, Sion and Sierre. Through her videos and performances, she manipulates her face and body to reveal weaknesses, monstrosities and absurdities. This work continues in a narrative, *Contested Area*, a true autobiography of her body.

Publisher art&fiction [ShushLarry]
ISBN 978-2-88964-098-0
Price CHF 16.50 / € 15



art&fiction

GENRE
graphic novel

FORMAT
hardback

PUBLICATION
2025

EXTENT
144 pages

GENRE
art nf

FORMAT
paperback

PUBLICATION
2024

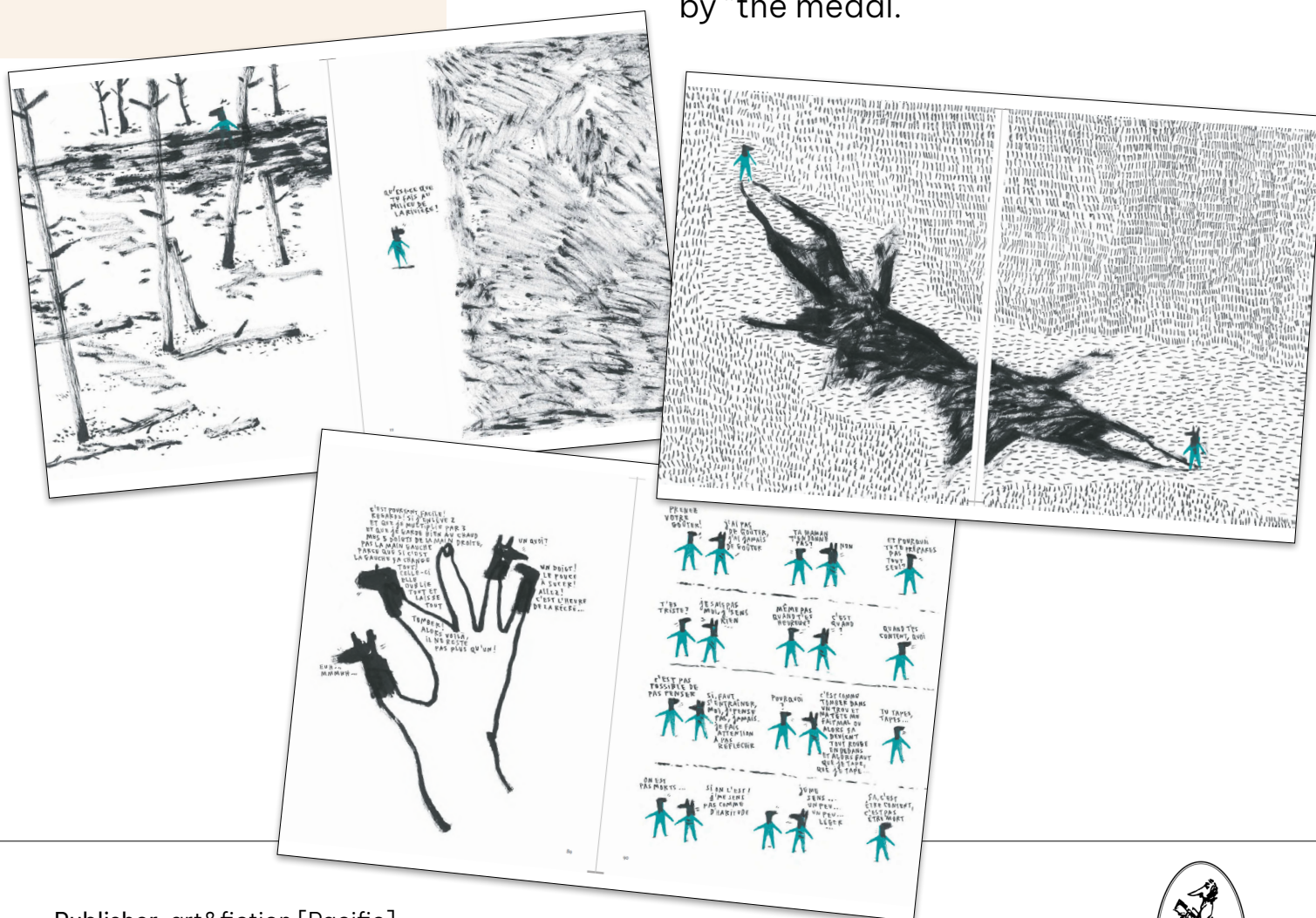
EXTENT
88 pages



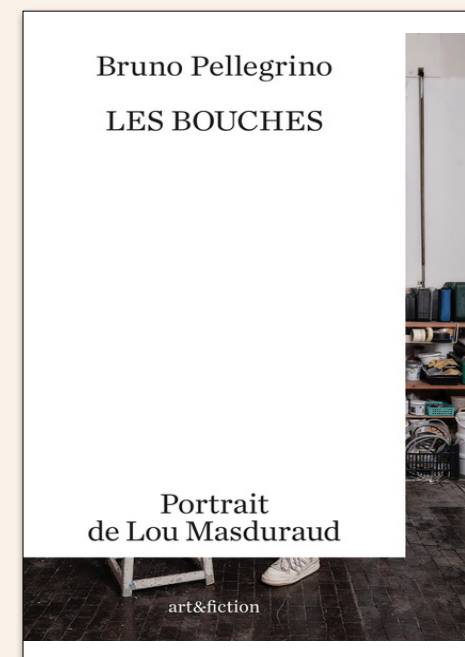
DÉBORA BEURET-STRAMBINI & MARIE-THÉRÈSE PICARD The Medal

By a river, two children gradually become friends through the stories they make up about the monsters they have to face...

Blending realism and metaphor and incorporating elements of Caribbean culture and history, *The Medal* explores deep themes of oppression, resistance, and transformation, around a protagonist facing a personal or societal struggle symbolized by “the medal.”



Publisher art&fiction [Pacific]
ISBN 978-2-88964-078-2
Price CHF 28.50



BRUNO PELLEGRINO Pipes

Akin to Pierre Adrian's touchful writing

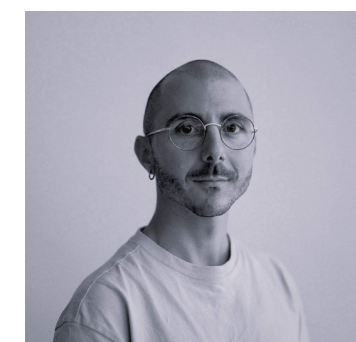
An intimate and delicate diary, this luminous account recounts a timeless year and gracefully celebrates friendship and creation

Bruno meets Lou Masduraud at the Swiss Institute in Rome during a fellowship. He is a writer, she is a sculptor. They soon develop a mischievous complicity, a light-hearted yet profound friendship that blossomed in the summer heat, in discussions during the golden hour and in strolls through the Eternal City. Captivated by the way the artist looks at the world, the author records with wonder the relief she gives to what surrounds them.

Lou shares with him her affection for ancient stone, her thoughts on Fascist town planning and her fondness for baby seagulls. A privileged witness to a work in progress, Bruno retraces for us her artistic research, which follows the trail of water and marble from public Roman fountains through the twists and turns of history and power.

Rome, an artist, fountains. In this luminous account, Bruno Pellegrino recounts a timeless year and gracefully celebrates friendship and creativity.

Publisher art&fiction [portraits]
ISBN 978-2-88964-081-2
Price CHF 18.50



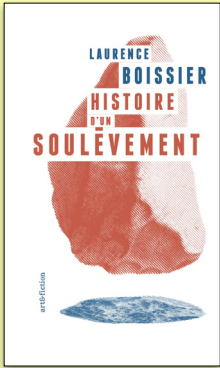
Bruno Pellegrino was born in Morges (Switzerland) in 1988. Winner of the Young Writer's Prize for his short story *L'idiot du village* (Buchet/Chastel, 2011), he published his first book, *Comme Atlas* (Zoé, 2015). Three years later, his novel *Là-bas, août est un mois d'automne* (Zoé) won the Prix des Libraires Payot, the Prix Alice Rivaz and the Prix Alain-Fournier.

LAURENCE BOISSIER



Born in Geneva in 1965, Laurence Boissier worked in various fields (interior designer, delegate at the ICRC, civil servant in the energy sector) while studying for a degree in literature. In 2006, she decided to change direction and enrolled at the Geneva University of Art and Design, where she obtained a Bachelor's degree in 'art/action' in 2009. An artist and author of several collections of texts and fiction, she was honoured in **2017 with a Swiss Literature**

Prize for *Inventory of Locations* (art&fiction, 2015). The same year saw the publication of her first novel, *Back to School* (2017), which earned her the Lausanne Readers' Prize, Pittard de l'Andelyn Prize and a nomination for the Roman des Romands Prize.

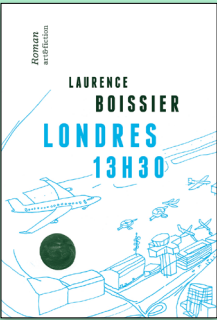


Story of an Elevation (2020)

A city girl who claims to be the author mixes her own memories of her first ski lessons and holiday flats rented by the family with those of an endearing fossil from time immemorial. All of the events that you will read have been recorded in a notebook that contains the strands of several

stories: the big one, that of the birth of the Alps, told by an eccentric guide; and the small one, that of the daily life of a group of hikers.

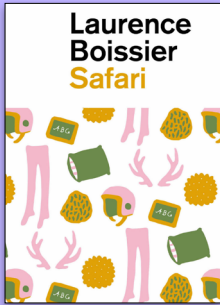
Rights sold to verlag die brotsuppe (German)
English sample available



London 1.30pm (2025)

Laurence Boissier's first (unpublished) novel. The manuscript disappeared for a long time, then reappeared surreptitiously during a tidy-up after the author's death. It features the themes that are dear to her: the interplay of echoes of personal trajectories, a marked attention to topography,

subtlety in the evocation of human bonds, the absurd importance of routines, the notation of insignificance and the ever surprising weight of emptiness.



Safari (2019)

On a typical safari, you might expect to see a lion eating an antelope or an elephant taking a shower. The one that Laurence Boissier offers us is of a completely different nature. We observe Homo sapiens in the throes

of couplehood, confronted with the complexities of gender and inhabited by a sense of his own importance.

Do you come back richer from a safari? Yes, no doubt, will be these short texts' readers. Written to be read on stage, these texts are also an exploration of languages.



Inventory of Location (2021)

Waiting in a corridor, occupying a bath for two, filling up with petrol, taking over a dance floor: we know how to use these places and we comply. When, for one reason or another, this usage escapes us, however, a situation arises that is commonly

referred to as "a moment of solitude", a slight departure from the norm. events that you will read have have been recorded in a notebook that contains the strands of several.



Back to School (2017)

The dead are problematic for the living, their emptiness can take up an enormous amount of space. That's how Mathilde goes back to school, how her mother gets lost in the big marital bed and how her brother finds himself in the oversized suit of the head of the family. Fortunately,

links are forged between living beings and the world we call inanimate. The father not only died, he was transformed. The void he has left is finally filled.

Rights sold to verlag die brotsuppe (German), Ana Pol Press (Persian)





MARISA CORNEJO The Mark – An Artist's Archive Rescued from State Terrorism

- A book that retraces the profound impacts of political coercion and forced immigration, which fragments the psyche of its victims
- A daughter's intimate account dedicated to the memory of her father

Rights sold to: LOM ediciones (Chili)

In 2006, a 3-cubic-metre crate was placed in front of a charming villa built two decades earlier on the outskirts of Geneva. It had arrived from Mexico and contained a few pieces of furniture, art objects, paintings, drawings, engravings and thousands of photographs. This is the core of the archive of Eugenio Cornejo, born in Santiago de Chile in 1940 and died in Puebla, Mexico, in 2002.

Marisa Cornejo, his daughter, organised the rescue of her father's archive. Its contents reveal the sunny side of the exile that took the family from Chile to Mexico, via Argentina, Bulgaria and Belgium, in a world at the height of the Cold War. Filling in the gaps in her memory as a young girl, it enables her to construct a narrative out of what had hitherto been an unspeakable traumatic confusion.

"Beyond the obvious therapeutic vein of the exte, which never overwhelms the reader with its accurate tone and controlled modesty, it is also its historical and political significance that makes this Empreinte so striking."

–Thierry Raboud, *La Liberté*



After Pinochet's *coup d'état* in 1973, **Marisa Cornejo's** family travelled to Argentina, Bulgaria, Belgium and Mexico, where she studied contemporary dance and visual arts at the UNAM. Since 2005, she has lived near Geneva with her three children. During her master's degree in visual arts at the HEAD, she began a research project on the theme of memory and forced migration, inspired by her personal history.



CÉLINE CERNY & LINE MARQUIS Fire and Birds – A Talisman for the World to Come

- A tender and hopeful tale for future generations
- Made into several theatre performances

Faced with the latent anxiety provoked by the state of the world as it is reported to us, **Céline Cerny** and **Line Marquis** put together a book, a collection of incantations and images. In response to this blurred threat, fuelled by thousands of images and figures, projections of the collapse of our political, economic and social systems whose forms and temporality are unknown. They are endeavouring to counter the staging of this dystopia with a resilient imaginary world.

In a series of fragments addressed to her loved one, the narrator combines reflections on our link to the animal kingdom and our most distant past, on the hope of a fluidity of genres, on the place of imagination and the power of stories in our lives.



Now a cultural mediator, author and storyteller, **Céline Cerny** lives in Lausanne with her two children. After working in critical publishing and for the Swiss Literary Archives in Berne, she spent three years running an intergenerational project based on the writing of memories. In 2015 she published her first work of fiction, *Les enfants seuls* (d'autre part, 2015).



Line Marquis was born in Delémont in 1982 and grew up in the Jura. After studying social work, she went on to do a bachelor's degree at HEAD in Geneva. In her studio in Lausanne, she devotes herself to drawing, engraving and painting. She juggles her artistic work between motherhood and social work. This subtle dynamic gives rise to her questions and feeds her artistic practice.



Antipodes

Antipodes was founded in 1995. Publishing around twenty books per year, their catalogue includes over 300 titles, mainly in the domain of social sciences: history, sociology, anthropology, philosophy, political science, psychology, but also comics and graphic novels with the Trajectoires collection and a new children's collection, Petitpodes.

More info on antipodes.ch

Antipodes

GENRE
chronicles

FORMAT
paperback

PUBLICATION
2025

EXTENT
300 pages



CHRISTOPHE GALLAZ In the Hollow of the World

Choosing among the thousands of columns and other texts produced by Christophe Gallaz, Christian Ciocca's selection allows us to better grasp this prolific author's personality and thoughts, challenging our views on our world

This selection invites the readers to the heart of their own existence, which also balances the arts with sport, literature with the realms of love or anxiety, childhood with pets, language with its tics or the city with environmental crime. A major invitation to track down the fragmented signs of our time - and then to connect them in order to better understand it and understand ourselves in it.

"Thank you for your splendid Sunday analyses, which are comforting and give a gentle and beautiful encouragement."
- **Jean-Luc Godard**

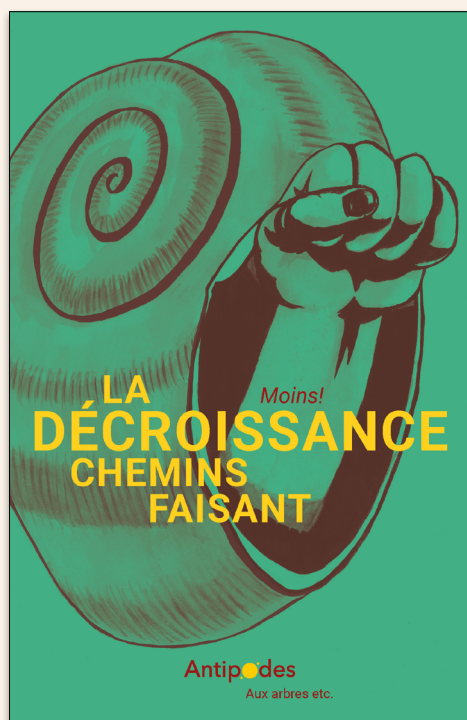
"Towards the heights of a sociology that the German philosopher Georg Simmel would not disown."
- **Le Nouveau Quoditien**



Born in 1948, **Christophe Gallaz** is the author of short stories, essays, children's books and texts accompanying paintings or photographs, as well as plays. As a scriptwriter, he regularly collaborates with Swiss and French filmmakers. He is a columnist in the Swiss press and writes for the *Monde* and *Libération* newspapers. He currently lives in Lausanne.

Publisher Antipodes [contre-pied]
ISBN 978-2-88901-273-2
Price CHF 33 / € 27

Antipodes



MOINS! Thinking About Degrowth A Political Ecology Manual

This book sets out to denounce dead ends and false trails, while presenting a number of paths inspired by the ideas of degrowth

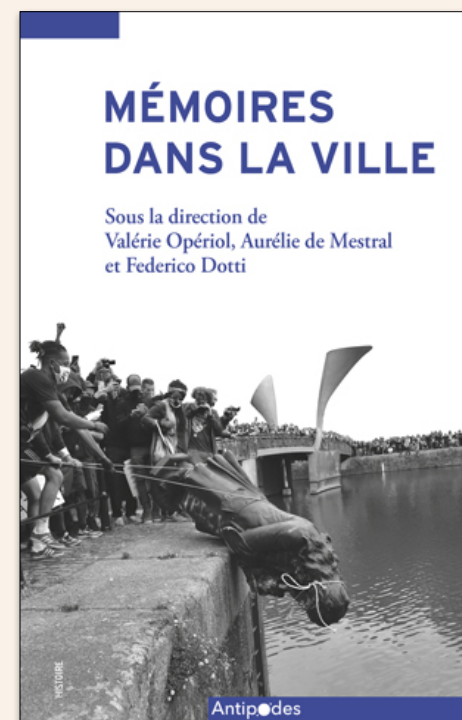
Ecology is everywhere. Organic products, “green” initiatives, “sustainable” projects, “eco-gestures”... We are being made aware, made to feel responsible. We are also being repressed and made to feel guilty. So sometimes we try to take action. For the climate, against pollution, for biodiversity. And yet our ecological impact – and Switzerland’s in particular – continues to grow. In an increasingly mobile, connected and dependent world, is this really surprising?

The crisis is not just ecological; it is also – and above all – social and economic, political and democratic, philosophical and anthropological. It is becoming increasingly clear that the disasters we are witnessing at various levels are linked, and that their roots lie precisely in our modern, ever-growing societies.

Based on in-depth articles and concrete proposals published in the journal Moins! over the last decade, it outlines alternative paths to a liveable, convivial future.

-Moins!

Moins! is a bimonthly political ecology journal published in French-speaking Switzerland since 2012 that promotes degrowth ideas. Led by a volunteer editorial team of activists, the journal aims to be a voice of protest and resistance, offering analyses and reflections to help us understand today’s world, while suggesting ways of building other ways of living together that are more egalitarian, supportive and sustainable.



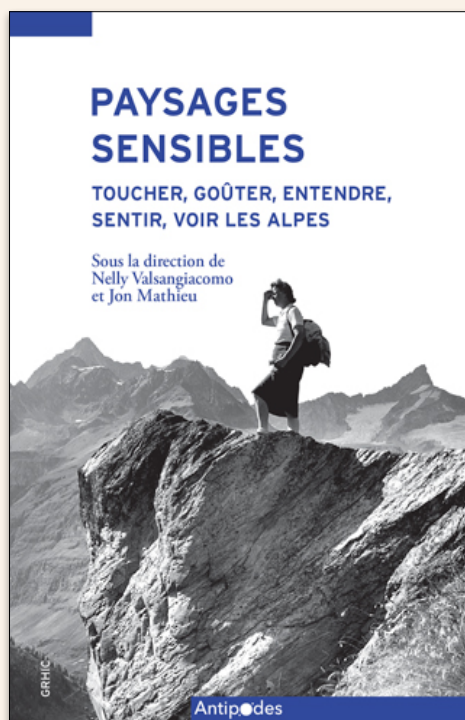
VALÉRIE OPÉRIOL, AURÉLIE MESTRAL & FEDERICO DOTTI Memories in Cities – A Sensitive Issue on Transmission

This book sets out a number of ideas on memorial markers to tackle the issue of memory from an anti-racist, decolonial or feminist perspective in schools

Today, statues, busts and street names are the subject of protest, demands and militant action. The place of memorial markers in the public space is being questioned from an anti-racist, decolonial or feminist perspective. This questioning is the expression of a societal evolution, directed towards a form of recognition of wounded and invisible memories in line with current vision and values. The result is a reflection on the future of monuments and toponyms.

This book looks at how these media and political debates are brought into schools. Experiments are carried out in the classroom to integrate these current issues into the history of slavery, colonisation, gender relations and the labour movement. The aim is to raise awareness of the historical facts, but also to examine the construction of these memories. In this way, pupils are encouraged to debate, to develop their agentivity and to train themselves to become enlightened or committed citizens.

L’Équipe de didactique de l’histoire et de la citoyenneté (History and Citizenship Teaching Team, ÉDHICE), at the University of Geneva, to which all the authors of the book belong, has carried a collective project. Its theme was developed as part of a research seminar for secondary school history teachers in training.



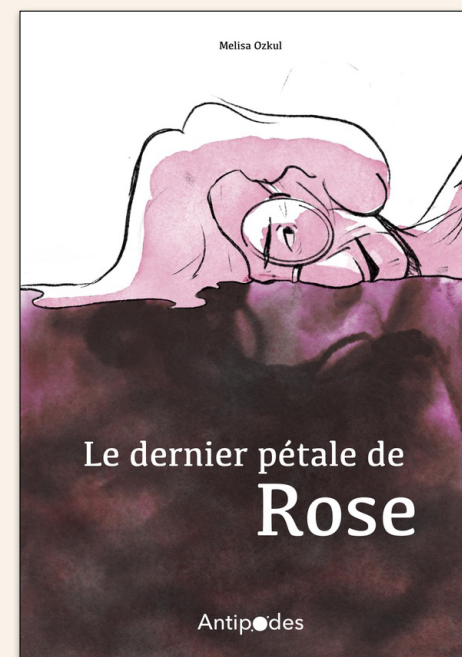
NELLY VALSANGIACOMO
& JON MATHIEU (DIR.)
**Sensitive Landscapes –Touch,
Taste, Listen, Feel, See the Alps**

How does it feel to be in the Alps? How do they taste? Do they form a special world of smells and scents? And what can we say about the auditory and visual impressions of this landscape?

This book takes readers on a journey through the Alps as perceived by the senses, past and present. Over the last few decades, scientific and social interest in the wealth of human perceptions has grown. The issue of the environment, which is becoming directly observable, has also contributed to this. Political and cultural players in the Alpine region are responding creatively to environmental changes and new ways of seeing things.

Nelly Valsangiacomo is Professor of Contemporary History at the University of Lausanne, Director of the Centre for Cultural History and a member of the Interdisciplinary Mountain Research Centre.

Jon Mathieu is a historian at the University of Lucerne specialising in economic, social and environmental history from the sixteenth to the nineteenth century. Many of his studies focus on mountain regions.



MELISA OZKUL
Roses's Last Petal

This fictionalised account of assisted suicide recounts the last moments of Rose, a grandmother suffering from an incurable disease who decides to resort to this not so harmless practice. She tells her adult children, Laura and Alexis, and the family has to face the difficulties that this choice entails. Through Rose's point of view, the story highlights self-mourning and raises existential reflections on our vision of life.

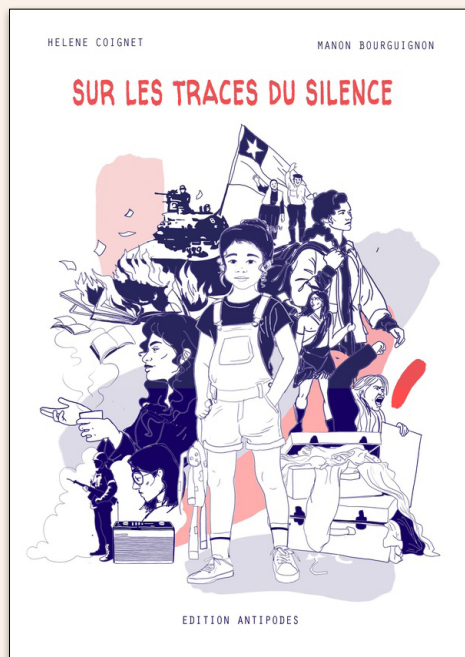


GENRE
testimony

FORMAT
hardback

PUBLICATION
2025

EXTENT
176 pages



MANON BOURGUIGNON & HÉLÈNE "HELEGRAPH" COIGNET Erika – Uncovering Silences

Erika was 5 when her life changed on 11 September 1973, the day of Pinochet's coup d'état in Chile. Fear invaded her home and led her family to flee the country for Switzerland. Propelled prematurely into the adult world, Erika grew up with wounded parents and burdensome family secrets. Torn between the desire to know and the fear of what she might discover, Erika wonders about the legacy she carries from her ancestors and tries to find her place in the family history.



Publisher Antipodes [Trajectoires]
ISBN 978-2-88901-256-5
Price CHF 32 / € 25

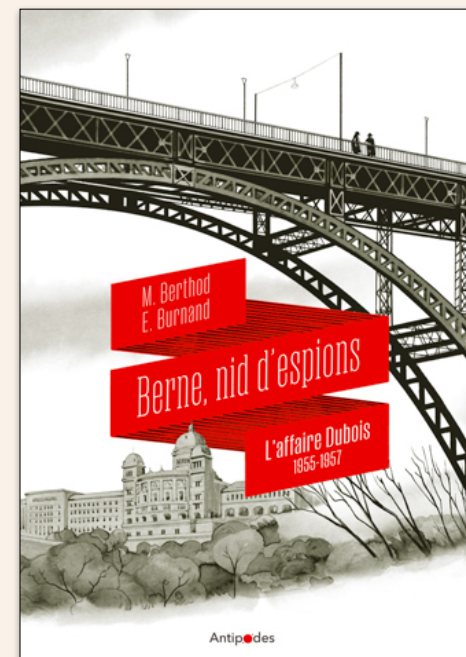
Antipodes

GENRE
illustrated NF

FORMAT
hardback

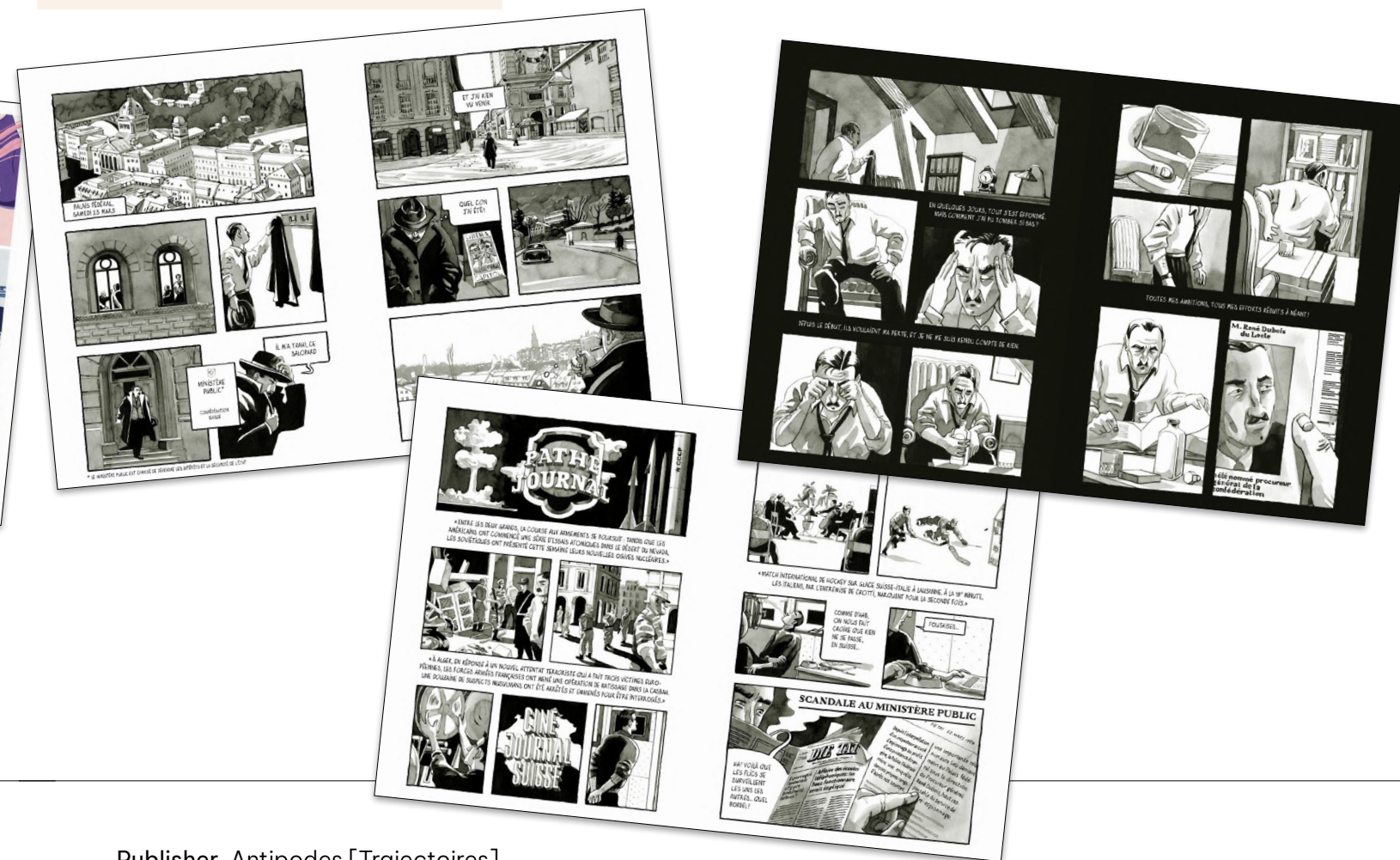
PUBLICATION
2023

EXTENT
180 pages



MATTHIEU BERTHOD & ÉRIC BURNAND Bern, Nest of Spies – The Dubois Case (1955–1957)

In March 1957, a serious espionage affair shattered Swiss neutrality. Against the backdrop of the Algerian War, the federal police and its chief, Attorney General Dubois, were accused of having passed on ultra-confidential information to the French secret services.



Publisher Antipodes [Trajectoires]
ISBN 978-2-88901-235-0
Price CHF 33 / € 26

Antipodes

GENRE
illustrated NF

FORMAT
hardback

PUBLICATION
2024

EXTENT
208 pages

GENRE
illustrated NF

FORMAT
hardback

PUBLICATION
2021

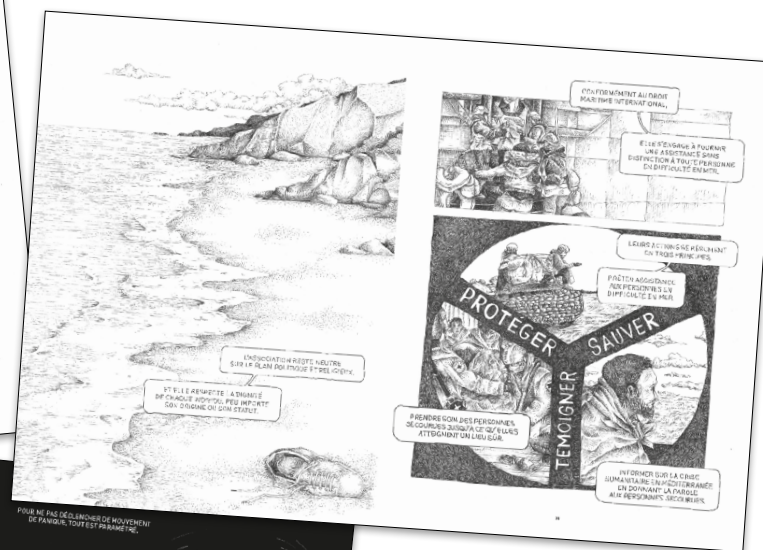
EXTENT
88 pages



MARIEMO Pied à terre

- Over 2, 000 copies sold

A month on board the Ocean Viking, the SOS *Méditerranée* humanitarian ship. Rescue operations, waiting, human trajectories, life on the boat... MarieMo gives us an immersive experience, precisely documented, on the hardships the refugees experience as they flee their home and seek a better life.



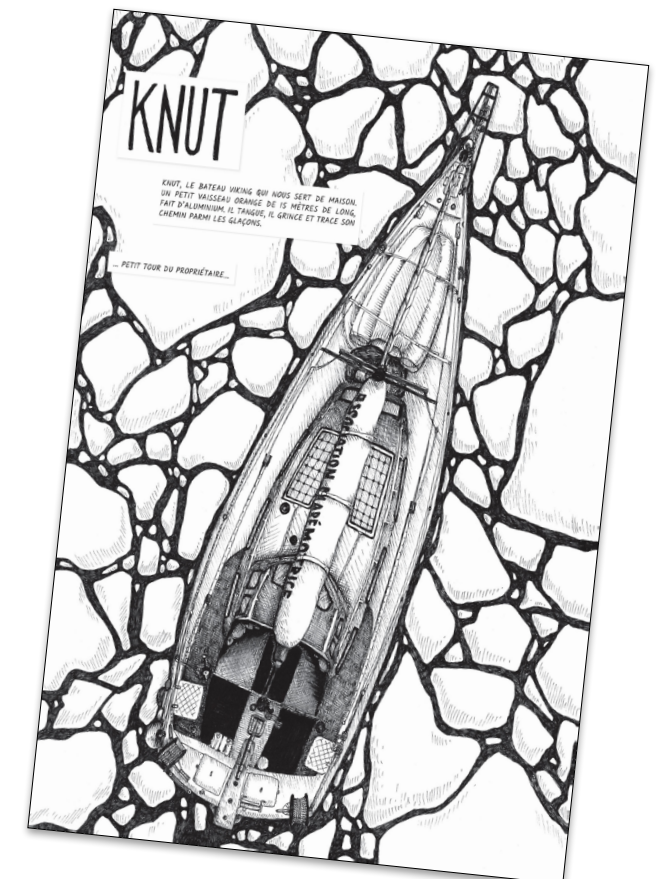
Publisher Antipodes [Trajectoires]
ISBN 978-2-88901-255-8
Price CHF 32 / € 27

Antipodes



MARIEMO Icy Hands

After returning from a residency along the Greenland coast aboard the sailing boat *Knut*, **MarieMo** put her testimony to paper through sketches beautifully illustrated with Indian ink. A mix of reality and marine fantasies, *Icy Hands* reveals the wonders and hazards of a continent in the grip of global warming. A dialogue between ocean, ice, wildlife, and illustrator.



Publisher Antipodes [Trajectoires]
ISBN 978-2-88901-212-1
Price CHF 30 / € 24

Antipodes

GENRE
graphic novel

FORMAT
hardback

PUBLICATION
2022

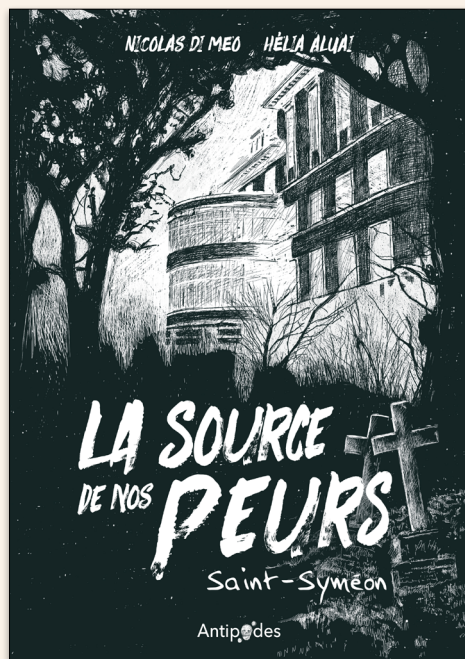
EXTENT
112 pages

GENRE
graphic novel

FORMAT
hardback

PUBLICATION
2025

EXTENT
112 pages



NICOLAS DI MEO & HÉLIA ALUAI The Source of Our Fears

An exciting and chilling story, enhanced by white-on-black drawings that convey uncertainty and dread. This book is interactive and multimedia; an app allows you to discover elements hidden in the drawings and to listen to some facts through sound.



Publisher Antipodes [Trajectoires]
ISBN 978-2-88901-224-4
Price CHF 32 / € 25

Antipodes



NICOLAS DI MEO & HÉLIA ALUAI The Source of Our Fears Vol. 2

In motels, souls pass through. They cross each other's paths without ever looking at each other, faces merge and fade away, in favour of anonymity. But the Motel Scarlet is not like that. Its spirit and its ghosts have allowed me to reaffirm my identity.

Author and multimedia creator, **Nicolas Di Meo** trained at an art and multimedia school (Eikon) and received the school's professional award in 2010. Initially fascinated by what writing can reveal, he works on the appropriation of the unknown, the mysterious and things that are kept quiet. He published a coming-of-age novel, *Le Malaise des Étoiles*, in 2014. *The Source of Our Fears*, an interactive graphic novel illustrated by Hélia Aluai, was published by Éditions Antipodes in September 2022. From 2023, he will be



writing scripts for television and cinema series and feature films.



Hélia Aluai was born in Cape Verde in 1973, then moved to Espinho, Portugal, where she spent her childhood and adolescence. In Porto, she studied fine arts and sculpture at the FBAUP and graduated in 2000. In addition to her artistic activities, for

which she has won awards, she teaches drawing and has also been part of the CINANIMA animation film workshop, where she has been invited to be a member of the jury in 2023. She continues her education and in 2014 obtained a Master's degree in architecture from ESAP. Her artistic work between motherhood and social work. This subtle dynamic gives rise to her questions and feeds her artistic practice.

Publisher Antipodes [Trajectoires]
ISBN 978-2-88901-275-6
Price CHF 27 / € 25

Antipodes

Hélice Hélas

Since 2011, Hélice Hélas Éditeur produces and publishes literature and independent comics. Its eclectic catalogue seeks to establish connections between different universes: 'baroque', 'epic' or 'punk' literature, Swiss science fiction, translations of ancient texts, pamphlets, essays or even artists' books.

More info on helicehelas.org

HELICE HELAS
(Y)

GENRE
novel

FORMAT
paperback

PUBLICATION
2025

EXTENT
256 pages



MICHAEL HUGENTOBLER

Tierras del Fuego

The untold and fictionalised story behind Thomas Bridge's *Yamana-English* dictionary

A story on the rise of fascism and the importance of protecting diversity

As the Nazi regime established its racial ideologies, ethnology collections were under threat in Germany and in Austria, whose annexation was imminent. For recalcitrant intellectuals such as the professor and ethnolinguist Ferdinand Hestermann, the provocations were a daily occurrence. Together with other colleagues, he plans to move the library of the Anthropos Institute in Vienna, one of the most extensive collections in Europe, to Switzerland.

Ferdinand Hestermann also hopes to safeguard a book in his possession that has a strange hold over him: the Yamana-English dictionary of the missionary Thomas Bridge. The work of a lifetime, this dictionary is a gateway to the most fascinating and poetic concepts and languages of Tierra del Fuego in Patagonia.

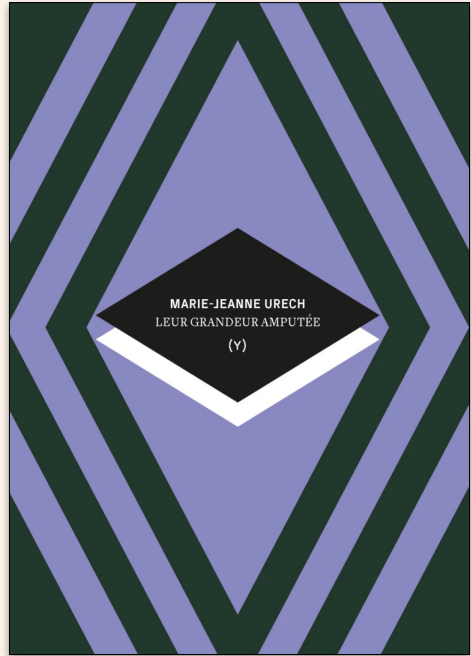
A strange journey then begins for Ferdinand Hestermann to find a refuge for these archives of Humanity.



Michael Hugentobler was born in 1975 in Zurich. He is now a freelance journalist and author, and lives with his family in Aarau, Switzerland. In 2021, he was nominated for the Schweizerer Buchpreis for *Feuerland*.

Publisher Hélice Hélas [Mycélium mi-raisin]
ISBN 978-2-940700-67-7
Price CHF 26 / € 22

HELICE HELAS
(Y)



Their Amputated Greatness

Rights sold to: Rotpunkt Verlag (German)

In a city that is being stripped to its bones, a Mother Courage and her two children search the empty apartments for a semblance of normality. The home of Jean Tabard, recently incinerated in the incandescent hole, offers them security and provisions. But it lacks a refrigerator. The mother sets off in search of this essential appliance, the last symbol of the electric fairy and a progressive society...

Their Amputated Greatness is the final instalment of a triptych, forging links through its theme and its world with *The Unsteady Earth* (2019) and *K as in Almanach* (2022). With her inventive style, full of neologisms, revaluing popular and regionalist speech, Marie-Jeanne Urech concludes a literary exploration of our ways of living through the crisis. Far from alarms and disaster scenarios, she tackles the theme of the Collapse through a style of avoidance and fragmentation, suggesting ecological issues and their impacts through precise and subtle language, with clues and innuendos to be read between the lines.



The Unsteady Earth

A satire of our society, a reflection on human nature, an ode to new beginnings

Rights sold to: Rotpunkt Verlag (German)

With his father freshly buried, Bartholomé de Ménibus flees the archetypal village in the valley - its dairy, abattoir and café - to see what the other side of the mountain is like. In the neighbouring country, asphalt roads spit out machinery and, on a bench, old people languish and wait for their children who have abandoned them to go on holiday. The cows have portholes so that we can take a look at them: 'It's a showcase for the product' explains the farmer. Bartholomé decides to carry on and climb the next mountain.

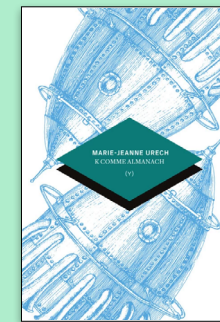
The Unsteady Earth is a disturbing book. Paradoxes and other pearls of inventiveness open the way to a deeper wisdom: if mountains look alike and apparently lead to other mountains, each town Bartholomé encounters is unique, grappling with unbridled production ratios or waste management or impurities to hide or bury.

Marie-Jeanne Urech



Born in Lausanne in 1976 and a lifelong poet, Marie-Jeanne Urech began her career in film after graduating from the London Film School as a director. After spending several years nurturing her talents and directing feature-length documentaries, she turned to writing and now devotes herself fully to this activity. Since her first collection of short stories, she has written a series of collections of short stories. The touching humanity that permeates

her fiction led her to win the Rambert Prize for *Les Valets de nuit* (L'Aire 2013) and the Bibliomedia Prize. At Hélice Hélas, she has published the novels *Malax* in 2017, *The Unsteady Earth* in 2018, *K as in Almanach* in 2022 and *Their Amputated Greatness* in 2025.



K as in Almanach

Rights sold to: Rotpunkt Verlag (German)

Hope at all costs. Every evening, Simon uses his pole to light the city's street lamps. While the population flocks to the idealized Belgador, never to return, he strives to contain the inevitable advance of darkness. All around him, buildings are cracking, the city is being eaten away by

suffocating vegetation. Yet Simon has no intention of abandoning his city and its last remaining inhabitants. At Lacmer, this Stakhanov of hope takes in the little boy, a lost and found spat out by the waves, traumatised and mute. He too has left his country for another idealized land. Simon sets out to teach him what he values most: a job well done, caring for others and language.



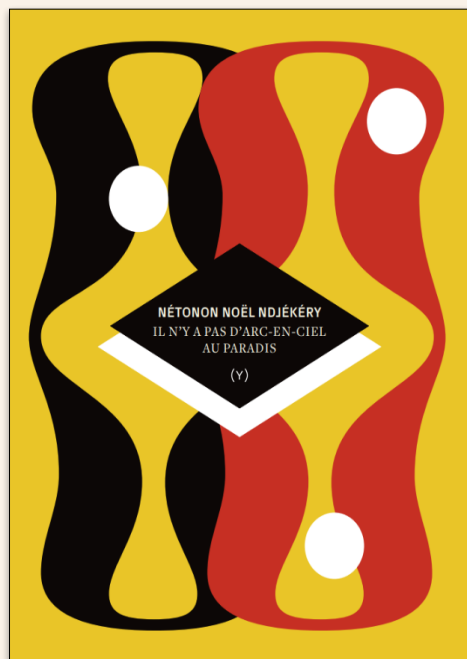
Malax

Rights sold to: Rotpunkt Verlag (German)

A man lies dead on the pavement. In his pockets, a ten-franc note, a key, a pen, a trashy novel, a thimble, but no identity papers. Time is running out. Soon, the body will have to be removed from the fridge to make room for the Brigade's Christmas turkey. Inspector Jean will leave no stone

unturned to give a proper burial to the man whom science will name Pierre, like those prehistoric skeletons that are given a human identity.

An urban investigation, labyrinthine, hazardous and with an improbable outcome. A black, sombre universe, infused with rare warm colours, a cold narrative that quickly gains our sympathy and holds our attention.



NÉTONON NOËL NDJÉKÉRY There's no Rainbow in Heaven

- 2022 Hors Concours Prize Winner
- 2022 Grand Prix littéraire d'Afrique Noire
- 2023 Prix Lettres frontières

This novel is a plunge into the horrors of the trans-Saharan slave trade. From the caravans to the Arabian Peninsula, through the French colonial period, the enlistment of African riflemen during the First and Second World Wars the rise of the Boko Haram jihadist movement, Ndjékéry tells the story of two hundred years of deprivation of freedom and human exploitation in the region of present-day Chad. The title is an explicit reference to the various missionary programmes that promised, and still promise, the people of Black of black Africa to be 'whitened' by entering a paradise, either Christian or Muslim. Christians or Muslims.

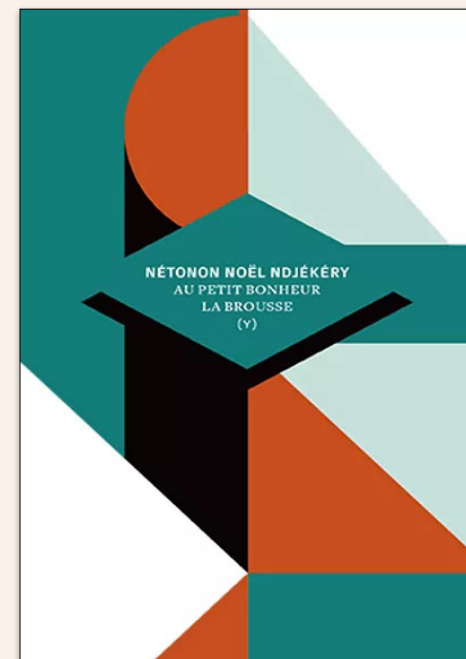
At odds with these programmes, the author paints a portrait of a multifaceted Africa, with diverse beliefs and ways of living together. On a moving island in Lake Chad, the author invents a utopian society that could lay the foundations of a project that, following in the footsteps of Achille Mbembe, we might call 'Afropolitan'. 'Afropolitan'. However, the price of this utopia is that of isolation and a dangerous ignorance of the torments of history and the of today's African nation-states.



© JOAO CARDOSO

Nétonon Noël Ndjékéry was born in Moundoun, Chad, and began his writing career with his first short story, published by Radio-France Internationale. Since then, he has lived on the shores of Lake Geneva in Switzerland. He has written six novels. In 2017, he was awarded the Grand Prix Littéraire National du Tchad for his body of work.

HELICE HELAS
(Y)



NÉTONON NOËL NDJÉKÉRY A Little Happiness in the Bush

A novel at the crossroads of idioms and accents, between Switzerland and its ideal of whiteness and order, and Chad marked by the arbitrariness of a 'badly tamed' post-colonial history.

One evening, the young Bendiman's father, a diplomat, is called back from Switzerland to Chad with the whole family. But at Ndjamenan airport, a black car takes his parents away, while he finds himself in a car driven by an uncle. The next day, he learns that his father and mother have been arrested and held incommunicado for 'reasons of state'.

Bendiman then embarks on a quest to get his parents out of prison in a country he knows nothing about, a country in civil war and reeling from a massive influx of petrodollars, a country where the law has never really left the books to enter people's daily lives.

Nétonon Noël Ndjékéry narrates the adventures of a Chadian child who grew up in Geneva and was nourished by the mythologies of the good little Helvetians: William Tell, the Motherland, the Red Cross and much more. Halfway between a fairytale and a tale of initiation, Bendiman is the unwilling hero of a ride through languages and moral imaginations.

Publisher Hélice Hélas [Mycélium mi-raisin]
ISBN 978-2-940522-95-8
Price CHF 20 / € 16



© JOAO CARDOSO

Nétonon Noël Ndjékéry was born in Moundoun, Chad, and began his writing career with his first short story, published by Radio-France Internationale. Since then, he has lived on the shores of Lake Geneva in Switzerland. He has written six novels. In 2017, he was awarded the Grand Prix Littéraire National du Tchad for his body of work.

HELICE HELAS
(Y)

Héros-Limite

Éditions Héros-Limite was founded in Geneva in 1994 by Alain Berset, amid several tonnes of lead type, a proof press and a paper cutter. Associating a letterpress printing workshop with a publishing house was linked to a perception of literature. A starting point. We still believe that writing can only be a craft, and that the conditions under which a book is created are not indifferent or insignificant. Initially, Héros-Limite devoted itself to artists' books, to visual and concrete poetry, to poetry when it leaves the printed page. Today, we publish poetic prose, narratives and, more generally, writings and sound documents that find their meaning in the search for a form and thus give life to the expression of an artistic practice.

More info on heros-limite.com

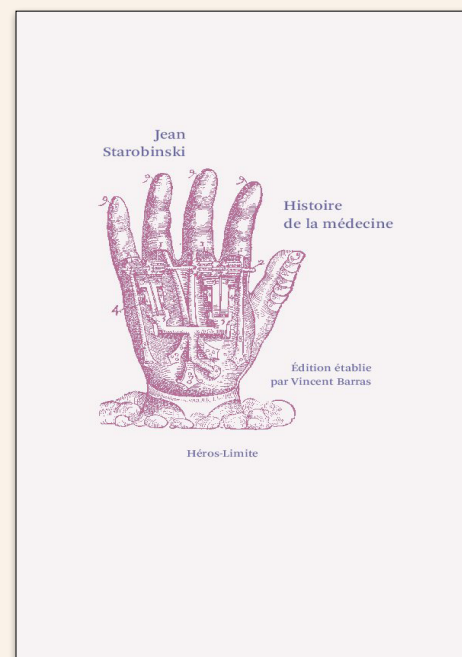
HEROS-LIMITE

GENRE
essay

FORMAT
paperback

PUBLICATION
2020

EXTENT
112 pages



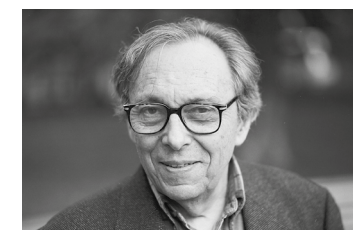
JEAN STAROBINSKI History of Medicine

- A major twentieth-century thinker
- Iconography from Nicolas Bouvier

Rights sold to: Commercial Press (Chinese),
Raffaello Cortina (Italian)

Tor the essayist, critic and man of culture Jean Starobinski, the history of medicine lies at the exact crossroads between his training and his interests as a doctor, literary critic and historian of ideas and science. As a philosopher, he dreamed of a history without frontiers, one that would link the different fields of knowledge – literature, the arts, the sciences, philosophy and medicine – a history in which he proved to be one of the most eminent specialists of his century.

In this book, he draws on these different disciplines, demonstrating with remarkable coherence the way in which they have been mutually nourished in the development, over the centuries, of the figure of the doctor, of all the diagnostic and therapeutic means at his disposal, and of the nature of the bond that unites him with the patient. In so doing, he invites us to embrace a philosophy that addresses the fundamental values of our existence, and to take a critical look at medicine, suggesting that it 'will only make us happier if we know exactly what to ask of it'.



A student of literature and medicine, **Jean Starobinski** earned a doctorate in both disciplines. He turned out to be an eclectic thinker, admiring the Enlightenment, which he never ceased to study and whose ideal of humanist thought he embodied. A teacher of the history of ideas and medicine, he is the author of numerous works in the fields of philosophy, art criticism, the history of ideas and psychiatry. He died in Morges on 4 March 2019, aged 98.

Publisher Héros-Limite
ISBN 978-2-88955-041-8
Price CHF 28 / € 20

HEROS-LIMITE

GENRE
short essays

FORMAT
paperback

PUBLICATION
2024

EXTENT
192 pages

GENRE
biography

FORMAT
paperback

PUBLICATION
2023

EXTENT
360 pages



ALICE RIVAZ The Knitting Machine

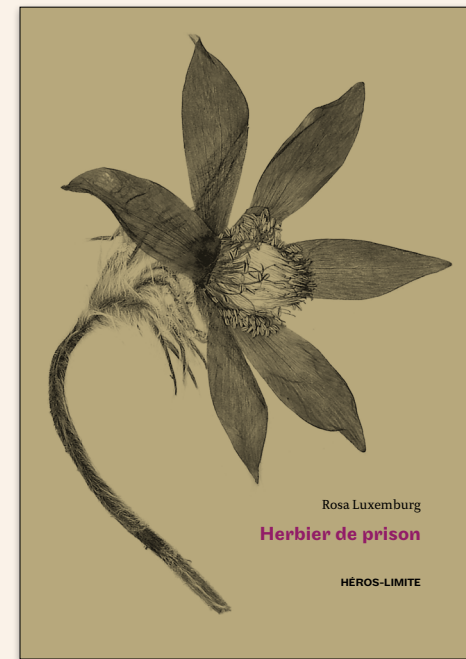
- Themes anchored in femnism in an approach reminiscent of Svetlana Alexievitch
- A fascinating descent into the everyday lives of working women, illustrated by a meticulous writing

From September 1944 onwards, Alice Rivaz wrote a series of investigative articles for the weekly *Servir* about women's occupations. In them, she described the working conditions of housekeepers and home workers, and reported on their experiences. The tone of these articles is resolutely empathetic: the aim, as the title of the series indicates, is to 'listen to those who work', in other words to those whose voices are scarcely heard or considered. Rivaz is not content to present the stories of women's working lives in an unbiased way; she becomes involved in the portraits of the women she meets, showing them what they do and how they do it. She also questions them about the more material aspects of their tasks (activities, use of time, quantified income, family budget, etc.), seeking to bring to light the material reality of their precarious occupations.

Alice Rivaz experimented with different forms of writing and confronted the political and social issues that were to recur in most of her books: the working-class condition, the social question, war, women's suffrage, and the situation of women in the world of letters.



Alice Rivaz (1901–1998) is a major figure in twentieth-century French-language literature. She wrote a considerable body of work, deeply rooted in her own century. From 1959, she devoted herself fully to her writing, focusing on themes close to her: women, work, solitude and literature. Several of her books have won major awards and have been translated into German and Italian.



ROSA LUXEMBOURG The Jail Herbarium

- Luxemburg's intimate account of her life as an imprisoned socialist revolutionary
- Preface by Muriel Pic
- Bestseller – fourth reprint!

What could be more iconoclastic than a herbarium compiled within four walls, without the expanse of nature? As well as a few flowers and weeds gleaned from the prison courtyard, Rosa Luxemburg received letters from her close friends containing dried specimens or bouquets of fresh flowers that she herself pressed. Rosa Luxemburg never ceased to encourage those close to her to keep up their joie de vivre and cheerfulness, while the clouds she glimpsed through a barred window took on the colours of war and steel.

About the editor: **Muriel Pic** is the author of documentary stories and poems, critical essays, experimental films and collages. In 2010 she published *Les désordres de la bibliothèque*, an essay with photographic montages, followed by *Élégies documentaires* in 2016 and the story *En regardant le sang des bêtes* in 2017. *Affranchissements* (Seuil, 2020) received a special mention in the Prix Wepler and was nominated for the Prix Médicis essai.



Rosa Luxemburg remains a major figure in the revolutionary socialist movement. Born in 1871 in a Polish town, she went into exile in Switzerland to study. Opposed to Lenin on the question of centralisation and armed insurrection, she campaigned to bring about revolution by raising the consciousness of the working class. She spent the First World War in prison, writing letters of unparalleled lyricism and intelligence.

La Baconnière

Founded in 1927 by Hermann Hauser, **À la Baconnière** was Very active in the Swiss literary field of the 1930s (comparable to Skira in art publishing), and started to weigh on the European intellectual scene at the end of the Second World War. As a spiritual resistance over Nazism and in order to create a refuge for free thought, La Baconnière developed the *Cahiers du Rhône* collection in 1942, under the drive of Albert Béguin. During the war, this collection thus succeeded in supporting the struggle of French writers for France's values at the heart of a threatened Europe by publishing works of Charles Péguy, Louis Aragon, Jean Cassou, Paul Claudel, Paul Éluard, Loys Masson, Pierre Jean Jouve, St-John Perse, Jean Cayrol or Jules Supervielle.

La Baconnière soon became pivotal in the definition of a Swiss and European carrefour for the intellectual and literary life, publishing Denis de Rougemont's federalists essays and writings from the Geneva school of authors: Jean Starobinski, Michel Jeanneret, John E. Jackson. A new poetry collection, *La Mandragore qui chante* was created in the early 1970s. It published texts by Pierre Emmanuel amongst others. A philosophy collection, *Être et penser*, also had its glory hour when it printed Jeanne Hersch, Vladimir Jankélévitch and Maine de Biran.

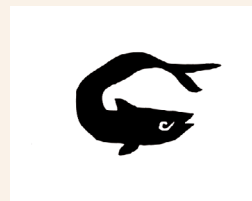
With nearly 1,500 titles in its catalogue (250 in stock) covering all fields of thought history, from philosophy to literary and musical criticism to Fine Arts, La Baconnière undoubtedly contributed to the development of the Swiss intellectual identity of the 20th century, publishing the texts of the famous "Rencontres Internationales de Genève".

After three decades of inactivity, Laurence Gudin bought La Baconnière in December 2011. The new house remains faithful to its historical focus on quality of its timeless essays and works of fiction. It is currently reviving parts of its historical collection: the most relevant authors whose titles are now out of print are reissued, such as recently *Le monde du silence* by philosopher and poet Max Picard.

The "Languages" collection was rekindled in 2012 under the direction of Professor Daniel Sangsue of the University of Neuchâtel. It has already welcomed eminent names (Jean-François Louette, Philippe Hamon, Philippe Dufour, etc.) for literary criticism outside the framework of academic didactic essays.

In the field of fiction, La Baconnière publishes French-speaking Swiss writers of different generations, such as André Ourednik, Florian Eglin or Raluca Antonescu, whose often very distant worldviews provides a large cultural scope. Two collections of foreign literature, "80 mondes" and "Ibolya Virág", contain a selection of works previously inedited in French which impacted on the 20th century and nourished European intellectuals. It has also been translated fiction since 2012 by promoting some of the great voices that have built contemporary European literature, such as the poetic lines of the Italian Anita Pittoni, the wonderful naturalistic stories of the Scottish Kathleen Jamie or the corrosive tone of Serguei Dovlatov's Russian works.

More info on editions-baconniere.ch



GENRE
essay

FORMAT
paperback

PUBLICATION
2025

EXTENT
180 pages



ALEXANDRE CHOLLIER November, November

- 170 pictures of the original Apollo 17 mission

"The further we are from Earth, the greater its attraction."

During the final journey to the Moon in December 1972, the Apollo 17 crew took the famous *Blue Marble* photograph on the film NN (November November). It was the first image of a perfectly round Earth, and had a profound and lasting impact on our common imagination.

This documented account tells the story of both the lunar missions and the development of space photography, and places us side-by-side the astronaut-photographers of the Apollo 17 mission.

This short essay also looks at the critical reception of *Blue Marble*, which was sometimes naive or self-serving, and puts it into context by reproducing all 170 photographs from the film NN.



Alexandre Chollier lives in Geneva. A geographer and writer, he is the author of numerous contributions at the crossroads of geography and literature. He is a specialist on the Anarchist cartographer Élisée Reclus, about whom he wrote a book commissioned by the Bibliothèque de Genève. He also collaborates regularly with the Visioncarto.net platform dedicated to cartography.

Publisher La Baconnière
ISBN 978-2-8896-0159-2
Price CHF 21.50 / € 17.80



GENRE
essay

FORMAT
paperback

PUBLICATION
2025

EXTENT
150 pages

KARELLE MÉNINE

Interrogated, She Answers

The author, an historian, reflects on the nature of archives and their role in preserving memory, identity, and history.



Karelle Ménine is a Franco-Swiss artist born in Mazamet in 1972. She works on ego documents, archives of all sorts created by normal individuals.

History is not a simple accumulation of facts but a fragile and complex construction that depends on what is remembered, preserved, and, conversely, what is erased or ignored. Yet, not all archives are created with the intention of remembrance; some serve to control, condemn, and silence. Such was the case on judicial archives or records from the Inquisition.

Chief among those archives are certainly the memories produced during about about the Holocaust and the stories of Jeanine Frydman, who survived the death camps, or Mala Zimetbaum, a prisoner who resisted her executioners.

Moving fluidly between different types of archives (a volcanic stone, echoes of ancient songs in a cave...) the author demonstrates how memory is not only stored in paper but also in objects, landscapes, and even voices.

***Interrogated, She Answers* presents the archive as both a place of preservation and rupture. It is where lost voices are recovered but also where history reveals its wounds—what was censored, what was rewritten, what was left unnamed.**



GENRE
essay

FORMAT
paperback

PUBLICATION
2022

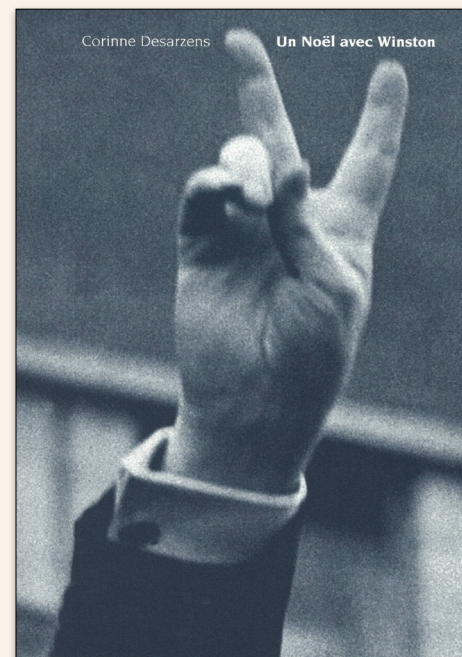
EXTENT
168 pages

CORINNE DESARZENS

A Christmas With Winston

- 2022 Wepler Prize – Nominated
- 2023 Michel-Dentan Prize – Winner
- Churchill's life as never seen before

Rights sold to: Editura Eikon (Romanian),
Vakxikon (Greek)



Turning her back on a linear biography in favour of a freer form, Corinne Desarzens welcomes the decisive moments, the anecdotes and the stories that draw the monstrous portrait of a brilliant and unpredictable Winston Churchill.

We discover, following the sequences of his life, the tensions during the vote to replace Chamberlain, the atmosphere of the Yalta Conference, the mnemonic methods of the old lion to remember his 1700 speeches, his home which was a world in and of itself, as well as his debts, his fuel....

An intimate portrait of a man of excesses. Beyond his qualities and faults lay a savage, a phoenix, a being that nothing could bring down.



Born in Sète in 1952, **Corinne Desarzens** began her career as a journalist, then as a translator, then as an author of novels, short stories and travelogues. She is passionate about the art of intercepting conversations, appearing and disappearing. She won the Swiss Prize of Literature with her novel *La Lune bouge lentement mais elle traverse la ville* (La Baconnière, 2021)



GENRE
essay

FORMAT
paperback

PUBLICATION
2021

EXTENT
128 pages

GENRE
novel

FORMAT
paperback

PUBLICATION
2024

EXTENT
112 pages



PIERRINE POGET Warda's Wanders - Cairo's Notebooks

- 2021 Médicis Essay Prize – Nominated
- 2022 Hors concours Prize – Nominated

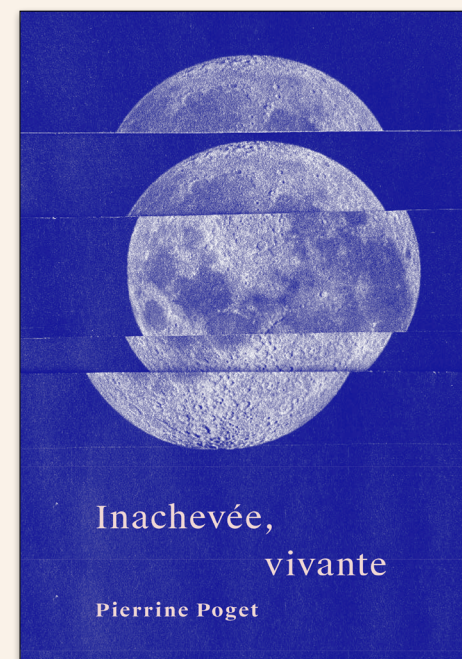
Strolling through the streets, doubting her perceptions, fantasising about aggression, the narrator moves back and forth between reality and illusion, torn between pleasure and the fear of drifting.

Two years later, Pierrine dives back into her notebooks, searching for a glimmer of something which could bring meaning to her troubled and worrying memories. Later still comes a third act, when this unusual travel diary becomes even more distorted and is turned towards the present.

A solitary stay in Cairo. An experience of strangeness, awkwardness and vulnerability in a labyrinthine city that welcomes wanderers.



Pierrine Poget was born in Geneva in 1982. She has published three books of poetry, including *Fondations* (Empreintes, 2016), which won the prestigious C.F. Ramuz poetry prize.



PIERRINE POGET Incomplete, Alive

- English and Dutch samples available
- The author's second novel

Unfinished in its relationship with herself, but alive: Pierrine Poget paints the tragic and marvellous upheavals of a life.

The narrator tells the story of a body that has been abused and subjected to violence, and how it is rebuilt, in the luminous memories of childhood or in the abandonment to the 'mystery greater than oneself' of motherhood. The sweetness of this enclosed world gives rise to torpor, broken by new love.

As she struggled to find her own way, the works of Jean-Baptiste Camille Corot, Édouard Vuillard, Berthe Morisot and Heidi Bucher drew her attention to these pivotal periods of transformations. Following their example, she dares to shake up the balance that had been patiently crystallised – to become a woman, a mother and a writer.

"Here is a woman in suspense, struggling to access the living part of herself (...) A powerful text, in which the heroine finally allows herself to give birth to herself."

– Muriel Steinmetz, *L'Humanité*



Pierrine Poget was born in Geneva in 1982. She has published three books of poetry, including *Fondations* (Empreintes, 2016), which won the prestigious C.F. Ramuz poetry prize.



GENRE
essay

FORMAT
paperback

PUBLICATION
2023

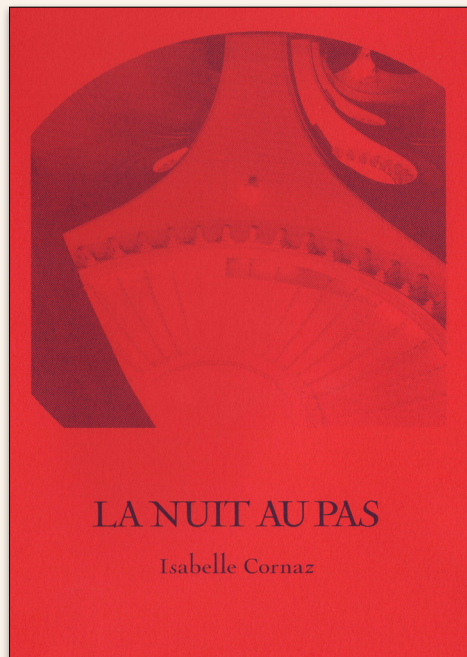
EXTENT
88 pages

GENRE
novel

FORMAT
paperback

PUBLICATION
2021

EXTENT
268 pages



ISABELLE CORNAZ Stepping Into the Night

- 2023 Jacques-Allano Prize – Winner
- Écrire la Ville Prize – Nominated

Recalling the details of her Moscow life, she paints an ambivalent portrait of the city in *La nuit au pas*. It reveals the body of Moscow, its inner courtyards, its invisible places and the marks of its gentrification.

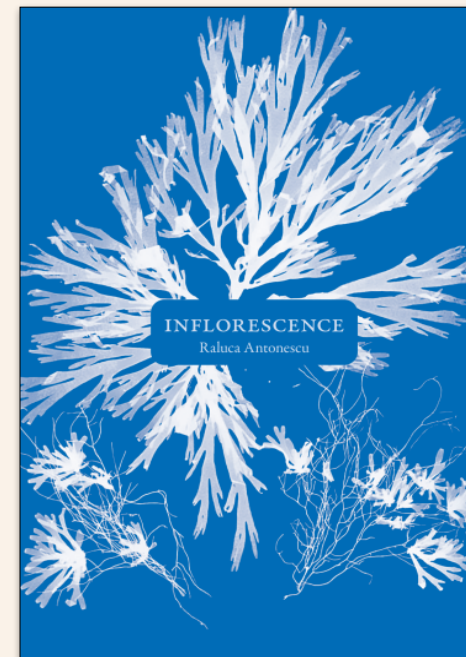
The story occasionally moves away from the capital, from the inner suburbs to the Arctic Circle, flying over Russia's secret cities. Between the dream of memories and the reality of war, which runs through the narrative like explosions, we move at a snail's pace through a landscape now inaccessible to the author.

"Isabelle Cornaz travels through a Russia at war, a Russia she has known well for a long time, but which is devouring itself. And the fragments that make up this admirable text scream out the dismay of anyone who has loved this country. You can feel the author's sadness and nostalgia for a world that perhaps never was!"

– Frédéric Harscouët, Durance



Isabelle Cornaz was born in 1982 into a Swiss and Spanish family. This dual background shaped her studies and led her to live abroad for ten years, mainly in Moscow. After studying Russian and Spanish at the University of Geneva, followed by a master's degree in Russian politics and nationalism studies in London, she worked as a journalist for various French-language media.



RALUCA ANTONESCU Inflorescence

- 2021 Pittard de l'Andelyn Prize – Winner
- 2021 Lausanne Readers' Prize – Winner
- Nominated for 2022 Hors concours Prize

Rights sold to: verlag die brotsuppe
(German), Editura Eikon (Romanian),
Armando Dadò Editore (Italian)

Jura, 1911. A woman despairs of becoming pregnant again and superstitiously goes to a place called Le Gouffre du diable to beg for an end to her pregnancy. Based on this place, whose terrifying true story is told to us, and on this common ancestress, Raluca Antonescu weaves together four portraits of ordinary women who are going through great trials and whose lives intertwine, and sometimes tear each other apart.

This family fresco, which spans almost a century (from 1911 to 2007), follows the evolution of relationships with domesticated nature. We move from a rural life in the Jura to the housing estates of the 1960s, and then to a purely urban life.

At the crossroads of nature writing and feminism, this text, written in a sensory way – with a particular emphasis on the sense of touch – has a very contemporary feel.



Born in Bucharest in 1976, **Raluca Antonescu's** work has been built on the principle of the choral novel, which allows her to explore a theme from different angles. In terms of her literary family, we might think of Claire Genoux or Sylvie Germain. Her first two novels dealt with the loneliness of childhood and migration from the point of view of the second generation.



GENRE
novel

FORMAT
paperback

PUBLICATION
2017

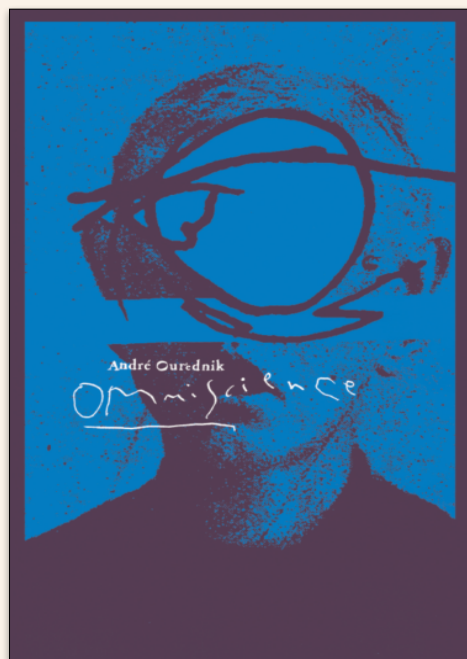
EXTENT
276 pages

GENRE
essay

FORMAT
paperback

PUBLICATION
2024

EXTENT
376 pages



ANDRÉ OUREDNIK Omniscience

- English sample available
- The concept of data reimagined in a completely original version

Goan Si is a diver from the near future. He explores a data lake materialized in a liquid memory pool called “omniscience”. Following the era of paper archives and then digital databases, the world’s data is stored in this new form.

By following the parallel stories of ten or so characters, André Ourednik explores the highly topical question of data, their future and their involvement in the constitution of individual and collective memory. Punctuated by striking scenes and supported by an expression full of references and symbols, this densely rich text is deeply questioning individualism.

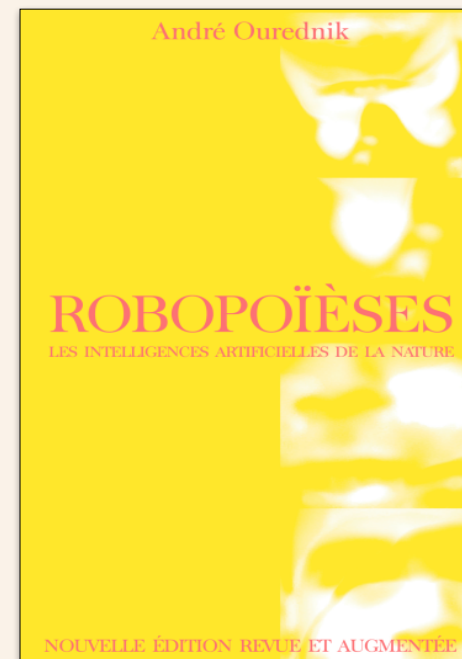
“While futuristic, this book is both very serious and full of humour, and is highly topical, especially as the anticipation it proposes is not, after all, improbable.”

– **Francis Richard**



© YVES LERESCHE

Born in Pragues in 1978, **André Ourednik**, PhD in geography, is a specialist in models of human space-time models. He is the author of essays, poetry, novels, digital creations and interactive installations in urban settings. He has worked as a data scientist for the Swiss Confederation. He is a lecturer at the University of Neuchâtel and the École polytechnique fédérale de Lausanne.



ANDRÉ OUREDNIK Robopoïesis

- 2nd revised and expanded edition
- An original take on artificial intelligence

Rights sold to: Il Saggiatore (Italian),
Pinzel (Ukrainian)

Artificial intelligence as we understand it today feeds on the myth of the self-made man, which serves as a model of intelligence for the main investors in the field. To escape this, we need a broader perspective. This essay argues that AI predates Silicon Valley by millennia, as a collective effort to create artificial systems that mediate our relationship to nature.

From the law tablets of the city of Ur to generative algorithms, this is the story of the increasing autonomy of our thinking devices. Will the AI of the future still help us in our relationships with living beings and with our own subjectivity?

“Erudite and mischievous, historical and speculative, technical and poetic, this is undoubtedly one of the most stimulating books of the moment on the realities and antasies of artificial intelligence.”

– **Hugues Robert, Charybde 27**



© YVES LERESCHE

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Presses Inverses

Les Presses Inverses mainly publishes works of fiction that appeal to the imagination. The original collection features contemporary literary texts of a historical, philosophical, fantastical or skilfully recreational nature. The fantasy collection offers classics of the genre. Alongside fiction, Les Presses Inverses is developing a series of essays in the humanities, social sciences and history.

The publishing house was founded in 2020 by Antoine Viredaz, linguist, and Alexandre Metzener, art historian..

More info on pressesinverses.com



GENRE
novel

FORMAT
paperback

PUBLICATION
2025

EXTENT
232 pages



ALICE BOTTARELLI, MARILOU RYTZ & STÉPHANIE CADORET *Voyage of the Nautiscaphe*

- Shortlisted for 2024 SFFF Prize

1868. Scientists, explorers and adventurers board an epic steam-punk submarine for a wild expedition to the heart of the Pacific. Jamie, Margareth and Magnus, three members of this motley crew, are about to discover the unexpected secrets of the ocean depths.

Written between 2020 and 2024 by three young Franco-Swiss authors and enriched with drawings by one of them, *Voyage du Nautiscaphe* is a tribute to the great adventure stories, but above all a fantastic, committed and subtly feminist fable about nature, ecology and the future of humanity.

A fantastic, committed and subtly feminist fable about nature and the future of humanity. A beautiful illustrated book for escaping and reflecting!



Young French-Language Writer's Prize in 2021, **Marilou Rytz** divides her time between literature and social work with young people in difficulty.

Alice Bottarelli is an author, literary researcher and writing workshop leader. Winner of the 2022 Georges Nicole Prize, she cultivates irony and self-deprecation.

Stéphanie Cadoret holds a doctorate in film history from the University of Paris-Nanterre (2022). She is an animation director, audiovisual performer and art teacher.

Publisher Éditions Presses Inverses
ISBN 978-2-940718-44-3
Price CHF 32



GENRE
novel

FORMAT
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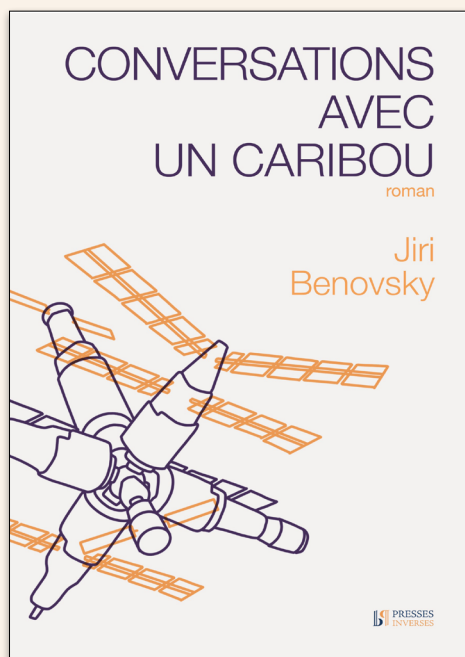
PUBLICATION
2025

EXTENT
460 pages



JIRI BENOVSKY
Conversation With a Caribou

A novel in which philosophy flirts with the absurd... Convincing truths collapse in the face of a reality that is as funny as it is disturbing



Franz is a misanthropic forty-something with a doctorate in philosophy, specialising in the metaphysical theory of possible worlds. In world number 12, he takes on the role of the victim in a detective story. In world number 4, he is the protagonist of a strange romance novel and gets into the equally strange habit of talking to a puffin and a caribou. What if the boundary between these two worlds were porous?

Jiri Benovsky takes us along an invisible thread that connects the worlds, and questions the foundations of our 'reality' to the point of confusing our certainties. With humour and a sense of vertigo, this novel offers a delightful and disturbing 'philosophical fiction'.



Jiri Benovsky is a doctor of philosophy and specialist in possible worlds. A scientific collaborator at the University of Geneva, he is the author of numerous articles and books on metaphysics, philosophy of the mind, aesthetics, meta-ontology and more. A mountaineer and photographer, Jiri Benovsky takes flight for the first time into the realm of fiction, and takes us to fabulous heights.

Publisher Éditions Presses Inverses
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Price CHF 32

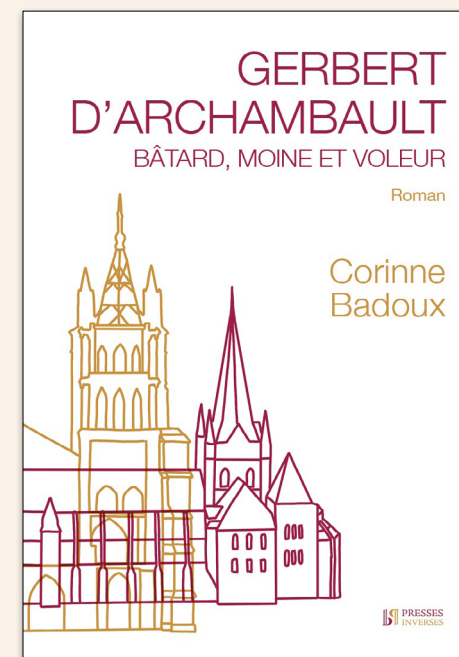


GENRE
novel

FORMAT
paperback

PUBLICATION
2025

EXTENT
240 pages



CORINNE BADOUX
**Gerbert of Archambault –
Bastard, Monk and Thief**

A key-based story, an esoteric thriller, this novel plunges us into the secrets of a medieval mystic whose roots go back to the most ancient antiquity

In the 13th century, Gerbert d'Archambault was entrusted by his abbot with the mission of delivering an important sealed letter. Freed, the monk gallops towards Bourges before reaching Lausanne, then the Abbey of Saint-Maurice d'Agaune, his destination. A thief, fugitive, unkempt but transformed by his journey, Gerbert settles in a village in south-western France and sets to work.

Seven centuries later, a colourful retired medievalist, a historian and a stonemason discover a mysterious wrought iron box in the ruins of a Gascon abbey. Maryse and her acolytes then embark on an investigation full of twists and turns, following in the footsteps of the greatest scholars and medieval master builders.



Corinne Badoux has lived in the Valais since 2001, where she has developed an affinity with nature, an interest in geobiology and spiritual alchemy, and is a beekeeper. Although she has never stopped writing – short stories or philosophical research papers – *Gerbert d'Archambault* is her first novel.

Publisher Éditions Presses Inverses
ISBN 978-2-940718-43-6
Price CHF 26



GENRE
novel

FORMAT
paperback

PUBLICATION
2024

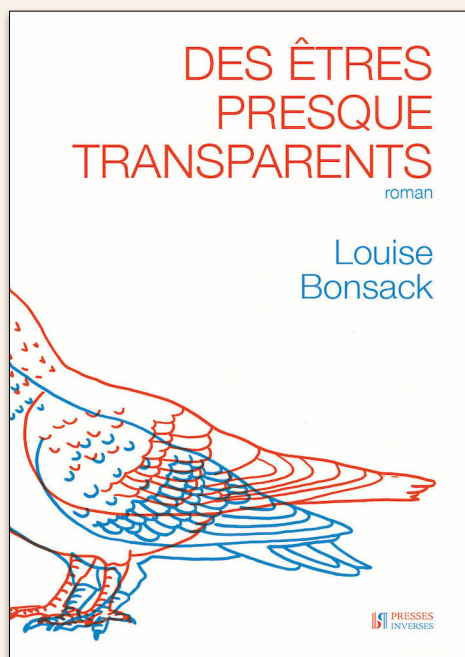
EXTENT
256 pages

GENRE
novel

FORMAT
paperback

PUBLICATION
2024

EXTENT
148 pages



LOUISE RONSACK *Almost Transparent Beings*

- Shortlisted for Sci fi 2025 SFFF Prize
- A fable echoing Orwell's *1984* and Atwood's dystopian worlds

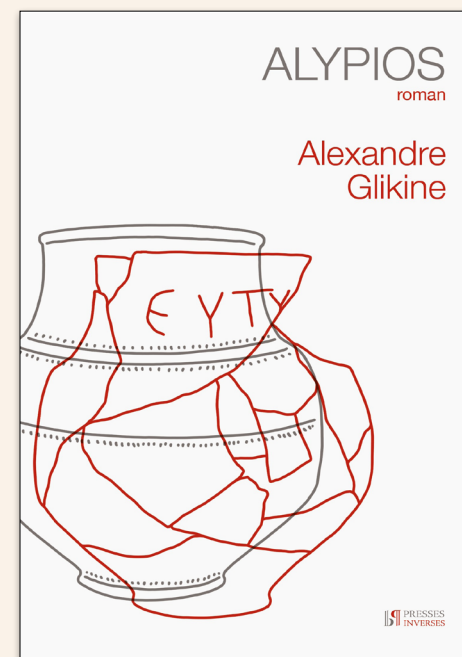
In a dystopian world where writing has been eradicated and reality is controlled by the government, the protagonist, Isen, oversees the suppression of words and ideas. As he works on writing a government-mandated *Manifeste* to justify the new order, he begins questioning his role and the disappearance of a mysterious recurring word: ELLE.

Meanwhile, a woman, once erased from reality through a process called “derealization,” discovers she is at the center of a hidden resistance among the so-called “invisible ones.” As their fates intertwine, both characters confront the cost of their past actions and the possibility of rebellion in a world where existence itself is controlled.

Control of information and distortion of scientific discourse, freedom of speech in the face of discrimination, existential revolts of young people and women: Louise Bonsack explores universal issues in this novel where philosophical metaphor and magical realism meet.



Born in 1989 in Lausanne, **Louise Bonsack** is a French and philosophy teacher. Since 2015, she has been running the creative writing workshops *Poulpe Fiction*, which have been the subject of two collections of publications: *Bien peu après* (2020) and *Révolte* (2021). She is also behind the “philosophy brunches” for adults. *Almost Transparent Beings* is her first novel.



ALEXANDRE GLIKINE *Alypios*

A historical novel set in the Alps during late antiquity, about slavery and freedom, love and hate, and self-discovery

September 267 AD. Following a bloody coup, the young slave Eutyches saves his master Alypios, a Greco-Roman aristocrat, from certain death. This would be the starting point of an incredible escape that would take them both from the mountain pastures of the Valais to northern Italy, in a Roman empire in crisis.

Alypios is a historical novel in which love and hate, slavery and freedom, nobility and spinelessness, life and death oppose and intertwine; the most often absurd struggles in which, however, the two heroes sometimes manage, as if by accident, to steal sparks of freedom from their destiny.



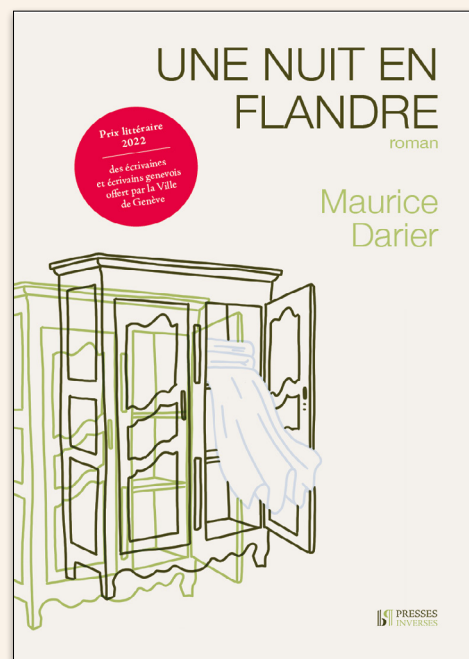
Alexandre Glikine is the pen name of the Swiss historian Michel Aberson, known for his scientific career in archaeology, classical languages and Roman history. Under his pen name, he is the author of the novel *L'Inconnu d'Aix* (Paris, 2008), the collection of poems *Igoumenitsa Blues* (2021) and the collection of short stories *Richter 6.5* (2023).

GENRE
novel

FORMAT
paperback

PUBLICATION
2024

EXTENT
236 pages



MAURICE DARIER *A Night in Flanders*

- 2022 Geneva Writers' Society Prize – Winner

1943–1944. Belgium is occupied by Nazi Germany. Allied victory is in sight. The industrialist Charles Anzenave has until now collaborated with the occupier without much conviction. He wonders how he will get out of this when the Allies arrive.

The collaborators are watching him and his lack of zeal puts him and his family in danger. He hides his wife and daughter in an isolated house in Flanders... There, one night will seal the fate of three generations of the Anzenave family.



Maurice Darier is of Belgian origin on his mother's side. He is the author of *Andermonde*, published by Éditions l'Âge d'Homme under the name Paul Meirad. A former Swiss ambassador, he now devotes himself to writing. *A Night in Flanders* is his second novel.

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More info on [slatkine.com](https://www.slatkine.com)



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Price CHF 26



GENRE
novel

FORMAT
paperback

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2025

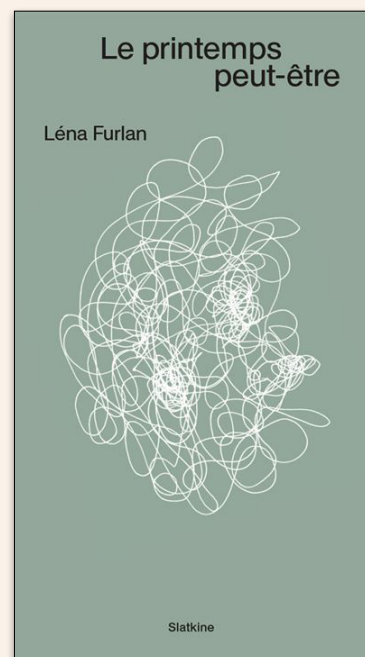
EXTENT
160 pages

GENRE
novel

FORMAT
paperback

PUBLICATION
2025

EXTENT
86 pages



LÉNA FURLAN *Spring, Perhaps*

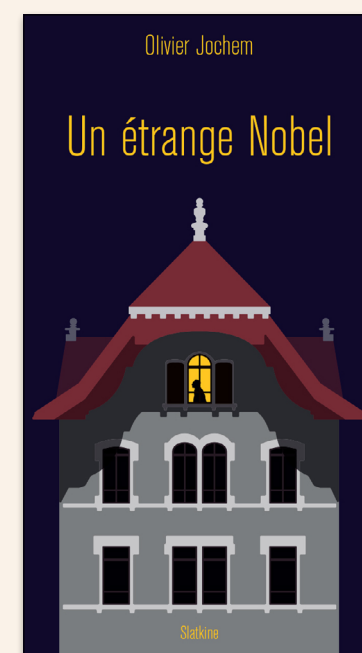
The fresh voice of a rising star in literature

“The tiny notebook has become a reservoir. And before my very eyes, there, what was in my head, under my breast, at the back of my throat, comes pouring out. The words come by themselves, I don’t need to think about them, they are already written.”

Spring, Perhaps is an introspective and poetic novel that explores the intimate bonds between two sisters, Ada and Anna, through childhood memories, urban wanderings and tormented loves. The story oscillates between melancholy and bursts of joy, revealing a daily life marked by questions about identity, relationships and the weight of the past. Through a sensory and fragmented writing style, the book captures Ada’s emotional wandering, caught between her visceral attachment to Anna and the wounds they share in silence.



Léna Furlan was born in 2000 in Lausanne and completed her bachelor’s degree at the Swiss Literary Institute in 2022. Her writing focuses on the relationship between landscape and places, time and memory. *Spring, Perhaps* is her first novel.



OLIVIER JOCHEM *A Strange Nobel*

A biographically inspired novel in which Hermann Hesse’s complex personality, his aspirations and fears, but also his deep friendships are revealed.

In November 1946, the Nobel Prize in Literature was awarded to Hermann Hesse. German by birth, now a Swiss citizen, the writer frequently retreated to a rest home to soothe his tormented soul. It was during one of these retreats, near Neuchâtel, that he learned that the Swedish Academy had awarded him the most prestigious of literary prizes.



Olivier Jochem has always been passionate about history and literature, and has a particular interest in German and Swiss writers, especially Hermann Hesse. *Un étrange Nobel* is his first novel.



GENRE
novel

FORMAT
paperback

PUBLICATION
2022

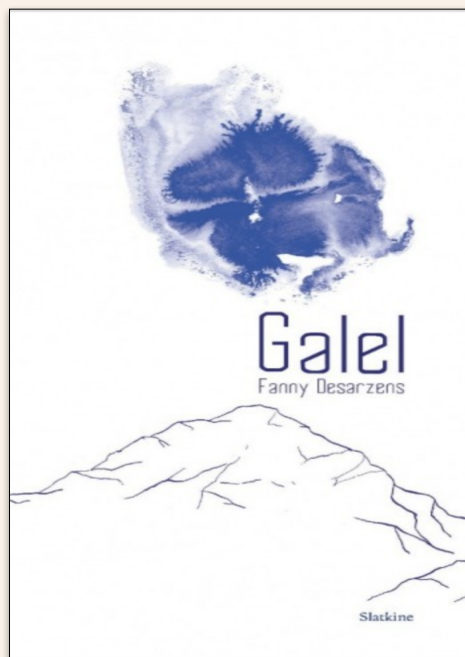
EXTENT
136 pages

GENRE
novel

FORMAT
paperback

PUBLICATION
2023

EXTENT
120 pages



FANNY DESARZENS Galel

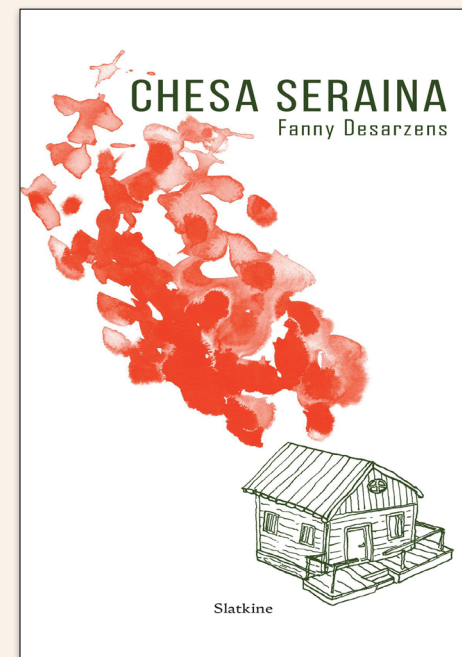
- 2022 Passy Mountain Book Fair – Special mention
- 2023 Terra Nova Prize
- 2023 Swiss Literature Prize – Winner

Paul, Jonas and Galel love the mountains. In winter, they each lead their own lives on the plains; in summer, Jonas and Galel work as guides. They meet up once a year at La Baïta, the refuge run by Paul. It's a place of passage, a place where they experience moments that are as eagerly awaited as they are precious. Where their friendship was born.

In a world of rock and silence, Galel unfurls the raw talent of its author, a rising star rising star of French-language literature.



Born in 1993, **Fanny Desarzens** is a graduate of the HEAD-Geneva in visual arts. In 2020, her short story *Lignine* won the literary contest organized for the review *choisir*'s 60th birthday.



FANNY DESARZENS Chesa Sereina

- 2023 Eve Prize of the Académie romande

A story about the importance of childhood and family ties

'At first I was very sad. Then it went away, I got used to it. But I think it damaged what was in my heart at the time.'

A young woman is lost in her twenties. One day, memories come flooding back; memories of a childhood shattered by the fire at Chesa Seraina, her home. The fire obliterated the memory of the place, and she decides to rebuild what the flames destroyed.



Born in 1993, **Fanny Desarzens** is a graduate of the HEAD-Geneva in visual arts. In 2020, her short story *Lignine* won the literary contest organized for the review *choisir*'s 60th birthday.



GENRE
novel

FORMAT
paperback

PUBLICATION
2024

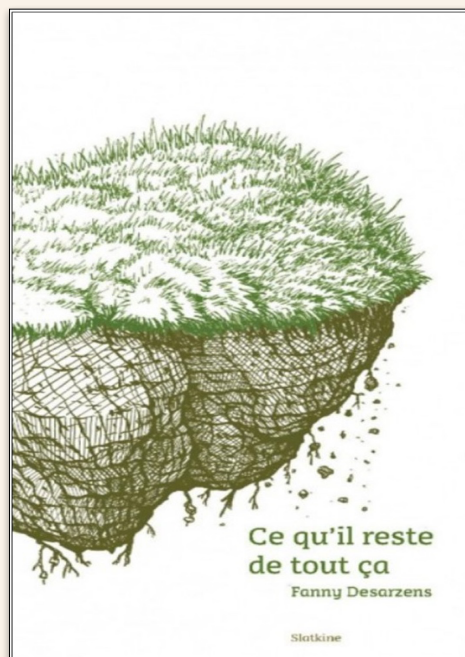
EXTENT
160 pages

GENRE
novel

FORMAT
paperback

PUBLICATION
2023

EXTENT
174 pages



FANNY DESARZENS What's Left of All This

A novel about a lifetime of caring, passing on a piece of yourself and leaving a legacy of possibilities

Rights sold to: Atlantis Verlag (German)

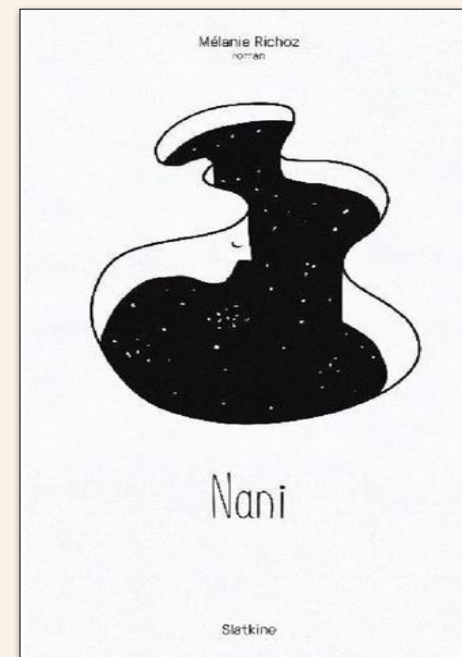
'It's like in a queue of people, you're carrying a parcel for example and you give it to the next person because it's too heavy. Or on the contrary, it's something light that you entrust in the palm of your hand to the next person, you close your fingers on your palm to say: take care of it.'

What's Left of All This highlights people with seemingly no history. But it is precisely this banality that increases the impact of their actions tenfold. Like the minor deprivations they made to protect those who would come after them.

After *Galel* and *Chesa Seraina*, which won her several literary prizes and rave reviews, Fanny Desarzens' third novel confirms her status as one of the most talented authors of her generation.



Born in 1993, **Fanny Desarzens** is a graduate of the HEAD-Geneva in visual arts. In 2020, her short story *Lignine* won the literary contest organized for the review *choisir's* 60th birthday.



MÉLANIE RICHOSZ Nani

- RTS 2023 Audience Award
- Prix du Roman des Romands 2024

What does it mean to be sold at an early age and to belong to your husband – what happens when a woman's body isn't her own?

As if every detail requires to be said, experienced one more time to disintegrate in the sludge with the bruised cells of this body.

Her body.

Exhausted, stained dirty, that belongs to her progeny and her husband more than it does to herself, this nourishing body. Object. Torture. Stranger.

This dead body, already.

Nani is the story of a young woman sold by her brother at the age of fourteen to a violent husband. A disarming and necessary fiction about male domination and domestic violence.



Mélanie Richoz, a Swiss author, has published some fifteen books to date: novels, short stories, biographies and illustrated books (comics, poetry).



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