

Catalan Children's and Young Adult Books 2019



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# Foreword

This is an outstanding moment for Catalan literature. An exceptionally fine tradition meets contemporary innovation in constant dialogue with other literatures and realities. This creative momentum is bolstered by a dynamic publishing industry and a proficient network of literary agents.

With an extensive tradition that dates back to the 15<sup>th</sup> century with the Montserrat Abbey -the oldest publishing house in Europe, Catalan books for children and young readers have had a continuously strong presence. And today, this sector remains a prominent force in our cultural and publishing tradition.

It is this vitality and quality that led to our selection as the 2017 Guest of Honour at the Bologna Children's Book Fair. It was indeed an excellent chance to showcase our finest authors and titles, and a golden opportunity for the rest of the world to discover our professionals. Two years later, we see that the number of translations of children's and YA books from Catalan has increased significantly and the synergy between our publishing sector and the international book world has been reinforced.

But our task is not over yet. The Institut Ramon Llull, as the public institution devoted to extending the reach of Catalan language and culture, continues to support authors, translators, publishers and literary agents with the aim of ensuring that Catalan literature is translated, published and read abroad.

This brochure, with a selection of 20 titles (picture books, illustrated non-fiction, middle grande & YA novels), presents not only a current sampling of the rich panorama of Catalan books for young readers but also information on the resources and grants that the Institut Ramon Llull offers to international publishing professionals.

We trust you will find our authors engaging and our services valuable.

Literature and the Humanities Department Institut Ramon Llull



# Germán Machado & Anna Aparicio

# Amaryllis

Shortlisted for the Nami Concours, South Korea Shortlisted for the Golden Pinwheel Young Illustrators Competition, Shanghai Book Fair

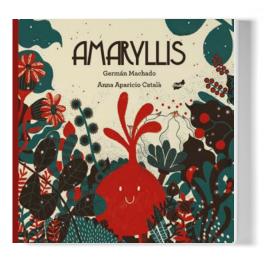
Amaryllis is a picture book that illustrates the life journey of a plant that leaves behind the ground she sprang from to set off on her own path to experiences and adventures. The team behind Amaryllis is master author Germán Machado and one of the most international Catalan young illustrators, Anna Aparicio, who outdoes herself with these sumptuously lovely floral images. Their combined talents result in an elegant picture book with a surprise ending, which has already been recognized in two international contests held in South Korea and China.



German Machado is co-owner of El Petit Tresor, a specialty bookstore. A writer and a cultural manager as well as a bookseller, his work includes novels for children and adults, short story collections, poetry, and picture books, which have been published in Uruguay, Argentina, Brazil, Mexico, Spain, and Catalonia. He has won important awards and distinctions that include the 2010 Poetry Prize from the Asociación de Literatura Infantil y Juvenil de Argentina (ALIJA, IBBY section).



Anna Aparicio holds a degree in Fine Arts with a concentration in Children's Literature. Her work has been published in Spain, Germany, Italy, South Korea, Brazil, and China, and recognized in numerous national and international competitions, such as Valladolid Ilustrado, the Iberoamérica Ilustra catalogue (Mexico), the Golden Pinwheel Young Illustrators Award (China), Nami Concours (South Korea), and the Encontro Internacional de São João da Madeira (Portugal).



Publisher: Thule (Catalan and Spanish)

Publication date: March 2019 Format: 20 × 20 cm

Age: 5+

Pages: 32

#### **FOREIGN RIGHTS CONTACT:**

José Díaz

jdiaz@thuleediciones.com

Thule

Amaryllis is a plant, a coming-of-age journey, a change of perspective, and an enticement to seek out adventures.

#### **Bernat Cormand**

# Happy Days

Illustrator Bernat Cormand puts his precise technique at the service of an ethereal atmosphere somewhere between dreams and memory. *Happy Days* describes a long ago summer in a coastal town, the story of friendship and love that grows between two boys: the narrator and Jacob. This book tackles, with delicacy and genuineness, an emotional subject that is still uncommon in children's literature. The book, stylish and bold, captures the intensity of feelings at those key moments in our childhood and teenage years that come to define who we are as people.



Bernat Cormand is a philologist and illustrator. He has a Master's in Comparative Literature from the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona. His art studies include sculpture, drawing, and illustration. He has worked as a writer and editor, primarily at Grup 62, coordinating novel and essay collections. He is currently the director of the magazine *Faristol*, which specializes in children's literature, and he is a critic for the *Ara* newspaper in the «Estimat Andersen» section. Since 2012, he has been part of the jury for the Lazarillo Prize in the picture book category and the jury for Vaixell de Vapor Prize awarded by Editorial Cruïlla. He has published articles and given lectures on children's literature, particularly picture books dealing with LGBTQ+ themes. He has participated in numerous group exhibitions and has published the illustrated books *El dibuixant d'ossos*, *El nen perfecte*, and now *Els dies feliços*.

Happy Days tells the story of a summer love between two boys. It is a superbly illustrated, brave and necessary picture book.



Publisher: A buen paso (Catalan and Spanish) Publication date: November 2018

Format: 22 × 22 cm

Age: 7+ Pages: 36

#### **FOREIGN RIGHTS CONTACT:**

Arianna Squilloni ariannasq@gmail.com A buen paso

#### **RIGHTS SOLD:**

French (Éditions Notari) Brazilian Portuguese (Livros da Matriz)



### Fran Pintadera & Christian Inaraja

# Candide and the Others

Winner of the 11<sup>th</sup> International Compostela Picture Book Prize

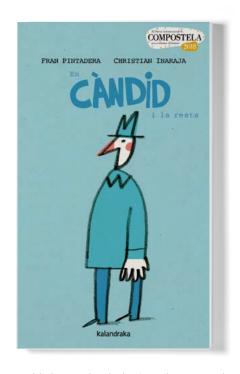
An amusing and intelligent picture book that will delight readers young and old with its subtle tributes to the history of art and literature. Winner of the International Compostela Prize, the story describes the protagonist Candide's awkwardness and feelings of always being out of place. Strange, unique, misunderstood... these are the adjectives used to describe him until a plot twist reveals that Candide is just as strange, unique, and misunderstood as everyone else is. He feels as different as all the others. A quite complex concept is conveyed here with simplicity, originality, and a sense of humour.



Fran Pintadera (Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, 1982) holds degrees in Psychopedagogy, Social Education, and Social Integration. He is a storyteller, director of social theatre, and author of children's literature. He has participated in the primary Spanish oral narration festivals and his books have been selected for the reading lists of the Fundación Cuatrogatos and the Fundación Germán Sánchez Ruipérez. In 2017 he received the XIV La Luna de Aire Children's Poetry Prize.



Christian Inaraja (Vic, 1972) is an editorial illustrator with more than a hundred works published, a poster artist, and a contributor to children's media outlets. He has taken part in exhibitions in Spain and internationally. He is co-director of the Reus European Short Film Festival, coordinator of the illustration department at the ILLA Art School in Sabadell, and former director of the Professional Association of Illustrators of Catalonia and the Catalan Council for Children's Books.



Publisher: Kalandraka (Catalan, Spanish, Galician, Basque, Portuguese, and Italian; English only for the Spanish market) Publication date: February 2018 Format: 17 × 29cm

Age: 4+

Age: 4+ Pages: 48

#### **FOREIGN RIGHTS CONTACT:**

Silvia Pérez editora@kalandraka.com Kalandraka

A picture book for all ages, with appealing visuals and a very perspicacious text, that offers an original look at the astonishment of feeling just as different as everyone else does.



#### Seta Gimeno

# Nina

#### Winner of the International Enric Solbes Prize

This picture book describes various everyday moments from the perspective of Nina, a little dog with a very particular way of seeing the world. Nina thinks quite highly of herself and is a bit cheeky, convinced that she's diligently fulfilling her obligations as family pet. At the end of the day, she has a designer bed awaiting her, one that matches the rest of the furniture in the house. But Nina knows full well what she likes and where she prefers to spend the night.



Seta Gimeno (Barcelona, 1967) is Marisa Gimeno's artistic name. She studied Fine Arts and Graphic Design and hasn't ever stopped learning, experimenting, and enjoying digital illustration. She has worked professionally in various environments, although this is her first book. *Nina* was inspired by her dog, and won her the 3<sup>rd</sup> International Enric Solbes Prize for Picture Book, awarded by the Consorci Ribera i Valldigna.

A sweet, funny picture book that depicts ordinary family life from the point of view of Nina, a pet dog who's got her own ideas about how things should be.



Publisher: Bromera (Catalan and Spanish)

Publication date: March 2019

Format:  $29 \times 21$  cm

Age: 5+ Pages: 40

#### **FOREIGN RIGHTS CONTACT:**

Carol Borràs carol@bromera.com Bromera



#### Inês Castel-Branco & Raimon Panikkar

# The Drop of Water

This picture book is a tribute to one of the great thinkers of recent times, Raimon Panikkar, on the hundredth anniversary of his birth. A philosophical reflection on death, explained with a metaphor that is used in various cultures, both Western and Eastern: can we compare the fate of humans with a drop of water? What happens when a drop falls into the sea? A lovely idea that allows for different readings and different degrees of depth. The illustrations, with gentle strokes of color, also reflect the cross-cultural aspect of the subject, by featuring different places around the globe.



Inês Castel-Branco (Lisbon, 1977). After earning a degree in Architecture in Porto, Portugal, she moved to Barcelona (where she still lives) to study a Master's in Ephemeral Architecture, and then a PhD on theater spaces of the 1960s. She plays several instruments and has explored various painting techniques since she was a child. In 2007 she became an editor, first at Fragmenta and currently at Akiara Books.



Raimon Panikkar (Barcelona, 1918 - Tavertet, 2010) was born to an Indian Hindu father and a Catalan Christian mother. He loved learning and traveling, so he earned doctorates in philosophy, sciences, and theology, and was a professor at numerous universities in Europe, India, and the United States. He devoted his life to writing and speaking on intercultural and interreligious dialogue. When he retired, he wanted to return to Catalonia, to a special place... and he discovered Tavertet, where he spent his final years surrounded by silence, writing, and encounters with other seekers.



Publisher: Akiara (Catalan, Spanish, and Portuguese)
Publication date: April 2018
Format: 28 × 24 cm
Age: 7+
Pages: 40

#### **FOREIGN RIGHTS CONTACT:**

Inês Castel-Branco ines@akiarabooks.com Akiara Books

#### **RIGHTS SOLD:**

Korean (Hanulim Kids) German (Lesestoff) Brazilian Portuguese (Telos) Russian (Mann, Ivanov and Ferber)

A delicate, spiritual offering that journeys from East to West, following a drop of water that symbolizes life and death.

Javier García Sobrino & Bruna Valls

# Grandpa's Collection

# Winner of the 7<sup>th</sup> International Edelvives Picture Book Prize

A new picture book by one of the most prolific and outstanding authors of the genre and an emerging illustrator whose stunning hyperrealistic style is making waves. From the first pages, the images of wolf-headed figures in a domestic setting, in a tranquil town, in a familiar world, are somewhat unsettling. The story shows a grandson spending time with his grandfather, looking at his collection of photographs. The memories over a long life provoke all sorts of questions: why has Grandpa lived in so many different places? How did Grandma die? What happened to all those people? The tension builds into an increasingly terrifying atmosphere, filled with silences and insinuations, before the final explosive reveal.



Bruna Valls (Palafrugell, 1989) studied Fine Arts at the University of Barcelona, where she graduated with a concentration in painting. She then received a postgraduate degree in creative illustration from the EINA School of Design and Art (Barcelona). She has illustrated several works in very different fields such as advertising, cookbooks, children's books, and textbooks. She was selected as part of the Bologna Illustrators exhibition, which travelled from Italy to the US, Japan, Taiwan, and China. She was also chosen for the Ibero-American Illustration Catalogue. Her work has been exhibited in several galleries all around the world.



Javier García Sobrino (Pimiango, 1960) studied Education in Santander and began teaching in the public system in 1984. He currently teaches primary school. Since 1986 he has been part of *Peonza*, a magazine of children's literature. He has written several children's books as well as works on literature and how to encourage reading. He is one of the coordinators of Santander's Illustration Workshop and Book Salon, and since 1994 he has been arranging author and illustrator visits to Cantabria. His work has earned him several prizes including the Biblioteca Insular de Gran Canaria and the Edelvives Internacional.



Publisher: Edelvives (Spanish) Publication date: September 2018

Format: 24 × 31 cm

Age: 10+ Pages: 40

#### FOREIGN RIGHTS CONTACT:

Esmeralda Alarcón ealarcon@gelv.es Edelvives

Behind the innocent story of a wolf boy and his grandfather, a horrifying secret gradually emerges. This is a picture book that will leave no reader unmoved.

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## Alex Nogués & Sonia Pulido

# A Walrus in Our Garden

Alex Nogués begins with a surreal premise: a family sees a walrus landing out of nowhere into their yard, in an otherwise completely realistic setting. The family must deal with this extraordinary occurrence and take care of the newcomer: adopt it, give it a name, keep it safe... with raucous situations resulting at each turn. Gradually, the various family members learn the animal's needs and habits until finally they manage to communicate with the walrus and discover where it came from. At that point, their challenge is to get the walrus back home. A series of trials and errors precede their eventual success, in a metaphor of the caring and respect we all must embrace toward animals and nature. The story is told in an amusing tone and complemented by Sonia Pulido's vintage-style illustrations.



Sonia Pulido (Barcelona, 1973) earned a degree in Fine Arts, with a concentration in printmaking and tooling. She is well known as an illustrator for books, media, and advertising, and also teaches art and design. Her work has received many awards and often appears in the pages of The New Yorker, The New York Times, Harper's Baazar Spain, Rockdelux and El País Semanal, among others. She has illustrated numerous books for children and adults, as well as catalogues, posters, and institutional publications.



Alex Nogués (Barcelona, 1976) studied Geology and Palentology. He is the author of several books for kids and teens. He writes to understand himself and the world better, using words to create his works of inspiring beauty.



Publisher: Ekaré (Catalan and Spanish) Publication date: March 2019 Format: 25 x 25 cm Age: 3+

Pages: 36

#### **FOREIGN RIGHTS CONTACT:**

Arava Goitia editorial@ekare.com.ve Ekaré

A family must care for a walrus that suddenly appears in their garden in this visually stunning, droll, and subtle defense of animal rights.



### David Aceituno & Lyona

# Things I Won't Know How To Say To You As You Grow Up

This book is a poem, a fable, a story describing a succession of marvellous things that will happen to a child over the course of their life and that parents, sometimes, don't know how to talk about, or never seem to find the right moment. The illustrations perfectly capture the vital and tender tone of this ode to life, happiness, and the satisfaction that comes from experiences shared between parents and children.



David Aceituno (Badalona, 1977) holds a degree in Philosophy from the Universitat de Barcelona. He is author of the books of poetry *Sylvia & Ted* (2010) and *Hogar* (2015), and of the novel *Augurio* (2016). His picture books include *Besos que fueron y no fueron* (2011), *Ensueños* (2012), *Encantadas* (2015), and *Las palabras* (100) se las lleva el viento (2016). He has worked for fifteen years in the publishing world, writing copy and line editing.



Lyona (Esparreguera, 1979) is an illustrator and filmmaker. She studied film at the ESCAC with a concentration in directing. Since then she has made more than seventy music videos for bands such as Love of Lesbian, Amaral, Leiva, Sidonie, Lori Meyers, Zahara, and The New Raemon, among others. She combines making music videos with illustration, with ten published books to her name, including *Yo mataré monstruos por ti*, written by Santi Balmes; *La vida es corta y luego te mueres*, flash fiction written by Enric Pardo; and *Alyona*, Lyona's alter ego.



Publisher: Beascoa - PRH (Spanish) Publication date: May 2018

Format: 24 × 24 cm

Age: 5+ Pages: 24

#### FOREIGN RIGHTS CONTACT:

Alba Adell alba.adell@penguinrandomhouse.com

A declaration of love that celebrates moments between parents and their children.



#### Meritxell Martí & Xavier Salomó

# Beneath the Waves

Meritxell Martí and Xavier Salomó form a creative duo that is constantly putting out original, imaginative books that delight readers around the world. And with their newest, *Beneath the Waves*, they once again surprise and enchant. During an apparently simple encounter between two children in the water at the beach one summer day, readers will discover layers of meaning, with unexpected nuances and fantastic elements. Expressive panoramic illustrations of rhythmic, almost wordless scenes immerse readers in unexplored depths and reveal many possible stories in one.



Xavier Salomó earned a diploma in Drawing and Illustration from the Escola Massana de Barcelona, where upon graduating he received the Prize for Special Achievement in the Printmaking category. He has twice won the Junceda Award given by the Associació Professional d'Il·lustradors de Catalunya and has won many prizes in France.

Meritxell Martí holds a degree in Humanities and a qualification in classic and modern music. She was a professor of Art, Cinema, and Literature at the UOC for 10 years. She earned a PhD *cum laude* with a thesis on Art on the Internet. She is currently enrolled at the Universitat de Barcelona, studying for a Masters in Relaxation, Meditation, and Mindfulness.



Publisher: Flamboyant (Catalan and Spanish)

Publication date: February 2019

Format: 29.1 × 24 Age: 5+ Pages: 76

#### FOREIGN RIGHTS CONTACT:

Marina Huguet m.huguet@editorialflamboyant.com Flamboyant

A picture book filled with rhythm and few words that captivates readers and leads them to an open ending that offers various interpretative games.



### Jaume Copons & Pep Montserrat

# Everything I Know About Fear

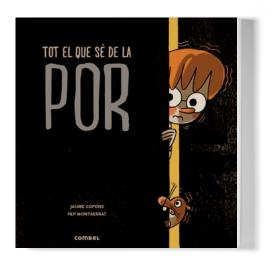
Here we have a young narrator who presents us with all sorts of terrifying situations: getting lost in the woods, crocodiles, zombies, witches and ghosts, the dark... but also some tips for alleviating and even overcoming the dread. This brief catalogue of fears is the latest in this collection from Jaume Copons, with his trademark humour already enjoyed by readers in many countries and languages. Pep Montserrat, one of the top Catalan illustrators, recreates the frightful scenes with expressiveness and originality.



Jaume Copons is a scriptwriter for the Spanish version of *Sesame Street* (TVE), the creator of TV programs such as *Los Lunnis* (TVE), *Los Algos* (Cuatro), *Mirasatele* (IB3) and of songs, records, opening credits, and advertisements for television. He has written more than 40 novels for young readers, including *La Mà Negra* (Barcanova), and the series *Jo, Elvis Riboldi* (La Galera) and *Alex and the Monsters*, which has published in many languages. He has translated such authors as P.D. Baccalario and Lemony Snicket. In addition to Bono Bidari, he also uses the pseudonyms Julián Aguilar and Lilian Wallaby.



Pep Montserrat is an artist based in Barcelona who has worked mostly on children's books and editorial illustration since 1988, but he has also taught at La Massana Art & Design School since 1998. His work has been published in Spain, the United States, France, Italy, Greece, Switzerland, Brazil, and Korea. Pep Montserrat is represented in English-speaking areas by the Marlena Agency.



Publisher: Combel (Catalan and Spanish)

Publications date: February 2019

Format:  $25 \times 25$  cm

Age: 4+ Pages: 30

#### FOREIGN RIGHTS CONTACT:

Esther Serra esther.serra@editorialcasals.com Combel

#### **RIGHTS SOLD:**

Turkish (Tekir Kitap)

Don't be afraid to laugh: a humorous illustrated catalogue of all the things that scare us, along with some advice on how to conquer our fears.



#### Bàrbara Castro Urío

# Sleepy Time, Kittens

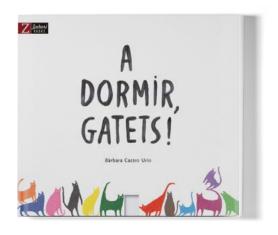
## 2019 Bologna Ragazzi Award (Toddler category)

It's getting late and it's time for sleeping. Page by page, the kittens make their way to their room and, one after the other, fill their windows with colours until the façade of their house becomes a vivid mosaic. This seemingly simple premise offers various lessons for toddlers: conceptual, visual, and tactile. The book makes the most of an original, elegant format that verges on minimalism, in which every detail plays a role. There is nothing random about this work, which unfolds with psalmodic cadence, perfect for reading aloud at bedtime.



Bàrbara Castro Urío (Barcelona, 1978) got her start in the world of images through graphic design. The conceptual and expressive vision she learned there is now the backbone of her work. Each project is a new opportunity to transmit content and emotions from a transformative, human perspective. Every illustration is a small manifestation of her own voice.

An intelligent book with a surprising format, recognized with a Bologna Ragazzi Award.



Publisher: Zahorí de Ideas (Spanish and Catalan)

Publication date: September 2018 Format: 20 × 21.5 cm

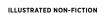
Format: 20 × 21.5 cm Age: First readers Pages: 24

#### **FOREIGN RIGHTS CONTACT:**

Zahorí de Ideas Mireia Trius mireia@zahorideideas.com Gemma Sanjuan gemma@zahorideideas.com

#### **RIGHTS SOLD:**

English – USA (Chronicle Books) Polish (Adamada) French (Saltimbanque Éditions) Chinese (Beijing Dipper Publishing)



#### Sheddad Kaid-Salah & Eduard Altarriba

# My First Book on Relativity

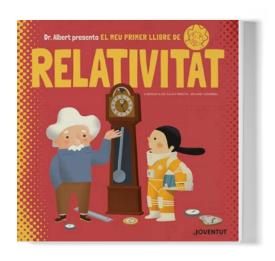
Sheddad Kaid-Salah and illustrator Eduard Altarriba recently teamed up for *My First Book of Quantum Physics*, successfully conveying complex ideas to young readers. Now, through the character of Dr. Albert, they are back to explain the fascinating and complex world of relativity. The authors communicate the theory developed by Einstein in a simple and entertaining style, using short, concise paragraphs and many anecdotes, explanatory illustrations, practical cases and clear examples, offering young readers an enriching understanding of the subject and the history behind it.



Sheddad Kaid-Salah Ferrón is a science—and particularly physics—enthusiast. He holds a degree in Physics from the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (UAB) and in Pharmacology from the Universitat de Barcelona (UB). Since graduating, he has taught high school science, and continues to study physics, work in the pharmaceutical field, and observe the universe through his telescope. Currently he uses his knowledge to create popular science books for young readers.



Eduard Altarriba has been working for decades in the graphic design and illustration world. His small independent design studio, Alababalà, offers services for the edition and creation of publishing projects for children. He loves making books, games, exhibitions, animations, applications, and workbooks that are practical, educationally valuable and, of course, really fun to use.



Publisher: Juventud (Catalan and Spanish) Publication date: November 2018

Format:  $29 \times 29$  cm

Age: 9+ Pages: 48

#### **FOREIGN RIGHTS CONTACT:**

Elodie Bourgeois elodie@editorialjuventud.es Juventud

#### **RIGHTS SOLD:**

Turkish (Domigo) Russian (Ast Publishing) Korean (Dourei) English – UK and US territories (Button Books) Simplified Chinese (Hachette – Phoenix) French (Nathan)

My First Book on Relativity is a superlative first look at a dense and stimulating subject and an unbeatable introduction to the world of science.



## Nacho Eterno & Mia Cassany

# Totem

Every civilization in the history of humankind has maintained close ties with animals, which were often venerated for their virtues or represented divine figures. This book traces the animal faces of the most important gods of each of history's principal cultures: the Mayas, the Maoris, the Romans, the Egyptians, and more, with short annotations contextualizing the images. The illustrator, Nacho Eterno, is a world-famous tattoo artist and here he brings his precision to paper, capturing the symbolic strength of these mythological creatures.

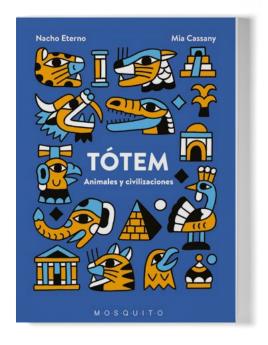


Nacho Eterno (Valladolid, 1992) studied Graphic Design in his hometown and moved to Barcelona in 2015 after enrolling in a Master's program in Illustration. There he began to work as a tattoo artist, quickly gaining international renown. He currently works primarily in the tattoo world, although he also does illustration, painting, and murals.



Mia Cassany, after finishing her degree in Political Science, began her adventures in publishing. She started out as a literary agent at Ilustrata and, after a few years, moved into the editorial packaging of novelty books at Lupita Books. In 2016, along with Lluís Cassany, she founded the picture book publishing house Mosquito Books. She now combines her work as creative director of Mosquito Books with classwork at the Universitat de Barcelona and the Master's of Illustration at the Elisava.

A visual overview of the animals that have represented the gods of the most celebrated civilizations in history.



Publisher: Mosquito Books (Catalan and

Spanish)

Publication date: March 2018

Format:  $23.5 \times 32.5$  cm

Age: 5+ Pages: 44

#### FOREIGN RIGHTS CONTACT:

Lluís Cassany lluis@mosquitobooksbarcelona.com Mosquito Books

#### RIGHTS SOLD:

French (Nathan) English (Prestel) German (Prestel)

### Núria Franquet

# Liang Steps Into A Painting

#### Winner of the 2018 Folch i Torres Prize

Núria Franquet debuts with a novel for young readers that won her one of the oldest and most prestigious prizes for Catalan children's literature, the Folch i Torres. Liang is a girl who, on a visit to a museum, is drawn into a painting of the conquest of Majorca in the 13<sup>th</sup> century. Liang suddenly finds herself speaking with King James I of Aragon who, sick with the gout, sends her on an expedition to Japan in search of healing herbs. Thus begins a fast-paced adventure that will lead her across distant seas and into contact with pirates, merchants, astronomers, and all sorts of medieval characters.



Publisher: La Galera (Catalan) Publication date: March 2019 Format: 13.5 × 21 Age: 8+ Pages: 136

#### **FOREIGN RIGHTS CONTACT:**

Iolanda Bethencourt IBethencourt@grec.com La Galera



Núria Franquet i Font (Premià de Mar, 1972) earned a degree in Fine Arts from the Universitat de Barcelona, with a concentration in sculpture, in 1995. Since then she has taught Visual Education and Art in secondary schools. Her passion for children's literature, which culminated in this book, has been recognized with the prestigious Folch i Torres Prize.

Liang enters a painting and travels back in time to the 13<sup>th</sup> century, managing to survive a trip across the Mediterranean, save a king, and return to the 21<sup>st</sup> century.



#### **Ruth Tormo**

# What A Pain in the Neck

### Winner of the 2018 Guillem Cifre de Colonya Prize

A realistic novel in which the characters are trying to find themselves and imbue their everyday lives with meaning. When new kid Liam arrives at the high school, Mila—the main character—is sent into an emotional tailspin. She finds herself forced to question her friendships and reflect on the human tendency toward prejudice. The book has a component of social criticism, but never goes so far as to moralise. Instead readers will see themselves reflected in the novel's series of entertaining situations that are both thought provoking and hilarious.



Ruth Tormo Benavent (Barcelona, 1974) holds a degree in Journalism from the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona and has worked in public relations for twenty years, currently at Barcelona's municipal Theater Institute. Tormo has been writing since she was a teen and has won several awards for her stories and short fiction, including the Elsa Garcia (Papiol, 2018), Núvol (2017), Joles Sennell (la Seu d'Urgell, 2017), and Joan Petit (Blanes, 2017). Some of her stories have been published in the classic children's magazine *Cavall Fort*. This is her first novel.

A balanced mix of realism and humour that deals with the rocky road from childhood to the teen years.



Publisher: Barcanova (Catalan) Publication date: November 2018 Format: 14 × 21 cm Age: 11+ Pages: 144

#### FOREIGN RIGHTS CONTACT:

Esther Franch efranch@larousse.es Barcanova

#### Gemma Lienas & Marisa Morea

# Me, and Watson, and Jacqueline's Closet

### Winner of the 2018 Vaixell de Vapor Prize

A mystery novel for middle-grade readers from Gemma Lienas, one of Catalonia's most celebrated and cherished authors. The main character is a girl who finds some old photographs and, with the help of a new friend, tries to investigate the mystery behind the people portrayed in them and their inscriptions. The series of enigmas that develop makes for engaging reading and, with every new turn in this mystery, the author also addresses contemporary social issues with a light touch that invites readers to reflect.



Gemma Lienas (Barcelona, 1951) is a Catalan author, feminist, and lecturer. She spent 15 years as executive editor in various publishing houses. Prior to that, she was also a teacher of language and literature, for 12 years. She has published nearly 100 books for adults, young readers, and children, which have earned her praise from critics but above all from the reading public. She has been awarded several national prizes including the Ramon Llull, and an international Honorable Mention from IBBY. Her works have been translated into ten languages.



Marisa Morea is freelance illustrator based in Madrid, Spain. She lived in Barcelona where got her degree in a MA Illustration at Eina School. After working as an Art Director in several advertising agencies, she became full-time illustrator. Since then, she has worked with many international clients from the United States, Australia, the UK, France, and Singapore. Her works have been published by Penguin Random House, Simon & Schuster, SM, Nosy Crow, Sterling, and Little Tiger Press, among others.



Publisher: Cruïlla (Catalan) Publication date: October 2018 Format: 15.5 × 25 cm

Age: 11+ Pages: 120

Also published by SM (Spanish)

#### **FOREIGN RIGHTS CONTACT:**

Mari Paz Serrano maria.paz.serrano@grupo-sm.com Cruïlla – SM

A thrilling mystery plot that also deals with pressing modern themes such as bullying, evictions, and collective historical memory.



# Maite Carranza & Manuel Ortega

# Safari

### Winner of the 2018 Edebé Infantil Prize

Maite Carranza is likely the most significant and international author for children writing in Catalan today; her celebrated work spans realistic, fantastic, and comic genres. In her latest, *Safari*, winner of the 2018 Edebé Infantil Prize, she uses a wildly hilarious style to tell the story of a mute boy named Dani. On a trip to Africa with his family, Dani gets lost in the jungle and adopted by a mama chimpanzee who adds him to her brood. The author invites readers in with her ironic tone so they can learn from primates, in order to "become more human, more just, and more humble."



Maite Carranza (Barcelona, 1958) is a writer with over 30 years of professional experience and more than 50 published titles. Translated into more than 40 languages, she is among the Catalan authors with the greatest international presence. Her transgressive and committed books for children and teens have earned her numerous awards, including three *Serra d'Or* Critics' Prizes (in 1986, 2010, and 2018), the 2011 Spanish National Award, the Edebé Prize in both 2002 and 2010, the 2014 Cervantes Chico Award, and many others, most recently the 2018 Atrapallibres and the 2018 Joaquim Ruyra Prize.



Manuel Ortega was born in Bilbao and currently lives in Barcelona. He studied Fine Arts at the universities of Salamanca and Kassel (Germany). Since 1997 he has devoted himself to children's book illustration, and to the world of comics both as a writer and an artist. His solo and collaborative works have won him numerous awards including First Prize from the Ministry of Education for best educational book of 2002, and the President's Award from the English Speaking Union for best material for teaching English, in 2006.



Publisher: Edebé (Catalan and Spanish) Publication date: March 2019 Format: 19.5 cm × 13 cm

Age: 10+ Pages: 176

#### FOREIGN RIGHTS CONTACT:

Geòrgia Picanyol gpicanyol@edebe.net Edebé

Safari is a comic novel that pays homage to the mythical adventures of *Tarzan* and fosters a respect for nature and other animal species.

### Núria Parera & María Hergueta

# The Suitcase

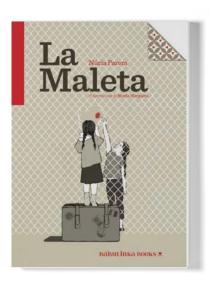
The Suitcase is a unique book, a small gem that transcends genre. Located somewhere between a picture book and a graphic novel, each double page offers a short text accompanied by a beautiful and evocative illustration. This is the story of the adventures of a suitcase over the course of more than a century: how it is passed from one person to the next, travels from one place to another over the decades, its journey intersecting with historic moments as well as personal ones, gathering dust along the way or forgotten in an attic, until inside it fits all the weight of the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century migrations.



Núria Parera Ciuró (Barcelona, 1972) holds a degree in Information Sciences and studied writing at l'Obrador at the Sala Beckett in Barcelona. She has been part of the screenwriting team for many hit television shows, including *Ventdelplà*, *Infidels*, *La Riera*, and *Les de l'hoquei*. She has written plays and stories for young readers, such as the collection *Les aventures de la gata Marga* (Alrevés), and the picture book *El meu avi i jo* (Juventud). She also is a journalist and a scriptwriting teacher.



María Hergueta (València, 1984) earned a degree in Fine Arts from the Universidad de Salamanca. She studied illustration at Barcelona's Escola Massana d'Art and Italy's Accademia di Belle Arti di Brera. Her first illustrated book, *Cuando no estás aquí*, won the 2013 Junceda Prize and was selected for the prestigious *White Ravens Catalogue*. Since then she has continued working as an illustrator for publishers, newspapers, and magazines in numerous countries.



Publisher: Babulinka (Catalan and Spanish) Publication date: November 2018

Format: 12 × 17 cm

Age: 12+

Age: 12+ Pages: 100

#### **FOREIGN RIGHTS CONTACT:**

Sandra Rodericks sandra.rodericks@uklitag.com Ute Körner Agency

The Suitcase is an object that becomes a silent, poetic witness to many lives and key moments in contemporary history.



### Jordi Folck

# The Boy Made of Paper

#### Winner of the 2018 Ramon Muntaner Prize

Jordi Folck, an author with a long and illustrious career, swears that this is the book he was born to write, an homage to literary creation that earned him the celebrated Ramon Muntaner Prize. This novel recounts the adventures of a paper boy, with streamers for hair and confetti tears, born to an old married couple of booksellers. The boy is fragile but endowed with enormous intelligence and sensibility, since he was made of the finest pages in the history of literature. Survival in a world obsessed with material gain and physical appearance will be a struggle for him, but he can count on his ability to use origami to transform himself as well as the help and guidance of the paper bird who narrates his journey.



Jordi Folck (Reus, 1961) holds a degree in Information Sciences for journalism and advertising, and has been creative director of an advertising agency for many years. He has published more than a dozen award-winning books for kids and teens, including *La guerra dels xiclets* and *Història d'un bolígraf*. His interest in applying his creativity in various realms has led him to act in three television series and numerous commercials. He is also a photographer specializing in black and white and has had several exhibitions of the images captured in his travels.

A novel for teens that develops into a poignant tribute to books and world literature.



Publisher: Fanbooks – Planeta (Catalan) Publication date: November 2018 Format: 14 × 21.5 Age: 14+ Number of pages: 272

#### **FOREIGN RIGHTS CONTACT:**

Jordi Berché jberche@planeta.es Planeta

#### Bel Olid & Montse Rubio

# Tina Frankens

Author Bel Olid makes her debut in literature for teens with a recreation of *Frankenstein* in which a scientist aunt reconstructs the body of her sixteen-year-old niece after a serious accident. While clearly referencing the classic novel, it is a book with its own personality, told in short chapters and a keen style that gives readers' imaginations a jolt. The narration is filled with ellipses and weighty silences, and follows the protagonist's search for answers to her past and her place in the present. This polished edition contains evocative illustrations that add to the book's intense atmosphere.



Bel Olid (Mataró, 1977) is a writer, translator, professor of translation at the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, and a contributor to many cultural programs and media outlets. She became known when she won the 2010 Documenta Prize for the novel *Una terra solitària*, and the Rovelló Essay Prize for *Les heroines contrataquen. Models literaris contra l'universal masculí a la literatura infantil i juvenil* that same year. In 2012 she won the Roc Boronat Prize for *La mala reputació*, a volume of stories. She has served as president of the Conseil Européen des Associations de Traducteurs Littéraires (CEATL) and, since March 2015, is president of Associació d'Escriptors en Llengua Catalana. Most recently she has published the short story collection *Vents més salvatges*, a journalistic chronicle on refugees entitled *Vides aturades*, an essay on gender theory *Feminisme de butxaca*, and the picture books *Gegantíssima* and *Viure amb la Hilda*, which was awarded the Apel·les Mestres Prize.



Montse Rubio is an illustrator from Barcelona. Since she was very small she always loved drawing, painting, and handicrafts but it wasn't until 2001 when she decided, with her portfolio of drawings under her arm and her head full of dreams, to study illustration at La Llotja art school in Barcelona. There she discovered watercolor, one of her great passions, and gradually her enthusiasm for illustration grew. For more than 15 years she has worked as a freelance illustrator for publishers, public institutions, and individuals.



Publisher: Fanbooks – Planeta (Catalan) Publication date: August 2018

Format: 14 × 20.2 Age: 16+ Pages: 168

#### FOREIGN RIGHTS CONTACT:

Illustrations: Editorial Planeta Jordi Berché jberche@planeta.es Text: Asterisc Agència Literària Carlota Torrents carlota@asteriscagents.com

An excellent teenage girl version of *Frankenstein*, two hundred years after the classic's first publication.

### Selected Backlist



#### What Colour is a Kiss?

Author: Rocío Bonilla

Publisher: Bromera (Catalan), Algar

(Spanish)

Format: 29 × 21 cm Target age: 6+

Publication date: September 2015

Pages: 40

#### **RIGHTS SOLD:**

Chinese (Lijiang Publishing Limited-China/ Human Thesaurus Publishing Group- Taiwan) Dutch (Clavis-Bèlgica i Holanda) English (Charlesbridge-USA) French (Editions Père Fouettard-France)

German - Jumbo Medien Greek (Ikaros Publishing) Italian (Francesco Brioschi Editore / Valentina Edizione)

Korean (Yellostone Publishing

Company)

Lithuanian (APKABINK MENULI) Macedonian (TRI Publishing Centre) Polish (Tadam Publishing)

Portuguese (Presença-Portugal/ Telos Editora-Brazil)

Russian (NIGMA Publishing House - Russia / Nebo Booklad Publishing -Ukraine)

Slovenian (Društvo Mohorjeva Družba) Turkish (Mia Organizasyon)

Ukranian (Nebo Booklad Publishing)

#### **FOREIGN RIGHTS CONTACT:**

Carol Borràs carol@bromera.com Bromera



#### The Colour Monster

Author: Anna Llenas

Publisher: Flamboyant (Catalan &

Spanish)

Format: 25.5 × 25.5cm

Target age: 3+

Publicacion date: November 2012

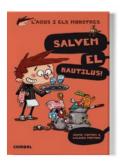
48 pages

#### **RIGHTS SOLD:**

Complex Chinese (Sun Color) Danish (Forlaget Bolden) Dutch (De Vier Windstreken) English UK (The Templar) English USA (Little Brown & Co.) Filipino (Adarna House) French (Éditions Quatre Fleuves) German (Jacoby & Stuart) Hebrew (Kinneret) Italian (Ed. Feltrinelli Gribaudo) Korean (Yeowon media) Lithuanian (JSC "Right Thing") Macedonian-Albanese (Skaznuvalka DOOEL Skopje) Persian (Tuti Books) Polish (Grupa Wydawnicza Relacja) Portuguese Brazil (Aletria) Portuguese Portugal (Penguin Random House) Rumanian (Nomina Editura) Simplified Chinese (Hsinex International) Serbian (Data Status) Slovak (Perfekt) Slovene (Drustvo Mohorjeva Druzba) Turkish (Nesin) Ukranian (Kalamar)

#### **FOREIGN RIGHTS CONTACT:**

Marina Huguet m.huguet@editorialflamboyant.com Editorial Flamboyant



#### Gus and the Monsters

Authors: Jaume Copons (text), Liliana

Fortuny (illustrations)

Publisher: Combel-Casals (Catalan &

Spanish)

Format:  $21.5 \times 15$ cm Target age: 8+

Publication date: first book, 2014

RIGHTS SOLD: Czech (Host) English US & Canada (CrackBoom!/ Chouette Publishing) Eslovenian (KUD Sodobnost Int.) Farsi (Houpaa Books) French Canada (CrackBoom! -Chouette Publishing) French Europe (Jungle Books -Steinkis) Greek (Kedros Publications, S.A.) Korean (Blue Wing) Italian (Salani Editore) Latvian (Latvijas Mediji) Lithuanian (Apkabink Ménuli) Polish (RM) Portuguese Brazil (Carochinha) Portuguese Portugal (Euroimpala Books) Russian (Clever Publishing) Simplified Chinese (Hachette-Phoenix Cultural Development Co., Ltd.)

Serbian (Vulkani) Slovak (Albatros)

Spanish Brazil (Bom Jesus) Traditional Chinese (Sun Color Culture)

Turkish (Bıcırık Yayınları - Nesil)

#### **FOREIGN RIGHTS CONTACTS:**

Esther Serra Combel Editorial S. A. esther.serra@editorialcasals.com Chiara Patsias IMC Literary Agency chiara@iemece.com



#### Peter and the Forest

Authors: Jaume Cabré (text), Júlia Sardà

(illustration)

Publisher: Estrella Polar (Catalan),

TimunMas (Spanish) Format: 24 × 27cm Target age: 7+

Publication date: October 2015

Pages: 58

#### **RIGHTS SOLD:**

Chinese (Citic Press)

#### **FOREIGN RIGHTS CONTACTS:**

Jordi Berché (illustration rights) Planeta jberche@planeta.es Teresa Pinto (text rights) Carme Balcells Literary Agency t.pinto@agenciabalcells.com



#### A Son

Author: Alejandro Palomas Publisher: La Galera (Catalan &

Spanish)

Format: Paperback 13 × 20 cm

Target age: 12+

Publication date: May 2015

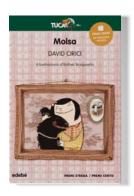
Pages: 288

#### **RIGHTS SOLD:**

Chinese Complex (Easter Publishing)
Danish (Jensen & Dalgaard)
Dutch (Abimo Publishers)
French (Le Cherche-Midi)
Greek (Editions Opera)
Italian (Neri Pozza)
Persian (Fatemi Publishing Co.)
Polish (Grupa Wydawnicza Foksal)
Portuguese Brazil (Rocco)
Portuguese Portugal (Presença)
Romanian (RAO International
Publishing)
Serbian (Kosmos)
Slovenian (Zalozba Zala)
Turkish (Final)

#### FOREIGN RIGHTS CONTACT:

Sandra Bruna sbruna@sandrabruna.com Jordi Ribodella jribolleda@sandrabruna.com Sandra Bruna Literary Agency



#### Moss

Publisher: Edebé (Catalan & Spanish)

Format: 19,5 × 13cm Target age: 10+

Publication date: March 2013

Pages: 168

#### **RIGHTS SOLD:**

Chinese (Liaoning Children's Publishing House)
Dutch (Ploegsma)
German (Dressler Verlag)
Greek (Kalendis)
Italian (Editrice Il Castoro)
Korea (Sigonsa co; Ltd)
Slovenian (Zalozba Hart)
Spanish (Mexico - Edebé Ediciones Internacionales)
Russian (Mann, Ivanov & Faber)
Turkish (Final Publishing House)

#### FOREIGN RIGHTS CONTACT:

Geòrgia Picanyol gpicanyol@edebe.net Edebé

#### Selected Backlist



#### Bruno's Hat

Author: Canizales

Publisher: Beascoa (Spanish)

Format: 22.7 × 22.8cm

Target age: 7+

Publication date: November 2016

Pages: 32

#### **RIGHTS SOLD:**

English (Presbyterian Publishing) Korean (Conko Co. LTD)

#### **FOREIGN RIGHTS CONTACT:**

Chiara Patsias chiara@iemece.com IMC Literary Agency



### What Brings Life

Author: Maite Carranza Publisher: Cruïlla

Format/pages: Hardcover - 152 pp -

Paperback – 184 pp Target age: 9+

Publication date: October 2016

#### **RIGHTS SOLD:**

Spanish (SM) Italian (Il Castoro) Portuguese (2020 EDITORA, Lda) Turkish (Gunisigi Kitapigi Yayincilik)

#### **FOREIGN RIGHTS CONTACT:**

Maite Carranza maite@maitecarranza.com



# The Island of Paidonesia

Author: Oriol Canosa

Publisher: La Galera (Catalan &

Spanish)

Format: 13.5 × 21 cm Target age: 7 +

Publication date: March 2017

Pages: 140

#### **RIGHTS SOLD:**

German (Klett Kinderbuch Verlag)

#### **FOREIGN RIGHTS CONTACT:**

Iolanda Bethencourt: IBethencourt@grec.com La Galera



### Baby Pop

Publisher: Combel (Catalan & Spanish)

Format: 25.5 × 25.5cm Target age: all ages

Publication date: September 2017

Pages: 16

#### **RIGHTS SOLD:**

English (Familius)
French (Gautier-Languereau/Hachette)
Italian (White Star)
Simplified Chinese (S&S Alliance
Fortune)

Traditional Chinese (Les Goutes Press)

#### **FOREIGN RIGHTS CONTACT:**

Esther Serra esther.serra@editorialcasals.com Combel



# Round and Yellow

Publisher: Flamboyant (Catalan &

Spanish)

Format: 24 × 22.50cm

Target age: 5+

Publication date: February 2018

Pages: 44

#### **RIGHTS SOLD:**

Korean (Seedbook Publishing Co.) Simplified Chinese (Publishing House of Electronics Industry)

#### **FOREIGN RIGHTS CONTACT:**

Marina Huguet m.huguet@editorialflamboyant.com Flamboyant



# Hopi Series

Publisher: La Galera (Catalan)

Format:  $16 \times 21.5$ cm Target age: 6+

Publication date: first volume, 2016

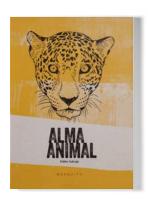
Pages: 72

#### RIGHTS SOLD:

Chinese (Shandong Friendship Publishing House) Ukrainian (Nebo BookLab)

#### FOREIGN RIGHTS CONTACT:

Iolanda Bethencourt IBethencourt@grec.com La Galera



#### Animalkind

Publisher: Mosquito Books (Catalan &

Spanish)

Format: 23.5 × 32.5cm Target age: from 5 to 173 Publicacion date: October 2017

Pages: 72

#### **RIGHTS SOLD:**

German (Prestel) English (Prestel) French (Nathan) Chinese (Gingko Book Co.)

#### **FOREIGN RIGHTS CONTACT:**

Lluís Cassany lluis@mosquitobooksbarcelona.com Mosquito Books



### Penny Berry Series

Publisher: Cruïlla (Catalan), SM

(Spanish)

Format: 14.5 × 21.5cm Target age: 10+

Publication date: first volume,

November 2016 Pages: from 250 to 290

#### **RIGHTS SOLD:**

Italian (Albe Edizioni) Polish (Scared Dragon Studio)

#### **FOREIGN RIGHTS CONTACT:**

Chiara Patsias chiara@iemece.com IMC Literary Agency



#### The Blue Bench

Publisher: Babulinka (Catalan)

Format: 25 × 23cm Target age: 5+

Publication date: June 2017

Pages: 40

#### **RIGHTS SOLD:**

German (Abac publishers) English (Berbay Publishing - UK, Australia and New Zealand)

#### FOREIGN RIGHTS CONTACT:

Mar González mar@babulinkabooks.com Babulinka



# The Zippoli Tribe

Publisher: Bambú (Catalan & Spanish)

Format: 14.5 × 21cm Target age: 9+

Publication date: February 2017

Pages: 144

#### RIGHTS SOLD:

Filipino (Adarna House) French (Actes Sud) Russian (Mann Ivanov & Ferber)

#### **FOREIGN RIGHTS CONTACTS:**

Esther Serra Combel esther.serra@editorialcasals.com Carlota Torrents Asterisc Agents carlota@asteriscagents.com



#### A New Life

Publisher: Zahorí de Ideas (Catalan &

Spanish)

Format: 27 × 19cm Target age: 4+

Publication date: Fall 2018

Pages: 76

#### **RIGHTS SOLD:**

Simplified Chinese (Beijing Yutian Hanfeng Books Co) English (Thames&Hudson) French (Saltimbanque) Italian (L'Ippocampo) Japanese (Wakade) Polish (Tatarak) Portuguese (Edicare)

#### **FOREIGN RIGHTS CONTACT:**

Mireia Trius mireia@zahorideideas.com Zahorí de Ideas

# Grants, Fellowship and Other Services

#### Literature Translation

Grants for the translation of Catalan literature: fiction, non-fiction, children's and YA books, poetry, theatre and graphic novels.

Recipients: Publishers.

#### Literature Promotion

Grants to promote abroad Catalan literature (fiction, non-fiction, children's and YA books, poetry, theatre and graphic novels), including participation in international literary festivals and presentations and promotional plans for works in translation.

Recipients: Publishers, Literary Events Organizers.

#### Children's Illustration

Grants for the publication abroad of illustrated books by illustrators settled in Catalonia or the Balearic Islands.

Recipients: Publishers.

# Samples & Booklets

Grants to translate samples of works written in Catalan to produce booklets for promotional purposes.

Recipients: Publishers, Literary Agencies.

# Translators in Residency

Grants for translators working on translations from Catalan to stay from two to six weeks in Catalonia.

Recipients: Translators.

### Travel for Writers and Illustrators

Grants for writers and illustrators to finance travel costs to carry out literary activities, to which they have been invited.

Recipients: Writers in Catalan and illustrators with at least two books originally published in Catalan.

# IRL Fellowship

Every year the Institut Ramon Llull (IRL) organises a fellowship targeted at international publishers and agents to take place in Barcelona.

The invited professionals have the chance to acquire first-hand an in-depth perspective on Catalan literature as well as to build networks with Catalan publishing houses and literary agencies.

Travel and accommodation expenses during the fellowship are covered by the IRL.

#### Presence at International Book Fairs

The IRL attends the following book fairs on a regular basis: London, Paris, Bologna, Warsaw, Beijing, Frankfurt, Istanbul and Guadalajara, informing about its services and activities.

The IRL manages and organises the presence of Catalan Culture as Guest of Honour at international book fairs. Catalan Culture was Guest of Honour at Turin Book Fair (2003), Feria del libro de Guadalajara (2004), Frankfurter Buchmesse (2007), Goteborg Book Fair (2014) and Bologna Children's Books Fair (2017). The city of Barcelona was also Guest of Honour in Paris (2013), Warsaw (2016) and in 2019 at Buenos Aires Book Fair.

#### Other Services

The IRL promotes networking between the international publishers and agents and the Catalan publishing sector. The members of the Literature and the Humanities department will be pleased to provide international publishing professionals with the contacts of Catalan authors, publishers or agents.

The IRL also offers information in its website about the translation and the translators of Catalan literature through the databases TRAC and TRADUCAT.

### IRL Literature and the Humanities Team

## Headquarters

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