And Other Stories

Catalogue Spring 2018

Year of Publishing Women
#YPW2018

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And Other Stories

AND OTHER STORIES LAUNCHES YEAR OF PUBLISHING WOMEN TO ACCLAIM

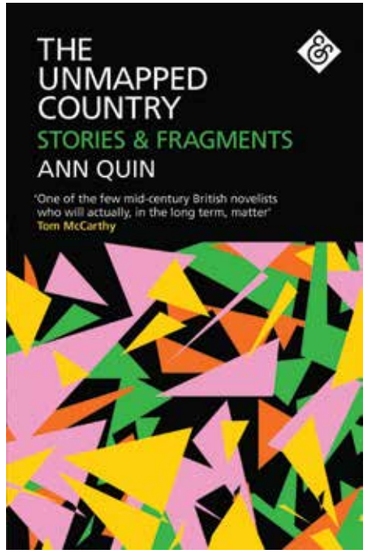
In 2015, in response to a challenge issued to the publishing industry by Kamila Shamsie, And Other Stories declared that in 2018 it would only publish women authors. Shadow Attorney General Shami Chakrabarti, who led the Liberty campaign group for over a decade, has recently expressed her support for the challenge, in which Shamsie – in the wake of research suggesting that women are far less likely to be awarded major literary prizes – had proposed a year of publishing only women, scheduled to coincide with the 100th anniversary of women's enfranchisement in the UK. And Other Stories is the only publishing house to have taken up the challenge to make 2018 a Year of Publishing Women (YPW2018, for short).

Chakrabarti, talking to *The Bookseller*, said her opinion on affirmative action in general had changed over the years. Facing up to the fact we are 'not living in a meritocracy' was part of this, she said. 'When I was in my early 20s, I took the classic liberal position that affirmative action and quotas were a bad idea; they were unfair and discriminatory and you don't want to be considered a token. My life experience has really changed my mind about that. I've seen it work. You bring it in for a time-limited period, and you change the dynamic.'

YPW2018 has given us at And Other Stories the impetus to address biases that sideline women writers – biases particularly acute in fiction in translation, where only about 30% of fiction published is written by women. It also made us very aware of the dearth of literary manuscripts by women of colour being sent to us by agents. But the dynamic is changing: in the world of translated fiction, and more widely.

Also: constraints can be creative, and we know our list is the richer for all the new authors you'll find on it this year. In this first half of the year, there are classic authors Ann Quin and Norah Lange, with whom it is about time the world got better acquainted, there are novels by lauded contemporary writers Cristina Rivera Garza, Christine Schutt and Fleur Jaeggy, as well as the first novel by a brilliant young Catalan writer, Alicia Kopf.

Six carefully chosen, important books by six important authors. Enjoy!



18 January 2018

THE UNMAPPED COUNTRY: STORIES AND FRAGMENTS

Ann Quin

Editor: Jennifer Hodgson

The lost stories of a remarkable writer who distinctively embodies the radical spirit of the 1960s.

This new collection of rare and unpublished writing by the cult 1960s author Ann Quin explores the risks and seductions of going over the edge. The stories cut an alternative path across innovative twentieth-century writing, bridging the world of Virginia Woolf and Anna Kavan with that of Kathy Acker and Chris Kraus.

Stories and fragments (224pp)
B-format paperback
ISBN: 9781911508144
eISBN: 9781911508151
18 January 2018
Territories:
World English
Price: £ 10 / US$ 15.95

Ann Quin (b. 1936) was a British writer from Brighton. Prior to her death in 1973, she published four novels: *Berg* (1964), *Three* (1966), *Passages* (1969), and *Tripticks* (1972). During her writing career, she lived between Brighton, London and the United States. She was prominent amongst a group of British experimental writers of the 1960s, which also included B.S. Johnson and Christine Brooke-Rose.

Jennifer Hodgson is a writer and critic. She writes about literature and culture for a variety of publications and is currently writing the first critical study of Ann Quin's work.

'One of the few mid-century British novelists who will actually, in the long term, matter.' **Tom McCarthy**

'One of our greatest ever novelists. Ann Quin's was a new British working-class voice that had not been heard before: it was artistic, modern, and – dare I say it – ultimately European.' **Lee Rourke, *The Guardian***

'Ann Quin is a master painter of interiors, of voices that mosaic as they catch the light at strange, stirring angles.' **Chloe Aridjis**

8 February 2018

SWEET DAYS OF DISCIPLINE

Fleur Jaeggy

Translated by Tim Parks

An unsettling tale of friendship and tension in a boarding school, this multiple prize-winner is relaunched in a handsome new edition.

Set in post-war Switzerland, Fleur Jaeggy's novel begins simply and innocently enough: 'At fourteen I was a boarder in a school in the Appenzell'. But there is nothing truly simple or innocent here. With the offhanded knowingness of a remorseless young Eve, the narrator describes life as a captive of the school and her designs to win the affections of the seemingly perfect new girl, Frederique. As she broods over her schemes as well as on the nature of control and madness, the novel gathers a suspended, unsettling energy.

'A wonderful, brilliant, savage writer.' **Susan Sontag**

'Fleur Jaeggy's pen is an engraver's needle depicting roots, twigs and branches of the tree of madness – extraordinary.' **Joseph Brodsky**

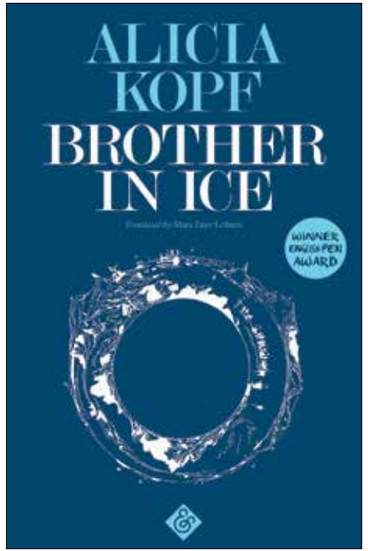
'She has the enviable first glance for people and things, she harbours a mixture of distracted levity and authoritative wisdom.' **Ingeborg Bachmann**

'Small-scale, intense and impeccably focused.' ***New Yorker***

Fleur Jaeggy is a true original of European writing and translated into twenty languages. The Times Literary Supplement named her *S. S. Proleterka* as a Best Book of the Year, and her *Sweet Days of Discipline* won the Premio Bagutta as well as the Premio Speciale Rapallo.

Born in Manchester in 1954, **Tim Parks** is a novelist, memoirist and translator. He came across *Sweet Days of Discipline* while browsing in an Italian bookshop. His highly praised translation subsequently won the John Florio Prize.

Novel (102pp)
B-format paperback
ISBN: 9781911508182
eISBN: 9781911508199
8 February 2018
Territories: UK, EUR & Commonwealth excl Canada
Price: £8.99



23 April 2018

BROTHER IN ICE

Alicia Kopf

Translated by Mara Faye Lethem

Kopf – the young Catalan writer to watch – explores the unknown: both in the polar regions and in her family.

Part research notes, part fictionalised diary, and part travelogue, this hybrid novel uses the stories of polar exploration to make sense of the protagonist's own concerns as she comes of age as an artist, a daughter, and a sister to an autistic brother. Conceptually and emotionally compelling, it advances fearlessly into the frozen emotional lacunae of difficult family relationships. Deserving winner of multiple awards upon its Catalan and Spanish publication, *Brother in Ice* is a richly rewarding journey into the unknown.

Short Stories (224pp)
B-format paperback
ISBN: 9781911508205
eISBN: 9781911508212
23 April 2018
Territories:
World English
Price: £ 10 / US$ 15.95

Alicia Kopf (b. 1982) is a writer and artist based in Barcelona. *Brother in Ice* is the culmination of an artistic cycle of exhibitions entitled *Àrticantàrtic*. The original Catalan manuscript of *Brother in Ice* won the 2015 Premi Documenta, a prestigious prize for an unpublished Catalan-language work of literature, and upon publication was awarded the 2016 Premi Llibreter by Catalan booksellers. The Spanish edition received further prizes, including the Premio El Ojo Crítico, awarded by Spanish National Radio.

Mara Faye Lethem is based between Barcelona and Brooklyn, and translates from Catalan and Spanish. She has translated many contemporary novelists, and is a reviewer for the *New York Times*.

'In another country this book would have changed the course of its history.' **Enrique Vila-Matas**

'As if by sleight of hand, Kopf displays a wide range of emotions before us. Like the poles, they are constantly shifting, and inevitably epic.' **Agustín Fernández Mallo**

10 May 2018

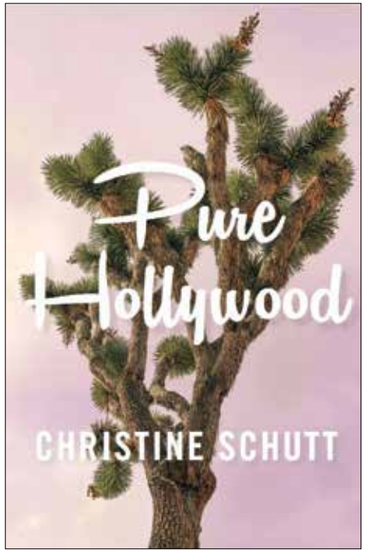
PURE HOLLYWOOD

Christine Schutt

The long-overdue UK launch of Christine Schutt, an American master of the short story, with brand-new gems.

In tales of rare wit, *Pure Hollywood* brings us into private worlds of longing and danger. An alcoholic actress takes her children to live in 'a rusted box on stilts' in the desert. In an exclusive island resort, a young family's holiday has terrible consequences. A newly-wed couple who, while still 'newly everything', fall in with a misanthropic painter burned by love. 'On the beach, they agreed, their daydreaming was sometimes dangerous.'

Schutt's sharply suspenseful and masterfully dark interior portraits of ordinary lives are shot through with surprise and, as Ottessa Moshfegh has it, 'exquisitely weird writing'.



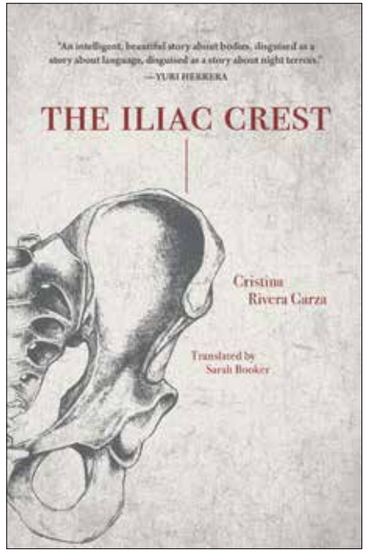
'A truly gifted writer.' **George Saunders**

'Pared down but rich, dense, fevered, exactly right and eerily beautiful.' **John Ashbery**

'*Pure Hollywood* is pure gold. Come for the art of her exquisitely weird writing and stay for the human drama.' **Ottessa Moshfegh**

Christine Schutt is the author of two short story collections and three novels. She has been a finalist for both the National Book Award (*Florida*) and Pulitzer Prize (*All Souls*). Among other honors, Schutt has twice won the O. Henry Short Story Prize. She is the recipient of the New York Foundation of the Arts and Guggenheim Fellowships. Schutt lives and teaches in New York.

Short Stories (120pp)
B-format paperback
ISBN: 9781911508243
eISBN: 9781911508250
10 May 2018
Territories: UK, EUR & Commonwealth excl Canada
Price: £8.99



14 June 2018

THE ILIAC CREST

Cristina Rivera Garza

Translated by Sarah Booker

Our bones are our most intimate secret. And some secrets, only our bones can betray.

On a dark and stormy night, an unnamed narrator is visited by two women: one a former lover, the other a stranger. They ruthlessly question their host and claim to know his greatest secret: that he is, in fact, a woman. In increasingly desperate attempts to defend his masculinity, perplexed by the stranger's dubious claims to be the writer Amparo Dávila, he finds himself spiralling deeper into a haunted past that may or may not be his own. This surreal novel enfolds a masterful exploration of gender in taut, atmospheric mystery.

Novel (136pp)
B-format paperback
ISBN: 9781911508267
eISBN: 9781911508274
14 June 2018
Territories: UK, EUR & Commonwealth excl Canada
Price: £8.99

Cristina Rivera Garza is an award-winning author, translator and critic, and the only two-time winner of the International Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz Prize (2001; 2009). She is currently Distinguished Professor in Hispanic Studies at the University of Houston.

Sarah Booker is a Spanish-to-English translator and PhD candidate at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

'An intelligent, beautiful story about bodies disguised as a story about language disguised as a story about night terrors.' **Yuri Herrera**

'Warning: Cristina Rivera Garza is an explosive writer yet to be fully accounted for in English. An insubordinate stylist, a skilled creator of atmospheric and haunting language, *The Iliac Crest* is a willfully queer piece where the workings of her wild imagination destabilize everything.' **Lina Meruane**

'An existential gothic tale about the high stakes of understanding – and accepting – the self.' **Kirkus Reviews**

9 August 2018

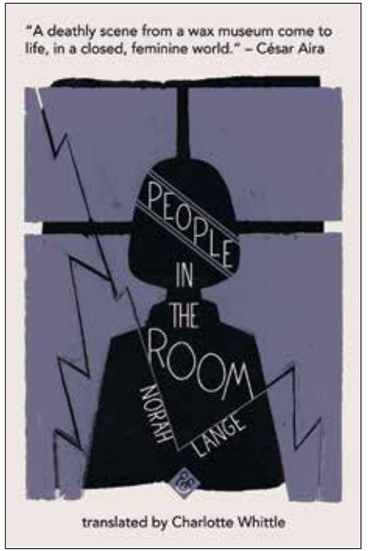
PEOPLE IN THE ROOM

Norah Lange

Translated by Charlotte Whittle

An uncanny exploration of desire, domestic space, isolation and voyeurism by a writer Borges loved – only now in English translation.

A young woman spies three women in the house opposite. She imagines them as criminals, as troubled spinsters, or as players in an affair. Lange's hallucinatory images make this uncanny exploration of desire, domestic space, voyeurism and female isolation a twentieth-century masterpiece, here translated into English for the first time.



'Deathly scenes from a wax museum come to life, in a closed, feminine world.' **César Aira**

'Lange breaks the canon that was suffocating women writers at the beginning of the twentieth century.' **Delfina Muschietti**

'In *People in the Room*, Lange's intensity and clarity are reminiscent of Virginia Woolf's finest moments in *Mrs Dalloway*.' **El Cultural**

Norah Lange was born in 1905 to Norwegian parents in Buenos Aires. A key figure of the Argentinean avant-garde, her books include the novels *People in the Room* and *The Two Portraits*, and the celebrated memoirs *Notes from Childhood* and *Before They Die*.

Charlotte Whittle's translations and writing have appeared in *Mantis*, *The Literary Review*, the *Los Angeles Times*, *Guernica*, *Electric Literature*, *BOMB*, the *Northwest Review of Books* and elsewhere. She lives in New York and is an editor at Cardboard House Press.

Novel (208pp)
B-format paperback
ISBN: 9781911508229
eISBN: 9781911508236
9 August 2018
Territories: World English
UK price: £10
US price: $15.95

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Contact us:
And Other Stories
www.andotherstories.org
And Other Stories, Central Library
Surrey Street, Sheffield, S1 1XZ

@andothertweets
andotherstoriesbooks
@andotherpics

info@andotherstories.org

Stefan Tobler, Publisher
stefantobler@andotherstories.org

Nichola Smalley, UK Publicity and Sales
nichola@andotherstories.org

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Sales for rest of Europe:

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'Subscribers are staying curious and trusting Tobler and his small team to come up with books that will engage and surprise them, even perhaps not please them, or maybe, as it was for me with Deborah Levy's *Swimming Home*, give them great satisfaction and a sense of relief that the book is there, handsomely designed and well produced, in the world for others to discover.' **Jenny Diski**

'I have felt it a privilege as well as a pleasure to be part of your endeavour. Each new book has been a further step beyond my usual borders into the wider world.' **Phyllis Reeve**

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