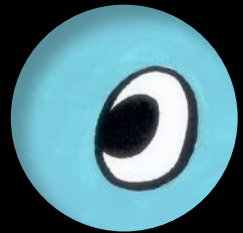
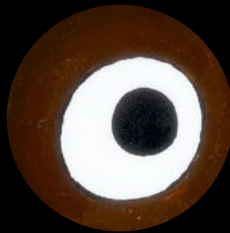


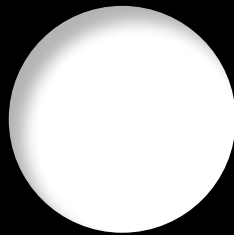
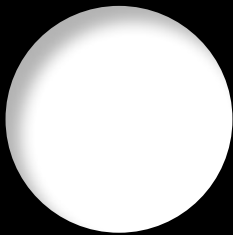
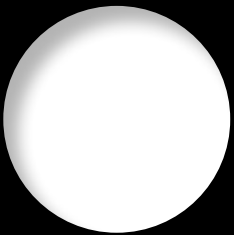
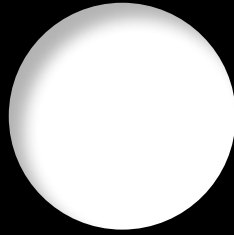
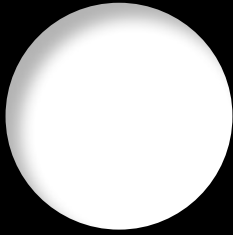
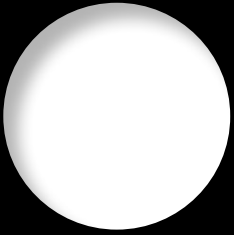
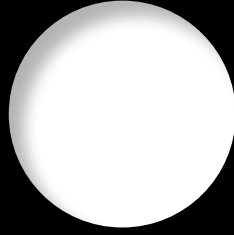
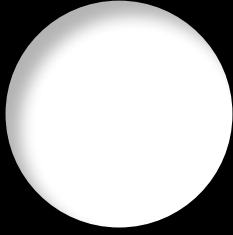
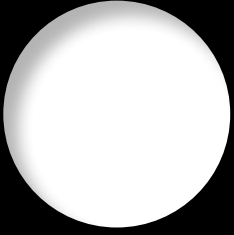
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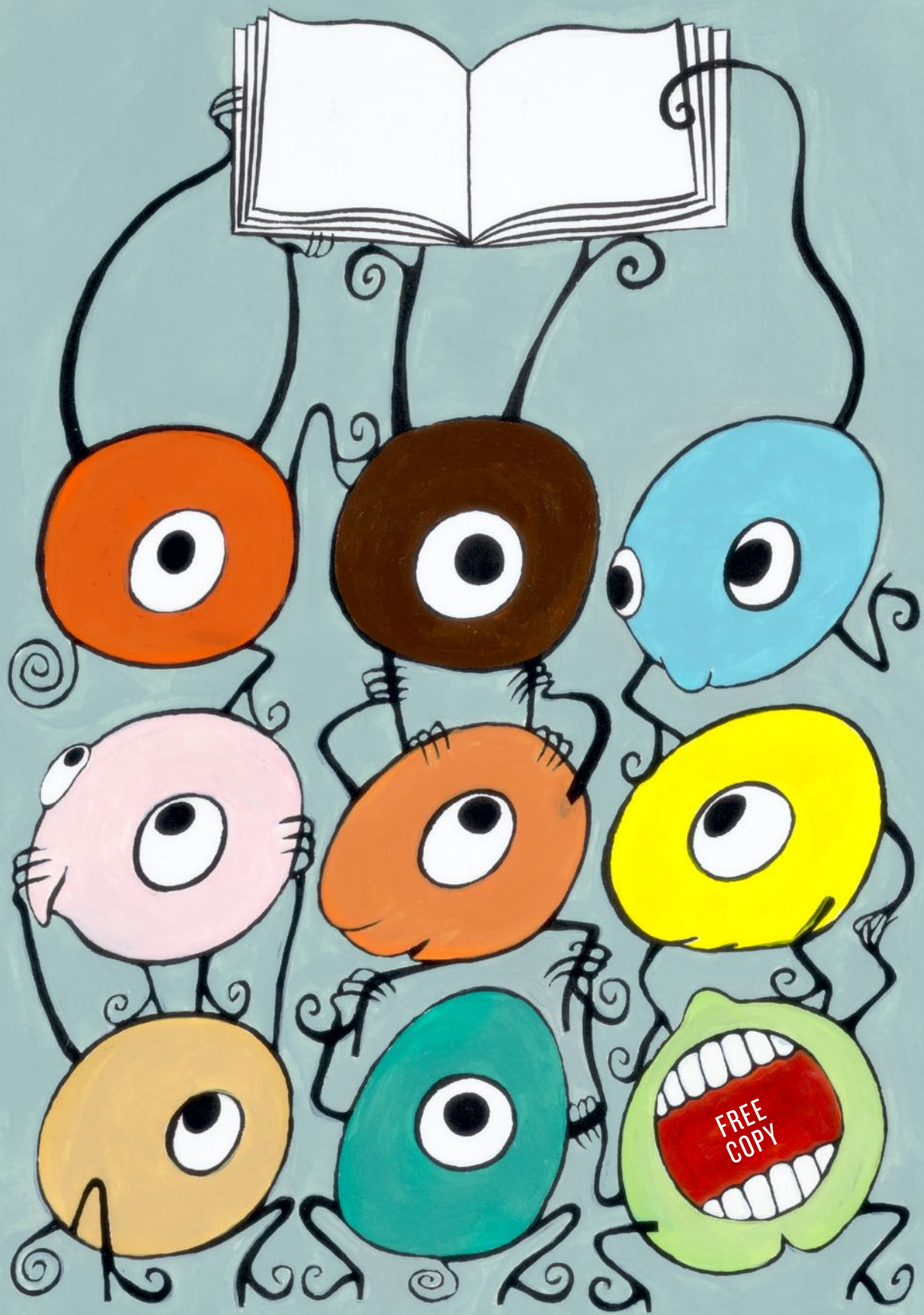
DANISH LITERARY MAGAZINE

AUTUMN

2012









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FOR DETAILS ABOUT THE WORK OF THE DANISH ARTS COUNCIL PLEASE VISIT

www.danisharts.dk & www.kunst.dk



Most articles in this edition are written by Lotte Kirkeby Hansen, a journalist with an M.A. in literature. The article "Illustrations insist on their place in Children's books" is written by Frederikke Winther, M.A. in Children's Literature. The articles and Thomas Boberg's poem are translated by Barbara Haveland.

The illustrations are made by:

Dorte Karrebæk (born 19th July 1946) is a Danish illustrator and author. She has written and illustrated countless picture books. Dorte Karrebæk is a graduate of the Danish School of Arts and Crafts in Copenhagen, where she studied commercial art from 1964 to 1968. Since 1982 she has provided the witty, quirky illustrations for almost 150 Danish children's books, some with words by herself, others by such writers as Oscar K., Louis Jensen and Nils Hartmann. Many of these are simple picture books for the very young. Karrebæk also teaches drawing and painting. She has had several exhibitions of her work in Denmark and been presented with a number of national awards for her books.

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CONTENTS

P. 4

NEWS FROM DENMARK

P. 8

BOOKS IN BRIEF

P. 14

AWARDS

P. 18

RECENTLY SOLD

P. 25

**ONE MINUTE ...
A POEM BY THOMAS BOBERG**

P. 26

**ILLUSTRATIONS INSIST ON THEIR PLACE
IN CHILDREN'S BOOKS**

P. 34

**THE POLAR EXPLORER, THE STASI SPY
AND ALL THE WARRIORS OF ALLAH**

P. 38

SUPPORT SCHEMES

P.40

ORGANISATIONS

Fiction

Traditionally, autumn is the season when the big guns of epic realist fiction are rolled out. And this year is no exception. Many of the writers in this season's crop have concerned themselves with the problems of family life, both past and present, and among these is

JENS SMÆRUP SØRENSEN

who, in the course of his forty years as a writer, has been awarded just about every Danish literary award worth winning. In his latest novel *Hjertet slår og slår* (The Heart Goes on Beating), he paints a portrait of a boy and his father, and of a hair-raising country childhood in the 1950s, memories of which come rushing back when a distinguished professor returns to visit his tyrannical old father, now close to death in a nursing home.

LEONORA CHRISTINA SKOV

too, has taken a family history as the subject of her new novel *Forsteelskeren* (Leading Man) which tells the story of Nat Kaminski, Denmark's uncrowned king of fiction, world-renowned for his great erotic trilogy, who as an old man suddenly finds himself alone. Even his beloved and secretive Veronica Lake has deserted him and in a letter that was never sent she now tells of her upbringing and of her mother, promiscuous, red-haired Gina, who disappeared while on a picnic in 1950. But modern family life is also placed under the microscope,

for example by poet, short story writer and winner of the Nordic Council Prize for Literature

NAJA MARIE AIDT

in her first novel *Sten saks papir* (Rock Scissors Paper), a book about men, families and the sins of the fathers. Read more about this novel in Books in Brief elsewhere in this issue. Here too you can read more about

it can be to create a family at all. In *Der er ingen steder at græde her* (There's Nowhere Here to Cry) she tells the story of Maria and Peter who have tried without success to produce a little brother or sister for their eight-year-old son. While Peter is obsessed with making this project work, Maria is slowly drowning in hormone treatments and visits to fertility clinics – which is possibly why, on a business trip, she has an affair that turns the little family's world upside down. A more humorous take on modern family life is given in *Gips* (Plaster) the latest fictional offering from

NEWS DENN

ANNE LISE MARSTRAND- JØRGENSEN'S

latest novel *Hvad man ikke ved* (What You Don't Know), in which she depicts a modern-day family that is slowly disintegrating, and takes a look at the relationships between men and women and at sexuality down through the generations. Newcomer

BRITT TIPPINS

on the other hand, shows how tough

MATHILDE WALTER CLARK

in which thirty-five year old Nete happens one day to pour boiling water over her husband Jan and thereafter proceeds quite systematically to do him harm, seconded by a motley cast of characters that includes everything from rockers to drunk Finns and a limping, tango-dancing Icelander. The central characters in

HANNE-MARIE SVENDSEN'S

latest are also a husband and wife, but at the other end of the age spectrum. *Bolgenes skum* (Spindrif) is a portrait of a woman writer who has hit the wall with her new novel – not because she is suffering from writer's block, but more likely because her husband has been seriously ill and needs time to recuperate. The focus of all the novels mentioned above is turned inwards, on the individual, the family, kith and kin. Other new

the lottery and doesn't have a care in the world. A for Arild, who has cancer and is barely surviving on a diet of beer, M for Mr. Silent, the mute epicentre of the novel, who is in the midst of building a house in a field.

KRISTIAN BANG FOSS

(see also Books in Brief) addresses a side of society that is anything but rural, namely that of frenetic big-city life in *Doden korer Audi* (Death Drives

Crime fiction

While Nielsen, in his work, experiments with literary form, other variations on a classic genre are to be found among this year's offerings from Danish crime writers. Again it is crime series that predominate, in a field led by the ubiquitous

JUSSI ADLER-OLSEN

This autumn sees the publication of *Marco Effekten* (The Marco Effect), the fifth volume in Adler-Olsen's highly successful series about Department Q and police detective Carl Mørck – which is, in fact, now being made into a film, scheduled to premiere around Christmas 2013.

ANNA GRUE'S

bald detective, Dan Sommerdahl, also returns in *Et spørgsmål om penge* (A Question of Money). In this, the fifth volume in the bald detective series, a wealthy playboy is found stabbed to death on the premises of his contracting business, which are under renovation, and Dan Sommerdahl is offered a glimpse of a world of cocaine, expensive watches and beautiful women in abundance. The writing duo

FROM MARK

works of fiction look outwards, instead, at the society around us, in Denmark and abroad. In *Bogstavets betydning* (To the Letter) award-winning writer

VIBEKE GRØNFELDT

paints a picture of a weary international community that lacks cohesion, one in which people stick together against all odds, and in which, letter by letter, Nini No Nielsen writes out a list of the living and the dead: V for the marvellous Vanderbildt who won 14 million in

an Audi), a satirical tale about the Danish welfare state which takes its characters on a trip all the way through Europe to Morocco in search of a healer.

NIELSEN

a writer who has previously published books under the name Das Beckwerk, takes the reader to Iran in his philosophical spy thriller *Store Satans fald* (The Fall of Satan the Great) in which two Europeans, Nielsen and Rasmussen, have come disguised as a couple of jolly tourists, but actually out to start a new revolution.

LOTTE & SØREN HAMMER

has reached the fourth volume of their series about Detective Chief Inspector Konrad Simonsen and his team of investigators from Copenhagen's homicide squad. In *Pigen i Satans Mose* (The Girl in Devil Marsh) four people arrive at a

hunting lodge in a car, among them a young African prostitute who is to be punished for not providing the services she is supposed to provide. The punishment is taken too far, the girl dies and her body is dumped in a nearby forest lake. After some months, however, the macabre remains rise to the surface ...

LARS KJÆDEGAARD

is also back with an independent fourth volume in his critically acclaimed series on the detective duo Anita Hvid and Thor Belling. In *Goyas hund* (Goya's Dog) the famous writer Egil Dahl is found murdered in his flat in Northern Spain and the investigation into his death causes a rift between these two close colleagues. Behind the pseudonym of

A. J. KAZINSKI

we find another couple, but there is no rift between these two, instead they have produced a book together. Anders Rønnøw Klarlund and Jacob Weinreich have co-written *Søvnen og døden* (Sleep and Death), a sequel to *Den sidste gode mand* (The Last Good Man), which sold to more than twenty countries. In their new novel, the Copenhagen Police Department's hostage negotiator, Niels Bentzon, tries to find out what drove a young woman to jump to her death from a bridge on a summer night in the Danish capital. The atmosphere is somewhat cooler in

MICHAEL KATZ KREFELD'S

conspiracy thriller *Sort Sne Falder* (Black Snow Falling). This independent sequel to his thriller *Protokollen* (The Protocol) is set in Greenland where, in 1968, an American bomber carrying four hydrogen bombs crashes. The fourth bomb – powerful enough to wipe out several European cities – is never found. Has it fallen into the wrong hands? And to what use might it be put?

Non-fiction

Many of the themes addressed in fictional form in crime novels are also among the most popular of non-fiction topics: war, conspiracies, the planning of assassinations and terrorist attacks. Now

HANS JØRGEN BONNICHSEN

a former detective chief inspector with Denmark's serious crime squad and former head of operations for Danish Intelligence has made his contribution to this genre with his book *Tvivel på alt og tro på meget. Jagten på sandheden – politiets afhøringsmetoder* (Doubt Everything, Believe Much. The Search for the Truth – Police Interviewing Techniques). In this he offers some insight into the form of the police interview, a subject about which he knows a great deal, due to his long experience of police work and international collaborations with the FBI, the CIA and law enforcement agencies in many other countries. The Cold War is another oft recurring topic in Danish non-fiction, and one of the latest titles in this category is

MIKAEL BUSCH'S

Knud og Vera (Knud and Vera) (see article elsewhere in this magazine), in which a German woman discovers that her Danish husband has for years been working for Stasi – and hence spying on those closest to him. In the documentary work *Flugtrute: Østersøen* (Escape Route: The Baltic)

JESPER CLEMMENSEN

relates the story of the 'invisible' wall that existed between the GDR and Denmark throughout the Cold War, during which, in a dramatic bid for freedom, over 6,000 East Germans chose to flee across the narrow stretch of the Baltic Sea that divided the two countries. Relations between Germany and Denmark are also central to

SØREN FLOTT'S

biography *Danskeren der skulle dræbe Hitler* (The Dane Who Tried To Kill Hitler). In this Flott describes the famous attempt made by Count Claus von Stauffenberg on July 20th 1944 to assassinate Hitler by means of a bomb hidden in a briefcase. Very few people are aware, however, that the brains behind the assassination attempt was a Dane, Jens Jessen, who had for years been one of Hitler's top advisors on industrial policy - and that it was actually Jessen himself who was meant to carry out the assassination. There is certainly no shortage of assassination attempts in

MATHIAS SEIDELIN'S

Allahs danske krigere – I FBI's søgelys (Allah's Danish Warriors – in the FBI spotlight) (see the article on non-fiction elsewhere in this magazine), in which Seidelin unravels the dramatic story of a 'Danish' terrorist leader and traces his links with international terrorism in the Middle East, Afghanistan and Pakistan.

For children

Children, like crime fiction fans, just love a good series – whether set in the realms of fantasy or in the real world. So a lot of young Danish readers have been eagerly awaiting the fourth volume in

LENE KAABERBØL'S

Vildheksen (The Wild Witch) series, entitled *Blodsungen* (The Bloodchild), which tells the story of Clara who, on the night of her thirteenth birthday, wakes up, heart pounding, from a terrible nightmare about Bravita Bloodchild. She tries to reassure herself – well, it was only a dream, wasn't it?

CAMILLA WANDAHL

author of the popular *Veninder for altid* (Friends For Ever) series is also ready with a new series, *Søstre på de syv have* (Sisters on the Seven Seas), illustrated by

JESPER EISING

In true Pirates of the Caribbean style she presents all girls and boys who love a good (tall) story with a yarn about upper-class schoolgirl Vanessa who is kidnapped one day – by mistake. For the same age group, the 8-12 year olds, there is also a new series of spine-chillers with occult, Gothic overtones from

BENNI BØDKER

Infernus (Infernus), whose central character is Morgan, an expert in demonology and a secret agent with MI9. Younger children, as we know, can be frightened by much less than demons and pirates, and for those children who may simply be scared of the dark there is help to be found in *Nete og mørket* (Nete and the Dark) by

LONE MUNKSGAARD & HANNE BARTHOLIN

who explain, in this lovely, lyrical picture book, how to overcome one's fear of the dark. There is also good news for the very youngest, who can't yet read for themselves – or at any rate those inquiring minds among them who need help in finding the answer to one of those questions that has always fascinated children: How did it all begin?

MAREN WEISCHER

provides child-friendly scientific answers to this in *Sådan begyndte verden* (How The World Began) – a description of how the world has evolved, from THE BIG BANG to today. Illustrated by

JULIE ANDKJÆR OLSEN

Jens Smærup Sørensen is published by Gyldendal, FOREIGN RIGHTS: Gyldendal Group Agency. **Leonora Christina Skov** is published by Politikens Forlag, FOREIGN RIGHTS: Politikens Forlag. **Naja Marie Aidt** is published by Gyldendal, FOREIGN RIGHTS: Gyldendal Group Agency. **Anne Lise Marstrand-Jørgensen** is published by Gyldendal, FOREIGN RIGHTS: Gyldendal Group Agency. **Britt Tippins** is published by People's Press, FOREIGN RIGHTS: People's Press. **Mathilde Walter Clark** is published by Politikens Forlag, FOREIGN RIGHTS: Politikens Forlag. **Hanne-Marie Svendsen** is published by Gyldendal, FOREIGN RIGHTS: Gyldendal Group Agency. **Vibeke Grønfeldt** is published by Samleren, FOREIGN RIGHTS: Gyldendal Group Agency. **Kristian Bang Foss** is published by Gyldendal, FOREIGN RIGHTS: Gyldendal Group Agency. **Nielsen** is published by Gyldendal, FOREIGN RIGHTS: Leonhardt & Høier. **Jussi Adler-Olsen** is published by Politikens Forlag, FOREIGN RIGHTS: Politikens Forlag. **Anna Grue** is published by Politikens Forlag, FOREIGN RIGHTS: Lars Ringhof Agency. **Lotte og Søren Hammer** are published by Gyldendal, FOREIGN RIGHTS: Gyldendal Group Agency. **Lars Kjædegaard** is published by Rosinante, FOREIGN RIGHTS: Gyldendal Group Agency. **A.J. Kazinski** is published by Politikens Forlag, FOREIGN RIGHTS: Politikens Forlag. **Michael Katz Krefeld** is published by Lindhardt og Ringhof, FOREIGN RIGHTS: Lars Ringhof Agency. **Hans Jørgen Bonnichsen** is published by Gyldendal, FOREIGN RIGHTS: Gyldendal Group Agency. **Jesper Clemmensen** is published by Gyldendal, FOREIGN RIGHTS: Gyldendal Group Agency. **Søren Flott** is published by Gyldendal, FOREIGN RIGHTS: Gyldendal Group Agency. **Mathias Seidelin** is published by Politikens Forlag, FOREIGN RIGHTS: Politikens Forlag. **Lene Kaaberbøl** is published by Alvilda, FOREIGN RIGHTS: Lars Ringhof Agency. **Camilla Wandahl** is published by Høst & Søn, FOREIGN RIGHTS: Gyldendal Group Agency. **Benni Bødker** is published by Gyldendal, FOREIGN RIGHTS: Gyldendal Group Agency. **Maren Weischer** is published by Lindhardt og Ringhof, FOREIGN RIGHTS: Lindhardt og Ringhof.

CRITICALLY ACCLAIMED TRILOGY

“Wouldn't it be wonderful if this was a picture of the future of Danish literature.” So concluded the daily newspaper Information's review of the third and final volume in the story cycle built by **Christina Hesselholdt** around the character of Camilla. And this newspaper was not alone in praising *Selskabet gør op* (The Company Takes Stock) and showering with stars and hearts and roses this examination of parting and death, of divorce and of mothers suddenly brought to mind. Christina Hesselholdt (born 1962) published her first work in 1991 and is regarded as one of the foremost exponents of the Danish minimalist literature of the 1990s. Over the years since then she has evolved into one of Denmark's finest and most assured prose writers. In 2010 she was awarded the Danish Critics' Prize for *Camilla – og resten af selskabet* (Camilla – and the Rest of the Company), the second volume in the trilogy, because – as the judges said in their motivation: “This book ushers us into the company of a group of middle-aged friends, male and female, who could be described as perfectly ordinary, were it not for Hesselholdt's exuberant yet deft presentation of their very slightest thought or experience, past or present. An existential, intellectual and literary drama of great tragicomedy and passion.”



CHRISTINA HESSELHOLDT

Selskabet gør op (The Company Takes Stock), Rosinante 2012, 140 pp.
PREVIOUS TITLES SOLD TO: France, Norway, Serbia, Spain, United Kingdom. FOREIGN RIGHTS: Gyldendal Group Agency, Karen Vad Bruun, karen_bruun@gyldendalgroupagency.dk

LONG AWAITED FIRST NOVEL

Prize-winning, critically acclaimed poet and short-story writer **Naja Marie Aidt** has just made her debut as a novelist. Aidt (born 1963) published her first collection of poems in 1991. Since then she has won a whole host of awards, among them the Danish Critics' Prize in 2007 for the short story collection *Bavian* (Baboon) and the 2008 Nordic Council Literature Prize. “Naja Marie Aidt's style is one of graceful, ominous realism; in her writing she exposes the undertones of reality, showing us how day-to-day life rests on a mycelium of potential disasters,” as it says in the motivation. In her new novel, *Sten saks papir* (Rock Scissors Paper), we are introduced to Thomas and Jenny, a brother and sister who have just lost their crook of a father, Jacques. The one sibling wants to forget the past which the other cannot shake off, and the whole situation becomes even more complicated when a large sum of money turns up. *Rock Scissors Paper* is a novel about men, families and the sins of the fathers. About the difficulty of getting to grips with life. About social climbing, love, jealousy and revenge; about trying to be a decent person, and about being less than perfect.



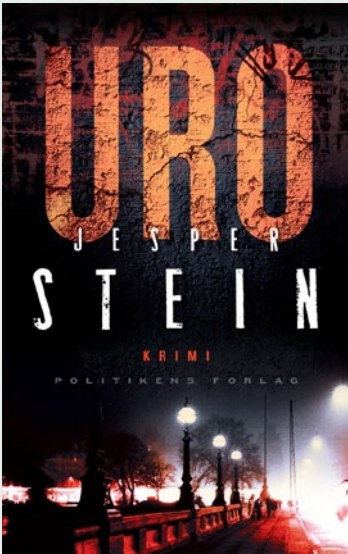
NAJA MARIE AIDT

Sten saks papir (Rock Scissors Paper), Gyldendal 2012, 386 pp.
PREVIOUS TITLES SOLD TO: the Czech Republic, France, Germany, Italy, Latvia, Norway, Sweden. FOREIGN RIGHTS: Gyldendal Group Agency, Karen Vad Bruun, karen_bruun@gyldendalgroupagency.dk

IN BRIEF

PROMISING CRIME DEBUT

The stream of Danish crime writers eager to reach an international audience doesn't exactly seem to be drying up. The most recent to add his voice to the crime-thriller choir is journalist **Jesper Stein**, making his crime debut with *Uro* (Unrest) which, according to the reviewer in the newspaper *Information*, has all the elements necessary for a crime novel: a clearly defined central character, sophisticated language and, not least, a grippingly intriguing plot set against a backdrop of situations and tensions recognizable from real life. Jesper Stein's central character is a thirty-eight year old divorced policeman, Assistant Commissioner Axel Steen, an angst-ridden insomniac who tries to dull his fears with a steadily escalating hash habit. And now he has to solve the mystery of a dead man in a graveyard. Stein is plunged into a case involving police intelligence, local gangs and a drug-dealing ring from the Balkans.



JESPER STEIN

Uro (Unrest), Politikens Forlag 2012, 416 pp.
PREVIOUS TITLES SOLD TO: Italy. FOREIGN RIGHTS: Politikens Forlag,
Nya Guldberg, nya.guldberg@jppol.dk

CONTROVERSIAL MEMOIRS

A notable member of the Danish art world recently turned 75. **Jørgen Leth** – journalist, writer, television presenter and film-maker, public speaker and Tour de France commentator – has more than once been described as a brilliant eccentric, most recently following the publication of his controversial memoirs. The third volume of these, *Et hus er mere end en ting* (A House Is More Than Just A Thing) has recently been published. In this Leth describes the earthquake which struck Haiti in 2010. The first volume, *Det uperfekte menneske 1* (The Imperfect Man) was published in 2005. It became a huge bestseller and an equally huge scandal, causing public outrage in Denmark thanks, not least, to Jørgen Leth's description of his relationship with a seventeen-year-old Haitian girl.

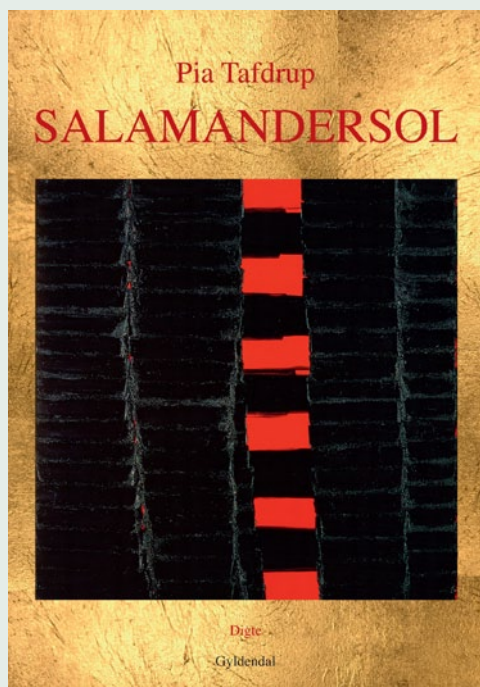


JØRGEN LETH

Et hus er mere end en ting (A House Is More Than Just A Thing. The Imperfect Man 3), Gyldendal 2012, 241 pp.
FOREIGN RIGHTS: Gyldendal Group Agency, Sofie Voller, sofie_voller@gyldendalgroupagency.dk

BIRTHDAY
POEMS

She has won the Nordic Council Literature Prize, the Swedish Academy's Nordic Prize and a host of other literary awards. And only recently **Pia Tafdrup** and her work were celebrated again, on the occasion of her 60th birthday – an event marked by her and her publisher, Gyldendal, with the publication of an autobiography in poem form. Pia Tafdrup's latest collection of poems, *Salamandersol* (Salamander Sun) consists of 60 poems – one for each year of her life – and concludes the quartet which began in 2002 with *Hvalerne i Paris* (The Whales in Paris) and continued with *Tarkovskijs heste* (Tarkovsky's Horses) (2006) and *Trækfuglenes kompas* (The Migrant Bird's Compass) (2010).



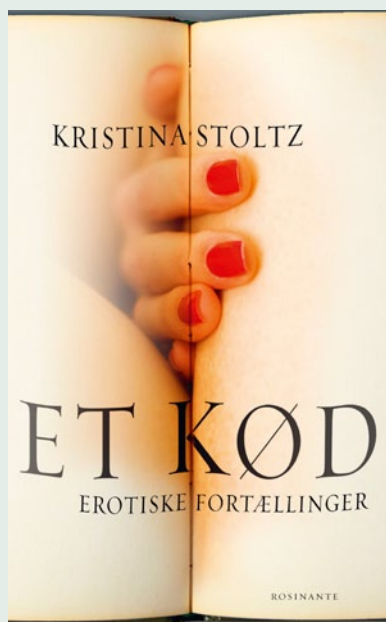
PIA TAFDRUP

Salamandersol (Salamander Sun), Gyldendal 2012, 84 pp.

PREVIOUS TITLES: have been translated into over thirty languages, including English, Dutch, French, Norwegian, Spanish and Swedish.
FOREIGN RIGHTS: Gyldendal Group Agency, Sofie Voller, sofie_voller@gyldendalgroupagency.dk

EROTIC
TALES

“He bent his head and sat down on the bed, but as she placed her hand over his he leaned towards her and she could not help but return his kiss. It was moist and probing and his long arms wrapped themselves tentatively around her. Those same arms that she had stroked and gently held when he was young and sat on her lap, the hands she had held when they went for walks.” So reads just one of the ten erotic tales of sexual attraction published this spring by **Kristina Stoltz** (born 1975). Stoltz made her literary debut in 2000 with a collection of poems and since then she has written a number of novels and children's books. In *Et kød* (One Flesh) she draws inspiration from a libertine literary tradition in which anything goes and anything can happen.



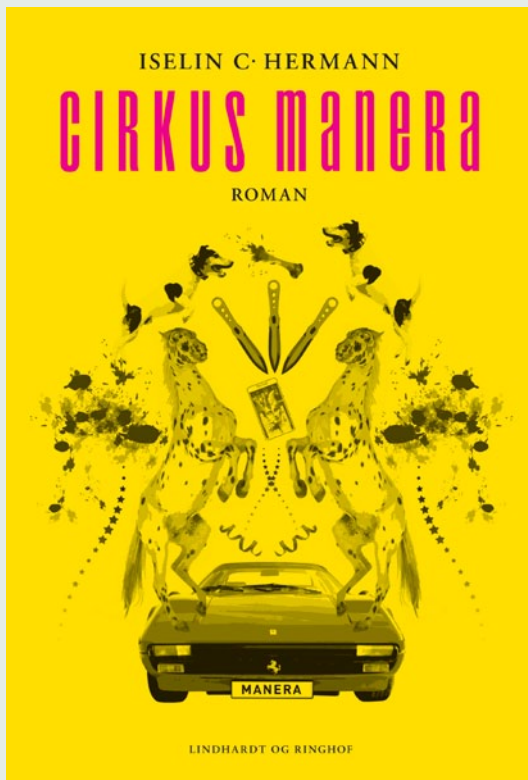
KRISTINA STOLTZ

Et kød (One flesh), Rosinante 2012, 231 pp.

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CIRCUS
NOVEL

Iselin C. Hermann can boast of an experience granted only to very few: that of seeing her first novel sold to more than twenty countries. Since that first work, the epistolary novel *Prioritaire* (Priority), published in 1998, she has written books for both children and adults, the latest of these being *Cirkus Manera* (Circus Manera). Iselin C. Hermann once trained as a circus artiste in France and it the unique material gleaned from this that she has now turned into a grand contemporary novel of circus life.

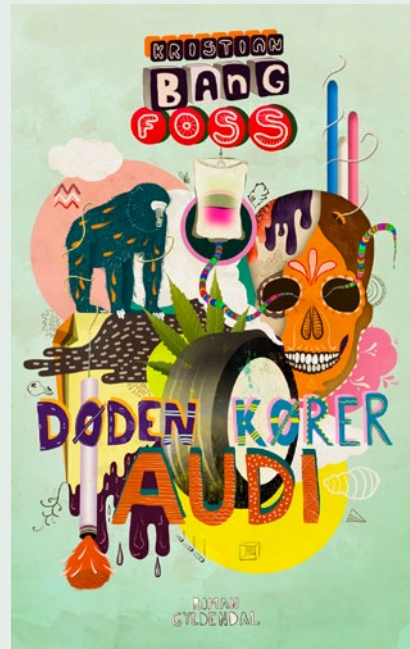


ISELIN C. HERMANN

Circus Manera (Circus Manera), Lindhardt og Ringhof 2012, 350 pp.
PREVIOUS TITLES SOLD TO: Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain, Hungary, Italy, Serbia, Spain, Sweden, The Netherlands. FOREIGN RIGHTS: Lindhardt og Ringhof, Susanne Gribfeldt, susanne.gribfeldt@lindhardtoringhof.dk

SATIRICAL
TALE

“**Kristian Bang Foss** writes quite brilliantly. He has an unparalleled gift for reflecting tones and sensations and his writing is elegant and assured.” So said the reviewer in *Jyllands-Posten* of Bang Foss’s second novel *Stormen i ’99* (The Storm of ’99). Kristian Bang Foss (born 1976) published his first work in 2004. And now comes his third novel, *Døden kører Audi* (Death Drives an Audi), the satirical tale of a bankrupt advertising executive, Asger, who takes on the job of carer for terminally ill Waldemar – a novel about boredom and hash clubs in the Copenhagen suburbs, about a trip all the way through Europe to Morocco in search of a healer – and about a car, an Audi, by which the two friends are pursued.



KRISTIAN BANG FOSS

Døden kører Audi (Death Drives an Audi), Gyldendal 2012, 230 pp.
FOREIGN RIGHTS: Gyldendal Group Agency
Sofie Voller, sofie_voller@gyldendalgroupagency.dk

BOOKS

CONTEMPORARY NOVEL FROM THE AUTHOR OF HILDEGARD

With her two novels about the nun and composer Hildegard of Bingen **Anne Lise Marstrand-Jørgensen** made her real breakthrough to a wider readership, both in Denmark and abroad. In her new novel, *Hvad man ikke ved* (What You Don't Know) Marstrand-Jørgensen has reverted to her own time. In this she casts a scathing eye on the relationships between men and women, and on sexuality down through the generations in her depiction of the disintegration of a family, brought about by the parents' eagerness to embrace the revolutionary Sixties ideals of love and freedom – and, not least, sexual liberation.

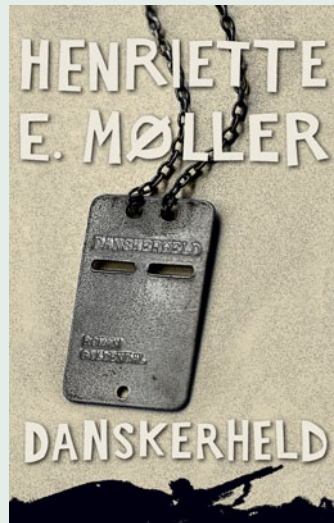


ANNE LISE MARSTRAND-JØRGENSEN

Hvad man ikke ved (What You Don't Know), Gyldendal 2012, 544 pp. PREVIOUS TITLES SOLD TO: Germany, Italy, Norway. FOREIGN RIGHTS: Gyldendal Group Agency, Sofie Voller, sofie_voller@gyldendalgroupagency.dk

WOMEN ON WAR - MALIKA'S STORY

Denmark's participation in the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan is now starting to have an impact on the literary scene, not least among women authors. 2012 sees the publication of works by three very different writers, all inspired by these two conflicts. **Henriette E. Møller** (born 1976) made her debut in 2007 with the novel *Jelne* (Jelne), for which she won the Danske Bank's First Novel Award. In her latest novel, *Danskerheld* (Luck of the Danes) she tells the story of a female soldier, Laura, who is sent to Iraq with the Ninth Division. Henriette E. Møller has never been to Iraq herself, but by dint of the most painstaking and persevering research she has succeeded in producing a thoroughly credible fictional account of war and friendship, superstition and moments of spontaneous happiness - and of a generation with first-hand experience of the war, whether as civilians living in the Danish provinces or as soldiers stationed in Afghanistan.



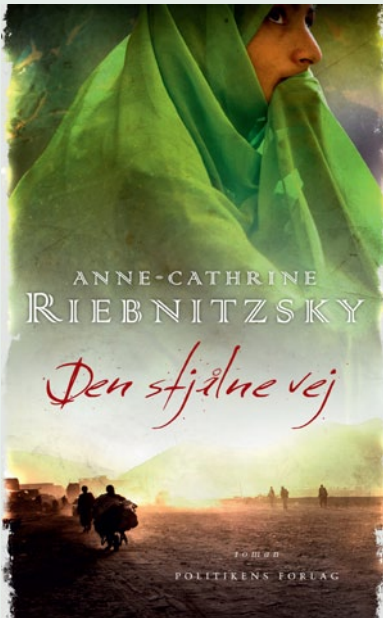
HENRIETTE E. MØLLER

Danskerheld (Luck of the Danes), Gyldendal 2012, 271 pp. PREVIOUS TITLES SOLD TO: Germany, Holland. FOREIGN RIGHTS: Gyldendal Group Agency, Karen Vad Bruun, karen_bruun@gyldendalgroupagency.dk

IN

WOMEN ON WAR - WOMEN IN WAR

Anne-Catherine Riebnitzky, on the other hand, *has* been stationed in Afghanistan, serving there both as a soldier and as an advisor to the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs. And she has brought this experience to bear in her novel *Den stjålne vej* (The Stolen Road) in which the fates of a number of Afghans caught up in the war become intertwined in the autumn of 2008, among them Malika, the daughter of a famous mullah. A modern woman, Malika is trapped in a world of tradition. Nonetheless, she takes up the fight against the town's corrupt police officers – a battle which most people believe she is doomed to lose. In 2010 Anne-Cathrine Riebnitzky published a work of non-fiction, *Kvindernes krig* (The Women's War). *The Stolen Road* is her first novel.



ANNE-CATHERINE RIEBNITZSKY

Den stjålne vej (The Stolen Road), Politikens Forlag 2012, 320 pp.
FOREIGN RIGHTS: Politikens Forlag, Nya Guldberg,
nya.guldberg@jppol.dk

BRIEF

WOMEN ON WAR - A GRIM ACCOUNT

Older teenagers, from 15 years up, can also read about war in *Hell man* (Hell Man) by journalist, public speaker and stand-up comedian **Sanne Søndergaard** (born 1980). Here Søndergaard presents a grim account of young men struggling to find their place in the world; youths who simply say 'fuck it all', drop out of school, drink too much, drive too fast – and end up joining the army and going to war, simply to get away from everything. "I've reached a point in my life where I can either take amphetamines or go to war. It's a simple as that, that's my future. And the politicians and all the other dumb-witted grown-ups can say all they like about all the options open to young people today. Where I come from there are only two." Sanne Søndergaard has made several trips to Afghanistan, entertaining Danish troops with her stand-up show, and her work of fiction is based, therefore, on the soldiers' own accounts of their lives and of the war.



SANNE SØNDERGAARD

Hell man (Hell Mann), Gyldendal 2012, 334 pp.
FOREIGN RIGHTS: Gyldendal Group Agency, Karen Vad Bruun,
karen_bruun@gyldendalgroupagency.dk



The Danish Academy's Grand Prize
– Thomas Boberg

This year, the honour of winning the Danish Academy's Grand Prize has gone to Thomas Boberg. The Grand Prize, regarded as Denmark's highest artistic accolade, is presented to a writer for his or her complete body of work. Thomas Boberg has been awarded the prize for a 'wide-ranging and original' oeuvre, in which, to quote the members of the Academy: 'he sings, he hisses and fizzes, rebelliously and life-affirmingly'. In his writing, Thomas Boberg addresses the classic modernist questions concerning the individual's potential for existence, for change and new departures; concerning an eternal restlessness and a

search for identity on both inward and outward journeys. Since the publication in 1984 of his first collection of poetry *Hvæsende på mit øjekast* (Hissing At My Glance) he has been constantly on the move, a peripatetic life that has given rise to numerous collections of poetry, three travel biographies and one novel, *Flakker* (Drifter) from 2008, the story of a motley collection of characters, all trying to find their way in life. His latest volume of poetry, *Hesteæderne 2, den store duel* (The Horse Eaters 2 – The Great Duel), published in 2011, is his sixteenth and, according to the poetry critic of the newspaper *Jyllands-Posten*, you would have



PHOTO: SIMON LAUTROP

***Hesteæderne 2, den store duel* (The Horse Eaters 2 – The Great Duel)**, Gyldendal, 80 pp.
PREVIOUS TITLES SOLD TO: Norway, Spain. FOREIGN RIGHTS: Gyldendal Group Agency, Sofie Voller, Sofie_voller@gyldendalgroupagency.dk

ARDS

to be stupid as a mule to be deaf to such a lament. In 1999 Thomas Boberg was also nominated for the Nordic Council Literature Prize, for his travel biography *Americas*.

Read Thomas Boberg's 'One minute ...' from The Horse Eaters 2 further on in this issue of Danish Literary Magazine.

Critics' Prize to futuristic crime novel – Lars Frost

The Danish Critics' Guild Prize for 2012 has been awarded to Lars Frost for his novel *Skønvirke* (Arts & Crafts), the concluding volume in

his ambitious trilogy and a biting futuristic crime novel in which he presents a picture of the Danish welfare state. The daily newspaper *Politiken's* reviewer called *Arts & Crafts* "an outstanding and highly impressive work, issuing from the Noughties and abruptly catapulting us into a future that rarely looks anything other than bleak." The Danish Critics' Prize is sponsored by the Danish Arts Council's Committee for Literature and the other nominees for this year's prize were Simon Grotrian for his book of prayers, *Domkirkeperlen* (Pearl of the Cathedral) (Borgen) and Susanne Staun for the thriller *Hilsen fra Rexville* (Greetings from Rexville) (Gyldendal). Last year's Critics' Prize went to Christina Hesselholdt for her story cycle



PHOTO: CARO LEIN

Camilla – og resten af selskabet (Camilla – and the Rest of the Company) (Rosinante).

Skønvirke (Arts & Crafts), Gyldendal, 268 pp.
FOREIGN RIGHTS: Gyldendal Group Agency,
Sofie Voller, sofie_voller@
gyldendalgroupagency.dk

Danmarks Radio's Prize for Fiction – Erik Valeur

Danmarks Radio reading groups from all over Denmark have voted Erik Valeur and his first novel *Det syvende barn* (The Seventh Child) the winners of the DR Prize for Fiction 2012. In their motivation the judges say, among other things: "Descriptions of the characters are vivid and truly moving – particularly the accounts of the children's young lives. As a result one becomes very caught up in this book, and the memory of it stays with one. As do the emotions aroused by it." Erik Valeur has already won the Weekendavisen Prize for Literature, the Danske Bank's First Novel Award and the Danish Crime Academy's Harald Mogensen Prize for his novel about a group of infants who spend their first months together, in the same room in a children's home. Seven children, one of whom harbours a tell-tale secret. Read much more about Erik Valeur in *Danish Literary Magazine's* Spring 2012 issue.

Winner of the Scandinavian Prize for Crime Fiction 'The Glass Key' 2012



PHOTO: KISSEN MØLLER-HANSEN

Det syvende barn (The Seventh Child), Politikens Forlag, 692 pp. SOLD TO: Germany, Holland, Norway, Russia. FOREIGN RIGHTS: Politikens Forlag, Nya Guldberg, nya.guldberg@jppol.dk

Danish Teachers' Prize – Helle Helle

PHOTO: SACHA VARIĆ



Helle Helle has been showered with awards for her writing, not least among them the Danish Booksellers' own prize, the Golden Laurel, for 2011, for the minimalist, realist novel *Dette burde skrives i nutid* (This should be written in the present). And now the Danish Teachers' Association has awarded her Tankestregen (Line of Thought) Prize for books that are read and used both in primary and junior secondary schools and in higher education. "Helle Helle erases the false boundary between language and literature – so much so that this supposedly elitist, literary nerd has become a bestseller," as the Association's chairman said in his motivation.

Dette burde skrives i nutid (This should be written in the present), Samleren, 160 pp. PREVIOUS TITLES SOLD TO: the Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Germany, Holland, Norway, Poland, Sweden. FOREIGN RIGHTS: Gyldendal Group Agency, Sofie Voller, sofie_voller@gyldendalgroupagency.dk

Three-year Working Scholarships

Again this year the Danish Arts Council has awarded three-year

scholarships to a string of artists, among them eight writers. These are Christina Englund, Kamilla Hega Holst, Morten Leth Jacobsen, Alen Mešković (whose first novel *Ukulele Jam* was presented in the Spring 2012 issue of *Danish Literary Magazine*), Mads Nygaard, Martin Glaz Serup, Camilla Stockmarr and Nicolai Zeuthen.

The Orla Prize – Lene Kaaberbøl



PHOTO: SANNE BERG

The children of Denmark have spoken, and have awarded Lene Kaaberbøl and the first volume in her fantasy series *Vildheksen* (The Wild Witch) the prize for best children's book of the year. All over the country children and young people have had the chance to vote online for their favourite book, and their choice fell on this first volume in the series about Clara, a perfectly ordinary girl – or so it seems. But a meeting with a black cat changes Clara's life – and possibly puts it in danger, hurling her, as it does, into a battle for survival in a magical world. Three books in the *Wild Witch* series have been published so far and a fourth is in the pipeline. Lene Kaaberbøl, whose very distinctive style of fantasy writing is often

remarked upon by critics, made her literary debut at the age of fifteen and has more than thirty published works to her name, including *Skammerserien* (The Shamer Chronicles), which have sold half a million copies worldwide. The Orla Prize was instituted by Danmarks Radio and the Læselyst (Book Lovers) Campaign, which is funded by the Danish Ministry of Culture and run in collaboration with a number of partners from the world of children's books.

Vildheksen 1 (Wild Witch 1. The Ordeal), Alvilda, 155 pp. PREVIOUS TITLES SOLD TO: Lene Kaaberbøl's *The Shamer Chronicles* have been published in 25 countries and her *Wild Witch* series has, to date, been SOLD TO Germany, Norway and Sweden. The film rights are currently being negotiated. FOREIGN RIGHTS: Lars Ringhof Agency, Esthi Kunz, esthi@ringhof.dk

BMF's Children's Book Award: the book trade's prize for fantasy series – Helle Ryding



PHOTO: TINA BROCK-HANSEN

Yet another fantasy writer can now call herself a prizewinner. This time it is the Danish bookshop and stationers staff who have presented their award for the best children's book to Helle Ryding for *Serpina*, the

first volume in her *Klintespind* (Cliff Web) series. *Serpina* is a Danish-Nordic fantasy novel inspired by ancient Danish folk tales - stories that abound in wraiths, elves, will-o'-the-wisps, pixies and mighty kings of legend. In *Serpina* the eponymous princess and her eight siblings are tempted to break some of their father's rules and suddenly find themselves caught up in a dangerous game which turns out to be fateful – though not quite in the way one might expect. Helle Ryding made her debut in 2005 with the first volume of her fantasy trilogy *Morganas Kilder* (Morgana's Springs), the third volume of which was nominated for the Orla Prize in 2010. *Serpina* is the first volume in a projected two-volume work, with the second volume, *Ulvepige* (Wolf Girl) scheduled for publication in early 2013.

Klintespind 1. Serpina (Cliffweb 1. Serpina), Nyt Nordisk Forlag, 414 pp. PREVIOUS TITLES SOLD TO: Iceland. FOREIGN RIGHTS: Nyt Nordisk Forlag/Licht & Burr Literary Agency, Trine Licht, tl@licht-burr.dk

The Danish Ministry of Culture Children's Books Prize – Kim Fupz Aakeson

"Kim Fupz Aakeson reminds us of why we read." So said the Danish Minister of Culture when he presented Fupz Aakeson with the Ministry's prize for his collection of short stories *Jeg begyndte sådan set bare at gå* (Basically I Just Started Walking). The stories in this collection illustrate the relationships between teenagers and their parents, and the result is spare, stringent and strong, according to *Berlingske's* reviewer,



PHOTO: ROBIN SKJOLDBERG

who found not a single story to be less than pertinent and awarded the collection six stars out of six. Not least for the writer's ability, not to turn things inside out, but to lay things bare and leave readers to draw their own conclusions. Kim Fupz Aakeson has cited Raymond Carver as his inspiration, for his ability to create a sense of phantom pain: things may be left unsaid, but they are there all the same; that is what makes his writing so powerful. The same could be said of Kim Fupz Aakeson's own stories, the reviewer concludes. Except that, when it comes to his writing style, Fupz Aakeson is very much his own man. He published his first work in 1984, going on from there to produce an extensive body of work that encompasses film scripts as well as a whole succession of books for adults and children, including titles such as *Så blev farfar et spøgelse* (Then Grandad became a Ghost), *Manden og damen og noget i maven* (The Man, the Lady and Something in the Tummy) and *Søndag* (Sunday).

Jeg begyndte sådan set bare at gå (Basically I Just Started Walking), Gyldendal, 175 pp. PREVIOUS TITLES SOLD TO: China, the Faeroe Islands, Finland, France, Germany, Holland, Iceland, Japan, Korea, Latvia, Norway, Poland, Russia, Spain, Sweden, Taiwan. FOREIGN RIGHTS: Gyldendal Group Agency, Louise Langhoff Koch, louise_langhoff_koch@gyldendalgroupagency.dk

RECENTLY SOLD ABROAD

**FEBRUARY
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-

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ANNA GRUE

“This fourth volume in the series is as well-crafted a crime thriller as anyone could wish for,” wrote *Weekendavisen’s* reviewer of *Den skaldede detektiv* (The Bald Detective), the fourth book in Anna Grue’s series about the shrewd advertising director who makes the change to bald detective, though without any licence to kill whatsoever. The fifth volume in the Dan Sommerdahl series, *Et spørgsmål om penge* (A Question of Money) has just been published.

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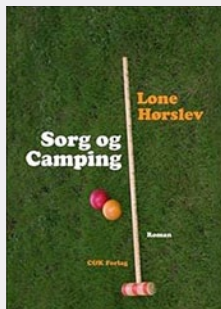
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SKJULTE FEJL OG MANGLER

TOKYO SOGENSHA
ELSEBETH EGHOLM
SELVRISIKO



LONE HØRSLEV

When Lone Hørslev's novel *Sorg og Camping* (Grief and Camping) was nominated for the Danmarks Radio Fiction Prize it was with the following words: "*Grief and Camping* has been written with a unique ear for the tragicomic and a feel for a life in which the cracks are gradually starting to appear. At the same time Hørslev manages, at one stroke, to depict the pain, the drama and the trivia of everyday life."

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HILDEGAARD 2

SCHIBSTED
ERIK VALEUR
DET SYVENDE BARN

TIDEN
SARA BLÆDEL
DE GLEMTE PIGER

KIM LEINE

Kim Leine's grand epos on the meeting, for good and ill, between the Danish and the Greenlandic cultures in the eighteenth century has been sold to several international publishers, including Gallimard in France. "It was quite a decision to go for such a big Danish book, but we had the feeling that Leine not only possesses a very personal tone, but also that his novel has a truly exceptional scope," says Leine's French publisher Jean Matten.



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ELSBETH EGHOLM

“I would go so far as to say that if Egholm were British or American she would not only be an international name, she would also be respected for the way in which her writing has developed in her last three books.” So said a reviewer in the newspaper *Berlingske* on publication of the sixth volume in Elsbeth Egholm’s series of crime novels featuring journalist Dikte. In her new series it is Dikte’s son, Peter Boutrup, who is the central character – and he, like his mother, is a true survivor.

DEDALUS
WILLIAM HEINESEN
TÅRNET VED VERDENS ENDE

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ELSEBETH EGHOLM
TRE HUNDES NAT

HEADLINE
ELSEBETH EGHOLM
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KØKKENHAVEN*

CAPPELEN DAMM
ASTRUP & BITZ
VERDENS BEDSTE KUR

CAPPELEN DAMM
ANETTE ECKMANN
NATURENS SPISEKAMMER

CAPPELEN DAMM
KARINA DEMUTH
NY I HAVEN

CAPPELEN DAMM
WULFFMORGENTHALER
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ROSENDAHL**
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SWEDEN

BO EJEBY
KARL AAGE RASMUSSEN
TILNÆRMELSER TIL MAHLER

FORMA
LENE HOLME SAMSØE
MERE FEMINIM STRIK

FORMA
SØGAARD, JOHANSEN & DEHN
HOMEMADE

KARTAGO
WULFFMORGENTHALER
*POLARSTRUDSEN OG ANDRE
FÆNOMENER*

KARTAGO
WULFFMORGENTHALER
KALENDER

LANGENSKIÖLDS
NINKA MAURITSEN
KERNESUND MAD

LIND & CO
THOMAS ILKJÆR
AMARONE

NORSTEDTS
BOCK & SCHEFTELOWITZ
FLERE SUVERÆNE SALATER

NORSTEDTS
LARS GEJL
FUGLEFELTHÅNDBOGEN

NORSTEDTS
LARS HENRIK OLSEN
DYR & SPOR

UNITED STATES

INTERWEAVE
LENE HOLME SAMSØE
MERE FEMINIM STRIK

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY PRESS
LARS HENRIK OLSEN
DYR & SPOR

DANISH CHILDRENS BOOKS

KIM FUPZ AAKESON

Torsten is about to become a big brother – that in itself is more than enough to cope with. And it doesn't help when Willy, now his worst friend, tells him that his Mum and Dad don't love him any more. But maybe they would love him more if he was as cute as the little pink baby? Writer par excellence Kim Fupz Aakeson knows how to put every child's greatest fear into words, and here, in *Søndag* (Sunday), his words are beautifully supplemented by pictures by the Astrid Lindgren of picture-book illustration, Eva Eriksson.



CHINA

BEIJING YUANLIU
CLASSIC CULTURE LTD.
JAKOB MARTIN STRID
*DEN UTROLIGE HISTORIE OM DEN
KÆMPESTORE PÆRE*

DOLPHIN MEDIA
SØREN JESSEN
GAVEN

DOLPHIN MEDIA
SIRI MELCHIOR
RITA OG KROKODILLE PÅ FISKETUR

DOLPHIN MEDIA
SIRI MELCHIOR
RITA OG KROKODILLE I SKOVEN

DOLPHIN MEDIA
IB SPANG OLSEN
DRENGEN I MÅNEN

DOLPHIN MEDIA
**KIM FUPZ AAKESON
& EVA ERIKSSON**
SØNDAG

DOLPHIN MEDIA
**KIM FUPZ AAKESON
& EVA ERIKSSON**
DA FARFAR BLEV ET SPØGELSE

XINJIANG JUVENILE PUBL. HOUSE
KIM FUPZ AAKESON & SIRI MELCHIOR
LILI ELSKER MAD

XINJIANG JUVENILE PUBL. HOUSE
KIM FUPZ AAKESON & SIRI MELCHIOR
LILI BØRSTER TÆNDER

XINJIANG JUVENILE PUBL. HOUSE
KIM FUPZ AAKESON & SIRI MELCHIOR
LILI BLIVER VRED

XINJIANG JUVENILE PUBL. HOUSE
KIM FUPZ AAKESON & SIRI MELCHIOR
LILI ER VILD MED GAVER

FAROE ISLANDS

BÓKADEILD FØROYA
LÆRARAFELAGS
MARGOT ANDERASEN
DET RØDE MØRKE

BÓKADEILD FØROYA
LÆRARAFELAGS
MARGOT ANDERASEN
DEN NYE KONGE

BÓKADEILD FØROYA
LÆRARAFELAGS
MARGOT ANDERASEN
EN HÆR AF GULE ØJNE

FINLAND

BAZAR
JANNE TELLER
INTET

FRANCE

GULF STREAM
KIM FUPZ AAKESON & SIRI MELCHIOR
LILI ELSKER MAD

GULF STREAM
KIM FUPZ AAKESON & SIRI MELCHIOR
LILI BØRSTER TÆNDER

GULF STREAM
KIM FUPZ AAKESON & SIRI MELCHIOR
LILI BLIVER VRED

GULF STREAM
KIM FUPZ AAKESON & SIRI MELCHIOR
LILI ER VILD MED GAVER

GERMANY

KLETT KINDERBUCH
LARS DANESKOV
MOR HAR EN BABY INDE I MAVEN

PATMOS
MARIE MELCHIOR
NÅR LIVET ER EN FEST

THIENEMANN
JACOB WEINREICH
*DRØMMEVÆRELSET 1
– DEN SORTE BLOMST*

HUNGARY

SCÓLAR KIADÓ
JANNE TELLER
HVIS DER VAR KRIG I NORDEN

ICELAND

DRAUMSYN
JACOB WEINREICH
*DRØMMEVÆRELSET 1
– DEN SORTE BLOMST*

FORLAGIÐ
OLE LUND KIRKEGAARD
ALBERT

LATVIA

ATENA
JANNE TELLER
INTET

THE NETHERLANDS

ZUIDNEDERLANDSE UITGEVERIJ NV
NILS TRAUTNER
KNOB OG STIK

NORWAY

BAZAR
JANNE TELLER
INTET

CAPPELEN
JOSEFINE OTTESEN
GOLAK

CAPPELEN
JOSEFINE OTTESEN
GUDLØS

DANISH CHILDRENS BOOKS

CAPPELEN
JOSEFINE OTTESEN
GENFØDT

FRONT FORLAG
TRINE BRUUN
MATILDE VINKER

FRONT FORLAG
TRINE BRUUN
MATILDE HAR TRAVLT

FRONT FORLAG
BENNI BØDKER
GESPENST

FRONT FORLAG
LARS BØGEHOLT PETERSEN
DEN SIDSTE UDFORDRING

FRONT FORLAG
PETER GOTTHARDT
ELVERDRONNINGENS BØRN 5-6

FRONT FORLAG
PETER GOTTHARDT
KATLA & KNØS 1-8

FRONT FORLAG
JAN KJÆR
NOMERNE

POLAND

CZARNA OWIECKA SP. Z
SALLY ALTSCHULER
& SVEN NORDQVIST
NOAS SKIB

RUSSIA

CLEVER MEDIA
SALLY ALTSCHULER
& SVEN NORDQVIST
NOAS SKIB

CLEVER MEDIA
JAKOB MARTIN STRID
DEN UTROLIGE HISTORIE OM DEN
KÆMPESTORE PÆRE

SLOVENIA

ZALOŽBA NARAVA
SALLY ALTSCHULER & SVEN
NORDQVIST
NOAS SKIB

SOUTH KOREA

CRAYON HOUSE
MERLIN MANN & JAN KJÆR
TAYNIKMA

HYUN BOOKS INC.
IDA JESSEN & HANNE BARTHOLIN
DA CARL BLEV RASENDE

WOONGJIN THINKBIG
ERIK BARFOED
AUGUST GÅR I GLEMMEBOGEN

SPAIN

COMANEGRA
JANNE TELLER
INTET

COMANEGRA
JANNE TELLER
HVIS DER VAR KRIG I NORDEN

INCIATIVA MERCURIO S.L.
LENE KAABERBØL
SKAMMERENS DATTER



JAKOB MARTIN STRID

Den utrolige historie om den kæmpestore pære (The Incredible Story of the Enormous Pear). This story of two friends who find a seed that grows overnight into an enormous pear consolidates Jakob Martin Strid's position as one of the funniest and most off-beat picture-book authors in Denmark. Even before the ink was dry on the illustrations *The Incredible Story of the Enormous Pear* had been snapped up by several international publishers.

SWEDEN

BAZAR
JANNE TELLER
INTET

BERGHS FÖRLAG
KIM FUPZ AAKESON
& NIELS BO BOJESEN
VITELLO SKAFFER 49 KRONER

LILLA PIRATFÖRLAG
JANNE TELLER
HVIS DER VAR KRIG I NORDEN

NORSTEDTS
SIGRID FUGL
GYLDENDALS BAGEBOG

NYPON
METTE VEDSØ
KAOS OG KOLONIHAVE

SANOMA – BONNIER UTBILDNING
PETER GOTTHARDT
KATLA & KNØS 1-8

TURKEY

PEGASUS
METTE FINDERUP
EMMY 1-7

UNITED KINGDOM

PUSHKIN PRESS
KIM FUPZ AAKESON
& NIELS BO BOJESEN
VITELLO RIDSER EN BIL

PUSHKIN PRESS
KIM FUPZ AAKESON
& NIELS BO BOJESEN
VITELLO VIL HAVE EN FAR

PUSHKIN PRESS
KIM FUPZ AAKESON
& NIELS BO BOJESEN
VITELLO BLIVER FORRETNINGSMAND

PUSHKIN PRESS
KIM FUPZ AAKESON
& NIELS BO BOJESEN
VITELLO GÅR MED KNIV

PUSHKIN PRESS
KIM FUPZ AAKESON
& NIELS BO BOJESEN
VITELLO FÅR EN KLAM KÆRESTE

ONE MINUTE ...

One minute you are young,
 the next, if you are
 so well blessed, you are an
 ancient
 with one foot in the grave.
 One minute you are a wealthy man
 in a bespoke jacket
 with money in the lining,
 the next you are dubbed a knight of
 beggardom,
 one minute it's January
 never-ending,
 but today is all blithe unpredictability.
 I burst my last cherry
 between my teeth, the juice
 shoots straight into my blood, and I am tripping:
 Let me leap from moon to moon, from glance to glance.
 Let me dance from night table to night table in these indignant times.
 Let me ride at a gallop through decades' worth of piled-up, dried-up wishes.
 Let me sing insanely out of tune in the radioactive rays of the
 solar haze.
 Let me spin on my knuckles amid the flock of hard-pressed day-labourers.
 I tap-danced in the basement beneath the station.
 I kissed the hand of the sensual violinist outside
 the porn shop.
 I climbed sedately up the steps and out into the city's shut-down evening.
 I wandered along the precinct of extinguished lamps, past
 the cardboard-box camp, where the gypsies and the unemployed
 librarians
 whiled away their overtime.
 One minute you are the king of infectious laughter,
 the great giver, a little god,
 the next you are alone in the sleet-shot dark,
 an infamous felon
 lost to yourself,
 and when you turn the corner,
 you are finally quite forgotten.



ILLUSTRATIONS ON THEM IN CHILDREN'S

TEXT FREDERIKKE WINTHER

**ONE OF THE MOST NOTABLE TRENDS
IN DANISH CHILDREN'S BOOKS IS THE
STRONG EMPHASIS ON ILLUSTRATIONS
AS VEHICLES FOR GOOD STORIES
– ALSO FOR OLDER CHILDREN.**





ILLUSTRATIONS INSIST ON THEIR PLACE IN CHILDREN'S BOOKS



The role played by the illustrations in Danish children's books is becoming a more and more significant one. The integration of visual idioms such as pictures and graphics has become an important and effective part of the work as a whole, not only in picture books for infants and toddlers, but also in books for older children and teenagers.



GEMINI / LARS GABEL / GVLDBNDAL



SPIDERS / CHRISTIAN GULDAGER / CARLSEN



LILI SERIES / SIRI MELCHOR / GVLDBNDAL



SPIDERS / CHRISTIAN GULDAGER / CARLSEN

BOOKS FOR THE VERY YOUNG



In books for small children the focus has always been on pictures. For many years now Danish picture books have been widely recognized and highly acclaimed as an experimental literary and artistic phenomenon, a form which is constantly exploring and testing the potential interplay between words and pictures. **Kim Fupz Aakeson's** *Lili* books for the very young provide a good example of words and pictures combining to tell very simple, cosy stories about all the things a little child experiences as it is getting to know itself and the world around it. The *Lili* series is illustrated by **Siri Melchior**. Another instance of intriguing interplay between words and pictures can be found in *Køteren* (The Mongrel), also by Kim Fupz Aakeson and illustrated by **Kamilla Slocinska**. Here we have a dramatic tale of betrayal and loneliness for somewhat older children. These two very different works reflect the wide scope of new Danish children's literature: from simple, clearly focused tales depicting a small child's dramatic actions and feelings to much more profound philosophical reflections on life when it becomes hard and painful.

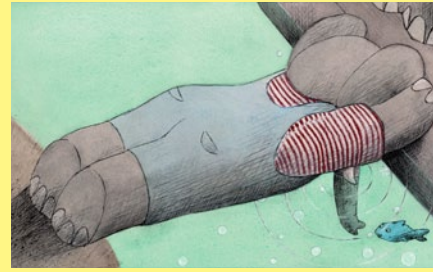
That illustrations constitute an effective means of telling stories, even for children who can read the text themselves, is evident from the wide selection of short stories and series that have appeared on Danish publishers' lists in recent years. One fine example of a fully illustrated story for older children is *Edderkopper* (Spiders) by **Lars Bøgeholt Pedersen & Christian Guldager**, the story of Jens, a boy who turns, to his horror, into his own worst nightmare. The element of suspense here is accentuated by the black pages and striking line drawings which provide a vivid graphic depiction of Jens's frightful transformation. And then there is the recently concluded *Gemini* graphic novel series by **Mette Finderup & Thomas Munkholt**, which follows the adventures of two girls who unwillingly have to swap lives in a magical universe, and together are forced to fight the evil power that has split their world in two. In this series both text and illustrations are packed with information and tiny details, all with some bearing on the story. Words and pictures graphically intertwine on the page, combining to form one strong, coherent narrative.

THE MONGREL / KAMILLA SLOCINSKA / GYLDENDAL



The fictional series is one genre that is extremely popular with young readers of all ages, and this year's crop has something to offer both toddlers and teenagers. Carl the Elephant is now creating havoc in his third book, Carl bliver rasende (Carl Blows his Top),

*written by **Ida Jessen** and illustrated by **Hanne Bartholin**. This duo has been praised for deftly and simply capturing the essence of childhood. In their latest book we hear about annoying brothers and sisters, big and little, who never want to do what you*



CARL THE ELEPHANT / HANNE BARTHOLIN / HØST OG SØN

WHERE WORDS AND PICTURES BECOME ONE

One of the distinctive features of a great many new Danish publications for children and young people is, then, the prominent - and at times dominant - role of the illustrations in the work. The pictures insist on constituting a strong narrative element in the story, thus insisting also on being on an equal footing with the text where reading and interpretation are concerned. A quite spectacular example of this trend is presented in *Tavs* (Silent) by **Camilla Hübbe & Rasmus Meisler** which progresses dramatically and elegantly from a pure text narrative to a tale told primarily through pictures and back again to words as the book's central character embarks upon a fabulous and perilous dream journey and then finds his way back to the real world. In *Silent* the story unfolds in the borderland between social-realism and fantasy, and the interplay between words and pictures in this book also bestrides the border between dreams and reality, inner feelings and external, and shows how, both in literature and in life, the real battles and insights are not always best described in words alone. *Splatkanin* (Splatrabbit) by **Jens Kovsted & Claus Rye Schierbeck** is another example of the way in which illustrations can influence a book's content and its form. *Splatrabbit* is a classic children's detective novel which could easily have been published as a traditional, words-only storybook, but which, with its wide format and many illustrations, succeeds in combining the visual impact of the picture book and of the comic strip to provide a very different and far more sensory and inspiring reading experience.

SKATERLAND / RASMUS MEISLER / HØST OG SØN



SILENT / RASMUS MEISLER / HØST OG SØN



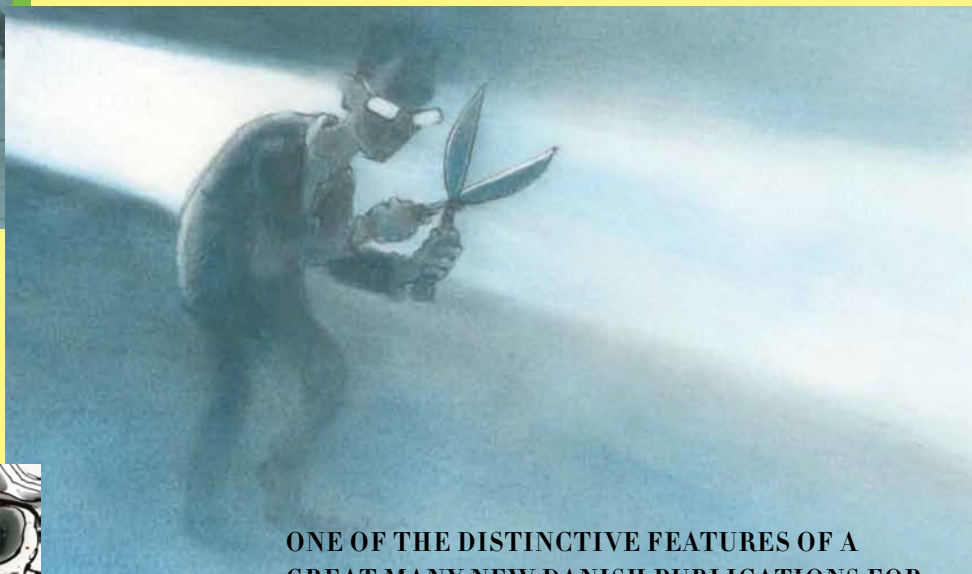
want to do ... The titles in the Carl series are read-aloud books designed for the very young. At the opposite end of the age spectrum we find the Drommeværelset (The Dream Room) series by **Jacob Weinreich**, which has just been launched with

Den sorte blomst (*The Black Flower*). This first volume in the series is set in a teenage world in which the pretty and popular Sara has access to a secret universe, a dream room, which she can enter when she places a blanket over her desk. In this world

she can speak to her demons about all the things it can be difficult to discuss with others – joys, sorrows, hopes and dreams – and here she finds help on the day when disaster strikes. The second volume in the series will be published in Autumn 2012.

ILLUSTRATIONS EXPAND THE LITERARY UNIVERSE

Another way of according visual and interactive devices a central role in books for children and young people can be seen in the *Skaterland* series by **Kim Langer**, three novels about a trio of dedicated street-surfer lads and the hurdles they have to overcome in order to pursue their favourite pastime and their great passion for rolling through the city streets on their skateboards. As part of this series' dynamic and realistic narrative style, the reader is continually referred to short films of the skateboard tricks and techniques performed by the three boys, clips which can be downloaded using an app. So in this book visual, documentary material from the Internet becomes an integral part of the story's universe.



SPLATRABBIT / CLAUDIUS RYGE SCHERBECK / HØST OG SØN

ONE OF THE DISTINCTIVE FEATURES OF A GREAT MANY NEW DANISH PUBLICATIONS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IS, THEN, THE PROMINENT - AND AT TIMES DOMINANT - ROLE OF THE ILLUSTRATIONS IN THE WORK.

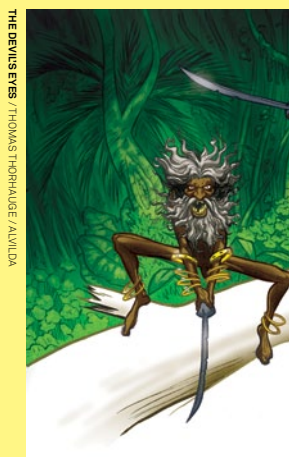


THE BREATH OF HISTORY

History – events and eras of the past - is another notable theme in the latest Danish children's books. After many years in which the emphasis has been on fantasy fiction, more and more new titles now seem to be imbued with the breath of history. **Lars Holmgård Jørgensen's** series on *Egernfolket* (The Squirrel Folk) is an exciting tale of the first people, their lives and their struggle for survival in the tribal society of the Stone Age, told through the dramatic events experienced by a young girl, Kata. The safe, secure life of the tribal settlement comes to an abrupt end when it is attacked by enemies. Kata has to flee with her mother, but soon she is all alone in a harsh world in which she has to fend for herself against hostile strangers and the relentless perils of nature. The third book in a series of four will be published in September. *Det skjulte kort* (The Hidden Card) by **Morten Dürr & Teddy Christiansen** is a historical tale in words and pictures about a time much closer to our own, in which a German soldier is unable to shake off memories of the war, even after his own death, and is also unable, therefore, to find peace. This soldier's tale is an extremely atypical, quiet and lyrical ghost story with a thought-provoking message regarding the spiritual scars left by a war, also on the souls of those who fought in it. In *Mig og Tude-Tine* (Tearful Tine and Me) **Trine Bundsgaard & Kirsten Gjerding** paint a nostalgic, though not entirely unproblematic, picture of a child's life in the new suburban housing estates of the 1960s. The hippie era is examined from all angles, for good and ill, as Maria considers her own mother's stories of her childhood, when everything was brown and the political convictions of the grown-ups had a huge influence on what it was like to be a child. And - last, but not least: the past few months have seen the publication of two fine examples of how to breathe new life into a couple of classic children's book genres: the pirate tale and the cowboy story, in **Benni Bødker's & Thomas Thorhauge's** *Djævelens øjne* (The Devil's Eyes) and **Kirsten Sonne Harild's & Jan Solheim's** *Død eller levende* (Dead or Alive). These humorous and action-packed stories contain enough blood and curses, battles and cannonballs to hold the most restless reader spellbound.



THE SQUIRREL FOLK / ANNE SOFIE MADSEN / HØST OG SØN



THE DEVIL'S EYES / THOMAS THORHAUGE / AUVUDA



TEARFUL TINE AND ME / KIRSTEN GJERDING / CARLSEN



THE HIDDEN CARD / TEDDY CHRISTIANSEN / CARLSEN

As can be seen from just some of this year's most noteworthy new titles, Danish children's publishing is charging full steam ahead. There are few boundaries and endless potential in terms of fresh challenges and further development of the interplay between form and content, words and pictures. Only imagination and technology can set limits on the continued progress of Danish children's literature.



DEAD OR ALIVE / SOLHEIM / PEOPLESPRESS



HISTORY – EVENTS AND ERAS OF THE PAST - IS ANOTHER NOTABLE THEME IN THE LATEST DANISH CHILDREN'S BOOKS.



FUNDING FOR PRINTING AND PRODUCTION OF DANISH ILLUSTRATED CHILDREN'S BOOKS IN TRANSLATION

In a pilot project the Danish Arts Council's Committee for Literature has earmarked special funds to cover the cost of printing and production for foreign publishers wishing to publish Danish illustrated children's books in translation. Publishers can apply for a set grant of 1,000 euros in the General Funds.

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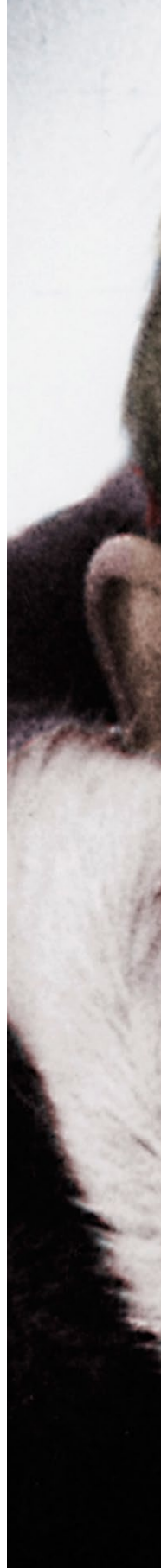
THE POLAR EXPLORER, THE STASI SPY AND ALL THE WARRIORS OF ALLAH

While handbooks and reference books are losing ground in today's digital world, other forms of non-fiction – biographies of spectacular lives, works of reportage and guides promising help to self-help – are much in demand.

The story of a life is best presented in longer form, whether in words or on film, and here the internet falls short, unable as it is to fulfil the reader's desire for greater insight into a subject. Writer and senior lecturer **Mikael Busch** dug deep into the Stasi archives to find the material for his documentary *Knud og Vera. Et Stasi Drama* (Knud and Vera. A Stasi Drama), the story of two lives, but also a portrait of an almost Orwellian society in which professional informing had been elevated to the norm. Busch tells the story of the German woman, Vera Wollenberger who discovers in 1991 that she has for years been betrayed by her husband Knud, a Danish-born poet who, ever since they

first met, ten years earlier, has been spying and conspiring to keep Stasi one step ahead in the fight against Vera and her friends in dissident circles in the GDR.

Another unknown life is vividly recounted and conscientiously detailed in ethnographers **Jesper Bosse Jønsson's & Michael Helt Knudsen's** *Guldgraveren. Danskeren, der fandt Kong Salomons miner* (Gold-Digger. The Dane Who Found King Solomon's Mines). Robert Andersen, the man who in all probability did find the legendary mines, and who also has numerous films and documentary programmes to his credit, ran away to sea when he was just fourteen. He eventually went ashore in San



Niels Barfoed has succeeded in
uncovering new sides of the celebrated
explorer, Knud Rasmussen





Rasmus Navntoft focuses,
in an elegant essay style,
on works by Thomas Mann

Francisco where he embarked upon a quite amazing career, mining for gold and silver, and lived the sort of life that dreams are made of.

The Danish polar explorer Knud Rasmussen is much more widely known, both in Denmark and abroad, but even so, writer **Niels Barfoed** has succeeded in uncovering new sides of the celebrated explorer. *Manden bag helten. Knud Rasmussen på nært hold* (The Man Behind the Hero. Knud Rasmussen: an Intimate Portrait) draws upon a wealth of fresh and hitherto undiscovered source material and manages thereby to delve a little deeper into the life and the doings of Knud Rasmussen. The newspaper *Politiken*'s reviewer hailed Barfoed's book as a brilliant portrait, written for an age that cries out for revealing life stories, and concluded

that: "Niels Barfoed has succeeded in every way with his major biography of Knud Rasmussen. *The Man Behind the Hero* is neither an outdated heroic epic nor a miserly iconoclastic tract. On the contrary: with insight, sympathy and invention Barfoed sheds fresh light on Knud Rasmussen's 'secret chamber'.

LITERARY JOURNALISM

Another category of non-fiction in which there seems to be no shortage of new titles, is that of literary journalism. **Mathias Seidelin**, a reporter with the Danish channel TV2's investigative news team, has just published a book entitled *Allahs danske krigere – i FBI's søgelys* (Allah's Danish Warriors – in the FBI spotlight). In this he unravels the dramatic tale

of the 'Danish' terrorist leader, Abu Talal, who disappeared in the Balkans in 1995 and has never been seen alive again. Seidelin describes Talal's close collaboration with the men of Osama bin Laden's inner circle long before the world knew anything of al-Qaeda, and his flight to Denmark, where he was granted political asylum. This book, which is based on secret documents and unique intelligence sources, reveals how Denmark in the Nineties was a refuge for international terrorists, and traces the links with international terrorism in the Middle East, Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Another classic genre which is still thriving is that of the author biography, a form which **Rasmus Navntoft** has tackled most successfully in *Thomas Mann ... på sporet af en ny humanism* (Thomas Mann ... on the Trail of a New Humanism). In this, Navntoft delineates what is often referred to by Mann scholars as Mann's new humanism, and Navntoft focuses, in an elegant essay style, on those works by Thomas Mann in which thoughts on the question of humanism play a central part: *The Magic Mountain*, *Joseph and his Brothers*, *Doctor Faustus*, *Buddenbrooks* and *Death in Venice*.

THE WAY TO A FULL LIFE

Each year sees the publication of a whole host of self-help guides, books which, with varying levels of profundity and success, promise their readers a better and fuller life. One new and noteworthy title in this category is a book entitled *Empati* (Empathy), written by six recognised Danish writers, including the world-famous novelist **Peter Høeg**, author of a string of best-sellers, not least among them *Froken Smillas fornemmelse for sne* (Miss Smilla's Feeling for Snow), and internationally acclaimed family therapist **Jesper Juul**, author of such titles as *Dit kompetente barn* (Your Competent Child) and *SMIL! Vi skal spise* (SMILE! It's Time to Eat). In *Empathy* they spotlight the ways in which we can get in better touch with ourselves and with others. Because empathy is the glue that holds

human relationships and societies together and in a fragmented, fast and furious world such as ours there can be good reason to contemplate this concept. *Empathy* draws upon a wealth of oral and written sources, it contains examples and exercises, and falls, therefore, into the more 'hands-on' category within the mass of non-fiction titles currently being published in Denmark.



DANISH TRAVEL LITERATURE IS INCREASINGLY TAKING ON A NEW AND MORE PERSONAL FORM.

One very successful example of this can be seen in writer **Jens Blendstrup's** and photographer **Lars Gundersen's** *Berlin. Øjenvidnevariationer* (Berlin. Eye-Witness Variations). This book has been acclaimed not only for its stunning photographs, but also for its lyrical and at times bleak text: writing which reflects the mind of the ordinary German with the greatest felicity: "They said he screamed so loud at the end – that cracks appeared in the earth all over Berlin. And that the sun jumped like a scratched record. Wherever its beams fell the cry rose up: Ein Volk, ein Volk, ein Volk."

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SUPPORT SCHEMES

**THE DANISH ARTS
COUNCIL'S COMMITTEE
FOR LITERATURE WORKS
TO PROMOTE FAMILIARITY
WITH DANISH LITERATURE
AT HOME AND ABROAD AND
HELPS FACILITATE LITERARY
EXCHANGE PROJECTS
BETWEEN DENMARK AND
OTHER COUNTRIES.**

APPLICATION
GUIDELINES, DEADLINES
AND ELECTRONIC
APPLICATION FORMS
MAY BE OBTAINED AT
DANISHARTS.DK

INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH PROGRAMME

Support may be provided to foreign publishers, heads of festivals and the like who wants to acquire an insight into contemporary Danish literature and visit the Danish publishers, festivals ect., to strengthen network and dialogue between the Danish and international literary partners.

There is no application deadline, and applications will be processed as quickly as practicable.

SAMPLE TRANSLATION FUND

Foreign translators, theatres, and publishers may apply for support to finance sample translations of Danish literature.

There is no application deadline, and applications will be processed as quickly as practicable.

TRANSLATION FUND

Support is provided to foreign publishing houses that publish works translated from Danish. Support is provided to works of fiction, general works of non-fiction, comics/graphic novels, and children's literature translated by professional translators.

There are four annual application deadlines.

NORDIC TRANSLATION FUND: INTER-NORDIC TRANSLATIONS

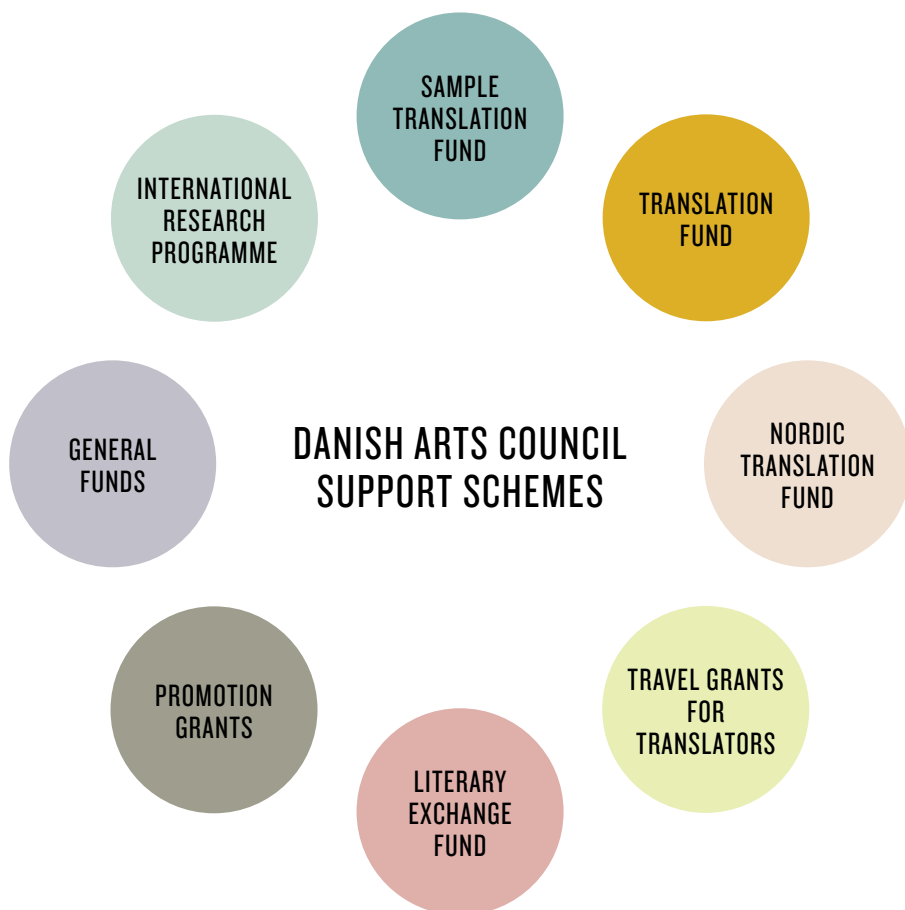
Support may only be sought for the translation of works from Danish. Support for translations into Danish must be sought from within the country in which the respective work was originally published. The funds for Nordic translations are distributed on behalf of the Art and Culture Program of Nordic Culture Point under the Nordic Council of Ministers.

There are four annual application deadlines.

TRAVEL GRANTS FOR TRANSLATORS

Professional translators may apply for travel grants in connection with specific translation projects as well as for supplemental linguistic and cultural training.

There are four annual application deadlines.



LITERARY EXCHANGE FUND

Support may be provided to defray travel and hotel expenses in connection with a Danish author's participation in literary festivals, readings and publication events abroad, if there is a formal invitation.

Support may be provided to foreign authors travelling to Denmark on the same conditions. In addition, foreign translators of Danish literature may apply for support to defray travel expenses in connection with shorter stays in Denmark.

There is no application deadline, and applications will be processed as quickly as practicable.

PROMOTION GRANTS

Foreign publishers can apply for grants for the promotion of Danish literature abroad.

There are four annual application deadlines.

GENERAL FUNDS

Normally, support is only provided for events, publications, and seminars in Denmark. In exceptional cases, however, the Danish Arts Council's Committee for Literature may subsidize the publication abroad of Danish works in translation and events, that have a special focus on Danish literature.

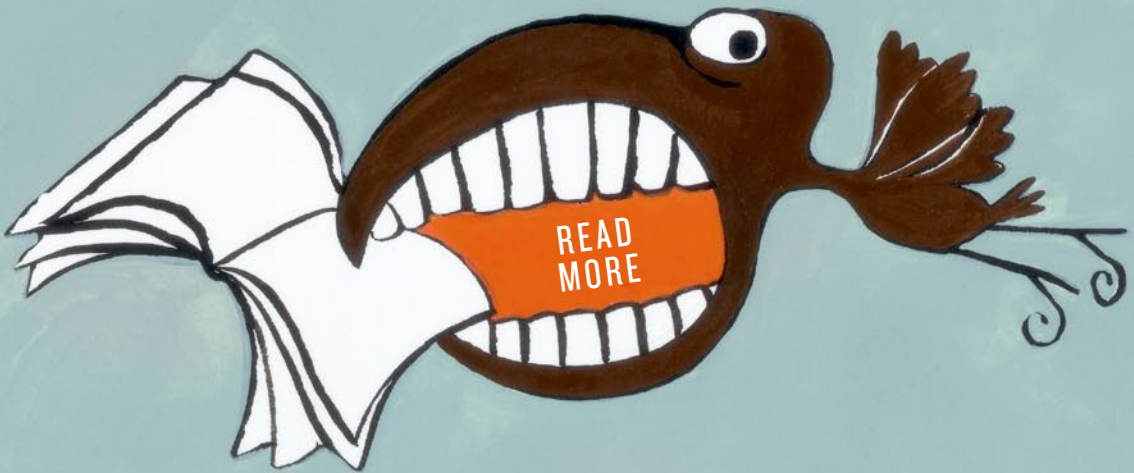
In a pilot project the Danish Arts Council's Committee for Literature has earmarked special funds to cover the cost of printing and production for foreign publishers wishing to publish Danish illustrated children's books in translation. Publishers can apply for a set grant of 1,000 euros.

There are two annual application deadlines.

THE DANISH ARTS COUNCIL WORKS TO PROMOTE ART
IN DENMARK AND DANISH ART ABROAD.

THE DANISH LITERATURE CENTRE IS THE ADMINISTRATIVE ARM
OF THE DANISH ARTS COUNCIL'S COMMITTEE FOR LITERATURE.

www.danisharts.dk



ORGANISATIONS

DANISH WRITERS OF FICTION AND POETRY

was founded in 1991 and has approx. 200 members

kontor@skoenlit.dk / www.skoenlit.dk

THE DANISH PLAYWRIGHTS' AND SCREENWRITERS' GUILD

(founded in 1906) is an association for theater, radio, television and film scriptwriters.

It has approx. 300 members.

admin@dramatiker.dk / www.dramatiker.dk

THE DANISH BOOKSELLERS ASSOCIATION

is a trade association for Danish booksellers. The association has approx. 380 members and represents 90% of all Danish booksellers.

ddb@bogpost.dk / www.boghandlerforeningen.dk

THE DANISH WRITERS ASSOCIATION

is Denmark's oldest professional association for writers and translators. It was founded in 1894 and has approx. 1350 members. The association includes the Danish Translators Association.

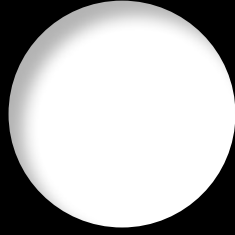
djf@danskforfatterforening.dk / www.danskforfatterforening.dk

THE DANISH PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION

(founded in 1837) is a trade association for individuals and firms involved in the publishing industry.

The association accounts for approx. 2/3 of the overall turnover from Danish publications, including multimedia.

danskeforlag@danskeforlag.dk / www.danskeforlag.dk



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