

# ÉDITIONS Z ZULMA

LITTÉRATURES DU MONDE ENTIER

FRANKFURT BOOK FAIR 2018



Jacques Stephen Alexis, Vaikom Muhammad Basheer, Abdezlaziz Baraka Sakin, Yahia Belaskri, Jean-Marie Blas de Roblès, Chantal Creusot, René Depestre, Boubacar Boris Diop, Pascal Garnier, Hubert Haddad, Antonythasan Jesuthasan, Mélanie Le Bris, Marcus Malte, James Noël, Auður Ava Ólafsdóttir, Makenzy Orcel, Serge Pey, Zoyâ Pirzâd, Joachim Schnerf, Fariba Vafi...

<b>Éditions Zulma: who we are</b>	p. 3
<b>French and francophone authors</b>	
Jean-Marie Blas de Roblès	p. 4
Hubert Haddad	p. 5
Mélani Le Bris	p. 7
Marcus Malte	p. 8
Makenzy Orcel	p. 9
James Noël	p. 10
Joachim Schnerf	p. 11
<b>International authors</b>	
Antonythasan Jesuthasan (Sri Lanka)	p. 12
Auður Ava Ólafsdóttir	p. 13
<b>Recent sales</b>	p. 15
<b>Our authors</b>	p. 17
<b>Contact</b>	p. 18

# ÉDITIONS ZULMA

---

## LITTÉRATURES DU MONDE ENTIER

Founded in 1991, Zulma publishes **contemporary literature from France and the whole world**. We continually seek the highest quality, in novels as well as short stories, and there's nothing we like more than discovering new authors, new countries, new languages, and, above all, new voices. Publishing a **dozen titles a year**, we are entirely committed to each one of our books. We follow our authors closely, partnering them as they build their *œuvre*; and we collaborate with leading literary translators, to ensure a faithful, quality representation of each foreign work we publish in France. We also enjoy a close, trustworthy relationship with French booksellers, working hand in hand on the promotion of our books.

In May 2013, Zulma launched a new paperback series: *Z/a*, devoted to selecting novels from our backlist as well as from other French publishers' catalogues.

Our goal: quality literature at a paperback price and with the best design. For this purpose, we asked David Pearson, Zulma's designer, to come up with a new look, inspired of course by our original covers.

Our authors include prestigious French and francophone writers such as **Jean-Marie Blas de Roblès** (Prix Médicis 2008), **Marcus Malte** (Prix Femina 2016), **Hubert Haddad** (Prix Renaudot poche), **Pascal Garnier**, **Dany Laferrière** (member of the Académie française), **Abdourahman A. Waberi**, **Boubacar Boris Diop** from Senegal, **James Noël** — former resident of the Villa Medici — and **Makenzy Orcel** (Prix Littérature Monde 2016) from Haiti.

Regarding translated fiction, we publish foreign authors such as **Pramoedya Ananta Toer** (Indonesia), **Hwang Sok-yong** (South Korea), **Eileen Chang** (China) or **David Toscana** (Mexico). We are also the French publisher and international agent of several writers who have gone on to find international success in translation such as **Auður Ava Ólafsdóttir** (Iceland) and **Zoyâ Pirzâd** (Iran), and the promising writer from Sudan **Abdelaziz Baraka Sakin...**

# JEAN-MARIE BLAS DE ROBLÈS

## *The Rites of the Dunes / Le Rituel des dunes*

**An ex-pat community in the late 1980's: international friends, campus life and the passionate relationship between Roetgen and Beverly... Blas de Roblès intertwines these Chinese adventures with a labyrinth of Borgesian tales, conferring profound meanings to Roetgen's life.**

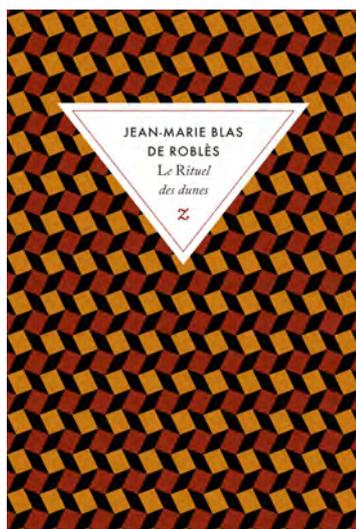
[China, in the late 1980s] Roetgen has just left Tientsin. Back there, the city's poisonous, eccentric ex-pat community cheerfully battles the everyday absurdities of the regime. Above all, Roetgen struggles to comprehend his relationship with Beverly, an American woman twenty years his senior.

[*Sex, drugs & and rock'n'roll*] Beverly has lived (or fantasized) a thousand wild lives, from sordid depths to dazzling heights. Exuberant, excessive, jealous, she knows no limits and lives for her passions. Roetgen is fascinated from the outset, but Beverly has her dark side, too.

[A labyrinth of tall tales] Beverly constantly asks her lover for tales as wild and wonderful as the story of her own life. He tells her the torments of a Chinese emperor with two faces, a wild night deep inside the Forbidden City, a fake, true-life crime story, delivering only one chapter in two – breathless, deliberately hilarious stories that fuel Beverly's madness in turn.

A prequel to his Prix Medicis-winning novel *Là où les tigres sont chez eux*, published in 14 countries, *The Rites of the Dunes* offers superb new encounters with established characters and places – Roetgen, Loisinger, Brazil, Fortaleza, a parrot called Heidegger, Thaïs... A chance to (re)discover the author's unique, immersive atmosphere and his forceful, extraordinarily energising voice.

Winner of **Prix Medicis 2008**, shortlisted for the Goncourt Prize, **Jean-Marie Blas de Roblès** is a unique writer, who brings together magic realism, erudition, political satire, and the finest adventure tale tradition. Born in Algeria in 1954, he has spent some of his life in Brazil, France, Taiwan and Libya. Blas de Roblès has been translated into 14 languages, and has sold more than 200.000 copies in France.



### THE RITES OF THE DUNES

novel, 288 pages

Original language: French

Blas de Roblès has been published in 14 countries and sold more than 200.000 copies in France.

### PRAISE AND CRITICS

“Those of you who stay with Blas de Roblès will find a new European literary star to steer with.”

Alan Cheuse, *NRP*

“A picaresque *Leviathan* of a novel, a blend of Jules Verne, Alexandre Dumas, Conan Doyle, Agatha Christie, Melville, and Defoe, with a dash of the Arabian Nights, and more.”

Patrick Grainville, *Le Figaro littéraire* (about his previous novel *Island of Point Nemo*).

### PREVIOUS TITLES

*Là où les tigres sont chez eux*  
> 125.000 copies sold in France

*La Montagne de Minuit*  
> 15.000 copies sold in France

*La Mémoire de riz*  
> 6.000 copies sold in France

*L'île du Point Némó (Island of Point Nemo)*  
> 52.000 copies sold in France

*Dans l'épaisseur de la chair*  
> 12.000 copies sold in France

**Contact foreign rights:**  
Amélie Louat – Éditions Zulma  
[Amelie.louat@zulma.fr](mailto:Amelie.louat@zulma.fr)

# HUBERT HADDAD

## *Street Casting / Casting sauvage*

**Damya, a former dancer, survived the 2015 terrorist attacks in Paris. Hired by a production company, she sets up a street casting for a film adaptation of Marguerite Duras' *La Douleur*. A wounded soul, she starts a magnificent journey across Paris.**

Damya has a mission: roaming the streets of Paris in search of a hundred-odd extras for a film. Frail, emaciated shades to play the wartime deportees in an adaptation of Marguerite Duras's novel *La Douleur*.

With her dancer's grace and alert, penetrating gaze, each fleeting exchange with the figures Damya picks out becomes profoundly humane encounter.

But in the maze of streets, Damya hopes desperately, above all, to find a young man – a missed encounter in the chaos and tragedy of a certain evening in November 2015 – a young man whose memory has obsessed her ever since.

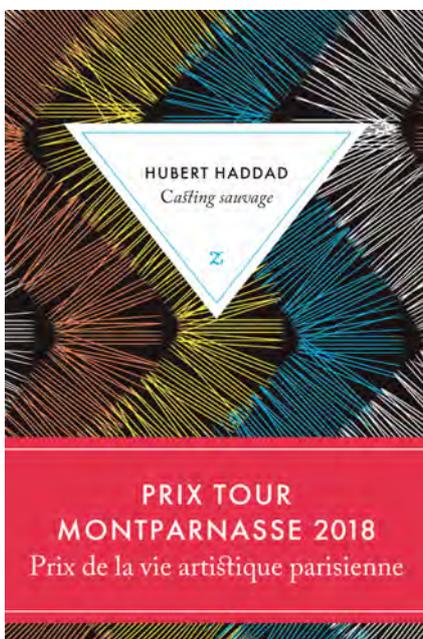
“Moving, urgent, luminous.”

Hubert Artus, *Lire*

“Hubert Haddad offers an enchanting, magical novel.”

Mohammed Aïssaoui, *Le Figaro Littéraire*

Hubert Haddad is a novelist, poet, playwright, short story writer and essayist. He has received several literary prizes, including the **Prix des Cinq Continents de la Francophonie** and the **Prix Renaudot Poche** for *Palestine* a compelling political novel.



### **STREET CASTING**

novel, 160 pages

Prix Tour Montparnasse 2018  
Shortlisted Prix Littérature  
Monde  
Shortlisted Prix *Ouest France*  
Étonnants Voyageurs

Original language: French

### **WORLD RIGHTS AVAILABLE**

### **PREVIOUS TITLES**

***Desirable Body (Corps desirable)*** > English translation published by Yale University Press in August 2018

***Palestine***: upcoming movie adaptation by the Thinklab Production



**Contact foreign rights:**  
Amélie Louat – Éditions Zulma  
[Amelie.louat@zulma.fr](mailto:Amelie.louat@zulma.fr)

# HUBERT HADDAD

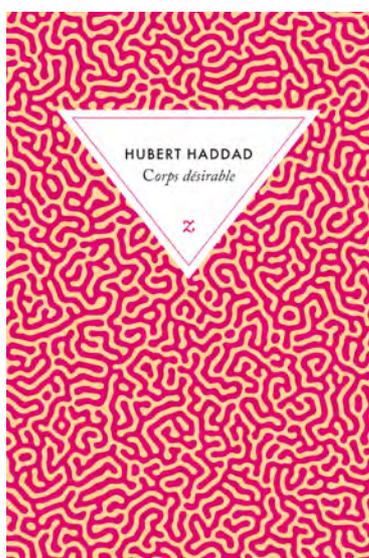
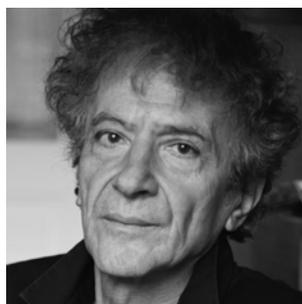
## *Desirable Body / Corps désirable*

**A medical mystery/fantasy/love story that delves deeply into the nature of consciousness while raising many of the ethical and existential issues facing scientists today.**

Militant journalist Cédric Alleyn-Weberson suffers a horrific accident, paralyzing him from the neck down. An ideal candidate for a body transplant, Cédric survives the surgery but has both physical and existential trouble with his recovery and adaptation: encountering his lover with a new body, discovering the life history of his donor, and attempting to understand the mind-body relationship as he lives it.

Haddad explores the confusion and insignificance of a single consciousness before experience and identity: What is a head without a body? What or who is a lover with another's body? The gruesome transplant (detailed in a manner that highlights the author's own diligent research and comprehension) parallels other ways humanity mutates nature globally; the novel is a provocative and timely allegory—a work of dystopian fantasy.

Hubert Haddad is a novelist, poet, playwright, short story writer and essayist. He has received several literary prizes, including the Prix des Cinq Continents de la Francophonie and the Prix Renaudot Poche for *Palestine* a compelling political novel. Published in seven languages, *Palestine* is currently being adapted into motion picture.



**DESIRABLE BODY**  
novel, 176 pages

Original language: French  
English translation available

### RIGHTS SOLD

- > English world rights except India (Yale University Press),
- > Hindi rights (Rajpal & Sons)
- > Tamil rights (Kalachuvadu Publications)

### CRITICS AND PRAISE

“The reader lives this experience of a world of dreams and speculations, until reaching its furthest implications.”

*Le Monde*

“[A] sharp and provocative novel . . . Haddad’s fabulously imagined, deeply intelligent, and vividly realized modern parable—complete with moments of true horror—sizzles as it grapples with the question of what makes a self, and if it’s ever possible to separate soul from flesh.”

*Publishers Weekly*

### PREVIOUS TITLES

*Casting sauvage*: Prix Tour Montparnasse 2018

*Palestine*: Prix des Cinq Continents de la Francophonie, Prix Renaudot poche. Upcoming movie adaptation by the Thinklab Production

**Contact foreign rights:**  
Amélie Louat – Éditions Zulma  
[Amelie.louat@zulma.fr](mailto:Amelie.louat@zulma.fr)

# THE CAT'S EYE' / DANS L'ŒIL DU CHAT

Photographs by Mélanie Le Bris

Introduction by Hubert Haddad

Stories by Ananda Devi and Carole Martinez

**60 amazing black and white photographs of cats as you rarely see them – wild, mysterious, caught in the countryside – with two exclusive stories by Carole Martinez and Ananda Devi.**

We can know nothing about cats and their world if we do not recognise and embrace their true nature: their love of solitude, their unending attentiveness to things invisible, their wholehearted devotion to taking life as it comes. Mélanie Le Bris celebrates her intimate, insider knowledge of cats, identifying so closely with her feline subjects that she might almost be part-cat herself!

**Mélanie Le Bris** was born in Carcassonne in 1973. After studies in political science, she worked with Gallimard, directing the publisher's *Cartoville* series. Her passion for travel and food led to her first book as an author, *La Cuisine des flibustiers* (Phébus, 2002). She is deputy director of France's leading literary festival *Étonnants Voyageurs*.

**Carole Martinez** is a French writer: her first novel, *Le Coeur cousu* (*The Threads of the Heart*) received 15 literary awards and has translated into numerous languages.

**Ananda Devi** was born in 1957 in Trois-Boutiques, Mauritius. She has published eleven novels as well as short stories and poetry over her entire career and has been translated into a dozen of languages.



**THE CAT'S EYE'**  
(144 pages)

60 black and white  
photographs

**WORLD RIGHTS AVAILABLE**

**PRAISE**

“Mélanie Le Bris’s photographs of cats are striking indeed. Seen through her eyes and lens, her cats show their kinship to the cats of Edgar Allen Poe, or Baudelaire, to magical, mysterious cats with occult powers, basking in almost mystical communion with nature and the world. How small we feel beside these creatures who seem to know so much more about mankind, and Life, than we know about them, nimbed as they are in their own, impenetrable presence, their ineffable secrets.”

Frédéric Vitoux,  
of the Académie française

**Contact foreign rights:**

Amélie Louat – Éditions Zulma  
[Amelie.louat@zulma.fr](mailto:Amelie.louat@zulma.fr)

# MARCUS MALTE

## *The Boy / Le Garçon*

Winner of the prestigious Prix Femina, *The Boy* is an expansive and entrancing historical novel that follows a nearly feral child from the French countryside as he joins society and plunges into the torrid events of the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

The boy has no name. He doesn't speak. Raised half-wild in the forests of southern France, all he knows of the world is his mother, and the woods around their cabin. The year is 1908. As if by instinct, the boy sets out.

As this wild and naive child attempts to join civilization, he encounters earthquakes and car crashes, ogres and artists, and, eventually, all-encompassing love and an inescapable war. His adventures take him around the world and through history on a mesmerizing journey, rich with unforgettable characters. A hamlet of farmers fears he's a werewolf, but eventually raise him as one of their own. A circus performer who toured the world as a sideshow introduces the boy to showmanship and sanitation. And a chance encounter with a woman exposes him to music and the sensuous pleasures of life. The boy becomes a guide whose innocence exposes society's wonder, brutality, absurdity, and magic.

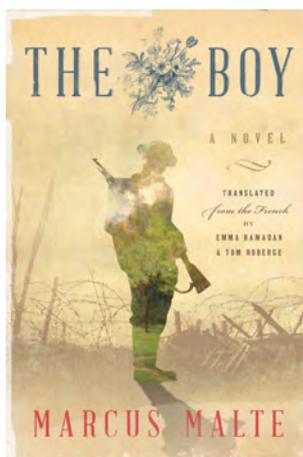
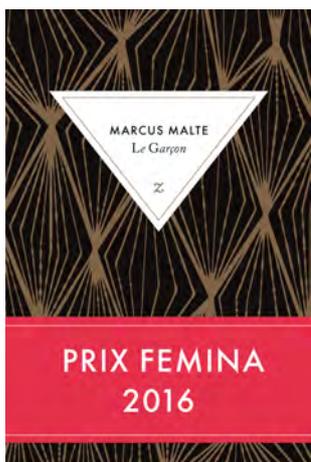
Beginning in 1908 and spanning three decades, *The Boy* is as an emotionally and historically rich exploration of family, passion, and war from one of France's most acclaimed and bestselling authors.

**“This book is a grand epic, a magnificent story that resurrects the myth of the wild child that discovers civilization. It's a great novel of learning, an allegory of the savaging of men by war.”**

Mona Ozouf, Head of Prix Femina jury

Marcus Malte is widely compared to the stars of hard-boiled American crime fiction: Jim Thompson, David Goodis or Harry Crews.

He is the author of *La Part des chiens*, *Les Harmoniques* and the multi-award winning *Garden of Love* (winner of the 2008 French ELLE Grand Prix for crime fiction).



**THE BOY**  
novel, 544 pages

PRIX FEMINA 2016  
80.000 copies sold in France

Longlisted for the **Grand Prix du roman de l'Académie française** and the **Prix Wepler**.

*Original language: French*  
*Full English translation available*

### RIGHTS SOLD

World English (Restless Books)  
Italy (Fazi)  
China (Zhejiang Literature)  
Greece (Opera)

### PRAISE AND CRITICS

“You'll be stunned by this novel... Marcus Malte is clearly an astonishing author, oscillating between poetry, mystery, and epic, he has the ability to surprise and it's a delight to read.”

Alexandra Schwartzbrod,  
*Libération*

“Marcus Malte has both nerve and well-placed ambition. His writing never stops evolving according to the circumstances of the novel, sometimes poetic and adept, sometimes biting and violent. The author opens up a thousand paths and never closes them off as he discusses the chaos of the world and the frightening nature of humanity.”

Christine Ferniot, *Lire*

### PREVIOUS TITLES

*Fannie et Freddie*  
*Garden of Love*  
Grand Prix des lectrices de *Elle*,  
catégorie policier – 90 000 copies sold  
*La Part des chiens*

**Contact foreign rights:**  
Amélie Louat – Éditions Zulma  
[Amelie.louat@zulma.fr](mailto:Amelie.louat@zulma.fr)

# MAKENZY ORCEL

## *The Midnight Master / Maître-Minuit*

**The fabulous destiny of Poto, a child raised in the bloody streets of Port-au-Prince, becoming a great painter... A novel written by one of the most promising writers from Haiti.**

Poto was born in the mournful tropic of a bloody dictatorship, the child of an unknown father and of Marie Élitha Demosthène Laguerre, his presumed mother, who errs nightly in a vaporous cloud of glue fumes. We might also say of Poto that he has a true gift for hitching himself to the stars and dreaming his life, playing soldiers with the cockroaches in the space that serves as his bedroom, and telling himself stories about the world, about all possible worlds, through his pencil drawings.

And then Poto sets out into the world, with his drawings in his rucksack. He acts mad (so the creatures that prowl his housing scheme will leave him in peace), survives on petty theft and juggling, his only ambition to carry on living, as an artist... Until the day when he places himself under the curious protection of a hired killer in the pay of the president-for-life who pulls all the strings.

Makenzy Orcel was born in Port-au-Prince in 1983. *Maître-Minuit* is his latest novel, following his acclaimed début *les Immortelles*, and *l'Ombre animale* ('Animal Shadow'), the winner of the Prix Louis Guilloux and the Prix Littérature-Monde 2016.



**THE MIDNIGHT MASTER**  
novel, 320 pages

Original language: French

**WORLD RIGHTS AVAILABLE**

### PRaise

“Among Haitian most powerful voices, next to prestigious elder such as Lafférière, Trouillot or Frankétienne, 33 years old Orcel throws a poetic, head-on and explosive prose.”

*La Croix*

### PREVIOUS TITLES

***Les Immortelles***  
(full English translation available)

***L'Ombre animale***  
Prix Littérature-monde 2016  
Prix Louis Guilloux 2016  
Prix littéraire des Caraïbes de l'ADELF 2016  
Prix Ethiophile 2016



**Contact foreign rights:**  
Amélie Louat – Éditions Zulma  
[Amelie.louat@zulma.fr](mailto:Amelie.louat@zulma.fr)

# JAMES NOËL

## *Beautiful Wonder / Belle merveille*

**How recovering from a catastrophic earthquake? Can love bring some peace to a traumatized soul? *Belle Merveille* mixes passion, humour and irony to draw the portrait of Bernard and Amore, torn between their love story and the absurdity of NGO's in Haiti.**

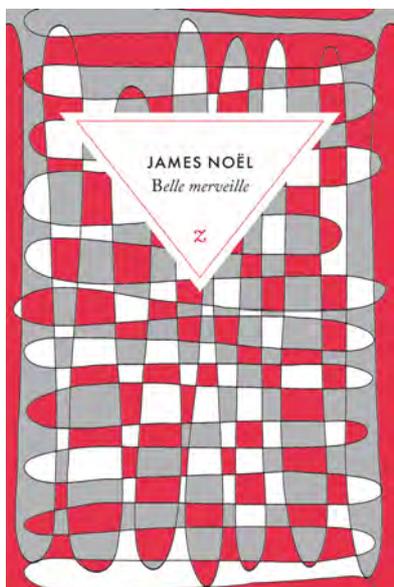
January 12 2010. A massive earthquake strikes the island of Haiti. Bernard — who barely survived the catastrophe — meets Amore, a Neapolitan volunteer in an NGO. It's love at first sight.

The city is entirely dislocated and Bernard falls into darkness. Amore, the beautiful *tigress of Frangipane*, plans the getaway and suggests a trip to Rome to prevent him from falling apart.

Bernard closes his eyes as the plane takes off. In an awakened slumber, he visualizes a strange world map, one among other *beautiful wonders*, and he dreams of coming home as a hero.

*Belle Merveille* is a flash novel. It talks with dissolute humor and irony about love, salutary sex, confusion, madness, and the absurdity of international aid when confronted with natural disasters. Written in an inventive, syncopated style, *Belle Merveille* is a poignant stand-out debut novel.

James Noël was born in Haiti in 1978. A poet, and former resident of the Villa Medici in Rome, he has published *Le Pyromane adolescent* followed by *Sang visible du vitrier* (Points, 2015); *Anthologie de poésie haïtienne contemporaine* (Points, 2015) and *La Migration des murs* (Galaade, 2016). He also edits the celebrated magazine *IntranQu'illités*.



Debut novel

**BEAUTIFUL WONDER**  
novel, 160 pages

Original language: French

**RIGHTS SOLD IN GERMANY**  
(Litradukt)

### PRAISE AND CRITICS

“A new poetic voice arises from the heart of Haiti, to transport us towards the greatness of life.”

*Livres Hebdo*

“*Belle Merveille* is this language, orgasmic, powerful, and tragic all at the same time.”

*Transfuge*

“Which words can express the injustice and the choc of the 2010 Haitian earthquake? Not much, but James Noël can find them, offering a beautiful debut novel.”

Le Divan Bookshop – Paris

**Contact foreign rights:**

Amélie Louat – Éditions Zulma

[Amelie.louat@zulma.fr](mailto:Amelie.louat@zulma.fr)

# JOACHIM SCHNERF

## *This night / Cette nuit*

A family story, told by the old patriarch Salomon, that often bursts with high spirits and quickfire dialogue: antagonist sisters, provocative grandchildren and a beloved wife who just passed away... Joachim Schnerf offers a sensitive comedy.

On Passover morning, an old man looks back on a lifetime of memories of this special night. But now, the night ahead will be very different. For the first time, the celebrations will take place without his wife, recently deceased.

One memory leads to another, and the nights blend and blur... transporting us to the heart of this colourful family as they play out the familiar ritual, year after year, behind closed doors, in their own special way: a comic huis clos with its high points, and its surprise guests.

But on this Passover morning, with the preparations underway, Salomon is without his wonderful, beloved Sarah, for the first time in his life.

“A heady text about the things we pass on. The insistent play on rhythm and repetition is hypnotic indeed.” Raphaëlle Leyris, *Le Monde des Livres*

“*Cette nuit* achieves the impossible: a comedy about grieving and loss.” Christine Ferniot, *Télérama*

Joachim Schnerf was born in Strasbourg 1987. He lives and works in Paris, where he publishes literature in translation. After his first novel, *Mon sang à l'étude* ('The study of my blood', Éditions de l'Olivier), *Cette nuit* is a sensitive journey to the intimate heart of family, through the memories of a man approaching the end of his life.



**THIS NIGHT**  
novel, 144 pages

Prix Orange du livre 2018  
Prix Cercle Chapel 2018  
Prix Littéraire Jérôme Cahen

Selected by BookBlast®  
France: Top 5 French Reads  
January, 2018

Original language: French

### RIGHTS SOLD

> Germany (Verlag Antje Kunstmann)  
> Offer in Romania  
+Film and theater rights under option!

### PREVIOUS TITLES

*Mon sang à l'étude* (Éditions de l'Olivier, 2014)

Contact foreign rights:  
Amélie Louat – Éditions Zulma  
[Amelie.louat@zulma.fr](mailto:Amelie.louat@zulma.fr)

# ANTONYTHASAN JESUTHASAN

## a.k.a. SHOBASAKTHI

### *Friday et Friday*

**A former LTTE child soldier, an international famous actor, Antonythasan Jesuthasan is one of the most influent Tamil writers, finally published in French!**

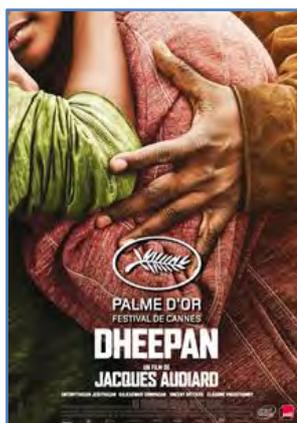
A childhood in Allaipiddy, in northern Sri Lanka, the Tamil uprising, wanderings, and exile in France... Some of the motifs that inhabit the work of Antonythasan Jesuthasan. And the people: 'Big Diana', petrified by the sound of bombs, who moves heaven and earth to secure herself a place of shelter; Pratheeban, the asylum seeker, swindled for a few kilometres more; the 37 Movements of the rebellion, each determined to secure the lion's share; Layla, the little woman at No. 7, whose code name – Yellow Bird – betrays her in the end; or Kandi the warrior knight, condemned to life in a gilded cage, at the expense of the Central Committee.

Portraits that paint a picture of the narrator himself, suffused with humour and finesse – a novel of a whole life, the mirror of one soul and a people who know that sometimes, 'the heart floats when you can no longer see the shore'.

Antonythasan Jesuthasan, also known as Shobasakthi, was born in Sri Lanka in 1967. A former LTTE child soldier, he emigrated to France in 1993 where he sought and obtained political asylum. He is a famous actor and the author of three novels, several collections of short stories and essays.



Leading role in Jacques Audiard's *Dheepan*, 2015



**FRIDAY ET FRIDAY**  
short story collection, 144 pages

*Original language: Tamil*  
*Full French translation available*

#### PRaise AND CRITICS

"When a story becomes a sublime reflection on the power of literature itself, we feel immense joy in the discovery of a rare and precious voice."

*Lire*

"Friday and Friday is the work of a writer whose brave determination to break taboos and find the truth is matched only by [his/her] poetic talent and skill in the conjuring of a powerful cast of characters - vulnerable, resilient, unforgettable."

*Le Devoir*

#### PREVIOUS TITLES

**All rights available except in India**

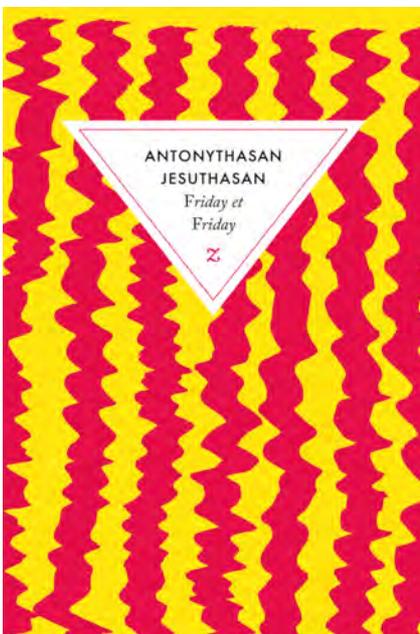
*Traitor*, novel  
English translation available

*Gorilla*, novel  
English translation available

*The MGR Murder Trial*  
short stories,  
English translation available



**Contact foreign rights:**  
Amélie Louat – Éditions Zulma  
[Amelie.louat@zulma.fr](mailto:Amelie.louat@zulma.fr)



# AUÐUR AVA ÓLAFSDÓTTIR

## *Miss Iceland* / Ungfrú Ísland

**Hekla, living in a remote farming district, wants to become a writer. But even in Reykjavik, she has to face up to a small male dominated community. *Miss Iceland* is a sensitive and hilarious journey in an unexpected conservative Iceland!**

The year is 1963. Iceland has a population of little more than 177 thousand, one Nobel Prize winner and two transatlantic planes. The country is almost isolated from the rest of the world. Apart from the U.S. military base in Vellir, there are almost no foreigners on the island. In the same week that news breaks of President Kennedy's assassination on the other side of the ocean, an eruption begins under the sea off the southern coast of Iceland and a new island is born, Surtsey. It also happens to be Hekla's birthday.

Hekla is a budding female novelist who was born in the remote district of Dalir and named after the famous eponymous volcano. After packing her few belongings and a Remington typewriter, she heads for Reykjavik with a manuscript buried in her bags at a time when it was almost unthinkable for a woman to be a writer. In a small male dominated community, Hekla comes to learn that a woman who wants to write will have to stand alone.

With her customary sensitivity and subtle humour, Auður Ava Ólafsdóttir's sixth novel explores the relationship between two outsiders trapped in a Lilliputian world: a young female writer and a queer man, who is the illegitimate offspring of an Icelandic woman and a missing foreign soldier. Together they share the common bond of being alienated in a myopic society.

*Miss Iceland* probes into creative longings in a world in which men are born poets, but women are invited to be Miss Iceland.

“Ólafsdóttir's specialty is the small journeys we take to save ourselves and the ones we care for. She is the heart's finest map-maker.”

Sjón

Award-winning writer from Iceland, **Auður Ava Ólafsdóttir** is praised for her fresh perspective and her dark, incisive humor. Her previous novel *Ör* (*Hotel Silence*) won the Icelandic Literary Prize, in addition to being nominated for both the Italian Strega Award and the Nordic Council Literature Prize. The British newspaper *The Independent* classified the book as one of the 10 best novels of 2018. Her novels have been published by 28 publishers around the world.



**MISS ICELAND**  
novel, 240 pages

Original language: Icelandic  
English & French sample soon available

To be published in Iceland (Benedikt) in November 2018 and in France (Zulma) in 2019.

### OPTIONS IN THE FOLLOWING COUNTRIES

Czech Republic (Albatros Media)  
Denmark (Batzler & co)  
English: USA (Grove) - UK (Pushkin Press)  
Hungary (Polar)  
Israel (Xargol)  
Italy (Einaudi)  
Norway (Pax)  
Portugal (Quetzal)  
Spain (Alfaguara)  
South Korea (Hangilsa)  
Sweden (Svante Weyler)  
Turkey (Nebula)

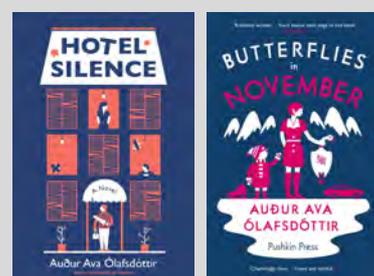
### PREVIOUS TITLES

*Hotel Silence* (published in 14 languages)

*The Exception* (published in 6 languages)

*Butterflies in November* (published in 10 languages)

*Rosa candida* (published in 20 languages)



### Contact foreign rights:

Amélie Louat – Éditions Zulma  
[Amelie.louat@zulma.fr](mailto:Amelie.louat@zulma.fr)

# AUÐUR AVA ÓLAFSDÓTTIR

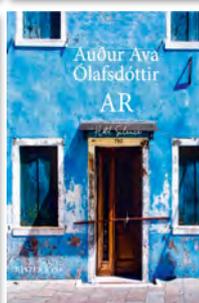
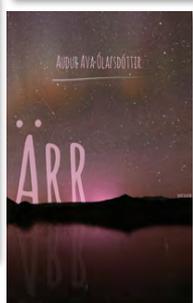
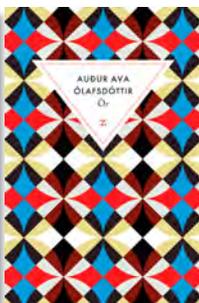
## *Hotel Silence / Ör*

**Winner of the Icelandic Literary Prize, *Hotel Silence* is a rousing story of a man, a community, and a path toward regeneration from the depths of despair. The delightful and heartwarming novel of one man's surprising mid-life adventure of self-discovery.**

Jónas Ebeneser is a handy DIY kind of man with a compulsion to fix things, but he can't seem to fix his own life. On the cusp of turning fifty, divorced, adrift, he's recently discovered he is not the biological father of his daughter, and he has sunk into an existential crisis, losing all will to live. As he visits his senile mother in a nursing home, he secretly muses on how, when, and where to put himself out of his misery.

So he comes up with a foolproof plan: to buy a one-way ticket to a chaotic, war-ravaged country and put an end to it all. But on arriving at Hotel Silence, he finds his plans – and his anonymity – begin to dissolve under the foreign sun. Now there are other things that need his attention, like the crumbling hotel itself, the staff who run it, and his unusual fellow guests. And soon it becomes clear that Jónas must decide whether he really wants to leave it all behind; or give life a second chance, albeit down a most unexpected path... *Hotel Silence* is a celebration of life's infinite possibilities, of transformations and second chances.

Award-winning writer from Iceland, **Auður Ava Ólafsdóttir** is the author of five novels, a collection of poetry, and four plays. Her work has attracted praise for its fresh perspective and her dark, incisive humor, she has already been translated by 28 publishers around the world.



### **HOTEL SILENCE** novel, 204 pages

- > ICELANDIC LITERARY PRIZE – BEST ICELANDIC NOVEL
- > ICELANDIC BOOKSELLERS PRIZE
- > NORDIC COUNCIL LITERATURE PRIZE: SHORTLISTED
- > PREMIO STREGA EUROPEO: SHORTLISTED

One of the 10 best new novels for 2018 selected by *The Independent*

*Original language: Icelandic  
English & French translations available*

### **PRAISE AND CRITICS**

“Ólafsdóttir’s specialty is the small journeys we take to save ourselves and the ones we care for. She is the heart’s finest map-maker.”

Sjón

“A beautifully spare and insightful tale of redemption.” *Booklist*

“Ólafsdóttir upends expectations.” *The New York Times*

### **RIGHTS SOLD IN 14 COUNTRIES**

- Czech Republic (Albatros Media)
- Denmark (Batzler & co)
- France (Zulma)
- Hungary (Polar)
- Iceland (Benedikt)
- Italy (Einaudi)
- Norway (Pax)
- Portugal (Quetzal)
- Spain (Alfaguara)
- South Korea (Hangilsa)
- Sweden (Svante Weyler)
- Turkey (Nebula)
- UK (Pushkin Press)
- USA (Grove)
- + FILM RIGHTS UNDER OPTION

**Contact foreign rights:**  
Amélie Louat – Éditions Zulma  
[amelie.louat@zulma.fr](mailto:amelie.louat@zulma.fr)

# RECENTLY SOLD

## FRENCH AND FRANCOPHONE AUTHORS

### JACQUES STEPHEN ALEXIS

Spanish rights (Latin America) of *L'Étoile Absinthe*  
sold to Malisia Editorial (Argentina)

### MAURICE DEKOBRA

Spanish rights (world) of *La Madone des Sleepings*  
sold to Impedimenta

### RENÉ DEPESTRE

Spanish rights (Latin America) of *Popa Singer*  
sold to Malisia Editorial (Argentina)

### PASCAL GARNIER

Audiovisual rights of *Trop près du bord* under US option (Film)  
Polish world rights of *La Théorie du Panda* sold to Claroscuro  
English world rights of *Nul n'est à l'abri du succès* sold to Gallic Books  
English world rights of *Le Grand Loin* sold to Gallic Books  
Turkish rights of *Lune captive dans un oeil mort* sold to Kafka Kitap

### HUBERT HADDAD

Hindi rights of *Corps désirable (Desirable Body)*  
sold to Rajpal & Sons

### JAMES NOËL

German rights of *Belle Merveille (Beautiful Wonder)*  
sold to Litradukt

### JOACHIM SCHNERF

*This Night (Cette nuit)*  
German rights sold to Verlag Antje Kunstmann  
Offer in Romania  
Film + theatre rights under option

**CÉCILE WAJSBROT**

Dutch rights (world) of *Caspar-Friedrich Strasse*  
sold to Vleugels

**INTERNATIONAL AUTHORS**

**ABDELAZIZ BARAKA SAKIN**

*Sudan*

Norwegian rights of *The Messiah of Darfur* sold to Solum

**AUÐUR AVA ÓLAFSDÓTTIR**

*Iceland*

*Hotel Silence (Ör)*

Czech Republic (Albatros Media), Denmark (Batzer & Co), Hungary (Polar),  
Iceland (Benedikt Books), Italy (Einaudi), Norway (Pax Forlag), Portugal  
(Quetzal), South Korea (Hangilsa), Spain (Alfaguara), Sweden (Svante Weyler  
Forlag), Turkey (Paloma), USA (Grove Atlantic), UK (Pushkin).

+ OPTION FOR FILM RIGHTS!

*Butterflies in November (L'Embellie)*

Hebrew rights sold to Xargol

*The Exception*

Simplified Chinese rights sold to Beijing Red Dot Wisdom Cultural  
Development

*Rosa candida*

Simplified Chinese rights sold to Zhejiang Literature & Art Publishing House,  
Macedonian rights sold to Antolog

**ZÔYA PIRZÂD**

*Iran*

Italian rights of *Things We Left Unsaid (C'est moi qui éteins les lumières )*  
sold to Francesco Brioschi Editore

## OUR AUTHORS

### *French and francophone authors*

Jacques Stephen Alexis

Jean-Marie Blas de Roblès — *Prix Médicis 2008, Prix de la Nouvelle de l'Académie française 1982*

Georges-Olivier Châteaureynaud — *Prix Renaudot 1982, Prix Goncourt de la Nouvelle 2005*

Chantal Creusot

Maurice Dekobra

René Depestre — *Prix Goncourt de la Nouvelle 1982, Prix Renaudot 1988*

Boubacar Boris Diop

Pascal Garnier

Hubert Haddad — *Prix Renaudot Poche 2009, Prix des cinq continents de la Francophonie 2008,*

*Prix Louis Guilloux 2013, Grand Prix de la Société des Gens de Lettres 2013*

Koffi Kwahulé — *Prix Ahmadou-Kourouma 2006, Grand Prix ivoirien des Lettres 2006, Prix*

*Édouard-Glissant 2013*

Mélani le Bris

Marcus Malte — *Prix Femina 2016, Grand Prix des lectrices de Elle, catégorie policier 2008*

Daniel Morvan

James Noël

Makenzy Orcel — *Prix Littérature-monde 2016, Prix Louis Guilloux 2016, Prix littéraire des*

*Caraïbes de l'ADELF 2016, Prix Étiophile 2016*

Serge Pey

Joachim Schnerf — *Prix Orange du livre 2018*

Ingrid Thobois

Cécile Wajsbrot

### *Translated authors*

Barzou Abdourazzoqov (Tadjikistan)

Vaikom Muhammad Basheer (India)

Antonythasan Jesuthasan (Sri Lanka)

Auður Ava Ólafsdóttir (Iceland) — *Icelandic Literary Prize - Best Icelandic Novel 2016, Prix des libraires au Québec, Prix littéraire des jeunes européens 2016*

Zoyâ Pirzâd (Iran) — *Prix Courrier International du meilleur livre étranger 2009*

Abdelaziz Baraka Sakin (Sudan) — *Prix Tayeb Salih 2009, Prix littérature-monde 2017*

Enrique Serpa (Cuba)

August Strindberg (Sweden)

Fariba Vafi (Iran)

# CONTACT

Éditions Zulma  
18, rue du Dragon  
75006 Paris  
France  
[www.zulma.fr](http://www.zulma.fr)

Foreign rights  
Amélie Louat  
[amelie.louat@zulma.fr](mailto:amelie.louat@zulma.fr)