

ÉDITIONS Z ZULMA

LITTÉRATURES DU MONDE ENTIER

FALL 2026



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

ÉDITIONS Z ZULMA

LITTÉRATURES DU MONDE ENTIER

Founded in 1991, Zulma specializes in translated and French contemporary literature. We have published authors from over 45 countries and translated books from more than 30 languages. Our close relationship with authors, translators and booksellers are at the core of our passion.

Among our authors are some prestigious French and francophone writers such as Jean-Marie Blas de Roblès (Prix Médicis 2008), Hubert Haddad (Prix Renaudot poche 2009), Dany Laferrière (member of the Académie française), Marcus Malte (Prix Femina 2016), or Boubacar Boris Diop (Senegal). We also publish contemporary literature in translation: Kei Miller (Jamaica), David Toscana (Mexico), Ayfer Tunç (Turkey), Mayra Santos Febres (Puerto Rico), Leo Perutz (Czech Republic), Razvan Radulescu (Romania), Pramodya Ananta Toer (Indonesia), R. K. Narayan (India), Eileen Chang (China), Ricardo Piglia (Argentina), Einar Már Guðmundsson (Iceland), Miquel de Palol (Spain), Zhang Yueran (China), Inoué Hisashi (Japan), Itamar Vieira Junior (Brazil), Nasim Marashi (Iran), Katja Oskamp (Germany), Azar Nafisi (United States), Hwan Sok-Yong (Korea)...

Last but not least, Zulma also publishes and represents international authors who are now translated all around the world: Auður Ava Ólafsdóttir (Iceland), Zoyâ Pirzâd (Iran), Benny Barbash (Israel), Antonythasan Jesuthasan (Sri Lanka) or Abdelaziz Baraka Sakin (Sudan) to name but a few.

In 2019, Zulma launched a non-fiction series. With three new titles a year, uncompromising authors and intrinsic literary qualities, we propose another vision of the world to French readers – as we have been doing for over 25 years through literature. The series features authors such as Shoshana Zuboff (United States), Timothy Morton (England), Pankaj Mishra (India), Michael Sfard (Israel), Tiffany Watt Smith (England), Srećko Horvat (Croatia), Angela Davis (United States), Kate Crawford (United States)...

Some of our literary awards:

Médicis Prize 2019 – *Miss Islande (Miss Iceland)*, by Auður Ava Ólafsdóttir
Orange Prize 2018 – *Cette nuit (This night)*, by Joachim Schnerf
Nordic Council Literature Prize 2018 – *Ör (Hotel Silence)*, by Auður Ava Ólafsdóttir
Littérature-Monde Prize 2018 – *Íslenskir kóngar (Icelandic Kings)*, by Einar Már Guðmundsson
Prix du Premier Roman (foreign literature) 2018 – *The Sum of our Follies*, by Shi-Li Kow
Littérature-Monde Prize 2017 – *دارفور مسيح (The Messiah of Darfur)*, by Abdelaziz Baraka Sakin
Femina Prize 2016 – *Le Garçon (The Boy)*, by Marcus Malte
Littérature-Monde Prize 2016 – *L'Ombre animale (Animal shadow)*, by Makenzy Orcel
Prix du Premier Roman (foreign literature) 2015 – *Noites de Alface (Lettuce Nights)*, by Vanessa Barbara
Fnac Prize 2014 – *The Bellwether Revivals*, by Benjamin Wood
Renaudot Prize (paperback edition) 2009 – *Palestine*, by Hubert Haddad
Médicis Prize 2008 – *Where Tigers Are at Home (Là où les tigres sont chez eux)*, Jean-Marie Blas de Roblès
ELLE magazine Reader's Prize (thriller category) 2007 – *Garden of Love*, by Marcus Malte

JEAN-MARIE BLAS DE ROBLÈS

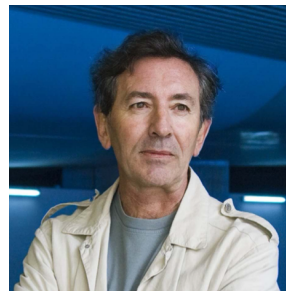
Cipango / Cipango

A brilliant work of art, *Cipango* is a pure adventure novel, an epic, and an ultra-modern thriller—set against a backdrop of devastating ambitions. This masterful tapestry is the product of a mind that is, to say the least, playful. A true page-turner!

Accused of being a converso and threatened by the Inquisition, the young Donato Belmonte is forced to flee Portugal and its burning stakes. In the year 1540, he sets sail under the name Francisco Zeimoto on a ship bound for Africa and then the Indies. Flanked by his comrade Antonio da Mota, he goes from one discovery to the next, and soon they land on the distant archipelago described by Marco Polo as Cipango. Donato/Francisco immerses himself in this enchanting and mysterious medieval Japan, learns the language, discovers Zen philosophy, carves out a new life for himself, and falls madly in love. [Meanwhile...]

A 21st-century visionary, Ylona Malone harbors dreams of greatness and recruits the brightest minds: June O-Fuji, a specialist in linguistics and artificial intelligence; Karine, a doctor of biogenetics; Li Shuzhou, a nuclear fusion physicist awaiting a visa for the U.S.; Ameesha, a neural implant developer; Saito Nobu, an aerospace commander; Angela, a military drone pilot; and Leandro, the ultimate geek, a specialist in “emancipated variable” algorithms and a compulsive gamer. All are experts in their fields. All have one flaw: their boundless imagination.

Winner of **Prix Médicis 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 15 languages, and has sold more than 200.000 copies in France.



CIPANGO

Novel, 736 pages

Original language: French

Blas de Roblès has been published in 15 countries and sold more than 200.000 copies in France.

WORLD RIGHTS AVAILABLE

PRAISE AND CRITICS

“In a few pages, Blas de Roblès succeeds in opening so many doors in his reader’s mind that his novel, overflowing its context and circumstances, becomes a wondrous matter for reflection and instruction.”

Benjamin Fau, *Le Monde des Livres*

PREVIOUS TITLES

Là où les tigres sont chez eux
> 130 000 copies sold in France

La Montagne de Minuit
> 15 000 copies sold in France

La Mémoire de riz

L’île du Point Némó (Island of Point Nemo)

> 61 000 copies sold in France
Dans l’épaisseur de la chair

Contact foreign rights:

rights@zulma.fr

HUBERT HADDAD

The Last Days of a Happy Man / Les Derniers jours d'un homme heureux

The Last Days of a Happy Man possesses a striking evocative power, rooted in that blend of realism and romanticism that carries us beyond ourselves.

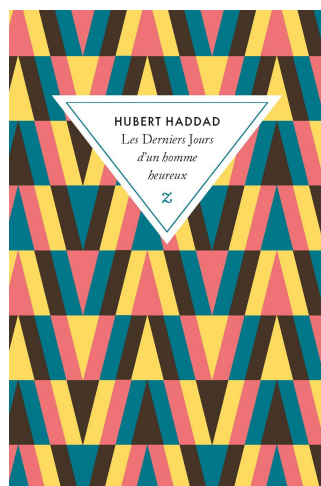
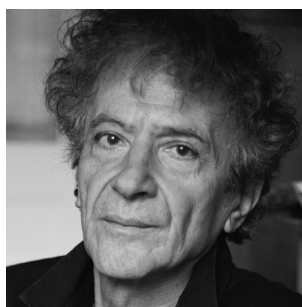
December 1957. A great void settles over Emmanuel Tromeiv, a gentrified columnist for a major French daily: he encounters, as if it were a double of himself, the body of an Algerian man fished from the Seine, murdered by the police along with dozens of others. Emmanuel is suffering from an incurable illness; the prognosis wrested from the doctor gives him six months—a year? Can he deny the inevitable and throw himself into a battle that is no longer a battle, against a disease that has already won? Disoriented, Emmanuel sees an opportunity to escape: he leaves for Algeria to cover the “events.” The struggle that engulfs him there is quite different. Confronted upon his arrival with the reality of torture and war, the journalist transforms into an undercover reporter, and his eyes are opened as his body gradually fails him. He discovers the armed struggle alongside the fellaghas, crisscrosses the djebel, and learns of the friendships born of the battlefield and life in hiding. A desperate odyssey that takes him from the maquis to the shores of Mers-el-Kébir, where he tries to find Florence. As if having nothing left to lose made every mission possible.

“A poet grounded in reality, offering a subtle perspective on human complexity.”

Ouest France

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, more than 60 000 copies sold; the Prix Louis Guilloux for *Le Peintre d'éventail*, 50 000 copies sold; and the Grand Prix SGDL of literature for his entire work.



**THE LAST DAYS OF A
HAPPY MAN**
novel, 288 pages

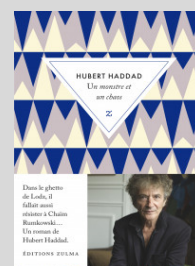
Original language: French

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OTHER TITLES

Chaos and Monster > Longlisted for the Renaudot Prize. “A dive into the Lodz ghetto. Fiction at the service of History.”
Le Figaro littéraire

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



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CECILE WAJSBROT

Oratorio / Oratorio

[Oratorio] A musical work in which the plot unfolds as a dramatic dialogue, alternating between choruses, arias, and recitatives.

Lampedusa, Melilla, Lesbos... the names are familiar. Following a particularly tragic shipwreck, photos appear and then disappear. The body of a little boy washed up on a beach—emotions run high. Years later, fake videos depict a fictional arrival on British soil—someone makes a victory sign, rejoicing at now being housed in a five-star hotel... Empathy has been replaced by hatred. *Oratorio* documents facts and destinies. Based on real data spanning several decades, this song tells the story of people who, out of necessity, leave their countries, crossing the Mediterranean Sea or taking mountain paths deep into the heart of the European continent. *Oratorio* evokes the systems put in place to thwart their stay: Frontex, the “safe countries” list, the Franco-British agreement—placing current events in a historical perspective—Ellis Island, Ovid’s exile, the Nansen passport. Simply stating without seeking to prove. Divided into some forty sequences, *Oratorio* is a short literary work with multiple approaches: chorus, dialogue, third- or first-person narration, quotations from Brecht, Shakespeare, or Emily Dickinson, and speeches by political figures. A puzzle whose assembled pieces reflect the relentless image of the effects of our intolerance.

Cécile Wajsbrot, born in Paris in 1954, writes novels as well as essays and radio plays. She also translates from English (including Virginia Woolf) and German (including Marcel Beyer and Peter Kurzeck).

Cécile Wajsbrot lives between Paris and Berlin. She has been a member of the Deutsche Akademie für Sprache und Dichtung since 2017 and of the Akademie der Künste in Berlin since 2019. In 2024, she received the Henri-Gal Grand Prize for Literature, awarded by the Académie française for her entire body of work.



Oratorio
novel, 96 pages

Original language: French

REGARDING HER PREVIOUS NOVELS:
“**CAPTIVATING.**”
LE MONDE DES LIVRES

“**MAGNETIC.**”
LA CROIX

“**IT IS PRECISELY THIS COMBINATION
OF THE CONTEMPORARY AND THE
TIMELESS THAT GIVES THE BOOK ITS
SPECIAL POWER.**”
LE MONDE

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AUÐUR AVA ÓLAFSDÓTTIR

DJ Bambi / DJ Bambi

DJ Bambi is a 61-year-old trans woman and biochemist who specializes in the smallest building blocks of the human body: cells. She previously worked as a DJ. This is her story from the time she shares her mother's womb with her twin brother until she starts taking feminizing hormones and discovers that she is no longer the center of her own life and that the edges of the world have been blunted.

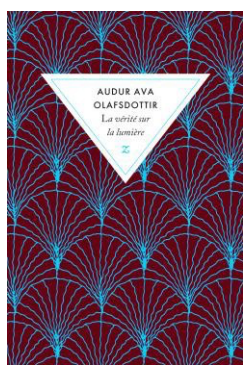
In DJ Bambi Auður Ava Ólafsdóttir embarks on an exploration of the world of genders and what it means to belong to the female species.



“Each new novel by Ólafsdóttir is like a meeting with a marvelous friend that immediately makes you feel like you have never parted.” *Madame Figaro*

“Quirky and at first glance intimists, her stories are like crystal balls that no matter how small they are, can contain a whole universe. This is humanist art in the truest sense of the word. » *Le Monde des livres*

Award-winning writer from Iceland, **Auður Ava Ólafsdóttir** is praised for her fresh perspective and her dark, incisive humor. She won the Nordic Council Literature Prize in 2018 for her novel *Ör* (*Hotel Silence*) – a novel already awarded by the Icelandic Literary Prize and shortlisted for the Italian Strega Award. She was also awarded the Prix Médicis in 2019 for her novel *Miss Iceland*.



DJ BAMBI novel, 208 pages

Original language: Icelandic
English sample and full French translation available

Rights already sold to:

Benedikt : Iceland (original publisher)
France: Zulma
Italy: Einaudi
Spain: Alfaguara
Faroe Islands: Sprotin
Hungary: Polar
Poland: Poznanskie
Denmark: Batzer & Co

Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize and chosen as the 2023 Best Novel of the Year by Morgunblaðið

SOME PREVIOUS TITLES

Eden (published in 11 countries)

Animal Life (published in 14 countries)

Miss Iceland (published in 14 countries)

Hotel Silence (published in 30 countries)

Rosa candida (published in 21 countries)



PASCAL GARNIER

How is the pain? / Comment va la douleur ?

In a subtle, mesmerising tale, Pascal Garnier describes an improbable meeting between a homeless man and a gangster. Against all odds, each confers on the other's life new meaning.

Bernard is 22, two fingers missing and never been very bright. Simon is a wealthy, cynical and elegant crook who knows his days are numbered. They meet on a park bench, in a dull little town. It soon becomes clear that the simpleton has been persuaded to act as the gangster's driver in a perilous mission, to get rid of a woman who has become a nuisance for her two-timing husband. Inevitably, things do not go as planned.

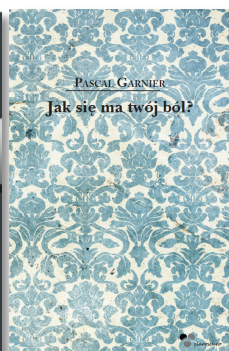
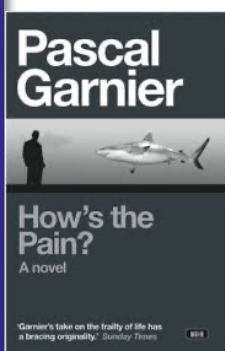
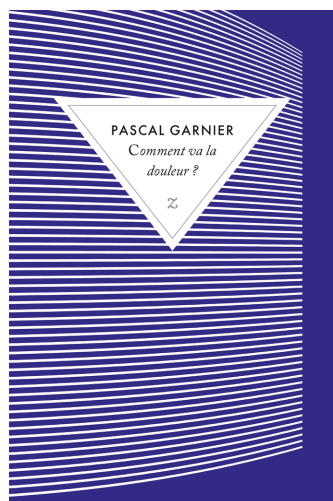
The style is uncluttered and pure, perfect for the sombre mood the author has succeeded in creating.

“Garnier leads his tragic ball without hitting a single wrong note, through clear, precise and sometimes even poetic style.

A fearsome feat.” *Le Figaro*

Pascal Garnier (1949-2010), was a talented novelist, short story writer, children's author and painter. His work has been likened to the great thriller writer, Georges Simenon.

His incisive sense of humour and literary talent have been awarded with the **Prix de l'Humour noir**, and the **Grand Prix de la SGDL**.



HOW IS THE PAIN? novel, 188 pages

Original language: French
Full English and Spanish translations available

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Italy (ISBN Edizioni)
Poland (ClaroScuro)
Spain (Alba Editorial)
German (Septime)

NEW ! Option for film rights

PREVIOUS TITLES

Cartons

Nul n'est à l'abri du succès

Les Insulaires et autres romans (noirs)

Le Grand Loin, Zulma

L'A26

Lune captive dans un oeil mort

La Place du mort

La Théorie du panda

La Solution Esquimau

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

Laurence Vilaine

Cécile Wajsbrot

Translated authors

Barzou Abdourazzoqov (Tadjikistan)

Vaikom Muhammad Basheer (India)

Antonythasan Jesuthasan (Sri Lanka)

Auður Ava Ólafsdóttir (Iceland) — *Nordic Council Literature Prize, Shortlisted Premio Strega Europeo, Icelandic Literary Prize - Best Icelandic Novel* 2016, *Prix des libraires au Québec, Prix littéraire des jeunes européens* 2016, *Prix Médicis étranger* 2019

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

Abdelaziz Baraka Sakin (Sudan) — *Tayeb Saleh Prize, Prix littérature-monde* 2017

Enrique Serpa (Cuba)

Fariba Vafi (Iran)

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