

autumn  
winter

2017

asterisc  
agents

\*



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# *Fiction*

## JOAN CARRERAS



(Barcelona, 1962) Winner of the Sant Jordi and Ciutat de Barcelona awards. He began his literary career with two books of short stories published in Quaderns Crema, 1991 and 1993. Later he published his first novels: *La gran nevada*, *Qui va matar el Floquet de Neu* and the provocative *L'home d'origami*. Afterwards, he publishes *Carretera secundària* (best book of the year in Catalan according to Time Out magazine), *Cafè Barcelona* (award Ciutat de Barcelona 2013) and *L'àguila negra*, Sant Jordi Award.

[\(Complete profile of the author here\)](#)

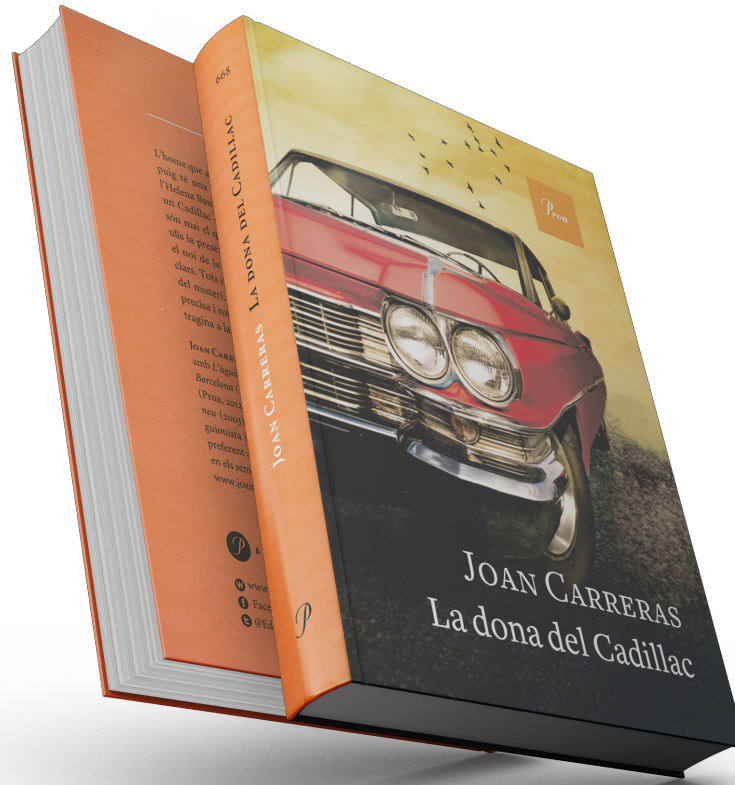
## The Woman of the Cadillac

(La dona del Cadillac)

Proa, 2017 | 328p | 2 ed

#Upmarket\_Thriller #Noir

“A thrilling novel full of intrigue and mysteries that tell us about guilt and a past that everyone wants to forget in their own way.”



» THE WOMAN OF THE CADILLAC EXPOSES THE SECRET LIVES OF A SMALL TOWN WHERE EVERYONE, AS WELL AS THE READER, HAS ITS HIDDEN MONSTERS AND GHOSTS.

» JOAN CARRERAS SHOWS WITH THIS BOOK THAT LITERARY QUALITY DOES NOT CONFLICT WITH THE VOCATION TO WRITE FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC.

» AWARD-WINNING AUTHOR CIUTAT DE BARCELONA AND PREMI SANT JORDI.

60 Sample  
pages in  
Spanish

A thrilling novel full of intrigue and mysteries about guilt.

The man who arrives to the town of Mompuig has a very simple mission: talk to Helena Bau and buy her the Cadillac she keeps in a garage.

But things are never what they seem. Some neighbors do not welcome the presence of a stranger. Those who run the bar, nor the guy at the gas station, nor his unclear business uncle. All conceal their reasons and all ignore the real scope of the mystery.

An absorbing, accurate and resounding novel that speaks of the weight of a past.



More on **Joan Carreras:**

## **Cafè Barcelona**

Proa, 2013 | 224p | 5 ed  
Ciutat de Barcelona Award

#Contemporary #Literary #Amsterdam  
#Impossible\_Love

» Considered one of the best books lately (among critics), it has **5 editions and got a prized after being published.**



### **Rafael Nadal:**

*"THE MOST SHOCKING STORY OF A BRIGHT STORYTELLER."*

### **El Punt Avui**

*"AN ATTRACTIVE NARRATIVE INTENSITY IN A DEVASTATING STORY"*

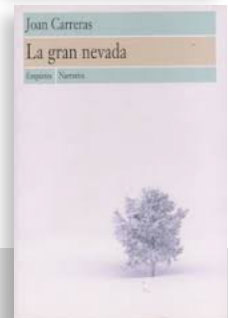
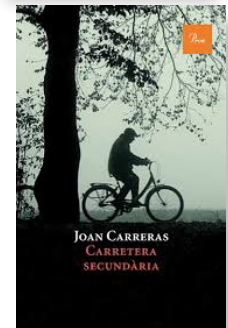
### **La Vanguardia:**

*"[CAFÈ BARCELONA] APPROACHES FICTION FROM A PROFESSIONAL PERSPECTIVE, IN THE GOOD SENSE: IT SEEKS THE ATTRACTION FOR THE PUBLIC, INTERESTING LANDSCAPES, THE HUMAN DIMENSION, WITH A PSYCHOLOGICAL TOUCH AND SOCIAL PERSPECTIVE."*

Café Barcelona is the center of Amsterdam and the heart of this story.

But is much more than the story of this bar and its loyal patrons, who drink beer and sing the songs of André Hazes. The bar owner started a new life with another woman after her husband's death; her son is involved with the Dutch Blue Helmets in the surrender of the Bosnian city of Srebrenica; the bar owner's new partner has a daughter with plenty of reasons to start traveling around the world...

The sum of the characters' hidden secrets affects the daily life of the café and also the life of a globetrotter from Barcelona who finds the last chance to save himself.



## JORDI COCA



(Barcelona, 1947) is a novelist and playwright. His literary career began with *Un d'aquells estius*, and he has published numerous works ever since, including novels, short stories, poetry, and plays. Notable among his novels are *La japonesa*, Premi Josep Pla 1992, *Sota la pols*, Premi Sant Jordi 1999, *Lena* and *Cara d'àngel*, Premi Joanot Martorell 2003. With *California* (2016) he reached his 20th novel.

[\(Complete profile of the author here\)](#)

## The Emperor

(L'Emperador)

Comanegra, 2017 | 335p

#Historical #Literary #Fable

“ Suen's great adventure is not a historical novel. It's a fable. The fable about learning and the cruelty of the struggle for power. ”



INSTITUCIÓ DE LES LLETRES  
CATALANES AWARD. THIS EDITION  
CELEBRATES ITS 20TH ANNIVERSARY.

THE EMPEROR IS THE CENTRAL WORK  
OF JORDI COCA, ONE OF THE MAIN  
AUTHORS OF THE LAST DECADES IN  
CATALONIA.

**La Vanguardia:**  
«ONE OF THE KEY WORKS OF  
CATALAN LITERATURE OF THE LAST  
FORTY YEARS.»

XVIIth century China was an immense space convulsed by wars in which it was difficult to identify enemies. But it was also a land with great hopes and millennial traditions.

And here we meet Suen, a simple guy who, driven by an uncontrollable curiosity, leaves his town to cross the whole country with a stated objective: to see the great Emperor. His is a struggle to learn and to understand, and he slowly gives up atavistic feelings and realizes what drives his world to ruin. It's the journey of a lifetime.

## California

Galaxia Gutenberg, 2016 | 214p

Rights sold:

**Spanish** Galaxia Gutenberg



» *California* is not only a trip to the west, but also an inner, social and in time trip, as well.

**La Vanguardia** - «Deeply thought, well crafted and written with agility»

**El País** - «*California* Is one of these few good novels that remains between heart and head.»

**Libros y literatura** - «I enjoyed each page. You can't ask for more in a novel: that you like it, that entertains you, that leaves a mark in your heart and in your brain, and that it means sincerity, without roundabouts of silliness.»

#Inner&Outer\_Trip #Literary  
#Life\_Sucks

## In the Dust

(*Sota la pols*)

Proa, 2001 | 224p

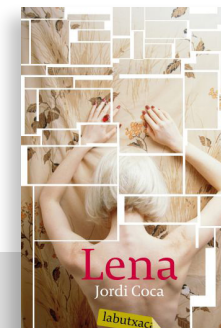


» Sant Jordi Award, 2000

» Ciutat de Barcelona Award, 2002

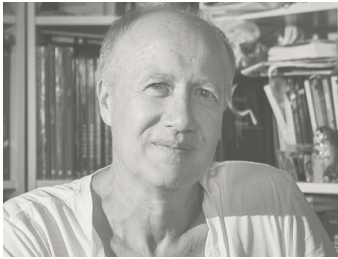
Based on an autobiographical experience, *Sota la pols* (In the Dust) introduces the characters that have been decisive in the life of the author. The violence and the authoritarianism of the father configure the fears and doubts of the protagonist.

#Literary #Father-Son





## JORDI DE MANUEL



(Barcelona, 1962) is a biologist, teacher and writer. Awarded with some literary prizes, he has published novels for adults and young readers. Among his novels for adults special mention must be made to *Tres somnis blaus* (Premi Valldaura 2000), *La decisió de Manperel* (Premi Pin i Soler 2013) and *Mans lliures* (Premi Ictineu 2009), that together with other titles is part of a series set in Barcelona with Inspector Marc Sergiot as the main character.

[\(Complete profile of the author here\)](#)

## Black Hands

(Mans negres)

Pagès Editors, 2017 | 135p

#Noir #Mystery #Science\_Fiction  
#Short\_Stories

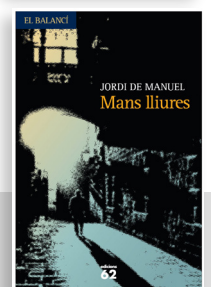
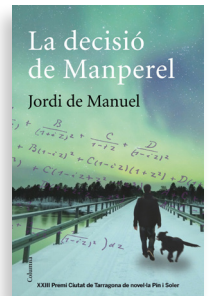
“With the Sergiot series the author make us part of a recognizable and peculiar world that explores the darkest urges of human nature.”



SEVEN CRIMINAL STORIES  
THAT DISSECT THE DARKEST  
PARTS OF HUMAN NATURE.

**Greed, revenge, anger, lust, jealousy, bigotry, malice and genuine self-defense** in this web woven intertwine with short stories. With the “hands” as the main theme, the inspector Marc Sergiot appears in every story: whether as in a clear role in the investigation or just sniffing around the stench of the crime.

A double homage: to his own inspector, who has accompanied him many years, and to Manuel de Pedrolo, whom the author of these stories admires.



## TÀNIA JUSTE



(Barcelona, 1972). In 2009 she published her first novel, an homage to the hopeful times of the Second Spanish Republic, *A flor de pell*, after which came *Els anys robats*. With *L'hospital dels pobres*, Juste went a step further and gained popularity and several editions. In 2015 receives the **Nèstor Luján Award for the intense story of a family among vineyards**, *Temps de família*.

[\(Complete profile of the author here\)](#)

## Family Time

(Temps de família)

Columna, 2015 | 368p | 3 ed

**Nèstor Luján Award** of Historical Fiction

#Historical #Upmarket\_Commercial  
#Family\_Saga

“A novel about a Catalan family, the wine industry and the evolution towards an industrialized modern world that wants to leave old rural traditions behind.”



**M. Carme Roca, jury**

«A fascinating portrait of the first half of the 20th century.»

**La Vanguardia**

«*Temps de família* weaves a web of clandestine love affairs, fraternal hatred and even murder unsolved.»

**El Punt Avui**

«Inspired by classic authors such as Thomas Mann and Rodoreda.»

*Through the lives of three generations of the Giner family, their clandestine loves, fraternal hatred, and unsolved murder mysteries, Temps de família (Family Time) weaves a plot as attractive and magnificent as the vineyards that serve as the setting for this lineage.*

Bonaventura Giner returns from Cuba in 1898, after having made good in America, to re-establish himself in his homeland and to turn the old family farm into the heart of a true wine empire in the Penedès region.

A faithful portrayal of a time and a country, a novel that talks about the men and women who fought to restore their lands, devastated by the phylloxera plague at the end of the 19th century, and who began the 20th century in a rural world undergoing a complete transformation.

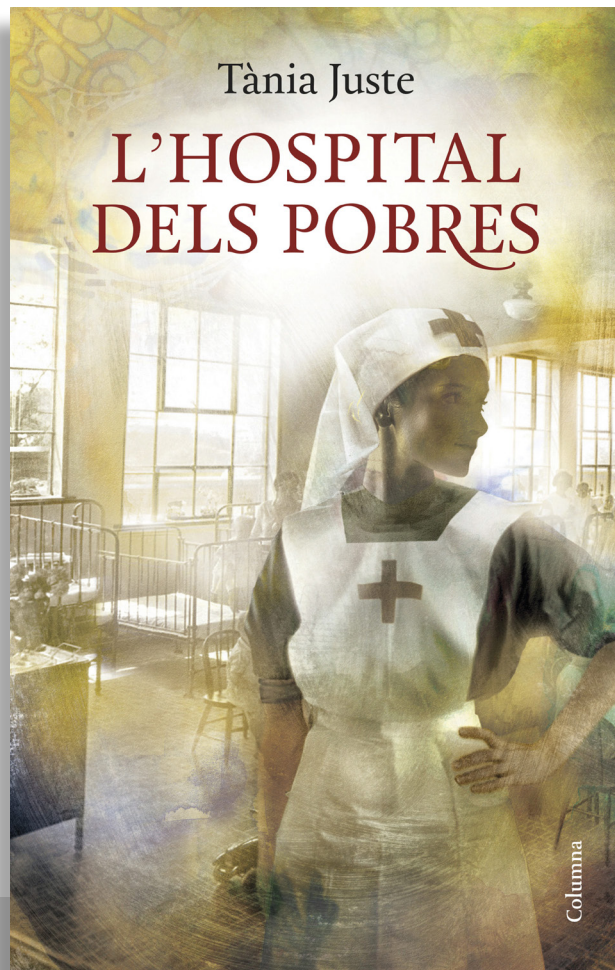
More on **Tània Juste**:

## ***The Hospital of the Poor***

(L'hospital dels pobres)

Columna, 2014 | 333p | 7 ed

#Barcelona\_&\_Modernism #Family\_Saga  
#Historical



A NOVEL ABOUT THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE  
HOSPITAL DE SANT PAU, THE LARGEST MODER-  
NIST COMPOUND OF ALL TIMES.

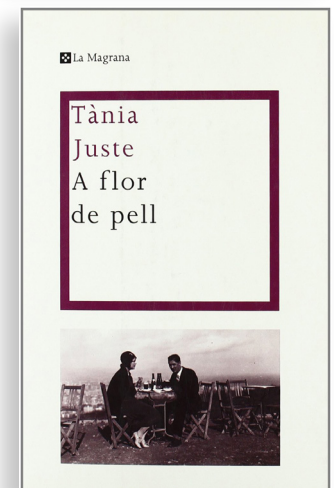
» By the author awarded with the Nèstor  
Luján Award 2015 for Historical Fiction.

» 7 ed in trade & pocket.

Long English  
synopsis &  
sample pages  
available!

Barcelona, the beginning of the twentieth century. Santa Creu Hospital is heaving inside the old medieval city walls that have sheltered it for five centuries.

This is a portrait of a society divided by social class and the story of a love of ideals, a conception of art and a woman who, since she was small, has lived through the construction of some of the greatest modernist gems in the world. The lives of a handful of characters cross over indefectibly and together they make the new hospital for the poor people of the city a reality.





## GEMMA LIENAS



(Barcelona, 1951) is a Catalan writer, feminist and speaker. For about 15 years she has been executive publisher in several houses as well as she has worked in several media, press and radio, and has given lectures all over Spain and Catalonia. Lienas has received several national awards (Ramon Llull Award) and the internationally known Honorable Mention IBBY recognition.

[\(Complete profile of the author here\)](#)

## Cought In the Mirror

(Atrapada al mirall)

Empúries, 2007 | 224p

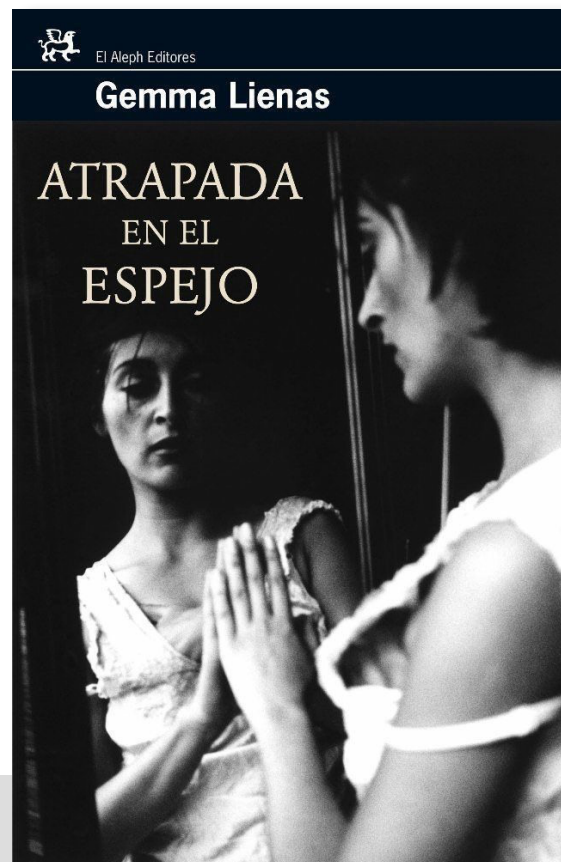
Rights sold:

**Spanish:** El Aleph

#Upmarket\_Women  
#Psychological\_Thriller

“An exciting psychological up-market thriller that catches the reader from the start.

”



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THE LADY OF THE  
CATALAN LITERATURE.

MORE THAN 90 BOOKS  
FOR ADULTS, YOUNG  
ADULTS AND CHILDREN.

TRANSLATED INTO 10  
LANGUAGES.

---

Laura Bellido is a young architect with her own studio, an attractive and friendly husband and a six year old son. She has no financial problems nor any other type, and she seems a happy woman. Nothing suggests that one night, after a romantic dinner to celebrate her success, Laura will end up buckling down the coast of Garraf.

When Gina, her closest friend who lives abroad, receives the news of her death, she has the feeling that something is wrong. This initial intuition takes shape when she settles in Barcelona and looks into the seemingly stable life of her friend. Gina begins to fit the pieces of the true story of her friend Laura.

More on **Gemma Lienas**:

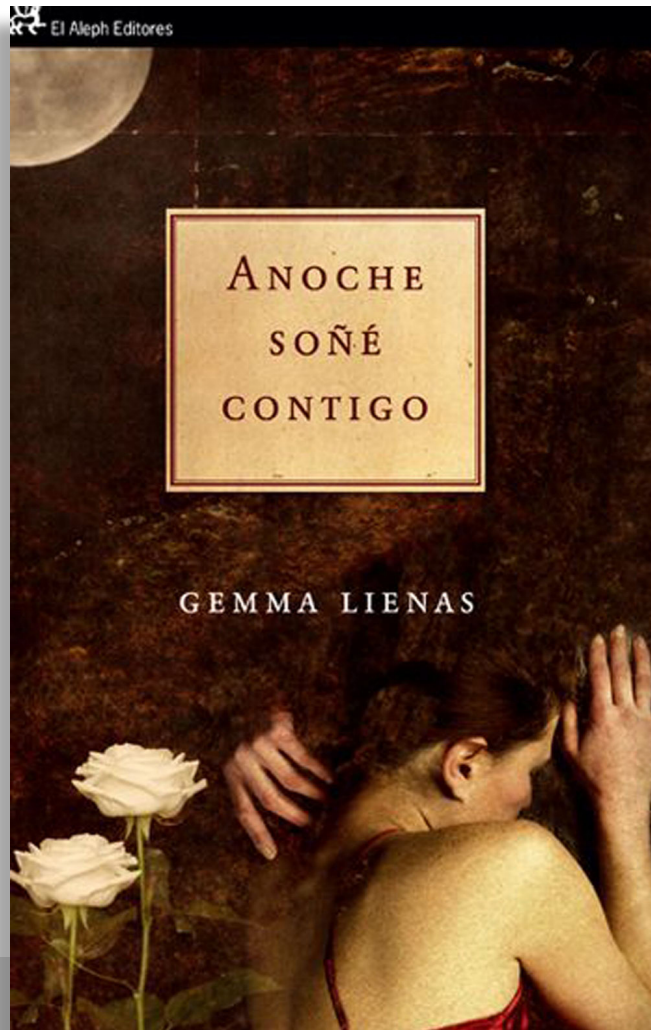
## ***Last Night I Dreamt of You***

(Una nit, un somni)

Columna, 2001 | 568p

Rights sold:

**Spanish:** El Aleph



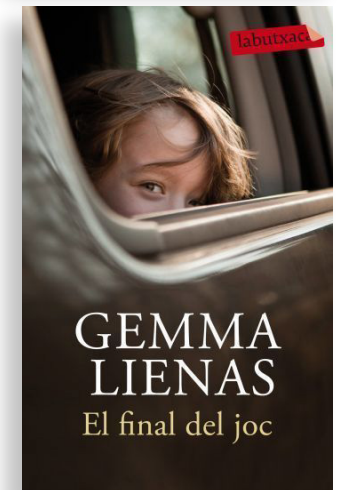
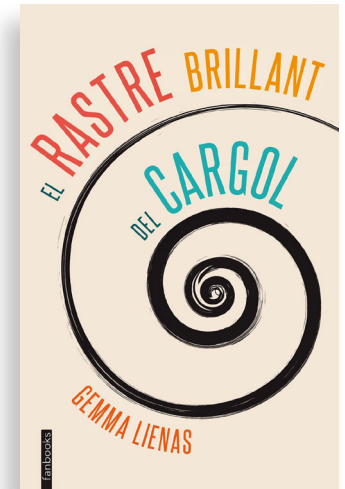
AN UNFORGETTABLE NOVEL ABOUT THE  
DOBLE FEELING OF FEAR AND FASCINA-  
TION WITH INFIDELITY.

#Commercial #Women\_Fiction

- Rights sold -  
Spanish

Olga is a 48-year-old biologist whose dreams are regularly visited by a stranger who turns her on. Mari Loli, 37, works in a supermarket and dreams of being Esmeralda, being a dancer and having a tender and loving man by her side. Olga and Mari Loli live in two very different worlds: the first one comfortably bourgeois; the second one, popular and unassisted.

They only share a song and a suspicion. Both suspect that her husband has fallen in love with another woman.





## JOAN-LLUÍS LLUÍS



(Perpignan, 1963) is a writer and a journalist. He studied Art History at Montpellier University. He has written some non fiction and mainly fiction. In recent years, he has published *Aiguafang*, *Crítica Serra d'Or Award* in 2009, *Xocolata desfeta* (2009), an experimental work of narrative, and the novel *Cròniques d'un déu coix*, winner of the *Lletra d'Or* 2014.

[\(Complete profile of the author here\)](#)

## The Navigator

(El navegant)

Proa, 2016 | 352p | 3 ed

**Crítica Serra d'Or Award  
for the best novel in Catalan in 2016**

#Historical #Literary #Modern\_Fable

“ A personal narrative style that singles the author out from other writers of his generation. ”



English  
sample  
available!

Shortlisted in the international programme  
New Spanish Books, UK panel.

Reading report by Peter Bush (extracts in the  
next page).

### El Periódico:

“ONE OF THE THREE OR FOUR MOST VALUABLE  
BOOKS IN CATALAN FICTION THIS YEAR”.

COMPARED TO PATRICK SÜSKIND, ZOLA, ALBERT  
SÁNCHEZ PIÑOL, MONTAIGNE, JULES VERNE OR  
CALVINO.

Assiscle Xatot is born in Perpinyà in 1852 with a very special ability: a gift that allows him to acquire any language as soon as he hears a single word. Xatot is involved in the riots of the Paris Commune and is deported to New Caledonia, where he will be adopted by an indigenous clan and named his particular storyteller.

Following the patterns of picaresque and adventure novels, Joan-Lluís Lluís brings into question the survival of languages, what's evil, ambition, servility, colonialism, ideals betrayed, fate, chance, what is 'wild' and what is 'civilization'... all through a precise and beautiful language and an absorbent and fast-paced rhythm.

Among the most classic adventure and the literary genre, a particular trip of a young Catalan with a unique talent.

## ON *EL NAVEGANT*



Proa, 2016 | 352p  
3 ed  
Crítica Serra d'Or  
Award for the best  
novel in Catalan in  
2016

### PRAISES

**El Periódico** - « As in *Perfume* by Patrick Süskind, the superpower of Assiscle is useful to travel through history. [...] Joan-Lluís Lluís uses a **beautiful and precise language**»

**La Vanguardia** - « A **fast-paced** and **absorbing** reading.»

**Diari Ara** - « The novel is a **tribute to the picaresque** novels. [...] *El navegant* highlights the virtues of the genre: narrative agility, surprises, sense of humor and the self-learning of the main character.»

**Culturas LV** - « A meditation on language, culture and knowledge, [...] *El Navegant* deals with the philosophical narrative adventure with a branch of Italo **Calvino**, another **Montaigne's** essays and one of Robinson Crusoe. [...] Compared to **Sánchez Piñol**.»

**Nosaltresllegim.com** - « Chapters describing the living conditions of prisoners are worthy of **Zola**. [...] We are in front of a **very good adventure story that is much more than that.**»

**El Periódico** « One of the three or four **most valuable books in Catalan fiction this year.**»

### FROM THE READING REPORT (PETER BUSH), UK PANNEL

«*The Navigator* is an original, well written novel with a style of its own that hooks the reader. Although it is a historical adventure novel, its perspective is contemporary and thought-provoking.

[...] well-constructed and very readable.

[...] an **original adventure novel** that also highlights the riches that all languages possess.

[...] **extremely convincing.**

[...] The author introduces the theme of linguistic diversity and reflects on **the phenomenon of world languages without becoming pedantic.**

[...] In terms of style, **the novel recalls Zola's** (especially in the pages relating the agitated months Assiscle spends in Paris), **and also Jules Verne.** »



## SALVADOR MACIP



(Blanes, Girona, 1970) has a doctorate in Medicine from the Universitat de Barcelona. He is a researcher and a writer. He moved to New York in 1998 to work as a researcher of molecular bases of cancer at the Mount Sinai Hospital. Since 2008, he continues his research at the University of Leicester (UK), where he directs the group of cell death mechanisms and is a professor of the Biochemistry Department.

Salvador Macip has published several books, both for adult readers and children.

[\(Complete profile of the author here\)](#)

## *The Limits of Life*

(Els límits de la vida)

La Galera, 2014 | 250p

Rights sold

**Spanish:** La Galera

**Germany:** Hanser Verlag

**Italian:** Salani

“ A fascinating journey through the main ideas of biology and, at the same time, a story of love and survival full of amusing and surprising scientific anecdotes. ”



- LOS LÍMITES DE LA VIDA -



Una novela sobre qué somos



BUENO MACIP MARTORELL



#Crossover  
#Biology  
#Life\_Is\_Beautiful

SOPHIE'S WORLD BY J.  
GAARDNER EXPLAINED  
PHILOSOPHY.

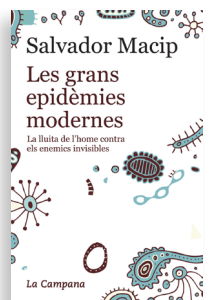
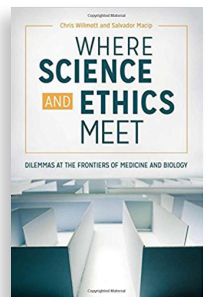
THE DOOR OF THE THREE  
LOCKS BY SONIA F. VIDAL  
EXPLAINED QUANTUM  
PHYSICS.

ELS LÍMITS DE LA VIDA, NOW,  
EXPLAINS BIOLOGY, WHAT  
WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO  
HERE.

**A novel that explains the concept of life. A novel about biology.**

Lara is not even fifteen and she does not care about anything anymore. She's between life and death. An outbreak of her illness has left her in the UVI, alone, to spend a night that can be decisive. But in the room there is also Carmen, a doctor she does not know and who begins to explain a fascinating story: the story of life itself.

» Non fiction  
titles on p [30](#)







(Barcelona, 1959) is a writer, flute player and translator. A very well-known Catalan writer especially among children and YA. He has won many different awards for his adult novels as Marian Vayreda Award for *El meu cor cap a tu per sempre* or Roc Boronat Award for *Setembre a Perugia*. *Melissa & Nicole*, his latest work, has received the Prudenci Bertrana Award, one of the most prestigious in Catalan language.

[\(Complete profile of the author here\)](#)

## Melissa & Nicole

Columna

Prudenci Bertrana Award, 2017

To be released in November

#Stolen\_Baby #Baltic\_Landscape  
#Parental\_Love #Family

“

The jury **voted unanimously** Melissa & Nicole as the best novel !

”

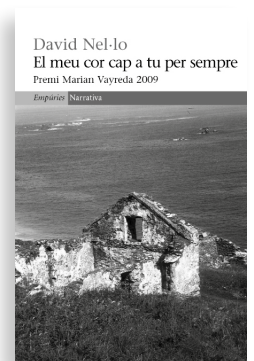


MELISSA & NICOLE IS AN EXCEPTIONAL NOVEL THAT SHOWS THE LIMITS WE ARE WILLING TO CROSS TO MAKE HAPPY THE ONES WE LOVE.

The Callahans and the Vinyalses will casually meet on a small island in the Baltic Sea on the eve of the summer solstice. The two families are visiting the small island of Fårö, a few kilometers from the Swedish island of Gotland. The Callahan s and the Vinyalses walk with the Swedish cars they have rented. They do not know that they are on the same island or that they are about to meet.

So what unites them? All and nothing. The daughter of the Callahans, Melissa, is very American. Nicole Vinyals, on the other hand, is the perfect young Parisian girl.

And yet, after the fortuitous encounter, the events will happen in a very brief period of few days and will shake completely the existence of two families that would not have wanted to meet again.



## BEL OLID



(Mataró, 1977) is writer, translator, university professor and feminist to the bone. She presided the Conseil Européen des Associations de Traducteurs Littéraires (CEATL) and since March 2015 she is the president of the association of Catalan writers. She writes both for adult in fiction and non fiction, and for children.

[\(Complete profile of the author here\)](#)

## Wilder Winds

(Vents més salvatges)

Empúries, 2016 | 224p

Sample stories  
in English

“*Brave and brilliant, Olid’s narrative never shies away from conflict, be it intimate or collective. This is the most defining trait of Bel Olid’s literature.*”



## SHORT STORIES

#Literary  
#Sharp

### La Vanguardia

«Deeply thought, well crafted and written with agility.»

### Marta Rojals

«Bel can explain the most terrible things in the most beautiful way.»

### Ricard Ruiz

«Urban, direct, transgressive, unafraid of being politically incorrect.»

The search for beauty without sacrificing truth, or the other way around: The short stories that make up *Vents més salvatges* are about individual freedoms, the abuse of power, the social machinery of violence, the life that beats at the margins of society, the unavoidable differences and also about those small acts of kindness that help to change the world and make it a better place to live.

More on Olid:



-Non fiction  
titles on [p33](#)



## JOSEP M. QUINTANA



(Menorca, 1950) has a Law degree and a PhD in Catalan Philology from the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona. He has always combined essay writing with literary creation, and notable among his adventure novels are *Els Nikolaidis* and *Els herois de la nit*, both set in the imaginary world of the island of Pregonda. *Els Clark*, his latest novel, goes back to the saga of Nikolaidis to the early twenties.

[\(Complete profile of the author here\)](#)

## *The Nikolaidis* (Els Nikolaidis)

Proa, 2006 | 464 p

Rights sold

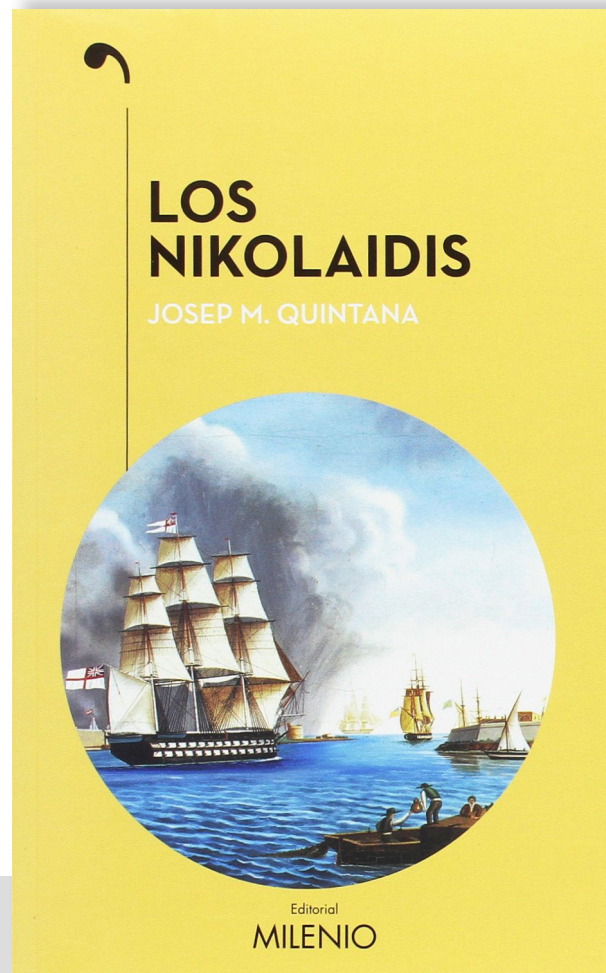
**Spanish:** Milenio,

**Greek:** Lagudera

5 ed in Catalan

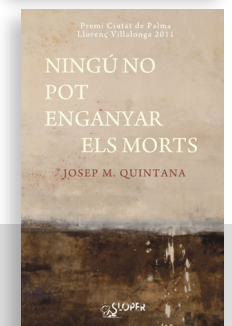
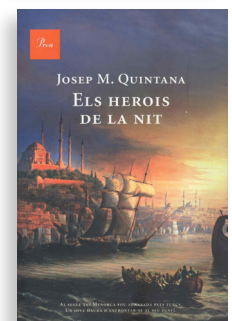
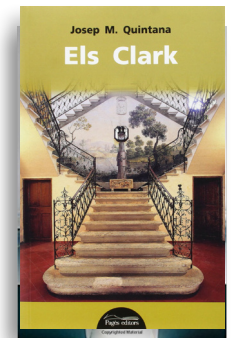
3 ed in Spanish

#Historical #Adventures #Menorca  
#Family\_Saga



**El País :**  
“ It is in these personages, above all, where resides the excellence of this novel, which manages to be perfect in the rhythm, in the descriptions and in the explanations of commerce, juridical and political relationships of the time. [...] *The Nikolaidis* are not the Buddenbrooks, but perhaps they would have been good hosts if the latest had wanted to visit Menorca sometime. ”

The history of a family of Greek sailors and traders that moves to Mahón, the capital of Minorca, under the protection of legislation from the ruling British government. With ambition and tenacity they manage to survive all the political changes and to position themselves at the centre of the economic, social and political relationships of the increasingly powerful mercantile bourgeoisie of Maó, which was experiencing the apex of its European and cosmopolitan aspirations.





## SEBASTIÀ ROIG



(Figueres, Girona, 1965) is a journalist and a contributor for different media outlets. He is also a fan of fantasy films. He has written about comic books, several science fiction novels and a study about horror and fantasy in Catalunya at the beginning of the 20th century.

[\(Complete profile of the author here\)](#)

## Narcís Monturiol and the Stones of Hell

(Narcís Monturioli les pedres de l'infern)

Story: Sebastià Roig / Illustrator: Toni Benages

Males Herbes, 2017 | To be released

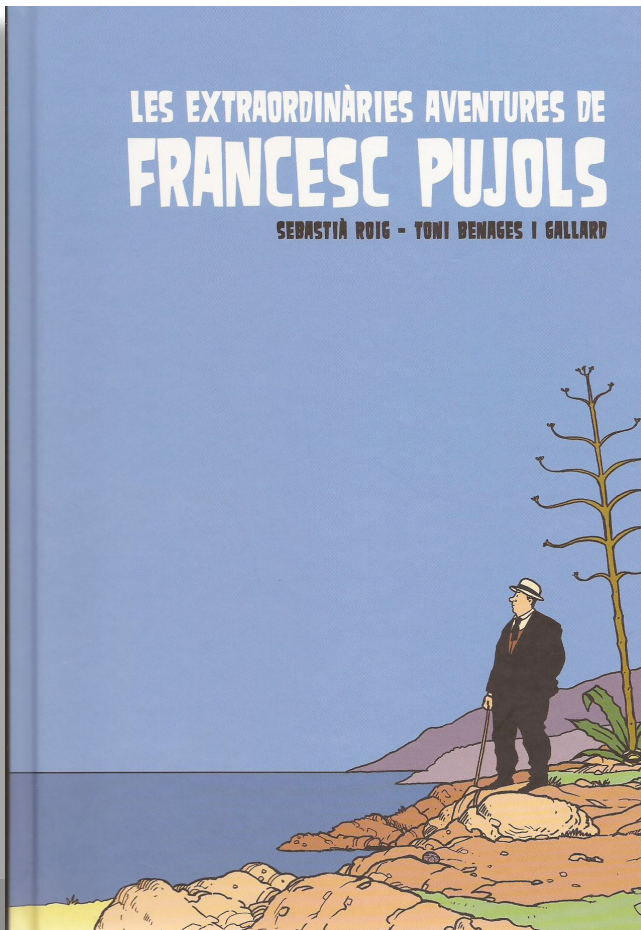
### GRAPHIC NOVEL

July 1855. Narcís Monturiol, the future creator of the Ictineo submarine, has just arrived at the village of Cadaques and finds a very crisp atmosphere: some fishermen have disappeared without leaving a trace. The people of the town blame Sabana, whom they accuse of practicing witchcraft. Monturiol will gather a small team: Congre, a simple and forced fisherman; Diri, the son of one of the disappeared; and Sabana, who wants to prove her innocence. Meanwhile, a secret guerrilla of the British army, reinforced by the mental powers of a Hindu faquir, illegally extracts Nautilium, a prodigious mineral that by applying it to military and weapons uses, may subjugate the rest of the nations of the planet.





## GRAPHIC NOVEL



#DALÍ\_&\_PICASSO  
#SURREALISM  
#SCIENCE\_FICTION

Catalunya, early last century. It was a strange place, populated by creatures as extravagant as poets, Cubists painters, witches or aliens. In this environment of progress, rapture and paranormal phenomena, a wise man of talent and incomparable grace, known to all by the name of Francesc Pujols, solves the most bizarre cases.

In his adventures he will be accompanied by some illustrious friends, including J. V. Foix and Fages de Climent. that her husband has fallen in love with another woman.





## J.N. SANTAULÀLIA



(Banyoles, 1955) is a philologist, writer, poet, essayist, novelist and translator. His first publication was a book of poems, *Memòria de la carn*. He worked as a Catalan teacher and also as a tutor at Aula d'Acollida, this is language lessons and resources for non-Catalan speaking students. In 2008-2009 academic year was Catalan reader at the University of Massachusetts (UMASS). He has won several awards, including the **prize of the Serra d'Or** Critics Award for *Bulbs* or the **Columna Award** for *Ulls d'aigua*.

[\(Complete profile of the author here\)](#)

## Red Sand

(La sorra vermella)

Proa, 2017 | 419p  
3 ed

#Commercial\_Upmarket #Historical

“

*A novel about courage and instinct, love and friendship, that imposes to the tragedy of the war and the later misery.*

”

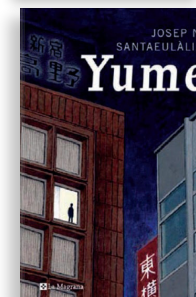
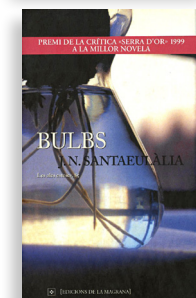


AT THE TOP IN  
THE CATALAN  
BEST SELLER  
LISTS!

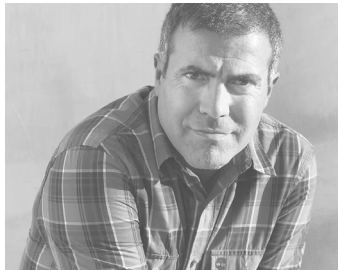
**August Rafanell** - "AN EXCEPTIONAL OUTSTANDING WORK [...]. FOR ME, ONE OF THE BEST WAR NOVELS EVER WRITTEN."

In December 1941, shortly after the end of the war, two anarchist friends, Pedro and Quilis, return clandestinely to Barcelona from French exile in search of a young girl, daughter of the first and a girl shot a few days before by Franco's troops, Núria. What happened to the girl? How will they find her? Who will help them in that scared and oppressed Barcelona? And once they have her, how will they get all out of Spain?

Aside from this central story, other lives populate this truthful and emotional novel: Englishwoman Margaret of the British Consulate, Madrid Communist Rómulo, widow Yvonne, owner of a sawmill at the feet of the Canigó... flesh and blood unforgettable.



## FRANCESC SERÉS



(Saidí, 1972) is the author of works including novels and the successful short-story collection *Contes russos* (*Russian Stories*, 2009). His books have been **translated into several languages** and he has been **awarded major literary prizes**, notable among them, what is probably Catalonia's most prestigious cultural award, the 2007 National Culture Prize.

[\(Complete profile of the author here\)](#)

## *The Skin of The Frontier*

(La pell de la frontera)

Quaderns Crema, 2014 | 320p

Rights sold

**Spanish:** Acantilado

**Arabic:** Sefsafa

#Narrative #Non\_Fiction #Literary

#Social\_Chronicle

“ The heroes of this story talk about how the world has changed though they're not sure whether this world, caressed or clawed, is theirs. ”



THE AUTHOR WAS AWARDED WITH CATALONIA'S MOST PRESTIGIOUS CULTURAL AWARD, THE NATIONAL CULTURE PRIZE.

**La Vanguardia** - «His best book»

**El País** - «The most solid contribution any Catalan writer has ever made to the non-fiction genre.»

**El Mundo** - «One of the most important books to appear in recent times.»

**El Periódico** - «Don't miss this book.»

The old paths of the Baix Cinca and Segrià regions are lost and new ones have opened up, running through Europe and Africa to reach Romania and Ukraine, Mali, Senegal, Cameroon, China and India. Directions and distances are so different that maps are no longer useful. Neither are stories the same. Men write their endings while inevitably erasing their beginnings. There is room for everyone on the skin of the frontier, for people from outside and inside, men with their heads held high, men with downcast eyes, men who come to stay and men who want to stay but never manage to arrive.

More on **Francesc Serés**:

***Russian Stories*** (Contes russos)

Quaderns Crema, 2009 | 224p | 3 ed

Rights sold:

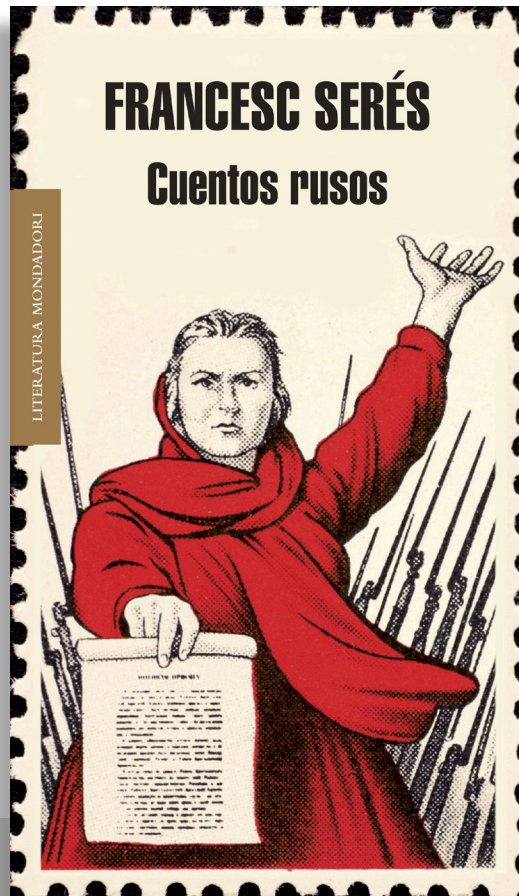
**Spanish:** Mondadori

**English:** Maclehose Press

**French:** Éditions Jacqueline Chambon

**Italian:** Guanda

**Arabic:** Sefsafa Publishing



SHORT\_STORIES

#Literary\_Tradition #Upmarket #Russia

**CITY OF BARCELONA PRIZE, 2009**  
**CRITICS' PRIZE, 2009**

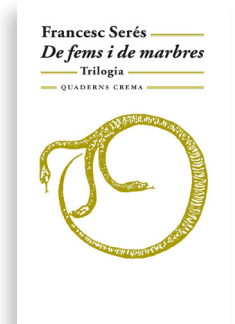
**Caràcters:** «An excellent collection of twenty-one short stories drawing on different traditions and, once again, bringing to light the timeless themes of universal literature.»

**El Mundo:** «I have no hesitation in highly recommending this book.

**Avui:** «A work in the finest literary tradition.»

These short stories cover a period that extends from the XIX century, through to the era of low-cost airlines, from recreating traditional folk tales to portraying Russia's difficult relationship the twenty-first century.

These stories speak of Russia from within Russia, far from trends that seek to turn this place into a no-place, or to dilute the individual and people as a whole in liquid societies.





TINA VALLÈS



(Barcelona, 1976). Writer, translator and proofreader. Co-editor of the digital magazine for short stories *Paper de Vidre*. Founding member of APTIC, a professional association of translators and interpreters in Catalunya. She is a powerful literary voice who publishes books for adults and she also writes stories for children.

[\(Complete profile of the author here\)](#)

## *The Memory of the Tree* (La memòria de l'arbre)

Anagrama, 2017 | 218p | 2 ed

Rights sold:

**Spanish:** Anagrama

**French:** Philippe Rey

#Contemporary #Literary #Unique\_Voice

“ A little upmarket gem. ”  
the jury



English sample  
available

ANAGRAMA LLIBRES PRIZE!

*THE CURIOUS INCIDENT OF THE DOG IN THE NIGHT-TIME* MEETS *THE BOY IN THE STRIPED PYJAMAS*.

A MAGICAL AND DEEPLY MOVING STORY SUPERBLY REALISED, THAT STAYS WITH YOU LONG AFTER YOU REACH THE END OF THE STORY.

THE PORTRAYAL OF THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN GRANDFATHER, GRANDSON AND THE LOSS OF MEMORY.

*La memòria de l'arbre* is a marvellous and tender story told by a kid of 8 years old about his grandfather and the extraordinary person he sees in him.

The precise moments that are being told are of a big change in this kid life: his grandparents are coming to live with him at his place, in the big city. They will leave the house in the little village behind them, to live with their daughter, brother in law and grandson.

What should be a moment of joy and happiness, it will become, as the kid will find out, a moment of distress and sadness.

## ON *LA MEMÒRIA DE L'ARBRE*



Anagrama, 2017 |  
218p | 2 ed  
Rights sold:  
**Spanish:** Anagrama  
**French:** Philippe Rey

**L'Avenç** - «If in *La memòria de l'arbre* we are not exactly in front of the adolescent skatz that applied Mark **Twain** in *Huckleberry Finn* and J.D. **Salinger** in *The Catcher In the Rye*, little is lacking.»

**La Razón** - «Impressive existential everyday life. [...] The return to **simple and direct** writing.»

**El Matí de Catalunya Ràdio, Màrius Serra** - «Delicious ... A novel as **sensitive as a haiku**. Contained and full of emotional content.»

**Núvol, Bernat Puigtobella** - «As slowly unwrapping a gift [...]. *La memòria de l'arbre* is a book that can give **very good surprises**.»

**Ara, Eva Piquer** - «A **delicate** delicious novel.»

**Ara, Toni Puntí** - «Go ahead and read.»

**Vilaweb, Joan Josep Isern** - «I know what book to recommend it Sant Jordi: *La memòria de l'arbre* ... Memorable.»

**Vilaweb, Assumpció Maresma** - «Its sensitivity and tenderness are **born of a mind structured and precise**.»

**Nació Digital, Esteve Plantada** - «An example of how **overwhelming can be delicacy**. Take this book [...] and you'll understand what substance is memory made of.»

**Ara, Pere Antoni Pons** - «A remarkable **domain of dramatic irony**. [...] The prose is clean, airy and carefully purged of kitsch.»

**Diari de Mallorca, Biel Mesquida** - «200 **pages that read like a party**. [...] A writer full of **verbal freshness**.»

**Sonograma** - «A captivating work. [...] Avoiding the dramatic language, refusing sentimentality. The book is a literary **jewel**.»

**El País, Ponç Puigdevall** - «Vallès has expressed **deep silence of the intimate nature of everyday life**. Commitment in favor of the simple beauty without dark sides.»

**L'espolsada (bookshop)** - «A beautiful book that everyone should definitely read.»

More on **Tina Vallès**:

## **The Longest Pause**

(El parèntesi més llarg)

Proa, 2013 | 192p

**Short Fiction Mercè Rodoreda Award, 2012**

Rights sold:

**Spanish:** Godall Edicions

SHORT STORIES  
#Literary #Barcelona#Raval



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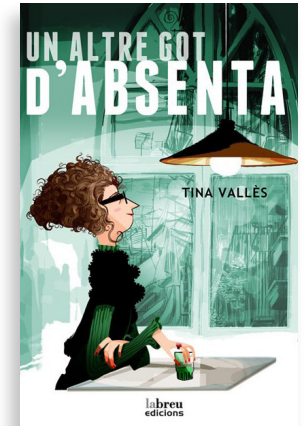
*Situated in a contemporary, urban environment like Barcelona today these 17 stories by Tina Vallès are both a solid and surprising offering.*

---

**La Vanguardia:** «Three different worlds describe the stories of this book. One: the elderly alone, eccentric and sad, but energetic enough to recover after each bump. Two: the mothers who do not want to be what or who they really are, because they do not want to give up the life they had before. Three: couples that don't understand each other and they feel disgust by being together.»

Going to give birth and then not wanting to. Getting excited at a funeral. Writing a story about the Civil War with a naked woman asleep on top of you. Never finishing the shopping list. These seventeen stories offer situations that are day-to-day, unreal, comical and emotional and have a tone that moves between biting irony and intimate revelation. Tina Vallès is a storyteller with a great talent for observation, capable of detecting unlikely daily events and capturing secret emotion, and this she does talking to the reader with a seductive simplicity.

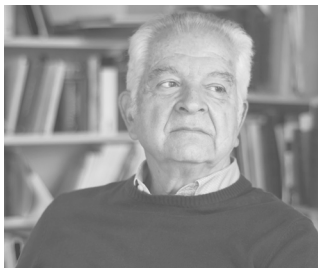
El parèntesi més llarg is a book of stories and also a book of pauses, grateful escapes, moments of truce that generate changes.



# *Non Fiction*



## BORJA DE RIQUER



(Barcelona, 1945) is a Professor of Contemporary History at the university (UAB) and specialist in political Catalanism and francoism. He collaborated in the series *Història de Catalunya*, directed by **Pierre Vilar**, and has directed various collective works. He has been distinguished as "Renowned Researcher" by the Generalitat de Catalunya and in 2017 with the highest recognition of the Catalan Government, Creu Sant Jordi, 2017.

[\(Complete profile of the author here\)](#)

## *The Franco dictatorship. Spanish History, vol IX*

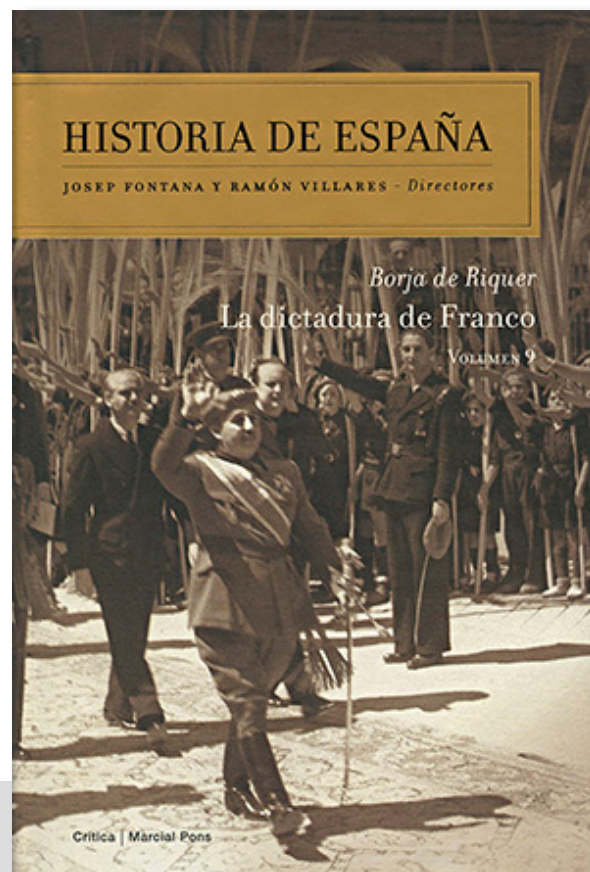
(La dictadura de Franco)

Crítica, 2010 | 976p

#Politics #History #Reference  
#Francoism\_Naked

“De Riquer has achieved a global view that will become, without a doubt, the indispensable reference book for anyone who wants to know this time in the history of Spain.”

”



**El País** - «The whole book is linked by an invisible thread, a coherent narrative, that wisely combines all the relevant elements of the historical reality of Francoism. [...] Unlike other works, the reader can read the pages dedicated to economic evolution and link with those dedicated to political dynamics, without having the feeling of reading independent works.»

**El Imparcial** - «We are in front of a very serious proposal, which encourages debate and discussion and which is called to be a work of inescapable reference.»

**Cuadernos de historia de España** - «One of the strongest point of the text is its relevance, its validity as a tool not only to understand the past but to understand the present. Supported by a strong study, this work takes on a fundamental importance in reflecting on the particularities of anti-Francoism and the importance of the presence of a constant opposition, not always effective, to allow the permanence of the democratic ideal in the Spanish imaginary.»

The dictatorship of General Franco was the most enduring of the regimes that governed Spain in the twentieth century. Hence the need to go beyond the debates about their origins and nature to consider in all their complexity the realities of a long period of repression and resistance, initial misery and economic development, political immobility and progressive wear of the system. Borja de Riquer has carried out an ambitious overall vision that deals with politics, economic evolution, social change or culture, in a synthesis that incorporates a series of testimonies unknown until now: internal reports of the organizations of the regime, memories of the protagonists, etc.



More on **Borja de Riquer**:

## **Alfonso XIII and Cambó**

(Alfons XIII i Cambó)

RBA, 2013 | 249p

#Politics

#History

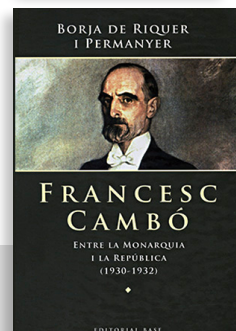
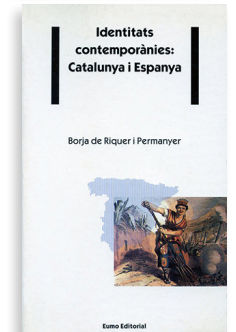
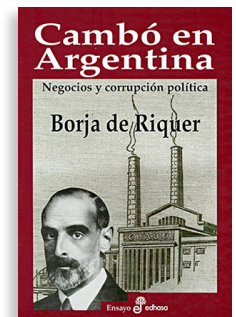
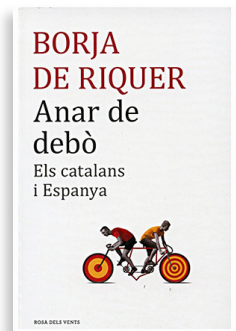
#Light\_&\_Shadows



*About The Spanish Monarchy and the political Catalanism. A clear parallelism can be done with those times and the present in Spain.*

**Revista de Letras:** «Riquer brings light to something ignored: There was a moment when Catalanism, which was defined as posibilist, was monarchical by interest, because it valued the figure of the sovereign as an ideal bridge to cross proposals that would advance towards the state decentralization and the progress of Catalonia as an engine of progress for Spain.»

*Alfonso XIII i Cambó* is an approximation to the complex political relations that these two figures (and what they represented, the monarchy and the political Catalan, respectively) arrived to establish throughout the first three decades of century XX. In this book Borja de Riquer analyzes, in the light of new or little known documentation, the unique links that existed between that peculiar monarch and the most daring leader of a movement that was perceived by the Spanish public opinion of the time as a worrying political novelty.



## SALVADOR MACIP



(Blanes, Girona, 1970) has a doctorate in Medicine from the Universitat de Barcelona. He is a researcher and a writer. He moved to New York in 1998 to work as a researcher of molecular bases of cancer at the Mount Sinai Hospital. Since 2008, he continues his research at the University of Leicester (UK), where he directs the group of cell death mechanisms and is a professor of the Biochemistry Department. Salvador Macip has published several books, both for adult readers and children.

[\(Complete profile of the author here\)](#)

## 100 Questions on Cancer (2018)

(100 preguntes sobre el càncer)

Coauthor: Daniel Closa

Cossetània, 2018

Rights sold

**Spanish:** Kailas (2018)

“Is not, in any case, a guide of advice on how to act when someone suffers cancer. In these cases, the only recommendation to give is “pay attention to your doctor”.

”



## THE ANSWER TO POPULAR DAY-TO-DAY QUESTIONS ON CANCER.

#Popular\_Science #Divulgestion

Spanish  
sample &  
proposal  
available!

Everyone has heard of cancer. Unfortunately, it is such a frequent disease that, in one way or another, it has certainly touched us close. The best way to deal with cancer is to understand what it is and why it happens. This book wants to answer a number of questions about cancer that many people have surely made. It is not intended to be an exhaustive manual, but to serve as a reference to both patients and relatives who want to know more about the disease, and also anyone who is curious to better understand one of the most complex biological puzzles that exist.

» Fiction titles  
on [p.15](#)



More on **Salvador Macip**:

## **Where Science and Ethics Meet**

(Jugar a ser déus. Els dilemes morals de la ciència)

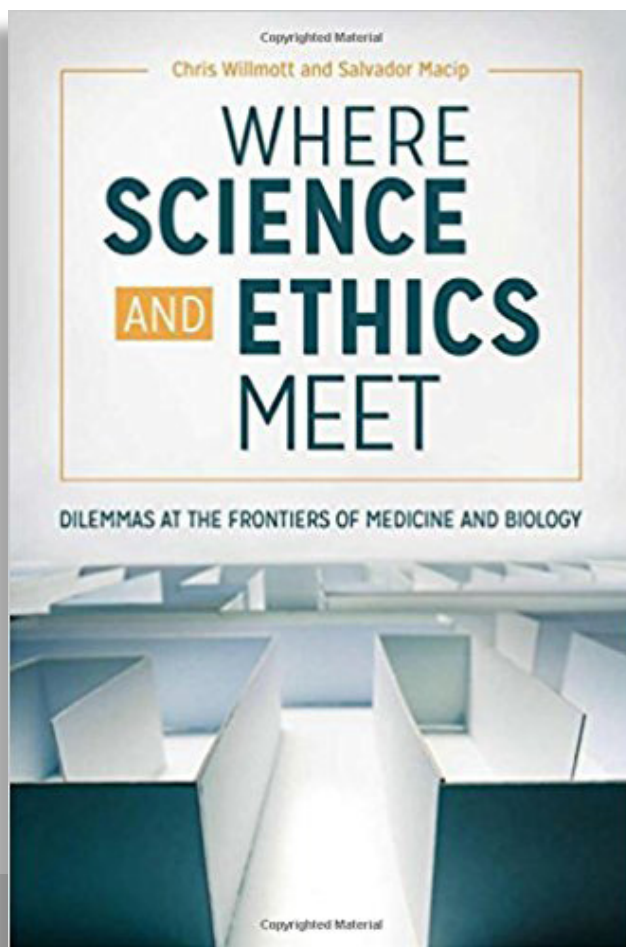
Coauthor: Chris Willmott

Bromera, 2014 | 276p

Rights sold:

**Spanish:** PUV

**English:** Praeger



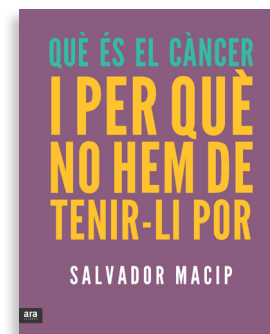
#Science #Current\_Events #Divulagation

### **EUROPEAN AWARD FOR GENERAL POPULAR SCIENCE STUDY, 2013**

*“Only those who can understand the moral and social relevance of new scientific advances can partake in the debate and help to decide which path humanity should take in the future.”*

Nowadays, the advances in biology and biomedicine move forward at a frenetic pace. It is important, however, to be able to identify the reality that hides behind the exaggeration which often comes along with these scientific innovations, such as prolonging our life expectancy beyond one-hundred years; the cloning of human beings; regenerative medicine; genetic manipulation...

It is also important to take into account the impact of these innovations upon society to be able to decide if we are willing to pay the price of the benefits that they offer. If we are not careful, the fabulous gifts that science promises can have a very high price.





## ADAM MARTÍN



(Tossa de Mar, Girona, 1973), writer & journalist. He works for the Catalan media since 1992 on radio and TV programs. He has lately been working on healthy food and a balanced diet. Hence his latest published titles are related to this issue.

[\(Complete profile of the author here\)](#)

## Be Flexi

(Cuina flexi)

Cossetània, 2017 | 144p

Rights sold

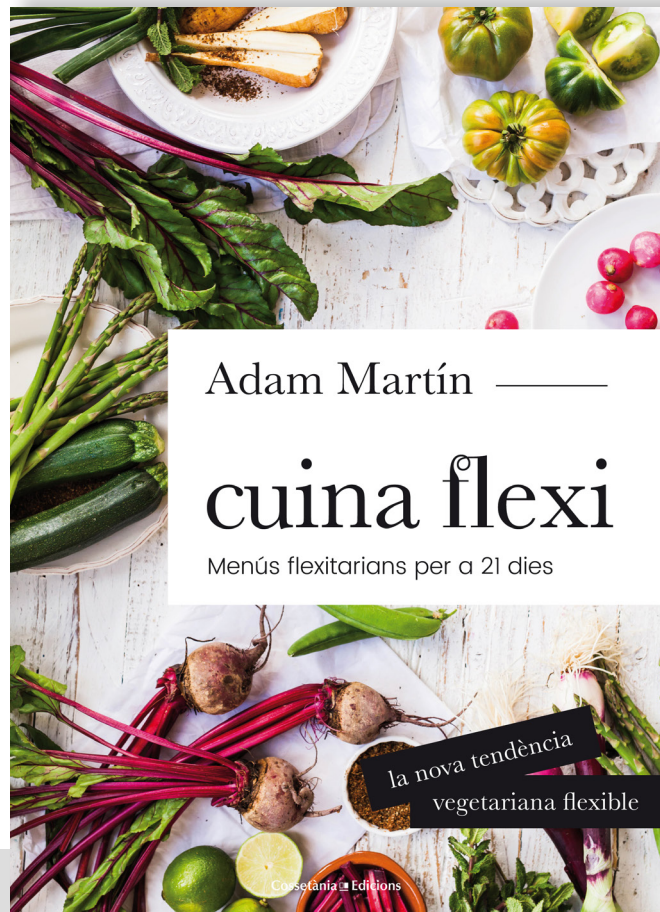
**Spanish:** Llectio

**Portuguese:** Objetiva / Penguin Random House

#Cookery

#New\_Health\_Trend

#Life\_Style



“

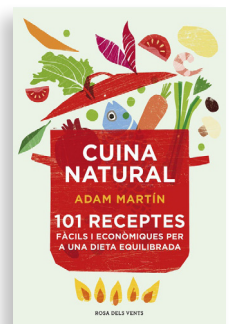
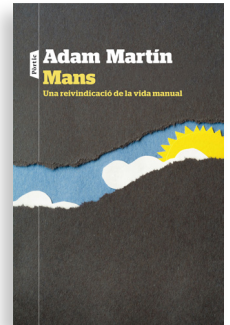
**Adam Martín:**

It's thought that within a few years there will be an increase [of flexies] of the 50% worldwide. The reason is clear: flexitarianism provides a balanced and healthy diet without having to suffer for being strict vegetarians.

”

THE NEW FLEXIBLE  
VEGETARIAN TREND.  
80 RECIPES FOR 21 DAYS OF  
FULL FLEXI MENUS.

**Flexitarianism** is a lifestyle that provides all the benefits of a vegetarian diet, without needing to totally eliminate the consumption of meat, fish or other animal protein. In this book, full of pictures, you will find 80 delicious recipes to cover a full daily menu (breakfast, lunch and dinner) for a 21 days menu: 3 weeks is what doctors say is the minimum to apprehend a habit.



## BEL OLID



(Mataró, 1977) is writer, translator, university professor and feminist to the bone. She presided the Conseil Européen des Associations de Traducteurs Littéraires (CEATL) and since March 2015 she is the president of the association of Catalan writers. She writes both for adult in fiction and non fiction, and for children.

[\(Complete profile of the author here\)](#)

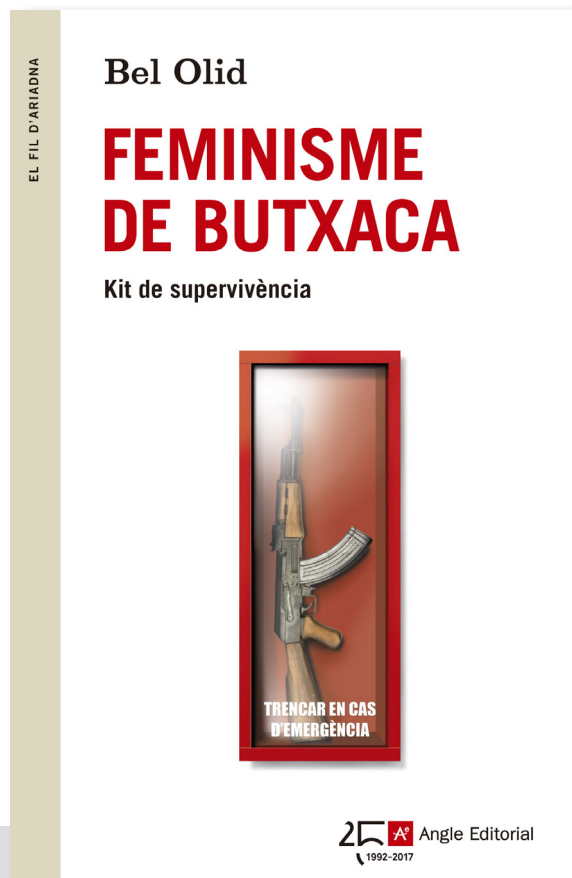
## Pocket Feminism

(Feminisme de butxaca)

Angle Editorial, 2017 | 128p | 2 ed

#Feminism  
#Activist\_Voice  
#Survival\_Kit

Spanish  
sample  
available



BRAVE AND BRILLIANT AUTHOR. THE MOST DEFINING FEATURE OF HER LITERATURE IS THAT SHE NEVER FLEES CONFLICT, EITHER INTIMATE OR COLLECTIVE.

“

My fantasy is a tommy gun. When I go down the street and a stranger tells me something: tommy gun. When the on duty politician makes the on duty sexist comment: tommy gun. When the bishop explains in the newspapers how is that we don't want to be raped, if we ask for free and affordable abortion: tommy gun. When in school it is valued to infinity that the father of the creatures attend the meetings, but it is assumed the attendance of mothers: tommy gun. When I get kicked out of work because I'm pregnant: tommy gun. When they tell me not to be exalted, that there is no such thing: tommy gun. It might seem like a violent fantasy, but it is not; it's a fantasy of self-defense.

”

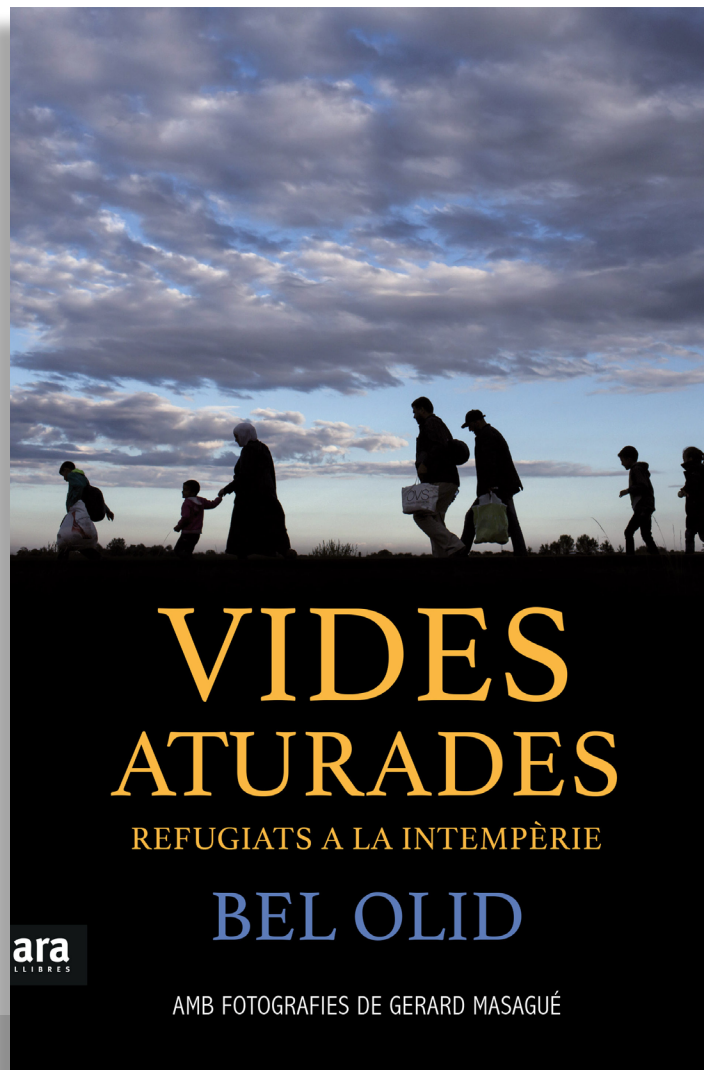
Pocket Feminism is a Survival Kit. Today, feminism is more alive and more necessary than ever because discrimination against women has become more subtle and difficult to detect but keeps its paralyzing power. Bel Olid faces this reality by explaining the key concepts of the current feminist struggle in an intelligent, radical and sometimes surprising way.

More on **Bel Olid**:

## **Standstill Lives** (Vides aturades)

Coauthor Gerard Masagué

Ara Llibres, 2017 | 145p



#Current\_Events

#Activist\_Voice

THE BOOK BRINGS US A STRIKING  
REALITY AND FORCES US TO TAKE  
PART: IF WE DO NOTHING, WE  
SHALL BECOME ACCOMPLICES.

In one year 5,000 people drowned in the Mediterranean while trying to reach Europe. But how life is like for those arriving? Bel Olid bluntly exposes the collection of shame and humiliation that suffer this collective of hundreds of thousands of people scaping from war and poverty. Seeking refuge in a Europe that systematically stops them and condemn them to a death sentence to the sea or to a subhuman life in inhospitable refugee camps.

Witness in first person to approach us the daily life of this tragedy that has names, personal stories very similar to ours that deserve to be heard.

» Fiction titles on [p17](#)





## JAUME SUBIRANA



(Barcelona, 1963) is one of the most outstanding poets and essayists of his generation. He has published prose and poetry, as well as books about Barcelona and Catalunya and on the subject of Catalan literature. He has also edited a recognized series of anthologies. He has been a guest at literary festivals in Europe and America and at several international workshops on poetic translation. His poems are included in several anthologies that have been translated into German, Spanish, French, Italian, Russian and Chinese.

[\(Complete profile of the author here\)](#)

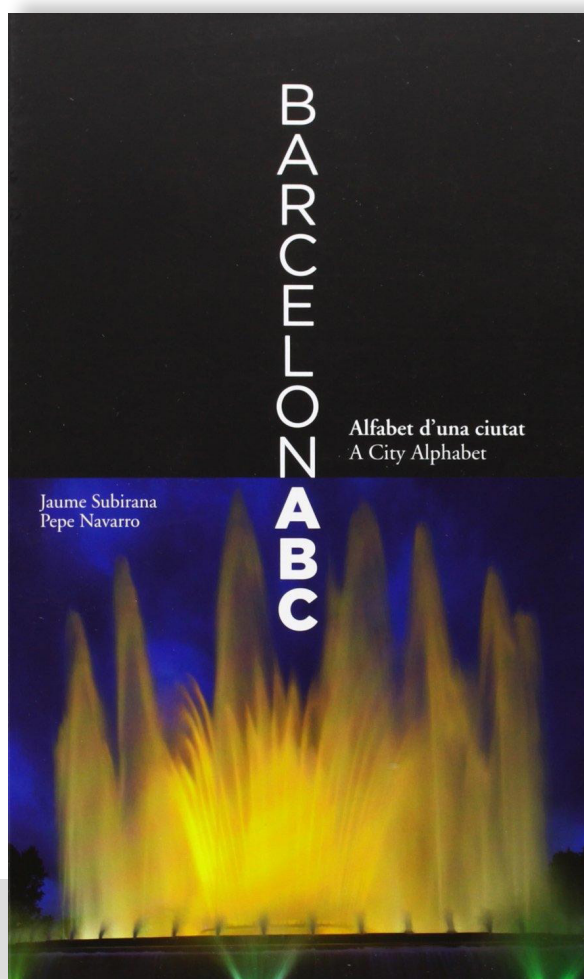
## Barcelona ABC

Publ. l'Ajuntament de Barcelona, 2013 | 272p

Rights sold:

**English:** Publ. de l'Ajuntament de Barcelona

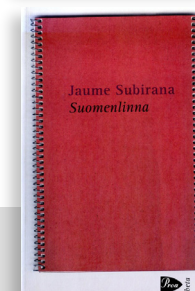
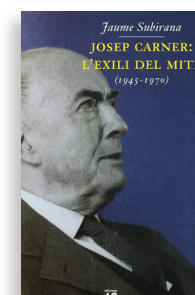
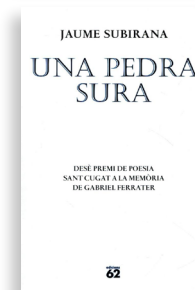
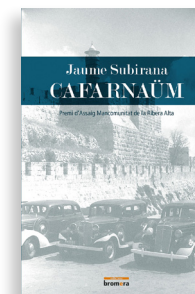
“ A literary A-Z companion to BCN travelers. **Tourism for non-tourists.** ”



#Literary #Travel\_Companion  
#Barcelona\_A-Z

*A City Alphabet that brings together all the characteristic elements which define the capital of Catalonia.*

One of the keys to Barcelona's success as a tourist destination is its wide range of quality attractions that appeal to all kinds of publics with differing motivations and interests. This book has been designed to help visitors make the most of their stay in the city. *BarcelonABC. A City Alphabet* goes further, bringing together all the characteristic elements which define the capital of Catalonia and which need to be known. It is a good, well-structured letter of introduction of the city and will be of interest not only to general visitors, but also to the people who live here all year round or tourists that intend to settle for a while in the city.



# Author's List

*Juan Ramón Barat*  
*Joan Carreras*  
*Jordi Cervera*  
*Jordi Coca*  
*Jordi de Manuel*  
*Borja de Riquer*  
*Tània Juste*  
*Sylvia Lagarda-Mata*  
*Gemma Lienas*  
*Joan-Lluís Lluís*  
*Salvador Macip*  
*Adam Martín*  
*David Nel·lo*  
*Josep N. Santaeulàlia*  
*Bel Olid*  
*Vicent Partal*  
*Josep M. Quintana*  
*Sebastià Roig*  
*Francesc Serés*  
*Jaume Subirana*  
*Tina Vallès*



# On *Translation* Grants

## PURPOSE

Translation of the following types of original Catalan-language works:

- a) Literature (fiction, poetry, theatre and graphic novels)
- b) Philosophy (non-fiction and humanities)

## BENEFICIARIES

These grants are available to public and private, Spanish and foreign publishers, natural persons and legal entities that are planning to translate works of Catalan literature and philosophy into other languages during the year the application process takes place or the following year and have acquired, to this effect, the rights to publish the work in print format and distribute it commercially.

## CONTACT

Any questions regarding the application submission procedure and/or documentation that must accompany the application should be addressed to:



-Julià Florit (jflorit@llull.cat)

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# Who we are?

Asterisc Agents is born from the infatigable curiosity of two agents who have wanted to create a different kind of meeting place for authors and their literary agents.

Young, dynamic and innovative in spirit, Asterisc Agents wants to modernise the model of literary representation as it's been known up until now with a carefully selected list of authors, a hand-picked international catalogues, and a complementary idea, the Asterics Lab, a resource centre for creators, editors as well as professional associations. With a wealth of experience in the trade and a passion for books, Asterisc Agents proposes to maintain its own particular flavour.

## Awards to our Authors

### **Prudenci Bertrana Award** - Fiction

*Melissa & Nicole* (David Nel·lo, Columna)

### **Crítica Serra d'Or Award**, best novel 2016 - Fiction

*El Navegant* (Joan-Lluís Lluís, Proa)

### **Anagrama de Novel·la Award** - Fiction

*La memòria de l'arbre* (Tina Vallès, Anagrama).

### **Mancomunitat de la Ribera Alta Award** - Non Fiction

*Cafarnaüm* (Jaume Subirana, Bromera)

### **Apel·les Mestres Award** - Picture Books

*Viure amb la Hilda* (Bel Olid & Mercè Canals, Estrella Polar)

### **Ramon Muntaner Award** - YA

*Herba Negra* (Salvador Macip & Ricard Ruiz, Fanbooks)



asterisc: symbol similar to a little star used in written texts to draw the reader's attention.

ASTERISC AGENTS  
WAS OFFICIALLY LAUNCHED  
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