

HOTLIST FRANKFURT 2012

FICTION AND
NON-FICTION

AUTHORS

Elia Barceló	S. 3
Jorge Bucay	S. 4/5/6
Francisco González Ledesma ...	S. 7/8
César Mallorqui	S. 9
Javier Márquez Sánchez	S. 10/11
Hans Waal	S. 12
REPRESENTED AUTHORS, PUBLISHERS AND AGENTS	S. 13/14



**ELIA
BARCELÓ**

Elia Barceló (Alicante, 1957) is a professor of Hispanic Studies at Innsbruck University in Austria. She has published several adult novels like *Sacred*, *The World of Yarek* (International UPC Prize), *Natural Consequences* which has earned her the title “Dame of Spanish Science-Fiction”, *The Flight of the Hipogryph*, *The Goldsmith's Secret*, *Terrible Disguises* and *The long Shadows*. Furthermore, she is the author of a book on the archetypes of terror in Julio Cortázar's short stories (*The Disturbing Familiarity*) and of nearly thirty crime and short stories which have been published in Spain and abroad. In her books, she combines realistic with fantasy elements in a very original way. Since 1997, Elia Barceló has been very successful with her books for young adults, like *The Case of the Cruel Artist* (Edebé Award 1997) and *The Warehouse of the Terrible Words*. Her latest young adult titles are *Cordeluna* (Edebé Award 2007) and *The Knights of Malta*.



Anima Mundi - Hijos del Clan Rojo (Children of the Red Clan), Thriller/YA, Trilogy Part 1, manuscript 390 pages

Spain (Planeta)

Netherlands (Querido)

For hundreds of years, the Children of the Clans have been living amongst us, barely noticed: Genetic mutations of the evolution line of the humans. They call themselves karah. Karah consider themselves superior and call human beings haito. They use them and they despise them. But now, slowly, they are dying out. So a few of them decide to use a human to give birth to what they call a “nexus”, able to open the door to another reality, their original reality, and to enable their own salvation. But in their arrogance, through the past centuries they have forgotten how to establish contact with their creators - and now they need to collect the widely spread information, from karah as well as from haito. And they go hunting for it...

For eighteen-year-old Lena and her friend Clara this fact will change everything. While Clara rushes headlong into a dangerous love affair with a karah, Lena gets kidnapped by Sombra, a foggy creature that serves the clans and shall prepare Lena for an obscure task in the future. The young women and the people around them will find themselves involved in a complex and dangerous plot full of mysteries that will take Lena on a wild trip around the world. She will have to confront evil beings and constant threat. She will experience love and friendship, betrayal and death. She will find answers to fundamental questions and, finally, discover herself. But will she be able to save the world?

World Rights available (except Spanish and Dutch)



**JORGE
BUCAJ**

Jorge Bucay was born in Buenos Aires in 1949. He graduated with a degree in medicine at the University of Buenos Aires and specialized in psychiatry. He has been working as a psychotherapist and is exercising a therapeutic lectureship based on his theories. In 1989, Bucay published his first book *Cartas para Claudia* (Editorial del Nuevo Extremo) followed by *Recuentos para Demián* (1994, Spanish title: *Déjame que te cuente...*), *Cuentos para pensar* (1997) and *Amarse con los ojos abiertos* (2000). His books have been on the bestselling lists in Mexico, Uruguay, Chile, Costa Rica, Venezuela, Puerto Rico and Spain - with millions of copies sold. They have been translated and published in US, UK, the Netherlands, Germany, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Finland, France, Italy, Corea, Hungary, Brazil and many other countries.

DE LA AUTOESTIMA AL EGOISMO, non-fiction, 130 pp.

This book offers an invitation to reflect upon the original meanings of self-esteem and egoism and about the possible distance between the “ideal Me” and the “real Me”. Encouraging tales from all over the world influence the reader during his unique odyssey of personal discovery and will help him to develop his personality.

Sold to: Russia (AST), Bulgaria (Hermes)

EL CAMINO DE LA AUTODEPENDENCIA, non-fiction, 120 pp.

A self-help guide to find the personal path of realization. Based upon the recognition that there is no real independence and that dependency prevents our personal development, Bucay suggests a mode of self-dependence that acknowledges the acceptance of personal responsibility for life decisions and actions.

Sold to: Russia (AST), Hungary (Europa), Greece (Opera)

JORGE BUCAY

EL CAMINO DEL ENCUENTRO, non-fiction, 169 pp.

A self-help guide to elucidate the personal capacity of reciprocating love. From friendship, attraction, sex and sharing everyday life, Bucay develops the different concepts of love and marriage, clarifying common myths and ideas in a provocative manner.

Sold to: Russia (AST), Greece (Opera)

EL CAMINO DE LAS LÁGRIMAS, non-fiction, 124 pp.

A self-help guide to cope with the loss of a loved one, either by separation or death. The author expands upon the different phases of mourning and defines this process as a paramount symbol for personal growth. According to Bucay, the passionate pursuit of these goals can generate the foundation for a positive life attitude. It is one of Bucay's most charismatic and helpful books, as proofed by plenty of readers' feedback.

Sold to: Russia (AST), Bulgaria (Hermes), Greece (Opera)

EL CAMINO DE LA FELICIDAD, non-fiction, 112 pp.

A self-help guide to find the complex and perishable state of happiness. Happiness, according to Bucay, is not achieved though by having fun every minute in life, but by the comforting feeling of being on the “right track that brings us closer to happiness and contentment with every challenge that we overcome.”

Sold to: Russia (AST), Bulgaria (Hermes), Greece (Opera)

EL CAMINO DE LA SABIDURÍA (aka SHIMRITI), non-fiction, 173 pp.

A self-help guide to activate our innate acumen based on the imaginary train trip taken by the protagonist Shimriti. With each station she learns more about herself and understands that her main responsibility is not outwardly oriented, but needs to be directed inwards to illuminate her life with her own light.

Sold to: Russia (AST), Greece (Opera)

JORGE BUCAY

20 PASOS HACIA ADELANTE, non-fiction, 126 pp.

A self-help guide to liberate ourselves from conditional limitations. With this systematic invitation the reader is encouraged to face new challenges that he once believed impossible to handle and experiences his personal growth in a stepwise manner. A very practical book, perhaps the most guidelike book Bucay has ever written.

Sold to: Russia (AST), Hungary (Europa), Croatia (Fraktura)

LAS 3 PREGUNTAS, non-fiction, 388 pp.

During our route to happiness we inevitably have to face some existential questions. The three most important ones are: Who am I? Where do I go? And together with whom? In our quest for honest answers, the author guides us one-by-one and reinforces our personality. In his book, Bucay offers an essence of the three first books of the Caminos series. If possible, it should therefore not be published before the three first Caminos.

Sold to: Germany (S. Fischer), Netherlands (A.W. Bruna), Bulgaria (Hermes), Russia (AST)

EL CAMINO DE LA ESPIRITUALIDAD, non-fiction, 223 pp.

An invitation to explore our spiritual connection with the essence of our being, free of prejudices, possession and dependency. As in the other "Caminos", this last challenge is not understood as a destination to reach but as a route we can decide to choose.

Sold to: Germany (S. Fischer), Greece (Opera)



**FRANCISCO
GONZÁLEZ
LEDESMA**

Francisco González Ledesma (Barcelona, 1927) was born in Pueblo Seco, a proletarian neighbourhood located on the side of Montjuic mountain in Barcelona. He started writing at the age of twelve. With the money he "earned" from writing comic book scripts for his uncle, Francisco put himself through law school which he completed in 1950. He continued to write and started to study journalism. Even though he received the Roda Ventura Award as a young jurist, recognizing him as the lawyer with the greatest moral credibility in Catalonia, his quarrels with the Franco regime would partly undermine his calling as a jurist. In 1948, when he was barely twenty-one years old and facing countless obligations, Francisco submitted an entry for the International Novel Award, founded by the editor José Janés. He won the award that was granted by a jury including Somerset Maugham and Walter Starkie. However, his novel was not published in Spain as Franco's censors denounced the author a pornographer and a communist. Ledesma then worked for the Bruguera publishing company. Bruguera published popular Action-, Western-, and Crime-Novels and Ledesma became Silver Kane, a pseudonym under which he published one Western novel every week. As a Crime novelist, he would become the author of roughly four hundred books. When the New Press Law took effect, González Ledesma started at El Correo Catalán and would eventually become editor-in-chief of La Vanguardia. In 1983, he was a finalist for the Blasco Ibáñez Award with Expediente Barcelona his first novel featuring Inspector Méndez, a man who acts against the current, who doesn't believe neither in law nor in the goodness of all human beings. But he does believe in justice and tries to stay a humanist. Méndez and the city of Barcelona constitute the center of what could be considered a poetic, rather than solely thematic, work. The Streets of our Fathers, The Lady from Cashmere, Story of God in a Corner, Sin or something alike and A Neighbourhood Novel, winner of the first RBA International Crime Novel Award in 2007, are the other titles in the Méndez series.

**FRANCISCO
GONZÁLEZ
LEDESMA**

Una novela de barrio (A Neighbourhood Novel), novel, RBA Libros, 297 pages

Una novela de barrio is a story of revenge. After robbing a bank in the seventies, two thieves kill a hostage, a young boy, when they flee. The novel begins in present-day Barcelona, when one of the robbers (Omedes) is murdered. Knowing he will be targeted next, the other thief (Erasmus) tries to get ahead of the game by murdering the man who must be the avenger: David Miralles, the father of the boy killed during the bank robbery. This generates an inexorable spiral of violence. Méndez, a one-of-a-kind, semi-retired cop favoring rather unorthodox methods, intervenes decisively to solve the case. Narrated in a concise, agile, and fluid style, and featuring an ample display of resources, particularly a cauterizing humor, this is a brilliantly written crime novel with all of the ingredients of that genre. Through the use of short sentences and swift paragraph changes, effective dialogues and highly accurate descriptions, the author immerses us in a solid, well-rounded plot that grabs the reader on page one and never lets up. The novel has rhythm and pulse, alternating between moments of action and lucid reflection. The profiles of the characters are drawn with the skill and precision of a surgeon. The narrative has strength and exudes wit and sensitivity. The Barcelona that it describes is yet another character of the novel. Méndez is streetwise, smart, expert, ironic and disbelieving, a man who's seen it all and lives with one foot in the past and the other in the present. He is the philosopher who knows that he has no future, and that his world, the only world he knows, is doomed, perhaps fortunately, to disappear. In a brilliant ending, the novel leads us to its resolution, where one last surprise awaits us, an unexpected turn.

Sold to: Germany (Lübbe), Italy (Neri Pozza Editore), Portugal (Pergaminho - Arte Plural)

Dutch and Scandinavian rights available



**CÉSAR
MALLORQUÍ**

César Mallorquí was born in Barcelona in 1953. Due to his father, a well known writer, his connection with literature started in his childhood and soon he published his first short story in a magazine. He studied journalism at the Madrid Complutense University and started to work at the national radio station SER. From 1981 to 1991 he worked for several advertising agencies as a creative until he followed his true calling, writing literature, at the age of thirty-eight. Ever since, he hasn't stopped publishing and obtained the most important literary prizes, such as the Premio Alberto Magno, the Premio UPC, the Premio Gilgamesh, the Premio Edebé and the Premio Gran Angular.

La isla de Bowen (Bowen's Island), novel, Edebé, 512 pp., Premio Edebé 2012

A beautiful homage to the adventure novels of the late nineteenth century, *La isla de Bowen* fits well into a steampunk collection or into any literary catalogue. In 1920, the discovery of a pure titanium relic in the crypt of the medieval British monk Saint Bowen encourages the eccentric Professor Zarco to organize an expedition to the Scandinavian archipelago of Svalbard. The scientific society, however, urges Zarco to accept two passengers, Lady Elisabeth Faraday and her daughter Katherine. Mother and daughter are planning to find their husband and father John Foggart, an archaeologist who has disappeared in the archipelago leaving some cryptical and encoded references to Saint Bowen's biography. The expedition ship crosses the Arctic ice merely avoiding to be attacked by the ship of the Armenian baron, Aleksander Ardán Charybdis, who is also very keen on the titanium relic. Arriving in Svalbard, Zarco discovers the ruins of a huge city underground, in a cave where he also finds evidence that Foggart spent the winter there. But finally the trail leads to another island where the crew has to face something not even Professor Zarco is prepared for: an army of aliens, mechanical monsters with metallic stings and a tentacular robot that captures Katherine and the crew's photographer.

German, Dutch and Scandinavian rights available



**JAVIER
MÁRQUEZ
SÁNCHEZ**

Javier Márquez Sánchez is a journalist and a writer. Grown up with John Ford, Woody Allen and the Folk-Rock of the sixties, books and movies have been fundamental for his education. As a journalist, he has been working for the radio and print, currently as an assistant director of the Spanish weekly *Cambio 16*. Javier is a regular contributor to *Esquire Magazine*, *La Aventura de la Historia* and the musical encyclopedia *Canciones de Oro*. He has published twenty short stories and several Non-Fiction books: *Paul Simon & Art Garfunkel. Negociaciones y canciones de amor* (Milenio, 2004), *Rat Pack. Viviendo a su manera* (Almuzara, 2006) and *Elvis. Corazón solitario* (Almuzara, 2007). *La fête du Monsieur Orphée* is his first novel. It is very much influenced by the author's nostalgia for the British terror movies of the sixties, all kinds of detective novels and, last but not least, a Genuine passion for the cinema.

La fête du Monsieur Orphée, novel, Almuzara, 384 pages

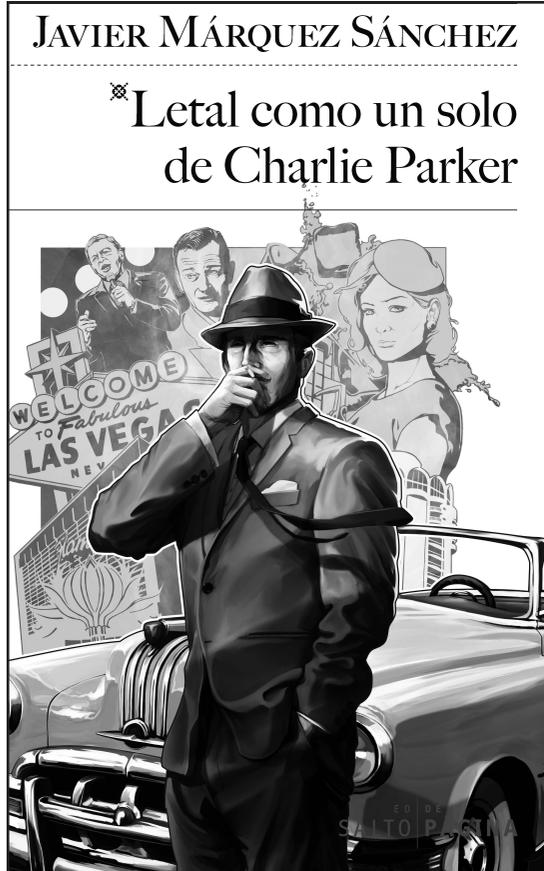
An homage to the colorful sixties movies and to the charismatic actor Peter Cushing, *La fête du Monsieur Orphée* blends horror-, detective- and thriller genres into a killingly funny piece of literature that centers around four male and one female protagonists who all share the same obsession for a movie that the devil himself has produced in the early years of cinema, backstage in Los Angeles, in 1921: *La fête du Monsieur Orphée*, a movie that kills everybody who has watched it and that brings out the worst in people, a movie created in order to destroy mankind and to help the devil conquer the world! In a funnily dialogued and thrilling plot, the actor Peter Cushing and his friends Professor Arthur Aberline and Andrew Carmichael, an inspector of Scotland Yard, will track down the movie in the castle of the evil Lord Sherrinford Meinster, an influential businessman, obsessed with the idea of proving his loyalty to the devil. As an agent provocateur, Dr. Marianne Pearson, assistant to Professor Aberline, a beautiful, clever and longlegged brunette, hovers between the two main powers in the game, represented by Lord Meinster on the one hand and Professor Aberline, Andre Carmichael and Peter Cushing on the other. A tremendously funny and breathtaking read, full of clever allusions and unexpected twists, with a cinematographic air surrounding all the characters and locations. And not naively so, but playfully combining the reader's expectations with his experience as a spectator of movies, offering a joyful reading experience that takes us back into the times when we all watched Peter Cushing on TV, secretly.

A dantesque crime, a great detective, an actor who is studying how to be scary and a devilish movie that drives people to kill. A really extraordinary mystery novel - Jerónimo Tristante

Sold to: Italy (Gargoyle Books), Germany (Walde+Graf)

World rights

JAVIER
MÁRQUEZ
SANCHEZ



Letal como un solo de Charlie Parker (Lethal as Charlie Parker), novel, Salto de Página, 268 pp.

Situated in Las Vegas, in the context of the Mafia and the Showbiz in the late fifties, Lethal as Charlie Parker tells the story of a hero, the problemsolver Eddie Bennett. Eddie has to find out the true circumstances of the cruel murder of a young actress that are connected to the CIA, the Mafia and the US Army. Plenty of real characters, actors, singers and songwriters, and real places crowd the pages of this tribute to Noir, with plenty of hints to the Hollywood movies and the classics of the genre. Javier Márquez has investigated the background very thoroughly and offers a colourful and vivid picture of the glory days of Rat Pack, Sinatra, Monroe and Kennedy.

Sold to: Germany (Walde + Graf)

World rights



**HANS
WAAL**

Hans Waal (alias), born in 1968 in Leipzig, has received his education as a journalist in the prestigious Henri Nannen Schule in Hamburg, since 1990 he has been working as a journalist, since 1996 as a reporter for one of the leading German News magazines, „Stern“. His journalistic work has been shortlisted for the Egon-Erwin-Kisch-Preis. His focus is German history and Eastern Germany. Hans Waal is living in Leipzig where he is currently working on his second novel.

Die Nachhut (The Rearguard), novel, Plöttner, 331 pages

They come out of a shelter like ghosts from the past: Four Nazi officials who survived World War II below ground, on a territory that the Russian troops used as an exercise area. They are old, one of them is sitting in an improvised wheel chair and they believe the war is not over. Everything they see and hear is fit into their wartimes scheme, with the Russian enemy and the Allies invading their homeland Germany. Imagine their reactions. Soon they turn into a media phenomenon, with journalists following them on their trip to Berlin, the Reichshauptstadt, and new Nazis worshipping them. Until they finally arrive and the story comes to a surprising end. A chaplinesque satire with fantastic characters and hilarious dialogues, a surprise success in Germany throughout 2008.

Sold to: Spain (Lengua de Trapo)

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