

FDE PRESS

2024 Catalogue



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Fum d'Estampa Press, 2024

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MARCH

Jacint Verdaguer, *Atlantis*, tr. Ronald Puppo

MAY

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JULY

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SEPTEMBER

Adrià Pujol, *Barcelona Picadura*, tr. Douglas Suttle

NOVEMBER

Ventura Ametller, *Resta Kaotica*, tr. Douglas Suttle

LAURA ALCOBA

THROUGH THE FOREST

Translated from French by Martin Munro

Griselda is the mother of three children, two boys and one girl. On a winter day in the mid-1980s, while exiled in France, she drowned her two sons in the bathtub. After a lapse of more than thirty years, the narrator tracks down the survivors of this family tragedy. She delves into their story in an attempt to approach these barely credible events, and ends up – in the depths of darkness – getting a glimpse of love and life. Laura Alcoba’s subtle, gentle writing accurately captures her characters’ humanity, without any overwrought sentiment, nor emphasis, in spite of the horrific facts. We feel the presence of beings resonating without, however, anyone ever being able to unlock the mystery of Griselda’s act – even Griselda herself.

“The delicacy and intelligence shown by Laura Alcoba to tell or, more exactly, to try to understand the ins and outs of the double infanticide which took place in an apartment of Argentinian exiles that she herself frequented as a child, make *Through the Forest* an even more exceptional book.”

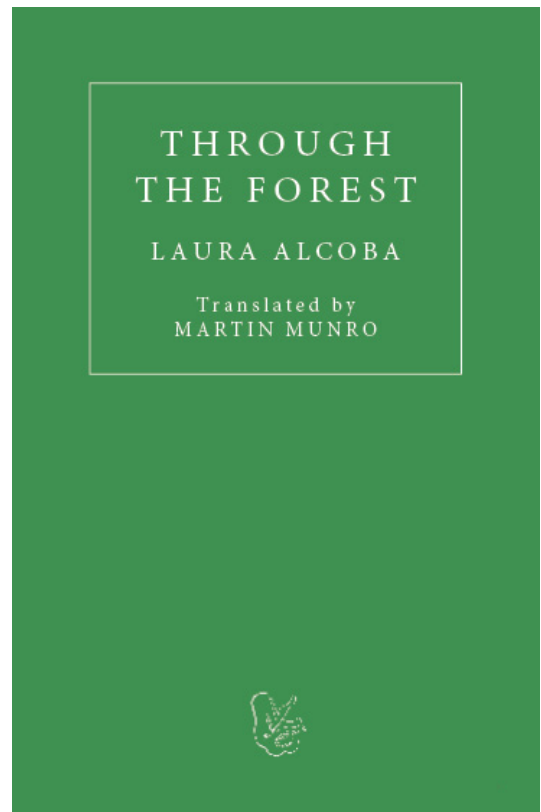
—*Le Monde*

“This is Laura Alcoba’s power: to open breaches, to write and to be silent in order to tell the unspeakable, the exile, the infanticide, the silence, and at the end of the night, love and desire remain anyway.”

—AOC

LAURA ALCOBA (1968) is a writer, translator and editor, as well as being a professor at the University of Paris X Nanterre, where she specialises in Spanish Golden Age literature.

MARTIN MUNRO is Winthrop-King Professor of French and Francophone Studies and director of the Winthrop-King Institute for Contemporary French and Francophone Studies at Florida State University. He has translated several works by Michaël Ferrier.



THROUGH
THE FOREST

LAURA ALCOBA

Translated by
MARTIN MUNRO



Fiction

January

B-format Paperback, flapped

155pp

978-1-913744-43-4

World Rights

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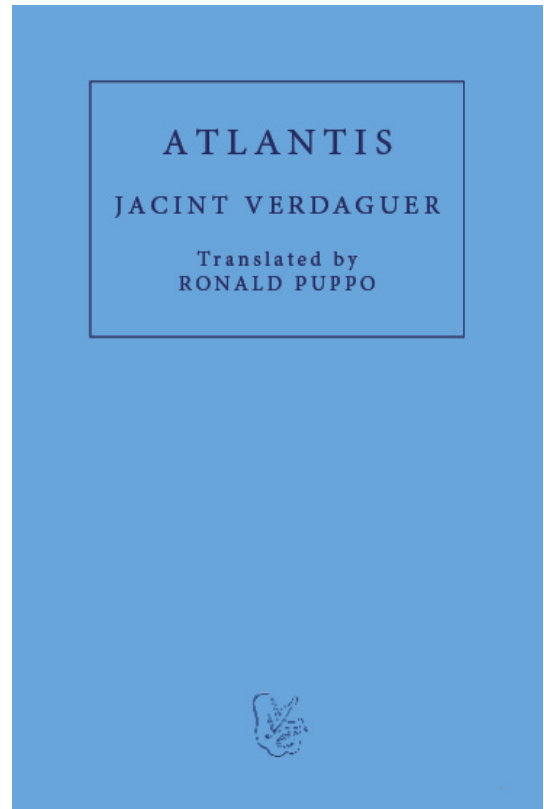
JACINT VERDAGUER

ATLANTIS

Translated from Catalan by Ronald Puppo

Atlantis is a majestic, epic poem and a lasting jewel of Catalan literary tradition. With a colossal architecture and a descriptive power that creates memorable passages of prodigious beauty - the vision of the garden of the Hesperides and the dream of Queen Isabel are just some examples - this poem was the winner of the Jocs Florals in 1877, the forging work of the modern Catalan literary language, and earned Verdaguer literary recognition in and outside of Catalonia.

Today, it remains an essential book in the personal library of every good reader.



Poetry

March

B-format Paperback, flapped

455pp

978-1-913744-25-0

World Rights

£14.99

JACINT VERDAGUER (1845-1902) was a Catalan writer. He was regarded as one of the greatest poets of Catalan literature and was a prominent literary figure of the Renaixença.

RONALD PUPPO has taught translation and English studies since 1994 and published articles and reviews appearing in many journals. His book *One Day of Life is Life* (Fum d'Estampa Press, 2020) won the 2021 Ramon Llull Foundation Translation Award.

SUSANNA RAFART

CHRYSALIS. PASTORAL IN B MINOR

Translated from Catalan by Megan Berkobien and
María Cristina Hall

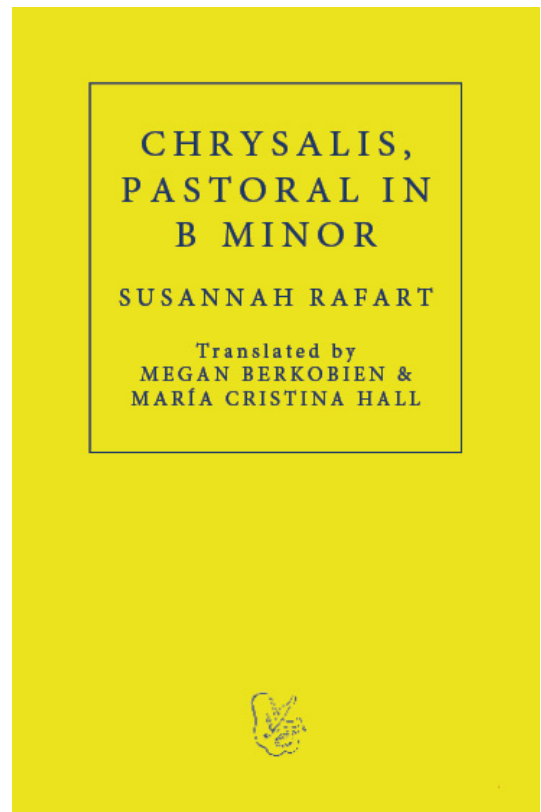
A plague of Asian wasps endangers the production of honey in a neighbourhood in the middle of the Dordogne. On a sweltering summer day, someone arrives to make an environmental report and finds a fragile microclimate on the verge of collapse.

An elderly couple, Emma and Olivier, welcome some young citizens whom no one knows into their home and who, according to the village bar, are desperate. As witness, the villagers have an ancient mirror, a chrysalis clinging to a hinge and the old translator who, losing his memory and faculties, observes them all from the library.

A halo of tragedy hovers over the district: the visit of a foreign woman, the intrigues of her son to build a housing estate there, the disappearance of a dog, the life calendar of the florist, guided by the garrison of bouquets and the first wreath. Susanna Rafart unfolds a fable with a ternary rhythm of unusual beauty. A gem in which readers catch glimpses of everything that is hinted at and are moved by what is kept silent.

SUSANNA RAFART is a Catalan poet and author of fiction and essay prose. She currently works as a literary critic for several publications, something she combines with the organisation of cultural projects. She regularly collaborates with various media outlets, such as the *Avui* newspaper, *Caràcters* magazine and several radio stations.

MEGAN BERKOBIEN & MARÍA CRISTINA HALL are writers and translators from Catalan and Spanish. Often working together, they have had translations and pieces of work published in various international publications.



Fiction
May
B-format Paperback, flapped
200pp
978-1-913744-41-0
World Rights
£12.99

LEIF HØGHAUG

THE CALF

Translated from Norwegian by David M. Smith

On violence, crime, guilt and atonement.

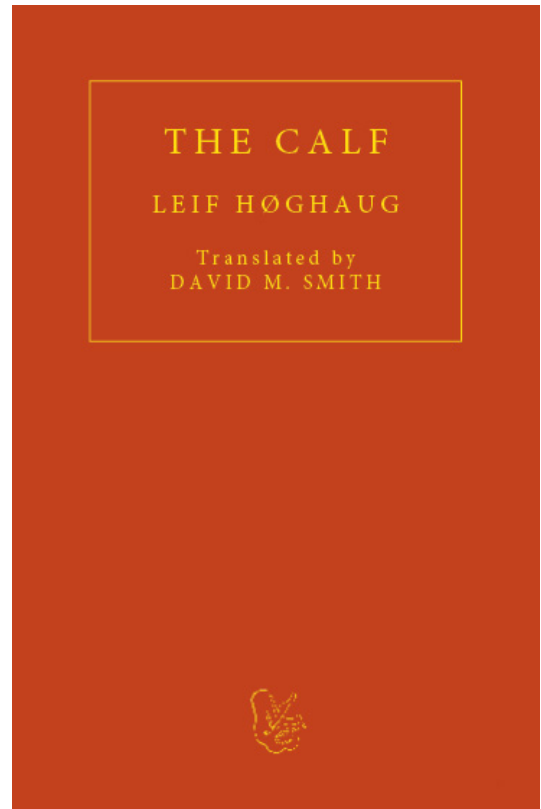
We meet our narrator in an underground office where he sharpens pencils, shreds paper, makes coffee for the other employees and thinks over and over about a late night that he has been trying to forget for a long time. In between the meaningless work, he manages to scratch down some names and phrases, and conjures up a dream from 1980s Hadeland. In this saga, Hadeland is a shadow home where spooks, ghosts, angels and robot-like creatures are just as natural as animals and flesh and blood humans.

But what happened that late summer night? What is it that the narrator has tried to forget? And who is this Calf, who was “killed to death”? Our narrator takes readers in circles through different events, times and places; a whirlwind in which the calf and other characters are like prisoners in a tornado from Dante’s Inferno.

The Calf is a peasant story, a western novel, a dream quatrain, an adventure, science fiction and a black comedy about violence, crime, guilt and atonement.

LEIF HØGHAUG, (1974) lives in Gran, Eastern Norway, and teaches at the Creative Writing Department at the University of South-Eastern Norway (USN). Fama, his first book of poetry was published in 2012. Since then, he has published two more poetry books, *The Calf* is his first novel. He is currently working on a Norwegian translation of James Joyce’s *Finnegans Wake*.

DAVID M. SMITH is a native of Georgia, USA. Besides *The Calf*, his translations include *The Red Handler* by Johan Harstad and a forthcoming edition of Tarjei Vesaas’s short fiction.



Fiction

July

B-format Paperback, flapped

200pp

978-1-913744-24-3

World Rights

£13.99

ADRIÀ PUJOL

BARCELONA PICADURA

Translated from Catalan by Douglas Suttle

A novel about the city of Barcelona, a swarm of passions that some adore and that others would burn.

Barcelona has the ability to live immersed in a considerable jumble. The Olympic Games, the Forum of Cultures, the squatters, the rising prices, the construction bubble, the people who pass by and the streets that remain. The city is a hive of passions. Some love it. Others would burn it all. After dazzling the critics with *Empordan Escafarlata* and *Alteracions*, Adrià Pujol dares now to dissect, with intelligence, perspiration and irony, the city of Barcelona and, indirectly, the whole country.

“Palimpsestic and playful, hypnotic and analytical, Pujol establishes an explicit poetics throughout.”

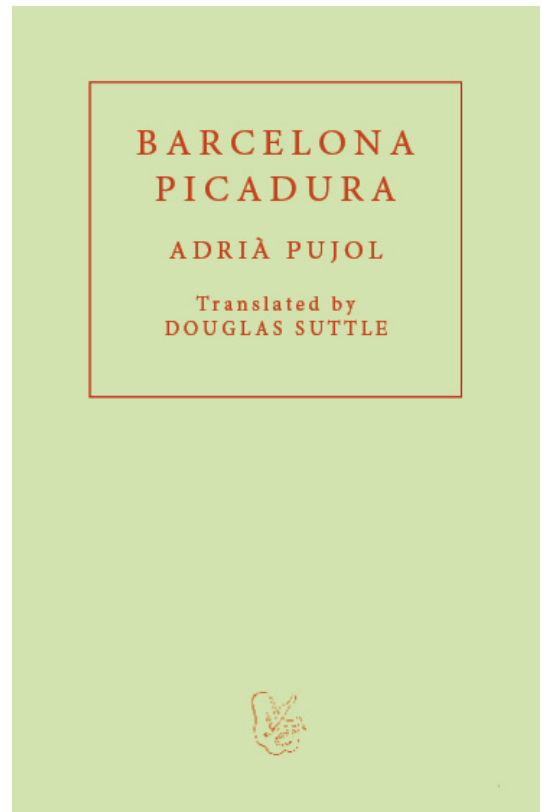
—*El Periódico*

“A very, very funny book; stimulating.”

—*Núvol*

ADRIÀ PUJOL (Begur, 1974) is a writer, anthropologist and translator who has published more than fifteen titles in Catalan. He also writes for numerous newspapers and magazines.

DOUGLAS SUTTLE is a translator and editor.



Fiction
September
B-format Paperback, flapped
155pp
978-1-913744-49-6
World Rights
£13.99

VENTURA AMETLLER

RESTA KAOTICA

Translated from Catalan by Douglas Suttle

With *Resta Kaotica* Ametller follows on from his kaleidoscopic *Summa Kaotica* as his story unfolds to follow the timeline of defeat after the Civil War. Once again, Ametller's narration eschews naturalistic treatment and envelops the reader with an enormous mass of cultural, magical, mythical or philosophical references that give a particular and peculiar vision of the world. *Resta Kaotica* is a mind bending, highly experimental work of literature, encompassing legend and mysticism in which Ametller digs to open the doors of new perceptions.

"Ametller chooses the subaltern and places them in a hallucinatory geography. He makes legendary that which was not, and vice versa, lowering the smoke of history. An upside-down world that is, in truth, more anchored than our own."

—ADRIÀ PUJOL.

"*Summa Kaotica* is a unique gambit, something unexpected to sink into—but it is a victory, and for the daring, adventurous, curious, or concerned, it has so much to offer."

—Asymptote

'*Summa Kaotica* is Dalí in words.'

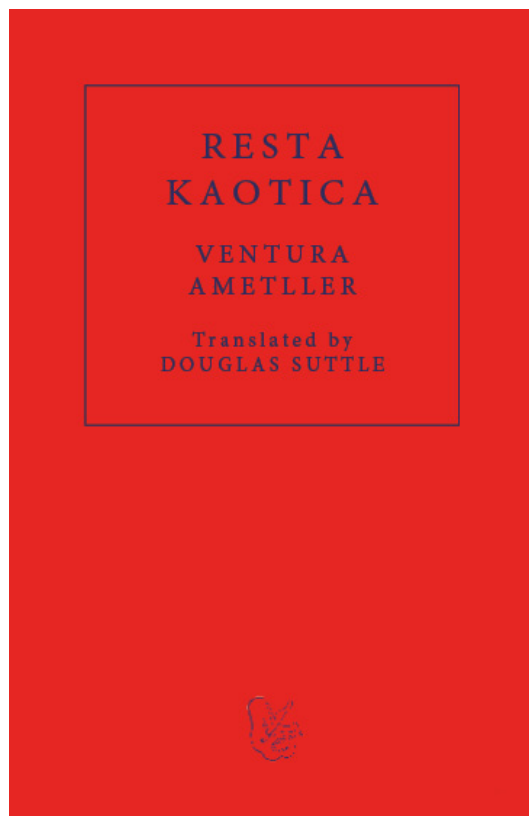
—LLUÍS RACIONERO.

'Ametller chooses the subaltern and places them in a hallucinatory geography. He makes legendary that which was not, and vice versa, lowering the smoke of history. An upside-down world that is, in truth, more anchored than our own.'

—ADRIÀ PUJOL.

VENTURA AMETLLER (Pals, 1933 – Mataró, 2008), born Bonaventura Clavaguera, was a Catalan polymath. Although he worked professionally as a veterinarian, he was interested by almost all aspects of the arts and his writings alone stretch from poetry and essay to narrative and the novel. His 1986 novel *Summa Kaòtica* is one of the pre-eminent works of Catalan surrealism

DOUGLAS SUTTLE is a translator and editor.



Fiction

November

B-format Paperback, flapped

300pp

978-1-913744-34-2

World Rights

£14.99

Fum d'Estampa Press Backlist

- Ventura Ametller, *Summa Kaotica*, tr. Douglas Suttle, 2023, 978-1-913744-21-2
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