

RIGHTS
LIST

2022
LEMÉAC

SPRING

OF WORDS AND PLACES

Nothing will ever stop writing from taking place, from manifesting itself in various places, and inhabiting the very heart of society while being part of good and ill luck, making invisible life lines cross. Leméac's winter/spring titles make these voices heard as they whisper and thunder, whisper and sing.

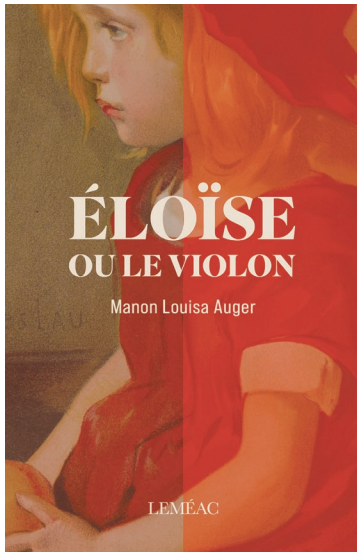
Sylvie Drapeau, Bernard Émond, Anne Guilbault, Olivier Kemeid, Mali Navia and many others juxtapose their intimate, familial and foreign territories, orchestrating their voices in the choir of Quebec literature. The books of the season offer a whole cartography of the living, here and elsewhere: Japan, Syria, Europe and the Middle East, France, Greece, Colombia, the Arctic, and also Saguenay, Lévis, the North Shore and Montreal...

Novels, YA fiction, theatre, essays; all new avenues leading writers to readers and vice versa.

We hope you'll enjoy them,

Pierre Filion

NEW TITLES



**MANON LOUISA
AUGER**

FICTION

208 pages

Published April 2022

World rights available

NEW TITLE

ÉLOÏSE OU LE VIOLON

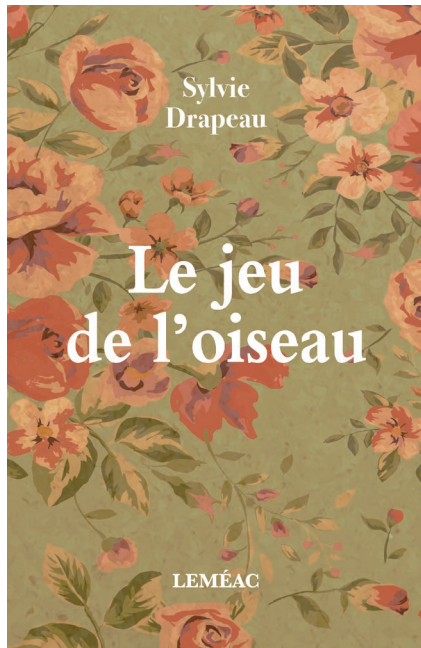
[ÉLOÏSE or THE VIOLIN]

Did the young Eloïse really pushed her father into the well, as is suggested in the beginning? Hiding behind an unhealthy thin body, she has most likely been the victim of a trauma that she wants to escape. From the reclusive house she shares with her mother and bedridden grandfather to the small industrial town where a shift in her interest occurs, the young girl enters in a complex relationship with her changing body, eager to be put in tune with the world around it, like the violin Eloïse has stolen from her grandfather, and that she wishes she could play.

In the forest, she wrapped herself in moss, put dried pine needles in her hair to give it a reddish tint, and only gazed at her reflection in the streams and puddles of water and mud. Here, her face was everywhere to be seen: in the mirrors that lined the walls of the inn, in the store windows, in the eyes of passers-by.

The author's previous novel, *Année ou Le livre d'Émilie*, was directly inspired by the world of Emily Brontë. Here, Manon Louisa Auger continues to develop her work, this time with a novel set during the Great Depression, in a world nourished by her readings of Anne Hébert, always affirming the singularity of her own voice.

Manon Louisa Auger is originally from the Portneuf region and currently lives in Montreal, where she divides her time between writing, research and teaching. She is already working on her next book, a biofiction about little-known female figures of the French-Canadian Victorian era.



**SYLVIE
DRAPEAU**

FICTION

120 pages

Published January 2022

World rights available

NEW TITLE

LE JEU DE L'OISEAU

[THE BIRD GAME]

Two twin children, a girl and a boy. A helpless mother that has relinquished words, without means, apparently unfit, yet loving. A violent, terrifying father. A rickety house on a sandy lot bordered by a precipice; a “hole” from the bottom of which toxic fumes rise from a factory.

This is the setting in which Claire and Raymond grow up, fragile and moving heroes whose only chance in life is “to be two”. What do we do when every gesture, every moment, every being can become a source of danger? We play, as children do, by intuition. “We said we were birds!” “We said we were free!” But, when play is no longer enough to keep misfortune at bay, everything begins to fall apart.

With great empathy and sensitivity, Sylvie Drapeau endows her characters with the powerful weapons of the imagination. *Le jeu de l'oiseau* is an ode to the survival instinct and to the strength of maternal love.

Sylvie Drapeau is an renowned actress who appeared in many theatrical and film productions. Fleuve, her tetralogy (Le fleuve, 2015; Le ciel, 2017; L'enfer, 2018; La terre, 2019), has revealed a writer in her own right.



**BERNARD
ÉMOND**

STORIES

128 pages

Published March 2022

World rights available

NEW TITLE

QUATRE HISTOIRES DE FAMILLE

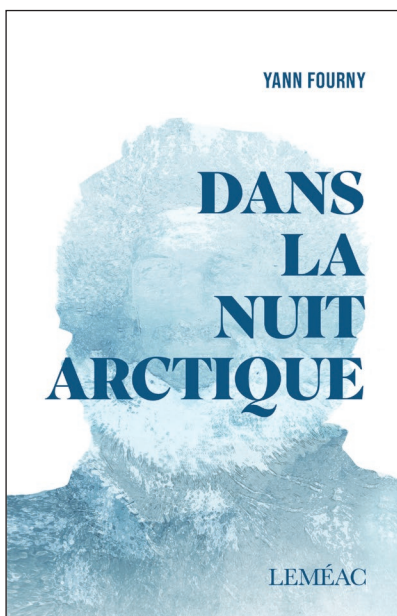
[FOUR FAMILY STORIES]

A woman returns to Quebec for the funeral of her brother, from whom she's been estranged for forty years. An old man welcomes home his seriously ill ex-wife, who abandoned him and their child daughter. An engineer about to retire discovers that he has a half-brother in the depths of Ontario. A grandfather waits for his twenty-year-old granddaughter at the airport; she doesn't speak his language, and the two have never met. The four stories told by Bernard Émond would probably have been deemed far-fetched fifty years ago, yet they sound perfectly in tune with our time.

For better or for worse, we can never escape our past, our families. When we tend to see only the worst, the best is never far away: the unbreakable bonds, the shared memories, the cultural heritage from our forebears. And most of all there is life, in all its complexity, paradoxes and beauty.

These stories tackle all the favourite subjects of the filmmaker, namely a world that is ending, the love of ordinary people, shifts in social class, drinking, love that shatters and is transformed, the influence of Chekhov's sadness and profound humanity, an ever accurate use of language, and a powerful dramatic voice.

*Bernard Émond is a filmmaker. After studying anthropology, he directed several documentaries, then eight feature films, including *La neuvaine* (2005) and *Pour vivre ici* (2018). He also wrote a novel, *20h17, rue Darling* (Lux, 2002), which he adapted for the screen, and two collections of essays, also published by Lux: *Il y a trop d'images* (2011) and *Camarade, ferme ton poste* (2017).*



YANN FOURNY

DANS LA NUIT ARCTIQUE

LEMÉAC

NEW TITLE

DANS LA NUIT ARCTIQUE

[IN THE ARCTIC NIGHT]

At the turn of the 20th century, many exploration campaigns were launched to conquer the Arctic, an unknown territory that fascinated men, adventurers or pioneers. Some of them came back with glory, others simply disappeared, swallowed by the ice and the night. The Ellesmere expedition was one of them. Yann Fourny, captivated by the magic of this territory, found the logbook of an English cartographer named Erwin Inglefield, a member of this scientific mission that vanished without a trace in 1908. The text is restored here.

This book is an atypical work in its construction, in which the narrative progresses along the sometimes disturbing lines of the intimacy of a character who, through idealism, descended into the abyss of oblivion. After the diary, the author shares the result of his own investigation, conducted after this discovery, to establish the fate of Inglefield and his fellow explorers in the Arctic.

In this inhospitable region, where endless days follow the darkest of nights, were those men blinded by their dreams or rendered insane by the icy landscape? Did they even exist?

As an air ambulance pilot in the isolated communities of Nunavut, Yann Fourny has lived for a long time between Montreal and the Arctic. Inspired by the beauty of the landscapes and the Inuit people, he shares in this first book his deep fascination for this territory.

**YANN
FOURNY**

FICTION

304 pages
Published March 2022
World rights available



**ANNE
GUILBAULT**

FICTION

176 pages

Published February 2022

World rights available

NEW TITLE

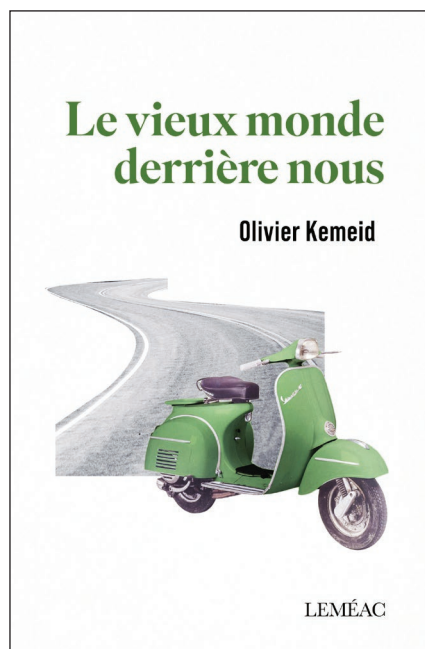
L'OISEAU-GRENADE

[THE GRENADE-BIRD]

Through powerful and at the same time intimate voices, Anne Guilbault's novel resonates with the beats of war and exodus. The eldest of a family with Quebec and Syrian roots, Assia clings to poetry, where there is more space to live than in the whole world, and to a little doll made of knotted rope, the talisman of her childhood and the guardian of her sanity. Her lover, Akram, works for the White Helmets, roaming around ravaged Aleppo, trying to push away his kamikaze thoughts, to count the survivors rather than the dead. Lili, her mother, tears apart photo albums and endeavours leaving behind all material possessions. Eshan, her younger brother, stops talking, eating, and growing altogether.

As the attacks intensify, Assia and Eshan resign themselves to fleeing without their parents, their father having been injured and having to stay behind. Armed with expired Canadian passports, together with Akram and his colleague Peter, they must cross the Middle East in the hope of reaching Quebec from Europe. This long journey across closed borders and the surging sea will prove to be as unbearable and as desperate as the bombed-out daily life they are trying to leave behind. Wherever it lands, the portent-bird, the deceiving-bird, the grenade-bird threatens to blow everything up...

Anne Guilbault is the author of several novels and short stories published in Quebec and Belgium, including Joies (XYZ, 2009; BQ, 2015), for which she was a finalist for the Prix littéraire des collégiens, and Les métamorphoses (XYZ, 2015), which received critical acclaim.



**OLIVIER
KEMEID**

FICTION

144 pages
Published March 2022
World rights available

NEW TITLE

LE VIEUX MONDE DERRIÈRE NOUS

[THE OLD WORLD LEFT BEHIND]

As the first stirrings of May 68 begin in Paris, Gil Kemeid arrives from Montreal. A recent scholarship student destined to study architecture, but above all the lover of a young woman whom he unexpectedly leaves, the Egyptian-Quebecer is driven by his dream of travelling through Europe on a symbolic odyssey that would allow him to reconnect with his Levantine origins. Delayed by the whirlwind of demonstrations that shake the city, he finally arrives in Marseille, where he purchases a used Vespa on which he sets on travelling the roads of France, then Spain, Italy, Yugoslavia, Kosovo, Turkey, Bulgaria, Hungary, Austria, Czechoslovakia, and Bavaria. Along the many punctures and encounters, under good skies and bad rain, he pushes his Rosinante to the limit, while living his dream, without quite realizing it, because the return to Montreal looms ahead, though he promises himself to come back.

Throughout his journey, he writes postcards to his distant lover and confidante, who keeps them all. And it's those cards that decades later allow their son Olivier Kemeid, to re-embark unwillingly on the same crazy journey, riding the 1965 green scooter, stuck to the back of his yet-to-be father. This ride, initially so personal, takes the author's pen to new heights and takes him behind the scenes of History, which his father only glimpsed during his unbridled ride.

A reading delight, this book combines two aspects of a same story: the original initiatory journey, and the filial journey, where the family mythologies - from grandfather to father to son - merge, and transcend.

*A renowned playwright and stage director, author of **Moi, dans les ruines rouges du siècle**, **Five Kings** and **L'Énéide**, Olivier Kemeid is the director of the **Théâtre de Quat'Sous** in Montreal.*



**KARINE
LÉGERON**

STORIES

152 pages

Published February 2022

World rights available

NEW TITLE

PRENDRE LIEU

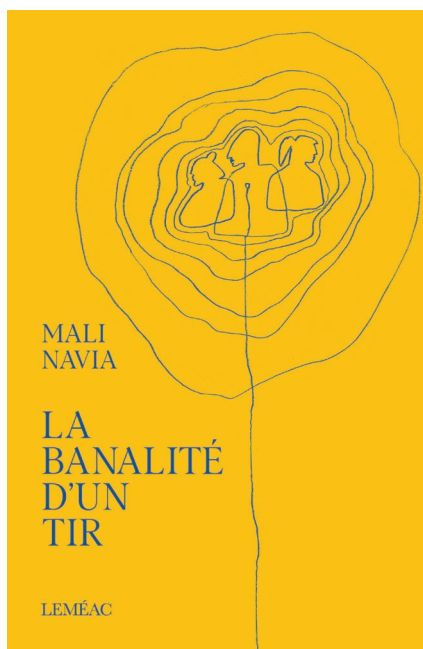
[TAKING PLACE]

In a while, when I have finally been able to stop, when I have laid my body down in the hollow of a rock cut for my fatigue, when the blue hour wraps the sky in its indigo cloak, I will watch the day fall behind the horizon and listen to the breathing of the sea.

The eleven short stories in this book nearly form a novel; they're woven together by places: those of childhood that we revisit to better find ourselves; those where we stop over without getting caught; those that time passes through but which retain the forgotten voices of the people who once travelled through them; those completely imaginary where we project ourselves; those where we become someone else's character; and perhaps above all fictional places, those where the narrator will finally reveal herself the most.

Written from a geopoetic perspective, this collection is driven by a desire to reconnect with reality and to be physically inscribed in space at a time when our relationship to the world tends towards the virtual. In a skilful and sensitive writing style, the author finely pulls the strings of consistent, coherent and touching pictures. An invitation to take place, to put down roots in a territory to make it one's own.

*Karine Légeron has made Montreal the base for her long-distance travels and now devotes herself primarily to writing. A university lecturer, she is pursuing her reflections on literary creation in her doctoral thesis. After the collection of short stories *Cassures* (2015) and the novel *Nos vies de plume* (2019), *Prendre lieu* is her third publication.*



NEW TITLE

LA BANALITÉ D'UN TIR

[A DISTANT SHOT]

Ana López is half Canadian, half Colombian. She grows up in Quebec between two undefined worlds and tries to combine her split identities despite a lack of words to explain what's missing. She has difficulty accepting everything that makes her different in the eyes of others, including Ale, her father, of whom she is unfairly ashamed.

A loner at heart, Ale has never really managed to fit in Quebec. He stays there for Ana and Paz, his two daughters whom he loves more than anything. Unintentionally, he passes on to them the burden of the suffering of his exile.

Years go by, Ana and Paz now live their own lives, without their father. Ale then decides to leave his winter home and return to his native land by the sea. However, from one day to the next, he disappears.

A *desaparición forzada* – “forced disappearance” – is not only a portent of death; it is also the probability of a violent death. Yet everything happens silently, without a cry, without an echo outside the family. It simply happens while the Earth keeps turning. Confronted with this inexplicable absence, Ana will have to find a way to heal a wound even deeper than the one left by her father's disappearance.

**MALI
NAVIA**

FICTION

152 pages

Published April 2022

World rights available

Born in Montreal in 1988 to a Colombian father and a Canadian mother, Mali Navia holds a degree in communications from Concordia University and a master's degree in creative writing from the Université du Québec à Montréal. She works as a researcher for various television and radio productions and has written for media such as URBANIA and Elle Québec. A Distant Shot is her first novel.



**EVELYNE
SIMARD-GUAY**

FICTION

168 pages
Published March 2022
World rights available

NEW TITLE

TROIS JOURS AVEC JACK

[THREE DAYS WITH JACK]

With his Peruvian jacket, grey hair and a pirate's ring in his left ear, he was straight out of another era. We chatted at the bar during the interval. As he paid for his scotch, he leaned over to me, as one does to reveal a secret. On his way to Montreal, he told me, Kerouac would have "hung around" in Lévis for three days. I smiled. I knew this story all too well.

While passing through Lévis in Quebec in 1967, trying to retrace the steps of his ancestors, Jack Kerouac befriended the narrator's mother. Far from Montreal and its World's Fair, the protagonists experience three days of adventures tinged with a quest for the absolute at a time when issues like drugs, sexual freedom, and abortion are easy causes of outrage in a society where changes are inescapable. Against a backdrop of late-night confidences, mother and daughter piecemeal repair a difficult relationship, lightened by the presence of a loving father. As the novel's imaginary Kerouac suggests: great victories are not won on the battlefields, but in the hearts.

A native of Lévis, Evelyne Simard-Guay studied film and creative writing, and worked as a screenwriter and director. Her short fiction films and documentaries have been shown in many festivals in Quebec and abroad. Trois jours avec Jack is her first novel.



**LILIANE
GOUGEON MOISAN**

DRAMA

104 pages

Published January 2022

World rights available

NEW TITLE

L'ART DE VIVRE

[THE ART OF LIVING]

Four young adults in their four neighbouring condos carefully ritualize their daily life - exercising, decoration, cooking, work – by adhering with suspicious confidence to all the clichés of an era that has shaped them. A series of incidents – hammer blows, water damage, the delivery of a chest freezer – will force them into a disconcerting return to nature, where they will painstakingly try to rebuild a community spirit.

How to live alone, how to exist in society? Using characters who are sincere “except when they don’t know they are”, Liliane Gougeon Moisan examines the world, its grace and its madness, with an extremely keen eye and the finesse of a miniaturist. She brings together humour and distress in sharp and vibrant lines where vulnerability points under the irony; she shows the best and worst of humans in a fluid, biting, willingly absurd, slightly wild, slightly cruel, always strangely seductive writing style.

This play, for which the author won the 2019 Gratien-Gélinas Prize, was presented in a public reading in January 2020. It will premiere in Montreal at Théâtre de Quat'Sous from January 25 to February 19, 2022.

After studying creative writing and linguistics, Liliane Gougeon Moisan trained in playwriting at the National Theatre School of Canada. Her other interests include television writing, translation and directing.



NEW TITLE

FURIOSO

In the midst of a war between the North and the South, enemy generals Orlando and Abderam leave the battle to search for a runaway princess they are both in love with. Many chases ensue involving a hippogriff, a feminist magician, a killer whale, and knights...

This fantastic tale inspired by Ariosto's *Orlando Furioso* takes us from the Earth to the Moon in a lively story full of madness, irreverence, comic flights of fancy and contemporary echoes. This is Olivier Kemeid's first foray into children's theatre which he tackles in earnest with his usual imaginative wit, deconstructing clichés, weaving deliciously bizarre situations and reflecting on cultural diversity, the absurdity of war and the necessary dialogue with the Other.

Intended for an audience of eight years and older, the play premiered in July 2021 at the Festival international des arts de la marionnette in Saguenay; it was then performed in several Quebec venues during the fall. The publication will coincide with the Montreal performances of the show.

**OLIVIER
KEMEID**

THEATRE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

64 pages

Published February 2022

World rights available

Author, director, co-founder of the Trois Tristes Tigres theatre company and current artistic director of the Théâtre de Quat'Sous, Olivier Kemeid has written some fifteen plays. Among his works – some of which have been translated into several languages and performed abroad – are Moi, dans les ruines rouges du siècle, Five Kings, L'histoire de notre chute and L'Énéide, all three published by Leméac.



**JULIE-ANNE
RANGER-BEAUREGARD**

THEATRE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

112 pages

Published March 2022

World rights available

NEW TITLE

QUATRE FILLES

[FOUR GIRLS]

Julie-Anne Ranger-Beauregard's remarkable play is a theatrical adaptation of Louisa May Alcott's *Little Women*.

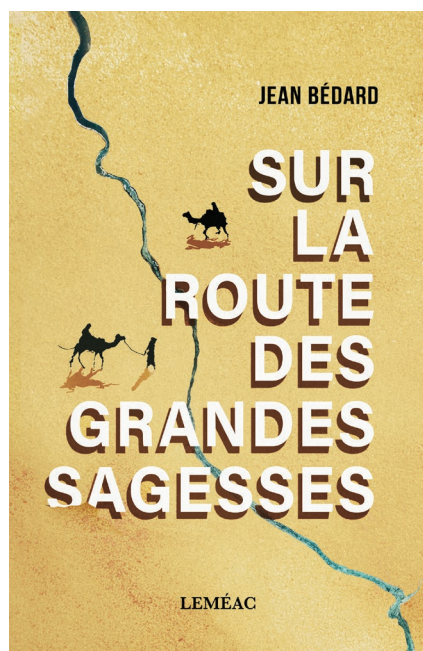
In a small town in Massachusetts, four teenage sisters help their mother with the daily chores. The Civil War is raging, and their father, a chaplain in the Northern army, is away. Between childhood and adulthood, Meg the romantic elder, Jo the idealist and future novelist, Beth the affectionate pianist and Amy the vain and determined one, learn about life, discovering what it has to offer them, between conservative virtues and desires of subversion. Despite some disillusionment, the ambitions of the young women and their friend Laurie soar, and their hopes lift us up.

Published in 1868, anti-slavery activist Louisa May Alcott's autobiographical work has endured through the ages; her vibrant young characters have left their mark on women creators of all generations. J. K. Rowling, Simone de Beauvoir, Patti Smith, Fanny Britt, Elena Ferrante: many artists openly relate to this passionate feminist chronicle.

This adaptation will be performed in Montreal at the Théâtre Denise-Pelletier from March 16 to April 9, 2022, directed by Louis-Karl Tremblay.

Julie-Anne Ranger Beauregard received the 2003 Égrégore Award for her first play, Le creux de la peau. After graduating from the National Theatre School of Canada in 2010 with a degree in playwriting, she won the 2011 Theatre for Young Audiences and Emerging Talent competition for her play La famille Pépin, which premiered at Maison Théâtre in 2012. Leméac published her play Les inconnus when it was presented at La Licorne in 2016.

BACKLIST



**JEAN
BÉDARD**

FICTION

448 pages

Published August 2021

World rights available

BACKLIST

SUR LA ROUTE DES GRANDES SAGESSES

[The Road to Great Wisdom]

The story begins in Galilee, around the year 30. Jairus, a young rabbi, questions his own religion as well as the Greek materialism preached by his wife, both of which only breed hatred. This is the time when a strange carpenter from Nazareth offers to stop the violence with love and reconciliation. "Good for the children," thinks Jairus, choosing instead to take over his father's business (trading in rare manuscripts on the Great Silk Road).

Across the deserts, mountains and vastness of Persia, Kashmir and Tibet, Jairus and his daughter will face the usual cruelties of civilisations, and encounter priests of Zoroaster, Buddhist monks, Taoist sages... The beauty of the world and the wisdom of a few masters will transform them. When Jairus returns to Galilee thirty years later, he will no longer be insensitive to the actions of the famous carpenter who has turned the whole of Jerusalem upside down, the same one who once brought joy to his daughter when she was in the throes of despair.

This story is based on a deep knowledge of history, customs, human nature and the main philosophies that still condition human existence. This novel, with well-crafted and engaging characters, offers unforgettable scenes where humour and love, depth and lightness give us hope. The author's quest is expressed in simple, everyday, contemporary language. An ideal read for those who are not looking for life guides, but for an intimate metamorphosis that expands the heart.

Jean Bédard is a philosopher and novelist. He has written novels that link lucidity to hope and essays on ecology.



**ANNA RAYMONDE
GAZAILLE**

CRIME FICTION

296 pages

Published April 2021

RIGHTS SOLD: French
outside Canada

All other rights available

BACKLIST

SECRETS BORÉALS

[Boreal Secrets]

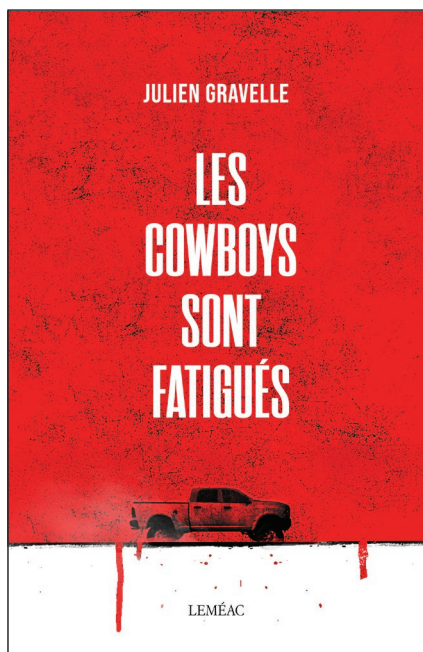
In a village at the edge of the boreal forest where she has come to take refuge, Brigit tries to escape a past marred by violence. But misfortune seems to pursue her even within this small and closed community. In a ravine bordering her land, she discovers the body of a young girl who has recently gone missing. Brigit, torn between the need to keep her secrets and her involvement in the investigation, sees her hauntings and the tragic events of her former life resurface.

And while this Nordic tragedy unfurls, Dana, on the other side of the world, in overcrowded migrant camps, is both a witness to and a victim of multiple massacres. What do these two heroines have in common, as they grapple with the barbarity of our century?

Thriller? Psychological novel? In her fourth book, the author deliberately blurs the boundaries of genres. In a precise style and an elegant language, Anna Raymonde Gazaille invites us to open both our eyes and our arms to the human condition.

She loves the simple gesture of plunging the blade of her knife into the earth to lift the stem of the chanterelle without damaging it. (...) For her, this ritual is like meditation; it brings her a peace that she no longer believes she is capable of achieving. This routine life suits her. For the first time in a very long time, she feels safe.

*Anna Raymonde Gazaille is the author of **Traces** (2013), **Déni** (2014), long-listed for the **Prix Saint-Pâcome du roman policier** and **Jours de haine** (2017), all published by Leméac.*



**JULIEN
GRAVELLE**

FICTION

192 pages

Published March 2021

Rights sold: French outside
Canada (Éditions du Seuil)

All other rights available

BACKLIST

LES COWBOYS SONT FATIGUÉS

[No More Heroes]

Standing in front of the kitchen window, I peered outside at the old abandoned rusty machinery in the yard. [...] The carcasses stood motionless, hemmed in by dry grass and bleached by autumn, like sun-dried insect moults. Looking at them in the midday light, I thought that maybe I, too, was an endangered species.

At the end of an abandoned logging road, somewhere between the Mistassini and Ouasiemsca rivers – as close to nowhere as you can get – Rozie lives alone with his dogs. The place suits him very well, and so does the solitude. Yet he's far less enthralled by his work that consists in manufacturing amphetamines in his clandestine laboratory for a gang of drug dealers. He would like to move on. But his past catches up with him, and he's about to lose everything.

After his debut short story collection *Debout sur la carlingue*, Julien Gravelle tackles enthusiastically the detective story with the same colourful language, set in the same magnificent and sometimes overwhelming nature, but this time driven by a breathless plot and a wry sense of humour.

Les cowboys sont fatigués is *Julien Gravelle's* second book to be published by Leméac, after *Debout sur la carlingue*. He is also the author of *Musher* and *Nitassinan*, published in France by Éditions Wildproject.



**GILLES
JOBIDON**

FICTION

168 pages
Published August 2018
Rights sold:
Bulgarian, Romanian

BACKLIST

LE TRANQUILLE AFFLIGÉ

[A Quiet Affliction]

1858-1860. Jacques Trévier, a defrocked Jesuit, embarks on a mission to bring back a master dyer of the black colour from an island in the Arabian Sea. Along the way, he meets the love of his life, an incredibly beautiful albino woman. But just as Trévier thought he could live a peaceful life after fulfilling the wish of the Imperial dyer to solve the mystery of the sumptuous black colour from Baël Island, he loses his loved one to the Emperor who makes her his own favourite concubine.

In an inventive style and inspired by real historical events, this novel tackles a few current aspects of the world we live in today. We're witnesses to the vicious backlash of globalisation taking place one hundred and fifty years ago, through incomprehension and the disrespect of the others' values, in a singular reminder of our times, marred by identitarian closure and the double-edged sword of free market and protectionism through the exploitation of the weakest peoples.

Gilles Jobidon writes with an impressionist touch full of imagery and subtly inserts in our time a story from another era, confirming his status of mature and gifted novelist.

Gilles Jobidon is the author of La route des petits matins, L'âme frère, Combustio, and more recently La petite B. Both latter titles were awarded several prizes. In 2019, Le Tranquille affligé won the prestigious Prix des cinq continents de la francophonie.



**GILLES
JOBIDON**

FICTION

232 pages

Published September 2015

World rights available

BACKLIST

LA PETITE B.

[Little B.]

Writing doesn't make you a writer. You become one by carrying the pain of the world on your shoulders, that's how writing happens. Writing always arises from the depths of one's own dark places.

When he arrives in the Mascarene Islands in 1841, Charles Baudelaire writes a new chapter in his life. At nineteen years old, after being temporarily driven out of Paris by his stepfather, General Aupick, he makes a most inspiring unexpected stopover there, where he falls madly in love with a mulatto spiritualist. From that relationship, a daughter would be born who would later join him in Paris where she would be a model the artistic community would nickname "Little Baudelaire".

Through the destiny of a presumed progeny, this romantic adventure turns the clandestine pages of a forged family album, adorned with composed portraits and the smiling masks of the unspoken.



**MARIE-HÉLÈNE
LAROCHELLE**

FICTION

168 pages

Published February 2021

World rights available

BACKLIST

JE SUIS LE COURANT

LA VASE

[Against the Tide]

He didn't call me in this week. He has to focus on another swimmer. We don't talk about this aspect of training, but I know what's on his mind. I noticed evidence in the room, endless details. A tampon in the bathroom's wastebasket. A long hair on the carpet.

Athletic Center, Toronto. Under her coach's watchful eye, a swimmer struggles against the liquid element to improve her time and earn a spot in national competitions. The training sometimes continues outside the athletic center, in his apartment, where she must submit to rituals designed to free her from her resistance.

Marie-Hélène Larochelle's novel recounts this relationship of power and desire. It tells of what one must sometimes embrace to reach the highest levels of athletic performance. *Je suis le courant la vase* echoes the recent revelations that shook the sport world, and despite all the chlorine and salt that suffuse the text, the experience leaves a feeling of being dirty and bruised.

Marie-Hélène Larochelle has published several scholarly works on monstrosity, violence and invective in contemporary literature. A former top-level swimmer herself, in this first novel she weaves the sensations and feelings brought on by any sporting feat.



**CLAIRE
LEGENDRE**

AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL FICTION

120 pages

Published September 2020

[first publication: 2015]

Rights sold: Canada (English)

Spain

BACKLIST

LE NÉNUPHAR ET L'ARAIGNÉE

[The Lily Pad and the Spider]

You're scared of spiders, afraid of heights, illness, and the opinion of others. You're terrified to be betrayed or abandoned, and you're petrified to the idea that the little gypsy fortune-teller's predictions may come true. So you stop smoking, you shun insects and medical confidences; you avoid the stage, the airplanes, you don't fall in love and you don't lean over balconies. You never take your driving test and you begin reading novels from the last page, like you'd wear a chastity belt. You think you're ready, that you'll never be caught off guard, and that nothing can happen to you. Until they discover a butterfly in your chest and you can feel its fluttering wings. Then you simply can't pretend to ignore it.

Le nénuphar et l'araignée is an autobiographical story about fear that explores the symptoms, the sources, and the origins of anxiety, from the most intimate to the most ordinary.

Claire Legendre was born in Nice in 1979. Since her first book, she kept writing fluctuating between noir and autobiographical fiction. Making-of (1998), Viande (1999), La méthode Stanislavski (2006), L'écorchée vive (2009), Vérité et amour (2013) and Bermudes (2020) are remarkable titles of an outstanding work.



**WAJDI
MOUAWAD**

DIARY

168 pages

Published March 2021

World rights available

BACKLIST

PAROLE TENUE

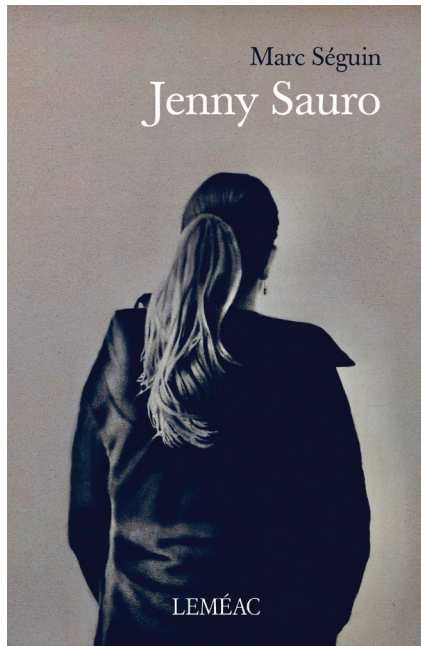
[Nocturnal Words Nights of confinement: March to April 2020]

Between Monday 16 in March (Day 1) and Monday 20 in April 2020 (Day 35), Wajdi Mouawad held twenty-five chronicles on the website of Le théâtre de La Colline that were widely followed and occasionally taken up by other European theatres. These texts, written in one go in the evening and at night and then recorded in the morning, are gathered in the present collection.

Confined like millions of us within the four walls of his house in Nogent-sur-Marne, Wajdi Mouawad undertakes an odyssey dazzling interior journey from his own micro-cosm – home schooling, his Japanese maple tree, house cleaning, his disconcerted cat, pacing in the alley; the subjects are varied – to the cyclopean eye of the Big Bang where dead stars shine. He takes us to Peter Handke's office and his father's retirement home, to the banks of the St. Lawrence River, to Montreal, to Greece, to Greenland, to the Lebanon of his childhood. Through Kafka and Star Wars, via French phonetics and the Apollonian temple of Delphi, he waltzes the madness brought on by the pandemic on the razor's edge, sharing the same dream as the members of the human tribe, making the sleeping brutality of the everyday roar. In so doing, he grinds away the darkness and manages to find bright solace at the end of a long tunnel. His incomparable writing traces the map of a fantastic territory, the beasts of a new mythology, the singular letters of a new Wajdian alphabet.

Wajdi Mouawad writes at night. His plays, novels and essays all go through some form of darkness, some opacity, a fog, that dissipates as the words take shape. In the nights of this confinement, which has become the confinement of his nights, in the depths of the abyss explored, beyond the dazzling darkness, the writing of these chronicles has allowed him – has allowed us, by listening to them – to cure some of the blindness which has struck us.

Actor, playwright and director of the Théâtre national de la colline, Wajdi Mouawad is also the author of the epic quartet Le Sang des promesses (Littoral, Incendies, Forêts, Ciels) and the novel Anima. His work has been translated into several languages and has received numerous international awards.



**MARC
SÉGUIN**

FICTION

280 pages
Published May 2020
Rights sold: Arabic

BACKLIST

JENNY SAURO

In North Nation, everybody knows Jenny Sauro, the waitress of the place's only restaurant. When she disappears trying to save her son from drowning, for the inhabitants of the small border town, the shock is as deep as the relationship they entertained with her was.

Through the recollection of various moments, a life punctuated by significant events unfurls. Several people take part in that exercise in memory: her father, her son, the restaurant's regular customers, her best friend from her teenage years, an unconfessed lover, the elder from the nearby Indian reservation. But what's at stake here is most of all the effect this interrupted destiny has on each and everyone. The tragedy of the disappearance becomes a drum that resonates with memories – fleeting for some, persistent for others – of the woman Jenny was. Even her funeral opens a breach in the ordinary and allows everyone to finally express what's often left unsaid.

As a metaphor for the ever living soul, the moving spectacle of ice carried along the movements of freezing and thawing will lead the reader to question on the essence of existence beyond the boundaries of a body.

A renowned painter, Marc Séguin has also directed a film (Stealing Alice, 2016) and a documentary (La ferme et son état, 2017). He has also published notable books (La foi du braconnier, 2009, translated as The Poacher's Faith, 2013; Hollywood, 2012; Nord Alice, 2015; Les repentirs, 2017). His work as an author has earned him a number of awards.



**MARC
SÉGUIN**

FICTION

152 pages

Published August 2009

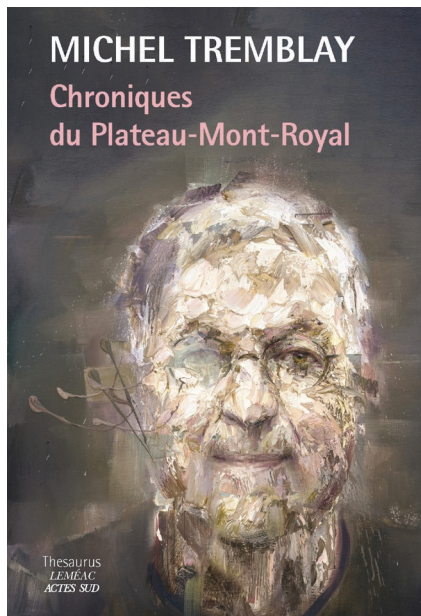
World rights available

BACKLIST

LA FOI DU BRACONNIER

[The Poacher's Faith]

A bit of an outlaw, half Mohawk, and definitely a poacher; after a failed suicide attempt, the narrator recounts the years of his life that preceded, a time during which he crisscrossed the continent in a pickup truck, pursuing ever elusive *grandeur* and elation. For him, those years were spent hunting, animals and women alike, passing from a job as a trendy cook in Chicago, to the seminary and cigarette smuggling, pushed ever further on a path whose course, seen from above, traces the words of contempt and disappointment that he wanted to shout at America: F--- Y--. This quest, set against the backdrop of the end of the millennium, is punctuated by musical references ranging from Leonard Cohen to Nirvana and carried by a narrative in which recipes for game go along the teachings of Saint Augustine. The raw writing of this clever novel calls to mind the smells of the earth freshly stabbed by a blade, savage sensuality, and the dawning light of hunting mornings.



**MICHEL
TREMBLAY**

FICTION

1104 pages

New edition of the thesaurus in 2019
(first publication: 2000)

Rights sold: France (Actes Sud)
English Canada (Talonbooks)

BACKLIST

CHRONIQUES DU PLATEAU-MONT-ROYAL

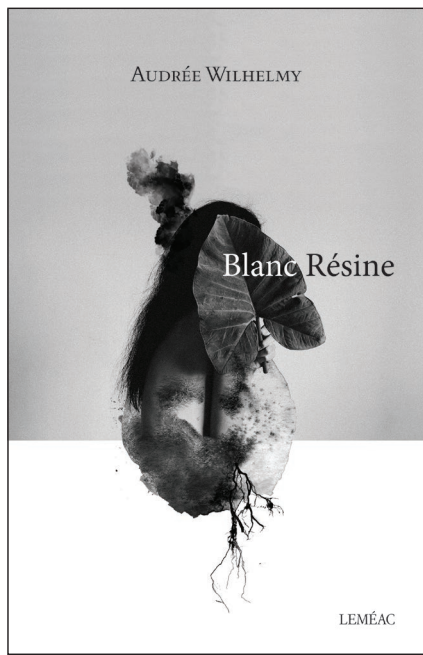
Following the adjustments made by the author to *La diaspora des Desrosiers* cycle when its nine volumes were collected in a single tome, a thorough review of the *Chroniques du Plateau-Mont-Royal* cycle was necessary. Published between 1978 and 1997, the six volumes of the *Chroniques* tell the stories of a family between 1942 and 1963.

Going back in time, *La diaspora*, written between 2007 and 2015, tells the story of a family in the making, between 1913 and 1941.

With the childhood, the past, the adventures and secrets revealed, the attributes of some characters had to be rectified, the chronology of some events needed to be adjusted, lifelines to be straightened. Thanks to these changes, the author now offers a completely new and coherent edition of his seminal work, bridging fiction and reality.

Includes: *La Grosse Femme d'à côté est enceinte*, *Thérèse et Pierrette à l'école des Saints-Anges*, *La duchesse et le roturier*, *Des nouvelles d'Édouard*, *Le premier quartier de la lune* and *Un objet de beauté*.

A prolific author and playwright whose plays are performed all over the world, Michel Tremblay is one of the most important writers of his generation. The Belles-Sœurs cycle, the Chroniques du Plateau-Mont-Royal and La diaspora des Desrosiers belong to the corpus of major works in current French-language literature.



**AUDRÉE
WILHELMY**

FICTION

352 pages

Published September 2019

Rights sold:

Grasset (French except Canada)

House of Anansi (World English)

BACKLIST

BLANC RÉSINE

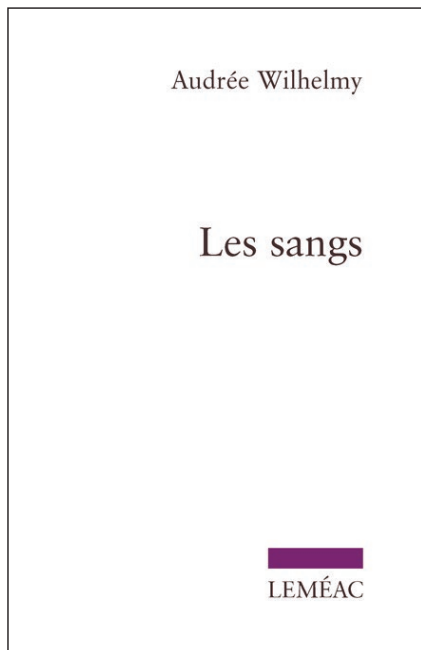
[White Resin]

I'm fourteen years old. I like girls who eat the skin like good fruits and curl up in the clay when seized by rapture, printing their serpentine shape into the soft soil. I like boys undulating with flowing pleasure, hesitating on which curves to hold on to from the breasts or buttocks or thighs or cheeks, as their hands are so small and their hunger so great.

In a convent built by women's hands on the edge of the boreal forest, twenty-four sisters give birth to a little girl who will grow up learning the language and laws of Ina Maka, Mother Earth. A little further away, a worker at the Kohle Co. mine dies in childbirth, leaving an albino baby to her father, who'll work himself to death so the young one can one day become a doctor.

The novel recounts the encounter, mating and destiny of these two dissimilar beings, Daã and Laure, and that of their offspring. It carries the smells of the taiga and the sounds of the city; stories of women fleeing, debacle and children left behind. It goes back to the origins of a lineage from which Noé of Oss and *The Body of the Beasts* will come out.

Audrée Wilhelmy was born in Cap-Rouge in 1985. She devotes her time to writing and teaches creative writing. Blanc Résine is her fourth novel. Her most recent story, Plie la rivière (September 2021), takes us back to the raw world of Oss, her first book (2012) – where the uniqueness of her literary universe was revealed.



**AUDRÉE
WILHELMY**

FICTION

160 pages

Published August 2013

Rights sold: French (Grasset)

Spanish, Italian, Galician

Film rights in Spanish

BACKLIST

LES SANGS

[Bloods]

Féléor Barthélémy Rü hasn't only inherited a large fortune from his Master Huntsman uncle; he was also bequeathed with the urge to kill and a taste for raw flesh, indulging in those pleasures with women he encounters, some of whom become his wives and his victims.

Mercredi, Constance, Abigaëlle, Frida, Phélie, Lottä, and Marie: seven women, seven experiences in desire, violence, and death; seven voices that reveal unspeakable fantasies and tell of femininity, self-hatred, narcissism, and submission. Although the premise of *Les sangs* (*Bloods*) may be reminiscent of a famous folk tale, there's no secret room here, whose entry the beloved wives of a new kind of Blue Beard would be denied on pain of death. In this polyphonic novel where power is the law, the torturers are not what they seem, and the victims are not as angelic and innocent as they appear.

Mathieu Bélisle

L'empire invisible

Essai sur la métamorphose de l'Amérique



LEMÉAC

**MATHIEU
BÉLISLE**

NON-FICTION

240 pages

Published October 2020

World rights available

BACKLIST

L'EMPIRE INVISIBLE

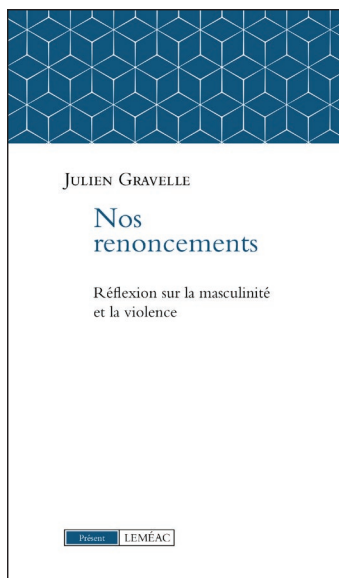
[The Invisible Empire]

Despite the successive crises that have shaken the United States, from terrorist attacks to impeachment proceedings to the recent racial events, the American empire is far from being in decline. On the contrary,

America is increasing its power throughout the world all the more easily as such power is no longer material and the country is now massively involved in the spread of some invisible order, that of thought, desire, and imagination. This domination today is no longer achieved only by its huge military power or the strength of its economy but rather by its culture that's been internalized by everyone, including those claiming their opposition to it. The empire dominates through the power of images and speech, through the stories and the dreams it provides, and through the grip of further power made of countless networks spread all over an enslaved world.

Franz Kafka once wrote that one can't break invisible chains. The purpose of this essay is to enable us to see those chains. Whether or not we embrace americanization, as if the choice was ours, is not the point; we must instead take the measure of the empire's influence upon our lives and recognize that our relationship to it is essential and a component of who we are.

Mathieu Bélisle is an essayist, a columnist, and he teaches literature at Collège Jean-de-Brébeuf in Montreal. His previous essay collection Bienvenue au pays de la vie ordinaire was published by Leméac in 2017 to great critical acclaim.



**JULIEN
GRAVELLE**

NON-FICTION

184 pages

Published September 2021

World rights available

BACKLIST

NOS RENONCEMENTS

RÉFLEXION SUR LA MASCULINITÉ TOXIQUE ET LA VIOLENCE

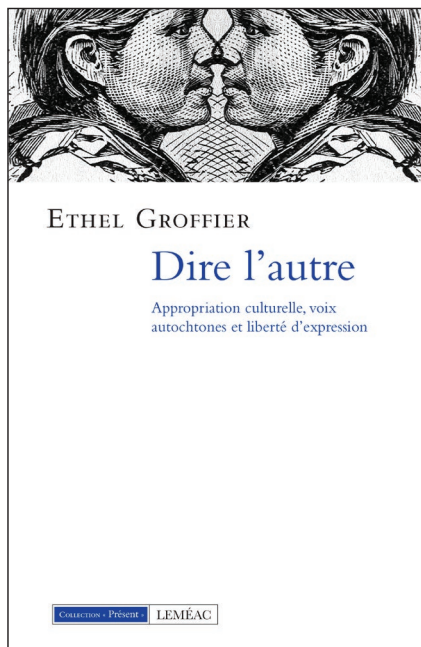
[A War I Will Not Fight Reflections on toxic masculinity and violence]

Opposing men and women is not only nonsense, but it more often leads us to a dead end than anything else. It de facto assigns to men, the designated losers in the struggle, the role of defending and counter-attacking, which we know how to do so well! If this book could contribute to only one thing, I would like it to be to some awareness of the shared interest of equal relationships.

After having been an outdoor guide for a long time in the Lac-Saint-Jean region, introducing tourists to wilderness camping or dog sledding, Julien Gravelle became a counsellor in a men's resource centre. This very different kind of "guide" job allowed him to observe, from an "incredibly privileged" point of view, what these men, who are said to be violent, primitive or inadequate, are going through, and how they adjust (or not) to new realities. Violence is not a loss of control, reminds Julien Gravelle, it is a taking of control. What characterises violent behaviour is that, rather than acting on a situation by reaching an agreement or explaining one's need, one uses fear or coercion. Why is this happening? How can this situation continue, despite the advances and gains of feminism? What if prevention was the key?

For Julien Gravelle, questions about masculinity are not just masculinist fads. "If we want male violence to stop, if we want men to isolate themselves less and communicate more, they must be heard."

*Julien Gravelle holds a master's degree in philosophy from the French University of Burgundy Franche-Comté. After *Debout sur la carlingue* and *Les cowboys sont fatigués*, *Nos renoncements* is his third book to be published by Leméac. He is also the author of *Musher* and *Nitassinan*, published in France by Éditions Wildproject.*



**ETHEL
GROFFIER**

NON-FICTION

144 pages

Published in January 2020

World rights available

BACKLIST

DIRE L'AUTRE

APPROPRIATION CULTURELLE, VOIX AUTOCHTONES

ET LIBERTÉ D'EXPRESSION

[Voicing the Other

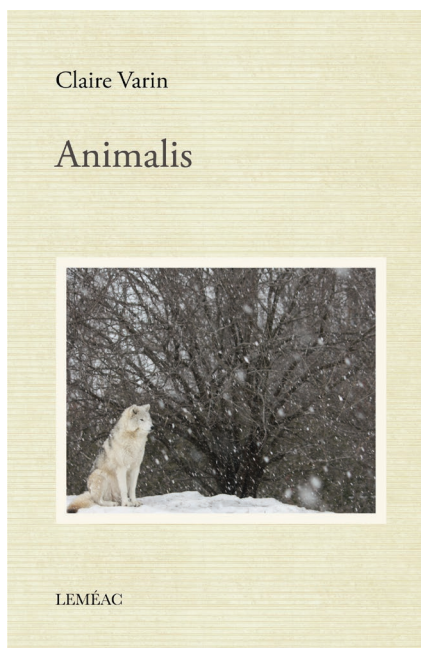
Cultural appropriation, indigenous voices and freedom of speech]

In the summer of 2018, Quebec experienced a brutal introduction to the notion of cultural appropriation when one of its most famous playwrights, Robert Lepage, had two of his productions cancelled in the face of protests from activists who criticized him for representing their reality without their consent and for featuring very few members of their community.

In an accessible, clear and nuanced essay, Groffier sets out to explain the origins, overarching concepts and implications of the cultural appropriation debate. Groffier uses the experience of Canada's Aboriginal peoples as an example, and argues that they are still struggling to find ways to tell their own stories. The questions she poses, however, go beyond this specific case: Who has the right to represent others and their reality without distorting its meaning and usurping its legitimacy? And, above all, who decides?

In *Dire l'autre* [Voicing the Other], Ethel Groffier does not take a position, but suggests that any agreement on cultural appropriation with Aboriginal people must involve a renewed dialogue based on reconciliation.

A former professor of law at McGill University, Ethel Groffier is now a researcher emeritus at the Paul-André Crépeau Centre for Private and Comparative Law in Quebec.



**CLAIRE
VARIN**

NON-FICTION

120 pages

Published October 2018

World rights available

BACKLIST

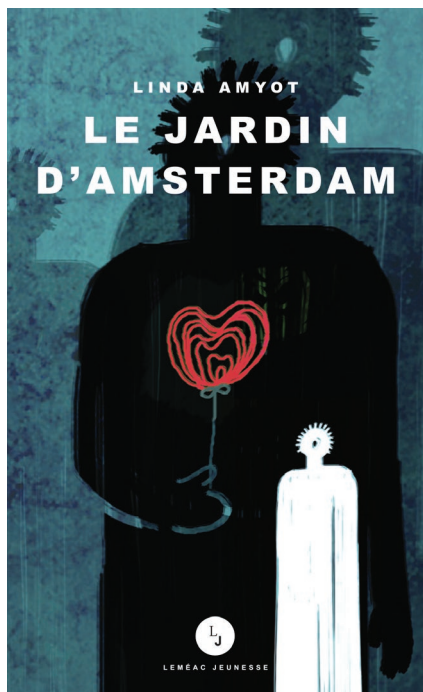
ANIMALIS

Animals can take shelter in that book. And so do I.

Animalis tackles the complexity of our relationship with non-human mammals. An animal lover, the narrator undertakes a tour of animal parks and ecological reserves to observe wildlife, notably in two national parks, in Quebec and Alberta: the dense and discreet Laurentian forest, – in a way the “forest in itself” – of Mauricie National Park, and the spectacular boreal forest of Banff National Park, a UNESCO world heritage site. Also a lover of beauty, she is forced to open her eyes to the ugliness and cruelty to animals (in farms, as subjects of experiments, in circus acts, etc.), nowadays relayed by the Internet.

This book is carried by a playful language, precise, pure, transparent and full of a sometimes fierce humour when it comes to describing human brutality. This bestiary, which takes the form of a treatise on humanism, will please many, annoy others and certainly provoke debate.

Claire Varin is a novelist and essayist. She has published a book of interviews and various documents on Clarice Lispector (Rencontres brésiliennes, 1987) as well as an essay on this great writer (Langues de feu, 1990). She also wrote several novels and stories.



**LINDA
AMYOT**

YOUNG ADULT FICTION

88 pages

Published September 2013

World rights available

BACKLIST

LE JARDIN D'AMSTERDAM

[A Garden in Amsterdam]

Le jardin d'Amsterdam deftly follows two parallel stories: that of an old woman, Adèle, who would have liked so much to live out her passion with the young soldier she fell in love with during the Second World War, and that of Élaïne, who, like all teenagers of her time, complicates her own love affairs. Poignantly written, this novel is also the story of an improbable and saving complicity, of a bridge stretched between generations...

A screenwriter, editor and novelist Linda Amyot won the Prix jeunesse des libraires du Québec and the TD Children's and Youth Literature Award with La fille d'en face. Her second young adult novel, Le jardin d'Amsterdam, won the Governor General's Literary Award and the Prix du livre jeunesse des Bibliothèques de Montréal. She is the director of youth programming for the Blue Metropolis Festival.



**LINDA
AMYOT**

YOUNG ADULT FICTION

88 pages

Published August 2021

World rights available

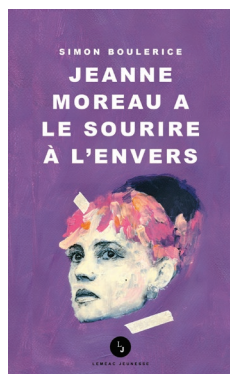
BACKLIST

LÉONORE

All of a sudden, I want to go into that damned dark and still closed room and rush to Mom and shake her again and again. To shout at the top of my lungs: "I'm here! I'm here!"

Shaken by a heartbreaking tragedy, Léonore's family is trying to look forward and get back to normal life. In her difficult transition from elementary to high school, the young girl can count on her grandmother, who tries to make up for the absence of her parents and bring a little joy to the home. When her teacher asks the students in her class to recount the story of their year, wounds are reopened. The façade everyone displays sometimes hides painful stories. What will Leonore tell?

Each new book by Linda Amyot conveys the same beauty and enchantment. From this novel rise strong teenage characters that life puts to the test.



**SIMON
BOULERICE**

YOUNG ADULT FICTION

184 pages

Published September 2016

Rights sold:

Film rights in French

All other rights available

BACKLIST

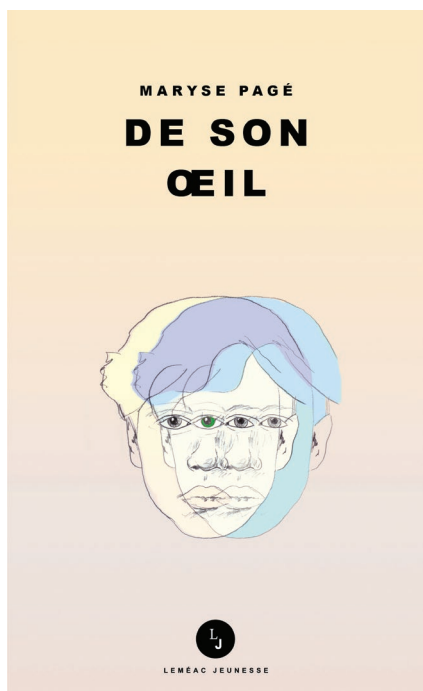
L'ENFANT MASCARA

[Becoming Leticia]

L'enfant mascara is a story of unrequited love, a pretty common thing in any secondary school, except this one ends in a particularly tragic way. Inspired by real events that took place in the town of Oxnard, California, Simon Boulrice fictionalizes one of the most violent murders motivated by homophobia and transphobia to ever take place in the USA. In doing so, the author pays tribute to Larry/Leticia, a yearning, proud and flamboyant individual who lived the short life of a shooting star.

A singular novel, penned with the utmost empathy.

Actor, writer, dancer, and stage director, Simon Boulrice is also among the most prolific authors of his generation. His book Jeanne Moreau a le sourire à l'envers was awarded a White Ravens label by the International Youth Library in Munich, Germany, and was also short-listed for the 2014 Quebec Booksellers Association prize for juvenile fiction.



**MARYSE
PAGÉ**

YOUNG ADULT FICTION

152 pages

Published August 2021

World rights available

BACKLIST

DE SON OËIL

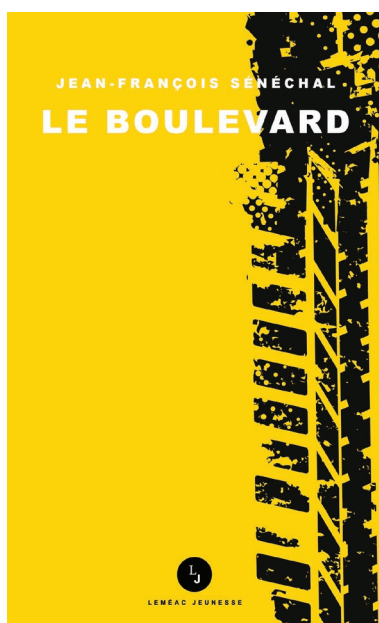
[In His Eye]

I want to observe you in your natural habitat, like a scientist wishing to know the innermost habits of an unknown animal. I intend to do this by using the gift of invisibility I was bestowed with at birth. Just the opposite of you who have the gift of being noticed everywhere you go.

Anju, a lonely and introverted teenager, speaks inwardly to Noah, the most popular student in his school, whom he considers his ideal: Noah is handsome, brilliant, a leader, athletic, ambitious, and empathetic. He is person Anju admires, to whom he tries to get closer, someone he would like to resemble. To the point of becoming one with him.

Anju offers Noah remedial maths in exchange for basketball lessons. He monitors his social media posts and hooks up with Megan, who resists to this more-than-perfect being. A student trip to New York offers him the perfect opportunity to spy his idol and his devoted fans even more. His plan seems to work: Noah gradually takes him under his wing and introduces him to rap. However, a disturbing event puts a stop to his almost obsessive voyeurism and opens his eyes to the lure of appearances...

Maryse Pagé is a screenwriter, researcher and novelist. Rap pour violoncelle seul, her previous book published by Leméac, was a finalist for the Prix jeunesse des libraires du Québec, the Prix Espiègle and the Governor General's Literary Awards. It is currently being adapted for television.



**JEAN-FRANÇOIS
SÉNÉCHAL**

YOUNG ADULT FICTION

304 pages

Published October 2016

Rights sold:

French (Éditions Sarbacane)

Italian (EDT Edizioni)

Greek (Kastaniotis Editions)

Film rights

BACKLIST

LE BOULEVARD

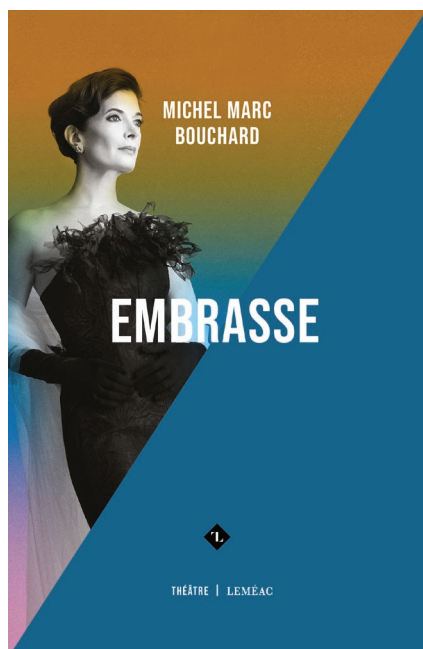
[The Boulevard]

Chris has the body of a young man and the mind of a child. On the day of his eighteenth birthday his mother leaves their home, forcing him to cope with life on his own. At first overwhelmed by despair, he manages to regain his strength and to support himself working as the caretaker of the building he lives in. In order to ease his sorrow and loneliness, he talks to his absent mother, telling her of his everyday life – his walks along the suburban boulevard, his visits to the flea market, his emotional disappointments, his sometimes incredible adventures...

Seemingly helpless, the endearing innocent and kind character who shows unusual strength and maturity befriends people, sparking a relationship of mutual support. The generous community with a workingclass background will become the family that Chris has missed all his life.

With *Le boulevard* (*The Boulevard*), Jean-François Sénéchal tells a story that's in turns funny, touching and deeply moving, a lesson in hope and resilience, written in a simple and singular language of harrowing beauty.

Trained in anthropology, Jean-François Sénéchal writes young adult novels and illustrated children books. He was finalist or laureate of many awards, such as the Prix des libraires du Québec, the Governor General of Canada Literary Award and the Prix jeunesse des bibliothèques de Montréal. In 2018, his YA novel Le boulevard appeared on the List of Honour of the International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY). In 2017, he received the Joseph S. Stauffer Award from the Canada Council for the Arts, a prize aimed at encouraging outstanding promising young Canadians. To this day, rights to Le boulevard have been sold in France, Italy and Greece and the novel is being adapted for the screen. Since 2006, Jean-François has been working as an editor for Livres Ouverts, a website of the Ministère de l'Éducation du Québec. He has also participated in different projects as video director, screenwriter and editor.



**MICHEL MARC
BOUCHARD**

DRAMA

80 pages

Published September 2021

World rights available

BACKLIST

EMBRASSE

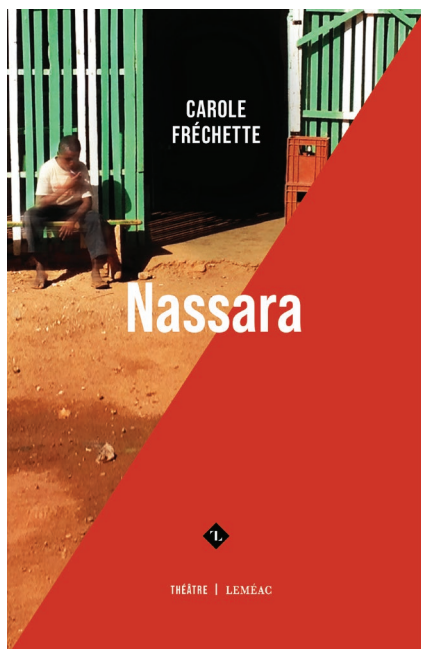
[KISS]

Young Hugo lives and works with his mother, Beatrice, who owns a fabric shop in a regional shopping centre. His world is turned upside down when Beatrice is arrested for publicly beating a young local teacher who accuses her of abusing her son. Rumour has it that Hugo is a victim of domestic violence, which the young teacher, a neighbour of their house, has repeatedly tried to denounce.

Hugo has a passion for fashion and dreams of studying at a top fashion school. He decides to create the garment that his mother will wear at her trial for assault. In his eyes, this suit will make her look like a perfect mother. He is guided in this project by a fantasy vision of French designer Yves Saint-Laurent and assisted by Sergeant Régis, the only black policeman in the area, who recognises himself in the young man's uniqueness.

Lovesick, Hugo kisses people, and his kisses, instead of offending, trigger ambiguous feelings in those who receive them. Can artistic creation be healing? Can it hide the ugliness around us, or is it the source of it? Can we find redemption in dreams and fantasy? Is art just a way of concealing the truth, and can it be forgiving?

Michel Marc Bouchard is a seasoned playwright and a great defender of the living arts. He is a prolific writer for the Quebec stage (Les muses orphelines, Les Feluettes). Several of his plays have been adapted for film and opera. His previous work, La nuit où Laurier Gaudreault s'est réveillé (The Night Laurier Gaudreault Woke Up), will soon become a TV mini-series directed by Xavier Dolan.



**CAROLE
FRÉCHETTE**

DRAMA

64 pages

Published September 2021

World rights available

BACKLIST

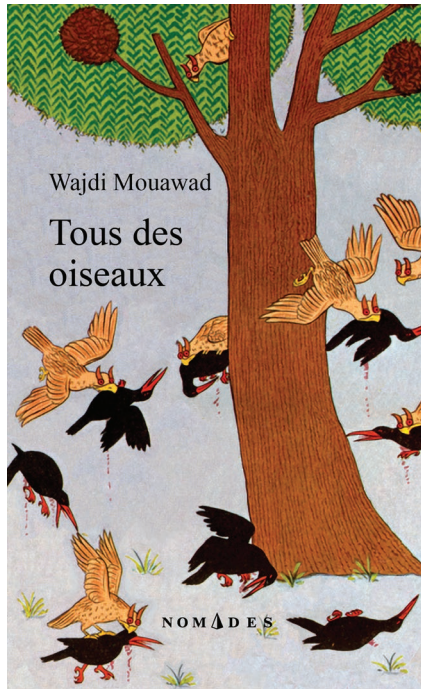
NASSARA

Marie-Odile, a Montrealer, is in Ouagadougou to participate in an international conference on urban agriculture. As her turn to speak approaches, she tries to escape the emotion she has been feeling since the day before when old painful memories have resurfaced. Just as she's about to speak, the door to the hall opens violently, and a young man with a gun bursts in...

Marie-Odile and Ali are the only characters on stage, flanked by a narrator who follows their every intimate thought. In Burkina Faso, children welcome foreigners by chanting the word "nassara" – the white one – and running to hold their hands. These festive cries and furtive contacts are the source of this text, which, as is often the case with Carole Fréchette, combines private sorrows and the shocks of the world in a fine, nervous writing style and with constant sensitivity. What is this fire in the belly that gives rise to the explosions? And how to extinguish it?

Written after the author's stay in Ouagadougou, *Nassara* is a joint project of Les Récréâtrales, a pan-African festival held every two years, and the Centre du Théâtre d'Aujourd'hui, where it has been performed in fall of 2021, directed by Sophie Cadieux.

Originally trained as an actor at the National Theatre School of Canada, Carole Fréchette was a member of the Théâtre des Cuisines collective until the 1980s. She has written some twenty plays, translated into more than twenty languages and performed on five continents. They have earned her numerous distinctions, both here and elsewhere: Governor General's Literary Award of Canada, Sony-Labou-Tansi Award, Prix de la Francophonie, Siminovitch Award (the most important theatre award in Canada). Her work is one of the most widely read and performed in contemporary French-language theatre. Carole Fréchette is also the author of a number of novels for young people.



**WAJDI
MOUAWAD**

DRAMA

184 pages

First publication 2018

Paperback edition 2020

Rights sold:

France, Germany,
North America (English), Spain

BACKLIST

TOUS DES OISEAUX

[Birds of a Kind]

Deeply in love, Eitan and Wahida try to resist the historical reality they face.

But on the Allenby Bridge between Israel and Jordan, things go wrong: victim of a terrorist attack, Eitan falls into a coma. In this suspended space-time, he receives the forced visit of his parents and grandparents, while the grief of identity and the demon of hatred lurk, the twisted ideologies flare, and the birds of ill omen swoop down on the hearts and minds of everyone.

What do we know about the secrets of our family, what setbacks in history and what violence have we all inherited? Being born to the enemy, how can one prevent the blood running in their veins from turning into a landmine?

Since its publication and until spring 2020, *Tous des oiseaux* has been the subject of more than twenty different productions around the world.

Actor, stage director, and director of the Théâtre national de la Colline in Paris, Wajdi Mouawad is also the author of the epic quartet Le Sang des promesses (Littoral, Incendies, Forêts, Ciel) and the novel Anima. Translated into several languages, his work has received many international awards.

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