

2022

LEMÉAC

Rights List — Fall

A BOLD AUTUMN

Daring exploration of the storytelling territory by novelist Jean-François Caron, grappling with his inner devil; fictional and biographical flights of fancy about the dream of classical dance that once made Pascale Navarro's body, heart, and soul beat; painful drama under the sumptuous writing of H  l  ne Rioux, who pens the scenario of an interrupted life; boldness of Miro Larocque, whose *Chouchou*, with its multiple dazzlements already exceeds the promises of a debut novel; opulent prose of Emmanuel Poinot in a short novel of intransquillity, doubt and the ruthlessness of existence.

Bold variations also in young-adult fiction, with a new voice, that of Mar  a Carla, whose Cuban drama *Olas* is full of vivid emotions, and the return of Jonathan B  cotte's uniquely composed writing, with a new opus, *La chambre   teinte*.

After *Les cahiers de C  line* (a triptych made up of the novels *Le cahier noir*, *Le cahier rouge* and *Le cahier bleu*), published in the "Corpus" series last June to mark his 80th birthday, Michel Tremblay returns in October with *Les dits d'Hosanna*, composed of moving exchanges between the former transvestite and a young journalist.

Bold writing, most certainly, and reading pleasure aplenty.

Pierre Filion

**New
titles**





**JEAN-FRANÇOIS
CARON**

FICTION

104 pages

Published August 2022

World rights available

NEW TITLE

BEAU DIABLE

[Handsome Devil]

In my fist, the pebble of sorrow, one, two, three, I blow, sadness is on the way, to my tale I return.

Withdrawn in the hinterland, François undertakes to trap his solitude in the tales he invents to patch up his shattered life. A shrewd storyteller, he hopes to put behind him the trials he went through - first and foremost, his daughter leaving - and to get closer to Mado, the landlady whose freckled skin and immense heart could fend off the remaining fears that lurk around him. Beau Diable, a seven-headed beast, will see to it in a terrifying way...

This magnificent story told by a man at the end of his tether, is both an exhilarating work on language and a brilliant piece of writing that fluctuates between truth and delight. François is surrounded by fabulous creatures – ancient coureurs des bois, a singular taxidermist, a long-distance truck driver – who walk with him along the most precious of paths, the one that brings him back to the world.

This novel is a trap that begins with a voice, in the dark...

A poet and a novelist, Jean-François Caron is the author of five books, including De bois debout, finalist in 2018 for the Prix littéraire des collégiens, the Prix des libraires du Québec and the Prix littéraire France-Québec.



**MIRO
LAROCQUE**

FICTION

120 pages

Published August 2022

World rights available

NEW TITLE

CHOUCHOU

Will Chouchou survive the departure of his mother, the implacable love of the Mzèna sisters, the surprising reward that awaits him, the custody of Zigzag the wild child, the intensity of the possible, the ideal, the body and the unique taste of fluids? Can one get over the worst without selling out? Can one be skilfully poor, can one die without first living the absolute of the relative? Will the eternal teenagers of this incredible world never grow old, taking the forbidden liberties head-on and sucking their essence dry?

Begun when the author was eighteen years old, this feverish text shines with lexical exhilaration, unstoppable lucidity, and burning tears. A long waking dream, a disenchanting, tragic, and cruel fable that takes readers beyond the usual literary conventions. A new voice enters fiction through the high road of unashamed audacity and Ducharme's intuitions. The faint of heart would do better to run for cover, for fear their idle conscience be swept away by this breath of fresh air.

Miro Larocque stopped going to school at sixteen. He worked in restaurant kitchens for a while before leaving for a solo hiking trip in Europe and Morocco. He then discovered two passions, namely travel and writing. On his return, during the pandemic confinement, he wrote Chouchou, his first novel.



**PASCALE
NAVARRO**

AUTOBIOGRAPHY

120 pages

Published September 2022

World rights available

NEW TITLE

LA CLASSE DE DANSE

[The Ballet Class]

Silence settles, then the pianist breaks it delicately. We raise our arms slightly on each side, then lower them again along our body. It is hardly a movement, more like a breath. A brief moment of contemplation.

A teenage girl is passionate about ballet. She only lives for the classes she takes, and the ballet school is her community. There she learns about solidarity and discovers her own femininity. The day she is expelled, her world shatters. How can she rebuild herself after this failure? How can she find new marks?

Pascale Navarro is the author of several essays, including Femmes et pouvoir : les changements nécessaires. Plaidoyer pour la parité, published by Leméac in 2015 and translated in English by Linda Leith Publishing under the title Women and Power: The Case for Parity. After La menthe et le cumin (2020), La classe de danse is her second autobiographical story.



**EMMANUEL
POINOT**

FICTION

112 pages

Published September 2022

World rights available

NEW TITLE

L'ANGLE DE CHUTE

[Descent]

Félix and Clémence retreat to the seaside, trying to mend an almost shattered marriage. As he takes long autumn walks along the deserted beaches and the moors, Félix discovers a strange empty house that both fascinates and frightens him. Slowly, the place becomes a kind of refuge that allows him to forget the moral bankruptcy he feels guilty about.

When the property owner, who has been away for a long time after a tragedy occurred in the house returns, Félix's life takes a different turn. He realizes too late that fate is malevolent and had been waiting for him patiently, lurking and implacable.

With *L'angle de chute*, Emmanuel Poinot writes a short unsettling novel about doubt, fear and the mercilessness of existence.

Emmanuel Poinot lives and works in Quebec. After Les voyages éphémères (2019), L'angle de chute is his second book.



NEW TITLE

INVENTEURS DE VIES

[The Inventors of Life]

On the Andalusian coast, a woman shrouded in sadness meets a Bulgarian writer conducting some research. He writes, or maybe invents, biographies of characters who did not go down in history, people whose role in the way of the world has always been secondary.

She gradually reveals herself to this stranger - or does she lie? - and demands that he writes a very special biography, in order to imagine a life interrupted too soon.

But can one really write to order?

In sumptuous prose, Hélène Rioux tells of a terrible tragedy that we believe only happens to others: the disappearance and sordid murder of a child at the hands of a sadistic killer.

Born in Montreal, Hélène Rioux has published novels, short stories and poetry. A six-time finalist for the Governor General's Literary Awards, she has received the Grand Prix littéraire du Journal de Montréal, the Prix Ringuet from the Académie des lettres du Québec, the Prix de la Société des écrivains canadiens and the Prix France-Québec.

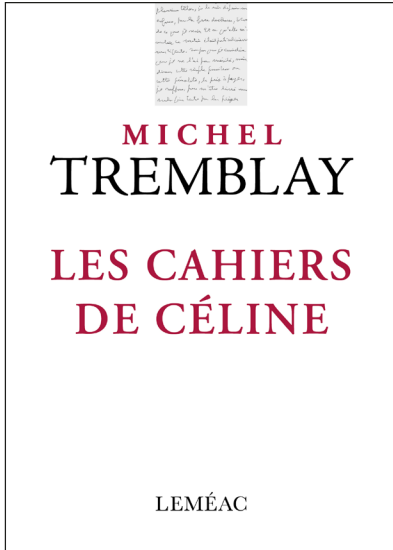
**HÉLÈNE
RIOUX**

FICTION

120 pages

Published October 2022

World rights available



**MICHEL
TREMBLAY**

FICTION

680 pages

Published May 2022

First publication:

Le cahier noir: 2003

Le cahier rouge: 2004

Le cahier bleu: 2005

World rights available

NEW TITLE

LES CAHIERS DE CÉLINE

Le cahier noir • Le cahier rouge • Le cahier bleu

[Céline's Books]

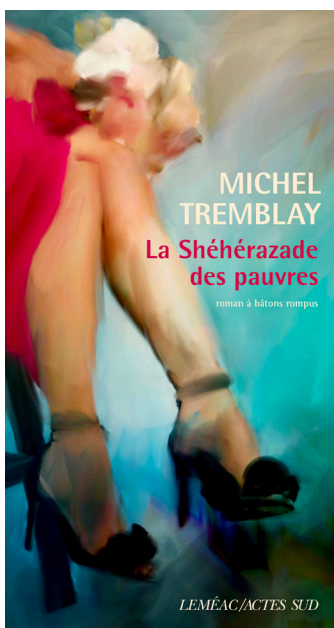
Renowned playwright, novelist, and librettist Michel Tremblay is the author of an immense work set in the heart of the Plateau-Mont-Royal area in Montreal, which brings together more than three thousand real and imaginary characters.

Three novels are gathered here under the title *Les cahiers de Céline*, (*Le cahier noir*, *Le cahier rouge* and *Le cahier bleu*) forming a chronicle teeming with life that celebrates Montreal's outcasts, transvestites and beatniks, unsung artists, the disenfranchised and other creatures of the Main, through the destiny of a waitress who liberates herself from her physical handicap through writing.

The young woman discovers in her early twenties the delights of this solitary practice, rooting her story in the hectic times of Expo 67 and the performance of L'Osstidcho, and leading the reader to see, hear, taste, feel and smell a society in transformation.

These three novels, at times off-the-wall, have the almost retro panache of a period film.

A prolific author and a world-renowned playwright, Michel Tremblay won numerous prestigious literary awards throughout his career and is one of the most important writers of his generation. The cycle of novels known respectively as Les Belles-Soeurs, Les Chroniques du Plateau-Mont-Royal and La diaspora des Desrosiers are all part of the major works of contemporary francophone literature.



**MICHEL
TREMBLAY**

FICTION

160 pages

Published October 2022

French except Canada (Actes Sud)

World rights available

NEW TITLE

LA SHÉHÉRAZADE DES PAUVRES

[The Poorman's Scheherazade]

After his moment of glory in the play of the same name, Hosanna, a favourite character of Michel Tremblay, remained in the shadow of a distressing humiliation. Ridiculed at school, puny, nicknamed “Banana Split”, he earned his living as a ladies’ hairdresser on the Plaza St-Hubert, where he still plies his trade, fifty years later, in times of pandemic. Since the Duchess was killed forty-five years ago, Hosanna has been holed up in his squalid apartment, reminiscing over his queen rags and indulging in liberal daily gin intake.

This open-ended novel brings the seventy-nine year old former transvestite back to the stage, as he is visited by a young journalist from *Fugues* magazine.

Yannick, about to conduct his first ever interview, is in fact interested in the 70s set, and encounters Hosanna to get to know “the era” better. But the one-hour interview he thought he was having with Claude Lemieux turns into a week-long exchange, during which his interest in Hosanna develops much more than his curiosity about the period the latter represents. A colourful, loud-mouthed chronic alcoholic, Hosanna introduces him to the milieu, to what was happening behind the scenes, to the internal wars, to the homophobic violence of the time, and reveals to the young man secrets known only to him: the life of misery of the “queens”, the “trannies”, and the lovers – his very own in particular, Cuirette, nearing the end of his life. Through a clever subterfuge, some of the stories told by Hosanna to the journalist, and also some of the confidences made by the journalist to Hosanna, are put into prose besides the disheveled dialogue both have.

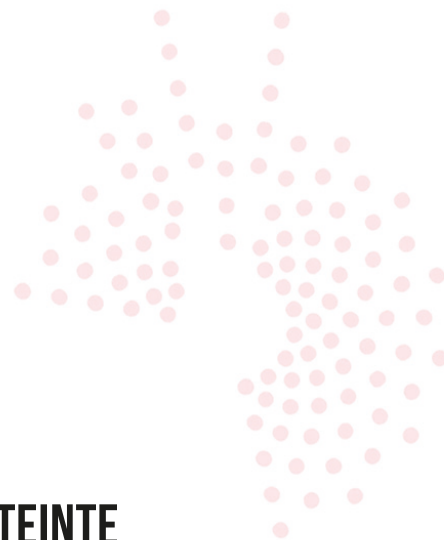
As 2023 will mark the 50th anniversary of the play, the novelist brings out Hosanna in all her raw splendour – the “Scheherazade of the poor”, overwhelmed by loneliness and pathetic self-mockery.



**JONATHAN
BÉCOTTE**

YOUNG ADULT FICTION

160 pages
Published August 2022
World rights available



NEW TITLE

LA CHAMBRE ÉTEINTE

[Echoes of a Distant Room]

*I dust folders that are sorted by colour, size, and significance.
My father says, "You can't possibly keep all of it."
That truth hits me like a ton of bricks.*

On an autumn morning, the narrator gets a call from his father, who wants to turn his old childhood bedroom into a workshop. So the young man makes the drive to his hometown, where the daunting task awaits of choosing what, among the memories accumulated in the boxes, is worth saving. As he retrieves time-worn familiar objects, vivid memories of moments shared with a boy long since gone resurface.

Composed like an evocative long poem, this short book sensibly explores the feelings that remain attached to childhood, and the inner light they can still hold, despite the passage of time.

Jonathan Bécotte was born in 1987. La chambre éteinte is his third novel published by Leméac, after Maman veut partir, for which he won the 2019 Alvine-Bélisle Award, and Souffler dans la cassette, for which he received the 2017 Cécile-Gagnon Award.



NEW TITLE

OLAS

After years of preparation, the day has come when Talía can lavishly celebrate her fifteenth birthday in the quinceañera Latin American tradition. But as she dances with her lover, the young Cuban can't help wondering about her future. What life awaits her once the party is over? Her career path seems already set for her: like her parents, she'll become a doctor, get married, raise children, and take care of her grandparents...

Talía gradually becomes aware of the limits imposed by the precarious living conditions in her country. While on vacation with her family, the young woman reunites with her childhood friend, Ulises, who informs her of his plan to move to Florida to become a marine contractor. She then decides to leave with him. Three years will be necessary for them to prepare their flight, with Ulises building their boat, and Talía saving every penny from the sale of her paintings to tourists. Will they make it across the Florida Straits? Will the waves - *olas*, in Spanish - carry them to the place of their dreams?

*María Carla was born in Cuba, and has been living in Quebec since 2013. In **Olas**, she takes a completely different look at the paradise island so beloved by tourists. In this debut novel written directly in French, the twenty-year old Montreal student depicts Cuba from the inside, in a strong and lyrical voice reminiscent of her original culture. Yet, it is above all a look at the hopes that thousands of young people, in Cuba or elsewhere, dare not entertain, and that some will go to great length to achieve.*

**MARÍA
CARLA**

YOUNG ADULT FICTION

184 pages

Published August 2022

World rights available



**MICHEL MARC
BOUCHARD**

OPERA LIBRETTO

112 pages

Published October 2022

World rights available

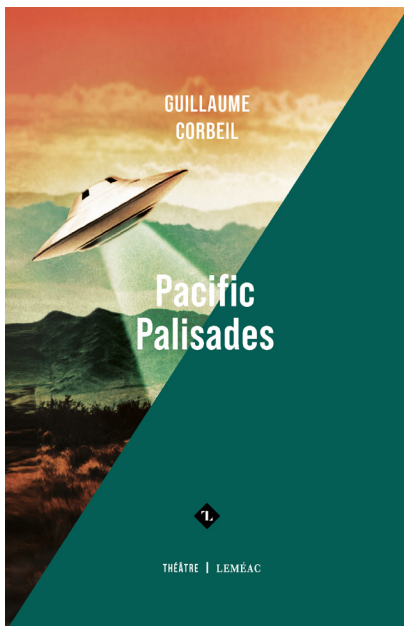
NEW TITLE

LA BEAUTÉ DU MONDE FOLLOWED BY LES FELUETTES

An original libretto commissioned by the Opéra de Montréal, *La beauté du monde* tells how many works of art from the Louvre and Jeu de Paume museums were put to safety during the Second World War.

Objects of envy and suspicious bargaining, hundreds of paintings by Matisse, Picasso, Vermeer, Rembrandt, and Da Vinci were only just saved before the nazis arrived in Paris, while others were sent to the Führer and his henchmen. Among them was the famous Hermann Göring, Marshal of the German Empire, who selected thousands of works for his personal collection while the art nouveau material, seen as degenerate art, was burned right before the eyes of devastated curators. At the end of the war, thanks to Jacques Jaujard, director of the Louvre and the National Museums, these stolen pieces found their way back to their original museums, and more than sixty thousand art treasures, mainly looted from Jewish collectors, were returned to their rightful owners.

An internationally renowned playwright, Michel Marc Bouchard is the author of Les Feluettes, Les Muses orphelines and Tom à la ferme, all of which have been translated into English and various other languages, and also made into films. His more recent play EMBRASSE, was critically acclaimed. In November 2021, he was awarded the Athanase-David Prize for his life's work.



**GUILLAUME
CORBEIL**

THEATRE

72 pages

Published October 2022

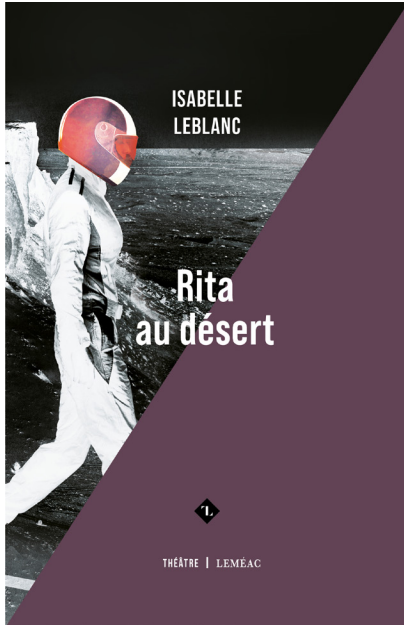
World rights available

NEW TITLE

PACIFIC PALISADES

This play is based on a true story: in Los Angeles, in 2015, the dead body of an individual who claimed to be half-human, half-extraterrestrial was found in his car. His garage was packed with weapons, ammunition, futuristic vehicles and cash. Guillaume Corbeil, author and narrator, decided to go there, pretending to be a reporter. He met with people who knew the man in question – who also claimed to work for the secret service – and collected divergent accounts. It didn't take long before he was drawn into a crazy spiral of tall tales and make-believe.

Guillaume Corbeil has written short stories (L'art de la fugue, which received the Adrienne-Choquette Prize), a novel (Pleurer comme dans les films, published by Leméac), a biography (Brassard), tales (Trois princesses), a film (À tous ceux qui ne me lisent pas, which received an Iris award for best screenplay), an adaptation (Le meilleur des mondes, after Aldous Huxley's Brave New World) and, of course, plays. Nous voir nous (Cinq visages pour Camille Brunelle), his very first play, received the Michel Tremblay Award, the Best Text Award from the Association québécoise des critiques de théâtre, and the Audience Award at the Primeurs Festival in Saarbrücken, Germany. Other works include Tu iras la chercher and Unité modèle.



**ISABELLE
LEBLANC**

THEATRE

120 pages

Published October 2022

World rights available

NEW TITLE

RITA AU DÉSERT

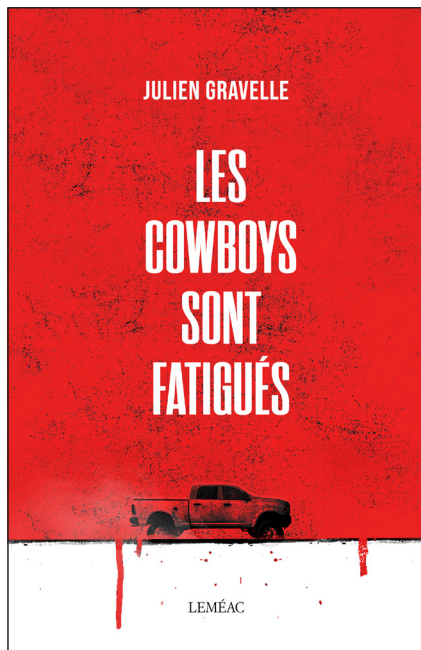
The desert invites to a journey into one's inner self, its crossing forces the act of thinking. Hypochondriacs and claustrophobics beware, the travel guides are pretty clear about it. Careless travelers be warned.

Lucien Champion, a sports reporter in a provincial town, decides to become the biographer of Rita Houle, a fifty-year-old woman chosen to participate in a car rally in the remote Gobi Desert: he will turn her into a myth, she will turn him into a writer. Yet, the real adventures of his muse are slow to arrive, so he quickly starts to invent them for her.

To tell the story of what did not happen, to give a presence to the intangible; such is the project of this text which fluctuates between joy and mourning, with the firm belief that fiction has the power not only to enchant reality, but to render it concrete.

Author, director, actor, teacher, and artistic director of Théâtre Ô Parleur, Isabelle Leblanc has written the plays Aube (Théâtre d'Aujourd'hui, 2001) and L'histoire de Raoul (Théâtre de Quat'Sous, 2002). She has collaborated with Wajdi Mouawad (notably on his plays Littoral, Rêves, and Incendies) for some twenty years.

Backlist



**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 and Nos renoncement. Réflexion sur la masculinité et la violence.*

Gilles Jobidon

L'âme frère



**GILLES
JOBIDON**

FICTION

144 pages

Published in 2005

Paperback edition in 2020

World rights available

BACKLIST

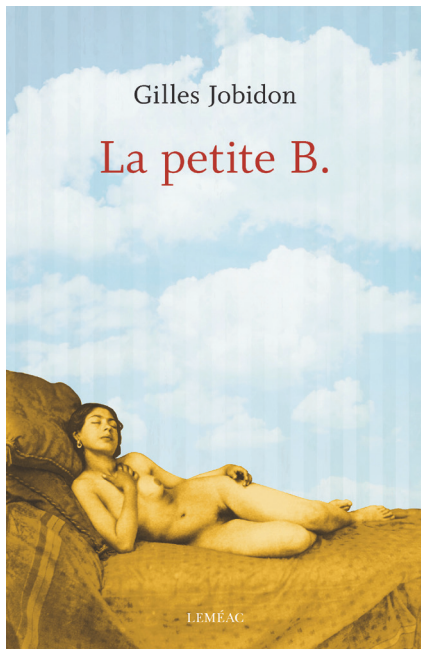
L'ÂME FRÈRE

[Soul Brother]

In the spring of 1691, in New France, lovers Jean Fillio, known as Dubois, and Nicolas d'Aucy, known as Saint-Michel are caught in flagrante delicto of "buggery" - an unnatural crime. Fillio is banished from the colony and deported to the southern islands. Blanche d'Aucy, his lover's daughter, comes to join him after her father's suicide and has a love affair with him, the events of which are both touching and surprising for that time in history. *L'âme frère* tells sensibly of love, with the unusual colourful accents of the French language of the time and delicious neologisms.

"Close to poetry in its brevity, lyricism, and inventive language, Jobidon's novel sheds light on an aspect of history neglected until today."

– *Éric Paquin, Voir*



**GILLES
JOBIDON**

FICTION

232 pages

Published September 2015

World rights available

BACKLIST

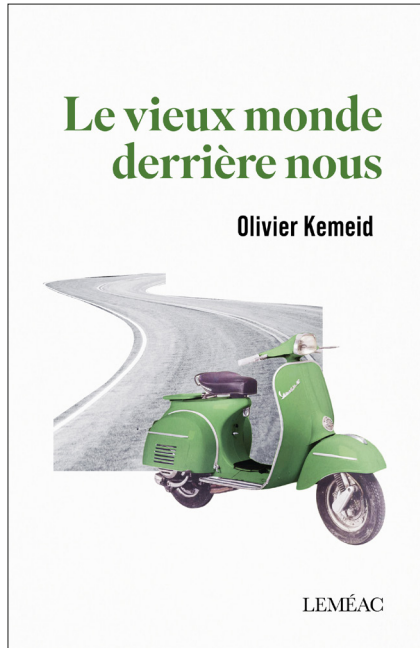
LA PETITE B.

[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.



**OLIVIER
KEMEID**

FICTION

144 pages
Published March 2022
World rights available

BACKLIST

**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.*



**MARIE-HÉLÈNE
LAROCHELLE**

FICTION

168 pages

Published February 2021

Rights sold:

World English (House of Anansi)

All other 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. Je suis le Courant la vase was finalist at the 2022 Trillium Book Award.



**CLAIRE
LEGENDRE**

AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL FICTION

120 pages

Published September 2020

[first publication: 2015]

Rights sold: Canada (English),
Spain

BACKLIST

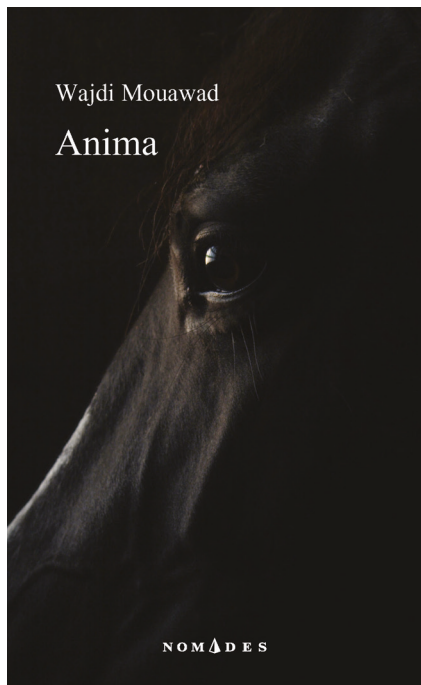
LE NÉNUPHAR ET L'ARAIGNÉE

[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

FICTION

Paperback edition: 504 pages
Published September 2012
Paperback edition 2016
Rights sold: German (DTV),
English (World – Talon Books),
French (France – Actes Sud),
Italian (Fazi), Spanish (Seix Barral),
Catalan (Periscopi), Greek (Eksodseis),
Japanese (Kawade Shobo Shinsha).

BACKLIST

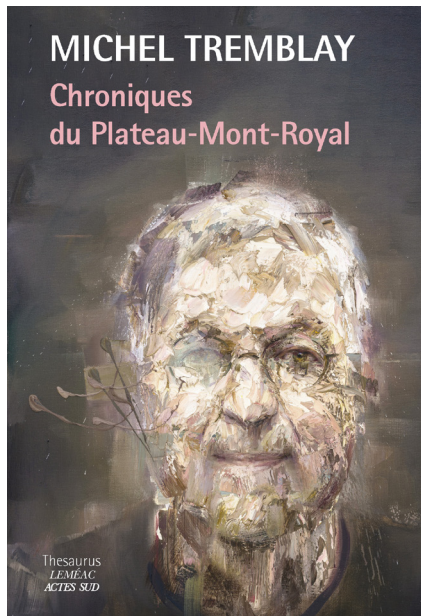
ANIMA

Anima opens with a sordid murder: Wahhch Debch returns home and discovers his murdered wife, a knife stuck in the sex and the child she was carrying. A real manhunt begins, a furious inner odyssey that will take him from Montreal across North America to the south, leading him into a real hell: how far can a man go down the well of his pain, and what encounters can he face on his own without losing his mind?

The murderer's name is Nelson Wolf Rooney. He is an American Mohawk hiding in the Kanawake reserve, a dangerous criminal involved in all kinds of schemes. As the Sûreté du Québec's investigation progresses, the fragments of a memory long buried in the depths of his childhood are awakened in Wahhch, as far as the Sabra and Chatila camps, places of darkness and atrocities, even underground, at the heart of human curses.

Wajdi Mouawad has the sure instinct of the writer who dives into his own abysses. Through its sheer literary scope, Anima pushes the boundaries of literature, because this Minotaur of a novel is a beast, both real and fabulous, that wants to devour the Unforgettable.

Born in Lebanon in 1968, Wajdi Mouawad has first lived in Paris, then Montreal, and is now back in Paris where since 2016 he manages the Théâtre national de la Colline. He is notably the author of Le Sang des promesses, an epic theatre quartet whose second part, Incendies, has been brought to the screen by Denis Villeneuve. His second novel after Visage retrouvé (Leméac / Actes Sud, 2002), Anima, has won the prix Phénix de littérature, the Grand Prix Thyde-Monnier of the Société des gens de lettres, the prix de la Méditerranée, the Prize for the second novel of Lecture en tête, the Jury Prize of the Algue d'or and the Catalan Llibreter Prize for foreign novels.



**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

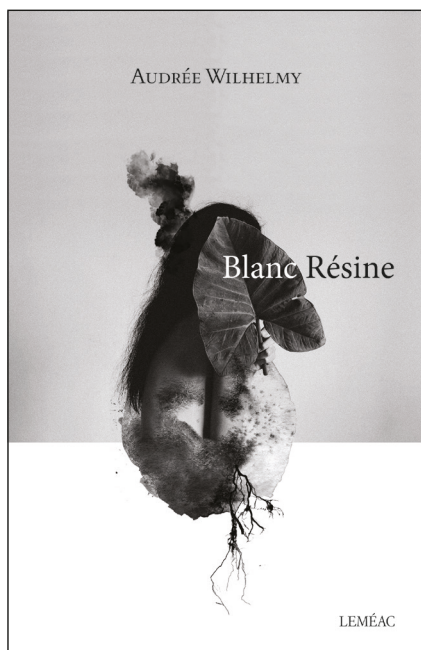
Following the adjustments made by the author to *La diaspora des Desrosiers* cycle when its nine volumes were collected in a single tome, a thorough review of the *Chroniques du Plateau-Mont-Royal* cycle was necessary. Published between 1978 and 1997, the six volumes of the *Chroniques* tell the stories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

Verlagshaus Römerweg (World German)

BACKLIST

BLANC RÉSINE

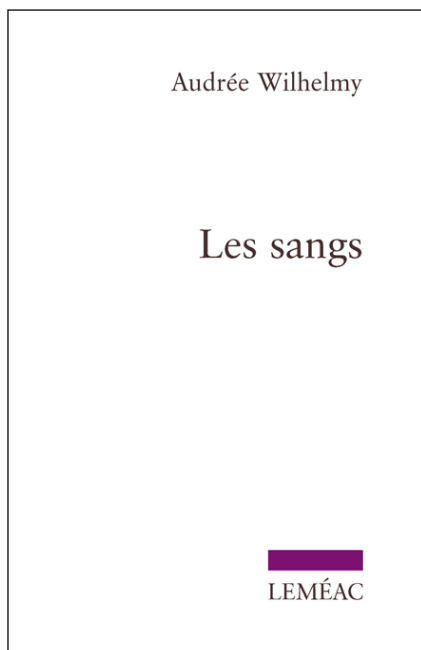
[White Resin]

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

Paperback edition 2017

Rights sold: French (Grasset)

Spanish, Italian, Galician

Film rights in Spanish

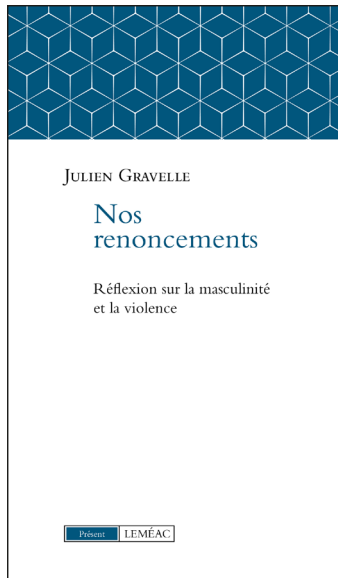
BACKLIST

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.



**JULIEN
GRAVELLE**

NON-FICTION

216 pages

Published September 2021

World rights available

BACKLIST

NOS RENONCEMENTS

RÉFLEXION SUR LA MASCULINITÉ ET LA VIOLENCE

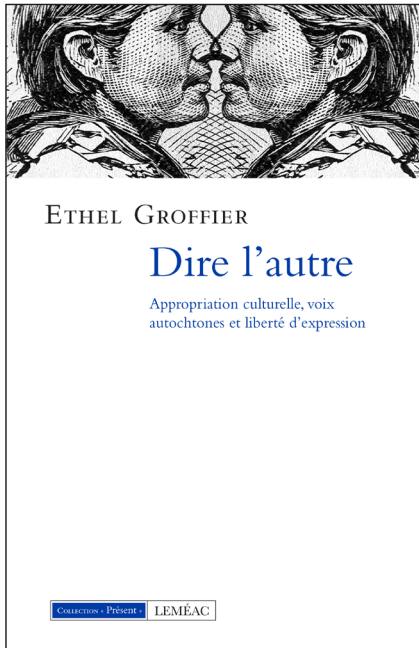
[A War I Will Not Fight Reflections on masculinity and violence]

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

152 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.



**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.*



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.

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



**SIMON
BOULERICE**

YOUNG ADULT FICTION

184 pages

Published September 2016

Rights sold:

Film rights in French

All other rights available

BACKLIST

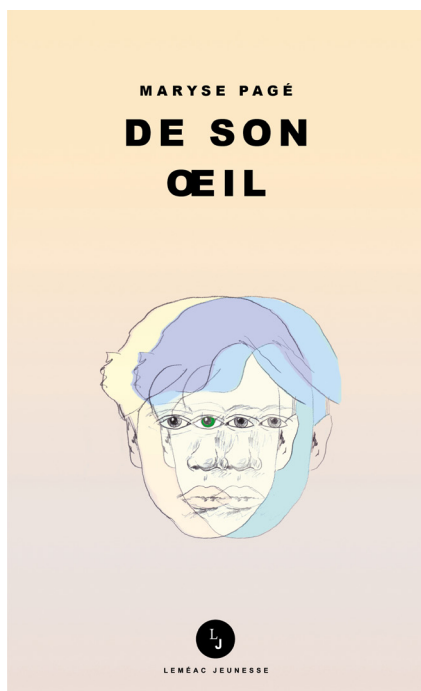
L'ENFANT MASCARA

[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 Boulerice 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 Boulerice 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

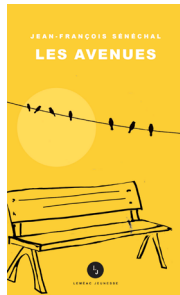
[In His Eye]

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.



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.

**JEAN-FRANÇOIS
SÉNÉCHAL**

YOUNG ADULT FICTION

304 pages

Published October 2016

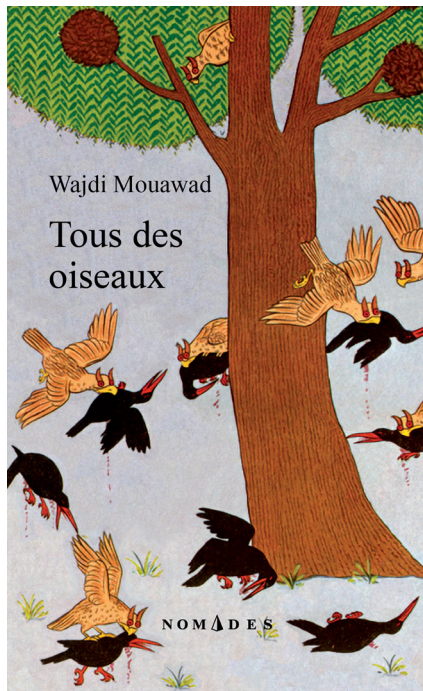
Rights sold:

French (Éditions Sarbacane)

Italian (EDT Edizioni)

Greek (Kastaniotis Editions)

Film rights



**WAJDI
MOUAWAD**

DRAMA

184 pages

First publication 2018

Paperback edition 2020

Rights sold:

France, Germany,
North America (English), Spain,
Italian

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, Ciels) and the novel Anima. Translated into several languages, his work has received many international awards.

LEMÉAC



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Canada



Conseil des arts
du Canada

Canada Council
for the Arts

SODEC
Québec

