



Charco Press Catalog

Spring Summer 2022



WELCOME

Charco means 'puddle' in Spanish. It is also used in some Latin American countries to refer to crossing the ocean, or travelling between continents, so that literally *cruzar el charco* means 'crossing the puddle', 'crossing the pond'.

Charco Press focuses on finding outstanding contemporary Latin American literature to bring to readers in the English-speaking world. We are the cultural and linguistic bridge for you to be able to access a continent of fiction that has, until now, been missing from your reading world.

We actively seek out those authors who write works that are not only entertaining, but also engaging and thought-provoking. Most of them have won prizes and accolades for good reason.

None of this would be possible without our translators: they are a critical part of the equation, the conduits bringing our authors' voices to you. We work with well-known contemporary translators as well as emerging new talent. It is their interpretation, their attention to the nuances, that makes the difference, and sets Charco Press apart.

So what are you waiting for? Come, cross the puddle with us.

DEAR READER

Despite its challenges, 2021 was a fantastic year for Charco. We published a record number of new works in translation, including the North American release of *Loop* by Brenda Lozano and *Fate* by Jorge Consiglio.

2021 was the year we published our first book from Cuba (*Havana Year Zero*, Karla Suárez), our first title by Argentinian great Claudia Piñeiro (*Elena Knows*), an incredible short story collection from Federico Falco (*A Perfect Cemetery*), as well as two Uruguayan writers who bookend our catalog in terms of age: Fernanda Trías, who was just 25 when *The Rooftop* was first published, and Ida Vitale, who wrote *Byobu* at the age of 81!

We also launched our new Charco Original+ES editions – works in their original Spanish – with the publication of *Habana Año Cero* and *La Azotea*.

In S/S 2022, we have even more to look forward to: four new titles in translation; two more Charco Original+ES; and the launch of our Charco Untranslated series of English-language original works. We hope you'll enjoy discovering them with us.

CHARCO ORIGINAL+ES

In 2021, we launched our Charco Original+ES editions: Spanish-language original works, to be published alongside their English translations. We took this step for the purpose of expanding the availability of original language contemporary Latin American literature, and further cementing the idea that the charco (or puddle, in English) between markets doesn't represent a separation between literatures.

Last year we published our first two Charco Original+ES, *La Azotea* by Fernanda Trías and *Habana Año Cero* by Karla Suárez. This season, they are followed by two more Charco Original+ES:

UNA OFRENDA MUSICAL

By Luis Sagasti • 17 May 2022

A Musical Offering, tr. Fionn Petch • 17 May 2022

PUERTAS DEMASIADO PEQUEÑAS

By Ave Barrera • 26 July 2022

The Forgery, tr. Ellen Jones & Robin Myers • 26 July 2022

CHARCO UNTRANSLATED

For the first time, in 2022 Charco will be publishing English-language original works in our new Untranslated series. These titles will be broadly works of non-fiction and memoir, always with a tangible link back to our Latin American roots.

The first title of the series will be Daniel Hahn's *Catching Fire*, a 'translation diary' detailing Hahn's work on Diamela Eltit's novel *Never Did the Fire*, initially published in the form of blog posts and updated in real time on the Charco Press website. In this complete and extended edition, it will be published alongside *Never Did the Fire* in April 2022.

Diamela Eltit is one of Latin America's most daring writers and is highly regarded for her avant-garde initiatives in the world of letters. During the Pinochet dictatorship she participated in the collective CADA, staging art actions against the dictatorship, and published her first novels to universal acclaim. She is currently the Distinguished Global Professor



of Creative Writing in Spanish at NYU and has previously taught at Brown, Columbia, Stanford and Cambridge. In 2021, she was awarded the Premio FIL for Literature in Romance Languages at the Guadalajara Literature Festival.

"Never Did The Fire will be a first-rate literary experience for any reader."
—El País

"One of the greatest merits of Diamela Eltit's work is the way she narrates failure from the interior of her language."

—Letras Libres

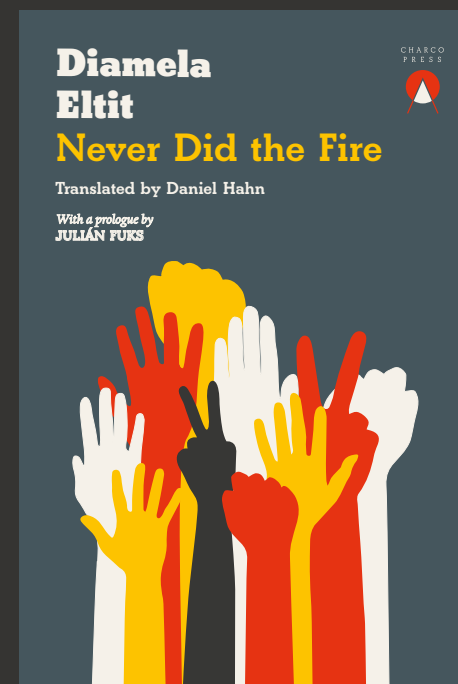
NEVER DID THE FIRE

Diamela Eltit

Translated by Daniel Hahn

Foreword by Julián Fuks

A literary icon in Chile and a major figure in the anti-Pinochet resistance, Diamela Eltit gets renewed attention in the English language in a novel of breakdowns.



Holed up together, old, ill, and untethered from the revolutionary action that defined them, a couple's bonds dissolve in their loss of a child and their loss of belief in an idea. What is there left to have faith in when the structures we built, and the ones we succumbed to, no longer offer us any comfort or prospect of salvation?

ISBN: 9781913867218

eISBN: 9781913867225

5 April 2022 • \$15.95

B format paperback

130pp

Literary Fiction

CATCHING FIRE

Daniel Hahn

In *Catching Fire*, the translation of Diamela Eltit's *Never Did the Fire* unfolds in real time as a conversation between works of art, illuminating both in the process.

The problems and pleasures of conveying literature into another language — what happens when you meet a pun? a double entendre? — are met by translator Daniel Hahn's humor, deftness, and deep appreciation for what sets Eltit's work apart, and his evolving understanding of what this particular novel is trying to do.

ISBN: 9781913867256

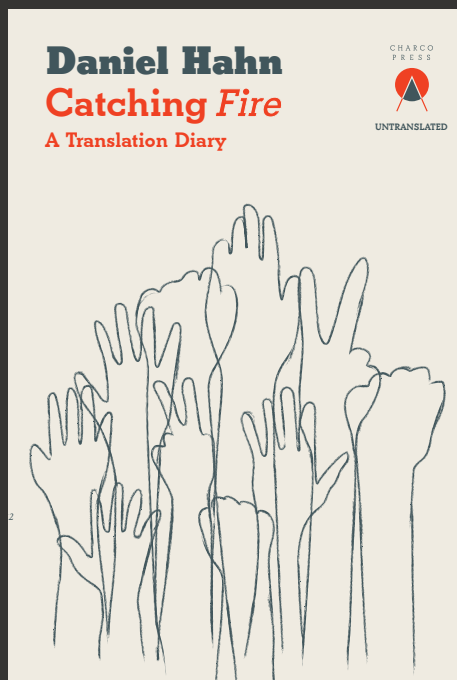
eISBN: 9781913867263

5 April 2022 • \$15.95

B format paperback

120pp

Non-Fiction



Daniel Hahn is a writer, editor and translator with over eighty books to his name. His translations (from Portuguese, Spanish and French) include fiction from Europe, Africa and the Americas. For Charco Press, he has previously translated *Resistance* and *Occupation* by Brazilian writer Julián Fuks.

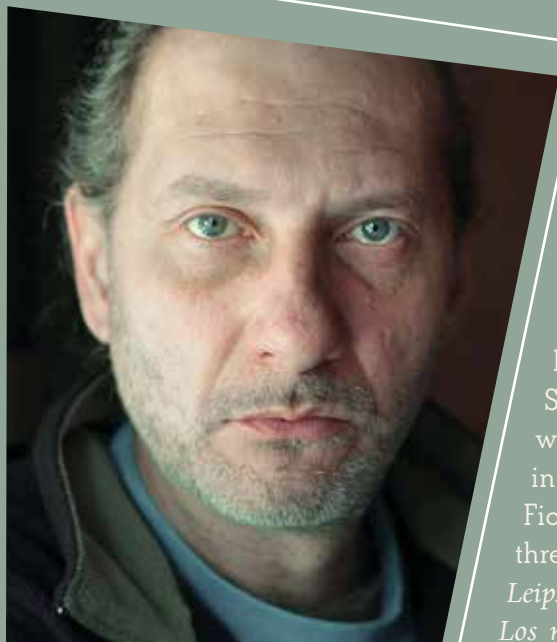
He is a former chair of the Society of Authors and is presently on the board of a number of organizations that deal with literature, literacy and translation. In 2021, Daniel was made an OBE for his services to literature.



The inaugural title of the new “Charco Untranslated” series of English-language original works

'Sagasti displays a remarkable gift.'

— Publishers Weekly



Luis Sagasti, a writer, lecturer and art critic, was born in Bahía Blanca, Argentina in 1963. He graduated in History at the Universidad Nacional del Sur where he now teaches. His book *Fireflies* (known in Spanish as *Bellas Artes*, 2011) was published by Charco Press in 2017, also translated by Fionn Petch. He has published three other novels: *El Canon de Leipzig* (Leipzig's Canon, 1999), *Los mares de la Luna* (Seas of the Moon, 2006), and *Maelstrom* (2015). His most recent book, comprised

entirely of footnotes, came out at the end of 2019.

Fionn Petch was born in Scotland, spent a decade in Mexico City and is now based in Berlin. He translates from Spanish and French, and specializes in books on art and architecture. He holds a doctorate in philosophy from the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM). Fionn has also translated *The Distance Between Us* by Renato Cisneros and co-translated Jorge Consiglio's *Fate* for Charco Press. In 2018 he was shortlisted for the TA First Translation Prize for his translation of Luis Sagasti's *Fireflies*.

A MUSICAL OFFERING

Luis Sagasti

Translated by Fionn Petch



Tracing a circular course that echoes Bach's Goldberg Variations, Luis Sagasti's second book to appear in English takes the guise of a musical *scheherazade*, recounting story after story, vibrating to celestial harmonies.

From the music born of the sun to the music sent into space on the Voyager mission, from Rothko to rock music, *A Musical Offering* traverses the shifting sands of fiction and history.

ISBN: 9781999368456

eISBN: 9781916277816

17 May 2022 • \$14.95

B format paperback • 117pp

Literary Fiction

CHARCO ORIGINAL+ES

UNA OFRENDA MUSICAL

The Spanish-language edition of *A Musical Offering*.

ISBN: 9781913867232

eISBN: 9781913867249

17 May 2022 • \$14.95

B format paperback • 117pp

Literary Fiction

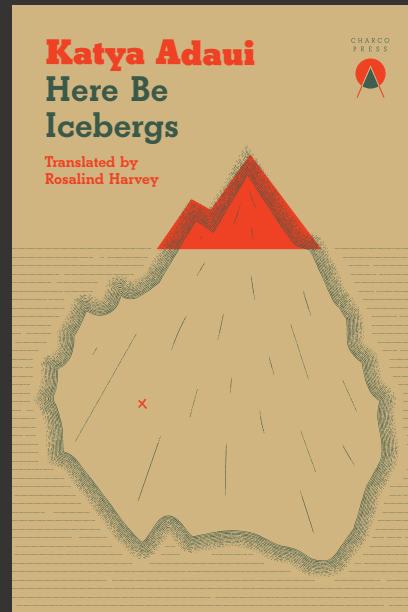
HERE BE ICEBERGS

Katya Aдаui

Translated by Rosalind Harvey

The weird, fetid, familiar discomfort of family is front and center in these short stories of all the ways we remain a mystery to each other.

A family is haunted by a beast that splatters fruit against its walls every night; another undergoes a near-collision with a bus on the way home from the beach. Mothers are cold, fathers are absent – we know these moments in the abstract, but Aдаui makes each as uncanny as our own lives: close but not yet understood. The mysteries of kinship (families born into and families made) take disconcerting and familiar shapes in these refreshingly frank short stories.



ISBN: 9781913867195

eISBN: 9781913867201

14 June 2022 • \$15.95

B format paperback • 130pp

Literary Fiction

“Aдаui belongs to a resurgence of women storytellers who have restored the pleasure of reading stories that leave us suffering from their sweet intoxication.” —W Magazín

Katya Aдаui (Lima, 1977) is the author of the short story collections *Geografía de la oscuridad*, *Aquí hay icebergs* (*Here Be Icebergs*), and *Algo se nos ha escapado*, the novel *Nunca sabré lo que entiendo*, and the children’s books *Patichueca* and *Muy Muy en Bora Bora*. Her narrative work has been included in more than twenty anthologies in Peru and other countries. She studied creative writing in Buenos Aires, where she currently lives and teaches literary workshops.



Rosalind Harvey was elected as a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature in 2018. Her translations of Juan Pablo Villalobos’ works have been shortlisted for the 2011 Guardian First Book Award and the 2012 Oxford-Weidenfeld Translation Prize, and longlisted for the International DUBLIN Literary Award. Authors she has translated include Guadalupe Nettel, Elvira Navarro, Enrique Vila-Matas and Héctor Abad Faciolince. Rosalind is also a Teaching Fellow in Spanish and Translation Studies at the University of Warwick.

‘We must pay serious attention to the work of Ave Barrera.’

— Cristina Rivera Garza

Ave Barrera (Guadalajara, Mexico, 1980) holds a Bachelor in Hispanic Literature at University of Guadalajara and for several years was an editor in Oaxaca, Mexico. Ave has twice been awarded the Young Creators Grant for Novel from the Mexican National Fund for Culture and the Arts. She was recipient of the Sergio Galindo Award for her first novel *Puertas demasiado pequeñas*. She currently lives in Mexico City and is writing a new novel: *Tratado de la vida marina* (A Treatise of Marine Life). Her latest novel was published in 2019 in Mexico and Spain under the title *Restauración* (Restoration).



Ellen Jones is a researcher and translator based in London. She has a PhD from Queen Mary University of London and writes about multilingualism and translation in contemporary Latin American literature. For Charco Press she has previously translated *Trout, Belly Up* by Rodrigo Fuentes. **Robin Myers** is a New York-born, Mexico City-based poet and translator. Recent book-length translations include *Lyric Poetry Is Dead* by Ezequiel Zaidenweg, *Animals at the End of the World* by Gloria Susana Esquivel, and *Cars on Fire* by Mónica Ramón Ríos.

THE FORGERY

Ave Barrera

Translated by Ellen Jones & Robin Myers



A failing artist turned forger, an architectural masterpiece hidden behind high walls, an impish vagabond, and some very resourceful, very intimidating twins — *The Forgery* pays homage to greats like Juan Rulfo and Luis Barragán, traversing late 20th century Guadalajara with the exuberance and eccentricity of an 18th century picaresque.

ISBN: 9781913867157

eISBN: 9781913867164

26 July 2022 • \$15.95

B format paperback • 120pp

Literary Fiction

CHARCO ORIGINAL+ES

PUERTAS DEMASIADO PEQUEÑAS

The Spanish-language edition of *The Forgery*.

ISBN: 9781913867171

eISBN: 9781913867188

26 July 2022 • \$15.95

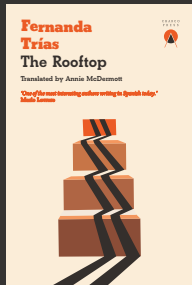
B format paperback • 120pp

Literary Fiction

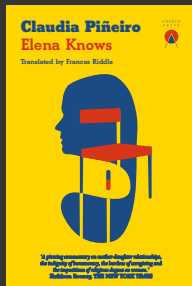
MORE CHARCO PRESS TITLES



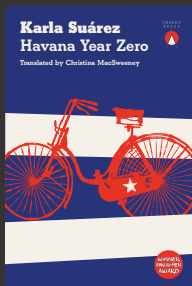
BYOBU
Ida Vitale
"The best book of 2021."
—*ABC Arts*



THE ROOFTOP
Fernanda Trias
"An exceptional novel."
—*ABC Cultural*

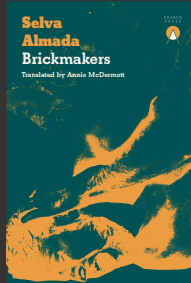


ELENA KNOWS
Claudia Piñeiro
"Page-turning and political."
—*New York Times*



HAVANA YEAR ZERO
Karla Suárez
"A masterpiece."
—*Marie Claire*

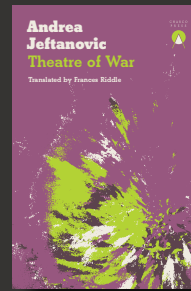
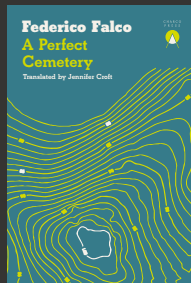
BRICKMAKERS
Selva Almada
"Mesmeric."
—*The Arts Desk*



OCCUPATION
Julián Fuks
"Wholly mesmerising."
—*Irish Times*



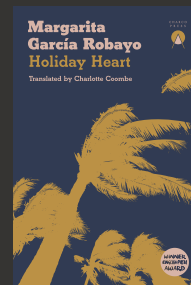
A PERFECT CEMETERY
Federico Falco
"An unforgettable collection."
—*Kirkus*



THEATRE OF WAR
Andrea Jeftanovic
"A memorable novel of devastating poignancy."
—*Irish Times*



DEAD GIRLS
Selva Almada
"Acute, unflinching."
—*Publishers Weekly*

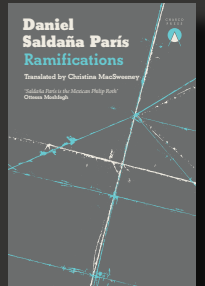


HOLIDAY HEART
Margarita García Robayo
"Holiday Heart is brilliant."
—*The Guardian*

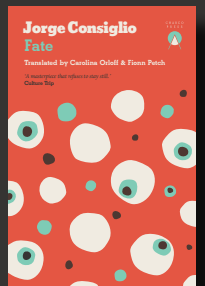
A MUSICAL OFFERING
Luis Sagasti
"A bewitching suite of stories about music, heard and unheard."
—*The Arts Desk*

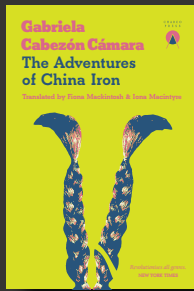


FATE
Jorge Consiglio
"A moving testament to the beauty and banality of human relationships."
—*Publishers Weekly*



RAMIFICATIONS
Daniel Saldaña París
"A Dostoyevskian tale set in the Mexico City of today."
—*Kirkus*



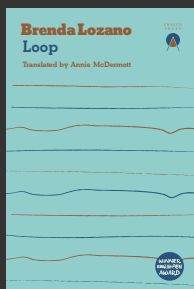


THE ADVENTURES OF CHINA IRON

Gabriela Cabezón Cámara

"I can only urge you to read it as soon as it is available."

—*Translating Women*



AN ORPHAN WORLD

Giuseppe Caputo

"An Orphan World is astonishing."

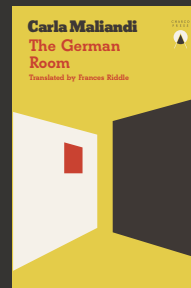
—Garth Greenwell

LOOP

Brenda Lozano

"Experimental, witty and disruptive."

—*Splice*



THE GERMAN ROOM

Carla Maliandi

"Viciously perceptive (...) Carla Maliandi speaks to the soul."

—*The Skinny*

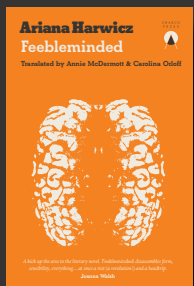


RESISTANCE

Julián Fuks

"Eloquent, unsettling and deeply philosophical novel."

—*Financial Times*



THE WIND THAT LAYS WASTE

Selva Almada

"A stimulating, heady story."

—*Publishers Weekly*

FEEBLEMINDED

Ariana Harwicz

"Dangerously addictive."

—*The Guardian*



THE DISTANCE BETWEEN US

Renato Cisneros

"This is an impressive book."

—Mario Vargas Llosa

OLDER BROTHER

Daniel Mella

"This slim and vital novel is a tour de force."

—Claire-Louise Bennett

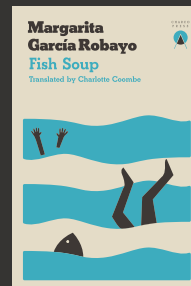
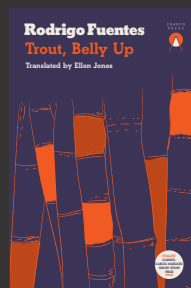


TROUT, BELLY UP

Rodrigo Fuentes

"Fuentes is a consistently engaging and original writer."

—*The Times Literary Supplement*



FISH SOUP

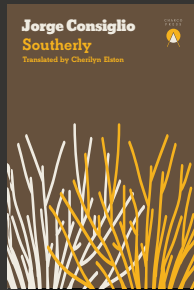
Margarita García Robayo

"A gorgeous, blackly humorous look into the lives of Colombians struggling to find their place in society."

—*Publishers Weekly* (starred)

SALES & DISTRIBUTION

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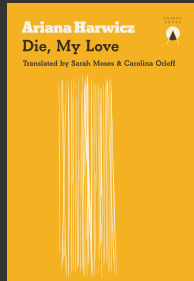
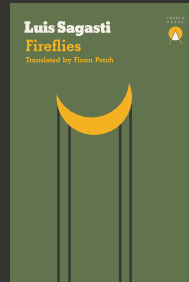


SOUTHERLY
Jorge Consiglio

"Striking."
—*Glasgow Review of Books*

FIREFLIES
Luis Sagasti

"Sagasti displays a remarkable gift."
—*Publishers Weekly*

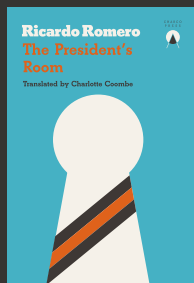
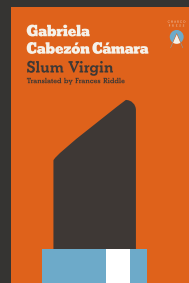


DIE, MY LOVE
Ariana Harwicz

"A touch of David Lynch."
—*The Guardian*

SLUM VIRGIN
Gabriela Cabezón Cámara

"Queer writing at its most exhilarating."
—*The Times Literary Supplement*



THE PRESIDENT'S ROOM
Ricardo Romero

"Romero advances a conversation begun by Camus, Kafka, and Calvino."
—*Kirkus*

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