



Charco Press Catalogue

UK 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 seven new books in translation – a record for us – including works from five new Charco authors, plus a second novel from Julián Fuks (*Occupation*) and a third book from Selva Almada (*Brickmakers*).

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 catalogue 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 2022, we have even more to look forward to: seven new titles in translation, including the anticipated third novel from Ariana Harwicz and six authors new to the Charco catalogue; four 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. In 2022, they are followed by four more Charco Original+ES:

UNA OFRENDA MUSICAL

By Luis Sagasti • 17 May 2022

A Musical Offering, tr. Fionn Petch • 2020

PUERTAS DEMASIADO PEQUEÑAS

By Ave Barrera • 26 July 2022

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

LOS CRISTALES DE LA SAL

By Cristina Bendek • September 2022

Salt Crystals, tr. Robin Myers • September 2022

DESARTICULACIONES

By Sylvia Molloy • November 2022

Dismantling, tr. Jennifer Croft • November 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. For more information, see page 11.

Catching Fire will be followed in May 2022 by the second Untranslated title, *Homesick* by Jennifer Croft. The coming of age story of an award-winning translator, *Homesick* is about learning to love language in its many forms, healing through words, and the promises and perils of empathy and sisterhood. For more information, see page 15.

“Dangerously addictive.” —The Guardian



Ariana Harwicz is one of the most radical figures in contemporary Argentinian literature. Born in Buenos Aires in 1977, Harwicz studied screenwriting and drama in Argentina, and holds degrees in Performing Arts and Comparative Literature from her studies in Paris. *Tender* is the third novel in her “involuntary trilogy”, following *Feebleminded* (Charco Press, 2019) and *Die, My Love* (Charco Press, 2017). *Die, My Love* was longlisted for the Man Booker International Prize (2018) and shortlisted for the Republic of Consciousness Prize (2018).

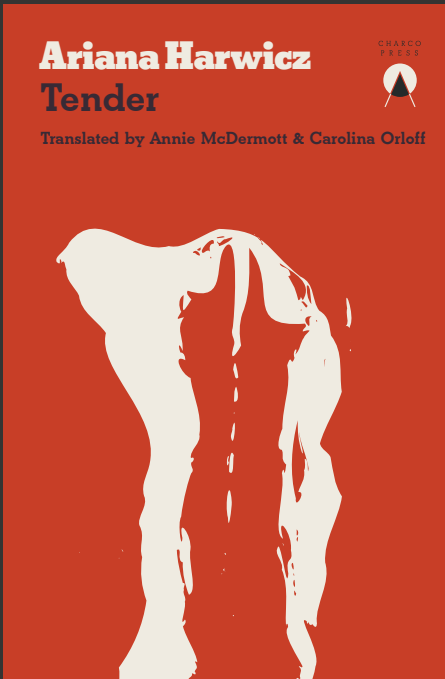
Annie McDermott has translated five other titles for Charco Press: *Brickmakers* (2021) and *Dead Girls* (2020) by Selva Almada, *The Rooftop* by Fernanda Trias (2021), *Loop* by Brenda Lozano (2019) and *Feebleminded* by Ariana Harwicz (2019, also with Carolina Orloff). **Carolina Orloff** is an experienced translator and researcher in Latin American literature. In 2016, Carolina co-founded Charco Press where she acts as publishing director and main editor.

TENDER

Ariana Harwicz

Translated by Annie McDermott & Carolina Orloff

The third and final instalment of Ariana Harwicz's "Involuntary Trilogy" finds us on familiar, disquieting ground.



Under the spell of a mother's madness, the French countryside transforms into a dreamscape of interconnected imagery: animals, desire, the functions of the body. Most troublingly: the comfort of a teenage son. Scorning the bourgeois mores and conventionality of their small town, she withdraws him from school and the two embark on ever more antisocial and dangerous behavior.

Harwicz is at her best here, building an interior world so robust, and so grotesque, that it eclipses our shared reality. Savage, and savagely funny, she leaves us singed, if not scorched.

ISBN: 9781913867126

eISBN: 9781913867133

15 February 2022 • £9.99

B format paperback • 120pp

Literary Fiction

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

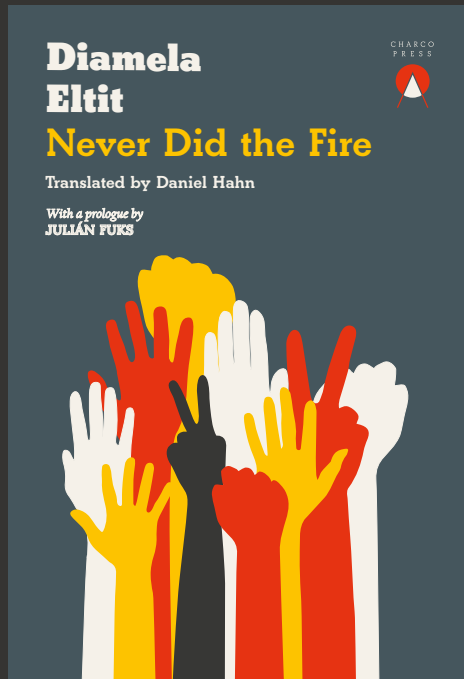
eISBN: 9781913867225

5 April 2022 • £9.99

B format paperback

130pp

Literary Fiction



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 nar-
rates failure from the interior of her language.”*

—Letras Libres

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 organisations that deal with literature, literacy and translation. In 2021, Daniel was made an OBE for his services to literature.

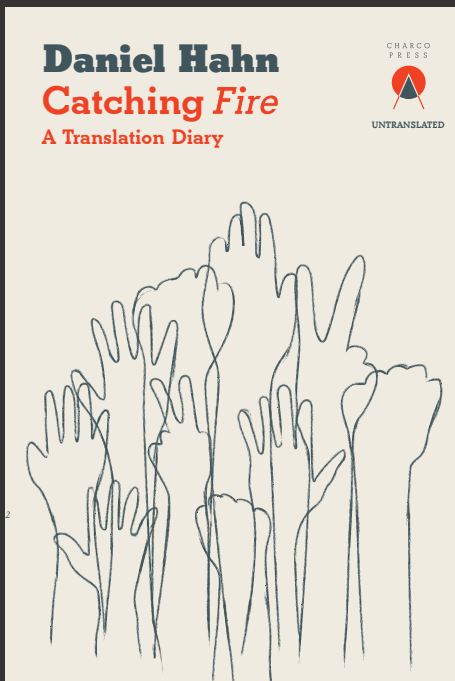


The inaugural title of the new “Charco Untranslated” series of English-language original works

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 • £9.99

B format paperback

120pp

Non-Fiction

UNA OFRENDA MUSICAL

Luis Sagasti

The Spanish-language edition of *A Musical Offering* (tr. Fionn Petch, Charco Press, 2020). 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.



CHARCO ORIGINAL+ES

ISBN: 9781913867232

eISBN: 9781913867249

17 May 2022 • £9.99

B format paperback • 117pp

Literary Fiction

‘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. From 1995 to 2003 he was Curator in charge of Education and Cultural Outreach at the Museum of Contemporary Art, Bahía Blanca, authoring numerous art catalogues for exhibitions. Including *Fireflies* (known in Spanish as *Bellas Artes*, 2011), he has published four other novels: *El Canon de Leipzig* (Leipzig's Canon, 1999), *Los mares de la Luna*

(Seas of the Moon, 2006), *Maelstrom* (2015) and *Una ofrenda musical* (*A Musical Offering*) which came out in Argentina in early 2017. His most recent book, comprised entirely of footnotes, came out at the end of 2019. *A Musical Offering*, translated by Fionn Petch (Charco Press, 2020), was shortlisted for the Republic of Consciousness Prize in 2021.

‘Every page of this stunning and surprising book turns words around and around, deepening their mystery.’

— **New York Times**



Jennifer Croft is the author of *Homesick* and *Serpientes y escaleras* and the co-winner with Nobel Laureate Olga Tokarczuk of The International Booker for the novel *Flights*. She holds a PhD in Comparative Literary Studies from Northwestern University and an MFA in Literary Translation from the University of Iowa. Her work has appeared in *The New Yorker*, *The New York Times*, *The New York Review Daily*, *The Paris Review*

Daily, *The Los Angeles Review of Books*, *Granta*, *Tin House*, *BOMB*, *n+1*, *Guernica*, *The Guardian*, *The Chicago Tribune* and elsewhere. For Charco Press, she has translated Federico Falco’s *A Perfect Cemetery* (2021) and Sylvia Molloy’s *Dismantling* (forthcoming 2022).

HOMESICK

Jennifer Croft



The coming of age story of an award-winning translator, *Homesick* is about learning to love language in its many forms, healing through words and the promises and perils of empathy and sisterhood.

Sisters Amy and Zoe grow up in Oklahoma where they are homeschooled for an unexpected reason: Zoe suffers from debilitating and mysterious seizures, spending her childhood in hospitals as she undergoes surgeries. Meanwhile, Amy flourishes intellectually, showing an innate ability to glean a world beyond the troubles in her home life, exploring that world through languages first. Amy's first love appears in the form of her Russian tutor Sasha, but when she enters university at the age of 15 her life changes drastically and with tragic results.

ISBN: 9781913867317

eISBN: 9781913867324

17 May 2022 • £9.99

B format paperback • 120pp

Literary Fiction

*The second title in the new “Charco Untranslated”
series of English-language original works*

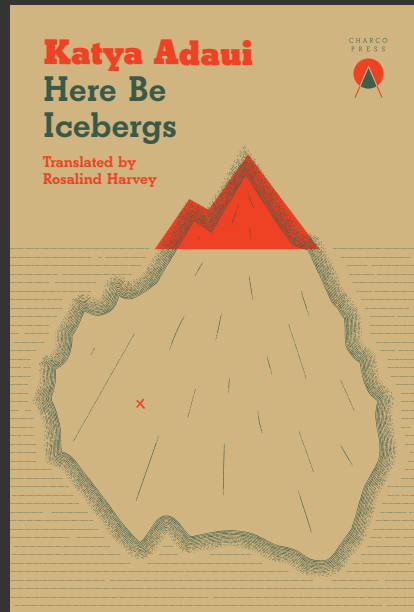
HERE BE ICEBERGS

Katya Adaui

Translated by Rosalind Harvey

The weird, fetid, familiar discomfort of family is front and centre 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 Adaui 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 • £9.99

B format paperback • 130pp

Literary Fiction

“Adaui 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 Adaui (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).



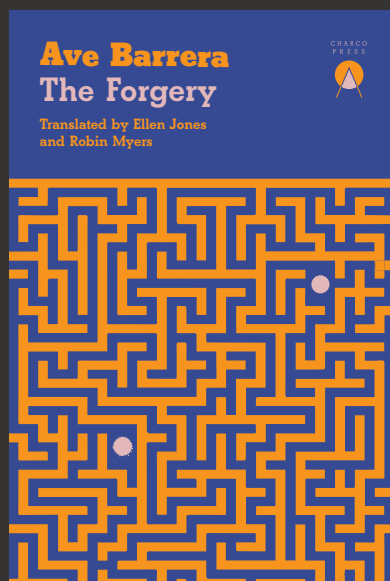
Ellen Jones is a researcher and translator based in London. She has a PhD from Queen Mary University of London and writes about multilingualism and translation in contemporary Latin American literature. For Charco Press she has previously translated *Trout, Belly Up* by Rodrigo Fuentes.

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 • £9.99

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 • £9.99

B format paperback • 120pp

Literary Fiction

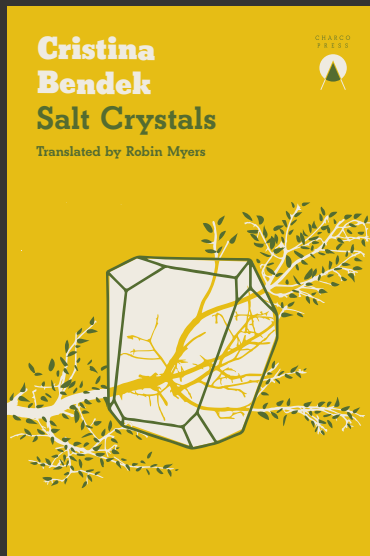
SALT CRYSTALS

Cristina Bendek

Translated by Robin Myers

Returning to the island of San Andrés, in the Caribbean Sea, after many years forces Verónica Baruq to confront her relationship with her origins. An intriguing photograph of her great-grandparents and an eerie encounter with Maa Josephine, a Raizal old woman who she meets outside the First Baptiste Church, are just a couple of the triggers that begin to reveal the truth about her background.

Her past not only puts the protagonist in contact with the island's unknown history, but it also helps her understand the social movements which celebrate the Raizal identity, carry out 'thinking rundowns' and, above all, resist.



ISBN: 9781913867331
eISBN: 9781913867348
6 September 2022 • £9.99
B format paperback •
Literary Fiction

CHARCO ORIGINAL+ES

LOS CRISTALES DE LA SAL

The Spanish-language edition of *Salt Crystals*.

ISBN: 9781913867379
eISBN: 9781913867386
6 September 2022 • £9.99
B format paperback •
Literary Fiction

‘This author’s talent for reproducing indigenous voices, combined with the novel’s historical inquiry and unique narrative flair, make her a worthy winner.’

— **Premio Elisa Mújica jury**

Cristina Bendek is a Caribbean author. She was born on the island of San Andrés (Colombia) in October 1987. In 2018 her debut novel, *Salt Crystals*, won the Elisa Mújica National Novel Prize (Colombia). The novel has been translated into Portuguese and Danish, and now appears in English translation for the first time. Some of her work has also been translated into German. Cristina is a full-time writer and student of Caribbean literature.



Robin Myers is a New York-born, Mexico City-based poet and translator. In 2009, she was named a fellow of the American Literary Translators Association; in 2014, she was awarded a residency at the Banff Literary Translation Centre; and in 2017, and she was selected to participate in the feminist translation colloquium A-Fest. 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.

Sylvia Molloy (Buenos Aires, 1938) is a novelist, essayist, and a leading literary critic of Latin American literature. She was Professor of Humanities Emerita at NYU, where she taught Latin American and comparative literatures. She is the author of two novels: *En común olvido* (Shared Oblivion, 2002) and *En breve cárcel* (Soon jail,



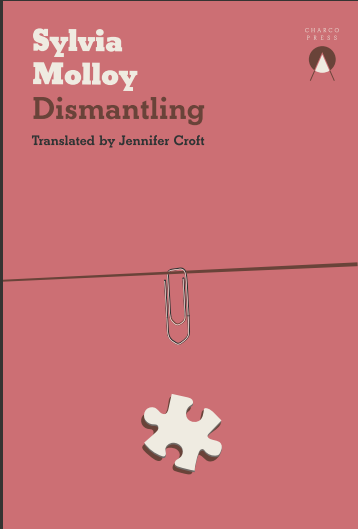
1981), and has written several books of short prose pieces. Her critical work includes *At Face Value: Autobiographical Writing in Spanish America* (1991), and *Hispanisms and Homosexualities* (1998). She lives in New York and this is her first book to appear in English.

Jennifer Croft is the author of *Homesick* and *Serpientes y escaleras* and the co-winner with Nobel Laureate Olga Tokarczuk of The International Booker for the novel *Flights*. She holds a PhD in Comparative Literary Studies from Northwestern University and an MFA in Literary Translation from the University of Iowa. For Charco Press, she has also translated Federico Falco's *A Perfect Cemetery* (2021).

DISMANTLING

Sylvia Molloy

Translated by Jennifer Croft



**Sylvia
Molloy**
Dismantling

Translated by Jennifer Croft

Almost every day, the narrator visits ML., a close friend who is now suffering from Alzheimer's. Based on these encounters and ML's fragments of memory, she constructs a powerfully moving tale about the breakdown of a mind that progressively erases everything in a very peculiar way.

An attempt through writing to 'make a relation endure despite the ruin, to hold up even if only a few words remain'. Passages from a shared past and present that are transformed into fiction when faced with a forgetting that can no longer refute them. A book that opposes disintegration with a precise and vital prose and the unique sensibility of one of Latin America's greatest storytellers.

ISBN: 9781913867355

eISBN: 9781913867362

18 October 2022 • £9.99

B format paperback •

Literary Fiction

CHARCO ORIGINAL+ES

DESARTICULACIONES

The Spanish-language edition of *Dismantling*.

ISBN: 9781913867393

eISBN: 9781913867409

18 October 2022 • £9.99

B format paperback •

Literary Fiction

MORE CHARCO PRESS TITLES

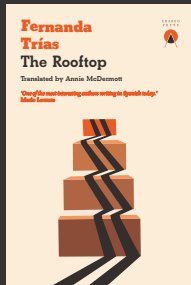


BYOBU

Ida Vitale

"The best book of 2021."

—*ABC Arts*



THE ROOFTOP

Fernanda Trias

"An exceptional novel."

—*ABC Cultural*

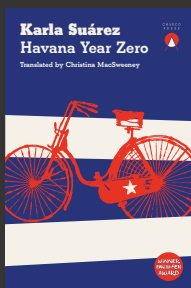


ELENA KNOWS

Claudia Piñeiro

"Page-turning and political."

—*New York Times*

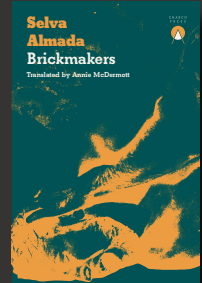


HAVANA YEAR ZERO

Karla Suárez

"A masterpiece."

—*Marie Claire*



BRICKMAKERS

Selva Almada

"Mesmeric."

—*The Arts Desk*



OCCUPATION

Julián Fuks

"Wholly mesmerising."

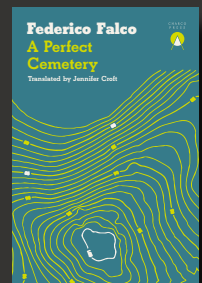
—*Irish Times*

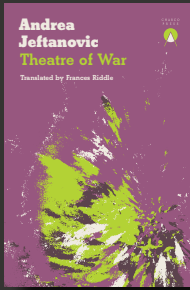
A PERFECT CEMETERY

Federico Falco

"An unforgettable collection."

—*Kirkus*



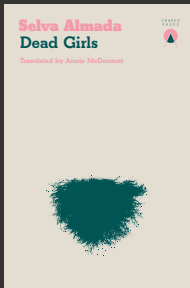


THEATRE OF WAR

Andrea Jeftanovic

"A memorable novel of devastating poignancy."

—*Irish Times*

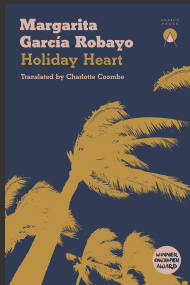


DEAD GIRLS

Selva Almada

"Acute, unflinching."

—*Publishers Weekly*



HOLIDAY HEART

Margarita García Robayo

"Holiday Heart is brilliant."

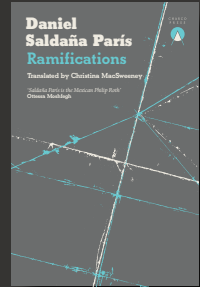
—*The Guardian*

RAMIFICATIONS

Daniel Saldaña París

"A Dostoyevskian tale set in the Mexico City of today.."

—*Kirkus*

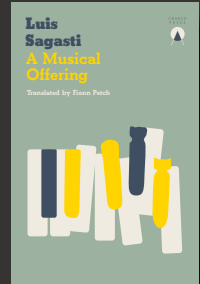


A MUSICAL OFFERING

Luis Sagasti

"A bewitching suite of stories about music, heard and unheard."

—*The Arts Desk*



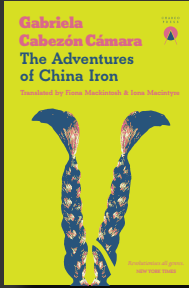
FATE

Jorge Consiglio

"A moving testament to the beauty and banality of human relationships."

—*Publishers Weekly*





THE ADVENTURES OF CHINA IRON

Gabriela Cabezón Cámara

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

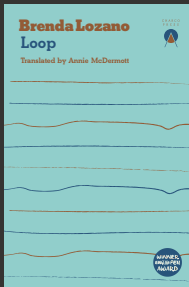
—*Translating Women*

AN ORPHAN WORLD

Giuseppe Caputo

"An Orphan World is astonishing."

—*Garth Greenwell*

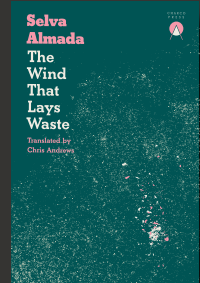


LOOP

Brenda Lozano

"Experimental, witty and disruptive."

—*Splice*

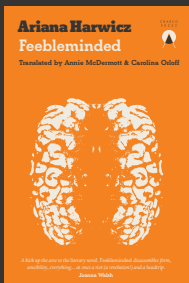


THE WIND THAT LAYS WASTE

Selva Almada

"A stimulating, heady story."

—*Publishers Weekly*



FEEBLEMINDED

Ariana Harwicz

"Dangerously addictive."

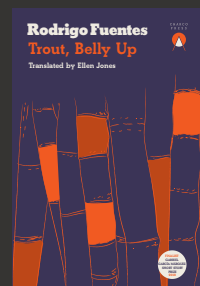
—*The Guardian*

TROUT, BELLY UP

Rodrigo Fuentes

"Fuentes is a consistently engaging and original writer."

—*The Times Literary Supplement*





THE GERMAN ROOM

Carla Maliandi

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

—*The Skinny*

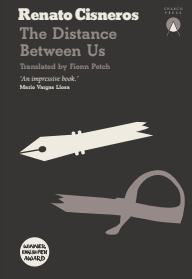


RESISTANCE

Julián Fuks

"Eloquent, unsettling and deeply philosophical novel."

—*Financial Times*

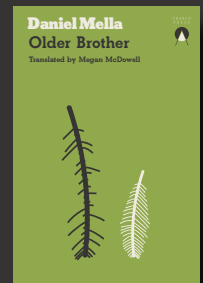


THE DISTANCE BETWEEN US

Renato Cisneros

"This is an impressive book."

—Mario Vargas Llosa

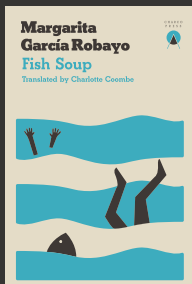


OLDER BROTHER

Daniel Mella

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

—Claire-Louise Bennett

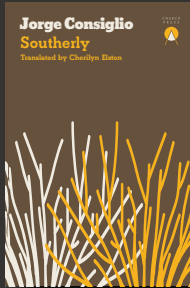


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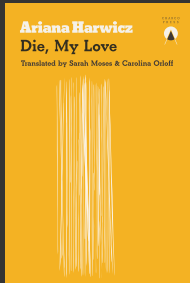
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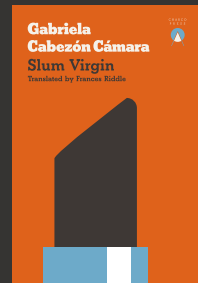
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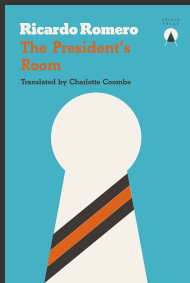
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