

OSLO LITERARY AGENCY

Selected backlist



Oslo Literary Agency is Norway's largest literary agency, representing authors in the genres of literary fiction, crime and commercial fiction, children's and YA books and non-fiction.

Oslo Literary Agency was established in 2016, transforming from the in-house Aschehoug Agency to an agency representing authors from a wide range of publishers.

In addition, Oslo Literary Agency carries full representation of publisher of literary fiction, Forlaget Oktober.

FICTION (5)

CRIME (29)

NON-FICTION (35)

OKTOBER (49)

FICTION

Maja Lunde (6 - 7)

Jostein Gaarder (8 - 9)

Simon Stranger (10 - 11)

Helga Flatland (12- 13)

Carl Frode Tiller (14 - 15)

Ketil Bjørnstad (16)

Bjarte Breiteig (17)

Maria Kjos Fonn (18)

Gøhril Gabrielsen (19)

Gaute Heivoll (20)

Ida Hegazi Høyer (21)

Monica Isakstuen (22)

Jan Kjærstad (23)

Roskva Koritzinsky (24)

Thure Erik Lund (25)

Lars Petter Sveen (26)

Demian Vitanza (27)

MAJA LUNDE

Author of the international bestseller *History of Bees*,
translated into 36 languages



MAJA LUNDE (b. 1975) is the most successful Norwegian author of her generation. Her books are so far translated into 36 languages.

Lundé's debut novel *The History of Bees* (2015) was an instant hit and sold to several territories before Norwegian publication. It won The Norwegian Bookseller's Prize as well as multiple international awards. It was the best selling book in Germany in 2017 and has so far spent 2,5 consecutive years on the official German bestseller list. The se-

quel *Blue* was launched in the fall 2017, as part of the authors planned Climate Quartet to equal acclaim. Book 3 *Przewalskis Horse* will be published in the fall of 2019.

Lundé has written several books for children and young adults. The children's Christmas book *The Snow Sister* (2018) illustrated by Lisa Aisato, was an record-breaking success, selling 250 000 copies in Norway in its first two months and translation rights sold to 25 Languages.

Praise for *The History of Bees*:

"Quite simply the most visionary Norwegian novel I have read since the first instalment of Knausgård's *My Struggle*"

– **Expressen, Sweden**

"*The History of Bees* is complex and extraordinarily well-written, and in addition as exciting as a psychological thriller"

– **Svenska Dagbladet**

"A first-time novelist who is brave enough to spread out a great, epic canvas and in addition brings up a provocative and current topic, is not something you see every day"

– **Aftenposten**

Praise for *Blue*:

"A new bestseller is born (...) Solid and impressive. Her first novel conquered the world.

With this book, Maja Lundé has done it again"

– **Dagens Næringsliv**

"Maja Lundé's new novel is great news, both for the climate cause and for literature"

– **Dagbladet**



JOSTEIN GAARDER

Author of *Sophie's World*, the most widely read
Norwegian novel of all time

ASCHEHOUG

SOPHIE'S WORLD

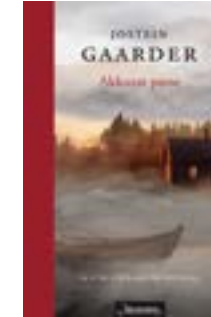


In 1991, when JOSTEIN GAARDER (b. 1952) wrote *Sophie's World* he believed that a novel on the history of philosophy would appeal only to a specialist readership. In 1995 the book was the most sold novel in the world.

To date *Sophie's World* has been translated into 65 languages and has sold over 50 million copies. Jostein Gaarder's other works, both his children's books and adult novels such as *The Solitaire Mystery*, *Through a Glass, Darkly*, *Vita Brevis*, *The Ringmaster's Daughter*, *The Orange Girl*, *Anna. A Fable About The Earth's Climate And Environment*, and *The Puppeteer*, have proved hugely popular and been published around the world.

JUST RIGHT

A Brief Story
of Almost Everything



Akkurat passe
Novel, 136 pages
Aschehoug 2018
Sold to 14 languages

On his first day at the University in Oslo, Albert notices a girl, Eirin, in front of the coffee machine. They have never met before. Still, they both startle as they see the other. 37 years later, in April 2009, Eirin is in Melbourne at a Freshwater biology conference, and Albert is alone when he receives some truly terrible news from Marianne. Can he go on living with what he now knows?

Praise for *Just Right*:

"The big questions are answered just right in Jostein Gaarders new book. (...) A book that enhances the reader's urge to live by reminding us that we will all die"

– **Aftenposten**

"A fine composition and an effective narrative drive. (...) Jostein Gaarder takes his reader through an exciting story"

– **Dagsavisen**

SIMON STRANGER

The Norwegian Booksellers' Prize 2018

Sold to 20 languages



Simon Stranger (b. 1976) made his debut in 2003, and has since written ten books for children, young adults and adults. His latest children's book *Kokotopia* (2018) became an instant bestseller in Norway. *Keep Saying Their Names* is his first novel published by Aschehoug Forlag.

Photo: André Løyning

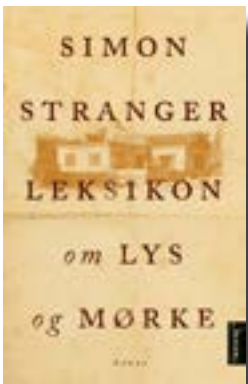
KEEP SAYING THEIR NAMES

“According to Jewish tradition everyone dies twice. The first time is when the heart stops beating, and the synapses in the brain shut down, like a city during a blackout. The second time is when the dead person’s name is uttered, read or thought of for the last time, after fifty or hundred or four hundred years. Only then, is the person really gone, erased from life on Earth.”

A chilling and gripping double portrait of a young man who became a torturist and a family that

would have been an entirely different one had Norway not been invaded in 1940.

What turns the bashful shoemaker’s son Henry Rinnan from Trøndelag into one of the most hated criminals in Norwegian history; a double agent killing Norwegians for the Nazis? And why would a Jewish family want to move into Rinnan’s headquarters shortly after the war, in the house that for many became the very symbol of the atrocities committed during the German occupation?



Leksikon om lys og mørke
Novel, 400 pages
Aschehoug 2018

Sold to 20 languages

“Riveting and beautiful (...) This book deserves to be read by very many”
– **Bok 365, 6 out of 6 stars**

“A compulsive twist on familiar stories from WW2. Simon Stranger has been inspired by this to write the best novel about the arrest of Norwegian Jews since Steinar Lødning’s *Erindringens tre* (eng: *The Tree of Memory*)”
– **Dagbladet, 6 out of 6 stars**

“Stranger is making a bold move when choosing to write an entire novel about themes every well-read person knows very well. When *Keep Saying Their Names* is still such a successful project, the sole reason is the author’s literary talent”
– **VG, 5 out of 6 stars**

HELGA FLATLAND

The Norwegian Bookseller Prize 2017

A MODERN FAMILY

En moderne familie
Novel, 240 pages
Aschehoug 2017
Foreign rights: Albanian, Bulgarian, Danish,
German, Italian, Polish, Swedish, World English

“We’re leaving each other”

A quiet earthquake occurs as siblings Liv, Ellen and Håkon, along with their partners and children, are gathered around the dinner table somewhere on the outskirts of Rome to celebrate Dad and Granddad Håkon’s 70th birthday .

Shock and disbelief follow, as the three grown children tries to cope with their parent’s decision. Not only does it affect their relationship as siblings, it echoes through the homes they have built for themselves, as well as forcing them to them reconstruct their shared narrative about their upbringing and family history.

Helga Flatland masterfully conducts this story, voiced in turn by Liv, Ellen and Håkon, with rare psychological insight, humor and an almost filmatic narrative drive. *A Modern Family* is a novel that will make you look at the people closest to you just a little more thoroughly.



Photo: Niklas Lello

.....

Helga Flatland (b. 1984) is already one of Norway’s most awarded and widely read authors. Her debut novel *Stay If You Can. Leave If You Must* (2010) received excellent reviews and established her as one of the foremost up-and-coming, young Norwegian authors. She consolidated her position with *Everyone Wants to Go Home. No One Wants to Go Back* (2011) and *There Is No Whole* (2013). She had a massive breakthrough with a broader audience with *A Modern Family* (2017). Within weeks of publication the novel had sold 20,000 copies.

Praise for *A Modern Family*:

“With this book, Flatland demonstrates, once again, her impressive skills in describing the modern human being – or rather, a modern family. (...) Cements her position as one of our most important, younger authors”

– **Dagbladet, 6 out of 6 stars**

“There is a hint of Ingmar Bergman in this portrayal of a completely normal family, it delves deep and wrenches your heart”

– **Adresseavisen, 6 out of 6 stars**

Once again, Helga Flatland proves that she is an unusually wise and sharp observer of people, of how we act, and interact, of our traumas and coping mechanisms. Her prose is crystal clear and unpretentious, spiced up with drips of humor”

– **Dagsavisen**

“Buckle up and enjoy this novel – a roller coaster of a read”

– **Bok365.no**

A Modern Family is an important novel, addressing the challenges of interaction with the ones close to you in a way that every reader can relate to”

- **NRK**

STAY IF YOU CAN, LEAVE IF YOU MUST – TRILOGY



“[Helga Flatland] manages to write about an ordinary and secure childhood in Norway without excluding the big, wide world, and does this in an original way (...) Her prose is sober, often lyrical”

–**Dagbladet**

CARL FRODE TILLER

Brage Prize, Critics' Prize, Sold to 20 languages
Nominated to Nordic Literature Prize

One of his generation's most important novelists, Carl Frode Tiller (b. 1970) is admired for his instantly recognizable, furious prose and his ability to create vivid, complex characters. Tiller succeeds in portraying these tragic characters in a way that arouses the deepest sympathy in the reader.

In 2005 he was named one of the 10 best Norwegian writers under 35. In 2006, *The*

Slope was named among the 25 most important Norwegian novels from the last 25 years in a prestigious contest in the daily Dagbladet. In 2018, LA Review of Books characterized his latest US publication *Encircling 2* as "An incomparable intellectual escapade".

In addition to his novels, Tiller has written several plays, short stories and short prose.

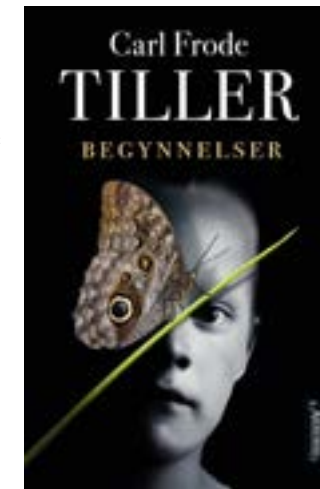
BEGINNINGS

"Life can only be understood backwards; but it must be lived forwards", Søren Kierkegaard wrote. *Beginnings* is the story of one man's life, told from end to start, from suicide to childhood. To better cast light on the ever recurring question of why things turned out just the way they did?

Terje is a father and a husband, a son and a brother and an environmentalist. Pained by his shortcomings when it comes to interacting to the ones closest to him and wrestling with the notion that his activism and efforts on a local scale just might be useless in the face of a global catastrophe.

Highly anticipated is the new novel from the author of the *Encirclement*-trilogy, by many regarded as one of the most important Norwegian works of literature in the 2000's.

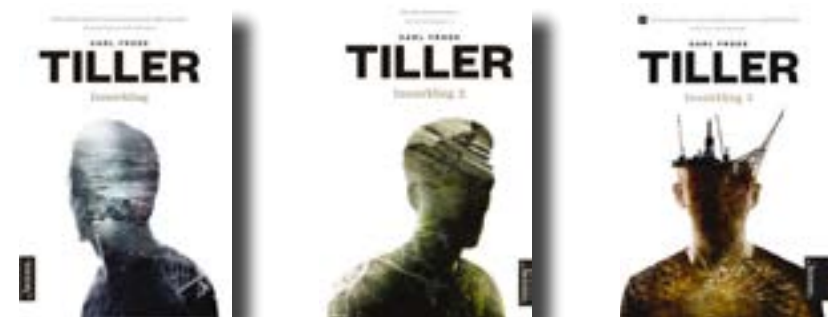
Carl Frode Tiller's evocative prose, combined with his rare insight into human minds, constitutes this gripping and extraordinary novel about choice, freedom and determinism.



Begynnelser
Novel, 343 pages
Aschehoug 2017

Foreign rights sold:
Danish, German, Polish

THE ENCIRCLING TRILOGY



"Every new book by Carl Frode Tiller is better imagined and better written than the previous. With the Encircling books, Carl Frode Tiller is on his way towards something really big"

— Dagens Næringsliv

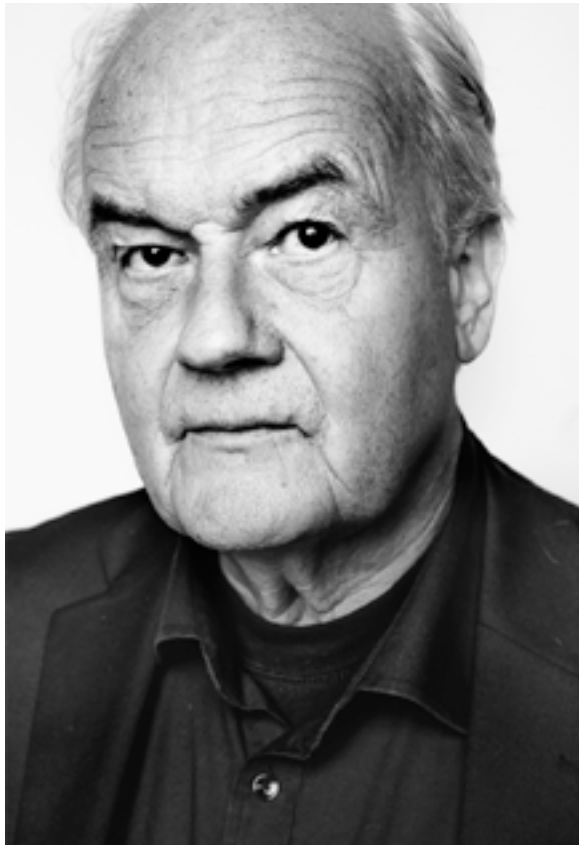
KETIL BJØRNSTAD

More than 150 000 books sold in Norway



“Truly an adventurous literary journey, well written, full of charm and warmth”
– **VG**

“Bjørnstad’s gigantic work about our world, with his own life as a starting point, proves itself ever stronger”
– **Dagbladet**



THE WORLD I USED TO KNOW

Verden som var min
Aschehoug 2015 - 2019
Foreign rights: German

As one of Norway’s most productive and beloved authors, Ketil Bjørnstad has enjoyed tremendous success with each published volume of the series of six novels *The World I Used To Know*, each book covering a decade from the Sixties onward. Through the six volumed series, Bjørnstad writes his own story juxtaposed to the histories and history of the various decades of his life.

.....

Ketil Bjørnstad (b. 1952) is a musician, composer and writer. Versatile and prolific, he has published more than 30 books – poetry, novels and factual accounts of the lives of the painters Oda Krohg and Edvard Munch, the author Hans Jæger, the musician Ole Bull and the film artist Liv Ullmann. His books have been published in several languages.

BJARTE BREITEIG

“A masterpiece of a novel”
– **Fædrelandvennen**

FIVE YEARS AS A FATHER

Mine fem år som far
Novel, 303 pages
Aschehoug 2014
Foreign rights: Czech, German

Martin has two toddler sons and is married to the beautiful and ambitious Gina. He is an involved father, sensitive and thoughtful, and he does more than his fair share at home. He also looks after his down-and-out ex-girlfriend Lillian and her daughter Selma.

One afternoon, the police pay him a visit. Selma may have been assaulted, and Martin is a suspect. Slowly but surely, a life quite unlike what it seemed on the surface is revealed.

With tenderness and dark humour, Breiteig investigates terrifying cracks in what seemed perfectly safe and ordinary. It paints a nuanced portrait of a man full of love, but also darkness.



Photo: Ingeborg Lindseth

“A stellar first novel from an already celebrated short story writer”
– **Dagsavisen**

“Manages to say something genuine, perhaps even previously unsaid, about our time”
– **Dagens Næringsliv**

.....

Bjarte Breiteig (b. 1974) made his debut with the short story collection *Fantomsmarter* (1998) which received glowing reviews and immediately established Breiteig as one of our strongest literary voices.

MARIA KJOS FONN

“Many have written well about the brutality of adolescence but few have done so better than Maria Kjos Fonn. (...) an unusually talented storyteller”
– VG

KINDERWHORE

Kinderwhore
Novel, 240 pages
Aschehoug 2018
Foreign rights: Danish,
German, Serbian

Charlotte’s mother is always at home, yet hardly ever there. Most of the time she is asleep, heavily medicated in order to remain so. When she is not asleep, she brings home new dads for Charlotte. One of them shows her a glimpse of something else, something better. But too soon, he is replaced by yet another dad.

When Charlotte is 12 something happens, something she cannot possibly take in or process. She starts making use of her mother’s pills, happy to learn that there are ways of shutting off your feelings. She establishes a divide between her body and mind, allowing her to take on different sexual roles, like the sedated, passive Doll or the proactive Machine.

Raw, powerful and important on sexuality, assault and survival. This novel was nominated to The Norwegian Book Award and several other prizes.

.....

Maria Kjos Fonn (b. 1990) made her debut with the critically acclaimed short story collection *I Have Never Told Anyone About This* in 2014. She was nominated to the Tarjei Vesaas’ Debutant Prize and recieved the Aschehoug Debutant Stipend for her first book. She lives in Oslo and works as a journalist.

Photo: Tine Poppe



GØHRIL GABRIELSEN

“Not often does one read an author whose language is so stylistically conscious and whose prose so through-and-through original”
– From the jury statement of the 2016 Amalie Skram Prize

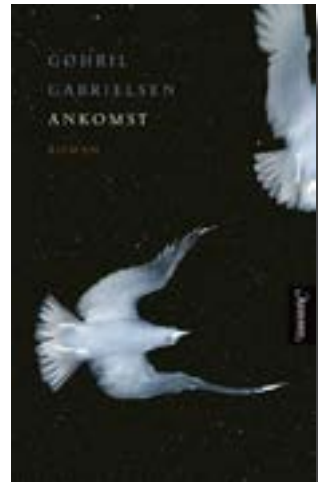
ARRIVAL

Ankomst
Novel, 170 pages
Aschehoug 2017
Foreign rights: British English,
German

At one of the northernmost outposts of Norway, a scientist arrives to spend the winter in a deserted, old fisherman’s cabin, working on a research project on birds and climate change. Her toddler daughter she has left with her ex-husband in the south.

All alone, surrounded by endless snow and the petulant forces of nature, she is eagerly awaiting her lover to come join her.

As the weeks pass, and her lover lingers, the remoteness she has sought starts to feel less like a refuge and more like a threat. With plenty of time to think, she starts to imagine and reinvent the details of the tragedy she learns took place in the cabin generations ago. The rational thinker is drawn towards the irrational, her loneliness gives way for a disturbing presence, something dark and unknown, moving outside or inside herself.



"Creeping suspense wrapped in elegant prose (...) an intense thriller from the wilderness"
– Dagsavisen

"Gøhril Gabrielsen writes with presicion and insight and about losing oneself (...) A novel that stand out this fall"
– Dag og Tid

.....

Gøhril Gabrielsen (b. 1961) grew up in Finnmark, the northernmost county in Norway, but currently lives in Oslo. She is an educated nurse and copywriter. Gabrielsen made her debut with the novel *Unspeakable Events* (2006) and has since then published four novels.

Photo: Tine Poppe



ASCHEHOUG

ASCHEHOUG

GAUTE HEIVOLL

Norwegian Book Award Brageprisen 2010, The Sult Award 2011
Nominated to the IMPAC Dublin Literary Award 2014

BEFORE I BURN

Før jeg brenner ned
Novel, 304 pages
Tiden Norsk Forlag 2010
Sold to 20 languages

By juxtaposing the pyromaniac's story with his own, Gaute Heivoll lays bare the insanity in every human life in masterful fashion. For how much does it really take to touch rock bottom? To find yourself in danger of destroying everything you have?



Praise for *Before I Burn*:

"Intense excitement and low key reflection.
(...) It is so well, so beautifully done"
— **NRK**

"The sensation of the autumn? ... This one
is unbeatable"
— **Dagbladet**

Praise for *Song of Sixty-eight Traitors*:

"Heivoll succeed in describing how a small
society can be wrecked by destructive forces
and how it can be healed by art"
— **Adresseavisen**

SONG FOR SIXTY-EIGHT TRAITORS

Sang for sekstiåtte forrædere
Novel, 317 pages
Tiden Norsk Forlag 2018

A novel about crime and punishment, guilt and atonement, shame and reconciliation. And about music and its ability to unite what is seemingly impossible to unite.



.....

Gaute Heivoll (b. 1978) debuted in 2002, and has written poems, childrens books, short stories and novels. In 2010 he was awarded Brageprisen, Norway's most prestigious literary award, for his novel *Before I Burn*, which was subsequently sold to more than 20 countries.

Photo: Paal Audestad



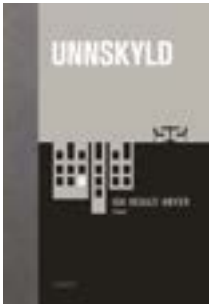
IDA HEGAZI HØYER

Winner of the EU Prize in Literature 2015
Named one of Norway's best authors under 35

STORIES OF SOLACE

Historier om trøst
Novel, 200 pages
Tiden Norsk Forlag 2016
Foreign rights: German

A nameless woman travels alone to three European cities. In each city, she meets and starts a relationship with a man, a woman and a young boy. With intense, dark and intelligent prose, the three chamber plays are, in a subtle way, also linked to the most crucial political and human issues of today's Europe.



Unnskyld
Novel, 222 pages
Tiden Norsk Forlag 2014
Foreign rights: Albanian, Bulgarian, Croatian, Danish, Dutch, Macedonian, Serbian, Spanish



Fortellingen om øde
Novel, 220 pages
Tiden Norsk Forlag 2015
Foreign rights: Bulgarian, Danish, German, Hungarian

.....

Ida Hegazi Høyer (b. 1981), made her literary debut in 2012 with the novel *Underneath the world*. The novel *Stories of Solace* got fantastic reviews, and figured on at least five different "best of 2016" lists in Norwegian newspapers.

Photo: Svein Finneide

MONICA ISAKSTUEN

Norwegian Book Award Brageprisen 2016

RAGE

Rase
Novel, 228 pages
Pelikanen forlag 2018
Foreign Rights: Danish, Serbian



Rage is a story about two thinking, talking people who meet, fall in love, have twins and buy an old ramshackle house more or less before they know what hit them. Sitting topless and pinned to her sofa by a giant twin nursing pillow (or rather pillory), the protagonist wonders what is left of the person she introduced to her partner a few years earlier.

BE KIND TO THE ANIMALS

Vær snill med dyrene
Novel, 207 pages
Tiden Norsk Forlag 2016
Foreign rights: Albanian, Bulgarian, Danish, German, Swedish

A small family of three is falling apart. Karen questions her role as a mother without a well-functioning family? Is the daughter still hers when she is with her father? If you're a mother one week, what are you the next? *Be Kind to the Animals* is a raw, warm, acute, but at the same time surprising novel about living in the ruins of a marriage with the one you care about the most – every other week.



Praise for *Be Kind to The Animals*:

The best divorce novel I have ever read (...) a dark and funny, somewhat laden novel about feelings that are almost forbidden.
– **Aftonbladet, Sweden**

.....
Monica Isakstuen (b. 1976) made her literary debut in 2009. Her 2014 novel *Replay* about pianist Joyce Hatto and the greatest fraud in classical music earned rave reviews, with VG naming it one of the best books of the year. Her work as a playwright is also translated into several languages.



Photo: Paal Audestad

JAN KJÆRSTAD

Nordic Council Literature Prize

BERGE

Berge
Novel, 378 pages
Aschehoug 2017
Foreign rights: Czeq, Danish, German, Swedish



The most unlikely things happen in this world, again and again. Yet, we are never prepared for them. *Berge* is a story of horrible events, told from three different points of view. A journalist, a judge and an ex-boyfriend. Without touching upon the July 22nd attack in Norway, *Berge* is a novel that would not have been written without it.

“One of the most influential writers of his generation. Say his name, and I think of Milan Kundera, Martin Amis and Frank Zappa”
– **Linn Ullmann**

“This novel cements his position as one of the most versatile, creative and important authors in Scandinavia”
– **Svenska Dagbladet**

.....
Ever since his debut in 1980, Jan Kjaerstad (b. 1953) has been one of the most prominent authors in contemporary Norwegian literature. The Jonas Wergeland-trilogy *The Seducer* (1993), *The Conqueror* (1996) and *The Inventor* (1999) secured the author the Nordic Council's Prize for Literature. His novel *Berge* (2018) was one of the most sold and best reviewed books in Norway in 2018.



Photo: Mette Solberg Fjeldheim

ROSKVA KORITZINSKY

Nominated to the Nordic Council Literature Award 2018

“The final story, where a daughter writes to her father, is world class.
Sore and painful, revealing and near”

– VG

I HAVE NOT YET SEEN THE WORLD



Jeg har ennå ikke sett verden
Short stories, 94 pages
Aschehoug 2017
Foreign rights: Danish,
German, Russian Spanish,
Swedish

A middle aged man, working in drug rehabilitation, leaves his wife and children after falling in love with a teenage client. A single woman returns from work one day, to find that an entire litter of puppies have gone missing. A girl writes a love letter to her boyfriend, seven months after his death.

.....
Roskva Koritzinsky (b. 1989) is one of Norway's most acclaimed short-story writers and made her debut with the short story collection *In Here Somewhere* in 2013, for which she received Aschehoug's Debutant Prize and was nominated to Tarjei Vesaas' Debutant Prize.

ASCHEHOUG

THURE ERIK LUND

Sult Award 2000, Critic's Prize 2005, Dobloug Prize 2009

.....
Thure Erik Lund (b. 1959) is one of Norway's most innovative and highly acclaimed authors. He made his debut with *Tanger* in 1992, for which he was awarded the Tarjei Vesaas' Debutant Prize. He has since published eight more novels and two collections of essays.

Praise for *Identity*:

“No one else in the entire Kingdom writes like Lund, every single sentence is both precise and offhand at the same time, driven by an unique, hammering musicality”
– **Dagbladet**

Praise for *The Ditch Incident Mystery*:

"You can open more or less any page of *The Ditch Incident Mystery* and find quote-worthy sentences. Author Thure Erik Lund has a unique talent for formulation, a rare mix of precision, wild oral jargon, word-inventing creativity and strong reasoning"
– **Dagbladet**

IDENTITY

Identitet
Novel, 471 pages
Aschehoug 2017

THE DITCH INCIDENT MYSTERY

Grøftetildragelsesmysteriet
Novel, 272 pages
Aschehoug 1999
Foreign rights sold: German

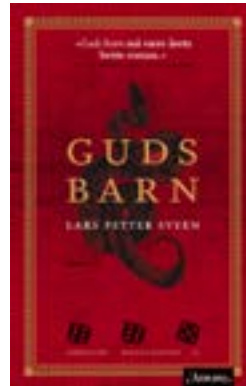
ASCHEHOUG

LARS PETTER SVEEN

Named one of Norway's ten best authors under 35 in 2015
Winner of the P.O. Enquist Award 2016, Sult Award 2015

CHILDREN OF GOD

Guds barn
Novel, 240 pages
Aschehoug 2014
Foreign rights sold: American
English, Bulgarian, Chinese (Simpli-
fied), Danish, French, Swedish



Children of God is a story of good and evil, seen through the eyes of biblical, historical and mythical figures that reflect our time as much as their own.

A highly contemporary novel that opens in Bethlehem at the time of Jesus' birth, following one of the soldiers executing King Herod's command to kill all boys under the age of two. We later meet prostitutes and gangs of robbers, prophets and disciples, young children and lepers – all caught between powers of good and evil. Their stories form a web where the fantastic and terrifying, great and small go hand in hand. Officer Cato doubts whether he can live with his actions. Jacob's father is afraid that his son is touched by evil because he stammers. Anna is looking for the man she once loved.

"*Children of God* must be this year's best novel. (...) Tradition meets a rare literary talent"
– **Aftenposten**

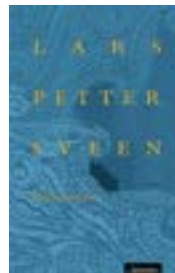


Photo: Tine Poppe

.....
Lars Petter Sveen (b. 1981) made his debut with the short story collection *Driving from Fræna* in 2008, and got his big breakthrough in 2014 with his third novel *Children of God*.

FIVE STARS

Fem stjerner
Novel, 255 pages
Aschehoug forlag 2017



FIVE SHADOWS

Fem skygger
Novel, 256 pages
Aschehoug forlag 2018



DEMIAN VITANZA

"A subdued explosion that sends shrapnel in all directions – to journalism, to literary fiction, to immigration policy, to criticism of religion"

– **Morgenbladet**

THIS LIFE OR THE NEXT

Dette livet eller det neste
Novel, 345 pages
Aschehoug 2017
Foreign rights: American English, British
English, Czech, Dutch

In 2015, author Demian Vitanza was teaching a writing class in one of Norway's high security prisons when he met «Tariq», a young Norwegian-Pakistani man imprisoned for travelling to Syria and taking part in terrorist activities. «I want you to write my story» he told Vitanza. «But it needs to be in the form of a novel»

Based on more than hundred hours of conversation, this groundbreaking work of literary fiction is the story of a young man driven as much by idealism as by his emerging faith, who constantly questions and doubts the actions that eventually puts him at the Syrian border in the middle of the night.

Combined with the literary sensibility of one of Norway's best young authors, this novel, in addition to shining new light on one of the most urgent issues of today's Europe, is also a timeless work of literature about memory, truth and the way we present and justify our own stories.

"In a taut tale of radicalization, Norway's Demian Vitanza contributes *This Life Or The Next* to a season of top-notch political books"
– **Publishing Perspectives**



.....
Demian Vitanza (b. 1983) is a playwright and author. He made his literary debut with the highly critically acclaimed *Urak* (2011). His play *Londinuum* is translated to Danish, French and Chinese, and his dramatic work have been staged at The Norwegian National Theatre and Det Norske Teateret a.o.



Photo: Tine Poppe

CRIME

Lasse Gallefoss (30)

Unni Lindell (31)

Aslak Nore (32)

Trude Teige (33)

LASSE GALLEFOSS

“If you have not already noted the name Lasse Gallefoss, just do it”
– **Klassekampen**

WARRIOR’S PEACE

Krigerens fred
Crime novel
496 pages
Aschehoug 2018

World War II is over and the victors govern the country. During the German occupation Storm Steinset was a double agent for the Norwegian Resistance Movement, and his mission is still covert; he gave an oath never to reveal his true activities during the war, even in peacetime.

This means he must live with the fact that his colleagues in the Oslo Police Department think he was a Nazi.

When several policemen who worked for the Nazis during the war were found dead of the same torture methods they themselves used during the war, Storm realises that he too must be on the killer’s death list. At the same time he has been assigned to investigate the case.

Storm’s partner is the police force’s youngest deputy, a rising star Robert Rødberg who dreams of becoming a hero – and despises people like Storm.

In their hunt for the killer Storm and Robert delve into the secrets of the innermost circles of power in the formerly occupied country. There is the threat of a

new war breaking out, a war in which secrets from the past war can get you killed.



“Convincing and intense crime thriller, well composed and well written”
– **VG**

“Sophisticated and surprising”
– **Bergens Tidende**

.....
Lasse Gallefoss (b. 1980) is a director and documentary filmmaker. As a documentarian he has filmed in 35 countries, and has made several documentary series for NRK. The last three of his series have been nominated for a Gold Frame Award, the Norwegian Emmy, and his latest series *Flight* (2017) won three Gold Frame, among other for best director.



Photo: Vegard Dale Bergheim

UNNI LINDELL

The Riverton Prize

THE DRONE

Dronen
Crime novel
384 pages
Aschehoug 2018
Foreign rights: Dutch, German, Greek, Icelandic, Swedish



A man stands in a closed down military camp and sends a drone ut into a dark forest. He is filming. The time is 09.35, Friday, 16th June, 17 degrees celsius, just before sundown. The tops of the pine trees seem to be in flames as the last rays of sunlight create a sharp dividing line of brilliant orange and dark green.

The Drone approaches the open area of a rapeseed field. A tent suddenly appears on the drone’s monitor. The tent stands exactly where Evie Thorn was stabbed to death five years earlier. And now another woman comes into view. Did she really pitch her tent on the exact same spot? The sun sinks down creating a wide segmented line on the horizon, and disappears. The birds stop twittering. The mans’s heart pounds like a hammer against his chest. He has never had a girlfriend. Women should not be out camping alone, not in the dark forest.

The Drone is the second novel in the stand alone-series featuring Marian Dahle.

.....
Unni Lindell (b. 1957) is one of Norway’s best selling writers. Her crime novels have been translated into numerous languages and has sold millions of copies. Lindell has also written poems, short stories and books for children and young adults. She has received several literary prizes for her works. In 2019 Lindell was awarded the prestigious Riverton Prize for best crime novel of the year.



Photo: Olav Heggø

“Exciting moments are lining up”
– **Dagbladet**

“Here is creeping discomfort, frightening scenes, an exciting crime mystery and well-developed characters who are more than what they appear to be on the surface”
– **VG**

“One can get afraid of the woods by Unni Lindell’s new novel. Yet, she has an ability to make discomfort into a great party”
– **Dagsavisen**

ASLAK NORE

Winner of the Riverton Award 2017
Named best crime novel of the year by VG

WOLFSANGEL

Ulvefellen
Crime novel, 368 pages
Aschehoug 2017
Foreign rights: Danish, Dutch, Polish

An extraordinary thriller about a man determined to change the course of the World War II.

A disillusioned Iron Cross-winning veteran injured on the Eastern front, Norwegian Henry Storm is the unlikely of heroes. Discovering the secret of a German "wonder weapon" he

decides to return to Germany to uncover the mystery and redeem himself.

Werner Sorge is an officer in the German security service whose investigations cross paths with the secret rocket program and Storm. To find



the Norwegian spy he employs his own secret weapon: A beautiful and troubled Polish woman recruited as a German agent. Can Storm get his game-changing intel out of the Reich? Will Sorge bait him into the Wolfsangel trap?

An epic hunt is on, and the outcome of the second world war is at stake.

"The Riverton jury was never in doubt that *Wolfsangel* is the best work of crime fiction in Norway in 2017"

– Hans H. Skei, Professor of Literature on behalf of the jury

"Aslak Nore has written an excellent spy thriller based on actual events during WW2"

– Leif Ekle, NRK



Photo: AKAM13

Aslak Nore (b. 1978) is an author and non-fiction editor. Nore served as a rifle-man in Bosnia in the late 90's and has traveled extensively in Afghanistan and the Middle East as a journalist. A former Fulbright recipient, he has lived in New York and Central America. His books include *God Is Norwegian* (2007), *A Norwegian Spy* (2012) and *Oslo Noir* (2014).

TRUDE TEIGE

Three times The Bookseller's Award nominee

THE PATIENT

Pasienten

The fifth volume in the series about journalist Kajsa Coren
Crime novel, 384 pages
Aschehoug 2018
Foreign rights: German, Ukrainian

He calls himself Croesus and has been a patient at the Norwegian mental institution Dikemark for 50 years. Before

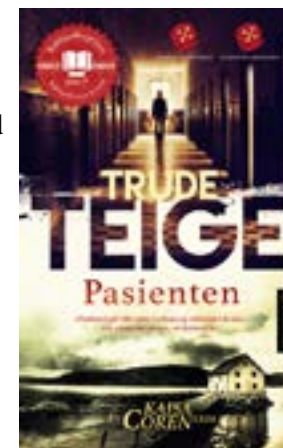
he dies, he whispers: – they kill patients here.

One of the few who managed to talk to Croesus, was Julia, the daughter of a brain surgeon who works at Dikemark.

Some years later Julia disappears without a trace, and when journalist Kajsa Coren is summoned to find out what happened, she is thrown into a maelstrom that includes psychiatric research, an undiscovered Edvard Munch-painting

and neglected children.

Soon Kajsa's employer is found murdered, and the investigation reveals that he was not who he said he was.



Trude Teige (b. 1960) is one of Norway's most recognized journalists, through her work as political reporter, news presenter and TV-host.

Her literary debut, the historical novel *The Sea Sings* (2002), was followed by *Leaning Against the Wind* (2004).

In 2009 she wrote her first crime novel, *Someone Knows*, featuring the TV-journalist Kajsa Coren. The series of stand alones now counts five novels. Two of the books in the series have been nominated for the Bookseller's Award.

Photo: Oda Berby

NON-FICTION

**Nina Brockmann, Ellen Støkken Dahl and
Hanne Sigbjørnsen (36 -37)**

Ivo De Figueiredo (38)

Marit B. Kasin (39)

Lars Fr. H. Svendsen (40 - 41)

Katharina and Linnea Vestre (42 - 43)

Pål Moddi Knutsen (44)

Reider Müller (45)

Erling Sandmo (46)

Henrik Svensen (47)

NINA BROCHMANN & ELLEN STØKKEN DAHL

Illustrated by Hanne Sigbjørnsen

Norwegian bestseller sold to 36 languages!



Photo: Anne Valeur

Nina Brochmann (b. 1987) and Ellen Støkken Dahl (b. 1991) are both doctors. They got their medical education from the University of Oslo.

They have both spent several years working with sexual health among young people and minority groups, both as teacher and health workers.

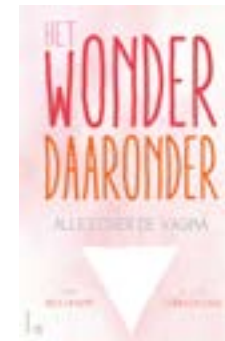
Hanne Sigbjørnsen (b. 1989), aka Tegnehanne, is an award winning cartoonist and illustrator.



Photo: Stine Friis Hals

“Dahl and Brochmann shatter myth after myth, all in language that is factual, easily understandable, engaging, uplifting and witty at the same time – this book is quite simply absolutely brilliant”

– Fædrelandsvennen



THE WONDER DOWN UNDER

Gleden med skjeden
Sexual health
312 pages
Aschehoug 2018



You might have thought you knew your own genitals? Think again! In *The Wonder Down Under* you learn the truth about the clitoris' inner life, the menstrual hormone dance and whether the vaginal orgasm really exists. The book helps you understand how different types of contraception work in the body, what a “normal” vagina looks like and what the clitoris really is. The book quite simply gives women the knowledge they need to make wise choices about their sexual health.



IVO DE FIGUEIREDO



HENRIK IBSEN The Man and The Mask

Mennesket og masken
Biography, 700 pages
Aschehoug 2007
Foreign rights: British
English, Chinese, Czech, Da-
nish, Macedonian, Russian,
Serbian

Although the literature on
Henrik Ibsen is enormous,
most of the texts analyse his
works, whereas the biograph-

ical and historical
aspects of his life and
work have received
less attention. Admit-
tedly, there are several
biographies on Ibsen,
most of them written
by literati. Howev-
er, up until now, no Ibsen
biography fulfills all of the
three essential requirements
for biographies: to be well
researched, well written and
well updated. De Figueiredo

has gone the
long way to
archives and
other sources
in order to
reconstruct a
wholly new
and indepen-
dent history on Ibsen's life,
thus managing to interweave
the Man, the Author and his
Works in one single narrative.

"This Ibsen-biography shares
the quality of its subject: It is
unsurpassable"
– **Klassekampen**

.....
Ivo de Figueiredo (b. 1966) is a his-
torian, author and critic. The highly
praised two-volume biography on
Henrik Ibsen (2006/07) is today con-
sidered the most complete and well
researched biography on Henrik Ib-
sen.

Photo: Aschehoug

MARIT B. KASIN

"This book should be hailed an instant classic in the
Norwegian wilderness prose. A heartwarming read"
– **Klassekampen**

WINTER DANCE

Vinterdans
Non-fiction
224 pages
Aschehoug 2018
Foreign rights: German

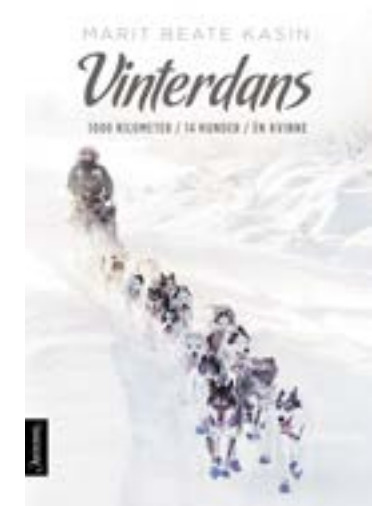
In *Winter Dance* Marit Beate Kasin's
writes about her three participations
in the extremely tough sled dog race
Finnmarksløpet, a race where the contes-
tants fight with themselves, the forces of
nature and the competitors for six days
and nights over thousand kilometres in
some of the most demanding and remote
mountain areas north in Norway.

Winter Dance also tells Kasin's sto-
ry, from being a newbie in long distance
dog sledding, to become Norwegian
champion and overall winner in Europe's
longest sled dog race. It is a life in storm
and silence, close to nature and close to
the dogs, with their different fascinating
personalities.

Winter Dance is first and foremost a book
about living simple and dreaming big,
about the interaction between humans
and animals, about the forces of nature
and the forces in ourselves, and how
extreme situations and challenges makes
us stronger.

.....
Marit Beate Kasin (b. 1983) is a sled dog driver and a journa-
list. In 2008 she started the kennel Winter Dance. She has
participated the extreme Finnmarksløpet sled dog race three
times. In 2015 she ended up as the best rookie. In 2016 she
became the Norwegian champion, and she was the overall
winner in 2016 and 2017 combined.

Photo: Dominique Fleischmann



LARS FR. H. SVENDSEN

His books has been translated into 25 languages

UNDERSTANDING ANIMALS

Philosophy for Dog Lovers and Cat Lovers

Å forstå dyr. Filosofi for hunde- og katteelskere
Philosophy, 192 pages
Kagge 2018

Foreign rights: British English,
Croatian, Danish, German,
Italian, Korean, Turkish

Most of us have no doubts that a dog is happy when it wags its tail or that the cat is pleased when it purrs. But how do the animals we are surrounded by actually think? And can we really understand them?

Lars Fr. H. Svendsen has written a book about understanding

Would you understand your dog if it could talk?

animals, with examples and discussions from the history of philosophy. From the French philosopher who feels shame when he stands naked in the bathroom and the cat looks at him, to the philosophical questions whether animals can be lonely.

Understanding animals is an informative, entertaining and witty book about animals and whether it makes sense to describe our animals with human characteristics.

“Svendsen isn’t just a clear mind and well bespoken. He is witty.”

– **Dagbladet**



“*Understanding Animals* is the type of book I have been wanting to read for a long time, I just realised it when I got it. I like both cats and philosophy – this was a joy to read – de luxe”

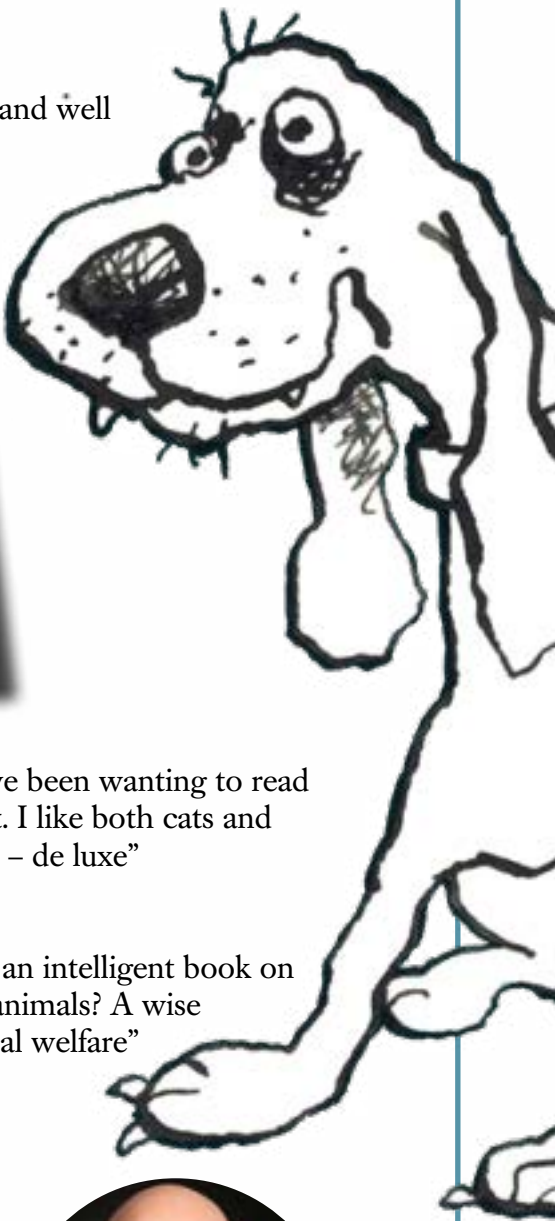
– **Vårt Land**

“Philosopher Lars Fr. H. Svendsen has written an intelligent book on dogs and cats: Can we understand the animals? A wise reflection in the debate about animal welfare”

– **Aftenposten**

.....
Lars Fr. H. Svendsen (b. 1970) is a doctor of philosophy and professor of philosophy at the University of Bergen. He is also an internationally bestselling non-fiction author, with a unique ability to communicate difficult contemporary and international topics in a straightforward way. Svendsen has received several prizes for his work. His books have been translated into more than 25 languages.

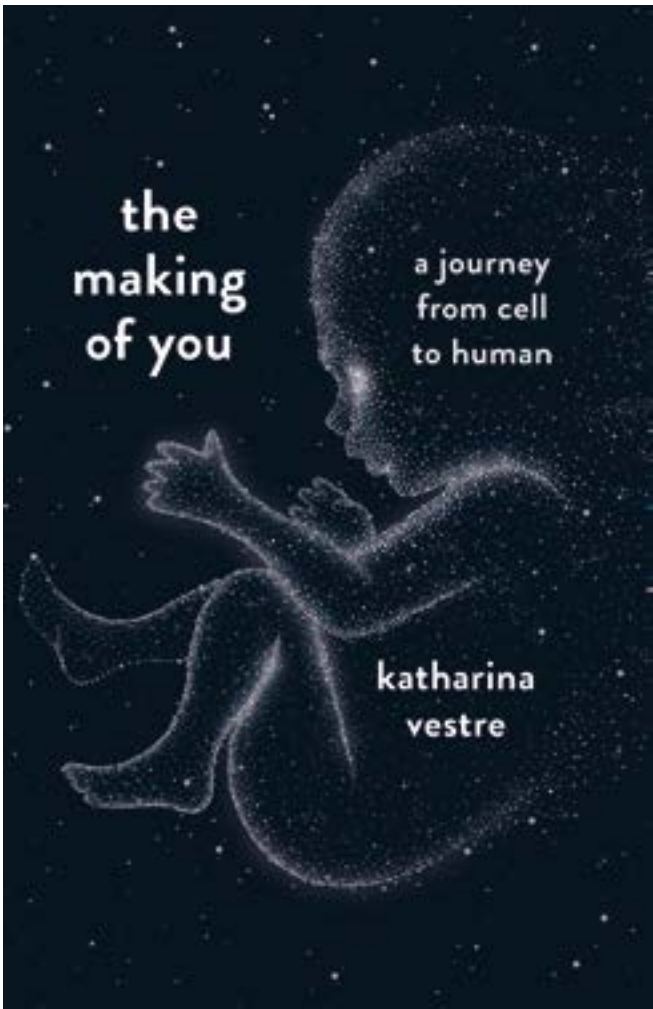
Photo: Sturlason



KATHARINA VESTRE

Illustrated by Linnea Vestre

Sold to 21 languages



“... it’s the sort of warm, curious, brilliantly clear and humane science writing that I absolutely love.”

– Ed Lake, Profile Books

“An exciting and astounding visual story about our creation (...) she has an incredible ability to explain complex phenomena in an understandable and appetising way”

– Dagbladet

THE MAKING OF YOU

A Journey From Cell to Human

Det første mysteriet — Historien om deg før du ble født

Popular science

150 pages

Aschehoug 2018

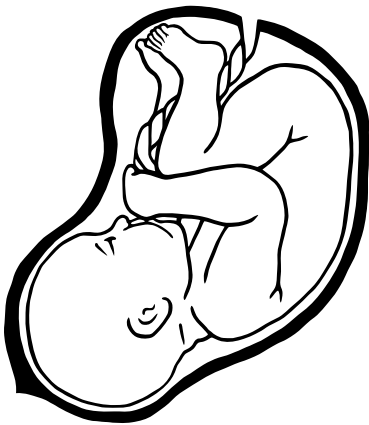
The Making of You tells the story of you (and me and everyone), from conception to birth, from the first primitive cell divisions – until nine months later, when we fight our way out of an overly narrow opening as ready-made human children.

Did you know that the expression ‘The rabbit died’ (indicating that a woman is pregnant) stems from pregnancy tests during the 1920s, where the doctors injected the woman’s urine into a

rabbit and later studied the changes in its ovaries; Or that the tiny male sea worm ‘*Bonellia viridis*’ spends his entire life inside the much larger female, as her personal sperm donor.

These are two of the very many strange facts you’ll find in *The Making of You*. Where Katharina Vestre tells us all about the miraculous process that takes place inside a mother’s womb.

The Making of You is popular science, history of science, storytelling and public education at its best. Charming, entertaining, fun, accessible, inclusive and knowledgeable.



Photos: Hildur Augustsdottir

.....
Katharina Vestre (b. 1992) is a Doctoral Research Fellow at the Department of Biosciences at the University of Oslo. *The First Mystery* is her literary debut. The book is illustrated by her sister Linnea Vestre (b. 1993).

PÅL MODDI KNUTSEN

Music meets literature with strong political commitment

UNSONGS

Ten untold stories about censorship and music

Forbudte sanger. Ti historier — fem kontinenter
History and society, 256 pages
Aschehoug 2017
Foreign rights: German

A scheduled gig in Tel Aviv in the Spring of 2014 changed Pål Moddi Knutsen’s life forever. After experiencing a cross fire of criticism and realizing that playing in Israel was not a matter for the faint hearted or seemingly a simple gesture in the name of music, he decided to cancel the concert.

The cancellation lead him to discover how politically powerful a simple song can be and that the world was full of artists who had been imprisoned and silenced for their songs, even killed. And so, a journey began over five continents where he met artists who had written songs that mattered.

As a result of his exploration into the world of censored music, Moddi launched the internationally critically acclaimed album *Unsongs* (2016), a collection of 12 banned songs from around the world, from Pussy Riots “Punk Prayer”, “Army Dreamers” by Kate Bush to Mexican narcocorridos and songs from the Middle East.

In the book *Unsongs*, ten untold stories about censorship and music, we meet 10 destinies behind the songs, who all have faced censorship, persecution and violent suppression. This book is a tribute to the power of music in a time when most people shun the idea of music as a political tool. Moddi, however, shows us that political music can be as dangerous as a shotgun.



Photo: Jørgen Nordby

Pål Moddi Knutsen (b. 1987) is a Norwegian musician and author, and a political and social activist. His music has been described as a blend of folk music and pop, although he refers to himself as a singer and storyteller. Moddi is widely recognised for his interpretations and translations of other artists, such as Vashti Bunyan and Pussy Riot. *Unsongs* is his first book.

REIDAR MÜLLER

Popular science at its best

HOWLING IN THE WOODS

The History of the Forest and the Man Who Came Looking for the Grey Wolf

Skogens historie
Popular science, 270 pages
Aschehoug 2018
Foreign rights: Czech, German, Italian, Russian, Spanish

A predator, mythical and debated, is lurking around in the Scandinavian woods.

At first the author just wants to get close to it. Then his search becomes an obsession.

The forests of folklore are the homes of strange, supernatural creatures. But worldly beasts have also aroused wonder and fear. None more so than the wolf. Reidar Müller, an other

wise sober naturalist, becomes deeply fascinated with this mysterious animal of prey. He learns from experienced woodsmen how to track the wolf, and is drawn ever deeper into the woods. Until he finds himself standing alone in the wilderness, howling to the Grey Wolf.

While searching for the wolf, the author explores the history of the forest; its plants and animals, it’s evolution and myth, and how it has and hasn’t changed over millions of years.

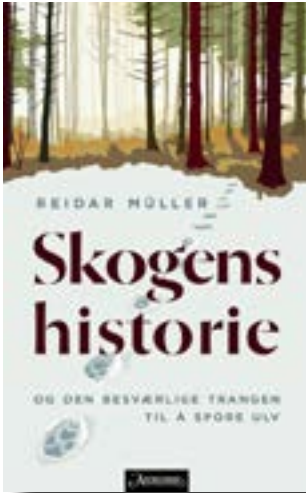


Photo: Harlad Medbøe

Reidar Müller (b. 1971) has a doctorate in geology and is associated with University of Oslo as a researcher. He is also an educated journalist and has written regularly about natural science in newspapers and journals. His previous book *What Norway Became* (2014), a time travel in the history of Norwegian nature, aroused excitement among both reviewers and the public.

ERLING SANDMO

“Finally they are out of the closet, the monsters of childhood - in joyful form and magnificent animation”

— **Morgenbladet**

MONSTROUS

Sea Monsters in Maps and Literature 1491 - 1895

Gigantic sea snakes, multi-eyed ocean pigs or fish the size of elephants: Sailors of the past had to prepare for the worst when they travelled the seas. History professor Erling Sandmo has dived into the

archives of the National Library and found a series of spectacular stories of encounters with sea monsters.

This delightful little book brings us images of a variety of monsters from old maps and books, together with Sandmo's insightful, fascinating essays on their origin, meaning and eventual disappearance.



Uhyrlig. Sjømonstre i kart og litteratur 1491 - 1895.
History & Society
95 pages
Nationalbiblioteket 2017
Foreign rights: German

NATIONALBIBLIOTEKET



.....
Erling Sandmo (b. 1963) is professor of history at the University of Oslo, researcher at the national library, author and critic. He has written a number of books and articles on criminal violence, historical method and classical music, to name a few, and is an established music critic.



Photo: UiO

HENRIK SVENSEN

“A brilliant book, driven by joyful storytelling and packed with knowledge (...) a joy to read”

— **Morgenbladet**

IN HIGH PLACES

A Personal, Historical and Scientific Approach to the World's Greatest Mountain Ranges

In High Places is an informative, brilliant written and entertaining book about what we have known, what we know and what we want to know about mountains. Central themes are how these landscapes affect us and how they are formed. People have always beenfascinated by mountains.

Peaks and ranges have been regarded as fearful and sacred, terrible and enigmatic, beautiful and symbolic. In many cultures, mountains are still sacred, and have superior symbolic meaning.



Bergtatt. Fjellenes historie og fascinasjonen for det opphøyde
History & Society
262 pages
Aschehoug 2011
Foreign rights: Czech, Italian, Polish, Slovakian

ASCHEHOUG



Photo: Aschehoug

Henrik Svensen (b. 1970) has a PhD in Geology from the University of Oslo, followed by studies in History of ideas. He is currently working as Research professor in geology at the University of Oslo. Svensen has written several books on dramatic events in the history of the earth.

OKTOBER

Kjell Askildsen (50 - 51)

Gunstein Bakke (52)

Rune Christiansen (53)

Edvard Hoem (54)

Jenny Hval (55)

Mona Høvring (56)

Merethe Lindstrøm (57)

Nina Lykke (58)

Jon Michelet (59)

Per Petterson (60 - 61)

Anne B. Ragde (62 - 63)

Kjersti Annesdatter Skomsvold (64 - 65)

Dag Solstad (66 - 67)

Thorvald Steen (68)

Espen Sørbye (69)

Hanne Ørstavik (70 - 71)

Lars Amund Vaage (72)

KJELL ASKILDSEN

Kjell Askildsen (b. 1929) is an inescapable reference in contemporary Scandinavian literature. Admired above all for his short stories, Askildsen has cultivated a terse, ascetic style, perfectly suited for his existential themes. Though the world view often seems bleak, his works are also full of black humour.

Askildsen entered the literary scene in 1953 with an acclaimed and controversial short story collection. After two more story collections and five novels, he gained a wider readership in the 1980s with the Critics' Prize winning *Thomas F's Final Notes to the Public* and a selection of his best stories. Two more excellent collections followed in the 1990s. In 2015 Askildsen returned with the acclaimed *The Cost of Friendship*.

THOMAS F'S FINAL NOTES TO THE PUBLIC

Thomas F's siste nedtegnelser til almenheten
Short stories, 96 pages
Oktober 1983

"The world isn't what it used to be. For example, it takes more time to live now. I'm well into my eighties but it isn't enough. I'm far too healthy, though I have nothing to be healthy for. But life won't let go of me. He who has nothing to live for has nothing to die for. Maybe that's why."



Thomas is old. He lives alone and knows he is about to die. We meet him in ten different situations; all in which he meets other people – and this is how the reader gets to know him. Finally, the door bell rings, and a boy is standing outside the door. His name is also Thomas, and suddenly the old Thomas becomes sentimental: To make sure someone will remember him, he offers the boy a gift.

Two unforgettable stories from Norway's unrivalled short story master. Named the best Norwegian book in the last 25 years by *Dagbladet* in 2006.

The Swedish Academy's
Nordic Prize 2009
Brage Honorary Prize 1996
Critics' Prize 1991 & 1983

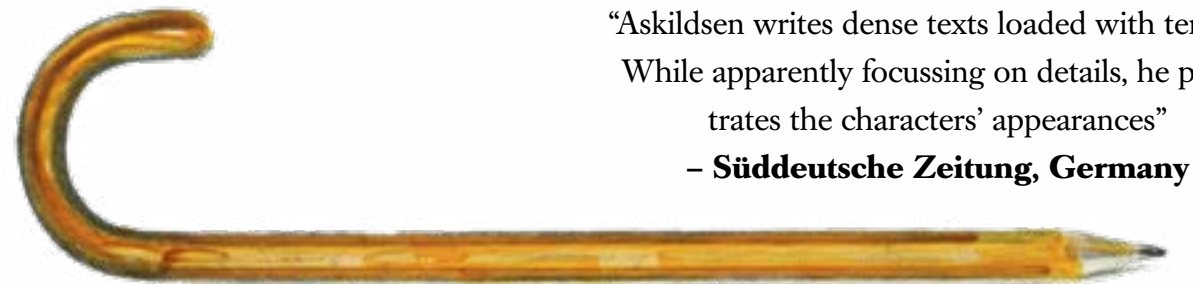
Sold in 32 territories

"A master of short story writing"
– **El Pais, Spain**

"Hurry if you don't want to miss out on Kjell Askildsen's characters (...) If you ignore them, you ignore a part of yourself"
– **Le Monde des Livres, France**

"Askildsen's dry, absurd humour is not unlike that of Beckett ... His short stories are packed with irony, and the dialogue is sharp and expressive"
– **Times Literary Supplement, UK**

"Askildsen writes dense texts loaded with tension. While apparently focussing on details, he penetrates the characters' appearances"
– **Süddeutsche Zeitung, Germany**



GUNSTEIN BAKKE

The European Union Prize for Literature 2012

MAUD AND AUD

Maud og Aud
 Novel, 224 pages
 Oktober 2011
 Foreign rights: Albanian, Bulgarian, Croatian, Czech, German, Latvian, Macedonian, Serbian

Aud and Maud are sitting in the back seat when the engineer loses it, when the family is separated from its everyday life as well as the road and one of them, Ruth Bore, along with everything that used to be her, comes to an end from one second to the next.

Nearly three decades later, the journey of some peaceful drivers is threatened by a black Mercedes. 18 year old Lovall, still too young to not have a knowledge of all things, decides to find out who, or what, is behind the wheel in the accident-ridden car.

In this poetic, essayistic, yet gothic novel, Gunstein Bakke breaks new ground in our understanding of both what traffic really is and does to us, and of what a novel can be. He shows us how we are hit by both traffic and love, and by language itself.



Photo: Christian L. Elgvin

.....

Gunstein Bakke (b. 1968) made his debut with the novel *The Office* in 2000. His third novel, *Maud and Aud* (2011), won the EU prize and was shortlisted for the Brage Prize, the P2 Listeners' Novel Prize and several other awards. The follow-up, *Expectant*, was met with terrific reviews and was nominated for the Critics' Prize. Bakke has also published a collection of poetry, edited an anthology on the July 22 attacks and translated both poetry and novels.

RUNE CHRISTIANSEN

"An exquisitely written novel of grief ... Rune Christiansen shows yet again why he is one of Norway's leading literary stylists"

— **Aftenposten**

FANNY AND THE MYSTERY IN THE GRIEVING FOREST

Fanny and the Mystery in the Grieving Forest
 Novel, 224 pages
 Oktober 2017
 Foreign rights: American English, Danish, Dutch, French

At seventeen, Fanny loses both parents in a car accident. It's her final school year, and she is allowed to stay on in the family house. She tries to live on as best she can, alone on the outskirts of a small town. The days go by as she performs her simple daily chores: getting to school, repairing the rain gutter, chopping wood and keeping the weed at bay.

But beneath her sad circumstances, there is a fairy tale-like world, full of stubborn notions and possibilities. Through Fanny's peculiar approach to the world, the seemingly simple story becomes a tale of friendship, independence and transgression.

Fanny and the Mystery in the Grieving Forest is a novel about grief written with a lightness and visual beauty that make it unlike anything else on the subject. It is novel of both hope and unease, and another masterpiece by one of Norway's most extraordinary novelists.



The Loneliness in Lydia Erneman's Life, 2014
Chrysantemum, 2009
The Absence of Music, 2007

Photo: Baard Henriksen



.....

Rune Christiansen (b. 1963) became an important figure in the Norwegian literary landscape already with his first book of poetry in 1986. Initially known as a groundbreaking poet, Christiansen has increasingly turned his attention to prose, having published a number of acclaimed novels. His great breakthrough with a wider audience came with the novel *The Loneliness in Lydia Erneman's Life* (2014), which won the Brage Prize, and was shortlisted for the Critics' Prize. In 2017, he published *Fanny and the Mystery in the Grieving Forest*, which was also nominated for the Brage Prize.

EDVARD HOEM

More than 50,000 copies in print in Norway

MIDWIFE ON EARTH

Jordmor på jorda

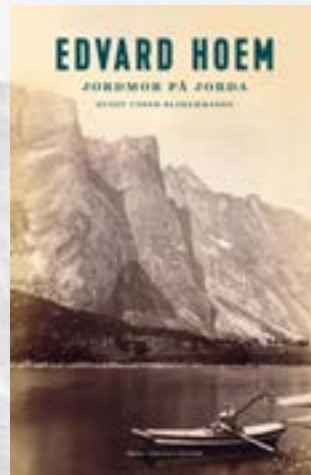
Novel, 356 pages

Oktober 2018

Foreign rights: Danish, Czech, German

In 1821 Edvard Hoem's great-great grandmother, Marta Kristine Nesje, took the long walk from the north-western coast of Norway to Oslo to become a midwife. At the time she had two children, the youngest having barely turned one. When she finished her training, she walked back, and started practicing her vocation as a midwife in the villages and rural districts of the Romsdal Fjord for more than 50 years. Distrust in the first midwives was strong, leading to consequences for both Martha and her family.

There is always a price to pay for those who follow their calling. Based on historical facts, Hoem makes Marta come alive with great poetic power. This is the story of a cotter's daughter who didn't want to take her husband's name and who refused to be affected by village gossip. It is also the story of the emergence of the important midwife profession.



"A magnificent family saga ... [Hoem is] a brilliant storyteller, who effortlessly transforms everyday life into emotionally charged stories"

– Dagbladet

"A brilliant portrait of a woman ... an absorbing novel"

– VG

Edvard Hoem (b. 1949) has been one of Norway's leading literary writers since his breakthrough with the Critics' Prize winning novel *The Ferry Crossing* in 1974. He hit a new career peak in the 2010s with his epic family saga set in North America and Norway in the decades around 1900.

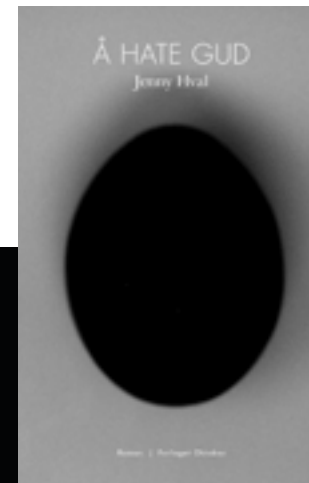
Photo: Paal Audestad



JENNY HVAL

"As intriguing and impressive a novelist as she is a musician, Hval is a master of quiet horror and wonder"

– Chris Kraus



Jenny Hval (b. 1980) is a musician, sound artist and writer. She has released several acclaimed albums, such as *Apocalypse Girl* (2015), *Blood Bitch* (2016) and, most recently, *The Practice of Love* (2019). She made her literary debut with the novel *The Pearl Brewery* in 2009, and followed up with *Sings with Her Eyes* in 2012.

Photo: Baard Henriksen

GIRLS AGAINST GOD

Å hate Gud

Novel, 256 pages

Oktober 2018

Foreign rights: Swedish, World English

Girls against God is a novel about magic, writing and art.

The novel starts with the main character's youth in southern Norway in the 1990s, a part of the country known for its deep religiosity and its white wooden houses. A powerful, primitive feeling starts growing in her: A hatred to God. In this hatred, there is a force which stays with her long after she has left

behind the classrooms of her childhood and the dark southern forests.

Later we find ourselves in a future, but still recognizable Oslo: a stinking town full of garbage, where art has become superfluous. Here, a secret network of witches arise, carrying out subversive rituals with complete naturalness. At the same time, the narrator is writing a film script, a magical document which is neither writing nor image.

Girls against God is an uncompromising, reflective, playful and deeply fascinating novel about black metal and white-painted idyll, about underground movements, magic and rebellion. The narrative, the essayistic and the magical is organically woven together into a literary text that both genre-wise and by virtue of its content refuses to be boxed in.

MONA HØVRING

Critics' Prize 2018

BECAUSE VENUS CROSSED AN ALP VIOLET ON THE DAY I WAS BORN

*Fordi Venus passerte en
alpefiol den dagen jeg blei født*
Novel, 136 pages
Oktober 2018
Foreign rights: Danish, French, German,
Swedish

Mona Høvring writes with impressive insight
about love and confusion. *Because Venus Passed an
Alp Violet on the Day I Was Born* is a sharp, sensi-
tive story about jealousy and passion, an original
and surprising story about the many distractions
of the heart.

"A shining pearl of a novel"
– **Dagbladet**

"Mysterious, dark and courageous (...)
Høvring's prose is striking"
– **NRK Radio**

In a hotel, high up in a mountain village, two
sisters in their early twenties will spend a few
winter weeks in peaceful surroundings. Martha
has just been discharged
from a sanatorium after
a nervous breakdown,
and Ella follows her to
take care of her. But at
the hotel, secret encoun-
ters take place and new
fascinations arise.

Through Ella's
confidential story, we
get a look into the
underlying conflicts
that have led the two
women away from what
once was a relationship
based on mutual trust
and devotion.



.....

Mona Høvring (b. 1962) has published six collections of poetry, the
most recent being *Girl with Skull*. Since her first novel, *Something
that Helps*, she has published two more acclaimed novels: *The Wait-
ing Room in the Atlantic* (2011) and *Camilla's Long Nights* (2013),
The latter was nominated to the Nordic Council Prize for Literature.

Photo: Agnete Brun



MERETHE LINDSTRØM

Nordic Council Literature Prize 2012
Critics' Prize 2012

NORTH

Nord
Novel, 224 pages
Oktober 2017
Foreign rights: Danish, French, Swedish

Hordes of people are on the march, chased
from their houses, their villages, or from
camps. A young boy has escaped. He walks alone,
following his compass toward the north, his
shoulderblades protruding like wings that have
been cut off. He carries with him the gaze of the
others, their definitions of him, together with

his hunger, his poverty and
his degradation.

Along the way he
gets a companion, one who
also carries a secret. A kind
of understanding arise beween them, as they walk together
through territories full of
both beauty and destruction.

North is a dark novel
which still contains light.
It is a story with traces of fa-
bles and myths buried deep
in our collective mind.



Photo: André Løyning



"One of contemporary Norwegian
literature's most finely tuned observers
and portrayers of the interplay between
people who are (seemingly) close"
– **Morgenbladet**

.....

Merethe Lindstrøm (b. 1963) made her debut in
1983 with a collection of short stories, and has since
published a number of short stories, novels and
a children's book. For her novel *Days in the History
of Silence* (2011), she was awarded both the Nordic
Council Literature Prize and the Critics' Prize.

NINA LYKKE

61,000 copies printed in Norway

Young Readers' Critics Prize 2016

Finalist for the Bonnier Book Clubs' Book of the Year 2018

NO, A HUNDRED TIMES NO

Nei og atter nei
Novel, 269 pages
Oktober 2016

Foreign rights: Danish, Finnish,
German, Korean, Polish, Swe-
dish

Ingrid and Jan have been married for a quarter of a century. They live with their two sons in a large house in a nice Oslo neighbourhood. The boys are big enough to be counted as adults, but they behave like hotel guests. Ingrid has lost all her illusions both about family life and her

teacher's job. Jan, however, is vitalized by his unexpected promotion to sectional director in the government ministry – as well as by the far younger advisor Hanne, who has seen all her friends disappear into regular family lives. It's time to take action.

No, a Hundred Times No is a sharp, funny and uncomfortable novel about the conditions of the nuclear family in a society where the lust of the moment is the ultimate guiding star and too much is never enough.



.....

Nina Lykke (b. 1965) debuted with the short story collection *The Orgy and Other Stories* in 2010. The book was nominated for the Young Readers' Critics' Prize. The novel *Disintegration*, which followed in 2013, had brilliant reviews and was short-listed for the P2 Listeners' Novel Prize.

In 2016 Lykke had a major breakthrough with her third book, *No, a Hundred Times No*. The book won the Young Reader's Critics' Prize (similar to the French Goncourt des Lyceens) and was the runner-up in the Swedish Bonnier Book Clubs' Book of the Year Prize in 2018.

Photo: Agnete Brun



JON MICHELET

The first book of the series has sold more than 200,000 copies, while the total print run of all 6 books is 860,000 copies.

A HERO OF THE SEA

Skogsmatrosen (The Forest Seaman) — En sjøens helt 1 (A Hero of the Sea 1)
Novel, 500 pages
Oktober 2012

Foreign rights: Danish

A Hero of the Sea is a 6-volume series of novels that follow Halvor Skramstad's adventures as a merchant sailor throughout the war, from he boards his first ship as a 19 year old in 1939, through the different phases of the war, all over the world, until he returns to Norway when the war ends in 1945. The series is both a coming-of-age story, an epic, captivating and intensely dramatic war-drama and a chronicle of the war itself.



“Outstanding ... Luckily, to be continued”
– Politiken, Denmark

.....

As a child, Jon Michelet (b. 1944 d. 2018) was deeply fascinated when his uncle returned from the sea, telling stories of adventures all over the world. In 1962, Michelet boarded his first ship, 17 years old. He continued to work as a seaman for 6 years, before going ashore to become a journalist, dock worker and political activist.

In 1975 he made his literary debut, with a well-received crime novel. In the decades that followed he would become one of Scandinavia's leading crime writers. More than three decades after his debut, he launched his greatest project, a bestselling, addictive and significant naval epic from WW2.

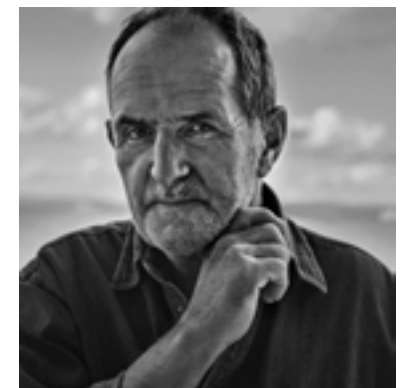


Photo: Hans Fredrik Asbjørnsen

OKTOBER

PER PETTERSON

The Aschehoug Prize 2016, The Dobloug Prize 2016, The Gyldendal Prize 2012, Nordic Council Literature Prize 2009, IMPAC Prize 2007, Prix des Lecteurs de litt. européenne 2007, Independent Foreign Fiction Prize 2006, Booksellers' Prize 2012 & 2003, Brage Prize 2008 & 2000, Critics' Prize 2008 & 2003

.....

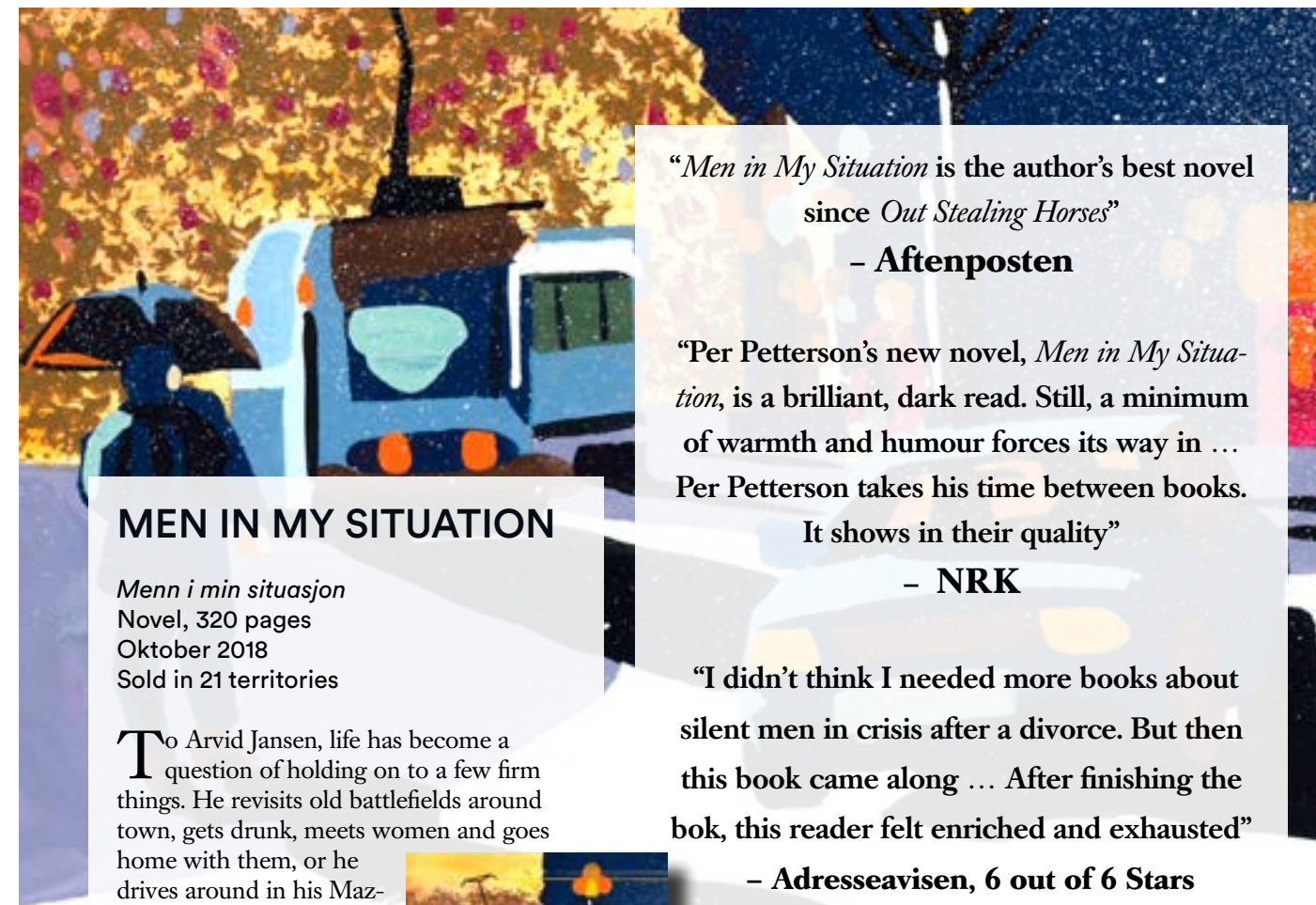
With rights sold to more than 50 countries and awards won all over Europe, few Scandinavian literary writers have achieved as much international recognition as Per Petterson (b. 1952).

Petterson made his literary debut in 1987 with a short story collection, and won the Brage for his fifth book, *In the Wake*, in 2000. A massive breakthrough came in 2003 with *Out Stealing Horses*. The novel has won the IMPAC prize, the Independent Foreign Fiction Prize and several domestic prizes.

Its follow-up, *I Curse the River of Time*, won both the Nordic Council Prize, the Brage and the Critics' Prize. His latest novel, *I Refuse*, won the Booksellers' Prize and was hailed by The Guardian's reviewer as a "mesmerising achievement by the Norwegian master".



Photo: Baard Henriksen



MEN IN MY SITUATION

Menn i min situasjon
Novel, 320 pages
Oktober 2018
Sold in 21 territories

To Arvid Jansen, life has become a question of holding on to a few firm things. He revisits old battlefields around town, gets drunk, meets women and goes home with them, or he drives around in his Mazda, where he also spends the nights when his bed becomes an impossible place to be.

A year has passed since Turid took their three daughters and left. Early one morning she calls him from the closed railway station Bjørkelangen. Arvid picks her up and drives her to her new home in Skjetten. But for once, he refuses to give her what she asks. In the terrace house, there is no trace of their life together. He has been completely wiped out. Arvid feels that Vigdis, his oldest daughter, sees what kind of man he really is. And that's why she has had to keep her distance to him. But at the same time she might be the one who needs him the most.

Men in My Situation is a tender, merciless portrait of a life going to pieces.

"*Men in My Situation* is the author's best novel since *Out Stealing Horses*"

– Aftenposten

"Per Petterson's new novel, *Men in My Situation*, is a brilliant, dark read. Still, a minimum of warmth and humour forces its way in ... Per Petterson takes his time between books.

It shows in their quality"

– NRK

"I didn't think I needed more books about silent men in crisis after a divorce. But then this book came along ... After finishing the book, this reader felt enriched and exhausted"

– Adresseavisen, 6 out of 6 Stars

"Petterson writes with such intensity, precision and care that the story grabs you right away. And it will not let you go. Not even after you finish reading. I am happy that we have Petterson. Very happy"

– VG, 6 out of 6 stars

"In *Men in My Situation* Per Petterson seems freer and more open than ever. The novel is another zenith in a body of work that already is ensured a place in our modern prose canon"

– Morgenbladet

ANNE B. RAGDE

With more than 1,5 million copies sold in Norway, and more than 2 million sold abroad, the Neshov series is among the biggest Norwegian publishing phenomenons ever.

Winner of the Brage Prize 2001

Winner of the Riksmål Prize 2004

Winner of the Booksellers' Prize 2005

Winner of the Norwegian Readers' Prize 2005

Nominated for the Booksellers' Prize 2014 and 2016

Anne B. Ragde (b. 1957) made her literary debut in 1986 with a book for children. Her first novel for adults, *A Tiger for an Angel* was published in 1990. She has since written numerous bestselling novels, crime novels and short story collections.

While her popularity grew steadily with each new book, she had a massive breakthrough with *The Berlin Poplars* in 2004.

The sequels *The Hermit Crabs* and *Pastures Green* were equally successful. The much loved initial trilogy has been made into a TV series, which had more than 1 million viewers when showed on Norwegian TV.

To the joy and surprise of her readers, she returned to the Neshov universe with *Always Forgiveness* in 2016. A sixth and final novel is published in 2019.

THE BERLIN POPLARS

Berlinerpoplene

Novel, 314 pages

Oktober 2004

Not your average family reunion. In the first book of her best-selling series, three estranged brothers are reunited by their mother's death bed. Her death brings up old conflicts and secrets.

When Anna Neshov suddenly suffers a stroke a week before Christmas and falls into a coma, her three sons are forced to redefine their own lives and relate to each other. Erlend works as a decorator in Copenhagen, Margido owns a small funeral parlour, and the oldest son, Tor, who is fifty-six, runs the family farm in Byneset near the city of Trondheim. The brothers haven't seen each other for years. Tor is the only one of the three with a child: his daughter Torunn, the result of a short-lived relationship in his youth. Torunn has only met her father once before. But now Tor wants her to come and meet her grandmother before she dies.

The award-winning bestseller *The Berlin Poplars* is a novel about trying to tear up one's roots, only to discover that they run much deeper than expected. It is also about suddenly uncovering roots that one never knew existed.

Sold to 23 languages



KJERSTI ANNESDATTER SKOMSVOLD

Shortlisted for the IMPAC Award 2013

Kjersti Annesdatter Skomsvold (b. 1979) is from Oslo. She made her literary debut in 2009 with the novel *The Faster I Walk, The Smaller I Am*, which won the prestigious Tarjei Vesaas First Book Prize, and was nominated for the Booksellers' Prize and the P2 Listeners' Prize. In 2013 it was shortlisted for the IMPAC/International Dublin Literary Award.

Monsterhuman, Skomsvold's second novel, was shortlisted for the P2 Listeners' Prize. After a third novel, a poetry collection and a children's book, she published *The Child* to great acclaim in 2018.

THE CHILD

Barnet

Novel, 123 pages

Oktober 2018

Sold in 8 territories

This is a love story. A mother tells her new-born child about the events the led to the child's birth. Her stories are about long-term illness, loneliness and grief. About being afraid to love somebody, and about daring to do it anyway.

The novel explores existence with an unusual vulnerability and an excellent eye for the things that make us able to connect to others, and the things that make it impossible. The Child was shortlisted for the Young Readers' Critics' Prize.

Praise for *The Child*:

"Skomsvold's fragile, troubled novel about becoming a parent is one of the most extraordinary and at the same time most familiar books on early motherhood I have read ... a short and intense novel, sorrowful, raw and powerful"

– **Weekendavisen, Denmark**

THE FASTER I WALK, THE SMALLER I AM

Jo fortære jeg går, jo mindre er jeg

Novel, 128 pages

Oktober 2009

Sold in 24 territories

Mathea Martinsen has never been good at dealing with Mother people. But one thing she has learned. They are not like her. Now, as an old woman, she suddenly experiences a great grief, and she is struck by the fear that she will die before anyone will know that she has lived. Mathea digs out her old wedding dress again, bakes some sweet cakes and goes out among the others.

Kjersti Annesdatter Skomsvold's first novel stands out for its humorous earnestness and unusually inventive prose.

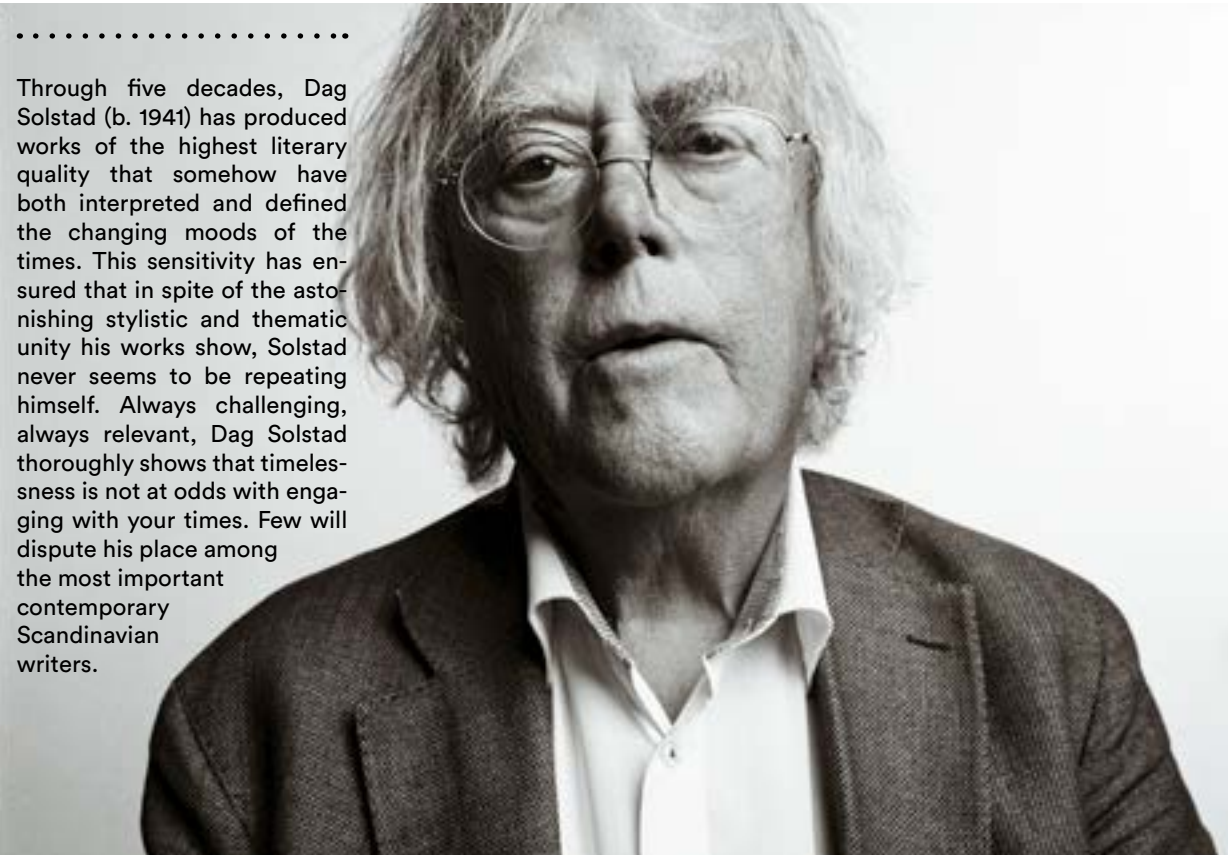


DAG SOLSTAD

Sold in 38 territories

Nordic Council's Prize for Literature 1989

Critics' Prize 1969, 1992 and 1999



.....
Through five decades, Dag Solstad (b. 1941) has produced works of the highest literary quality that somehow have both interpreted and defined the changing moods of the times. This sensitivity has ensured that in spite of the astonishing stylistic and thematic unity his works show, Solstad never seems to be repeating himself. Always challenging, always relevant, Dag Solstad thoroughly shows that timelessness is not at odds with engaging with your times. Few will dispute his place among the most important contemporary Scandinavian writers.

Photo: Baard Henriksen

“An utterly hypnotic writer”
– **James Wood**

“His language sparkles with its new old-fashioned elegance”
– **Karl Ove Knausgård**

«*Shyness and Dignity* is one of the major works of Nordic literature ... Each word counts, and even though the novel is only 188 pages long, it is encyclopedically saturated with meaning, references, humour, wisdom and brilliant writing”
– **Politiken, Denmark, 6/6 stars**

NOVEL 11, BOOK 18

Ellevte roman, bok atten
Novel, 173 pages
Oktober 1992

Bjørn Hansen, a respectable town treasurer, has just turned fifty and is horrified by the thought that chance has ruled his life. Eighteen years ago he left his wife and their two-year-old son for his mistress, who per-



suaded him to start afresh in a small, provincial town and to dabble in amateur dramatics. In time that relationship also faded, and after four years of living alone Bjørn contemplates an extraordinary course of action that will change his life for ever.

He finds a fellow conspirator in Dr Schiøtz, who has a secret of his own and offers to help Bjørn carry his preposterous and dangerous plan through to its logical conclusion. However, the sudden reappearance of his son both fills Bjørn with new hope and complicates matters. The desire to gamble with his comfortable existence proves irresistible, however, taking him to Vilnius in Lithuania, where very soon he cannot tell whether he's tangled up in a game or reality.

Novel 11, Book 18 is an uncompromising and concentrated existential novel that accommodates all of Dag Solstad's fundamental themes, and for which he received the Norwegian Critics' Prize for Literature for the second time. The story of Bjørn Hansen continues in *Novel 17* (2009) and *Third, and Final, novel about Bjørn Hansen* (2019).

“He's a kind of surrealistic writer ...
I think that's serious literature”

– **Haruki Murakami**

“He doesn't write to please other
people ... the drama exists in his
voice ... and that works”

– **Lydia Davis**

SHYNESS AND DIGNITY

Genanse og verdighet
Novel, 188 pages
Oktober 1994

The story about Elias Rukla's life, his university years, his friendship to Johan Corneliusen and his marriage to the ineffably beautiful Eva Linde, also contains a critical description of features of the social development that has taken place over the past decades. The despair that Elias Rukla needs to express, finds no listeners in a society where conversation has ceased to exist.

Shyness and Dignity was the book that gave Dag Solstad his international breakthrough. It is still his most widely translated work.



THORVALD STEEN

“I had been told that Thorvald Steen’s novel *The White Bathhouse* was a gem. That turned out to be wrong. It is a punch right in the stomach, and I can’t remember the last time I was so moved.”

– Svenska Dabladet, Sweden

THE WHITE BATHHOUSE

Det hvite badehuset

Novel, 184 pages

Oktober 2017

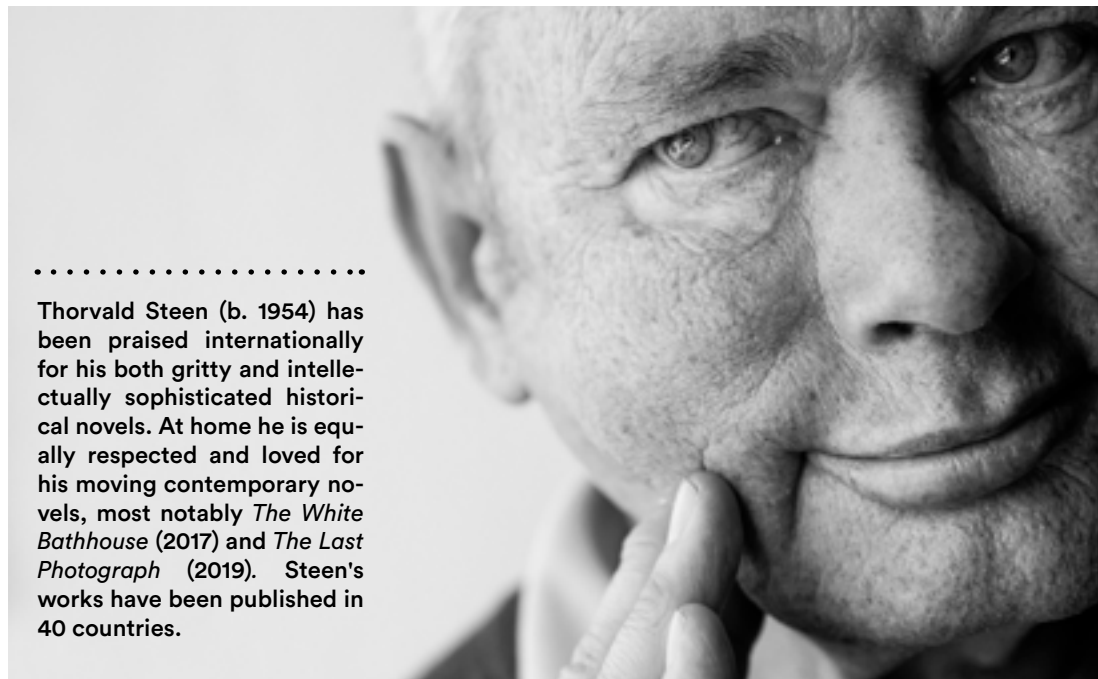
Foreign rights: American English, British English, Danish, Faroese, Singhalese, Swedish

It is just before Advent. He receives a Iphone call from an unknown woman claiming that she is his cousin. There’s never been much talk of the family on his mother’s side. He has never known the name of his grandfather. Now he discovers new truths and relatives he never

knew about, and with them difficult questions come up.

He lives with an inherited illness that has forced him into a wheelchair. Is the secrecy in the family connected to the chromosome abnormality he has inherited? Will what he has found out about his grandfather give him insight into his own life?

The White Bathhouse is a story of origins, shame, concealment and the costs of being honest.



.....

Thorvald Steen (b. 1954) has been praised internationally for his both gritty and intellectually sophisticated historical novels. At home he is equally respected and loved for his moving contemporary novels, most notably *The White Bathhouse* (2017) and *The Last Photograph* (2019). Steen’s works have been published in 40 countries.

Photo: Trine Hisdal

ESPEN SØBYE

Named one of the 10 best Scandinavian non-fiction books of the new millennium

KATHE. I’VE ALWAYS BEEN IN NORWAY

Kathe. I’ve Always Been in Norway

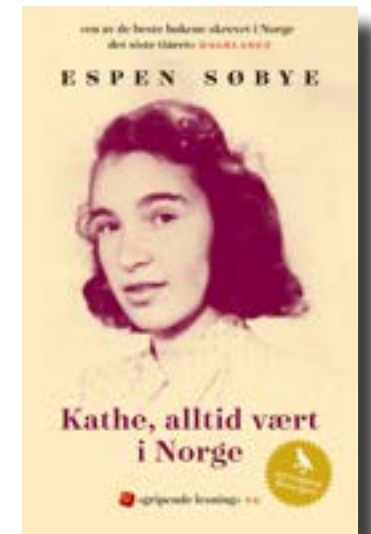
Non-fiction, 165 pages

Oktober 2003

Foreign rights: German, World English

With great care and impeccable handwriting the 15 year old Kathe Lasnik, student at a high school in Oslo, has written down her answers to the questions on “Questionnaire for Jews in Norway”. Answering the question “When did you arrive in Norway”, she has written: “I’ve always been in Norway”. The form is dated 16 November, 1942. Ten days later she, her father, her mother and a sister are transported to the ship *Donau* together with 528 other Jews. 1 December Kathe Lasnik is killed in the concentration camp Auschwitz-Birkenau. Two of her sisters managed to escape to Sweden.

Espen Sørbye’ sober narrative follows Kathe Lasnik’s family from her parents come from Vilnius in Lithuania as refugees to Oslo in 1908, up until the persecution, deportation and murder of this Norwegian family. His microhistorical method runs into great challenges, because of the attempts to exterminate the entire family; all of their possessions, photographs and papers were destroyed.



“A shocking, important and thorough story of investigation, where the most powerful story is the one that is written in the reader’s mind as she book moves from everyday life towards catastrophe.”

– Aftenposten

.....

Espen Sørbye (b. 1954) is mag. art. in philosophy, and has worked at Statistics Norway since 1985. He made his debut as a writer in 1992 with the book *No Way Home*. He has since published a number of non-fiction books, among them *Movement of the Crowd. Norway’s Population 1735-2014*. Sørbye was voted Literary Critic of the Year in 2006 and received Olav Dalgard’s Critic Prize for his work as a non-fiction critic in 2013. In 2018 *Kathe. I’ve Always Been In Norway* was named one of the ten best Scandinavian non-fiction books published after the year 2000.



Photo: Finn Ståle Felberg

HANNE ØRSTAVIK

Shortlisted for the US National Book Award 2018,
Brage Prize 2004, Dobloug Prize 2002, Sult Prize 1999

With the publication of the novel *Cut* in 1994, Hanne Ørstavik (b. 1969) embarked on a career that would make her one of the most remarkable and admired authors in Norwegian contemporary literature.

Ørstavik's breakthrough came in 1997 with the publication of *Love* (1997), which was named the 6th best Norwegian book of the last 25 years in a prestigious critics' vote in 2006. Other highlights include the Brage winning novel

The Pastor and *There Is a Wide Open Square in Bordeaux*, which was named one of the 10 best translated books of 2014 in the Danish newspaper *Berlingske*. Ørstavik's works have been translated into more than 20 languages.

Through 10 novels Ørstavik has followed a path which is very much her own, often provoking fierce debate along the way. Her personal, urgent, yet unmanipulated style is instantly recognizable and much imitated.

THE PASTOR

Presten

Novel, 240 pages

Oktober 2004

Foreign rights: American English, Czech, Danish, Estonian, Finnish, French, German, Latvian, Polish, Russian, Swedish

Liv is thirty-five years old. A year before the story begins, she left Germany, where she was studying for a PhD in theology, to become a parish priest of a small town in the far north of Norway. The novel opens with a Sunday service, and subsequently follows Liv's life in the next few days, culminating in the funeral she officiates on the following Friday.

Liv fills multiple roles and functions in her life; as a priest, a fellow human being and a private person. She is driven by an urge for purpose, meaning and belonging. As a researcher she studied the language of the Bible as a rallying point in the revolt of the Sami people in Kautokeino in 1852, focusing on the question of what it is that gives language its meaning – not only on a semantic level, but also as tone, rhythm and attitude – all the things that shape a language, constituting something larger, something more. Liv's reflections and recollections give the story its impetus and unify its various levels.

In *The Pastor*, Hanne Ørstavik continues the pursuit of knowledge that represents the core of her literary project. In a clear, incisive prose she generates a sense of presence that gives direct access to the novel's ethical and existential universe.



"In a just way, but without being dry, Ørstavik writes out feelings and masters with originality both content and form in a novel about searching for the meaning of life."

– **Le Monde, France**

"Hanne Ørstavik's style is very special. It is extremely precise, extremely pure, and yet an almost ethereal climate is established. History, literature and the existential quest of a woman who has lost love, are united in a way that is impressive."

– **Devoir, France**

"A masterpiece from the far north (...) Written in a crystal-clear, squiggle-free prose."

– **Wochenblatt Marsch & Heide, Germany**

"Everyone has a dark place in life, a place they shun. Being completely true to oneself is incredibly difficult, and Hanne Ørstavik knows how to emphasize this in a brilliant way"

– **NDR1 Bücherwelt, Germany**

"I think this writer deserves all the prizes and success she has received"

– **Information, Denmark**

LARS AMUND VAAGE

Winner of the Brage Prize 2012
Shortlisted for the Critics' Prize 2012

“A heartbreakingly beautiful, vulnerable and wise novel about being the parent of an autistic child”
– VG

.....
Lars Amund Vaage (b. 1952) made his literary debut in 1979 with the novel *Exercise Cold Winter*, and has since published books in a great variety of genres. In 1995 he had a definite breakthrough in Norway With the Critics' Prize winning novel *Rubato*. In 2012, his acclaimed novel *Sing* was a national bestseller, after winning the national Brage Prize and being nominated for the Critics' Prize.

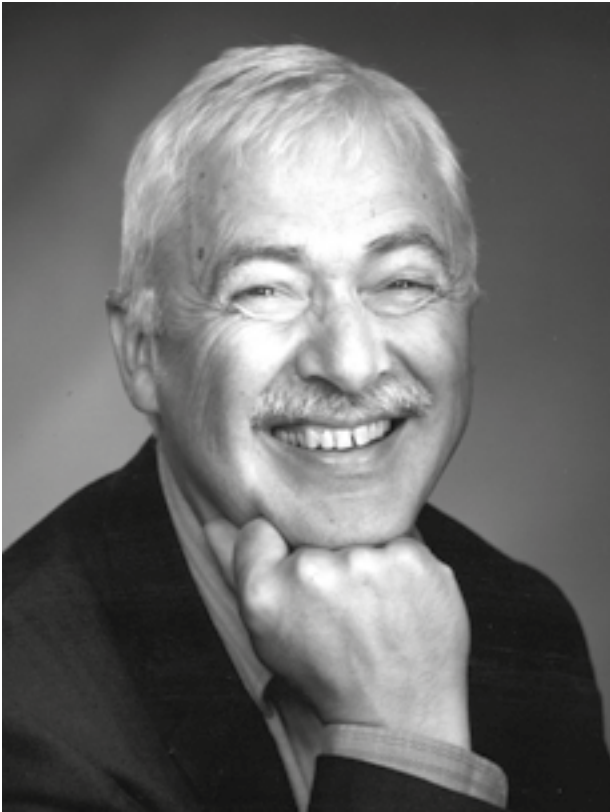


Photo: Hans Jørgen Brun

Sing

Syngja
Novel, 240 pages
Oktober 2012
Foreign rights: Swedish

The person I am writing this to cannot read. She cannot write, and not talk either, although the top experts in the country have tried teaching her for many years. Some words came along, and she did put them into use, but then they crumbled in her mouth. She used them differently than other people. She pronounced the words correctly, but didn't know what they meant. She tasted them, sang them, tossed them around, so that they started to mean everything and nothing, and then they got mixed with her other sounds, got lost in her play with her tongue and her vocal chords, disappeared into the howl and the mumbling, and we didn't hear them again.

As a young man he worked as a bus driver and dreamt of becoming a writer. One day, a girl stepped on to the bus. She looked at him in the mirror. When she got off, he left the bus in order to follow her. Now, their daughter has grown up and he is an established writer. Can he finally write the novel about her?

Sing is a beautiful, deeply personal novel about life with a daughter who has autism. It is an attempt to write her story, and centers on how difficult that is, but also how important it is to understand a girl who cannot be understood.



[illegible][illegible]

OSLO LITERARY AGENCY

Even Råkil, Rights Director
Fiction & Non-Fiction
even@osloliteraryagency.no

Annette Orre, Agent
Literary Fiction
annette@osloliteraryagency.no

Henrik Francke, Agent
Forlaget Oktober / Literary Fiction
henrik@osloliteraryagency.no

Evy Tillman, Agent
Children & Young Adults
evy@osloliteraryagency.no

Evin Sigrun Kalef, Contract Manager
evin@osloliteraryagency.no