



# Znak Publishers Rights Catalogue

Fall  
2019

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For the first thirty years of our existence, until *annus mirabilis* 1989, we were a small publishing house, but the only officially-existing independent publishing house in communist Poland. Those were unpleasant and difficult times. We struggled arduously for economic survival and fought political battles for the right to publish authors who were in exile or banned by the censors, such as Czesław Miłosz, Leszek Kołakowski, Józef Czapski, Lech Wałęsa – and even Karol Wojtyła, after he became Pope John Paul II.

Even during the next thirty years, while we were growing from a small publishing house to a large one in a free country, we continued to fight difficult battles. We were attacked for publishing Adam Michnik's interviews of Father Józef Tischner, accused of blasphemy for publishing Stanisław Barańczak's literary parodies, sued in court because of Jan Tomasz Gross's books, and condemned for publishing Karol Wojtyła's notes.

However, books should not only teach and entertain; sometimes you need to stir up a hornets' nest for a good cause.

That is why we will continue to do so in the upcoming decades. Everything we do, and everything we will do in the future, is with our faithful and wonderful authors and readers in mind, whom we effectively bring together and whom we love. What's more, we have strong evidence of reciprocity: we now publish and sell almost the same number of books in one year as we did in the first thirty years of our existence! Many literary Nobel Prize winners have entrusted us with their works: Seamus Heaney, Patrick Modiano, Mario Vargas Llosa, J. M. Coetzee, Wisława Szymborska... Together with our authors, collaborators and generations of readers, by publishing books and holding various events connected to them, we contribute to the creation of culture by participating in the intellectual and spiritual shaping of Polish society.

Znak's solidarity and cooperation with authors and readers, as well as the commitment and professionalism of our team, allow us not only to celebrate our birthday but also to look optimistically towards the future. All the more so because reading the works of our outstanding authors helps us to explore the meaning of past, present and future times.

We wish you pleasant reading!

A handwritten signature in red ink, which appears to read 'H. Woźniakowski'.

Henryk Woźniakowski  
President of Znak Publishing

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# Fiction



A new novel  
by the master of Polish prose

## Wiesław Myśliwski *The Needle's Eye*

### About the book:

**A gripping novel that asks fundamental questions about human existence.**

The story begins with an enigmatic meeting between two men on a steep stairway leading to a “wild old green valley,” in a defile known as the Needle’s Eye. A tragic incident triggers the action. Who are these men and what is their relationship? Who is the mysterious girl in the photograph that one of them keeps on him?

In this masterfully constructed book nothing happens by chance; each scene has its own significance, like a step on a stairway. Gradually we learn the story of the central character: his childhood in a small town during the war, his youth spent under communism, and finally old age in present-day Poland. We’re with him in his family home, on walks with the girl, in boarding houses, rented apartments; we see him as a schoolboy, a college student, and finally as a history teacher. From time to time we go back with him to visit his parents, with whom he is close, painfully watching them growing old and moving “toward silence.” History leaves its stamp on the lives of the protagonists, including on those parts that remain unspoken.

Release date: October 2018

Rights sold: France (Actes Sud), Netherlands (Querido), United States (Archipelago Books), Lithuania (Mintis)  
Translation sample in English available

### About the author:

**Wiesław Myśliwski** has twice received the Nike Literary Award, Poland’s most prestigious literary distinction. His novels and plays are usually discussed in the context of “peasant literature”, dealing with the problems of the identities of villages and their inhabitants in times of historical change. However, his work transcends this literary category thanks to its philosophical and anthropological importance. His books have been translated into English, German, French, Italian, Spanish, Dutch, Russian, Czech, Slovak, Romanian, Bulgarian, Latvian, Lithuanian and Serbian.

### Praise for *Stone Upon Stone*:

Like a more agrarian Beckett, a less gothic Faulkner, a slightly warmer Laxness... Richly textured and wonderfully evocative... Undeniably original.

– *Publishers Weekly*

Pietruszka, with winning candor, narrates his life story in a stream of meandering and sometimes overlapping anecdotes that chronicle the modernization of rural Poland and celebrate the persistence of desire. – *The New Yorker*

*Stone Upon Stone* so immerses us in this world that we can sense, almost hear, the cadences Szymek speaks of. And when he says, “The whole world is one big language,” we believe it. We cup our ears to listen.

– Chris Dombrowski, *Orion Magazine*

### Praise for *A Treatise on Shelling Beans*:

This novel from Myśliwski describes an unremarkable life in exhaustive detail; the result is about as exciting as its title implies.

– *Publishers Weekly*

Newcomers to Myśliwski should prepare themselves for a unique voice, intriguing characters and page after page of wily but thoughtful prose.

– Malcolm Forbes, *Star Tribune*

### Selected awards:

- Nike Literary Award (1997 and 2007)
- Gdynia Literary Prize (2007)
- Grand Prix Littéraire de Saint-Émilion (2011)
- Three Percent’s Best Translated Book Prize (2012)
- Prix Jean Monnet de Littérature Européenne (2011)
  - nomination
- Angelus Central-European Literature Award (2013)
  - nomination



2016 Conrad Award  
for the best literary debut

2016 Nike Literary  
Award Nominee

Żanna Słoniowska  
***The House with the Stained-Glass Window***

**About the book:**

**Four generations of women: the great-grandmother, the grandmother, the daughter and the granddaughter, reside together in a house in Lviv.**

Lviv is a city at the crossroads of cultures and nationalities, a city of crumbling balconies, ornate building façades and vandalized Lenin statues. The men are dead or missing and now the women must fight their wars and stage revolutions. Each of them chooses her own way to confront the harsh reality. Marianna, the daughter, an opera singer, is killed by a stray bullet during a riot. When her daughter grows up, she meets Mikołaj, a much older artist who becomes her mentor. The thread of understanding that develops between them is quickly transformed into mutual fascination. Yet it soon turns out that the man was once Marianna's lover. Is this relationship just his way of getting close to his long gone sweetheart?

*The House with the Stained-Glass Window* is a moving story about women and history, about unpredictable fates and revolution, which takes away loved ones and turns the world upside down.

Release date: February 2015

Rights sold: Ukraine (The Old Lion Publishing House), UK (MacLehose Press), Russia (Inostrannaya Literatura), France (Delcourt), Germany (Kampa Verlag)  
Translation samples in English, French and German available

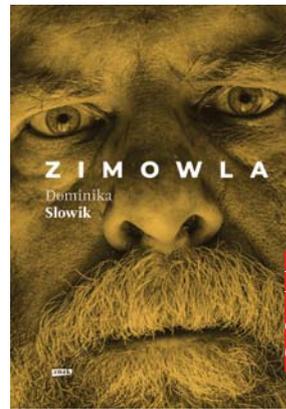
**Praise:**

*The House with the Stained-Glass Window* is remarkable, a gripping, Lvivian evocation of a city and a family across a long and painful century, at once personal and political, a novel of life and survival across the ages.

– Philippe Sands, author of *East West Street*

**About the author:**

Żanna Słoniowska was born in 1978 in Lviv and is a journalist and translator. She now lives in Kraków. She is the first winner of the Znak Publishers' Literary Prize and her novel was chosen from among over a thousand entries. She currently works on her second novel.



A new novel from  
the finalist  
of the prestigious  
Gdynia Literary Prize

Dominika Słowik  
***Zimowla***

**About the book:**

**A little town in the Zmornica Valley lives and breathes secrets. A body has been fished out of the lake, a father has left his office job to become a fortune teller and Bee-keeper has trained his hive. In his free time Misza brings some pot from Slovakia. Naked Dygarówna walks the town at night. The locals either wait for another miracle or are frenetically busy looking for treasure. Will they manage to open the door, which was always shut, and reveal the deepest secret? The danger and sticky darkness enveloping Cukrówka gets thicker and thicker...**

In her second novel after the splendidly received *Atlas: Doppelgänger*, Dominika Słowik masterfully blurs the boundaries between what's possible and what's impossible and takes the reader deep into the midst of unexplainable phenomena of everyday life.

Release date: September 2019

Rights available: World

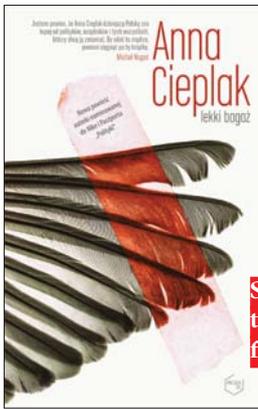
**Praise for *Atlas: Doppelgänger*:**

Rare is a novel which can take over the reader so completely. [...] Instead of a generational story about children from a housing estate, so common these days, Słowik takes dilapidated blocks of flats and turns them into a Schulz-like literary realm. Initial sections of the book are one of the best portrayals of housing estates ever created in literature. The maze of flats and corridors mirrors the labyrinthian language. The estate is not a picture of social divisions, but a protagonist in its own right, living its own life. Słowik's book also becomes the story of the power of literature, the story about the untamed element which turns known reality into fantastical worlds we didn't know existed.

– Justyna Sobolewska, *Polityka*

**About the author:**

**Dominika Słowik** is the finalist of the Gdynia Literary Prize for her debut novel *Atlas: Doppelgänger*. She lives in Kraków.



Shortlisted  
for European Union Prize  
for Literature

## Anna Cieplak *Light Baggage*

### About the book:

A new novel by an author nominated for the Nike Award and the Polityka Passport Award.

Life in a small, provincial Polish town through the eyes of one of the most talented writers of the young generation. A group of friends take their first steps into adulthood. It's just a matter of time before their idealism is put to the test and they're forced to make their first important choices in life.

Anna Cieplak proves once again that she has a great ear and eye for the reality that surrounds her. Like no one else, she portrays young adults with tenderness and empathy towards their imperfections, frustrations and dreams. She deeply understands what she writes about.

Release date: January 2019

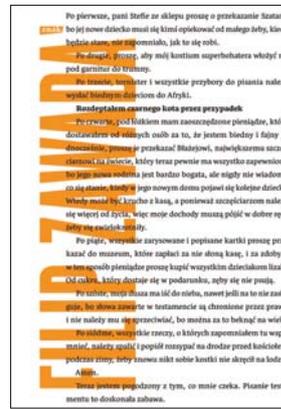
Rights available: World

### Praise:

I would like *Light Baggage* to be read by politicians and government officials – all those whose decisions, even indirectly, have an impact on the reality around us. They would then rub their eyes in amazement, feel shocked and, I believe, arrive at a new understanding of which social issues and problems they should really be dealing with. Because I'm quite convinced that Anna Cieplak knows present-day Poland much better than they do.  
– Michał Nogaś

### About the author:

**Anna Cieplak** (born in 1988) is a fresh, new voice in Polish literature. Her novel *Clean It Up* received the 2017 Gombrowicz Prize for the best debut, was nominated for the prestigious Nike Literary Award, and was voted Book of the Year by listeners of Polish Radio 3. Her second novel *Zero-Plus Years* was nominated for the Nike Award and the Polityka Passport Award.



## Filip Zawada *I Stepped on a Black Cat by Accident*

### About the book:

This year's literary *tour de force* is about an orphan raised by nuns, a sensitive kid who discovers the world without feeling sorry for himself and sails out onto the wide waters of his imagination.

Only a few things are certain in this world. You won't get dessert if you use foul language. Błażej is a cry-baby and an irritating blockhead who doesn't know a damn thing about life. And adults spend their time dealing with stupid crap, unless they're tanker drivers. When a cat named Satan mysteriously disappears, Stefa the shopkeeper suddenly gives birth to a baby, and it's impossible to figure out what the nuns are really up to.

*I Stepped on a Black Cat by Accident* is a story about searching for one's place in the world, written in fresh, clever prose that makes you start to realise how much the world you imagine differs from the one you live in. With every page, you become convinced that Filip Zawada wrote this book precisely about you.

Release date: March 2019

Rights available: World

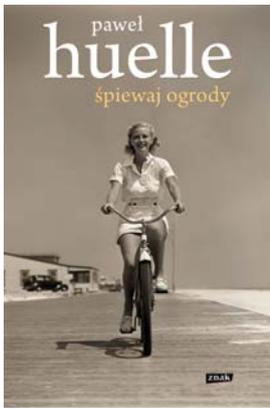
### Praise:

It rarely happens to me while reading a book that I laugh and cry at the same time, but while reading Zawada I burst out laughing and cried like a baby almost simultaneously. This novel brutally and uncompromisingly lays bare human (and slightly divine) nature.  
– Wojciech Szot, *Kurzojady*

Zawada has created a (childlike) protagonist who tries to explain the world to himself by reducing language to the simplest words. In this way, he has achieved a synthesis of human experience, full of anxiety, which we adults are ashamed to admit."  
– Małgorzata Halber, author of *The Worst Person in the World*

### About the author:

**Filip Zawada** is a writer, musician and photographer. He has written two books of prose and six volumes of poetry. He has been nominated for the Gdynia and Silesius literary awards. He composes music for films and plays. For many years he played in the Polish bands Pustki and Indigo Tree. He currently performs solo hip-hop concerts with his own original lyrics.



## Pawel Huelle *Sing Gardens*

### About the book:

As the eighteenth century comes to a close, François de Venancourt arrives in Gdańsk. When young girls and boys start to go missing from the neighbourhood, nobody suspects the genial Frenchman. Nor does anyone hear the moans of ecstasy or the groans of agony as he tortures his victims in the cellar of his mansion.

Towards the end of the 1920s, German composer Ernest Teodor Hoffmann buys the house from de Venancourt's heirs, and moves into it with his wife Greta. Both of them are involved with the Forest Opera based in Zoppot, which is renowned for its performances of Wagner. Ernest Teodor has never had a high opinion of Wagner's work or the ideology behind it, but he is aware of the rising power of Hitler. Only when he pays a visit to an old antiquarian in Budapest and finds the mysterious manuscript of an unfinished opera does he start to believe in Wagner's greatness. From then on, he is determined at any cost to complete the work, which is about the Pied Piper of Hamelin. News of Wagner's lost opera soon spreads within the Free City of Danzig and into the Reich beyond, and Ernest Teodor becomes entangled in the web of history on a grand scale.

### About the author:

**Pawel Huelle** is a novelist and poet. He was born in Gdansk in 1957 and graduated in Polish Philology at the University of Gdansk. He worked as a university lecturer, journalist and director of the Gdańsk branch of the Polish Television. Honoured with many prestigious literary awards, Huelle is one of the most successful contemporary Polish writers.

His first novel *Who Was David Weiser?* (1987) was hailed by the critics as "the book of the decade," "a masterpiece" and "a literary triumph" and has been published in Germany, Spain, France and Finland. It is a story about the mysterious disappearance of a Jewish boy during his summer vacation. Many years later, Dawidek's friend sets out to investigate the events that came to shape his entire life. The novel has been described as a coming-of-age story, an adventure novel and even as a philosophical treatise.

Like *Who Was David Weiser?*, Huelle's next two books *Stories for a Time of Relocation* (1991) and *First Love and Other Stories* (1996) are set in his home town of Gdansk and its environs, even though they are concerned with different historical periods and social milieus.

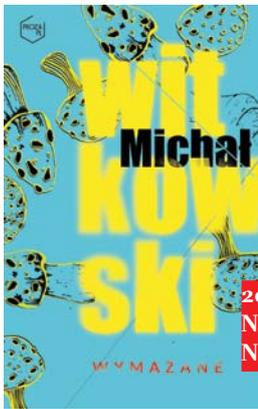
Many years later, when Danzig has been captured by the Russians and the German citizens are being deported, the narrator's father is given accommodation in Greta Hoffmann's house. In the 1950s, the little boy who will grow up to tell the story about the Frenchman, Wagner and the Hoffmanns, befriends Greta, who is now an old lady. Greta teaches him German and shows him the vanished world of the Free City of Danzig.

This is a very beautiful, superbly constructed novel about a bygone world where a variety of cultures, traditions and ethnicities interacted; about the Free City of Danzig and how Wagner's mysterious opera changed the life of another composer and his wife; about the Pied Piper of Hamelin, and how another procession of rats came pouring through the streets of Danzig in sombre silence; about music in the shadow of Hitler, literature in the shadow of crime, love in the shadow of war, and about the unusual friendship between a small boy and an old lady.

Release date: January 2014  
Rights sold: Bulgaria (Ergo)

### Selected awards:

- Long-listed for the Independent Foreign Fiction Prize in 2013 for *Cold Sea Tales*, the English translation by Antonia Lloyd-Jones of *Opowieści chłodnego morza*
- 2009 "Found In Translation" Prize for Antonia Lloyd-Jones for *The Last Supper*, the English translation of *Ostatnia Wieczerza*
- Nike Literary Award nomination in 2008 for *Ostatnia Wieczerza*
- The Independent Foreign Fiction Prize in 2007 for *Castorp*, the English translation by Antonia Lloyd-Jones - shortlist
- The Independent Foreign Fiction Prize in 2006 for *Mercedes-Benz*, the English translation by Antonia Lloyd-Jones - shortlist
- The Polityka Passport Award in 2001 for *Mercedes-Benz*
- The Koscielski Prize in 1988



Michał Witkowski  
**Wipeville**

**About the book:**

**Forget Lovetown, welcome to Wipeville!**

Wipeville is a town in the Wild Wild East, between Toadstool Forest and the “Tijuana” truck stop: some blocks of flats in a marshland, in a void. In this scenery, populated with a whole host of freakish individuals, a wayward romance unfolds, a Harlequin *à rebours*. Here everything contradicts a classic love story. The beautiful Damian is only attracted to old, fat, flabby bodies, while Alexis the queen of champignons has a cunning plan for him. The story swells with lust and emotion.

Michał Witkowski, chronicler of the tin foil, plywood, and corrugated iron Poland, has created a new fairy tale about this strange land. He is still himself, but in addition to his usual absurd, grotesque humour, a new tone is readily noticeable in *Wipeville* – grave and at times bitter.

Release date: September 2017

Rights sold: China (People's Literature Publishing House)

Translation sample in English available

**Praise:**

*Wipeville* is a book about pain, death, and unfulfilled desires, but also a funny story about wild capitalism in Europe's back of beyond, local shady dealings and grey market ethos. It tells about the bitter fate of Polish provincial life, for which there is no hope, and also about some other world, an old world with the same currencies but different stakes. Finally, it's a bawdy story immersed in a *Witkowskian* atmosphere.

– Dominik Antonik, *Dwutygodnik.com*

**About the author:**

**Michał Witkowski**, born in 1975, is one of the most acclaimed Polish authors and an inspiring personality whose creative vision makes him one of the icons of Polish pop culture. Witkowski's most celebrated novel, *Lubiewo*, was published in 2005 and has been translated into German, English, Spanish, Dutch, Finnish, French, Russian, Czech, Lithuanian, Ukrainian and Hungarian.



Michał Witkowski  
**Fynfundcancyś**

**About the book:**

**Dianka, move on, this job is for tough ones only. What job? Whoredom.**

Fynfundcancyś and Dianka are male prostitutes. Witkowski does not surprise here because it is a theme he has been exploring for years. His first, uniquely Polish, gallery of male whores was opened in *Lubiewo (Lovetown)*. This time he goes abroad, to Vienna, Berlin and Zurich of the 1990s. Fynfundcancyś and Dianka are total opposites. The former is very successful in his job, earning money and having fun, while the latter is a permanently maladjusted loser. Witkowski's world is really repulsive: train stations, bars, parking lots and public toilets. Sex for sale. No space for feelings because in this world nobody loves and nobody is loved. It is a world of false identities, roles played for the clients. The prize always goes to the one who is a better psychologist and who knows what they want. Fynfundcancyś always hits the bull's eye.

Witkowski creates his own grossly hypnotizing version of “Sex and the City” but at the same time sketches an unnerving picture of everyday life of immigrants fighting for survival in an extremely competitive western society.

Release date: October 2015

Rights sold: UK (Seagull Books)

Translation sample in English available

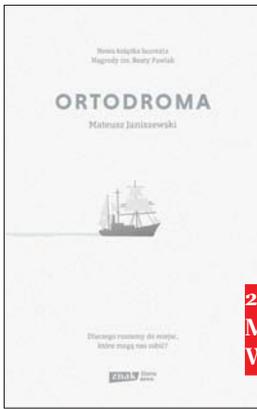
**Praise:**

It is hard to say whether the world depicted by Witkowski is that of *A Thousand and One Nights* or rather that of Mordor. It is a contemporary *opera buffa* in which the comedy of recitatives and arias is smoothly transformed into a groan of disappointment and a wail of injustice.

– Szymon Kloska, The Book Institute

**Selected awards:**

- Nike Literary Award (2018, 2012, 2007, 2006) – nominations
- Gdynia Literary Prize (2006)
- Polityka Passport Award (2007)
- Independent Foreign Fiction Prize (2011) – nomination



2019  
Magellan Award  
Winner

Mateusz Janiszewski  
**Orthodromy**

About the book:

**Why do we travel to places which can kill us?**

In 1914, Sir Ernest Shackleton set off aboard Endurance on an expedition that went down in history. The aim was clearly defined: Antarctica. Despite the whole crew's efforts, the ship got trapped in an ice floe one sailing day away from the continent. In extremely adverse conditions, in the midst of a merciless wasteland, there began a dramatic fight for life.

More than a hundred years later, another crew take to the sea, following the route of the legendary expedition. One of the captains is Mateusz Janiszewski – physician, explorer, writer. The many-month journey turns out to be much more challenging than expected – not for him as an explorer, but as a human being.

In his remarkable piece of literary reportage, written in the best tradition of travel writing, Janiszewski takes us beyond the limit of human endurance, into a world which is radically hostile, but if we open up to it, it will permeate us. In his presentation of vastness, Janiszewski gives us a truly Conradian experience: a touch of the unknown.

Release date: June 2018

Rights sold: Switzerland (Noir sur Blanc)

Translation sample in English available

Praise:

Janiszewski's talent and literary ambitions are unquestionable, but, paradoxically, he often shows us his best when his writing is simple and raw.

– Grzegorz Wysoki, *Polityka*

About the author:

**Mateusz Janiszewski** is a physician, writer and translator. He has worked in East Timor and Tibet, among other places. He is a scuba diver, ultra-marathoner, traveller and sailor. He has visited several dozen countries; he crossed the Atlantic and sailed beyond the Antarctic Circle. His 2014 reportage *Dom nad rzeką Loes* (A House on the Loes River) won the Beata Pawlak Award for the best book concerning the themes of religion, culture and civilisation.



2017  
Nike Literary Award  
Nominee

Jacek Dehnel  
**Krivoklat**

About the book:

**A well-known patient of several mental hospitals, Krivoklat is a serial vandal who has targeted some of the most famous artworks in the best European museums.**

The Austrian press have even nicknamed him 'Acid Vandal'. He is still planning his most spectacular attack... Dehnel's new novel is a pastiche of Thomas Bernhard's anti-middle class. It's a black comedy about art, love and a man who is not afraid to take a stand against society's rigid rules.

Release date: May 2016

Rights sold: Switzerland (Noir sur Blanc), Ukraine (KOMORA)

Praise:

In this elegantly poignant novel, Dehnel has created a protagonist in his own image in order to pose important questions about art today.

– Justyna Sobolewska, *Polityka*

About the author:

**Jacek Dehnel**, born in 1980, is a Polish poet, writer, translator and painter. Dehnel graduated from the Polish Language and Literature Department at Warsaw University.

He is the recipient of many important Polish literary awards (the Kościelski Prize, the Polityka Passport Award) and his novels have been shortlisted for several others. His first collection of poems was the last book recommended by Polish Nobel Prize Laureate Czesław Miłosz. Dehnel's novels have been translated into English, Hebrew, Spanish, Dutch, German, Russian, Italian and many other languages.



**Maryla Szymiczkowa**  
***Mrs Mohr Goes Missing***

**About the book:**

Mrs Szczupaczyńska, a professor's wife, has a thousand things to do.

She must remember about the poustin for dinner, not forget to buy wine to prevent cholera, and check whether the new maid has cleaned the silver properly. But at the same time she's tremendously bored. Krakow in 1893 does not offer much in the way of entertainment. So when she happens to find out that one of the inmates of the famous Helcel House for retired ladies has gone missing, she goes into action. Mobilizing her innate inquisitiveness – that some might call nosiness – she starts to investigate.

*Mrs Mohr Goes Missing* is an astonishing pastiche of the literature of the era in which it is set. Here we have a playful game with convention, superb style, witty dialogue and a perverse portrait of Krakow in the late nineteenth century.

Release date: July 2015  
Rights sold: UK (Oneworld),  
US (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt)

**Praise:**

The unravelling of the mystery is ingenious... It's fun and sparky and the glimpse of turn-of-the-century Polish manners and mores is beguiling.

– Daily Mail

An ingenious marriage of comedy and crime.

– Olga Tokarczuk, 2018 winner of the Man Booker International

**About the authors:**

**Maryla Szymiczkowa** was brought to literary life by:

**Jacek Dehnel** (born 1980), novelist, poet and translator. He runs a blog dedicated to the inter-war crime tabloid *The Secret Detective*.

**Piotr Tarczyński** (born 1983), translator, historian and specialist in American studies. Descended from a long line of Cracovians, for ten years he has been living as an émigré in Warsaw.



**Maryla Szymiczkowa**  
***The Torn Curtain***

**About the book:**

A young woman's body is found on the bank of the Vistula River. Meanwhile, Mrs Szczupaczyńska is devastated by her new maid's resignation.

Easter is so close and Mrs Szczupaczyńska has to take care of the whole house with just one maid! She knows though that it is her patriotic duty to find the person who killed the poor girl they just found, even if that makes her look truly controversial. Can she tear down the curtain which hides the dark side of Krakow in 1895?

Maryla Szymiczkowa is back. Humorous, intriguing and even more mysterious, *The Torn Curtain* is a perfect read for all those who love cosy mysteries.

Release date: August 2016  
Rights sold: UK (Oneworld)



**Maryla Szymiczkowa**  
***A Séance at the Egyptian House***

**About the book:**

Decadence, table-turning, and a murderer from the nether world. Autumn 1898.

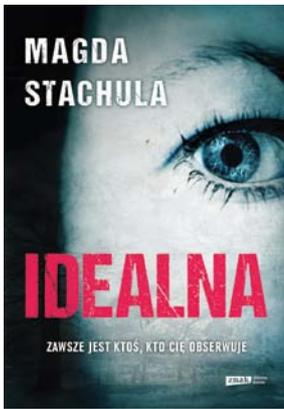
In Geneva, an assassin drives a file through Empress Sissi's heart, and Kraków gets visited by Satan himself: the writer Stanisław Przybyszewski. Some weeks later, polite society – including the very excited Mrs Zofia Szczupaczyńska, the professor's wife – gather in the recently-built Egyptian House to watch a total lunar eclipse and take part in a séance. Twelve people will sit down at the table. One will never get up again.

Another investigation by Kraków's Miss Marple, who feels that this murder case certainly cannot be solved unless she steps in. Her household and her doctor husband Ignacy will suffer neglect, but this is higher necessity; the murderer isn't going to catch himself.

Release date: July 2018  
Rights available: World

**Bestselling retro crime series!**

**If Wes Anderson wrote feisty, female-led mysteries set in Poland, this is what he might write!**



Magdalena Stachula  
***The Perfect One***

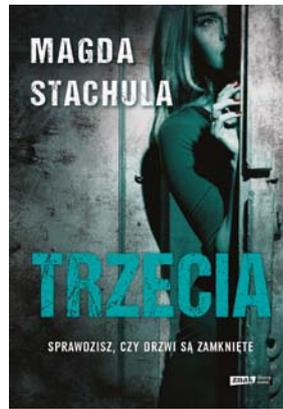
**About the book:**

Anita hardly ever leaves her home. She spies on people through the CCTV system. It is her window to the world and it allows her to control everything and everyone. Apart from her marriage. Deep inside, she is frustrated as her relationship deteriorates and she can only dream of having a baby. One day she finds a dress in her wardrobe that she never bought. Then there is lipstick she never owned. And then something else happens... Someone knows everything about her. And is patiently going through with a plan.

Release date: August 2016  
Rights sold: Czech Republic (Albatros Media), Italy (Giunti)

**Bestselling series from the queen of the psychological thriller!**

**75,000 copies sold!**



Magdalena Stachula  
***The Third One***

**About the book:**

Krakow and Saint Petersburg become an arena of a gripping gameplay; to the very last page, we can't be sure who is the persecuted here and who the persecutor. One thing is certain: the best fuel for hatred is love. First, a flash – someone secretly took a picture of her. Then she heard a strange voice in her flat. Then someone stood at her door, listening. Eliza is a therapist. During hours-long sessions, she peers into the minds of her patients. One day, she realizes that she is being followed. Now it's her life that gets investigated by a stranger. When she seeks help, no one believes her. Meanwhile, HE has found out everything about her. He's got a list. And Eliza is the third.

Release date: July 2017  
Rights available: World



Magdalena Stachula  
***Trapped***

**About the book:**

**Nominated for the 2018 Book of the Year Award by Poland's most popular reading website – [LubimyCzytać.pl](http://LubimyCzytać.pl)**

Fear is only the beginning. One morning Klara wakes up in the staircase of her apartment block. She doesn't remember what happened that night or how she got home. She is terrified to realize that two days have passed since the party she went to on Saturday. She discovers strange marks on her body. Later she finds out that another woman had a very similar experience some months before. She decides to contact her. And then someone leaves her a strange gift. What happened to that other girl? Is Klara going to be next? What kind of danger is she in?

Release date: June 2018  
Rights available: World

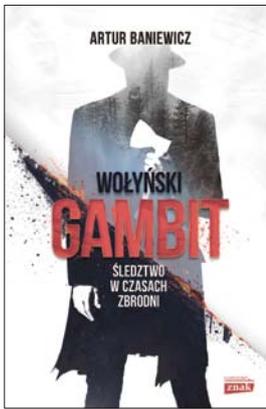
**Praise:**

Magda Stachula created a story that draws the reader in from the first to the last page. With *Trapped*, she proved that she is at home in domestic noir; that she can write; that she knows how to build suspense and a murky atmosphere of mystery. Thanks to the first-person narration adopting the perspective of three different protagonists, the reader not only gets three gripping stories, but also a triple portion of emotions.

– Maria Olecha-Lisiecka, *Dziennik Zachodni*

**About the Author:**

**Magda Stachula** (born 1982) holds an MA in Jewish Studies from the Jagiellonian University. She has worked as an importer of video surveillance devices. She lives in Krakow with her husband and two children. Her first novel *The Perfect One* was a best-selling crime debut and sold 40,000 copies. With each book, Stachula confirms her status as a queen of the psychological thriller.



Artur Baniewicz  
***The Volhynian Gambit***

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**About the book:**

**Is it possible to save someone from hell? A thrilling crime story set against a backdrop of historical events.**

Kielecczyzna. December 1942. Paweł Bujnicki, an ex-policeman from Lviv, is looking for someone who has disappeared without a trace – a Jewish woman named Chaja Welcman. The occupying powers take care to minimize the chances of survival for women like her. Soon Bujnicki makes a grim discovery that leads him to realise that no one can be trusted in the turmoil of war.

Volhynia, 1943. Paweł returns to the region his family is from, where Poles no longer feel safe. He discovers this for himself even before getting off the train. After he arrives, a German officer presents him with an unusual proposition. Bujnicki has survived many things and seen a lot. This time, however, he will have to conduct a triple investigation. He'll be looking for a woman, property seized by the Third Reich and the murderer of a member of the Polish resistance. All during the hell of the Volhynian massacre.

**Release date:** July 2019  
**Rights available:** World



Artur Baniewicz  
***Five Days with a Swastika***

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**About the book:**

**Virtuoso Poles against vicious Germans? Not this time. Autumn 1942. In a forest somewhere near the Polish town of Kielce a German policeman is found dead.**

In Lviv, a former Polish policeman, Paweł Bujnicki kills a traitor – not because he is a patriot, but because he is paid to do so. He is soon contacted by the superior of the dead policeman who wants to solve a mystery where several lives are at stake. The deadly enemies have only five days to find out the truth.

Heroes become villains and the danger comes when it is least expected. Baniewicz presents an unique gallery of intriguing characters. This book is by no means a classical whodunit and it can be appealing to those who like Jo Nesbø as well as historical novels.

**Release date:** June 2016  
**Rights available:** World

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**About the author:**

**Artur Baniewicz**, the author of *Five Days with a Swastika* – a well-acclaimed novel about the adventures of Paweł Bujnicki – proves once again that he's a master of thrilling crime novels full of surprising twists. *The Volhynian Gambit* holds the reader in suspense from the first page to the last.



**Magdalena Kordel**  
***Antolka***

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**About the book:**

**Some say that when life puts spanner in your works, you can always open a garage.**

Antolka will have to learn this exact lesson. She has never met her father and fighting with her despotic and hard-hearted mother has become an everyday thing for her. As a child she always waited for some “tomorrow” when her dreams were supposed to come true. In the end she decides to leave her life behind and move to Masuria.

When one June evening Antolka gets into trouble in a joint by the docks, Janek comes to her rescue. He is the most extraordinary boy she has ever met. Will several days in Masuria turn into something more than just a holiday fling? Will Antolka manage to find her own way? And how come she ends up going straight from Masuria to the Lower Beskid, to stay with her long-forgotten aunt?

**Release date:** July 2019

**Rights available:** World

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**Praise:**

A moving story with some comedic motifs, a story about the fact that everybody wants to be loved.

– Katarzyna Stępień, *Lubimy czytać*

– Antolka is a book for everybody seeking their own way towards achieving their dreams.

Katja, *Lubimy czytać*

**A new book**  
**by the bestselling author**

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**About the author:**

**Magdalena Kordel** is a bestselling author whose life changed thanks to the success of her book *Forty-Eight Weeks*. Her other books include *A Gingerbread Heart*, *Angel for Hire* and the following series: *Picturesque*, *The Enchanted Glade* and *Wolf Manor*. Over 250,000 copies of her novels have been sold.



**Bestselling author**  
**- more than 600,000**  
**copies sold!**

**Anna Ficner-Ogonowska**  
***A Crumb***

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**About the book:**

**Bursting with emotions... A tale of love, secrets, and the power of good**

First, it's like a bolt from the blue. One look, one touch, one word. From that moment onwards, the life of two people will never be the same. She will finally face her fear of closeness. He will discover the truth about himself and his family. Do they have a future together?

Anna Ficner-Ogonowska will take you into the world of real feelings, strong emotions and dramatic events. *A Crumb* is a remarkable novel which restores faith in the meaning of life and helps understand what responsible love is.

“It's true that one spark is enough to start a fire and destroy everything. But one good crumb of memory is enough to save a lot; it can feed you for the rest of your life. I realized that this is my only infinity.”

[from the book]

**Release date:** April 2018

**Rights available:** World

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**About the author:**

**Anna Ficner-Ogonowska** is the author of best-selling novels: *An Alibi for Happiness*, *One Step to Happiness*, *Say Yes to Happiness* and *Time Will Tell*. She is a graduate of the Wrocław University of Science and Technology. She lives in Warsaw with her husband and children.



Marek Krajewski  
***The Woman with Four Fingers***

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**About the book:**

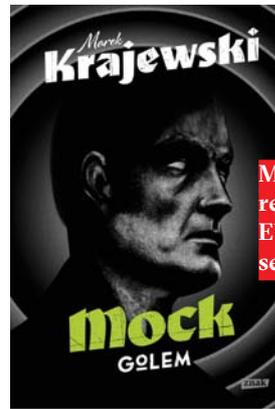
**The master of Polish crime novels returns with a new and blood-chilling investigation led by one of his most popular heroes – Edward Popielski**

The Eastern Borderlands, 1922. Marcin Zaran Zaranowski is terrorising Polish villages and towns. His gang leaves behind them a trail of blood, ashes and large-bellied women missing the little fingers of their left hands. Bronislaw Butko is given an ultimatum: he must catch the Bolshevik in three weeks, or he'll end up in a labour camp along with his entire division of soldiers. There's only one person able to help him – Popielski, who is already legendary in Lviv.

Lyssy works only at night. He has no problem resorting to torture. He will willingly sacrifice more than one woman to get his hands on Zaran. But when Butko suddenly commits suicide, the situation becomes complicated. It turns out that the real action is taking place somewhere completely different: in Warsaw, among people holding the highest positions in the country. And what's at stake is more than just a few worthless human lives.

This is a spy novel that Marek Krajewski has been wanting to write for many years. A strong, fast-paced narrative from which it's impossible to break away, even for a moment. Take up the gauntlet and enter a world from which there is no way out. It's a fight worthy of desperados.

Release date: May 2019  
Rights available: World



Marek Krajewski  
***Golem***

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**About the book:**

**Breslau, 1920. A sect of “messiahs” appears in the city. They get into dancing trances in the streets and are led by a two-faced guru Theodor Jauch, “a dancing John the Baptist”, who is good at fuelling antisemitism smouldering in the city. Soon he himself becomes a tool in the hands of conspirators who will stop at nothing to achieve their goal.**

Eberhard Mock struggles with the most horrendous of his demons, the demon of alcoholism. Every day he wrestles with himself and tries to solve the dark mystery of the disappearance of little Rosemarie. He knows that if he can find the little girl, he will free himself from the clutches of his addiction once and for all. To achieve this, he takes on a very dangerous task. He doesn't yet know that his every move is being watched by a secret cabal.

Step by step, Mock gets closer to solving the mystery and learns about more and more horrifying aspects of human nature.

Soon he will discover who his friend and who his enemy is. Soon he will turn into a pitiful and terrifying creature. Soon he will encounter evil he didn't even think existed.

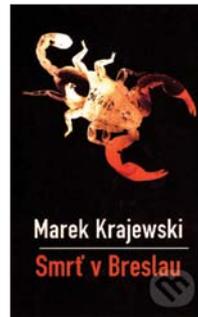
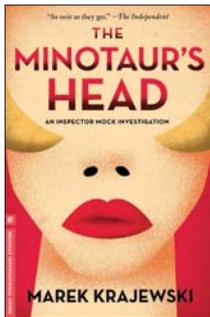
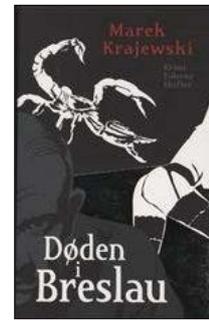
Release date: October 2019  
Rights available: World

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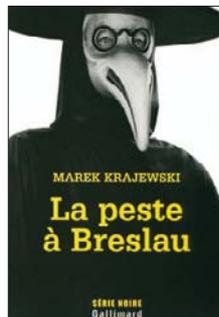
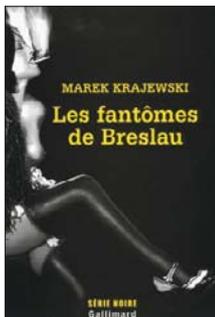
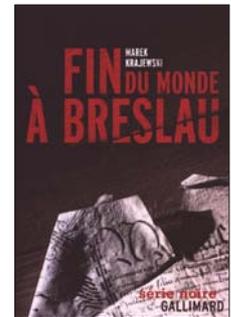
**About the author:**

**Marek Krajewski** is a bestselling author of crime novels. His books have sold over a million copies in Poland and abroad. Krajewski's debut, *Śmierć w Breslau* (*Death in Breslau*), was published in 1999. *Death in Breslau* and the subsequent novels from the Breslau series have been published in 12 countries, and the rights to the series have been sold to 18 countries. Marek Krajewski's major awards include: The Polityka Passport Award, the High Calibre Award for the best crime novel of the year and the Wrocław Mayor Award.

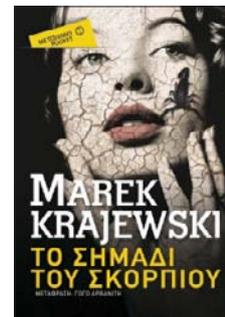
# This year we celebrate the 20th anniversary of Marek Krajewski's work.



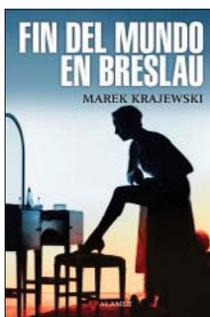
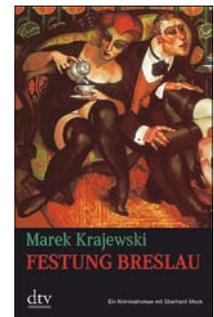
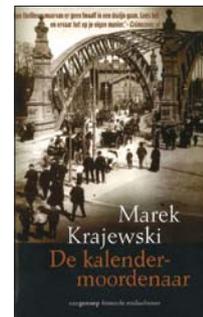
21 books published



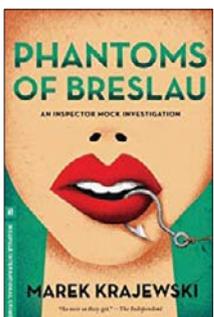
More than 500,000 copies of his books have been sold in Poland



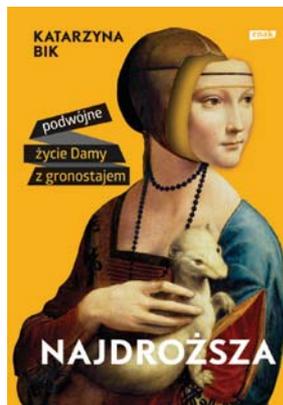
Translated into 21 languages



Winner of the Polityka Passport Award in 2005 and the High Calibre Award for the best crime novel of 2003



# Non-fiction



Katarzyna Bik  
***The Most Precious One.***  
***The Double Life of the Lady with an Ermine***

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About the book:

It's 1490. In the Sforza Castle in Milan Leonardo is painting a portrait. The curtains in the room are drawn. The model is sitting in a chair. She is 17 years old and is expecting a child. She has never looked more beautiful than now: she is slim, wearing a red gown embroidered with gold, she holds a white animal on her left arm and is stroking its fur with her right hand. A door squeaks. A ray of light getting inside highlights the porcelain-like paleness of the girl's skin. The model suddenly turns her head and looks behind. Her large, dark eyes are curious and clever. Is she saying hello to somebody? Or is it a goodbye?

She was the mistress of Ludovico Sforza, the future Duke of Milan, one of the most powerful people in the Renaissance Italy. And she was a reputed poet.

This book is not only a story of the exceptional woman from the portrait. It is also a story of one of the most sought-after works of art in the world. Its story and Poland are inseparable. The painting was hidden from the partitioning authorities, then taken out of the country at the time of the November Uprising in dramatic circumstances. After the outbreak of the World War 2 it was hidden from the Germans. Herman Goering and Adolf Hitler both wanted to have it in their collections. After 1989 the Lady's adventurous life continued, her numerous travels abroad, as well as the issue of her acquisition by the Polish state, causing controversy.

Release date: August 2019

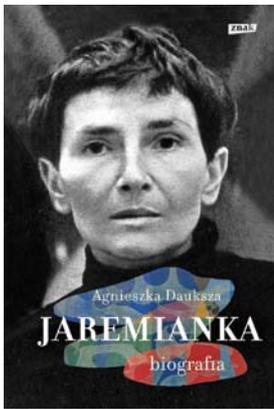
Rights available: World

**First biography of one of the most precious paintings in the world**

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About the author:

Katarzyna Bik is an art historian who worked as a journalist for "Gazeta Wyborcza" in the years 1990–2008. She now works at the National Museum in Kraków.



**Agnieszka Dauksza**  
***Jaremińska. A Biography***

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**About the book:**

**Maria Jarema. About herself, always – Jarema. Others about her, most often – Jaremińska. A woman avant-garde. An emancipationist, a committed activist, an unquestionable authority.**

One of the most talented and charismatic women artists of the 20th century. A girl from Stary Sambor (Stary Sambir) in the Eastern Borderlands who came to Kraków to “devise art anew”. She studied under Xawery Dunikowski, was one of the creators of the Kraków Group and the Cricot theatre, the favourite collaborator of Tadeusz Kantor.

Beloved wife of Kornel Filipowicz, mother to Aleksander, twin sister to Nuna, cherished friend of the Różewicz, the Sterns, the Przyboś family. In their recollections she comes across as an embodiment of movement, as a flighty, enchanting character leaving people wanting more. When she learned about her illness, she worked relentlessly to paint every new painting, at least one more. Her works astound with the inventiveness of ideas, they inspire and provoke. “She has not died,” people close to her said in unison.

**Release date: June 2019**  
**Rights available: World**

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**Praise:**

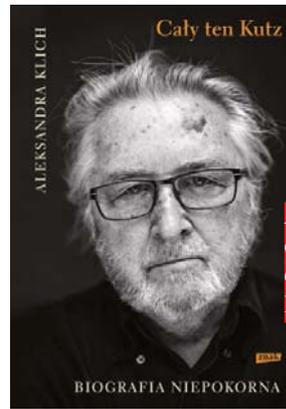
In the painter’s biography Agnieszka Dauksza acts like a seasoned documentarian – she shows the greatness of her protagonist through carefully selected snippets of history and recollections. You read *Jaremińska* in one breath. It is fascinating to read about the life of the woman who outpaced her times in her work and lifestyle, and who became the epitome of the avant-garde, not only in its artistic aspect.

– Paulina Januszewska, *Newsweek*

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**About the author:**

**Agnieszka Dauksza** is a recipient of the Teresa Torńska Prize for the best book in 2017 (Klub Auschwitz i inne kluby [Auschwitz Club and Other Clubs]). Shortlisted for the Polityka Academic Prize in 2018. Author of *Kobiety na drodze* (Women on the Road).



**A new, expanded edition of the biography of one of the most charismatic Polish film directors**

**Aleksandra Klich**  
***Kazimierz Kutz: A Defiant Biography***

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**About the book:**

***Kazimierz Kutz: A Defiant Biography* by Aleksandra Klich is an excellent biography, written as breathlessly and fast-paced as its protagonist lived and created.**

When he left his hometown of Szopienice, he “busted his ass” at the film school in Łódź (he sometimes expressed it in even stronger terms) in order to survive and make up for the distance between him and his classmates. Talented and brave, thanks to his roots in Silesian culture and values, he made highly original films that were a completely new phenomenon in Polish cinema. As an artist and politician, he provoked his opponents with an uncompromising, scathing language. Throughout his entire life he fought for his beloved Silesia, the image of which he mythologised, but he was just as deeply focused on issues that concerned all of Poland, such as national chauvinism, xenophobia, populist asphyxiation, and inclinations towards a religious state.

Aleksandra Klich shows us a dimension of Kutz that is unknown to us. This new edition has been supplemented with descriptions of events from the final years of the director’s life.

**Release date: February 2019**  
**Rights available: World**

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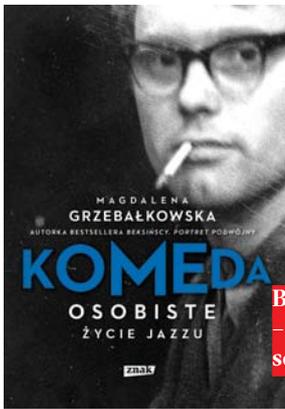
**Praise:**

*Kazimierz Kutz: A Defiant Biography* is essentially a story about Silesian resentment and the conditions of everyday life for average people and artists in communist Poland, about the customs, snobbery and longings of that time, about searching for one’s own creative path and the suffering and happiness connected with it, and about the struggle to take advantage of the freedom one has finally managed to gain. (...) This is a rich, multifaceted, wonderfully documented and humorous book about Kutz, Silesia and Poland.  
– Małgorzata Szejnert

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**About the author:**

**Aleksandra Klich** is a journalist, deputy editor-in-chief of *Gazeta Wyborcza* and editor-in-chief of *Wysokie Obcasy*. She is the author of *No Myths: Portraits from Silesia*, *The World Must Have Meaning* (with Archbishop Józef Życiński) and *Artur Rojek: Differently*.



**Bestseller**  
– 40,000 copies  
sold

## Magdalena Grzebałkowska *Komeda: The Private Life of Jazz*

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### About the book:

**The lullaby from *Rosemary's Baby* is known around the world. Its composer remains a mystery.**

He didn't write letters. No diaries either. A man of few words. Kind. Smiling. Distant – that's what they called him. Most of what we know about Krzysztof Komeda comes from his wife's memoirs. But others remember him differently.

In order to learn the truth about one of Poland's greatest musicians, Magdalena Grzebałkowska visits Scandinavia, Russia, and the U.S. She uncovers the private life of Polish jazz – Komeda and his milieu – from Krakow's legendary club Piwnica pod Baranami and the birth of Warsaw Jazz Jamboree to Los Angeles just after the Summer of Love. She hears the stories of people who chose music over their jobs, children, and a prosperous life. It is a compelling portrait of a generation for which jazz was the most beautiful – and often the only – stopgap for freedom.

Release date: May 2018  
Rights sold: UK (Equinox)

### Praise:

Magdalena Grzebałkowska's *Komeda: The Private Life of Jazz* offers a remarkable insight not only into the life and work of the Poznań-born brilliant Polish jazzman and film music composer but also the whole jazz scene of the 1950s and 60.  
– Marek Zaradniak, *Głos Wielkopolski*

### Praise for *The Beksińskis: A Double Portrait*:

This is exactly the book I already dreamt of back when both Zdzisław and Tomasz Beksiński were alive, kicking and at the peak of their creative powers.  
– Wojciech Orliński, *Wyborcza.pl*

Magdalena Grzebałkowska's story can easily be read as a family saga, but it also contains elements of psychological drama, a detailed account of the onset of madness and maladjustment to the world, and finally a crime story.  
– Bernadetta Darska, *Onet.pl*

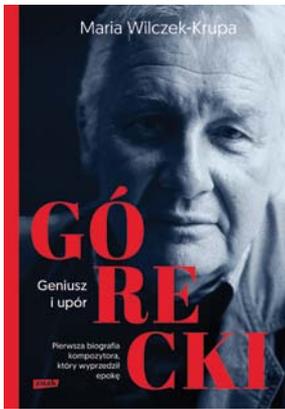
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### About the author:

**Magdalena Grzebałkowska** (born 1972) is an award-winning writer and journalist. She specialises in biographical reportage, although she says she “does not write biographies, but rather important stories”. Her bestselling book *The Beksińskis: A Double Portrait*, about the family life of the painter Zdzisław Beksiński, was adapted for a film titled *The Last Family*, which was highly acclaimed by critics and viewers alike.

### Selected Awards:

- Nominated for the Ryszard Kapuściński Prize for Literary Reportage – for *Beksińscy. Portret podwójny (The Beksińskis: A Double Portrait)*, 2014
- Nominated for the Ryszard Kapuściński Prize for Literary Reportage – for *1945. Wojna i pokój (1945: War and Peace)*, 2015
- Winner of the *Newsweek* Teresa Torńska Prize for the best book – for *1945. Wojna i pokój*, 2015
- Shortlisted for the Nike Literary Award – for *1945. Wojna i pokój*, 2016



Maria Wilczek-Krupa  
***Górecki: Genius and Obstinacy***

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**About the book:**

Henryk Górecki used to describe himself in three words: hothead, hothead, hothead! He was supposed to grow up to be a railwayman or a miner, or perhaps a priest. He became a composer. His road to fame in the art world was torturous: his mother's early death, the war, a strict and emotionally cold home, a childhood marked with health issues. Nevertheless, he pressed ahead, determined and obstinate, against all odds. With his Symphony no. 3, Op. 36, known as the *Symphony of Sorrowful Songs*, he conquered the world. This grand piece, hailed as proof of God's existence, made it to the top of American hit lists, beating Sting and Nirvana. World-famous film directors didn't manage to talk Henryk Mikołaj Górecki into writing film music. He even turned down the offer to compose the soundtrack for Mel Gibson's *Passion*. His biography is a story about living against the grain.

Release date: December 2018  
Rights available: World

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**Praise for *Kilar: A Genius with Two Faces*:**

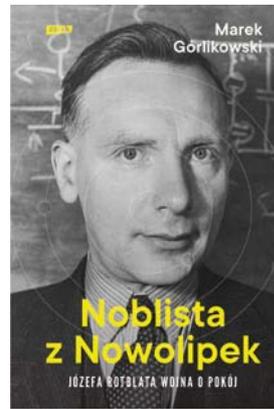
A remarkable biographical book that makes a great read. It shows Kilar as a flesh-and-blood man full of contradictions; he is open about having a Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde personality. Not only that; the book offers a behind-the-scenes look at his work.

– Waclaw Krupiński, *Dziennikpolski24.pl*

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**About the author:**

**Maria Wilczek-Krupa** is a press and radio journalist who has worked for *Dziennik Polski*, *Kino*, and *RMF Classic*. She studied music theory at the Academy of Music in Kraków. While preparing her doctoral thesis on Wojciech Kilar's film music, she conducted extensive interviews with him; she later turned them into the book *Kilar: A Genius with Two Faces*.



Marek Górlikowski  
***The Nobel Prize Winner of Nowolipki: Józef Rotblat's War for Peace***

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**About the book:**

**An inspiring story of a man who had the courage to stand up to world superpowers.**

Józef Rotblat is thirty-six when he joins the secret Manhattan Project whose task is to construct a nuclear bomb. He is Polish, so he refuses to take British citizenship; because of that, he will be suspected of spying for the USSR. As he is working on the most terrifying weapon of mass destruction, in occupied Poland his loved ones are fighting for survival day and night. Five decades later, he receives the Nobel Peace Prize. Unbelievable as it is, this story is true.

Marek Górlikowski unearths documents produced by the FBI and the secret services of the Polish People's Republic, as well as Rotblat's archives in London and Cambridge. He offers the reader behind-the-scenes insight into the functioning of one of the most controversial peace organisations in the world.

Release date: July 2018  
Rights available: World

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**Praise:**

Marek Górlikowski's *The Nobel Prize Winner of Nowolipki* is a well-executed, reliable book. The author brings back a figure scandalously pushed away into the realm of oblivion or repression.

– Karol Jałochowski, *Polityka*

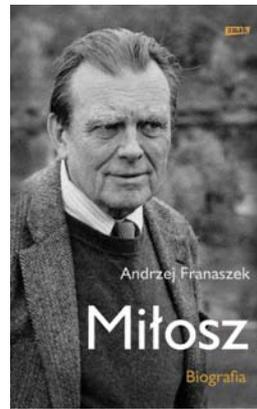
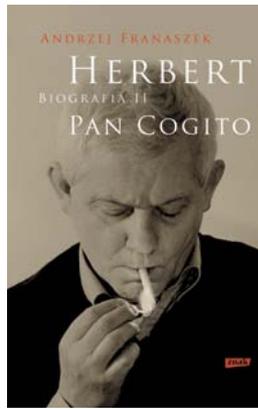
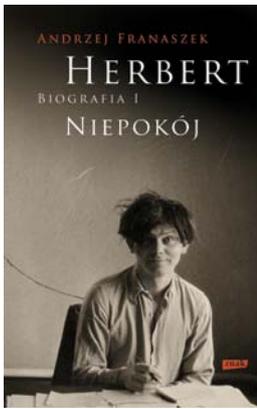
The questions that the Polished physicist asked himself several decades ago remain relevant today. After reading this book, we are left with Rotblat's legacy and the question about the current fragility of world peace.

– Kamil Kwiatek, *wPolityce.pl*

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**About the author:**

**Marek Górlikowski** – press reporter; for many years he worked at *Gazeta Wyborcza* daily. He received four nominations for the Grand Press prize, in three categories: Investigative Journalism, Interview, and General Journalism.



Andrzej Franaszek  
***Herbert: A Biography***

**About the book:**

A monumental biography of the 'Unyielding Poet'. He was a tireless traveller, author of compelling essays and poetic genius. And also an eternal joker and prankster? Or an author tormented by depression and anger, for decades fighting the pain of the body and soul? Inscrutable? Always alone? Certainly a man who shaped his life in spite of history, fashions, adversity, poverty, his own weaknesses. Always against the current.

Andrzej Franaszek, whose biography of Czesław Miłosz won much acclaim in Poland and worldwide, portrays Zbigniew Herbert with great care and attentiveness. He does not avoid difficult or controversial themes; he closely reads Herbert's correspondence and previously unknown personal notes in order to shed new light on the poet's work. Herbert's complicated life is inscribed into a historical panorama, so that the gripping, complex story that emerges from almost two thousand pages tells not only about one of Poland's greatest 20th-century authors, but also about the age which shaped and inspired him.

Release date: April 2018  
Rights available: World

**Praise for *Herbert: A Biography*:**

A monumental biography of the bard of the Polish nation  
Clare Cavanagh, *The Times Literary Supplement*.

Andrzej Franaszek  
***Mitosz: A Biography***

**About the book:**

*Mitosz: A Biography* by Andrzej Franaszek is not only a colourful portrait of one of the greatest authors of the 20th century, but also a historical account showing the brutal paroxysms of that time: wars, revolutions, totalitarianisms, uprisings, independence movements.

Andrzej Franaszek collected material for the biography for almost ten years – in Poland, Lithuania, France and the United States. He spoke with everyone who could contribute important information about Miłosz; he searched through the archives at Beinecke Library and Maisons Laffitte; he investigated the poet's extensive correspondence.

What is more, he used his material in a remarkable manner: he does not overwhelm the reader with excessive details, but rather creates a portrait of the hero of his story in an effortless style. He does not avoid painful and difficult subjects, delicate personal matters, dramatic decisions and choices. He presents them tactfully and with empathy, helping the reader to learn the secrets of this great man's fascinating life.

Release date: September 2011  
Rights sold: Lithuania (Apostrofa), Belarus (Lohvinau),  
United States (Harvard University Press),  
China (Guangxi Normal University Press)

**Praise for *Mitosz: A Biography*:**

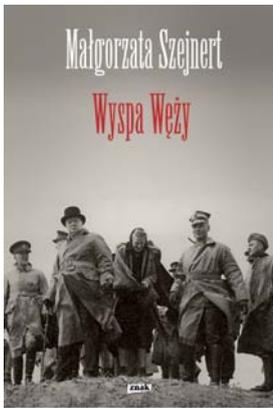
[A] magnificent biography... *Mitosz: A Biography* will reframe our picture of the poet in a way that will last—devastatingly human, flawed, ferociously strong-willed, living with a daemon that never left him, even into his nineties.

– Cynthia Haven, *The Times Literary Supplement*

[A] richly detailed, dramatic, and melancholy book.  
– Adam Kirsch, *The New Yorker*

**About the author:**

**Andrzej Franaszek** (born 1971) is a literary critic, lecturer at the Pedagogical University in Kraków and editor at *Tygodnik Powszechny* socio-cultural weekly. In 2011, he published a biography of Miłosz, which earned him the Kościński Award, Kazimierz Wyka Prize, Minister of Culture and National Heritage Prize and the honorary Nike Award from readers of *Gazeta Wyborcza*. He also published *Dark Source: An Essay on Suffering in the Work of Zbigniew Herbert* and *A Leave from Hell: 44 Sketches on Literature and Adventures of the Soul*.



Małgorzata Szejnert  
***The Isle of Snakes***

**About the book:**

**A new book from the empress of Polish reportage**

Going through old letters, Małgorzata Szejnert comes across a family secret.

In May 1943, her uncle Ignacy Raczkowski was buried at a cemetery in Rothesay, Isle of Bute. Why didn't her parents ever mention this? Was there something shameful about his stay on the island?

In search of the answer, the reporter sets out on a journey in her uncle's footsteps, visiting London archives and Scotland. Gradually, she reveals something troublesome from WWII: the Officer Concentration Station Rothsay run by the Polish military, where Polish officers were kept in isolation.

They could play bridge, go dancing or take English classes. No bombs dropped on Bute. Only phantom-like wrecks of torpedoed ships, which could sometimes be seen in the bay, reminded the detainees that the world was burning out there. But the Polish officers felt this forced confinement on the isle to be a cruel punishment.

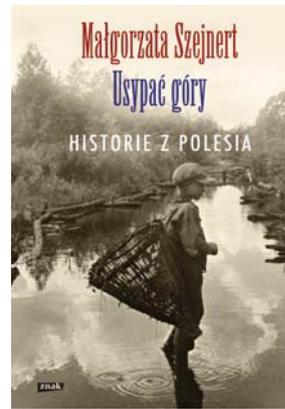
*The Isle of Snakes* is a mould-breaking story about the war, which oftentimes involves prolonged waiting rather than fighting. Meticulously tracing back events from more than seventy years ago, Małgorzata Szejnert writes about our power and powerlessness, honour and dishonour, but also about memory and forgetting, at the individual, family, and collective level. Most importantly, however, she paints a strikingly relevant, disturbing portrait of us all.

Release date: March 2018

Rights available: World

**About the author:**

**Małgorzata Szejnert** is a journalist who has headed the reportage section of *Gazeta Wyborcza* for almost fifteen years. She has written many books and has received the COGITO Public Media Award, has twice been shortlisted for the Nike Literary Award, and has been nominated for the Gdynia Literary Prize, Angelus Central-European Literature Award, and the Ryszard Kapuściński Prize for Literary Reportage.



Małgorzata Szejnert  
***Building Mountains: Stories from the Polesie Region***

**About the book:**

**A fascinating closeup of the former "Eastern Borderlands" of Poland.**

It's a gripping tale about a place where Poles, Lithuanians, Belorussians and Jews once lived side by side, along with the *Poleszycy* – or simply "locals" – for whom a homeland is not about history or politics but simply about one's place in the universe. The author shows us a world frozen in time – a world of magnates, lords, peasants, industrialists, merchants, and *tzadiks* – and describes its dramatic end.

Release date: March 2015

Rights sold: Belarus (Lohvinau)

Translation sample in English, Swedish, German and Russian available

**Praise for *Building Mountains: Stories from the Polesie Region*:**

Małgorzata Szejnert sets out on a fascinating journey in time and space. It's hard to believe that her destination isn't that far away. *Building Mountains* is the best sort of literature; it gives us a broader perspective on our own history and collective identity.

– Olga Tokarczuk

Ryszard Kapuściński was planning to write about Polesie, where he was born. So he would be very happy to read this extraordinary book.

– Alicja Kapuścińska

**Books published:**

- *Czarny ogród* (*The Black Garden*), 2007
- *Wyspa klucz* (*Key Island*), 2009
- *Dom żółwia. Zanzibar* (*Zanzibar: Home of the Turtle*), 2011
- *Śród żywych duchów* (*Among Living Ghosts*), 2012
- *My, właściciele Teksasu. Reportaże z PRL-u* (*We, the Texas Owners: Reportage from the Polish People's Republic*), 2013



**Michał Rusinek**  
***Nothing Usual: About Wisława Szymborska***

**About the book:**

**Fifteen years as the secretary for someone like that? Oh no, really, it was nothing usual.**

Her – a fresh-baked Nobel Prize winner. Him – a young graduate with an MA in Polish Language and Literature. The idea was that he would assist her for three months, between the announcement and the awarding of the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1996. He lingered on. The Poet and her First Secretary.

In this book, we meet Wisława Szymborska like we've never known her before. It is a portrait of a remarkable person who combined an extraordinary sense of humour with the ability to talk about things that really matter. This portrait brings us closer to her and to the essence of her poetry.

An eccentric elderly lady. Giggly, sometimes naughty, she enjoyed puns and practical jokes. She felt more at home talking to ordinary people than participating in poets' congresses or having discussions with intellectuals. Depressive. Melancholy. Strict in judging herself and others. Perfectionist. She hated trivial conversations and wasting time on meetings which gave her nothing but 'empty calories', as she would say.

After the Nobel Prize, she often said she would do her best not to become a personality but to remain a person. One day, a taxi driver recognized her: "It's an honour to meet such a peculiarity". He did have a point; she was a rather peculiar representative of our species. And only one author could write about the Grand Dame of Polish Poetry in such a tactful, subtle and nuanced way.

**Release date:** January 2016  
**Rights sold:** China (Archipel Press)

**About the author:**

**Michał Rusinek** was Wisława Szymborska's secretary during her lifetime, and now runs the Wisława Szymborska Foundation. He is a literary critic and works at the Faculty of Polish of the Jagiellonian University, where he teaches literary theory and rhetoric. He translates occasionally from English. He writes columns about books and language; he is often featured in the press and TV programmes about literature. He lives in Kraków with his family. He is also one of Poland's most popular authors of books, songs and rhymes for children.



**Mirosław Wlekły**  
***Gareth Jones: The Story of a Man Who Knew Too Much***

**About the book:**

**This book tells the true story of Mr. Jones, the protagonist of the film *Mr. Jones* directed by Agnieszka Holland. It's the extraordinary story of the journalist who was the first to tell the world the truth about the Great Famine in Ukraine.**

In the 1930s, a young journalist named Gareth Jones made several journeys alone through the communist empire. He was one of the few people from the West to discover the shocking truth about the situation of the inhabitants of the USSR. He spoke both to government officials and ordinary people, such as workers and peasants. He witnessed Soviet crimes first-hand, and in Ukraine he heard about people starving and acts of cannibalism.

He died in unexplained circumstances. Was it because he had exposed the truth?

Gareth Jones was one of the first to understand the mechanisms governing the world in the 1930s: the birth of dictatorial regimes and the development of propaganda. He predicted an attack on Poland and a war between the Soviets and the Nazis. The way in which he was persecuted even inspired George Orwell while writing *Animal Farm*.

**Release date:** October 2019  
**Rights available:** World

**About the film:**

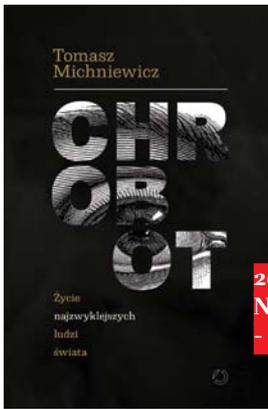
A journalist's heroic journey into a Soviet nightmare.  
– *The Guardian*

The powerful contemporary resonance of a story that veritably hinges on the dangers of 'fake news' and its devastating consequences. – *Variety*

'So there's no hope then,' George Orwell concludes sadly in the film, when he accepts Jones's story as true. Yet as long as there are the Gareth Joneses of this world out there, pedalling on his bicycle to bring the truth to the world, there must be. – BBC

**About the author:**

**Mirosław Wlekły** is a reporter and the author of the bestseller *I Was Here*: *Tony Halik*.



2019  
National Geographic Traveler  
- Book of The Year

**Tomasz Michniewicz**  
***A Creaking Sound***

**About the book:**

***A Creaking Sound* is a touching portrait of the contemporary world told in seven different stories about ordinary people whose fates predestine them to become heroes.**

Seven journeys in time. And since time is given to us in the form of memory, it will be seven journeys through the seven memories of seven ordinary people. On the surface it's the same world and the same periods of time, but they're seen from the different perspectives of an inhabitant of Uganda, the USA, Colombia, India, Finland, Zimbabwe and Japan.

The latest book by the award-winning reporter Tomasz Michniewicz is an unusual combination of personal stories and an insightful look at the global problems of the contemporary world. In a very vivid and convincing manner the author shows the world as the characters see it, forcing readers to reflect on the human condition.

Release date: October 2018

Rights available: World

**Praise:**

Among so many authors who only describe their own small, limited world, how wonderful it is to find from time to time a writer who strives to describe the world as a whole. Even if it is impossible, it is a beautiful attempt.

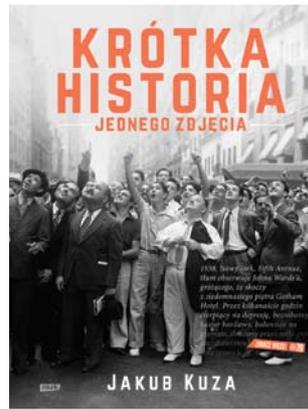
– Martin Caparros

The stories about the lives of utterly ordinary people in *A Creaking Sound* form a multidimensional portrait of the modern world which, thanks to this intimate perspective, forces us not only to reflect, but also to act. Because without us even realising it, we each begin to feel like the eighth protagonist of this story. This is a book one wants to read in one sitting. An impressive book.

– Katarzyna Borowiecka, *Polish Radio 3*

**About the author:**

**Tomasz Michniewicz** is a journalist and photographer who has won numerous awards for his radio and written work. He has written the following non-fiction bestsellers: *Samsara*, *The Parallel World* and *Following One's Own Path*.



**Jakub Kuza**  
***A Short Story of One Photograph***

**About the book:**

**Each photo and story in this book will surprise you and force you to think. You will find more or less known events and people here, but you will see them from a completely different perspective. You will peep into the middle ground and background of the picture, and discover that the unaware photographer has witnessed an unusual event or captured a person who will have changed the world.**

Here are 130 most interesting stories and photographs from a special fanpage called *Krótka Historia Jednego Zdjęcia* (A Short Story of One Photograph), one of the most inspiring Facebook pages followed and commented by 100 thousand people. Go to any page of the book and read a story of a photograph you find there.

A book for those curious of the world who want to see more than can be seen at first glance.

Release date: May 2019

Rights available: World



**Michał Kuźmiński**  
***Science in the Kitchen***

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**About the book:**

**Why is there more foam when you beat egg whites in a copper bowl? What does ice cream for astronauts taste like? And what do wine and smog have in common?**

These are just some of the questions answered in this fascinating popular science book that is perfect for all who are thirsty for knowledge.

Michał Kuźmiński, who has been the head of the “Science” section of *Tygodnik Powszechny* newspaper for many years, guides us through the fascinating secrets of eating and cooking from prehistoric times to the distant future.

In this book you will find out what gluten looks like, you will learn the secrets of sourdough (everyone knows that the first loaf never comes out right and it’s best to start with the second one), you’ll become acquainted with the aroma of quark soup, and you’ll learn how to grow lettuce in outer space and why astronauts like spicy food.

This book is a treasure trove of scientific knowledge and fascinating facts about food and cooking.

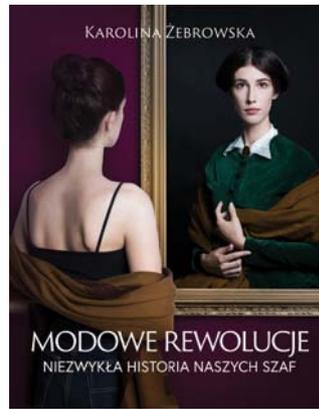
**Release date:** January 2019

**Rights sold:** Ukraine (Yizhak Publishing)

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**About the author:**

**Michał Kuźmiński** is the deputy editor-in-chief of *Tygodnik Powszechny*, as well as the creator and long-term head of the newspaper’s section devoted to science. He was nominated for the Grand Press Award in the “specialised journalism” category and received an honourable mention from the Jerzy Zieliński Association of Polish Journalists for the popularisation of science. He is also an author of ethno-mystery novels as well as song lyrics and song translations.



**Karolina Żebrowska**  
***Fashion Revolutions - Znak Horyzont***

**A fascinating journey  
through the history  
of fashion**

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**About the book:**

**400 years ago it was thought that women should not wear eyeglasses. In the 17th century heels were a symbol of masculinity. 150 years ago a swimming suit still covered pretty much all of female body.**

History of fashion is a sum of small revolutions.

Some elements of fashion have accompanied humankind for thousands of years. Others have appeared surprisingly recently. Some of them look completely different now or have had their purpose completely changed. We can’t imagine our wardrobes and setting up our own style without many of them.

Karolina Żebrowska has tracked the history of crucial revolutions in fashion. She describes the rebels who dared to go against the standing canons and start new trends. She shows the oldest inventions and modern accessories which are part of contemporary fashion.

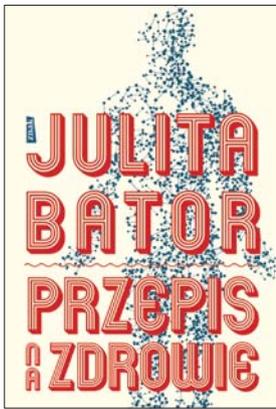
**Release date:** November 2019

**Rights available:** World

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**About the author:**

**Karolina Żebrowska** is passionate about vintage clothing. She sewed her first dress from an old curtain, inspired by styles worn in the early 19th century. She studied film directing. Her short films *100 Years of Beauty – Poland* and *Real Women* have been watched by over four million people. The author shares her passion with a huge dose of ironic humour on her Youtube channel and in her blog *Home Costumology*.



Julita Bator  
**Recipe for Health**

**About the book:**

**Julita Bator talks to prominent experts who prove that there are tried and tested ways of living healthily and comfortably.**

The book contains specific advice, interesting exercises and practical life hacks. It will, for example, help you learn how to lose weight without the yo-yo effect, how to deal with insulin resistance, or how to increase your libido.

Release date: November 2019  
Rights available: World



**Bestseller**  
– 100,000  
copies sold

Julita Bator  
**Swap Chemicals for Food**

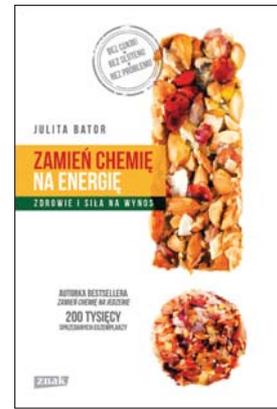
**About the book:**

**What does it mean to eat healthy?**

Julita Bator checks package information. When she learnt that her children are strongly allergic to food additives and preservatives, she had to change the eating habits and the whole life style of her family. For many years, she has been trying to live without 'chemicals', without spending a fortune on buying organic products.

Her book is a guide around a kitchen whose smell brings back our childhood memories. Across twenty chapters, the author offers advice on how to avoid harmful foods, but also which kitchenware to use or how to smuggle healthy ingredients into your dishes. She also presents eighty-one recipes which will bring back the old glory to every kitchen.

Release date: August 2013  
Rights sold: Czech (Grada), Russia (Exem)



Julita Bator  
**Swap Chemicals for Energy:  
Health and Strength to Go**

**About the book:**

**The most energising book of the year!**

You're always in a rush and you need a solid portion of nutrients? You're looking for a healthy snack for your kid? You're going hiking and you want to have something light and healthy in your backpack? After gym your muscles need regeneration?

Julita Bator, who revolutionised food habits in Poland, showing how to eat additive-free and not go bankrupt, now returns with her first book about protein foods: more than fifty recipes for healthy snacks high in protein, fibre, and complex 'good' carbs.

Quick to make, very filling, energy-packed, immunity-enhancing, with low glycaemic index. A perfect solution for those preferring active lifestyles or those on a diet, but also for anyone who wants to eat healthy. Great for children, too.

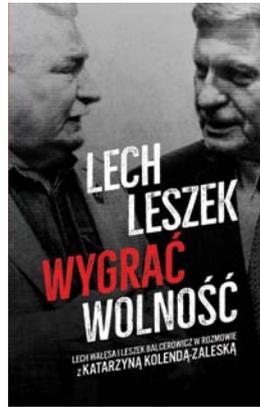
Release date: July 2018  
Rights available: World

**The author of the bestselling *Zamień chemię na jedzenie* (Swap Chemicals for Food) returns with a new book!**

**About the author:**

**Julita Bator** has a degree in German language and literature. She and her family embarked on a dietary experiment; she stopped buying unhealthy processed food. She ousted artificial additives from her cooking, and the side effect was that her family got healthier and less stressed. Another side effect was a series of bestselling books: *Zamień chemię na jedzenie* (Swap Chemicals for Food; 2013), *Zamień chemię na jedzenie. Nowe przepisy* (Swap Chemicals for Food: New Recipes; 2014), *Święta bez chemii. Zdrowe przepisy na tradycyjne potrawy na Boże Narodzenie i inne święta* (Pure Celebration: Healthy Recipes for Traditional Christmas Dishes and Other Festive Foods; 2015), *Młodszej. Piękniej. Zdrowiej. Sprawdzone sposoby, jak dbać o urodę* (Younger, Prettier, Healthier: Tested and Tried Beauty Tips; 2017). Almost 200,000 copies have been sold.

# Religion, History, Philosophy, Social Science



Katarzyna Kolenda-Zaleska, Lech Wałęsa,  
Leszek Balcerowicz  
***Lech and Leszek: Winning Freedom***

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**About the book:**

**They contributed to the fall of the Iron Curtain and changed the history of the world. Lech Wałęsa and Leszek Balcerowicz meet for the first time for a joint interview.**

The wall dividing Europe is firmly in place. There are still 300,000 Soviet soldiers stationed in Poland. On February 5th, 1989, a twenty-year-old fugitive is shot in Berlin by East German border guards. The next day in Warsaw – 500 kilometres to the East – something strange occurs.

Communists and the opposition sit down to talk at a round, wooden table. Among the participants of the talks is Lech Wałęsa – the founder of the Solidarity movement, a leader of workers, and the creator of non-communist trade unions. He has one goal – to overthrow the communist government and regain Poland's independence. Leszek Balcerowicz observes the development of the situation with curiosity from the perspective of an academic from the former communist bloc. Only he knows what to do next. He has been working on a plan to transform the collapsed socialist economy into a capitalist tiger since the 1970s. Strangely enough, both plans succeeded. Without them, the Iron Curtain would not have fallen.

For the first time these two men meet face-to-face for a conversation that reveals everything that went on behind the scenes of that period, the difficult elections, the personal sacrifices, the intensive work and the relationship that developed between them – a union leader who became the president of Poland, and a scholar who was responsible for rebuilding a ruined country. Together they achieved something great – they won freedom.

**Release date: Autumn 2019**

**Rights available: World**

**Translation sample in English available**

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**About the authors:**

**Lech Wałęsa** is a Polish politician and trade union activist. A was a co-founder and the first chairman of the Solidarity labour union. He was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1983.

**Leszek Balcerowicz** is a Polish politician and economist. He served as Poland's deputy prime minister and minister of finance.

**Katarzyna Kolenda-Zaleska** is a Polish TV and radio journalist, columnist and author.



Stanisław Aronson, Emil Marat, Michał Wójcik  
***The War Will Come Tomorrow. A Serviceman of the Legendary Kedyw of the Home Army Forewarn***

**About the book:**

Everything starts with a lie. Poland and Europe have been devastated by lies. Now this deceit is served anew. Memory and truth are being destroyed for political reasons, the string gets strung tightly and it might one day break in an uncontrolled way.

Stanisław “Rysiek” Aronson – a Jew who escaped from a transport to Treblinka, served in the Home Army, and was injured in the Warsaw Uprising. A soldier in the Israeli Army.

Why has Polish Underground State not defended its Jewish citizens? What are the reasons for creating the myth of the “cursed soldiers”, damaging to the wonderful tradition of the Home Army? Why is history being manipulated and divisions enforced?

Your world can collapse just like mine did, Aronson warns. At the same time he believes that what matters the most is what unites people and that if we don’t get lured by the history based on a lie, we still have a chance for a Poland of people who are free, thoughtful and good to others.

Release date: July 2018  
Rights available: World

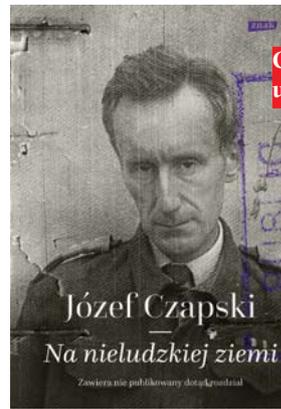
**Praise:**

Stanisław Aronson has had enough. He used to believe, but today he doesn’t want to hear about the heroic surge. His story is more about his resentment for those who sent the young ones to slaughter. For those who didn’t open the door at the time of trial. Aronson is not nice, he often raises his voice. His words are a warning. There might not be time for another one.

Karolina Błaszkiwicz, *Wirtualna Polska*

**About the authors:**

Emil Marat is a journalist and writer, Michał Wójcik is a historian and journalist. They are the recipients of the Polityka Historical Prize. They wrote the bestselling *Ptaki drapieżne – historia Lucjana „Sępa” Wiśniewskiego, likwidatora z kontrwywiadu AK* (Predatory Birds – The Story of Lucjan “Sęp” Wiśniewski, the Home Army Counterespionage Executioner).



Józef Czapski  
***The Inhuman Land. New Edition***

**About the book:**

**A world classic of 20th century literature**

Alongside Gustaw Herling-Grudziński’s *A World Apart* and Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn’s *The Gulag Archipelago*, *The Inhuman Land* belongs to the canon of the most harrowing books about suffering brought upon the world by the communist utopia – a utopia made real with unimaginable cruelty by the Soviet apparatus of violence and exploitation.

The introduction to this new edition of Józef Czapski’s work was written by Professor Natalia Lebedeva, a foremost expert on the history of Katyn.

Release date: March 2017  
Rights sold: United States (The New York Book Review), Czech Republic (Nakladatelství Academia)

**About the author:**

Józef Czapski (April 3, 1896 – January 12, 1993) was a Polish artist, author, critic and officer of the Polish army. As a painter, he is notable for his membership in the Kapist movement, which was heavily influenced by Cézanne. Following the Polish Defensive War, he was made a prisoner of war by the Soviets and was among the very few officers to survive the Katyn massacre of 1940. Following the Sikorski-Mayski Agreement, he was an official envoy of the Polish government searching for the missing Polish officers in Russia. After World War II, he remained in exile in the Paris suburb of Maisons-Laffitte, where he was among the founders of *Kultura* monthly, one of the most influential Polish cultural journals of the 20th century.



Winner of the  
Teresa Torañska Award  
for the best non-fiction  
book of 2018

**Michał Wójcik**  
***Treblinka 43: Rebellion in the Death Factory***

**About the book:**

**The story of people who managed to halt the Holocaust machine for a month**

On 2nd August 1943, an uprising broke out in Treblinka concentration camp. It was the only rebellion of this kind organised on such a big scale and carried out so successfully. Seven hundred inmates took part; three hundred ran away; almost one hundred survived to see the end of the war.

This book reconstructs the history of this little-known incredible feat. It's a story about extraordinary courage, faith and hope; a proof that a miracle can happen even in the worst hell on earth.

Release date: August 2018

Rights sold: Germany (Piper), Netherlands (Omniboek), Czech Republic (Albatros Media)

**Praise:**

The heights of European non-fiction writing.

– Marian Turski, *Polityka*

Following the brilliant interviews with Lucjan 'Sęp' Wiśniewski, an assassin from Home Army counterintelligence, and Zofia Posmysz, an Auschwitz survivor, in his new book Michał Wójcik shows us a place that could be painted by Hieronymus Bosch.

– Marek Kozubal, *Rzeczpospolita*

**About the author:**

**Michał Wójcik** is a historian and journalist. He has been awarded the Polityka History Prize for Made in Poland, a book about the Home Army soldier Stanilaw Likiernik (written together with Emil Marat). He also co-authored the bestselling book *Birds of Prey: The Story of the Home Army's Special Assassin Lucjan 'Sęp' Wiśniewski*, and wrote a book-length interview with Zofia Posmysz, a Holocaust survivor, published in 2017 as *A Kingdom beyond the Mist* and a book about a WWII double agent titled *The Baron's Daughter: Tracking Wanda Kronenberg*.



**Marek Gałęzowski**  
***Jews Who Fought for Poland***

**About the book:**

**They considered the Polish struggle to be their own. Alongside Poles they fought for independence. They fought and died for the country they loved.**

The history of Jews fighting for Polish independence is not limited to the story of Berek Joselewicz, the first Jew to be awarded the Order of Virtuti Militari, or the courageous junior high school student Michał Landy, who led a peaceful demonstration in Castle Square with a cross in his hand. It is also the forgotten story of thousands of Jews who not only wished to live in Poland but were also ready to die for their country.

Release date: May 2019

Rights available: World

**About the author:**

**Marek Gałęzowski** is a historian and columnist, an employee of the Institute of National Remembrance and a contributor to *Do Rzeczy: Historia* magazine.



Joanna Lamparska  
***The Empire of Small Infernos***

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**About the book:**

**Terrifying mysteries of Dr Mengele's secret medical laboratory.**

Spring 1945. The Third Reich is dying away.

Doctor Mengele, the Angel of Death, flees Auschwitz and wanders along the Polish-Czech border, carrying out selections in women's camps in the Gross-Rosen complex.

In the end he reaches Sieniawka, a small place in the Lower Silesia.

Sieniawka was one of subcamps of Gross-Rosen, a monstrous machinery of death made up of a hundred of such places scattered across Poland and Czechoslovakia. It was here that mass extermination took place, the prisoners were enslaved and sinister medical experiments were carried out.

It was hell on earth, an empire of small infernos.

Year 2018. Joanna Lamparska picks up a trail of a secret World War 2 medical laboratory and starts her investigation. Long, dark tunnels, laboratory benches, forgotten notes and tattered accounts lead her to a petrifying secret, which leaves her with more questions than answers.

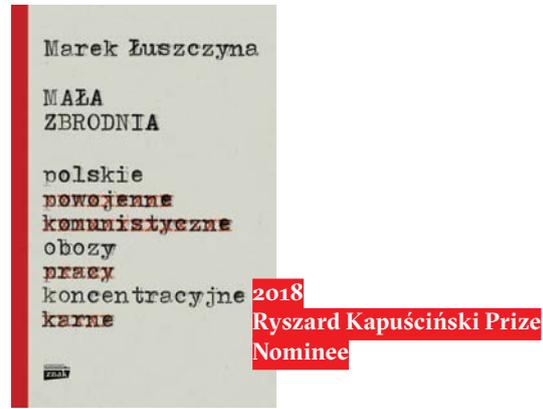
Release date: August 2019

Rights available: World

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**About the author:**

**Joanna Lamparska** is a writer and journalist who investigates secrets of the Lower Silesia and gathers information about relics and documents lost during World War 2. She is an author of over ten books.



Marek Łuszczyna  
***A Minor Crime: Polish Concentration Camps***

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**About the book:**

**This book should not be published. It is not going to be a nice, easy read.**

It does not prove that Polish concentration camps did not exist. It does not deny the bestiality and cruelty of Polish guards. It does not say that the "liberation" of Poland by the Red Army put an end to the barbarous camps here.

Marek Łuszczyna does not shun away from the most difficult issues. He has written a shocking account, revealing the secret pages of Polish history. Soon after World War Two, in former Nazi concentration camps people work and die, suffering inhuman, denigrating conditions. Camps are full of prisoners from Silesia, Germans, Cursed Soldiers and political prisoners who may potentially threaten the new regime. Their suffering was kept secret for years.

Release date: January 2017

Rights available: World

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**Praise:**

The truth about the camps that existed in Poland post-1945 is still little known. Why has this Stalinist crime been kept secret for so long? It is worth reminding ourselves of its victims and considering the impunity of its perpetrators.

– *Focus Historia*

Reportage is an unusual form of showing the past. It does not claim to be exhaustive. It is rather a kind of time travelling: we read criminal files, we go behind barbed wires. Together with Łuszczyna we listen to shocking testimonies of the victims.

– Marcin Zaremba, the author of *Great Terror*.

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**About the author:**

**Marek Łuszczyna** is a journalist and a reporter for, among others, *Życie Warszawy*, *Duży Format* and *Radio 3*. He is also the author of *Needles: Polish Female Agents Who Changed the Course of History*.



**Bestseller:  
50,000 copies  
sold!**

**Anna Herbich**  
***Girls of the Warsaw Rising '44***

**About the book:**

“A typical war hero is a man with a gun. But my grandmother is a hero as well. She won the battle because she saved the life of her son,” says Anna Herbich who included her grandmother’s story in the book.

Halina gave birth to her son just before the Rising broke out and it was a miracle they survived.

Zosia broke the conspiracy rules and told her sweetheart her real name. Sławka still regrets that she did not kiss the young boy who was so in love with her.

The women of the Warsaw Rising cared for the wounded, protected their children and went to battle. But they also loved, dated and even married during the bombings. Anna Herbich has collected some of the most amazing stories of the brave women who told her all about real life during the 63 days of the Rising. It is a new look at the role of women in Polish history and one that cannot be ignored.

**Release date: May 2014**  
**Rights available: World**

**Praise:**

Only a few talk about the role of the women in the Warsaw Rising, even less think about their significance. Many of them stood arm in arm in battle. All of them went through the horror of war, fought for their lives and those of their families. It is most important to recall the role of these women and keep their memory alive.

– Emilia Padoł, *Onet.pl*

**About the author:**

**Anna Herbich** (born 1986) is a journalist at *Do Rzeczy* weekly; she has also worked for *Rzeczpospolita* and *Uważam Rze*. She was born and lives in Warsaw. She is the author of the best-selling book *Girls of the Warsaw Rising '44*, *Girls of Siberia* and *Girls of the Solidarity Movement*, in which she presents the lives of women during crucial events in Polish 20th-century history. Over 150,000 copies of her books have been sold.



**Sebastian Pawlina**  
***War in the Sewers***

**About the book:**

Warsaw, 1944. Uneven though fierce fight between Poles and Germans goes on in the city. Everybody fears going down into the sewers. Poles don’t have much of a choice, so they find the courage. Germans don’t ever dare to do it. They hang grenades by the entrances and throw them in. They block manholes. They kill insurgents and civilian escapees exhausted with the underground hike.

After the liquidation of the Warsaw ghetto Jews stay there in hiding. Young girls, messengers of the Home Army, squeeze between them, carrying information. Thanks to them assault squads gain the advantage of surprise. When the Warsaw Uprising fails, the sewers become the last escape route for the fighting city. For many it becomes their place of eternal rest.

War in the sewers is a story about courage and fear. About darkness impossible to get familiar with. About terrifying silence and ominous echo. About clutching pain and exhaustion. Because Warsaw sewers during the occupation were both a deathly trap and the promise of salvation.

**Release date: May 2019**  
**Rights available: World**

**A new book from the recipient  
of the prestigious Polityka Historical Prize**

**About the Author:**

Sebastian Pawlina is a young historian and journalist, an expert in history of Warsaw and Warsaw underground. He is a recipient of the Polityka Historical Prize for his book *Praca w dywersji. Codziennosc żołnierzy Kedywu Okręgu Warszawskiego Armii Krajowej* (Working in sabotage. Everyday life of servicemen of the Warsaw Kedyw of the Home Army).



A new book  
from the  
bestselling  
author

Ewa K. Czackowska  
***Mystics. Stories of the Chosen Women***

**About the book:**

Wanda Boniszewska was a stigmatist who experienced Christ's suffering on her own body. She went through hell while in a Soviet gulag. Oppressors converted under her influence.

Alicja Lenczewska was a teacher who converted as a 50-year-old. For over 20 years she carried out conversations with Jesus which she recorded.

Wanda Malczewska was an aunt of painter Jacek Malczewski and a social activist. She taught peasant children, opened hospitals, helped the January Uprising insurgents. She has seen the Way of the Cross and Christ's death. She has forecasted that Poland would regain its independence and what its future would be like.

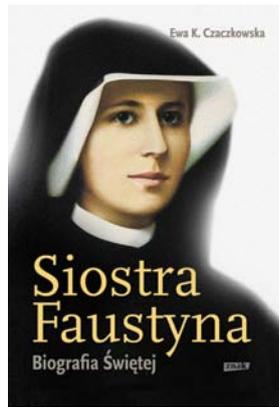
Maria Franciszka Kozłowska had visions which lead her to a schism. She founded the Mariavite Church. She was declared heretic by the Vatican.

Ewa K. Czackowska describes startling stories of four Polish mystics, extraordinary women who broke the mould, often shocking others around them. They were met with disbelief, suspicion and rejection. Were they all able to assess what God was trying to tell them and stay true to it?

Release date: September 2019  
Rights available: World

**About the author:**

Ewa K. Czackowska is a historian and journalist. She has written three biographies. The biography of Saint Faustina, published in Poland in 2012, has been translated into nine languages. The Association of Catholic Publishers has twice awarded her with the prestigious Feniks Prize. Ewa K. Czackowska co-operates with several journals, including *Gość Niedzielny*. She also lectures at the Media Education and Journalism Institute.



Ewa K. Czackowska  
***Faustina: The Mystic and Her Message***

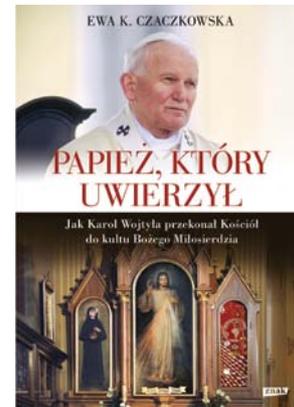
**About the book:**

**The bestselling biography of Faustina**

Follow the path of Faustina on her journey to sainthood. Award-winning author and historian Ewa K. Czackowska, PhD, tenaciously pursued Faustina to ultimately produce a biography that masterfully tracks this mystic's riveting life and her unique call from Jesus.

More than 70,000 copies of the original Polish edition were sold within three months of its release. Now licensed for English distribution exclusively through Marian Press, *Faustina: The Mystic and Her Message* provides new details about this remarkable woman and rare photographs of her. In this biography, you get to know the real Faustina, her message, and her mission.

Release date: April 2012  
Rights sold: Lithuania (UAB Kataliku Pasaulio Leidiniai), Slovenia (Druzina), Brasil (Provincia Da Misericordia Divina Da Congregacao Dos Marianos No), Croatia (Kršćanska sadašnjost d.o.o.), France (Yves Briand Editeur), Spain (Ediciones Palabra), Italy (Edizioni San Paolo), Slovakia (Pallotini), USA (Marian Press)



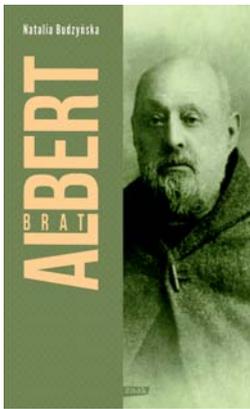
Ewa K. Czackowska  
***The Pope Who Believed***

**About the book:**

**Who knows what could have happened to the cult of the Divine Mercy if it hadn't been for Pope John Paul II.**

A wonderful story of the spiritual bond between two great Polish saints: a mystic and a pope. Still half a century ago the Vatican opposed the cult propagated by Sister Faustina. In the 1950s most Polish bishops asked to suppress it. The images of the Divine Mercy were being removed from some of the Polish churches. The fact that Sister Faustina became a saint is largely owed to the late Pope John Paul II. He was persistent in spreading her cult and convincing millions of people around the world to believe. Ewa K. Czackowska unveils the unknown facts about the Pope's involvement in the cult of the Divine Mercy. She uncovers the correspondence with the Vatican when Wojtyła was still Archbishop of Krakow. She also presents the notion of Divine Mercy in the teaching of John Paul II.

Release date: January 2016  
Rights available: World



Natalia Budzyńska  
***Brother Albert: A Biography***

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**About the book:**

*Brother Albert is looking straight into the camera. He's not smiling; he's not posing. His worn-off habit is tied at the waist with a cord. His left hand rests on a walking stick, his right hand holds a cigarette. He isn't a sentimental old man. The love he had for the poor and for everyone around him was manly and radical, demanding and forgiving: simply fatherly.*

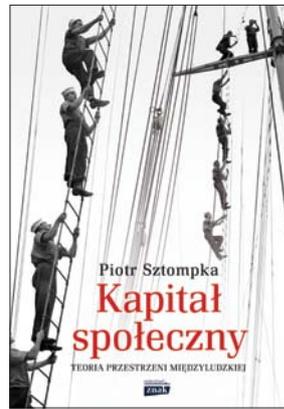
A remarkable biography of one of the most popular Polish saints, beatified and canonized by St. John Paul II. A talented painter, an insurgent fighting for the freedom of his country, towards the end of his life Brother Albert devoted himself fully to helping the needy. Budzyńska presents a man of flesh and blood. She makes the saint human, showing him to us as he really was: stern, direct, tough, and at the same time infinitely loving.

Release date: October 2017  
Rights available: World

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**About the author:**

**Natalia Budzyńska** is a graduate of cultural studies, journalist at *Przewodnik Katolicki*, mother and wife. She has written about Rev. Jan Kaczkowski, Wojciech Smarzowski, the mother of Jasiak Mela, and Marianna Kolbe, the mother of St. Maksymilian Kolbe.



Piotr Sztompka  
***Social Capital***

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**About the book:**

**The first in-depth analysis of social capital.**

Piotr Sztompka argues that both economic growth and political efficiency depend largely on the state of human relations, especially moral ones such as: trust, loyalty, reciprocity, solidarity, respect and justice.

The rebuilding of moral capital through a thoughtful organisation and perfection of human space is the most urgent goal in the coming years. *Social Capital* is an obligatory book for politicians, journalists and responsible citizens who do not want to be just passersby but wish to actively shape our national community.

Release date: May 2016  
Rights sold: Ukraine (NGO Research and Publishing Association Dukh i Litera)

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**About the author:**

**Piotr Sztompka** (born 2 March 1944, in Warsaw) is a Polish sociologist known for his work on the theory of social trust. He works at the Jagiellonian University in Krakow, where he is a professor of sociology, and he has also served frequently as a visiting professor at the University of California, Los Angeles, and at Columbia University in New York City. He was the president of the International Sociological Association from 2002 to 2006.

# Books for Children



## Andrzej Maleszka *The Magic Tree*

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### About the series:

#### Poland's No 1 Bestselling Children's Books

One day a bolt of lightning struck a huge, old oak tree during a terrible storm.

It wasn't an ordinary oak tree. It was a magic tree. It possessed an immense, miraculous power, but nobody was aware of it yet.

The tree was taken to a sawmill and cut into boards. Hundreds of different objects were made from the wood, and a small amount of the tree's magic power remained in each object. There was a force unlike any the world had ever known in these ordinary things. They were sent to shops, and from that day onwards, amazing things began happening all over the world.

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Each book in *The Magic Tree* series describes events caused by the extraordinary objects: chess pieces that make good or bad wishes come true, dice that bring good or bad luck, a wooden figurine that transforms into a child who possesses a supernatural power, and a bed that makes dreams come true.

The key to the great success of *The Magic Tree* is the way the books combine fantasy with realistic descriptions of children's lives. The action involves a cavalcade of unusual, magical events within a realistic world that is familiar to today's children. The characters are children aged from seven to fourteen. Each book in the series features the same main characters but can be read as a separate story.

*The Magic Tree* has become a social phenomenon in Poland and has thousands of fans. So far, Andrzej Maleszka has written ten novels in the series.

*The Magic Tree* books are now the most popular children's novels in Poland.

Rights sold: France (Bayard), Japan (Kodansha), South Korea (All 5 Volumes), China, Serbia (Propolis Books), Ukraine (Urbino), Slovenia, Lithuania, Israel (Locus), Belarus (Januškevič)

**1,000,000  
copies sold!**

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### About the author:

See page 34



Andrzej Maleszka  
***Heroes of the Magic Tree. The Kidnapping***

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**About the book:**

**The Earth has been invaded by huge people from the world of giants.**

At first, only one giant appears, then a whole army of them. Idalia conjures up an anti-alarm clock that puts everybody who hears its sound to sleep. But the device is turned on too early and instead of the giants, all the inhabitants of the town fall asleep. The three children are alone in the sleeping town and must fight the giants. The only way they can win the battle is to find a wooden bow and arrows that possess unusual power. But first of all, they have to become friends with a giant boy and his enormous dog.

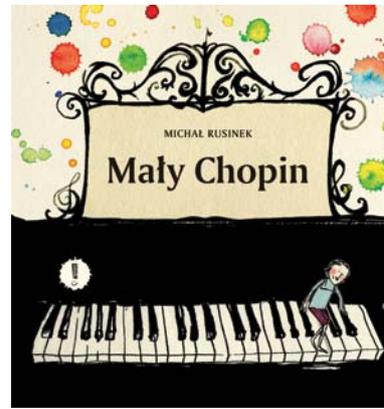
Release date: May 2016

Rights available: World

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**About the author:**

**Andrzej Maleszka** is a film director and writer. He has written novels, film scripts and plays. He has won an Emmy Award and several dozen prestigious awards at film festivals in Chicago, New York and Munich. He is one of the best European film directors for young audiences and an artist famous for his unique imagination.



Michał Rusinek, Joanna Rusinek  
***Little Chopin***

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**About the book:**

**A beautiful book for children about young Frederic Chopin.**

A funny, rhymed story about how Chopin became a brilliant composer. Some ants and a delicious Easter cake had a lot to do with it.

This book by Michał and Joanna Rusinek is an inspiring invitation into Chopin's timeless music, allowing us to become more closely acquainted with the great composer. The book was the Fryderyk Chopin Institute's showpiece for the Year of Chopin in 2010.

Release date: 2009

Rights sold: Youth Cultural Enterprise (Taiwan)

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**About the author:**

**Michał Rusinek** worked as Wisława Szymborska's secretary during her lifetime, and now runs the Wisława Szymborska Foundation. He is a literary critic and teaches literary theory and rhetoric at the Jagiellonian University's Faculty of Polish. He occasionally translates from English. He writes columns about books and language, and is often featured in the press and on TV programmes. He lives in Kraków with his family. He is one of the most popular and well-liked authors of books, songs and rhymes for children.



Szymon Radzimiński  
***The Diary of an Adventurer Hunter.  
 Madagascar: The Curse of a Ring-Tailed Lemur***

About the book:

Hi, it's me, Simon. Do you want to discover the secrets of the red island with me? Do you want to have a close encounter with timid lemurs, chase whales in the choppy seas and climb blade-sharp rocks of Tsingy?

Watch the Malagasy bring forth a body of their grandpa from the grave in the magical ceremony called "the turning of the bones"! Touch giant baobabs, listen to the night sounds of the jungle, inhale the smell of vanilla dried in the sun. But be warned! Mysterious events and strange incidents have been following us from the beginning. Is it a coincidence? Or perhaps some ancient power? Help me break the curse before it is too late...

Only for the brave ones! Perfect for kids age 10-13.

Release date: September 2019

Rights available: World

**A mad excursion for all children.**

**Where to? Madagascar!**



**A true account of an exotic journey into the heart of Africa.**

Szymon Radzimiński  
***The Diary of an Adventure Hunter.  
 Ethiopia: At the Feet of the Fire Mountain***

About the book:

Excited to hike up at night to a crater of scorching lava? You want to know how it feels when a wild hyena sits from your hand, or a hippo almost capsized your boat? Or perhaps you'd like to meet the mysterious blood-drinking Mursi tribe? Or the fearless bull-jumping Hamar people?

You've come to the right place! We're also going to spend the night in a military camp in a salt desert, see a giant python in deadly combat with a serval, watch dangerous crocodiles, and have thousands of other adventures: from scary to funny to shocking.

Do you remember Simon, the young traveller and blogger who took you on a jungle expedition? That's me again. This time, let's go explore the unknown paths of the mysterious wild Ethiopia...

Come join my adventure-hunting team! Extreme conditions would be nothing new. Now we're fighting for survival!

Release date: March 2018

Rights available: World



Marta Kijowska, Anna Łazowska  
***Hela the Seal: Stories on the Waves***

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**About the book:**

**Marine animals are in danger! How can we help them?**

Hela, a young seal, gets to know the underwater world and discovers how many dangers, caused by humans, lie in wait for her and her friends. She tries to find a way for animals and people to live together in harmony and safety.

This beautifully illustrated book combines an exciting story with expert knowledge of the natural environment, water pollution and illegal seal hunting. It's an excellent choice for children interested in nature who want to enrich their knowledge and sensitivity in a wise, straightforward and attractive way.

**Release date:** June 2019  
**Rights available:** World



Renata Kijowska, Anna Łazowska  
***Jack the Bear: Stories from the Bear's Lair***

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**About the book:**

Although his mommy warned him that humans can be dangerous, the little bear Jack can't contain his curiosity.

Together with his brother Benny, he's horsing around the forest, searching for adventures and... sweet snacks. They are joined by a crazy squirrel called Squi and their new fox friend, Trotty. The animals are ready to go as far as breaking into a car to lay their paws on chocolate bars and forgotten apple cores. What's going to happen when they bump into people? What are they in for with all their shenanigans?

My little boys soon got bored with all books that we were reading together. They wanted something more; they wanted stories with a bite! They kept asking me about my job, all the more eagerly that at the time I was working on a feature programme about the life of bears. And since their questions wouldn't end, I had to check every detail: I talked to bear experts and rangers from the Tatra National Park; I visited bear watchers and caretakers who know everything about these animals. They shared their stories with burning cheeks; I, too, shuddered with emotion when I first looked a little bear baby girl in the eyes. And so I based the adventures of my protagonists on real events – funny, touching, but sometimes also tragic. I hope you become friends with the bears, just as I did!  
Renata Kijowska

**Release date:** March 2018  
**Rights available:** World

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**About the authors:**

**Renata Kijowska** is a TV reporter for TVN and TVN24, and a recipient of the regional Małopolska Journalists Award. She has also worked for *Radio Plus* and *Tygodnik Powszechny*. She has two sons named Tytus and Bruno, and is the foster mom of a little mix-breed called Odi.

**Anna Łazowska** is an illustrator and graphic designer.



Katarzyna Stachowicz-Gacek  
***Superception: The Beginning***

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**About the book:**

**Superheroes are among us! The first volume of a new adventure and fantasy series for children aged 10-12**

Julka, Klara and Tymek live in the same city but go to different schools and have never met each other. And yet they have something in common that each has always considered to be their greatest flaw – uniqueness. Nature has equipped Julka with a super-sense of touch which allows her to climb even the smoothest wall. Klara has super-hearing, which allows her to hear the flutter of butterfly wings even several hundred metres from her. Tymek has a perfect sense of taste, with the help of which he can identify not only each ingredient in a dish, but even its chemical composition. These three unique kids cross paths one day, and a dangerous and exciting adventure begins. Together they must fight a battle that involves huge amounts of money, defeating a gang of criminals and saving lives.

Release date: April 2019  
Rights available: World



Katarzyna Stachowicz-Gacek  
***Superception: A Double Conspiracy***

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**About the book:**

**Incredible sense of hearing, faultless sense of taste and amazing sense of touch. But something is missing here...**

Julka, Klara and Tymon suspect that the secret of their excellent talents have something to do with their shared past. They decide to find others who might have the gift of exceptionally good senses, just like they do. As a result they get involved with a case of forgery and theft of priceless crown jewels of the British Empire. Together they try to catch the thief and demonstrate the crime. What they don't know is that a mysterious person is at their heels. Why is this person watching their every step?

Release date: June 2019  
Rights available: World

**The second volume  
of the fascinating series  
for children and  
young people!**

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**About the author:**

**Katarzyna Stachowicz-Gacek** is the author of mystery novels and film scripts. She co-authored the screenplay for the children's film *Behind the Blue Door* (2016), which was highly-acclaimed by critics and broke the audience record, becoming the most viewed Polish film for young people.



Leszek Kołakowski, Paweł Pawlak  
**13 Tales from the Kingdom of Lailonia for the Big and Little**

**About the book:**

“We’re very old now. To be sure, we will never find out where Lailonia lies, and we will never get to see it. But perhaps one of you will be luckier; perhaps one day one of you will manage to find Lailonia. When you go there, please present the Queen of Lailonia with a nasturtium flower on our behalf and tell her how much we had wanted to get there, and how we didn’t make it.”

Strange, surprising, and written with an exquisite sense of humour, these fairy tales are indeed “for the big and little”. They can be read at many levels; children will find their Neverland here, and adults – their Lailonia.

The text is beautifully illustrated by the brilliant graphic artist Paweł Pawlak, who also took care of the typographic layout of the book.

Release date: 2015  
 Rights available: World  
 Film Rights Optioned

**Distinctions:**

- Book of the Year 2015 (award for the best illustrator) from the Polish Section of IBBY
- “Must Have 2016” title at Łódź Design Festival 2016
- selected for Illustrarte’16 exhibition, Lisbon (50 illustrators selected from 1,700 applications)
- selected for 2016 Illustrators Exhibition, Bologna (77 illustrators selected from almost 3,200)
- nomination at the 56th Polish Book Publishers Association competition: Most Beautiful Books of the Year 2015

**About the authors:**

**Leszek Kołakowski** (1927–2009) was a philosopher, professor of the University of Warsaw, and Senior Research Fellow at All Souls College, University of Oxford, from 1970 onwards; he was the recipient of many international awards, including the Library of Congress John W. Kluge Prize. He is considered one of the greatest thinkers of the 20th century.



**IBBY Award Nominee 2018!**

Antoine de Saint-Exupéry, Paweł Pawlak  
**The Little Prince**

**About the book:**

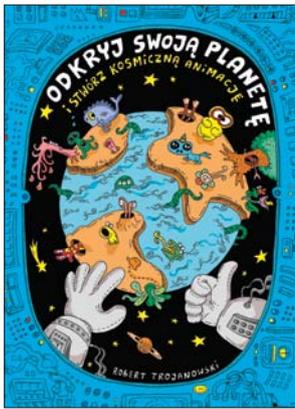
**A new edition of the iconic novel with beautiful illustrations from one of the most renowned Polish illustrators.**

Who hasn’t heard of the Little Prince, his high-maintenance rose and the planet with three volcanoes?

Paweł Pawlak’s beautiful new illustrations help rediscover the emotions and symbolism of this timeless story.

Release date: September 2018  
 Rights available: World

**Paweł Pawlak** (born 1962) graduated (with distinction) from the Faculty of Painting, Graphics and Sculpture at the Wrocław Academy of Art and Design. He has illustrated more than seventy books, and has collaborated with publishers in Poland, France, the UK, Germany, Korea and Canada. He has presented his works at more than a dozen individual exhibitions in Poland and abroad. He has won many prizes and distinctions in competitions for children’s books.



Robert Trojanowski  
***Discover Your Planet (And Create an Outer Space Animation)***

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**About the book:**

**Just a moment longer and you will see the outer space from the cockpit of the ship. There should be no traffic in the Milky Way but watch out for meteorites. You will find out the distance between the Moon and the Earth. You will also record things in the ship's logbook. But most importantly... you will discover an unknown planet.**

Robert Trojanowski returns with his latest book which brings together three things beloved by all kids: comics, animation and outer space! An incredible book which stimulates imagination and learning!

Release date: April 2019  
Rights available: World

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**About the author:**

**Robert Trojanowski** - satirist, cartoonist, author of a radio play for the Polish Radio Theater. Author of popular activity books, such as *Książka pod tytułem* or *Zrób sobie komiks* (DIY Comic Strip). He often runs workshops with children aged 6-12. He lives in Krakow



Małgorzata Ceremuga  
***Montessori for Everyone***

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**About the book:**

**A book that will give your child a lot of joy!**

Montessori for Everyone is a selection of exercises for children aged 3-7 (younger children can do the activities with their parents, and older children can do them on their own).

In the book you will find:

- activities involving observation of the world of nature,
- exercises that positively contribute to a child's overall development: eye-hand coordination, concentration, problem-solving, empathy and group cooperation,
- tips for parents and the basic concepts of Montessori pedagogy.

Release date: August 2018  
Rights sold: Albatros Media (Czech Republic)

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**About the author:**

**Małgorzata Ceremuga** studied pedagogy and training in the Montessori method at the Polish Montessori Institute. She leads a Montessori class and creates spaces for children that stimulate their development.

## Contact

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