Literature, travel
and photography books

CATALOGUE 2018
"A 'wundor' is a miracle or a powerful feat of creativity. It is also a monster or a strange creature. It is an Old English word which runs the breadth of the artistic imagination and its unlimited potential.

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MATTHEW SMITH
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Mexico City - Los Angeles
Mumbai - Tokyo
Fiction
The Bath Fugues
Brian Castro

The Bath Fugues is Castro at his best, in a wonderful performance wrought from intrigue, romance, deception – and comedy. The book is composed of three interwoven novellas, the first centred on an ageing art forger; the second on a Portuguese poet, opium addict and collector; the third told by a well-connected doctor, with a cabinet of venom, and an art gallery on the north Queensland coast. Around these characters circle others, in the contrapuntal manner of the fugue suggested by the book’s title.

Brian Castro is one of Australia’s most celebrated writers. Acknowledged for his prose style and brilliant use of language, Castro’s work has received wide critical acclaim and won major Australian literary prizes. Three of his works have been awarded the Victorian Premier’s Literary Award. In 2014, Castro was given the Patrick White Award for Literature for his contribution to Australian Literature.

‘Brian Castro has been a great innovator in Australian fiction for decades.’
— The Australian

‘His way of working has produced startlingly original storytelling, the sort that reminds me, with joy... that anything is possible in literature.’
— Sue Bond, Asian Review Of Books

Three-time Victorian Premier’s Literary Award-winner in Australia
Rubik
Elizabeth Tan

Elena Rubik can’t seem to stay dead. She persists: as a set of corneas, as a newsletter subscriber, as a member of fanfiction forums. Her best friend Jules Valentine meanwhile is unwittingly inveigled into an indie-film turned corporate branding stunt. When Jules leaks information about the true story behind the video – by then an overworked viral meme – wannabe investigative reporter April Kuan is assigned the case. But as April trails Jules all over Perth she too becomes ensnared in the machinations of shady corporate interests as the very laws of physics and time begin to bend.

Rubik is a wide-ranging, brilliantly intertwined novel-in-stories that slip outside the borders of realism. Spotted with disappearances, mysteries and told with a sharp-edged wit and cutting social commentary, it is an original and ingenious reflection of technological anxiety, loneliness and connectivity in the internet age.

‘Recalling the wit and social commentary of Julie Koh’s Portable Curiosities alongside the surreal connected-universe storytelling of Jennifer Egan’s A Visit from the Goon Squad, Rubik is a shot in the arm of Australian fiction, one that will undoubtedly reveal more secrets on successive rereads.’

— Books and Publishing

ISBN: 978-1-9998996-0-8
Format: 138 x 197mm
Binding: card with folding flaps
Published: 4 June 2018
310pp | RRP: £10
American novelist John Manderino’s latest work is a sparkling, hilarious novella, Bopper’s Progress. Told over the course of a day in the life of Bopper, a directionless young man who has found himself on a month-long Zen Buddhist retreat, Manderino probes life’s most challenging questions with sharp observations, uproarious dialogue, and a clarity of prose rarely found.

Manderino lives in Maine with his wife Marie, where he teaches college writing. He has published three novels, two short story collections and a memoir with Academy Chicago. John has also written plays that have been performed at theatre festivals and other venues. A stage version of his memoir Crying at Movies was produced.

“Manderino’s work is able to poke fun at the fear that so ably sparks our imaginations, while simultaneously revealing a shared feature of humanity that is both reassuring and haunting in its own right.”

— Cory Johnston, Books Editor
The Literary Review
THE WAKING

Matthew Smith
The Waking
Matthew Smith

Isabel Sykes, 23, recounts the recent attempt she made to come to terms with the loss of her mother, the acclaimed but psychologically disturbed novelist Marianne Sykes. Marianne died in an unexplained house fire when Isabel was ten. Inspired by the appearance of Imogen Taylor, an enchanting young woman who wants to write a PhD on her mother’s work, Isabel plunges into the depths of her past and an intense new friendship. After discovering that Imogen is not who she seems to be, Isabel must face the darkest moments from her childhood in order to protect her family from more tragedy. She receives unexpected help from beyond the grave: in the strange, glittering fragments of her mother’s last, unfinished work, ‘Midnightsong’.

Smith read English Literature at Christ Church College, Oxford and is based in London. The Waking is his debut novel.

★★★★★

“Smith is a poet... not a single word is wasted – his prose is direct, intimate and immediate.”

— The Book Bag

‘No slouch at suspense, Smith is adept at pulling the rug from under his reader’s feet... Overall, it’s a gripping narrative, a smart and pacy literary thriller which explores the indelible scars of loss.’

— A Life In Books
Poetry
Sea of the Edge
Matthew Smith

From the woman who wanders the halls of a department store and tests the water in the empty baths, to the man who dances in his garden with a mysterious partner who eyes his escape, the characters in Matthew Smith’s poems match those in his debut novel The Waking (Wundor Editions, 2017) for the strangeness and the unsettling quality of the lives they lead.

Smith’s poetry has been published in Acumen and Envoi. He has been shortlisted for numerous national competitions including the PENfro Poetry Competition and the Nottingham Open Poetry Competition. He read English at Christ Church College, Oxford.

Praise for The Waking (Wundor Editions 2017)

‘The writing was mesmerizing and poetic, and the characters felt alive and had great depth to them... the atmosphere dragged you into a dark and mysterious world of half-forgotten memories.’

— Silke Wadskjaer Mølgaard

‘Smith is a poet whose skills are smartly showcased in Isabel’s vivid childhood memories, brightly sketched word pictures around which he structures his novel...’

— A Life in Books
Alice Iris Red Horse
Yoshimasu Gozo

Yoshimasu Gozo’s groundbreaking poetry has spanned over half a century since the publication of his first book, Departure, in 1964. He has won many of Japan’s most prestigious literary awards, including the 50th Mainichi Art Award for Poetry.

Much of his work is highly unorthodox: it challenges the print medium and language itself, and consequently Alice Iris Red Horse is as much a book on translation as it is a book in translation.

Alice Iris Red Horse contains translations of Gozo’s major poems from the Japanese, representing his entire career. Also included are illuminating interviews, reproductions of Gozo’s visual artworks, and photographs of his performances.

‘Gozo Yoshimazu, an experimental Japanese poet, painter, musician, and shaman, is interested in breaking the written word open. A new career-spanning volume, Alice Iris Red Horse, gives a sense of his powers... [His] inclusiveness includes the universe and he invites us along.’

– Emily Wolahan, The Quarterly Conversation
The Divining Pool
Amanda Merritt

Amanda Merritt’s work looks fearlessly into the darkest recesses of the human heart and finds a terrible beauty within it.

Merritt recently completed her poetry MFA at St. Andrews where she was mentored by Don Paterson.

She was presented with the 2015 Anstruther Poetry Award and, in Canada, she has been published in Descant, Grain, Prairie Fire, Hart House Review, Qwerty, and Untethered. In the UK she has been published in Stand and Aesthetica’s 2017 Creative Writing Annual anthology.

Merritt is based in Victoria, Canada. The Divining Pool is her debut collection of poetry.

‘Lyrical yet laced with more than a hint of menace, these subtly cadenced poems register with intense precision moments of parting and recognition. Amanda Merritt’s first collection establishes her as deftly alert to hurt and beauty, and as a compelling new voice in Canadian poetry.’

— Robert Crawford
Photobooks
Tokyo Eye

Luca Sidro

Luca Sidro is an emerging Italian photographer based in Milan. In 2012 he won the Special Prize at Fotoleggendo 2012. In 2017 he was recognised by the Magnum Photos Agency with an award for a single image at the RATP Paris #PhotogRATPhie competition. This image appears in Tokyo Eye. He has worked commercially with brands such as Zaha Hadid Architects and the Ernesto Esposito fashion house.

Tokyo Eye is a series of photos taken on the streets of Tokyo. The everyday details of the city are illuminated and the beauty within them is revealed here. This is street photography as high art, and a love letter to Japan’s capital, which 40 million call home.

ISBN: 978-1-9998996-6-0
Format: 270 x 140mm
Binding: saddle stitched + wrapper
Published: 29 October 2018
48pp | RRP: £20
TAKEN BY THE TIDE
MARIA LAX
**Taken by the Tide**

*Maria Lax*

Maria Lax is a Finnish fine art photographer and filmmaker based in London. Lax studied cinematography at London Film School and her work has been featured extensively in print and online publications, including in Vogue, WIRED Magazine and Somewhere Magazine.

Her work has been exhibited internationally. Projects she has contributed to have been nominated for awards in festivals worldwide and have been displayed in museums such as Tate Britain and Turner Contemporary.

— Plain Magazine

ISBN: 978-1-9998996-3-9

Format: 310 x 250mm

Binding: hardcover photobook

Published: 19 February 2019

100pp | RRP: £40
Wundor City
Guides
WUNDOR CITY GUIDE

東京
TOKYO
New Urban Adventures

Wundor City Guides are designed to give you a way into the real city you are visiting. We are bombarded with so many observations and images relating to the world’s exciting urban environments, many of which centre around shops and the obvious sights and attractions. The same carefully styled interiors and shots of flat whites abound in magazines around the world, tricking us into thinking that all cities are becoming essentially the same place.

They aren’t.

>>>
Our guides offer up authentic insights and views on each city. Beautiful images take you through the backstreets and capture inspiring details and moments that reveal a sense of time and place. They offer writing that will introduce you to the most authentic places – not just the best tourist destinations. The recommendations of sites, restaurants, shops and more are based on quality, not always on what happens to be most fashionable. You will be introduced to real people from these cities, and learn about them from the inside-out.

>>>
Wundor City Guides are for the traveller who wants to go beyond the obvious and make their own adventure, and for the reader who is looking for inspiration wherever they are in the world.

Each guide is printed on premium photobook paper with a card cover and a glossy dust jacket. They contain over 100 beautiful photographs and illustrations, travel writing, advice on geographical and cultural navigation, a directory of the best places to visit and much more.

Prize-winning photographers, journalists and illustrators have worked on each book. Top writers have contributed original essays.
Wundor City Guide Tokyo

Featuring an original essay by Japanese novelist Aoko Matsuda

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RRP: £20

Wundor City Guide Mumbai

Featuring an original essay by novelist Matthew Smith

ISBN: 978-0-9956541-4-3
Format: 210 x 150mm
Binding: card + glossy dustjacket
240pp | 100 images on photobook paper
Published: 3 July 2017
RRP: £20
Wundor City Guide Los Angeles

Featuring an original essay by former LA Poet Laureate, Luis Rodriguez

ISBN: 978-0-9956541-9-8
Format: 210 x 150mm
Binding: card + glossy dustjacket
240pp | 100 images on photobook paper
Published: 15 January 2018
RRP: £20

Wundor City Guide Mexico City

Featuring some of Mexico City’s top photographers

ISBN: 978-1-9998996-5-3
Format: 210 x 150mm
Binding: card + glossy dustjacket
240pp | 100 images on photobook paper
Published: 14 January 2019
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SALES CONTACTS

Sales UK
Signature Book Representation (UK) Limited
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Distribution UK
NBN International
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NBN Books
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