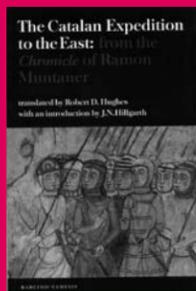


PUBLISHING NEWS



Ramon Muntaner *The Catalan Expedition to the East*

English translation by Robert D. Hughes
Introduction by J.N. Hillgarth
Barcino/Tamesis
Barcelona/Woodbridge, 2006

This text by Muntaner, chronicler of the period at the end of the thirteenth and the start of the fourteenth centuries, brings us soldiers, fighters, sea captains and merchants. It offers us all the ingredients to be found in current historical best-sellers, while simultaneously providing us with the authentic material of a classic chronicler of the medieval era who experienced the period first hand and recounts his tale in his usual sensitive and highly explicit style. Here, we see all the great historical places: Sicily, Constantinople, Greece, and Sardinia....a Mediterranean which is no longer with us but is accessible to us via the written word.



Eduard Marquéz *Silence of the Trees*

German translation by Ilse Layer
Deutscher Taschenbuch
Munich, 2004

Written with an acutely sensitive ear, *Silence of the Trees* describes the siege of Sarajevo and the ways in which various characters find comfort and refuge in the arts-painting, music, literature-in order to overcome their fear of war. Through a series of letters, the author shows how the greatest human strengths can be expressed in a situation of the most terrible anguish and misery. Shocking, poetical, unforgettable images.



Ausiàs March *Pàgines del cancionero*

Spanish translation by José M. Micó
Introduction and notes by Costanzo di Girolamo
Editorial Pre-textos
Madrid, Buenos Aires, Valencia, 2004

A bilingual edition of a work by an author considered to be 'the greatest lyrical poet of the fifteenth century', perhaps because he was capable of expressing physical love in a manner more appropriate to our present time than his own. The Barcelona poet Josep M. Micó, a Classics specialist, provides a fine translation while the accompanying text by the Neapolitan professor Di Girolamo helps us understand the work of March, the great poet of the medieval period.



Albert Sánchez Piñol *Nightlight*

Dutch translation by Elly Bovée
Cossee Amsterdam, 2005

The strangest love story by Sánchez Piñol has now reached Holland. Let's hope the Dutch are ready for it! A detective arrives at a frozen desert island and meets a madman who has kidnapped a beautiful creature later to be rescued by her own kind. Where is the line between reason and excess? Can passion and solitude exist alongside each other? Can we escape our destiny? Big questions for a novel that you won't be able to put down and you'll probably read from cover to cover in one go.



Jaume Cabré *His Lordship*

French translation by Bernard Lesfargues
Christian Bourgois
Paris, 2004

Rafael Niassó, a member of the bourgeoisie living at the close of the eighteenth century, has just been appointed Civil Regent of the Barcelona High Court. Married to a devoted Catholic, his hobby is spying on young girls through his telescope. His first big challenge is to try and find the murderer of a French opera singer. The principal suspect? An idealistic poet. Through a variety of characters, the reader is led to question the impotence of the individual when faced with the indisputable forces of power. A contemporary theme, located in an ambitious, mean-spirited Barcelona made up of social classes clearly antagonistic to each other. This translation was awarded the 2004 Méditerranée Prize.



Mercè Rodoreda *The Time of the Doves*

Hindi translation by Sameer Rawal
Confluence International
New Delhi, 2005

This emblematic text by our most frequently translated author (invariably referred to in the masculine, of course) is now available in most bookshops throughout India. La Colometa thus relives her shattered love for Quimet and with the same desperate determination tries to rebuild her life, which has been destroyed by the war. A contemporary classic dealing with a universal theme: survival, seen from a balcony full of pigeons in the Gràcia neighbourhood of Barcelona.

FRANKFURT IN VIEW

A clear, determined institutional decision to showcase literature written in Catalan in Frankfurt 2007 cannot aim either to be a mirage or to conceal reality. Reality indicates that many Catalan writers have made significant contributions to the corpus of literature written in Spanish, and moreover, that the latter constitutes the bulk of the work produced by the powerful Catalan publishing industry. A decision such as this is recognition that Frankfurt, a cyclical (and also ephemeral) shop window to the international publishing world, provides us with a unique opportunity to try and correct a serious cultural anomaly within the context of the reality which is Europe: the lack of knowledge of the existence of a past literary tradition and a present tradition still very much alive today, in a Romance language which is more than eight centuries old. Frankfurt must signify the reestablishment of artistic creation in Catalan, with the latter taking its rightful place as the language of a specific culture, and also the restoration of its position as a natural, cultural force in the eyes of the international publishing community. At the same time, Frankfurt must recognise and have the will to demonstrate that this creativity, whether literary, humanistic or scientific, extends much further than just one political administration. The domain .cat is open, multiple, flexible, and crosses all borders. Frankfurt 2007 must show this to the world for a few days. The real work of restitution however, began many years ago, and will continue for a very long time to come.

E. MANZANO

ON LINE

Eight centuries online

<http://cultura.gencat.net/ilc/literaturacatalana800/>

'800 years of Catalan Literature' is the title of the exhibition that the Catalan Arts Institution (*Institució de les Lletres Catalanes*) has shown in 29 different countries over the past seven years. An elegant, summary of this introduction to eight centuries of Catalan Literature is now available in digital format. Currently in English and Catalan it will shortly be available in eight other languages including Spanish, French, Italian, Portuguese, Russian and Swedish.

Invitation to the Fair

<http://www.frankfurt-book-fair.com/>

This site, coordinated by the Ramon Llull Institute, provides introductory and updated information on the organising team, the timetable and press coverage of the Frankfurt fair. In Catalan, Spanish, English and German.

Translators, protagonists

<http://www.pencatala.cat/ctdl/>

The PEN Catalan Committee of Translation and Linguistic Rights has an important portal focusing on the essential role of translators, which is divided into three sections: 'Translations of Catalan Literature', 'Universal Literature in Catalan' and 'Translators' Corner'. In Catalan, Spanish, English and German.

"Lletra" in English and Spanish

<http://www.lletra.net> (english) <http://www.lletra.com> (Spanish)

The portal on Catalan literature of the Open University of Catalunya (UOC), which has become a reference point on the Internet, is now also available in English and Spanish.

A. CASTELLS