**PUBLISHING NEWS**

Joanot Martorell
*Trist le Blanc*
Euler Verlag
German translation by Fritz Vogelgarten
A three-volume edition of the complete version of *Trist le Blanc*, one of the great medieval classics of Catalan literature and one of the original chivalresque novels. The work is full of intrigue and adventure, conspiracies and battles, with a central love story uniting the brave knight Trist and the beautiful princess Carmesina. Medievalist Lola Badia writes: “Martorell sought to fill his book with prestigious literary information about all the things that could be of interest to the reader, taken from the most distinguished and illustrious sources of his times. He did so to flesh out the behavior of his characters and because he had an appreciative audience in mind. This audience was thirsty for literary culture, wanting both entertainment and models for acceptably cultured conversations.”

Quim Monzó
*La magnitud de la tragedia*
(English translation by Peter Bush)
A trumpet player has finally gotten the star of the theater where he works to go out with him. During dinner, he drinks to work up some courage. He drinks too much, though, and then fears he won’t be able to perform if they end up in bed. This might be the beginning of the magnitude of the tragedy for the character and also for the novel, a grotesque history full of lucid absurdities, loaded with irony and irreverence, and which treats themes as universal and essential as love, hate, loneliness, the march of time and the inevitability of death. Monzó published *La magnitud de la tragedia* in 1985. At that time, it was a great success and has been through twenty editions in Catalan. In 2005, a new edition, revised by the author, was released. The novel has been translated into eleven languages.

Eugenio Xammar
*El león de la serp*
(English translation by Joerg Brandt)
The journalist Eugenio Xammar arrived in Berlin during the winter of 1940. He found a Germany destroyed by World War I, and a nation where the power of Nazism was beginning to take hold. He experienced historical memories of major importance first hand, and from 1943 to 1945 coincided with Joseph Pils, with whom he traveled in Bavaria and the Rhine valley. The book *El león de la serp* collects the articles that Xammar wrote from Germany during the period 1943 to 1944. They are journalistic pieces of high even literary quality that offer a lucid glimpse of that historic moment. Surely, Xammar is one of the outstanding names in European journalism of the first half of the twentieth century.

**ON STAGE**

*ON THE BORDER BETWEEN POETRY AND DRAMA*

Years ago, Carles Santos closed one of his shows with this image: while he played the piano hysterically, the actors, without ceasing their movement on the set, constructed a wall on the edge of the stage. Brick by brick, a wall separating them from the audience was built. When the wall exceeded human height and no one could be seen from the stalls, the piano stopped.

The metaphor of the covered stage suggests various meanings, but most important is the pleasure that emerged from a show abundant with images, signs, gestures, movement. A show that did not tell a story—Carles Santos never does so—but that explained us to ourselves through perceptions: instinct, feeling and music (Santos comes from the world of classical music). It was just a matter of time before Carles Santos would rediscover Joan Brossa, the great Catalan poet who played so much on the border between poetry and drama. Santos has always found inspiration in Brossa’s rigorous imagination. Brossa lobrosoft desbrossat, the title already a game, brought Brossa’s world to the theater, distributed among images, music, and words. He does justice to the poet and does justice to this theatrical language—innovative, creative, metaphorical, rhythmic, impregnated with humor—that connects to the essence of human experience without awakening it, so that each spectator must answer its questions.

This is something similar to what Joan Brossa did with his visual poems, with his theatrical poems, with his strict poems. Universal and rooted, this show is pure poetry.

**PUBLICATION NEWS**

**ON LINE**

*Catalan Writers’ Web Pages*

In this edition we highlight some of the personal web pages of contemporary Catalan authors:

**Vicent Alonso**
http://www.vicentalonso.com/

**Ada Castells**
http://webs.omo.com/adacastells/  
(in Catalan, Spanish and English)

**Joan Margarit**
http://www.joanmargarit.com/  
(in Catalan, Spanish and English)

**Joan-Francès Mira**
http://www.joanmira.info/index.php

**Quim Monzó**
http://www.monzo.info/  
(in Catalan, Spanish and English)

**Vicenç Pagès**
http://www.vicencpagesjorda.net/

**Francesc Serés**
http://francescerses.net/

**Márius Serra**
http://www.mariuserra.info/home/home.php  
(in Catalan, Spanish, English and Italian)

These are two of the most important “collective” resources for information about Catalan authors:

**AEC Authors’ Web Pages**
http://www.escriptors.cat/autors.php

For over a decade the Association of Writers in the Catalan Language (Associació d’Escritors en Llengua Catalana; AEC) has provided a web page for its members. There are now over two hundred.

**Lletres Authors**
In Catalan: http://www.uoc.edu/lletra/noms.html

In English: http://www.lletra.net/noms.html

A collection of web pages about Catalan authors from the website Lletres: Catalan Literature Online (available in Catalan, Spanish, and English).

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