



Miš Publishing
Slovenia

Rights Catalogue 2023

Adult



Tenders and Public Calls

Slovenian Book Agency: funding opportunities for foreign publishers

Grants for the translation and publication of works by Slovenian authors

Yearly open call for translations from Slovenian and translations of works, written in other languages, when author is a part of Slovenian cultural environment, into foreign languages includes first translations of adult fiction, children's and young adult fiction, essayistic and critical works on culture and the humanities, plays, graphic novels and comics. Applicants must be legal persons (publishing houses, theatres) registered abroad. The subsidy covers up to 100% and maximum of 10,000 € of the translation costs.

Grants for printing costs

Yearly open call for printing costs for translations from Slovenian and translations of works, written in other languages, when author is a part of Slovenian cultural environment, into foreign languages includes first prints of adult fiction, children's and young adult fiction, essayistic and critical works on culture and the humanities, plays, graphic novels and comics. Applicants must be publishing houses registered abroad. The subsidy covers up to 70% and maximum of 3,000 € of the printing costs.

Slovenia – Guest of Honour at the Frankfurt Book Fair 2023

Yearly open call for translations from Slovenian into German language includes first translations and reprints of adult fiction, children's and young adult fiction, essayistic and critical works on culture and the humanities, plays, graphic novels and comics. Applicants must be publishing houses registered in Austria, Germany or Switzerland. This subsidy covers up to 50% and up to 11,000 € of all types of costs connected with book publication (excluding license fees) and promotion for first translations or 50% and up to 3,000 € for reprints, eligible costs are printing, typesetting, cover design and corrections.

Travel Grants

Travel grants are also available for Slovene authors, translators, editors or rights agents, who have been invited to literary or industry events abroad. An invitation and the program for the event must be enclosed with the application.

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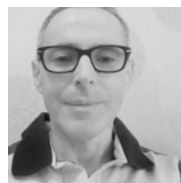
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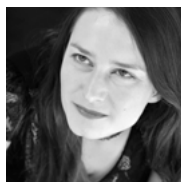
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Vinko Möderndorfer



“In this work, Vinko Möderndorfer interweaves various literary sources into a poetic yet factual and sincere narrative kaleidoscope, full of twists and turns that enrich the emotional world of the protagonists and offer the reader a broader interpretation of time and people.”
– Delo, June 2023

Vinko Möderndorfer (1958) is a brilliant Slovene writer and film director. His works are included in many domestic and foreign anthologies, in primary and secondary school curricula, A-Level exams, diplomas, and master's theses, and are the subject of expert research at home and abroad. He has received numerous awards and nominations for

his creations in the fields of literature, drama, theatre, television, and radio, including the Prešeren Fund Award, the Župančič Award, the Borštnik Award, the Marjan Rožanac Award, several Grum Awards, the Ježek Award, several awards for the best comedy text, Čaša nesmrtnosti (Chalice of Immortality), Desetnica, Večernica, and other prizes.



The Countdown

Fiction, Literary Fiction

Format: Hardcover

Pages: 143

Original title: Odštevanje

English sample translation available

**“Counting down? Or is it
adding on? It doesn’t matter.
In the end, it’s the end.”**

A middle-aged man lives a laidback, routine-filled life until he gets fired from his job. Shortly after, his lover leaves him, and then he learns that his father – whom he has never met and didn’t even know was still alive – would suddenly like to meet him. Unexpectedly free from all obligations, he takes his teenage daughter to a remote village to meet his father for the first time ...

The Countdown is a suggestive, very personal narrative, which is not only about the meeting between father and son, but tells a tale of self-reflection, discovering secrets, uncovering the past and browsing through memories. It involves assumptions, speculations, and self-questioning. *The Countdown* is also a humorous work and undoubtedly one of Möderndorfer’s top novels, which grips the reader and refuses to let go until the very end.

Mateja Gomboc



Mateja Gomboc (1964) is a writer, translator and professor. She expresses her joy for life in her books, both in those for the youngest readership and adults. She is not afraid to tackle any topic, including the most difficult ones, where hugs and comforting are needed, but also happy and fun ones, as laughter invigorates and opens the way forward. Gomboc won the Desetnica Award for Best Youth Novel for her work *The Ballad of a Tree*.



Gorica, Adam's Rib

Fiction, Historical Fiction

Format: Hardcover

Pages: 402

Original title: Gorica, Adamovo rebro

English sample translation available

How can a border come in between two people who love each other and speak two common languages: Slovenian and the language of love?

Why do cities exist? Is a city its buildings or the people who live in it – their emotions, their bonds and destinies, their stories, their memories? What happens to these people when a border suddenly and definitively cuts into their lives, and what becomes of the city that this border has torn apart? Mateja Gomboc's novel centres around the town of Gorica, which the knife of history carves into Italian Gorizia and Yugoslavian Nova Gorica. The tumultuous period spans almost eighty years, during which the following takes place: the Italian occupation, the capitulation of Italy, the arrival of the

Germans, the burning of settlements around Gorica, the influx of refugees, the end of the war, the division of Gorica and the construction of Nova Gorica. The storyline is observed through the personal accounts and perspectives of four women: Mateja from Ajdovščina, the Friulian Pina, Dora from Gorica and Lili, Pina's granddaughter.

Mateja Gomboc, with her extraordinary knack for human psychology and her broad knowledge of history, creates a dynamic, versatile, and lively image of a city, which was suddenly split in two.

Ivo Svetina



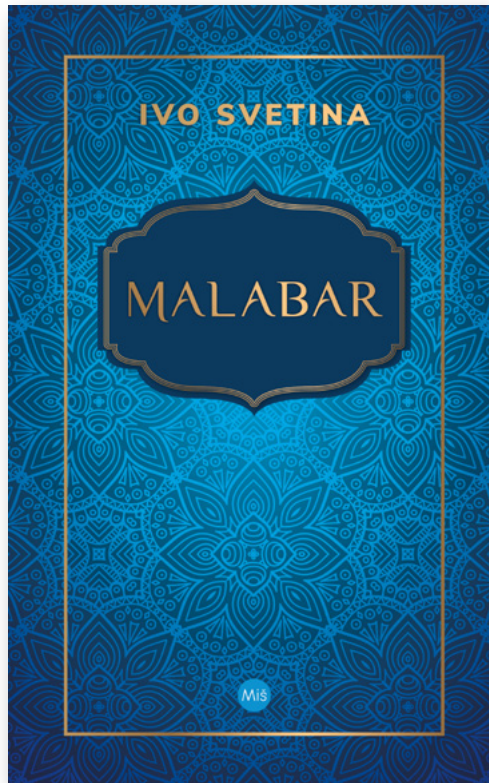
“*Malabar* is a one-of-a-kind masterpiece, an interlacement of memories, travelogues, reflections, philosophy, real and imaginary events, accounts of lost love, and a tribute to love.”

– Urška Bračko, Booknjiga

“*Malabar* is a novel in which the diary form, poetic sensibility, self-reflection on the nature of love and life in general have fused into one. It is also a call of distant, inviting and fragrant worlds that cannot hide their cruel and destructive side as skilfully as ours does.”

– Matej Bogataj, Mladina

Ivo Svetina (1948) is a poet, playwright, essayist, translator. He has published more than 20 poetry collections, written several plays, fairy tales, essays on poetry, and theater or drama. He has received a large number of awards for his work, including the Veronika Award for the best poetry collection of the year and the Slavko Grum Award for the best dramatic text. *Malabar* is his first prose work.



Malabar

**Fiction, Literary Fiction,
Travelogue**

Format: Hardcover

Pages: 304

Original title: Malabar

English sample translation available.

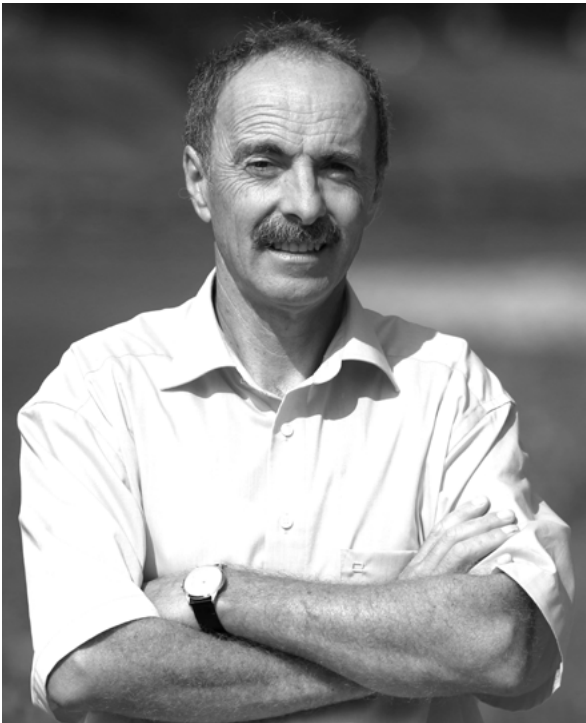
**Awards and praises: Winged
Turtle Award for Best Travelogue
Novel of the Year, Kresnik
Nomination for Best Novel of the
Year**

**"All I have is love, not just one of the emotions,
but the only one worthy of a man."**

How to survive the departure of a loved one? How to heal wounds and become whole again, when it seems as if only our shadow walks the world instead of us? What, if anything at all, will make sense of our actions from now on?

The questions, that are probably at least once asked by each of us, are also sensitively asked by the narrator of the book *Malabar* – who is sensibly looking for their answer. But *Malabar* is anything but an ordinary love book, it is a narrative that borrows the form of a travelogue, therefor becoming an authentic confession, it is poetry in prose form. With each sentence read, it seems more like a picturesque, temporally, and geographically very diversified path that we follow the narrator along and which in fact leads him into himself; and all the answers he comes to are proving as something universal.

Igor Karlovšek



Igor Karlovšek (1958) is a writer, screenwriter and lawyer. His first writings were published in various magazines, and at fifteen, he published his first novel. In 2004, his novel *Gimnazijec* (High School Student) received the Večernica Award. The content of his novels largely tackles social topics, drawn from everyday life. As a lawyer, he deals with different social issues and people living on the edge every day. He says he can physically see and feel some scenes and chapters during his preliminary preparations when he is "writing the novel in his mind". "The actual technical writing is then more or less only a faithful following of the story that has already played out in my mind; the polyphonous structure of the novels is therefore in my mind before I actually start writing." This simultaneous unfolding of different stories infuses his works with extraordinary tension and drama.



I'm Still Alive

Fiction, Contemporary Fiction

Format: Hardcover

Pages: 384

Original title: Še sem živa

English sample translation available

How much are interpersonal relationships worth when money is involved? How much is human life worth? And finally, what are in fact the most precious things in our lives?

A very successful pharmaceutical company offers its dedicated owners, the Markovič family, a life of luxury. With the sudden death of the father and husband, the family's world is turned upside down overnight. Mother Jana and son Nejc are left with nothing. As if struggling to survive was not enough, their lives are also shaken by dark secrets from the past. The distance between mother and son, which until then was filled by comfort and mundane routine, is cruelly widening. They soon realise that they have become collateral damage of a corporate feud between companies and lobbies. How far do their webs of influence extend and how powerful these truly are?



Just Take Me Home

Fiction, Contemporary Fiction

Format: Hardcover

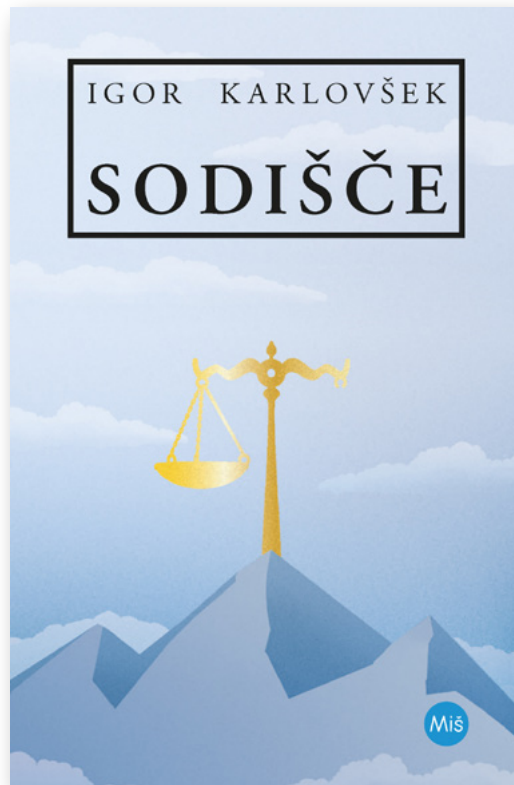
Pages: 424

Original title: Samo domov me pelji

English sample translation available

**How much can we
humans endure, and
where is the threshold
where our rationality
breaks to be replaced by
impulses and drives?**

An almost fatal car accident intertwines the lives of a man and a woman in their mature years. After a passionate affair, their paths separate, but not for long, and the continuation of their story is surprising for both – and also for the reader. With this novel, Igor Karlovšek opens doors to things we seldom speak about: that a passionate love holds various faces and that it is by no means limited to young years. At the same time, he subtly asks questions that sooner or later strike each of us: how to help a severely suffering, dying close one in his last, often worst, and longest moments.



Court of Law

Fiction, Contemporary Fiction

Format: Hardcover

Pages: 432

Original title: Sodišče

English sample translation available

**Can the court always
be trusted to rule
only on solid facts?**

Shortly after Slovenia's independence, the secluded area of Jurklošter becomes the scene of a brutal shootout, the main suspect of which is the computer scientist Peter Prah, who had spent that night with an underage waitress called Ana. Despite a solid alibi, he is wrongfully accused of incitement, while a drunken utility worker, Drago Hrovat, is accused of the crime itself. The trial lasts for twenty years and Peter Prah is convicted despite his lawyer's efforts. His family leaves him and his life is altered forever.

In addition to the central theme, there are numerous parallel stories, the centre of which is the court of law.

Anja Kovačič



»*Ultimate Freedom* is a gentle, feminine version of Nejc Zaplotnik's effort of making sense of the journey and aimlessness of striving to reach a goal. A lyrical travelogue and a playful self-confession with the trappings of a bildungsroman. A book you want to take on the road with you. Literally.«
– Boštjan Videmšek

Anja Kovačič (1987) has been travelling and exploring the world since high school. Even while writing her master's thesis in Journalism Studies, when she has been working as a journalist. Later on she became a TV-reporter and after few years she decided to enter the marketing sphere, so she became a PR representative in tourism. There she got even more inspired for travels so she went on a 15-month adventure to Australia and Oceania. It was there

and then that she immersed herself in book writing. Her style is unique. A novelist, who likes to explore herself through stories of people, she meets on travels. Her debut work, *Ujeta v svobodi* (Ultimate Freedom), was published shortly after her return to Slovenia. She loves nature, animals, sports, life and inspirational stories that can embrace others and encourage them to start living their full life. She combines her passion in her literary works.



Ultimate Freedom

Fiction, Travelog

Format: Softcover

Pages: 448

Original title: Ujeta v svobodi

English translation available

"Some of them held up a mirror, others gave me smack over the head, some sailed on the same river, albeit against the current ... but they were all there when I needed them most."

A novel about a traveller who is trapped on the Solomon Islands due to cancelled flights at the onset of a global pandemic. Alone. In a tropical paradise. Among unknown people and their customs. Left to her own ingenuity. She survives a tropical cyclone on the islands, experiences a murder among the aborigines, climbs Uluru just before it's closed, dives with sharks and in the middle of the Australian wilderness, under a thousand stars in the vast sky, goes into the depths of her being. She embraces her vulnerability and discovers the infinite strength in freedom.

Nataša Konc Lorenzutti



Nataša Konc Lorenzutti (1970) graduated from the Academy of Theatre, Radio, Film and Television in Ljubljana, at the Stage Acting and the Artistic Word department, where she also completed her master's degree. She has dedicated herself to literature since 1999. To date she has published more than twenty books for children, YA and adult. She has won numerous awards, including "Glas žensk" (Woman's voice) for her fiction for adults. In her stories family and friendship always stand out as the greatest values.



A Word I Do Not Have

Fiction, Literary Fiction

Format: Hardcover

Pages: 262

Original title: Beseda, ki je nimam

English sample translation available

"Life, you know, seems to be a disturbance in eternity, but I would still take it out of God's hands again."

A shocking intertwining of the present and the terrible past.

After nona's death, Sonja begins to be troubled by her family's history. During the war, nona and her brother were left without parents. Yet, on that fateful day, when the Nazis separated mothers and children, their younger sister disappeared. No one was ever able to find out what happened to her, nor anybody knew if she was even alive.

Shocking and at the same time tense reading that skillfully intertwines the past and the present. The book masterfully presents the nearly unknown atrocity of stolen children in Slovenia, who were taken to Germany during the Second World War. The narration is based on a set of separate true stories that are kneaded into one.

Petja Rijavec



Petja Rijavec (1971) is an author who puts her heart and soul into writing, which is why she also built a career in the related field of communication, more specifically in public relations. She is the recipient of several international awards, and has been employed as a PR professional in one of the largest Slovene business groups for over twenty years. All five of her novels, which she prefers to write in the role of the opposite sex, have been published by Miš Publishing. Rijavec says that she finds healthy, intelligent, sometimes even borderline male humour particularly fascinating, and hence prefers to

seek inspiration from authors such as Michal Viewegh, Raymond Kluun and Kari Hotakainen. She loves word games, long sentences, lucid dialogues, fun comparisons and, above all, challenges in complex content creation, which is something that is always on her mind and which she wants to fit in between two covers. She refuses to acknowledge the fact that all topics have already been treated. Petja Rijavec lives with her family in Grosuplje. In addition to travelling, running, reading and endless walks with her dog, her favourite pastime is, of course, writing.



Final Answer

Fiction, New Adult

Format: Hardcover

Pages: 288

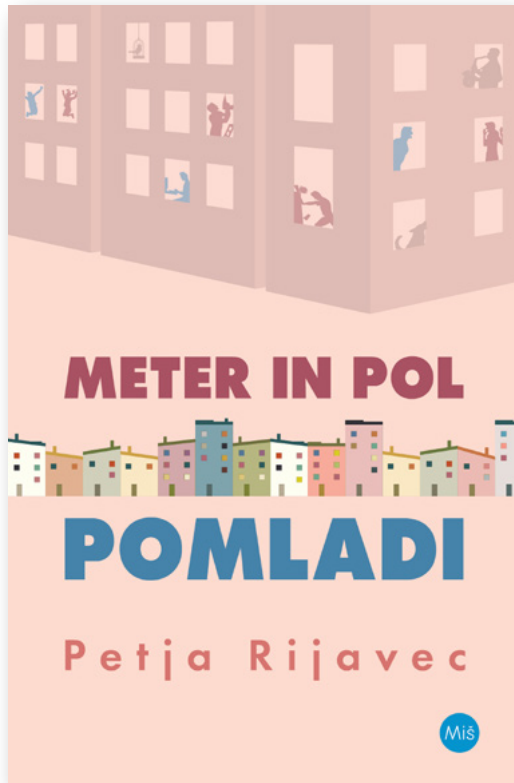
Original title: Zadnji odgovor

English sample translation available

A story about searching for one's gender identity – a harsh, sometimes painful introspection hidden under a veil of humour.

If the matura exams (A-Levels) and enrolment to university represent a kind of rite of passage for his friends, David's path to maturity means facing his demons. While trying to convince himself that he is like everyone else, his attractions lie elsewhere. His cocky demeanour is but a façade, for he is hiding the fact that he likes boys. Instead of chasing after girls, he's much more interested in finding out how far up the sleeve does his male biology teacher's tattoo go. Will his friends

shun him? What will his mother – whose recent divorce has forced her to take a closer interest in her son and his future – say? The cycle of four seasons, which is how long the narrative of the novel lasts, ultimately gives meaning to David's turbulent journey to maturity and consequently brings more stability to his life. He replaces experimentation for choice, a phase for stability. Now he knows. David finally puts himself, his beliefs, and his happiness first.



A Meter and a Half of Spring

Fiction, Contemporary Fiction

Format: Hardcover

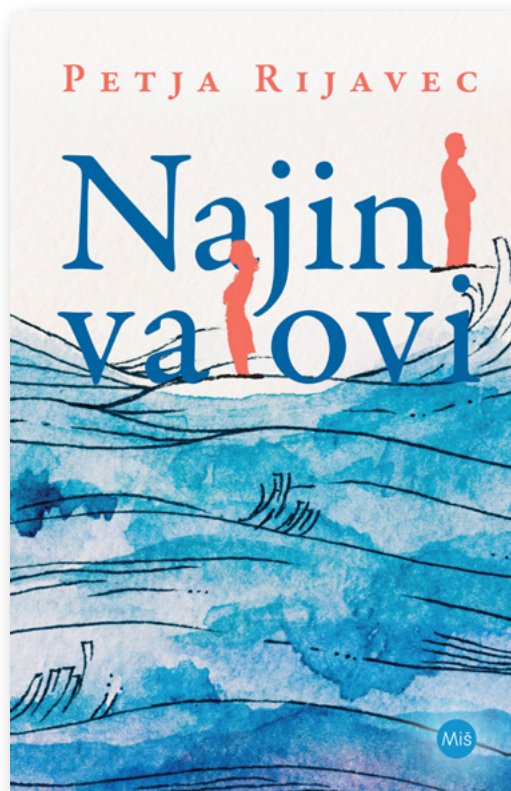
Pages: 312

Original title: Meter in pol pomladi

The story of the time of the coronavirus is about the search for a vaccine for human boredom, indecision, wickedness, fear and naivety.

The covid-19 epidemic, which has in 2020 swept over the world and has limited people within four walls of homes, puts to the test a bread-seller Jasmina, a single woman with a chronically bad conscience, because she does not have enough time for her six-year-old son; pensioners Martin and Anita, who cling to new things and people to fill the gaps in their lives as best as they know; the car mechanic Božo, a conscious patriot and rigid nationalist with a soft heart

that lovingly cares for his puppy and demented mother; and a wealthy family of four (teacher Tanja, dentist Žak, son Nejc, daughter Lina), whose mediocrity during the epidemic strikes the day in all its diversity. Each in their way, they struggle through boring days, their fears, and pursuits of themselves, until an unpredictable whirlwind of events shakes them so violently that they are forced to find themselves. The stories are unexpectedly intertwined ... and complicated.



**The Waves
of Our Marriage**

Fiction, Contemporary Fiction

Format: Hardcover

Pages: 213

Original title: Najini valovi

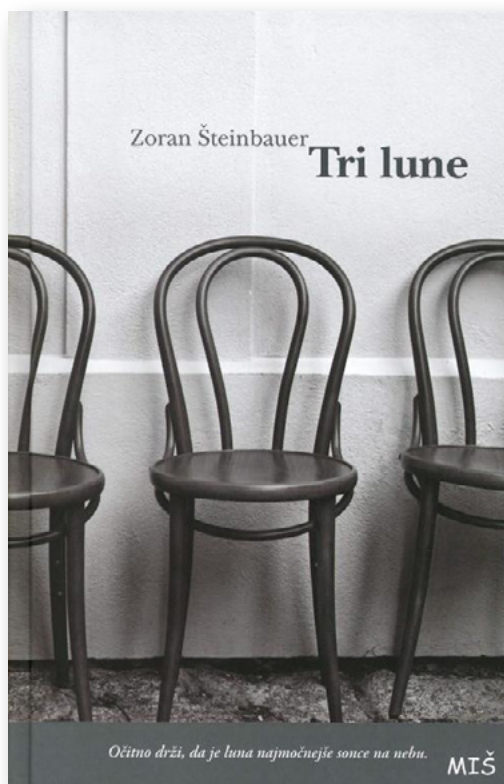
“The Waves of Our Marriage
is a humorous but bitter
novel about psychophysically
exhausted middle-aged
spouses who decide to drift
off in their own directions
overnight. Why couldn’t
they stay in the same boat?
Should they even ‘have to’?”
– Nina Prešern,
Gospodična knjiga

A married couple who has recently turned fifty find themselves at a turning point. “When exactly does everything not only aesthetical, but also loving, connective and emotional, start going down the drain?” wonders Ajda, at the same time cursing her menopausal fevers and the build-ups of fat on her body. She suggests to her husband Maks a temporary break in their relationship, which is as worn out and scratched as old parquet. Thus, the future grandmother and grandfather start new lives. Each in their own part of town and their own flat. Each on their own. Of course, the ills of ageing do not disappear, but continue to pile up. What can single life offer them? Are they ready for radical change or will the predictable security of routine ultimately prevail?

Zoran Šteinbauer



Zoran Šteinbauer (1965) enrolled in medical school due to his desire for a better, more benevolent world. He enriched his work experience in a retirement home, in the haemodialysis department, in psychogeriatrics and at the department for addiction. He was one of the founding members of Ozara, a non-profit organization for post-hospitalization care of patients who have experienced psychiatry treatment and mental distress. In his free time, Šteinbauer likes to read Zen cards to his friends and colleagues. He is a pacifist and a vegetarian.



Three Moons

Fiction, Literary
Fiction

Format:

Hardcover

Pages: 136

Original title:

Tri lune

**"The soul is tenacious like a weed;
it will always find a way and its own
path to follow."**

The novel follows three very different destinies, characters, and temperaments. The fine lines between the visible and the invisible, the magical and the profane, the ethical and the shameless, become increasingly blurred. The female protagonist, Delfina, has spent her entire life caring for sick relatives on the farm while suppressing her own

desires and needs. The older man, a scientist called Krištof, after serving his prison sentence, can't integrate into society as an equal member, while the younger character, Adam, a very naïve and simple soul, lost his mother and was left alone in a haunted house. Once they decide to take their lives into their own hands, they meet.

The Lost Forest

Fiction, Literary Fiction

Format: Hardcover

Pages: 244

Original title: Izgubljeni gozd

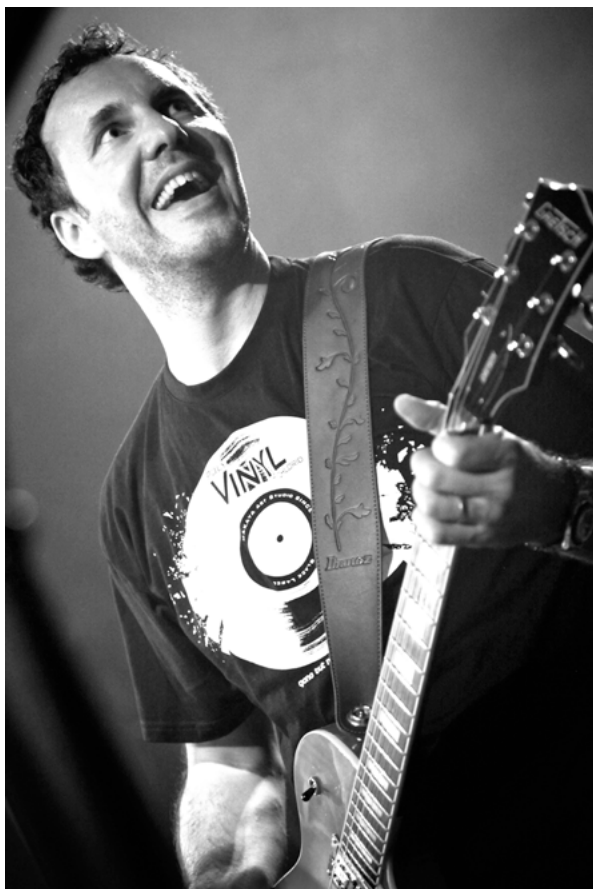
Awards and praises: White ravens

"The world would be a better place if it were inhabited only by trees. I like their silence and untainted nature. When it comes to people, however, I almost never know what's really on their minds."

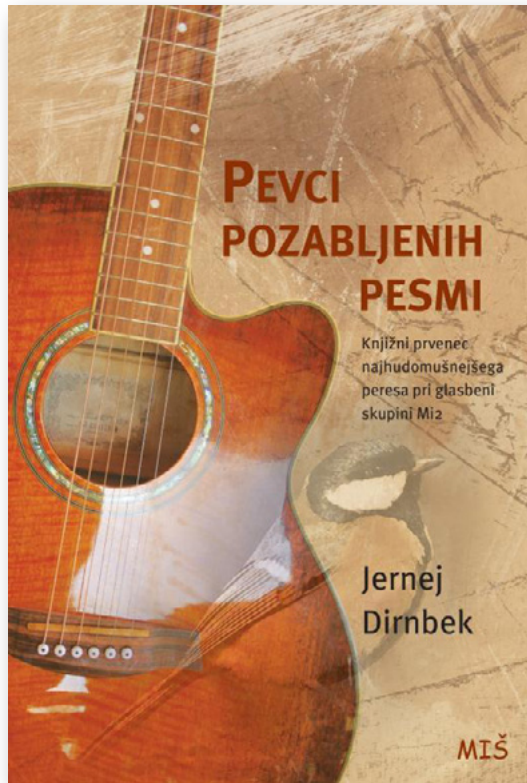


A young seminarian Karl's life is turned upside down when an older priest starts to sexually abuse him under the pretense of some special prayer for the chosen ones. Karl leaves the seminary and flees into the forest of his youth. While contemplating, he meets the love of his life, which leaves a deep mark on him, despite the sad fact that they only get a short time together. He wants to find the one responsible for his unhappiness. After many years, however, when he meets the priest who was the reason he had to leave the seminary, Karl discovers that the capability to forgive is one of the highest virtues. Karl's life is full of ordeals, but he never gives up. He has the strength in him which enables him to find hidden beauty in every experience, no matter how difficult or painful it is.

Jernej Dirnbek



Jernej Dirnbek (1971) is one of the two founding members of the Slovene rock band Mi2. He still plays with the band today as a rhythm guitarist, lyricist, and singer. In 2002, together with his co-author Tone Kregar, Dirnbek published a selection of Mi2 lyrics in the poetry collection. He also writes lyrics and music for a few other Slovene artists. Dirnbek also supplied lyrics in the rendition of the musical the *Full Monty* and songs for the theatre productions of *Fotr*, *Moški* and *ženske.com*, as well as for the unconventional celebration of the National Day in June 2010.



**The Singers
of Forgotten Songs**

Fiction, Contemporary Fiction

Format: Hardcover

Pages: 280

Original title: Pevci pozabljenih
pesmi

A social novel that intertwines the various fates of the inhabitants of a small town and unites its diverse and sometimes even hostile characters with the power of singing.

Podgorje is a typical Slovenian town, big enough to have its own municipality and mayor. Zdravko Strnad, now middle-aged, returns to Podgorje after his divorce and many years of living elsewhere. He gets involved in the daily lives of its inhabitants. And what more appropriate places to do so than in the pub and winery. There, over wine, a group of men, who find evenings at home too dull, begin to sing. They start to meet more often, and eventually other likeminded locals join them with the desire to sing. The story of singing intertwines with the private sagas of various locals, old and new love interests, and last but not least, the story of the Mayor, pervaded with politics.

Tina Bilban



Tina Bilban PhD, (1983) is a research assistant at Institute Nova Revija, Ljubljana, Slovenia. Her interests and publications encompass the crossroads between literature, philosophy and science. Tina also works as a literary critic, translator and editor with special focus on children's literature. She is the President of the Slovenian section of IBBY, a member of the IBBY Executive Committee 2022-2024 and a member of the Hans Christian Andersen Award jury 2020 and 2022. She writes fiction and nonfiction for children, youth and grown-ups.



Thank You For the Scissors

Fiction, Contemporary Fiction

Format: Hardcover

Pages: 192

Original title: Hvala za škarje

English sample translation available

“How to calibrate life when you have a canvas and scissors in your hands? How far can it go and are there any limits to it at all? These are common considerations that upset the public every time science crosses the boundaries of our everyday lives ...”
– Tonja Jelen, Radio Ars

Modern genetics and new forms of medical treatment intertwine and connect completely different lives of the three female protagonists. The stories of Meta, a doctor of philosophy with three children, Hana, a young, penetrating biological scientist, and Maša, a carrier of a genetic disease, infuse the narrative with three different forms of encountering the discoveries of modern science: philosophical, scientific and experiential, “human”.

The novel exceptionally vividly captures the social perception of scientific progress and the role of science in shaping the world of our lives, offering a broad and deep insight into the topic in question. It is also a novel of the generation who, tired of waiting to get a position in the research community, took matters into their own hands and went abroad.

ČUDNI KVANTNI SVET

Tina Bilban

ilustracije
Izar Lunaček



Strange Quantum World

Non-Fiction

Format: Hardcover

Pages: 152

Original title: Čudni kvantni svet

This one is for everyone, even amateurs in physics who would like to find out how strange the quantum world really is. Reading this book will certainly make you feel wiser.

The author describes her work as a trip into the strangeness of the quantum world. She presents the unusual results of quantum experiments and scientific descriptions while explaining those lesser-known phenomena of the quantum world. She offers possible explanations for this strangeness, which, after careful philosophical consideration, presents a new image of a world that is no stranger than classical physics, but requires the abandonment of some outdated beliefs. Most of the book follows Bohr's understanding of the quantum world, and at the end presents a few other views and interpretations of this quantum strangeness.

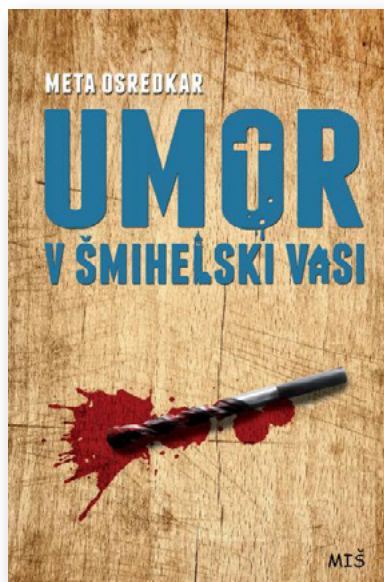
It is a scientific monograph on quantum mechanics, which tackles its subject matter step by step and does so systematically and clearly, presenting the general public, who are interested in science and philosophy, with an opportunity to delve into this world in a new, easy-to-understand way. Eight chapters are accompanied by mini-comics by Izar Lunaček, whose intelligent humour provides fun intermissions between focused reading.

Meta Osredkar



A crime novel that partly parodies the frameworks of its genre and introduces elements of surprise into the relative predictability of its structure, while the reader is toyed with by an ironically teasing omniscient narrator.

Meta Osredkar (1981) studied English language and literature and has a degree in archaeology. She works as a literary translator, and also translates academic and technical texts in the fields of archaeology and history. So far, Miš Publishing has put out nearly fifty of her literary translations. In addition, she has authored two works of her own: the detective stories *The Parish Murder* (*Umor v Šmihelski vasi*) and *The Lakeview Crime* (*Zločin v Stari Fužini*).



The Parish Murder

Fiction, Thriller & Crime

Format: Hardcover

Pages: 300

Original title: Umor v Šmihelski vasi

Rights sold to: German language

The Lakeview Crime

Fiction, Thriller & Crime

Format: Hardcover

Pages: 253

Original title: Zločin v Stari Fužini

Rights sold to: German language

A parish priest is murdered in a brutal fashion. The local police inspector Bojan Kos takes on the case, with the help of his young colleagues, the noble and insecure Simon and the insufferable psychologist Edi. Together, they must discover not only who wielded the electric drill, but also how do a mysterious midnight organ player, village gossips, archangel Michael and the Second World War partisans fit in the picture.

The novel, full of unexpected twists, takes place in a typical countryside, and is a mixture of social satire and murder mystery, with some fantastic elements, rounded characters, and an excellent sense of humour.

In the second book of the series, the three central characters, Kos, Simon, and Edi, take a holiday near Lake Bohinj. They are surrounded by a group of sports enthusiasts training for a difficult triathlon: the legendary local kayak coach, her French husband, their rebellious teenage daughter, a trio of surprisingly immature French kayakers, a Slovene alpinist, a flirty local girl, her unpleasant stalker ... It is slowly revealed that most of the characters share a long history and that events from two decades ago might still be influencing their lives, especially when things escalate so far that the police have to step in.

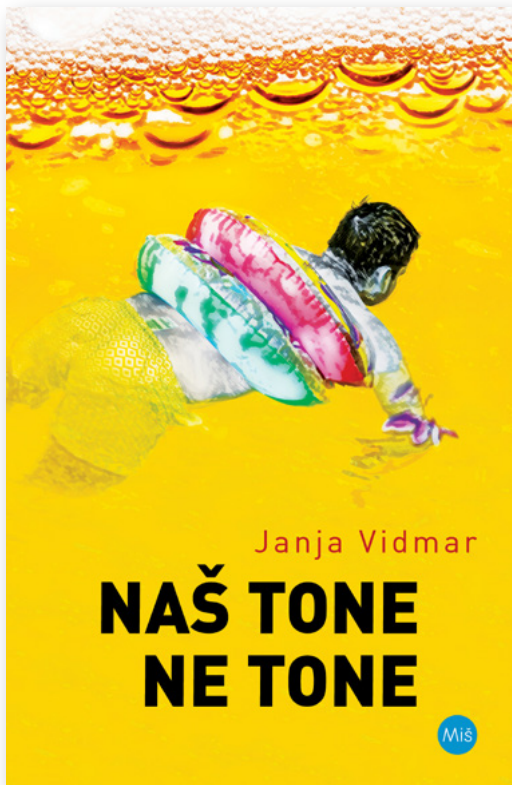
The novel oscillates between grotesqueness, parody and sarcasm, yet once again places humour in the foreground.

Janja Vidmar



A humorous novel with a socially critical undertone holds a mirror up to society by emphasizing typical human traits, stupidity and irrelevance, while exposing the helplessness felt at life's turning points.

Janja Vidmar (1962) is one of the most prominent and recognised Slovenian youth writers. She is a professor of Slovene and pedagogy. She started writing in the early 1990s, and is a member of the Slovene Writers' Association, co-founder of the section for youth literature at the Society of Writers and the initiator of the Desetnica Award (the award has been presented since 2004). As an independent creator in the field of culture, in addition to children and youth novels, she also writes literature for adults, scripts for children's series and feature films, dramas and radio plays.



Our Tone isn't Sinking

Fiction, Contemporary Fiction

Format: Hardcover

Pages: 290

Original title: Naš Tone ne tone

A humorous portrayal of the everyday life of an average man called Tone, who lives a very mundane existence. He works in production and drinks (several units) after work, regularly toasting loudly with his beer buddies, as if an important bill has passed through parliament. Due to health problems and following a young doctor's advice, Tone must give up cracknels, bread and other "real food" and write a health diary, in which he includes plenty of opinions about everyone and everything, especially social and political events, as well as makes judgments like the supreme justice, while leaving out his own insignificance.

Tone gets smacked by karma. He receives a letter from his diligent wife Angelca, informing him that she's going to spare him her verbal diarrhoea, because she's leaving him. Tone finds himself in an unimaginable situation, which also happens to result in his rebirth.

Janja Vidmar, Boris Grivić

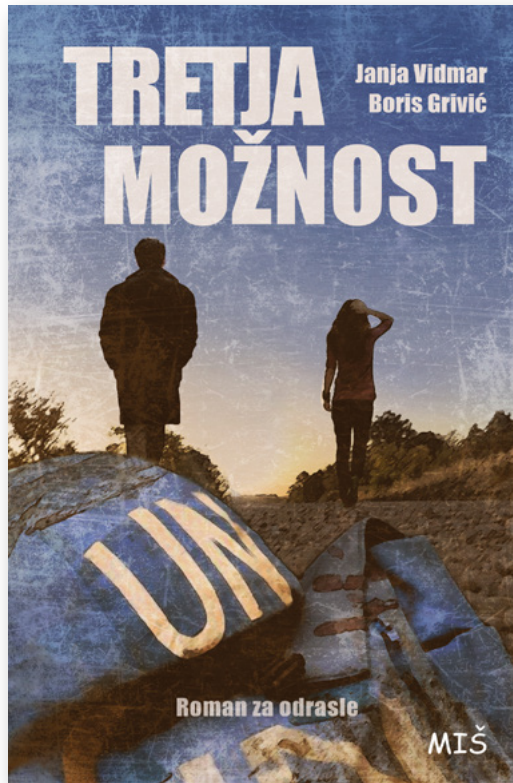
“*The Third Way*, one of the most convincing (post)Yugoslavian stories written in Slovene language, is a guardian of historical memory and should be read aloud both in high schools and at universities.”

– Boštjan Videmšek, Slovene journalist, correspondent from world crisis areas for several newspapers and magazines, Bukla

“The story moves between the tragic dimension represented by the victims, and legal attempts to punish not only those who perpetrated the crime, but also those who were not willing to prevent it (international peacekeeping forces). Narrated in a fierce rhythm and full of carefully established (legal) details, it keeps the reader hooked until the last page. An excellent confessional thriller from the fields of war.”

– Dr. Samo Rugelj, Slovene author, editor and publisher, Vikend Magazin

Boris Grivić (1972) is considered a critically thinking individual who perseveres when many fail to do so. He looks for solutions to systemic problems without allowing them to chew him up and spit him out. It is why he often finds himself in the eye of the storm. The novel *The Third Option* is his first venture into the world of literature.



The Third Way

Fiction, Literary Fiction

Format: Hardcover

Pages: 271

Original title: Tretja možnost

English translation available

"'This world is full of the other side of beauty and goodness!' Erik continued prudently after the nicotine infusion. 'Today smooth thighs and poetry, tomorrow lacerations and shells! All is night and all is day! Soldiers go to work to kill, but you go to work to save criminals, so draw the line between the law and legality for me? Soldiers kill so they don't lose their jobs, what's your excuse?'"

Müller is a disreputable, immoral German lawyer and criminal law scholar of around forty years old, alienated from himself and the world. Incapable of emotional commitment, he feels nothing when his best friend, Carsten, a former UN soldier stationed in Srebrenica, commits suicide. But around the same time Müller is named legal guardian of Fatima Ismailović, a sixteen-year-old refugee from Srebrenica. During their conflicted relationship, Müller learns about the events from 1992 to 1995 that led up to the genocide. Mueller goes back and reads Carsten's suicide note and the diary entries that describe the genocide. He begins to fantasize about seeking justice for all that happened.

The novel *Third Way* combines the tension of a thriller with the intimate story of two individuals. It is the conscience of a generation who has become lethargic, uninvolved, and unwilling to admit their part in the guilt.

Slavko Pregl



Slavko Pregl (1945) has been working with books most of his life – as a journalist, publisher and writer. He was President of the Slovene Writers' Association, President of the Reading Badge Association and President of the Slovenian Publishers' Association. He writes primarily for children and young adults, and has received major national awards in this genre. With his works for adults – mostly humorous prose and satire – he has won a Grand Prix at the International Festival of Humour and Satire in Svishtov (Bulgaria) and several other awards. Pregl was also presented with the Schwentner Award for lifetime achievements in publishing. He has written over 40 books that have been translated into more than 12 languages.



The Zero Poker

Fiction, Literary Fiction

Format: Hardcover

Pages: 255

Original title: Poker z ničlami

The once-successful entrepreneur Michael finds himself on the operating table after having been shot. It is only then that his unsuspecting wife Agnes realizes that Michael hadn't been doing business in Switzerland but in Nigeria in an attempt to save his bankrupt company. To make matters worse, Agnes also finds herself in danger of losing her job because she becomes the scapegoat for numerous shady transactions at her bank. Still, some have it even worse – Carl and his pregnant wife are up to their necks in debt, young educated people are hopeless, and the judicial system is corrupted.

Humorous, but full of social criticism, the novel *Zero Poker* focuses on how an individual can, through hard work, audacity and a dash of luck, change a hopeless situation into a business opportunity. Its message screams: "DON'T GIVE UP!"

Leonora Flis



Leonora Flis (1974) is an (Adjunct) Associate Professor of Literature at the University of Nova Gorica, Associate Professor of Literature at the University of Maribor and lecturer of the English language at the University of Ljubljana. In her research Leonora Flis focuses on literary theory, contemporary British and American Literature, film (especially in relation to literature), graphic novels and literary journalism. She also writes book and film reviews, translates scholarly texts and literary works, and writes short stories. She published a collection of short stories *Upogib časa* (LUD Literatura, 2015) and in 2022, her second collection was published, titled *Enakozvočja* (Miš Založba). She was the recipient of the Fulbright fellowship and was a visiting Fulbright scholar at Columbia University in New York. Her scientific articles have been published in Slovene and foreign scholarly journals.



Equinoxes

Fiction, Short Story

Format: Hardcover

Pages: 192

Original title: Enakozvočja

English sample translation available

"Stuck in her memories, she sat in a bathtub and glided through the moments of years gone by, searching for a connection with the present."

In this collection of short stories, the protagonists explore their past in fictional worlds, looking for the memory lane that would lead them to the answers to their existential questions, help them get over loss, or give meaning to their present. Leonora Flis has an exceptional talent for details that bring her stories to life with smells, colours and sounds. They cut sharply not only into the lives of the characters, but also into the fabric of the narrative, as well as into readers, as they pull them out of their comfort zones into which they could easily sink when faced with the beauty that pervades the author's stories. By this we mean the palpable descriptions of music or dance or even of the atmosphere of family life or the domesticity of relationships.

Tomo Podstenšek



Tomo Podstenšek (1981) is the author of two collections of short stories and six novels, three of which competed for the largest Slovenian award for prose – Kresnik Award. He also publishes his works in domestic and foreign literary magazines, and some of his short stories have been turned into radio plays. He lives and works in Maribor.



Stories to Ease the End of the World

Fiction, Short Story

Format: Hardcover

Pages: 255

**Original title: Zgodbe za lažji
konec sveta**

**Short stories full of humor,
irony and social awareness.**

Seemingly diverse stories have, actually, a lot in common. As the attentive reader will quickly notice, they are all part of the same narrative world, within which the otherwise unique paths of protagonists touch and intertwine. This world is in many ways unusual, grotesque, and fantastic, but on the other hand strikingly similar to our world of modern Western man, alienated from himself, others, and his living environment.

Stories to Ease the End of the World show a high level of social awareness and understanding of the neuralgic points of the present, however, they also mesmerize with humor and sophisticated touch for storytelling and suspense.

Slovenian Illustrated Short Classic

A Cup of Coffee, Ivan Cankar, illustration Peter Škerl

Format: Hardcover | Pages: 44 | Original title: Skodelica kave

Awards and praises: Kristina Brenkova award

for the best original Slovenian picture book

English translation available

Ivan Cankar, one of the classics of Slovenian literature and a representative of Slovenian *fin-de-siècle*, created a universal narrative about human guilt and regret. One of these injustices, which he deeply regretted, is the injustice he did to his mother when he wanted a cup of coffee, even though he knew there was not enough bread at home. But when his mother brought him coffee, he viciously rejected her.

This time, Cankar's masterful short story is presented as an illustrated book intended for all generations. Cankar's original text is accompanied by illustrations by the critically acclaimed illustrator Peter Škerl.



Slovenian Illustrated Short Classic

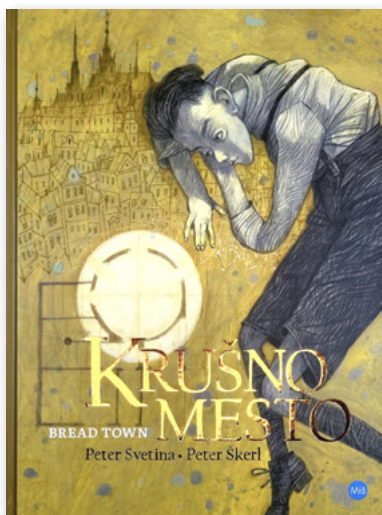
The Water Man, France Prešeren, illustration Peter Škerl

Format: Hardcover | Pages: 42 | Original title: Povodni mož

English translation available

The poem is about the beautiful, young, flirtatious and conceited Urška, whom no man can resist. A ball is held at Ljubljana's Old Square, where Urška rejects her suiters one after another. The dance is almost over when she sees a young man who she wants to cast her web on. He asks her to dance and Urška accepts. Despite the thunder and the wind, they twirl faster and faster until they spin off the riverbank and disappear in a whirlpool of the Ljubljanica River.





Slovenian Illustrated Short Classic

Bread Town, Peter Svetina, illustration Peter Škerl

Format: Hardcover | Pages: 44 | Original title: Krušno mesto
English translation available

The work is an interweaving of the author's imagination and real people, places, buildings in which the architect Jože Plečnik appears as a little boy who spends the holidays with his aunt. There, he likes to create various things from bread dough: bridges, houses, stools ... In the story, he tells his aunt about how he climbed into a loaf of bread and ended up in a large town with a river running through it. It was a town with a big church, a castle, and beautiful houses. There he met a little girl called Alice and a white puppy who only eats hard-boiled eggs. They strolled around the city together, enjoying the hustle and bustle, and encountered fishermen and even a creature called Waterman.

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