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Our backlist include such names as Tadeusz Konwicki, Maria Dąbrowska, Magdalena Tulli, Cormac McCarthy, Martin Amis, J. P. Donleavy, John Barth, Anthony Burgess, Samuel Beckett, William Faulkner, Flann O'Brien, Nick Hornby, Aldous Huxley, James Joyce, David Malouf, Ingeborg Bachman, Heinrich Böll, Jorge Luis Borges, Elias Canetti, Friedrich Dürrenmatt, Per Olov Enquist, Edgar Hilsenrath, Peter Handke, Jacques Chessex, William Shakespeare, Seamus Heaney, Zbigniew Herbert, Konstantin Kavafi, Jacques Prévert, Magda Szabo, Miguel de Unamuno, François Villon, Gao Xingjian, Franz Kafka, Max Frisch, Günter Grass, Tomas Tranströmer, Alain de Botton, J. M. G. Le Clézio, Kamel Daoud, Leila Slimani, Olivier Bourdeaut, Emily St. John Mandel, Lena Andersson, Colm Tóibín, Leonardo Padura, Wiesław Myśliwski.

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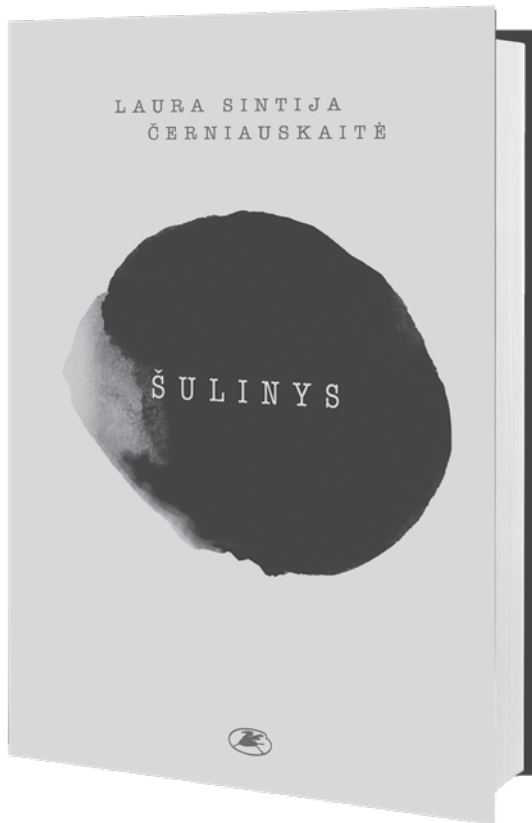
Lietuvos rašytojų sąjungos leidykla

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Fiction

NEW TITLES / Lithuanian authors



Laura Sintija Černiauskaitė

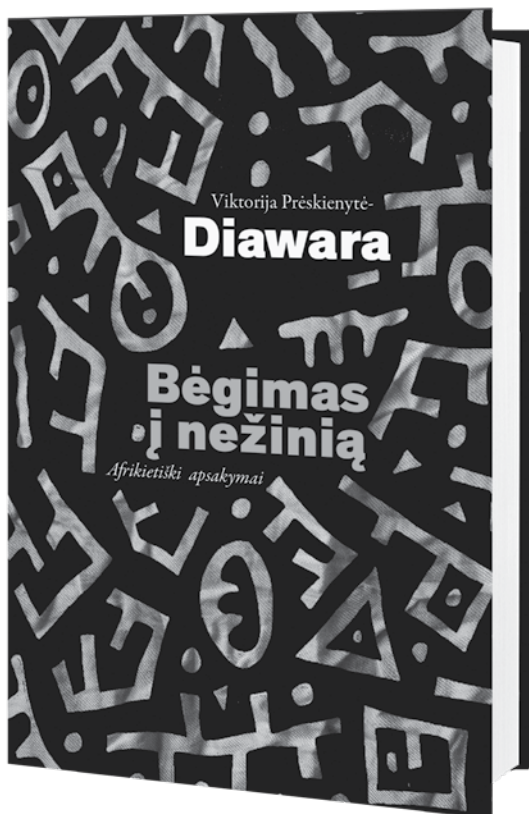
The Well

Novel, hardcover, 192 pages



Earlier novels and stories by Laura Sintija Černiauskaitė contained an especially original treatment of the theme of mother and child. It is quite often that a single mother with a child fails to adapt herself to a harsh environment, experiences humiliation of the people surrounding her. The plot takes a different turn in her new novel *Šulinys* – the victim becomes a criminal. When hopes of Judita, a single mother, that her beloved would leave his wife and come to live with her, die, in a state of shock she pushes her daughter into a well. The writer, in depicting complicated family relations in the present-day society, involves the reader into considerations about what has led the woman to such an inconceivable crime and how the woman and people living in the neighbourhood go through such a tragedy.

Laura Sintija Černiauskaitė is a prose writer, the author of eleven books, a winner of six prizes for literature, including the European Union Prize for Literature for her novel *Kvėpavimas į marmurą* (*Breathing into Marble*), the first prize at the international play fair Theater-treffen in Berlin for her play *Liučė čiuožia* (*Liučė Skates*). Her books have been translated into the main European languages, and her plays have been staged in Lithuania and other European Countries, as well as in Russia.



Viktorija Prėskienytė-Diawara

Running into the Unknown: African Stories

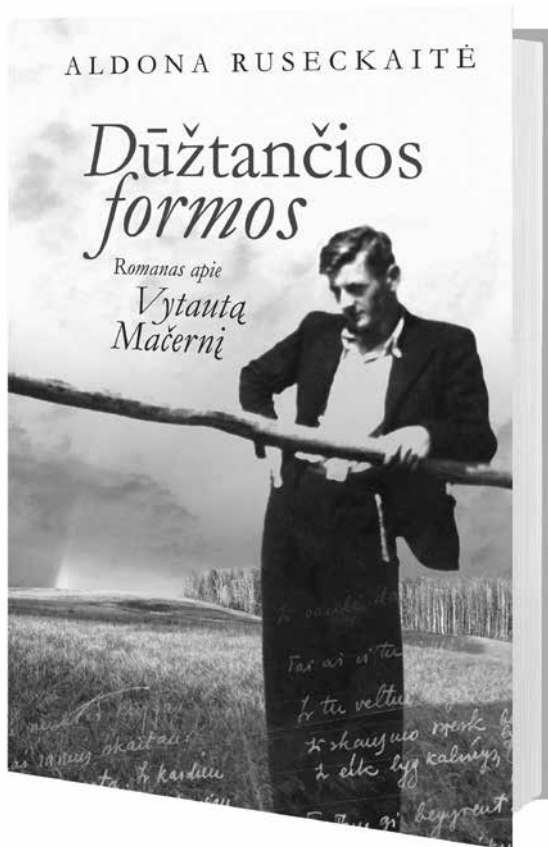
Short stories, hardcover, 248 pages



Mister Tamburas and his wife live in a modern Bamako district. They are on their way to see the Marabout who professedly worked for the President of Gabon himself, to do some business. The wife is carrying a black cock in her arms. On the bank of the Niger a girl, who her brothers and uncles force to become a third wife, finds a wounded young man who has lost his memory. Abdu hopes to buy a ram cheaply by exploiting personal connections. However, it seems that this will not fall through again. And a lottery ticket burns his pocket. During the sermon the alman said that all kinds of gambling are evil.

The book consists of nine stories from colourful Mali. They unfold Africa to us as the Lithuanian who lived there for a long time sees it: not refined and often inconceivable. Being well acquainted with the customs and habits of the local people, the author of the book keeps the distance of an alien. Fates of white women from different countries who married Malians and went to live in Mali are as interesting as the stories of life of the Malians themselves.

Viktorija Prėskienytė-Diawara spent 35 years in Mali. Between 1965 and 1969 she studied at the Maxim Gorki Institute of Literature. There she met Gaus Diawara from Mali who was a famous poet at that time already. In 1970 they got married. Having returned to Lithuania the writer continues her literary career.



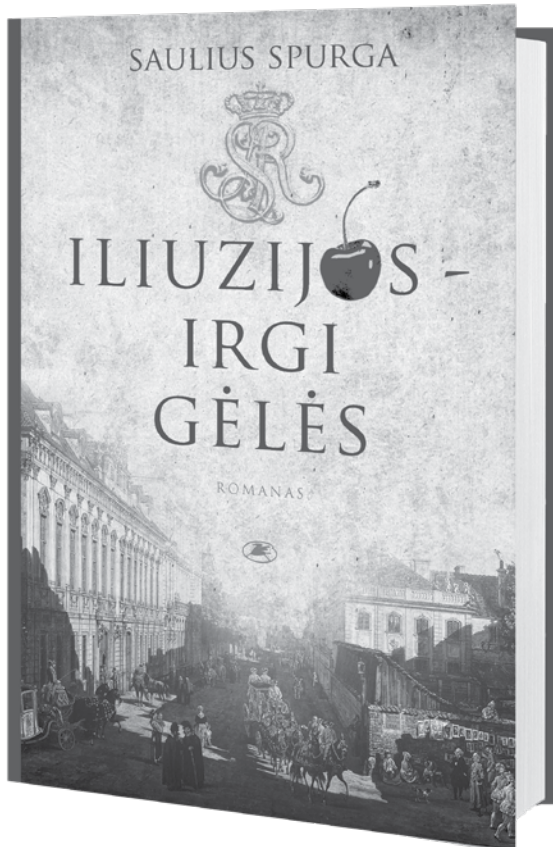
Aldona Ruseckaitė Breaking Forms

Novel, hardback, 224 pages



The novel is about the Lithuanian poet of a tragic fate Vytautas Mačernis (1921–1944). During the war the young poet went through a very traumatic experience. In 1943, after Vilnius University had been closed, Vytautas returned to his native village. Vytautas and Bronė had already been granted permission of the Burgomaster of Vilnius to get married; however, the marriage did not take place. The war years, their friends' plans to emigrate when Russia occupied Lithuania in 1944, upset the plans of the two young people. Though a shell-splinter ended Mačernis' life, his poetry withstood the test of time. On the basis of the reminiscences of Mačernis' fiancé and his letters to Bronė Vildžiūnaitė with whom he studied at University, the author reveals the feelings and mental health, exaltation and crises of a young man, psychology of a creative process.

Aldona Ruseckaitė, the author of interesting books about the classics of Lithuanian literature Maironis and Žemaitė, uncovers mysteries and secrets of the life of another Lithuania writer. What caused the author to take interest in Vytautas Mačernis? First of all, it was the poet-visionary's perception of the world and its reflection in poetry, and especially she was interested in the world of feelings and emotions, as well as marriage that never took place. Mačernis is a thinker, a philosophical poet and – the martyr of love?



Saulius Spurga

Illusions are Flowers too

Novel, hardcover, 400 pages



Can love for a woman save the state? King Stanislovas Augustas (Stanisław August) wants to believe it because the woman he loves is Empress Ekaterina. The King is oppressed by danger that threatens the state; however, at the same time he is worried about the shape of his ears. He is also preoccupied with the question of what image he, as the King, will leave in history...

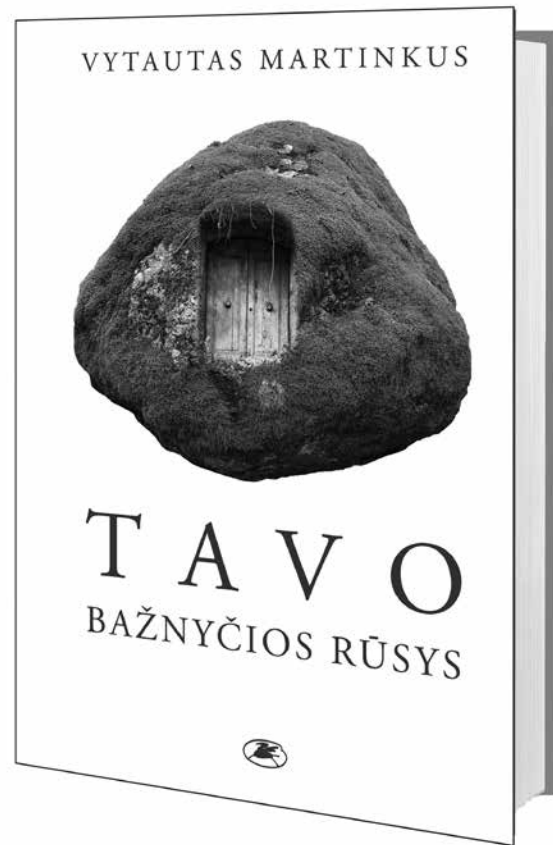
This novel is a narrative of the highly ornate and extravagant Baroque style full of unexpected turns and breathtaking discoveries. The last King of the Republic of the Two Nations Stanisław August Poniatowski, the ruler with a burning heart and vivid dreams is a philosopher, humanist, famous for profound wisdom and almost childish naiveté is in the centre of the events. He worships the cult of beauty and is a real slave of intellectual and sensual pleasures. What fate lies in store for him?

Saulius Spurga is a journalist, publicist, writer, Doctor of social sciences, Chancellor of Mykolas Romeris University. He has published his works since 1985. This book is the author's third novel.

Vytautas Martinkus

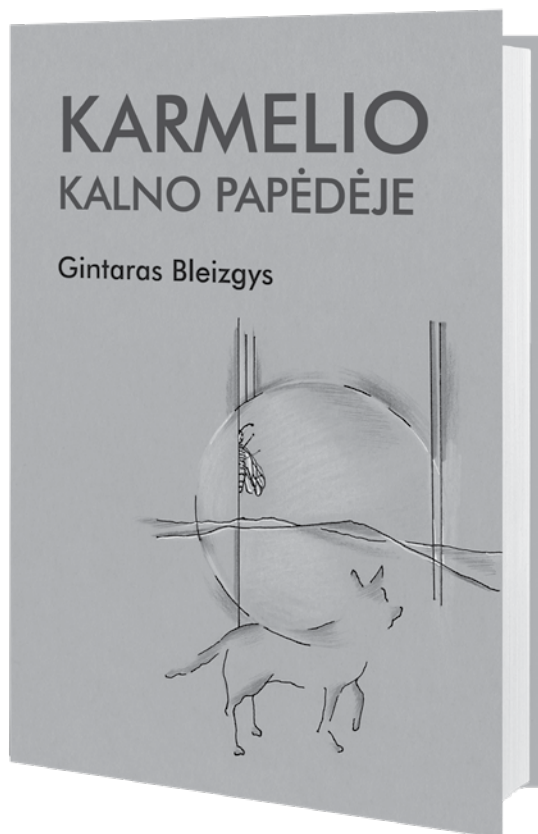
The Basement of your Church

Novel, hardcover, 512 pages



This is a story about the ring presented to Queen Pitodoride of Kolchida by her husband. Its traces are found in Lithuania during the Reformation period. The determination of a pharmacist's assistant, an alchemist from Kėdainiai, to make a copy of the ring's jewel is a means to achieve political goals of GDL for some of his contemporaries and to increase mystical powers of an ordinary stone for others. In the middle of the 20th century both rings, genuine and non-genuine, come into possession of the sisters who are married to two graduates of the Military School. Lithuania's occupation, war, guerrilla warfare and political emigration separate the families. Complicated scenes unravelling several centuries of the history of Lithuania from Kėdainiai to Scotland, from Kaunas to Chicago move at a great speed oddly reminding us of intellectual narratives by John Fowles or adventures of the characters of the book *Da Vinci Code* by Dan Brown.

Vytautas Martinkus (born in 1943) is a prose writer, essayist, literary critic, philosopher of art, pedagogue, full member of the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences, the author of ten books. He has won eight literature, arts and science awards. His books have been translated into eleven European languages.



Gintaras Bleizgys

At the Foot of Mount Carmel

Novel, hardcover, 376 pages



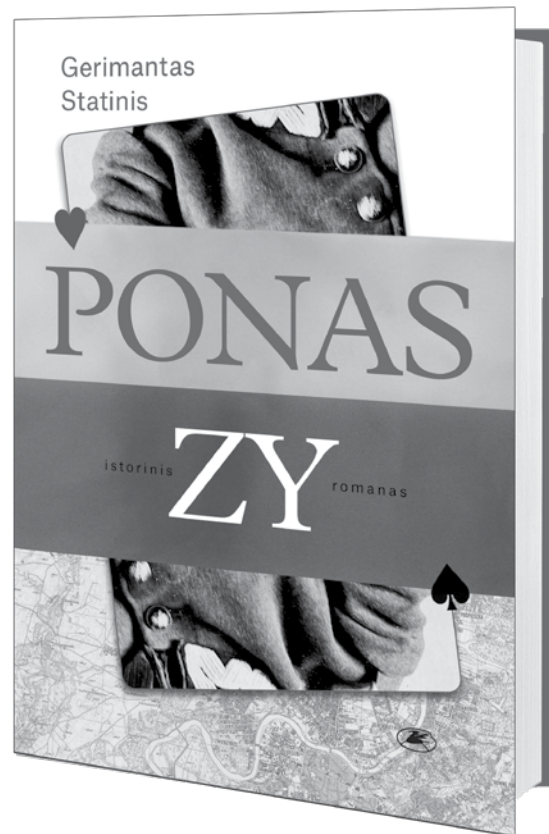
A well-known poet and essayist of middle generation Gintaras Bleizgys (born 1975) who has earned a number of prestigious awards in Lithuania, presents an unexpected work to the readers – a sincere and open narrative in the form of a diary, a peculiar autobiographic novel *Karmelio kalno papėdėje*. The book *Kopimas į Karmelio kalną* [Ascent of Mount Carmel] by John of the Cross served as a pretext for the title of the book, and perhaps for writing the book itself. When standing at the foot of Mount Carmel light illuminates both man's spiritual heights and darkness.

The narrator is seen in his home environment, on journeys, communicating with his family, friends and fellow-travellers. The ring composition is really nice: the novel begins with a narrative about a vigil in the house of worship of Buddhists and ends with the narrator's decision to serve as a deacon. Concrete circumstances create an intrigue; the author's aim, however, is introspection and unravelling human nature and secrets of the world rather than depicting interesting details of the plot. What am I? Where is my place? Why was I destined to the ring of martial arts, to a prison cell? How to live between everydayness and revelation being aware of a spiritual purpose of man and darkness of nature?

Gerimantas Statinis

Mister Zy

Novel, hardcover, 408 pages



Zygmuntas Šafranskis, Mister Zy, is the main character of the novel whose action takes place in interwar Vilnius. Though Mister Zy was not destined to be born a military leader or the Marshal, he rose to the rank of a major but not to the rank of a low major. He became the quartermaster of Vilnius fortified camp, and the commissary of the 4th regiment of *Ulonai* [light cavalry]. He was in charge of the Treasury cash and everybody had enough of everything until his ill-fated decision not to marry Marijolė moved the whole thing in the opposite direction. Perhaps it was because he lived a good life and lacked nothing that he craved for freedom and entertainment. All that, however, soon turned against him.

States are made of cities; cities are made of houses and houses without people and without their stories are empty. The life of Mister Zy is part of the history of interwar Vilnius. If dugouts that were hidden in many places around the city began to speak they could tell us a lot of interesting things. Nasty office intrigues of officers; acquaintances with women, great financial machinations were woven between them.

Gerimantas Statinis is a professional musician and journalist, as well as a traveller, the author articles, books and television broadcasts.



Mindaugas Jonas Urbonas

Melancholy of Centuries

Novel, hardcover, 302 pages



Legends of real and concocted Vilnius: having climbed the lime tree the Eternal Jew flings sheets of paper with treble clefs, the Iron Wolf runs along the streets, the legendary Mayer of Vilnius enjoys the buns baked by twins Julius and Jurgis, lady Rožė who remembers the times of Vytautas the Great stretches out her arm for some money and the classics of Lithuanian literature Krėvė and Sruoga bend over the chess board. It seems that all paths there run directly to the mystic café [Apokalipsė](#). Poetry of magic realism opened up the tunnel of time, the journey through epochs, and the possibility to see one's substitutes. Paradoxical symbols shed light on the melancholic history of Vilnius and unfold its unique beauty. The author of the novel considers the problem of man's duality and identity and asks to what extent we allow the consciousness of the city to rule over us.

Mindaugas Jonas Urbonas is one of the most interesting and talented prose writers of young generation of Lithuania. In 2016 he made his debut with the book of stories *Dvasių urna* [\[The Urn of Spirits\]](#). This is the author's second book, his first novel.

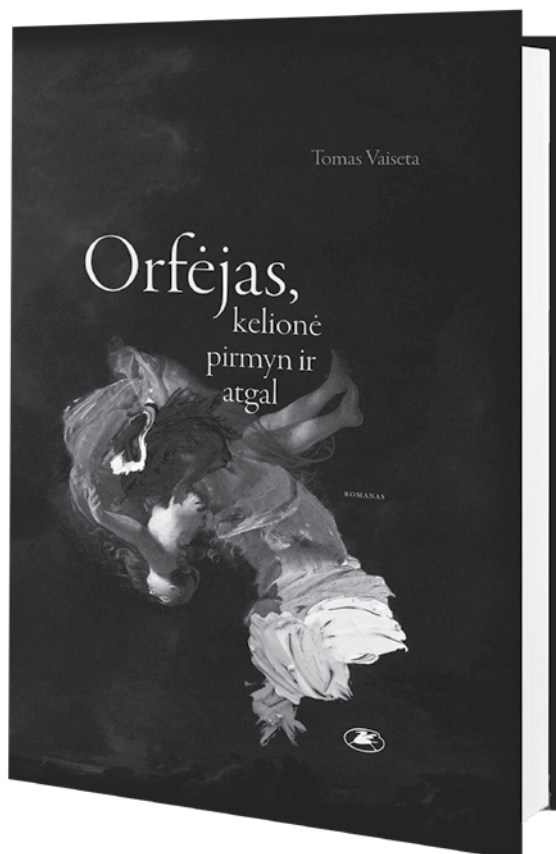
Undinė Radzevičiūtė

The Blue Blood

Novel, hardcover, 360 pages,



Undinė Radzevičiūtė is the voice of Lithuanian literature that cannot be unheard, a writer of unique talent. Her work has been put on the list of the most creative books of the year four times and it has been included in the list of the best books of the year twice; in 2015, her novel *Fish and Dragons* was awarded the prestigious European Union Prize for Literature and was declared to be among the best books of the decade by the Lithuanian PEN Centre. At the present time foreign editors take keen interest in the writer's books. Undinė Radzevičiūtė's latest novel *The Blue Blood* describes one of the most dangerous northern branches of the European families, which lived close by, beyond the border of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania. The Middle Ages of Europe depicted in the novel are already fading away, and the religious orders are dying out with them too. It is at that time that the eighteen-year-old Knight of Westphalia Bernhard von der Borch arrives in Livonia and before long becomes Commander of the Castle of Marienburg. He has, however, much higher aims and ambitions. Many highly intriguing details linking that family to the author herself are presented at the beginning of the novel.



Tomas Vaiseta

Orpheus, the Journey Forward and Backward

novel, 232 pages, hardback



Tomas Vaiseta (born in 1984) is a historian, editor, and a writer. The author's debut collection of stories *Sleep of Birds* (2014) was among the five books shortlisted for the Book of the Year, and in 2014 it ranked among the twelve most creative books.

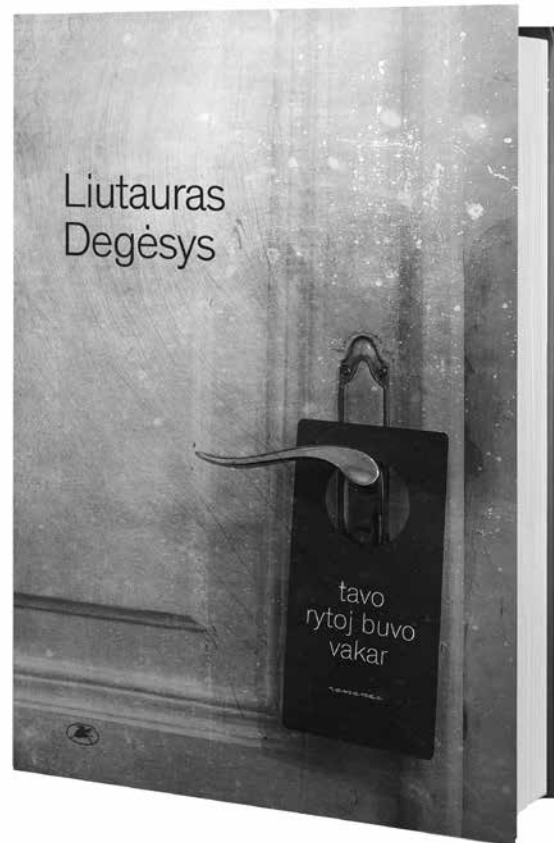
Orpheus, the Journey Forward and Backward is a modern interpretation of the myth of Orpheus, a subtle psychological narrative in which fragments of the current time and space familiar to us interweave with the plots of the art history of the 20th century, the relationship between a young man and an older woman interlace with a fearful foreboding of war, a craving for a sin – with repentance, and the reality – with memories and fantasies. .

A young couple is having breakfast in a recently rented flat. He is listening to the reports about political disturbances on the radio; she rises to her feet slowly, goes across the kitchen and carefully places a cup of coffee on the edge of the sink. The sound of a cup touching the metal sink as if awakens him. Suddenly he realises he can no longer stand the proximity of his beloved.

Liutauras Degėsys

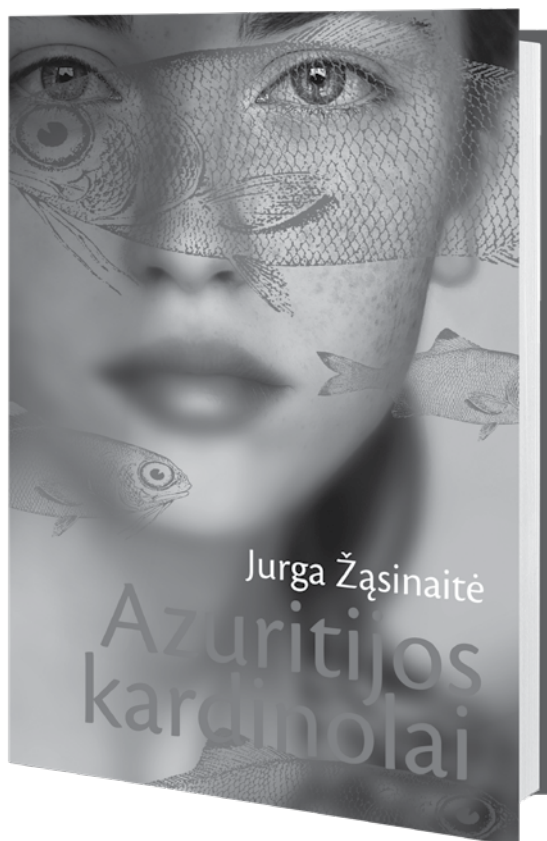
Your Tomorrow was Yesterday

novel, 296 pages, hardback



Liutauras Degėsys is a poet, writer, publicist, and the author of monographs, scientific articles and textbooks. The writer has won the Ministry of Culture Award for the Best Cultural Publicistic (2010) and the Lithuanian National Culture and Art Award for poetry and books of philosophical essays (2013).

Fleeing for their life, six characters in the author's recent novel *Your Tomorrow was Yesterday* are forced to settle in an out-of-the-way house on the outskirts of the town. Their cynical intonations conceal their despair but betray their longing for soul mates and a fear of solitude. They pretend not to feel any pain, pretend that they do not care. However, they are shackled with swampiness of the past, which penetrates their thoughts and feelings. Tomorrow would come if they were able to step over their past. Tomorrow would be tomorrow if nothing were as it was yesterday again.



Jurga Žąsinaitė

Cardinals of Azuritija

Novel, 288 pages, hardback



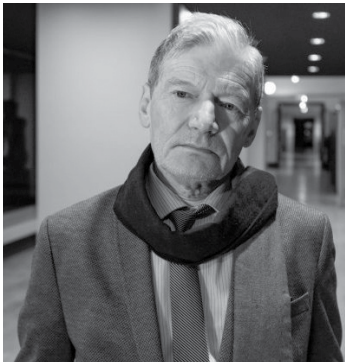
Jurga Žąsinaitė is a writer, Doctor of Humanities, a researcher into the old Lithuanian literature. The author's literaturological texts and works of fiction are published in different scientific and cultural publications. Jurga Žąsinaitė made her debut with her novella *Avondali's Stone House* in 2008. The author's latest novel *Cardinals of Azuritija* tells us about experiences, placelessness, physical and spiritual motherhood, forced and chosen deportation of a lonesome woman who is searching for her identity.

The life of the main character of the book is as though that of an aquarium fish. Having given the names of the people and friends who have left to the cardinals she is breeding, she is as though trying to bring them back, to untie the Gordian Knot she had once fastened. She arrived in green Azuritija, this is what she calls Ireland, to which she was forced to emigrate, to earn some money for her mother's treatment. She got a job with a well-established business company in a town on the Gohto River. Having been renamed Pen, she feeds a machine swallowing paper in a gypsum plasterboard room and persuades herself that everything is being done for a noble purpose. The relationship with her mother, however, is breaking. Sibė, her godmother, who comes from her time and spaces extending along the asbestine Sayan mountains, fill up the opened void.

Markas Zingeris

I Sat In Stalin's Lap

Novel, 422 pages, hardback



I Sat In Stalin's Lap is a newest novel of a well-known Lithuanian writer Markas Zingeris, with its ingenious structure of random dates of the XX and XXI centuries closely knit by a saga of a Lithuanian-Jewish family in a former Lithuanian Capital before – – after the WWII and up to the Collapse of the USSR. (At his moment the Protagonist – a translator of American musicals for Lithuanian theaters – finds himself standing against the Soviet tanks in a crowd on the night of Lithuanian Singing Revolution.)

Markas Zingeris style is full of colorful and realistic details and really unforgettable insights. Its decisive chapters include also a story of a teenage love in a strict Soviet high-school with a girl, who's family repatriates to Soviet Lithuania from Brasil and then-when their utopias crash and illusions are lost – ventures back home, and the night of Lithuania's Singing revolution.

The book is narrated by the protagonist in the tongue-in-cheek style (including meeting for a photo-op with Joseph Stalin, as the boy was a winner of the all-Union declamation contest, in Kremlin).

Narrator reflects on his generation and his life in vivid episodes linked by a closely knit story-line as he is recovering from a heart surgery in a huge modern Heart Clinics with its internationally famous professionals and its medical stuff, nurses and foreign interns.


Markas Zingeris is recipient of a number of awards, such as Book of the year or Short story of the year (from Lithuanian weekly „Art and Literature“), an author of a num-

ber of novels, books of poems and a book of short stories and a Knights' Cross for Creative and Cultural work.

~~He translated into Lithuanian a collection of I.B Singer's short stories and poetry of Joseph Brodsky also~~

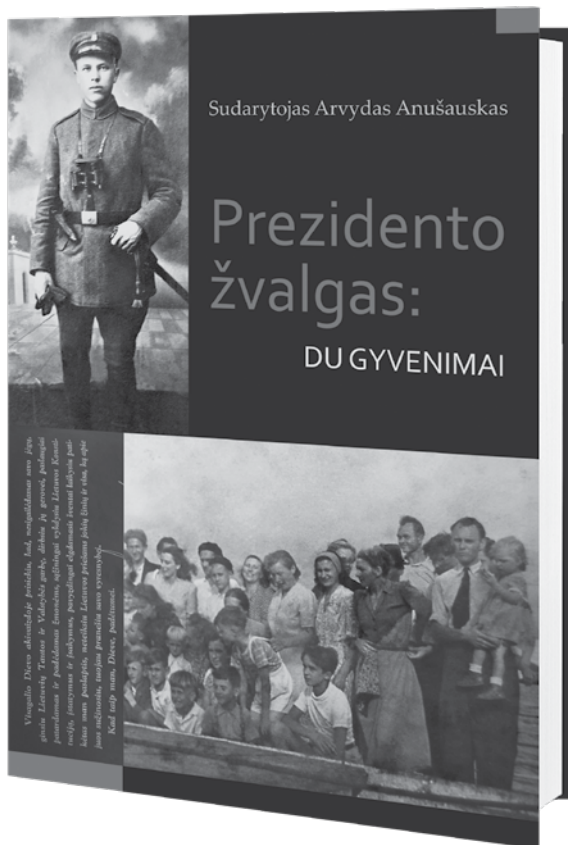
~~Richard Persig's book „Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance“.~~

~~His short stories and poetry were published in various European almanacs of Lithuanian fiction, including Italian, French, Swedish, Hungarian, Finnish, Polish and, recently, Ukrainian.~~

Markas Zingeris  lives in Vilnius and is currently a Director of Lithuania's Vilna Gaon State Jewish Museum.

Non-fiction

NEW TITLES / Lithuanian authors

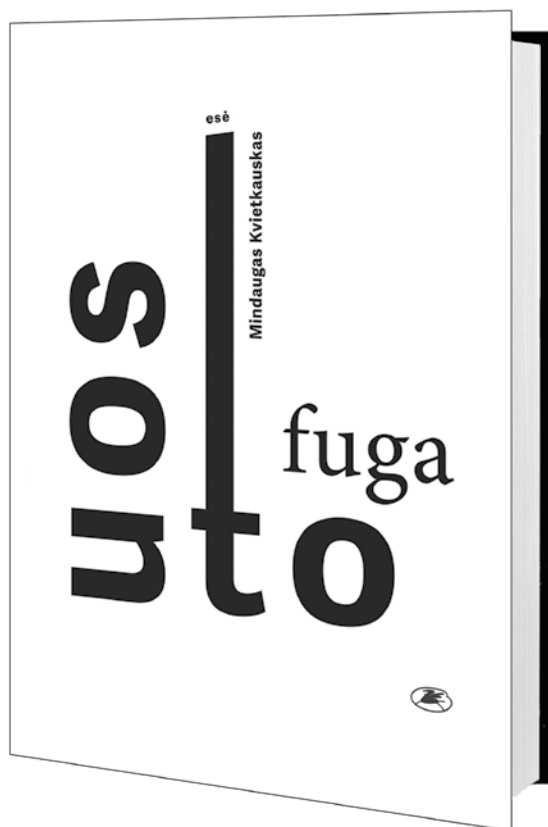


Compiled by
Arvydas Anušauskas
The President's Scout:
Two Lives

Biography, memories; hardcover, 320 pages

In 2018 Lithuania's intelligence celebrates a centenary of its establishment. This book is devoted to its first employee whose memoirs and notes were unexpectedly discovered in Columbia. The creator-volunteer of the Lithuanian army who had taken part in the War of Independence, started work in security and intelligence services of Lithuania in 1921, was in charge of President Antanas Smetona's guards and saved the President more than once – this is how Albinas Čiuoderis (1898-1965) can be characterised. His last task was to ensure the President's flight from Lithuania on the first day of its occupation. Čiuoderis' notes allow the circumstances of the activities of the State Security Department and some important historical events, including the involvement of the former security officials in the Lithuanian Security and Criminal Police divisions during the years of Nazi occupation to be assessed. These reminiscences are attributed to the most interesting sources of the history of our intelligence.

Arvydas Anušauskas is a historian, politician, screenwriter of documentary films, and the author of the books on the history of Lithuania in the twentieth-century, secret services and soviet terrorism.



Mindaugas Kvietkauskas

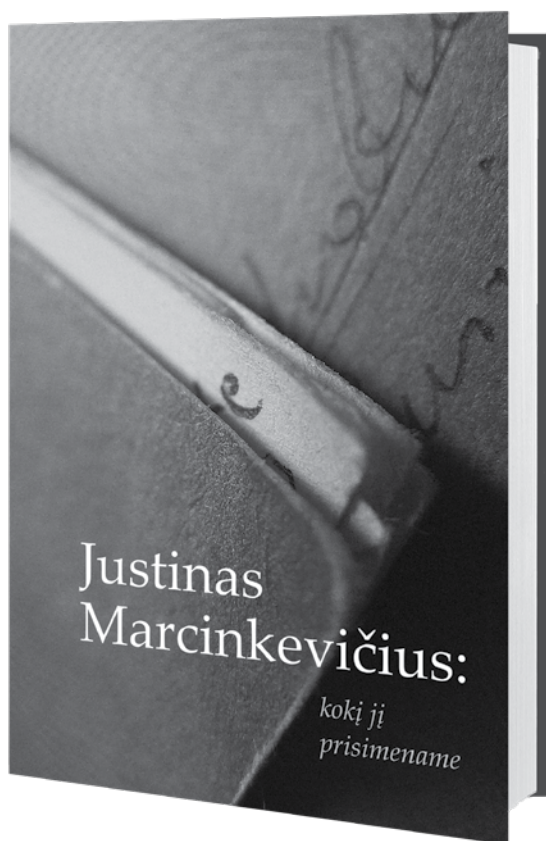
Fugue of the Port

Essay, quality paperback, 243 pages



This collection of essays is a personal journey through the cultural landscape of the beginning of the 21st century. Through the streets of the author's hometown and the European spaces. Through the labyrinths of history and the present-day crossroads. Full of unexpected discoveries and conversations. Mindaugas Kvietkauskas' texts published in the book about the assessments of the poetess Salomeja Nėra, who became a soviet propaganda tool in bringing back "Stalin's sun" to Lithuania, the fate Vilnius the café *Literatų svetainė* [Café of Men of Letters] or dramatic life stories of Lithuania's Jews or Litvaks evoked a strong response in the general public. Also, the book contains new essays about the enigmas of the biography of the most distinguished architect of Vilnius baroque Jonas Kristupas Glaubicas [Johann Christoph Glaubitz] or the vanishing art of letter writing. In 2017 the book was nominated for "Elections of the Book of the Year".

Mindaugas Kvietkauskas is a literary critic, poet, essayist who combines creative work, science and works of Lithuanian philology in his writings. He investigates and translates multilingual Lithuanian literature and poetry of Vilnius. He is a critical evaluator of modern social phenomena and books.



**Compiled by
Valentinas Sventickas**

**Justinas Marcinkevičius:
as we Remember Him**

Memoir, hardcover, 472 pages

The book compiled by the essayist Valentinas Sventickas (born 1948) contains personal reminiscences of several dozen people of their friend, contemporary, associate, perhaps the best known Lithuanian poet Justinas Marcinkevičius (1930–2011). According to the compiler of the book, "it is enough to mention the name and the surname of Justinas Marcinkevičius to the majority of Lithuanian people and it becomes clear who one speaks about. This is the most honorary title that a public figure can acquire. If we saw ourselves among other nations, which take pride in their inventors and discoverers, leading politicians or celebrities, it is rarity for a poet to achieve such a high status.

The scale of images is vast – from the childhood to the twilight of his life, from private life to his participation in politics, in the processes of the restoration of Lithuania's independence.

Authentic statements about the poet's latter activities that were full of dramatic details reveal a lot about the artist's position in the course of social events, that is, they show how the poet perceived politicians and society and how the politicians and society wanted to perceive him, how the creator's solitude was preserved in such conditions and what kind of conflicts arose.