



POLISH BOOKS for Children & Young adults 2020

POLISH BOOKS  
2020 for Children & Young adults

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More information on Polish literature is available at *[www.bookinstitute.pl](http://www.bookinstitute.pl)*

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# DEAR READERS,

*The baby examines its hands. It straightens up, moves right and left, moves away, moves closer, spreads its fingers, clenches its fist, speaks to them and waits for an answer, the right hand grabs the left and pulls, takes the rattle and looks at the strangely changed appearance of the hand, handles the rattle in one hand and then the other, examines it with its mouth, immediately takes it out and again looks slowly, carefully. [...] The baby is not playing: take a look and see the effort of the will to understand.<sup>1</sup>*

It is that of a scientist in the library, wrestling with a matter of the utmost importance, which keeps slipping away from his grasp. These words were written by Janusz Korczak, a brilliant Polish pedagogue of Jewish origin, who – remaining faithful to his children from the Orphans' Home to the very end – accompanied them to death in the German extermination camp in Treblinka in 1942.

Two main features of Dr Korczak's approach to children are evident in his scholarly achievements, his children's books, and the story of his life as well. These are: truth and responsibility.

*If you can diagnose a child's joy and the intensity of that joy, you will inevitably see that his most intense joy is that of overcoming difficulties: achieving the goal, discovering the mystery. The joy of triumph and happiness of independence, self-control and possession.<sup>2</sup>*

Responsibility — as in the case of Korczak — is a consent to a common fate, as well as a concern for younger people to develop by following their own individual paths, though this is based on principles that we provide them with, which allow them to make their informed choices.

*So do we allow everything? We should never make a bored tyrant out of a bored slave. By forbidding, we harden [the individual] after all; I prefer perhaps warning and curtailing only; we develop inventiveness by operating on a narrow terrain, while we arouse criticism by slipping out of control. [...] We may be permissive, indulging whims eagerly, so as not to bottle up desires. If we weaken the will, we poison it. [...] We must [nonetheless] set up rule-based boundaries for children and ourselves.<sup>3</sup>*

Polish literature for children, the latest and most interesting examples of which are presented in this catalog, quite faithfully fulfills this testament of Korczak's. Perhaps this is also what its greatest strength and self-evident character is based on, which reflects the unique status enjoyed by Polish children's books in world literature, not to mention the prizes awarded to the writers. For years now, it can be said that Polish children's literature has been a brand in and of itself. I think that Korczak's approach to the child is key to understanding the reasons for the success of Polish writers in this field.

Therefore, in this year's catalog we have new works grouped according to age categories, because books should accompany a person from the very beginning of their earthly existence. In everyday life, we acquire more and more knowledge, we acquire more and more skills on the way to full humanity, which always depends on a subtle balance between limitation and freedom, possibilities and will, and finally responsibility (for ourselves and for others) and the pursuit of fulfilling our own desires. Books help us in this endeavour; books teach us. That is why they are around us. And they always should be.

In carrying out our literary mission at the Book Institute, we too are faithful to the principles of Janusz Korczak. For example, in 2017, we implemented our Book-start Campaign, which is one of the largest such in Europe and, quite possibly, the whole world. This programme of ours provides over 90%

of newborn children and their parents with a book kit. In 2019 we took it to the next level, as we prepared a subsequent reading kit for kindergarten children. This year, we are launching a similar reading project for ALL children in Poland, beginning with primary school. This task means a lot to us, for it will affect our present day and our future...

We deeply believe that a well-written and illustrated book for children shapes human personality, awakens sensitivity, and makes understanding the world easier.

It is a great honour for us to recommend the most interesting children's books from Poland. We encourage you to read them, translate them, and publish them in your languages...

*Dariusz Jaworski, Director of the Book Institute*

*Professor Krzysztof Koehler, Deputy Director of the Book Institute*

<sup>1</sup> Korczak J., *Jak kochać dziecko*,  
Biuro Rzecznika Praw Dziecka,  
Warszawa 2012, p. 49.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibidem*, p. 64.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibidem*, p. 64.



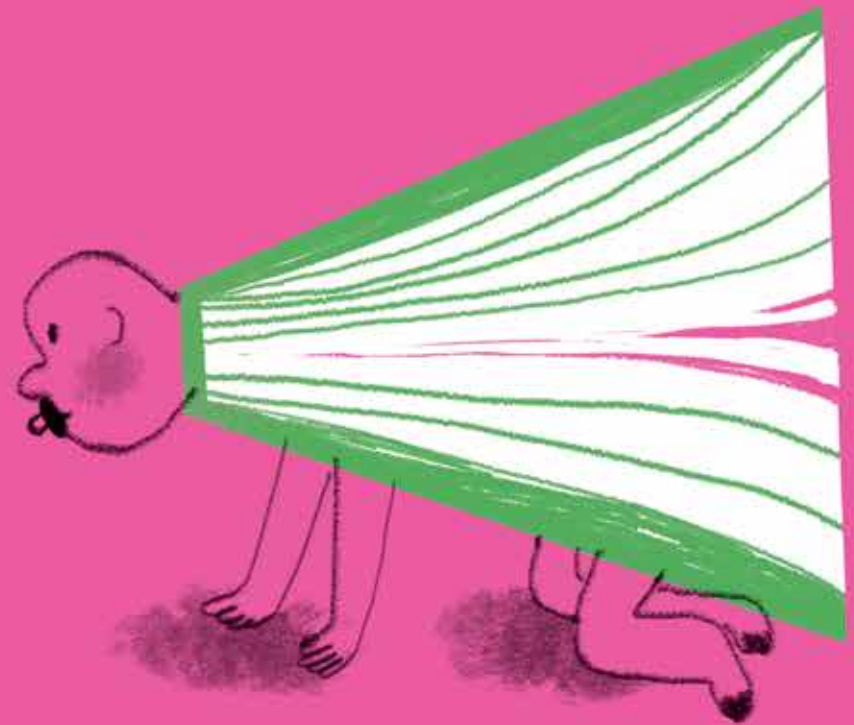
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First Pictures (series)

My Mother, My Father

A Year in Wonderland

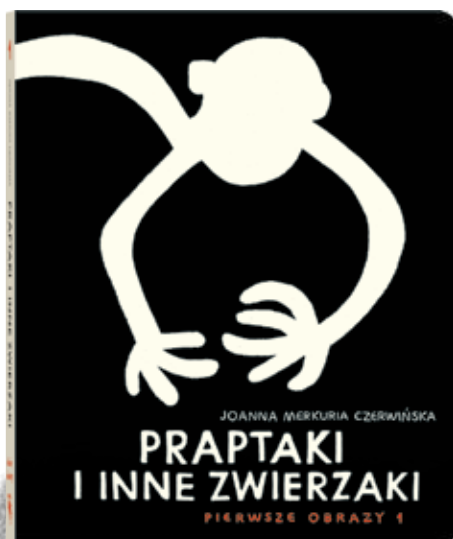
Pucio: Fun with Gesture  
and Sound and What Is Pucio Doing





# First Pictures (series)

*Introducing art to the world of children and vice versa – introducing children to the world of art – is an ambitious task which, in an attractive and accessible way, is accomplished through three books in the 'First Pictures' series. The series consists of 'Primates and Other Animals,' 'Roebucks and Ruminants,' and 'Shepherds and Dancers.'*



**First Pictures (series)**  
Joanna Merkuria Czerwińska  
Wydawnictwo Dwie Siostry  
Warszawa 2018  
140 x 170, 22 pages  
ISBN 978-83-65341-78-5 (1st part)  
Translation rights:  
Wydawnictwo Dwie Siostry  
jadzia@wydawnictwodwiesiostry.pl  
Rights sold to: China

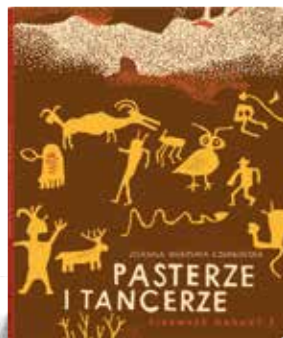


## AWARD

Main prize in the 59th competition by the Polish Association of Book Publishers for the Most Beautiful Book of 2018

## AWARD

In the competition of The Polish Book Institute



The aim of the first book is to stimulate visual perception in children and support the development of their vision. The author, breaking the literal pattern of contrast books, has proposed having children, aged zero to six months, discover petroglyphs.



An infant's vision undergoes enormous evolution during the first twelve months of life. Each of the pictures is displayed on a spread, which allows the perception of shapes even to a newborn on the periphery.

**Joanna Merkuria Czerwińska** (1984) is a graduate of the Graphic Arts Department at the Academy of Fine Arts in Warsaw. 'First Pictures' is her debut as an author. It was awarded in the competition Trzy/Mam/Książki of the Book Institute.

Another book in the series, based on authentic Paleolithic painting, presents the shapes of animals in various scenes, taking into account various details in the form of lines, dots, and spots.

The third part, presents prehistoric drawings and rock paintings using warm earth tones. Collective scenes are replaced here by individual images in which interactions take place and around which you can create interesting stories, while searching for, naming, and recounting details. (M.M.)

# My Mother, My Father

*The picture book 'My Mom, My Father' consists of illustrations and simple sentences, identifying the activities carried out by the characters. It is a presentation of everyday family situations seen through the eyes of a small child.*

However, this is not a story about a specific family, because on each spread you will find images of a different pair of parents, and Mom and Dad complement each other in performing various household activities and in providing the children with their needs, creating a safe and cohesive world.

## My Mother, My Father

Małgorzata Swędrowska

Joanna Bartosik

Wytwórnia

Warszawa 2018

200 x 200, 48 pages

ISBN: 978-83-64011-60-3

Translation rights: Wytwórnia

magdalenaklos@wytwornia.com

Rights sold to: France, Korea



## Małgorzata Swędrowska

is an educator, and trainer. She is the creator of the concept of 'sensational reading', and the organiser of literary workshops with children.



## EXHIBITION

The dPICTUS 100 Outstanding Picturebooks exhibition at the Frankfurt Book Fair 2019



## Joanna Bartosik

(1990) is an author and illustrator of children's books, and a PhD student at the Faculty of Graphic Design and Visual Communication at the University of the Arts in Poznań. Her series 'One, Two, Three' was given an award in the 9th Halina Skrobiszewska Children's Literature Competition and was added to the List of Treasures of the Museum of Children's Books.

Through the examples of the two most important people in the child's life the book shows, how apparent contradictions arrange themselves into a coherent whole, how they can complement, and reinforce one other, e.g. Mom multiplies (makes numerous dumplings) while Dad divides (offers chocolate so that everyone gets a share).

The text, although sparing in words, is rich in meaning and poetic. The sentences combined with the illustrations create a humorous, fun message for children, and one that is very informative for parents. The book encourages active, family reading. It possesses great motivational strength and cannot brook passive reception; it even requires activity, speaking (Where is Mom running? What is Dad running away from?), commenting, reading the content hidden in metaphorical images (e.g. 'my mother speaks' to herself). At the same time, complementary pairs of sentences and images, avoiding ambiguity, form a universal story about everyone and help children understand their parents' behaviour.

Both texts and illustrations – interesting, colourful, and funny – encourage people to read together and talk about the everyday lives of families. Seemingly simple, it is a beautiful and thought-provoking read for both children and their parents. (M.M.)



# Pucio: Fun with Gesture and Sound and What Is Pucio Doing

*'Pucio: Fun with Gesture and Sound' and 'What Is Pucio Doing' are two small hardcover books with safe rounded corners. They will easily fit into a child's hands and will also work as a handy toy for walks or while waiting in the queue at the bank.*



## ***Pucio: Fun with Gesture and Sound and What Is Pucio Doing***

Marta Galewska-Kustra, Joanna Kłos

Wydawnictwo Nasza Księgarnia

Warszawa 2016

205 x 250, 40 pages

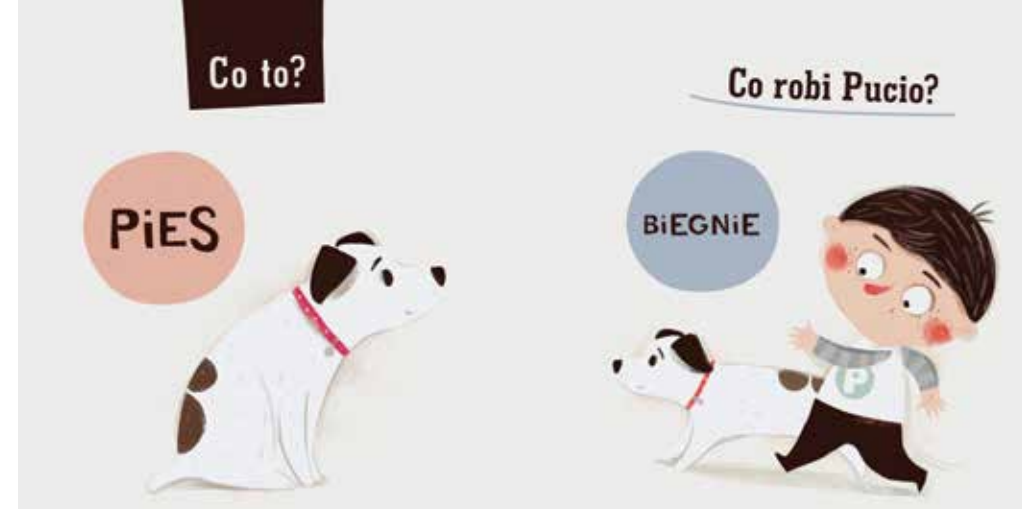
ISBN: 978-83-10-13081-5 (1st part)

Translation rights:

Wydawnictwo Nasza Księgarnia

a.zielinska@nk.com.pl

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Ukraine, Italy, Slovakia, Czech Republic



**Joanna Kłos**  
is a graphic artist,  
illustrator, and graduate  
of the Academy of Fine  
Arts in Kraków. She runs  
Kalikayo, a doll workshop.



**Marta Galewska-Kustra**  
(Ph.D.) is a speech  
therapist and pedagogue,  
creativity educator, and  
the author of books for  
children, which support  
speech development.

Each spread in 'What Is Pucio Doing' is divided into two parts. On the right, we have a noun prompted by the question 'What is this?', for example a chair, mug, or crayon. The verb prompted by the question 'What is Pucio doing?', is on the left: he's sitting, drinking, or drawing. Everyday situations are presented, which gives children the opportunity to get acquainted with the most basic nouns and verbs. As every child reaches for a spoon, combs their hair or plays with a doll or ball, young readers will easily find everyday, familiar situations on the pages of this book, and everyone likes most what they are familiar with.

'Pucio: Fun with Gesture and Sound' presents, moreover, simple and fun scenarios accompanied by sounds. Illustrations presenting a given sound are supplemented with instructions such as: 'knock on the door together, repeating: knock, knock!'. A modest desire to play is not going to be enough for this book as doors, balloons, as well as the child's hands and feet are constantly in motion.

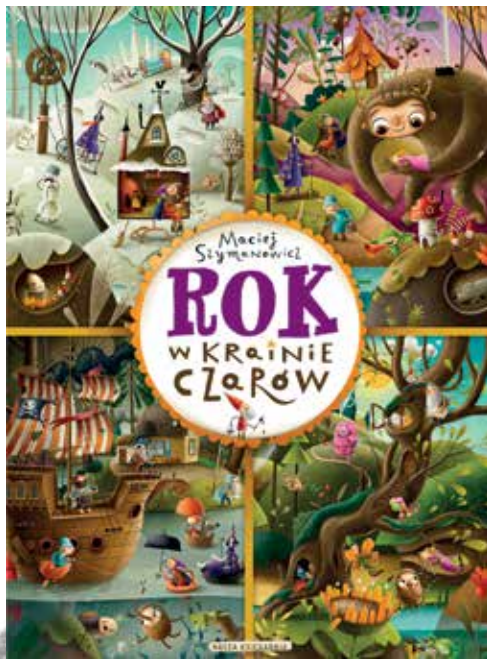
In addition to age-appropriate content that supports the development of young readers, the strength of these books is evidenced by their closely linked illustrations. On bright, translucent pages, we find pictures which are refined and expressive (through the use of red pigments), but at the same time subdued. (O.B.P.)



# A Year in Wonderland

*'A Year in Wonderland' attracts children and parents with a multitude of colours presented by Maciej Szymanowicz's deft hand. The author invites us into a world of dwarfs, dragons, wizards, and... unicorns, in short: a magical land where everyone will find what their imagination conjures up.*

A closer look uncovers the fact that the characters in the book experience unusual adventures. Each of them experiences worries and joys, and face surprises too. Every month, different merchandise appears at the vendor's stall; a crazy wizard-inventor keeps one's mind guessing; gnomes busy themselves with creative tasks (can they teach a dragon how to fly?). Only Sleeping Beauty is still asleep, but maybe someday she will wake up?



## **A Year in Wonderland**

Maciej Szymanowicz  
Wydawnictwo Nasza Księgarnia  
Warszawa 2017  
231 x 310, 28 pages  
ISBN: 978-83-10-12683-2  
Translation rights:  
Wydawnictwo Nasza Księgarnia  
a.zielinska@nk.com.pl  
Rights sold to: Spain,  
Czech Republic, Russia,  
Slovakia, Ukraine, China



**Maciej Szymanowicz**  
(1976) is a book cover artist, illustrator of books for children, young people and adults, and designer of theatre posters and board games. He received the City of Warsaw Award for his illustrations in the book 'Asiunia', an award in the Comma and Full Stop Competition and an award at the Children's Literature Festival for 'All My Mums'.

You can read 'A Year in Wonderland' in many ways. At first, by merely following individual characters or by focusing on small details, to move on later to the skill of independently telling stories. Discovering the humour hidden in specific adventures of the magical heroes can also be extremely valuable. It is also an excellent publication for working on one's attention span, developing vocabulary, and being able to develop cause-and-effect narration.

The strength of this book is demonstrated by the beautiful, colourful illustrations by Maciej Szymanowicz, which are full of surprising details. On the one hand, warm colours and predominantly rounded shapes create a sense of 'warmth and security.' On the other, they create a world extremely rich in emotions and engaging in adventures. A Year in the Wonderland... can be read and looked at for hours, and every now and then one will delightfully discover new, unusual details. (O.B.P.)

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5 Balonowa Street

Small Atlas of Birds, Small  
Atlas of Animals, Small Atlas  
of Butterflies (series)

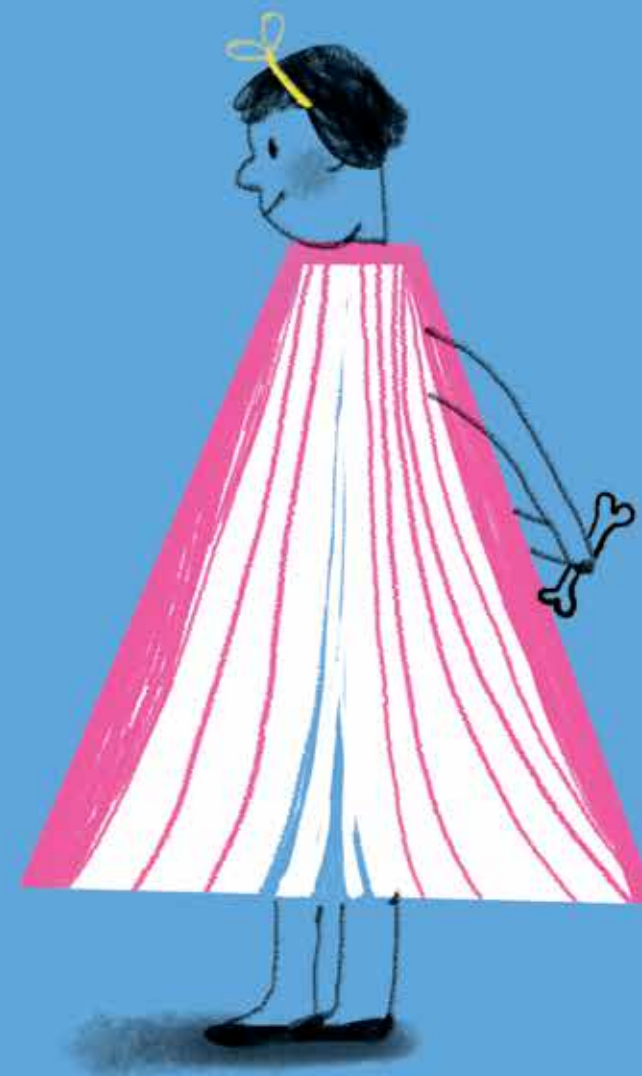
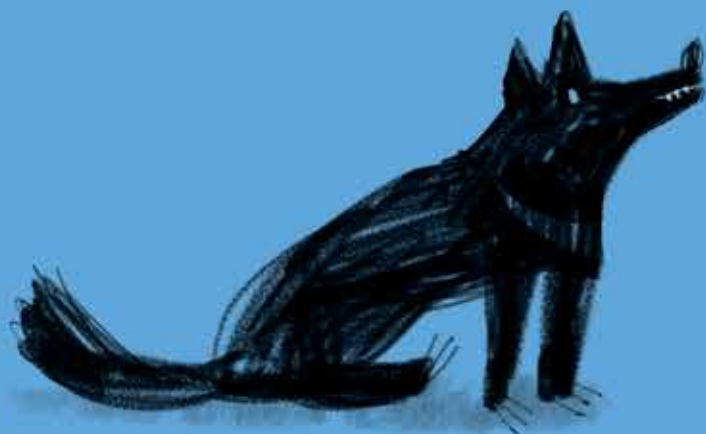
Teo's Thoughts

The Interlaced

Sparrows on the Trash Can

Poems for Colouring

ZOO





# 5 Balonowa Street

*A book that delights and teaches, amuses and encourages reflection; speaks with images and wise insights.*

*It is a story about the bizarre residents of a tenement house on 5 Balonowa Street. Illustrations with vivid colours and lots of details, characters of strong traits who elicit sympathy, although quite understated.*

## 5 Balonowa Street

Mikołaj Pasiński

Małgorzata Herba

Egmont

Warszawa 2019

225 x 285, 48 pages

Translation rights: Egmont

rights@egmont.pl



**Mikołaj Pasiński**

*is a graphic artist and writer. He is interested in book design, typography, and print.*



## DISTINCTION

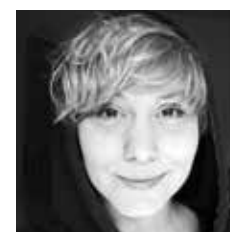
in the competition of The Polish Section of IBBY for Book of the Year 2019

## EXHIBITION

Illustrators Exhibition 2020 (Bologna Children's Book Fair)



The text clarifies the situations presented in the illustrations. It is short, written according to a repetitive pattern, which helps children learn the correct forms of the language. At the same time, funny words and rhyming phrases appear which, in tandem with the illustrations, work up a pleasant, joyful atmosphere conducive to language experiments and creative fun.



**Gosia Herba** (1985)

*is an illustrator and art historian. For almost ten years she has been cooperating with publishing houses, magazines, music labels, and agencies from around the world. She illustrates children's books and comics. She received an honourable mention and a prize in the Book of the Year competition of the Polish Section of IBBY.*

The heroes of the book are residents of the tenement house on 5 Balonowa Street. Each of them has his own distinctive interests and strengths: Mouse looks for a hat in scrambled eggs, the Monkeys bake a cake, Cat records the sounds of birds, Black Panther collects specimens of plants, a colony of Frogs writes a rap, and Spiders create an orchestra. They play the 'kickcatcher,' the 'baritone cymbalo,' and other very strange instruments. The narrator is a creature difficult to identify. Identifying him is a big reading challenge.

Each of the characters is different. Everyone has his or her own passion, but everyone likes to be together. The story begins with an indication of what each of them does during the day and ends with an illustration of a joint evening, where they show off their talents and deepen their friendship. (M.M.)

# Small Atlas of Birds, Small Atlas of Animals, Small Atlas of Butterflies (series)

*Ewa and Paweł Pawlak's Atlases are the most beautiful nature lessons. They invite parents and children to get to know the inhabitants of home gardens and neighbourhood parks, familiarizing children with the animal world.*



## DISTINCTION

in 57th Most Beautiful Polish Books of the Year Competition

## AWARD

Good Pages Award 2017

**Small Atlas of Birds,  
Small Atlas of Animals, Small  
Atlas of Butterflies (series)**

Paweł Pawlak, Ewa Kozyra-Pawlak

Wydawnictwo Nasza Księgarnia

Warszawa 2017

205 x 250, 40 pages

ISBN: 78-83-10-13238-3

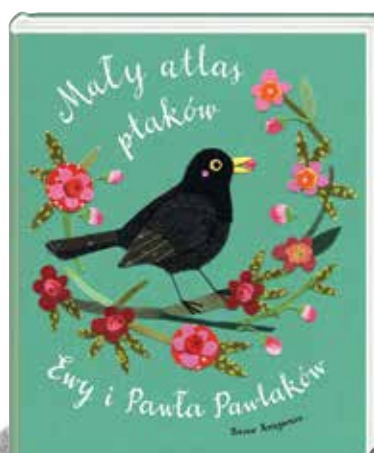
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Czech Republic, China



**Ewa Kozyra-Pawlak** (1961)

is a graduate of the Academy of Fine Arts in Wrocław.

She has illustrated many children's books, writes poems, creates calligraphies, and translates. Her favourite technique is fabric collage. She has received many awards for her books (IBBY, Polish Society of Book Publishers).



**Paweł Pawlak** (1962)

graduated with honors from the Faculty of Painting, Graphics and Sculpture at the Wrocław Academy of Fine Arts. He is an illustrator, and author of books and scenography for theater performances. He has illustrated over 70 books, working with publishers from Poland, France, Great Britain, Germany, Korea, and Canada. Winner of numerous awards and distinctions in children's book competitions.

They are lessons in mindfulness, inspiring us to take a break from our busy world while observing and meeting our neighbours we often completely disregard.

With stunning, detailed watercolours, brief texts, and captivating collages, the authors talk about species of birds and butterflies, and the habits of various animals. Beautiful illustrations complement photographs, entertaining commentary, and interesting facts, at times directly from personal recollections.

By eliciting interest and admiration for the natural world, they stoke admiration for art, and vice versa — it is hard to resist the impression here that art inspires one to discover nature.

The appearance of illustrations made by a child, a friendly girl named Hania, seems to be an invitation to create one's own atlas inspired by amazement and delight. (A.K.Sz.)



# Teo's Thoughts

*When children discover the world, it is always an adventure, not only for the children, but also for the adults accompanying them, especially as the former enter the stage of abstract thinking. Agata Królak's book tackles this topic with ease and grace.*

We meet five-year-old Teo at the moment when he is captivated by how thought works. The boy tries to analyze it, reducing it to the level of things. He asks questions that make us smile: 'Where do thoughts live?', 'In my head or at home?', 'Will they be bigger when they grow up?'

## Teo's Thoughts

Agata Królak

Wydawnictwo Hokus-Pokus

Warszawa 2019

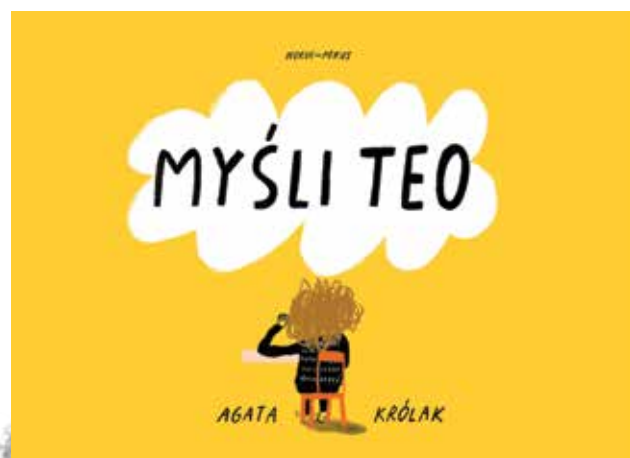
260 x 186, 36 pages

ISBN: 978-83-60402-73-3

Translation rights:

Wydawnictwo Hokus-Pokus

marta@hokus-pokus.pl



## Agata Królak (1987)

is an illustrator, doctor of arts, assistant instructor at the Graphic Design Department at Academy of Fine Arts in Gdańsk. She has exhibited her work in New York, Tokyo, London, Brussels, and Paris.

He is fascinated by questions (which for us are philosophical) that come to his mind, multiply, and detach from the here-and-now, shuffling off in an unknown direction.

It is hard not to find oneself in the shoes of the little philosopher on account of the unique illustrations by Agata Królak. Her characteristic use of colour patches and lines, the richness of tints and details in unexpected combinations, provide those moments to collect one's breath the child's amazement and fascination with the world. (A.K.Sz.)

# The Interlaced

There are nine heroes in this book. Each of them is divided into three parts: head, torso, and limbs. All nine are assigned sentences – also in three parts. Each head has a subject – a name such as Iniquitous Tamara, Elegant Bob, and Dreamy Zosia. The torso and hands are provided with a statement – an action that the character performs such as eating, scrubbing, or tracking. The legs, however, stand firmly on the ground in the company of various objects.

## The Interlaced

Maria Dek

Wydawnictwo Dwie Siostry

Warszawa 2019

190 x 130, 18 pages

ISBN 978-83-8150-065-4

Translation rights:

Wydawnictwo Dwie Siostry

jadzia@wydawnictwodwiesiostry.pl

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**Maria Dek** is an illustrator and author of picture books. She is a graduate of the University of the Arts in London and the Academy of Fine Arts in Warsaw. She cooperates with domestic and foreign publishing houses (her books have been published in various countries including France, Spain, and the US). She readily uses traditional artistic techniques.



## DISTINCTION

in the competition of the Polish Section of IBBY for Book Of The Year 2019



Part of the sentence assigned to them is complementary: clouds of strange shapes, a bicycle with a hundred wheels or someone's dirty knees. All the characters are funny, and also deal with something interesting, comical, or puzzling. But the uniqueness of this book lies in the fact that these body parts can be freely mixed and combined, or interwoven as the title suggests. Each head fits every torso, which fits every pair of legs.

Sentences are thought out so that, regardless of the combination, they create grammatically correct statements, which at the same time are deliciously nonsensical, humorously absurd, and encourage further, more interesting trials and experiments. The nine heroes thus expand to seven hundred twenty-nine, and their increasingly bizarre adventures lead not only to laughter, but also reflection on the diversity of life.

All this is drawn in the casual style typical of Maria Dek: beautiful colours, funny details, and the intriguing appearances of sympathetic characters. (A.Cz.)

# Sparrows on the Trash Can

*'Sparrows on the Trash Can' is a counting book, from 1 to 10. The artist familiarises children with counting in a simple, unpretentious way. Here one sparrow sits on the trash can, then the second, third... tenth, until finally a whole throng of them gathers, before flying away after a while.*

## **Sparrows on the Trash Can**

Józef Wilkoń

Wydawnictwo Hokus-Pokus

Warszawa 2018

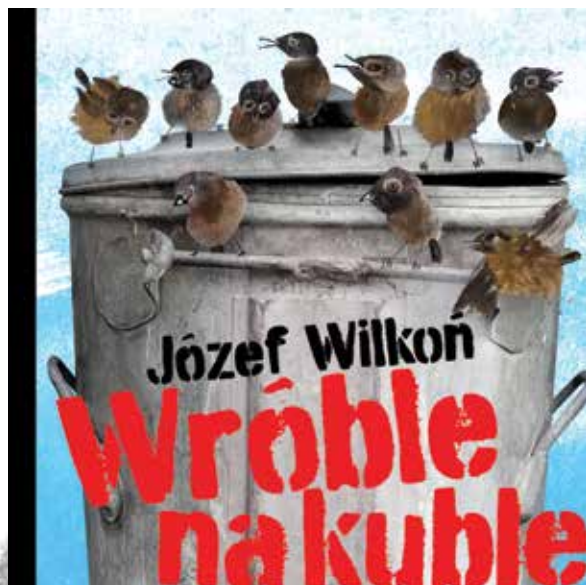
206 x 206, 24 pages

ISBN: 978-83-604-0270-2

Translation rights:

Wydawnictwo Hokus-Pokus

marta@hokus-pokus.pl



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## **Józef Wilkoń**

(1930) is an illustrator, painter, sculptor, and creator of posters and theatrical scenery. He studied painting at the Academy of Fine Arts in Kraków. He has illustrated over 100 books for children and adults in Poland and over 80 for children abroad. He has received many awards and distinctions, and has exhibited his works in many galleries and museums around the world.

Józef Wilkoń is a national treasure. The author turns 90 this year, and is still a creative artist open to new challenges. He is a painter, illustrator and art historian who co-founded the Polish School of Illustration.

The sparrows are briskly painted. Grays, blacks, browns — these are Józef Wilkoń's favourite colours. Each bird is different. Here, one can see characteristic spots or lines which, drawn by the painter's hand, reflect the nature of these charming birds. In the background, one can see the blue sky, next to large red numbers, which seem carved from wood. This creates a perfect contrast for gray-brown sparrows. The poem rhymes and is simple, funny, and catchy.

Everything, including the cover, the endpapers, to the very last page creates a small work of art with which a child can interact with from an early age. It is beautiful and beneficial. (M.L.G.)



# ZOO

The book with which the master of words Jarosław Mikołajewski pays tribute to another master – Jan Brzechwa – is unique volume. These are poems about animals, but far from the usual fare. Mikołajewski lets his imagination run wild, inviting readers to do the same – not only children, but also parents; the text will delight both.

## ZOO

Jarosław Mikołajewski

Elżbieta Wasiuczyńska

Wydawnictwo Agora

Warszawa 2019

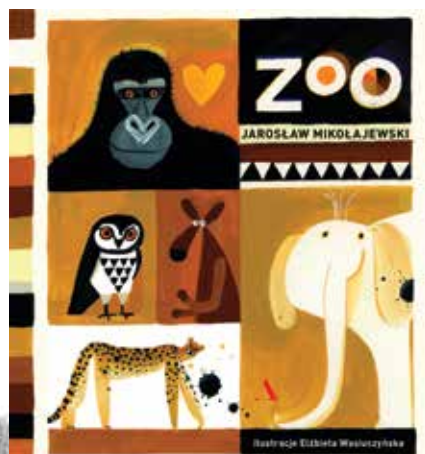
215 x 230, 48 pages

ISBN: 978-83-268-2838-6

Translation rights:

Wydawnictwo Agora

katarzyna.kubicka@agora.pl



## Jarosław Mikołajewski

(1960) is a poet, writer, and translator from Italian. He is the author of children's books, an essayist, and publicist. He is a laureate of literary and artistic awards, including the Kazimiera Iłkowińska Prize, and was twice awarded the Literary Prize of the Capital City of Warsaw.



## DISTINCTION

in the competition of The Polish Section of IBBY for Book of the Year 2007



## Elżbieta Wasiuczyńska

(1966) is a painter, graphic designer, and illustrator of children's books. She graduated from the Academy of Fine Arts in Kraków with degrees in painting and graphic design. She works with children's magazines and companies designing clothing and accessories for children. She received a distinction at the Pro-Bologna exhibition in 2001 for her illustrations for books from the Mr Roly-Poly series.

Here animals engage in surprising conversations, the narrator gives comical warnings, children will burst out laughing again and again, while adults will appreciate situational humor and comments that masterfully use the nuances of language by playing with meaning and sound.

This collection is a great complement or alternative to the classics, introducing children not only to the world of poetry, but literature in general. The amount of fun the book provides allows for building important relationships between parent and child, and associating one's first literary contacts with joy and delight.

The illustrations by Elżbieta Wasiuczyńska are of great value to the book. They complement the text by creating a multi-coloured landscape – its variability and diversity frees the child's imagination. The blaze of colours tamed by geometric compositional methods is a beautiful artistic metaphor for a zoo as a space ordered by man. (A.K.Sz.)



# Poems for Colouring

*'Poems for Colouring' are also poems for discussion and poems for slow reading, which Michał Zabłocki writes in his introduction, which constitutes a manual of sorts for his volume. The poet has created this book in artistic cooperation with his son, three-year-old Ignacy, and this method has turned out to be a very interesting accomplishment in the field of children's poetry.*

## Poems for Colouring

Michał Zabłocki

Agata Dębicka

Czuły Barbarzyńca Press

Warszawa 2019

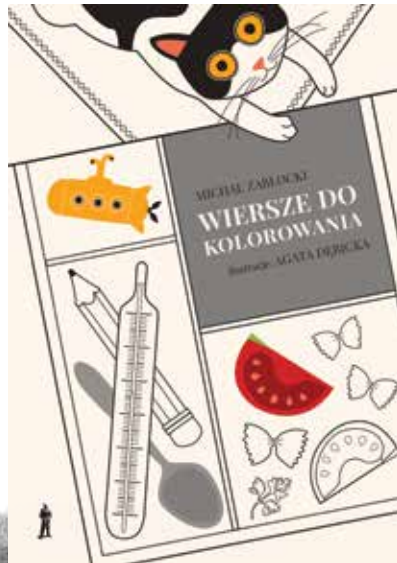
210 x 297, 48 pages

ISBN: 978-83-953-8397-7

Translation rights:

Michał Zabłocki

michal@poemat.com.pl



### Michał Zabłocki

— poet, originator and organizer of multimedia poetic initiatives known under the collective name of 'Multipoetry,' which consist of poems written the the online multilanguage portal [emultipoetry.eu](http://emultipoetry.eu), as well as Poetry on the Walls. He was awarded by the Ministry of Culture in 2004.



## NOMINATION

in the competition of The Polish Section of IBBY for Book of the Year 2019



### Agata Dębicka

graduated from the Academy of Fine Arts in Kraków. She is a multimedia graphic artist. Her projects include books, posters and visual identification. She is the graphic artist for the Czas Literatry literary quarterly.

Far from having careless rhymes, these are original compositions with which young readers come into contact at every possible opportunity. In 'Poems for Colouring,' rhymes are missing, but there are inspirational metaphors and beautiful poetic phrases testifying to an excellent poetic technique. At the same time, these poems are very child-like: they delight with the freshness of perspective, due to which everyday life acquires more interesting colours than imaginary lands, asking the world unobvious questions and contemplating the secrets of speech and human nature.

In these stanzas, tomato soup resembles a beautiful dream, and sadness comes suddenly on a spring morning. 'Mom packs a TV and forty-four books in her suitcase', and 'life is hard because you always have to choose.'

Zabłocki's poems are ideal for reading together, and it is no coincidence that they are accompanied by things to colour, which encourage concentration, inviting one to contemplate and process the poetic content. (A.Cz.)

6 +

Babcocha

Balticarium

The Book of Trees

Ariadne's Thread

Mr Deer

Enjoy Your  
Meal, Wolf



Garden of Garbage:  
Zero Waste

I Saw a Beautiful Woodpecker





# Babcocha

*Each of us has a desire to repair the world; everyone would like more good than bad to happen around them. Grajdołek is a small town where people often succumb to their weaknesses and temptations. Babcocha appears in such a world, a good witch who helps the inhabitants of Grajdołek become better.*

The book consists of 54 short stories in which one can find inspiration from fairy tales and folk beliefs. The dynamic plot pattern is comprised of important points: identification of bad behaviour, Babcocha's intervention, the character's learning experience, followed by the obvious improvement in the character.

## Babcocha

Justyna Bednarek

Daniel de Latour

Wydawnictwo Poradnia K

Warszawa 2018

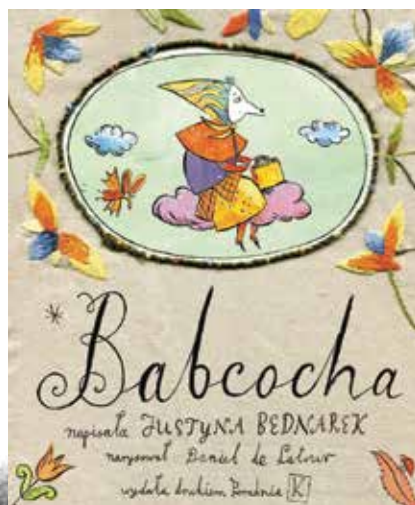
170 x 205, 132 pages

ISBN: 978-83-66005-04-4

Translation rights:

Wydawnictwo Poradnia K

k.jaszecka@poczta.fm



## Daniel de Latour

(1971) is an illustrator, graphic designer, and musician. He's illustrated many children's books and school textbooks. His graphic novel won an award in a competition of the Museum of the Warsaw Uprising. He works with magazines for children and adults.



## Justyna Bednarek

(1970) is Romance language specialist, journalist, and editor. Her most popular work is the novel 'The Incredible Adventures of Ten Socks', which readers voted best children's book in the 2015 Empik Comma and Full Stop competition. She also received the 2016 City of Warsaw Literary Award and The Kornel Makuszyński Literary Award for 'Mr Kardan and the Vetustas Adventure'.

In Grajdołek, punishment is an opportunity to understand one's mistakes. For instance, when a character thinks about buying a horse to use it for hard labour, hurrying it with a whip, Babcocha gives him a chance to understand how cruel his intentions are by leading him to the horse market, where 'everything was the other way around. People stood tethered by ropes, and horses walked among them and grumbled.' At this market, the hero himself is also bought. After returning to normality, he confesses to his horse that he will never hurt him.

This is how Babcocha teaches people who are good, but somewhat ignorant of their deeds, true empathy. After all, evil deeds are often committed unconsciously or through a lack of reflection — this is what the book teaches.

Wisdom is revealed by the author in funny situations, through the working up of friendly characters, the creation of a certain fairy-tale matrix. Witty, colourful illustrations help to fashion the atmosphere of the book. It is worth going to Grajdołek, preferably with the whole family together, of course. (M.M.)



## NOMINATION

in the competition of The Polish Section of IBBY for Book of the Year 2018

THE WHITE RAVENS 2018

# Balticarium

*'Balticarium' is one of the few children's books devoted to the Baltic Sea – perhaps the only one. As a sea that is endangered, its status is significant. Among other issues, the number of animals living in it is constantly decreasing. This is therefore one of the most important reasons to read this book carefully.*

## Balticarium

Natalia Uryniuk

Wytwórnia

Warszawa 2019

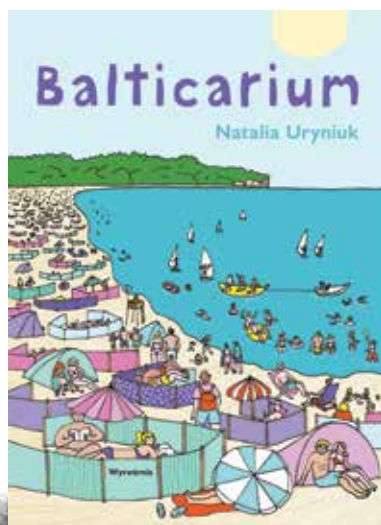
270 x 370, 72 pages

ISBN: 978-83-64011-68-9

Translation rights:

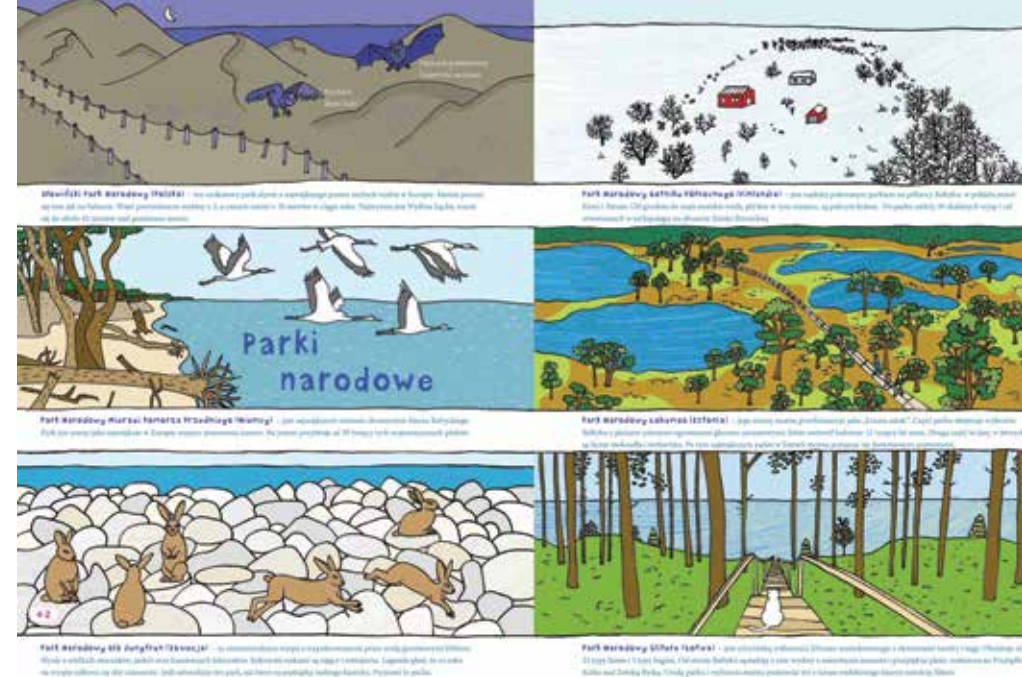
Wytwórnia

magdalenaklos@wytwornia.com



## Natalia Uryniuk

is a PhD student at the Academy of Fine Arts in Gdańsk, where she specialises in painting and graphics, creates educational games for children, illustrates books and designs clothing. As an illustrator she has participated in numerous art exhibitions, including galleries in Kuala Lumpur, Cairo, Berlin, Hong Kong, Porto, Beijing or Singapore.



Although she hails from Gdańsk, author Natalia Uryniuk practically did not know anything about the Baltic. One day, she decided to change that, creating a portal (<https://www.balticarium.com>) and a book about the Baltic Sea. It describes the location and history of its creation, summer and winter customs of taking advantage of the sea's charms, as well as characteristic features of the sea. Amber, i.e. Baltic gold, as well as descriptions of fauna and flora are presented with light humour in this book.

'Balticarium' is full of scientific content sans encyclopedic boredom. The author does not stop at obvious bits of information related to the Baltic Sea. She presents the sea also from a historical and cultural perspective (including customs associated in individual countries bordering the Baltic Sea, as well as famous people born beside it), as well as from the perspective of fairy tales – we find here descriptions of stories and creators of unforgettable stories (H. Ch. Andersen or Tove Jansson). (O.B.P.)



# The Book of Trees

*'The Book of Trees' is another large-format album (following the best-selling and internationally known Book of Bees) by this pair of creators. The publication combines the features of a scientific lecture with a hint of fairytale and a deft sense of humour.*

The doctor of biology is responsible for the substantive part, while the full-page illustrations have been prepared by one of the most popular Polish illustrators in prominent magazines and newspapers, known for creating artwork full of unusual details and a sense of humour.

## The Book of Trees

Wojciech Grajkowski,  
Piotr Socha

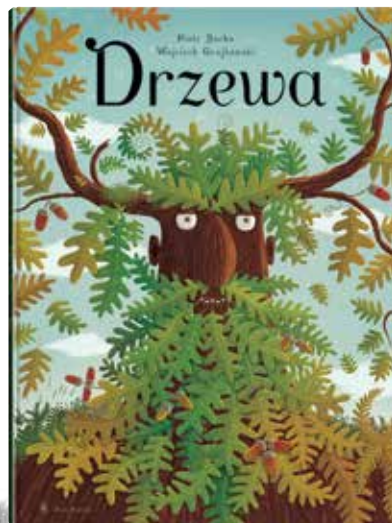
Wydawnictwo Dwie Siostry  
Warszawa 2018

272 x 370, 72 pages

Translation rights:

Wydawnictwo Dwie Siostry

jadzia@wydawnictwodwiesiostry.pl



**Piotr Socha**  
is a graphic artist,  
designer, and illustrator.  
He designs books, board  
games, audiobooks,  
and logos.



**Wojciech Grajkowski**  
is a doctor of biology and  
co-author of a series of  
books on nature.

The authors of the book start by listing facts, i.e. they explain what a tree is and what it is not; what leaves and roots are and what characterises them, in order to move onto other issues such as endemics, baobabs, prehistoric trees, the highest trees, and the thickest trees. In this book, however, we read not only about all the unique qualities associated with the biological side of tree science, but we also learn about historical curiosities related to them, cultural references, and even how trees are connected with literature and music.

This huge amount of knowledge is inscribed among full-page, rich and elaborate illustrations presented on over 34 large-format spreads.

All of us have seen a tree. It therefore seems obvious it has roots, a trunk, branches, and leaves, but the authors of the book 'The Book of Trees' have managed to collect and present so many facts and surprising details, collected from so many fields of science, that we will never look at a tree the same way again. (O.B.P.)



**A BOOK OF THE WEEK**

by Times Magazine

Translated into 26 languages

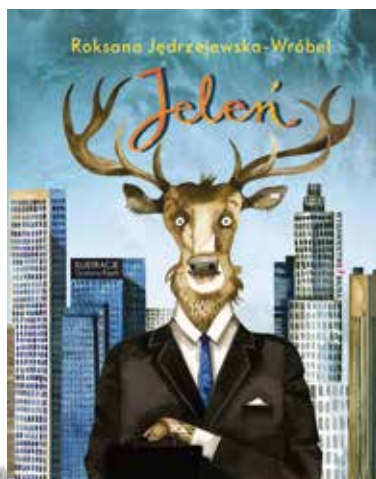
# Mr Deer

*The life of the titular Mr Deer is very simple: he leaves his apartment only for work or the library. He only moves by car. His world is safely surrounded by the walls of a house or a car. However, one day, after returning from work, Mr Deer cannot park in his place because a neighbour's car is already parked there, and there is no other free space.*

In search of a place to park, he drives around helplessly, sometimes with horror, increasingly distancing himself from his apartment. The situation seems not to have a solution... When Mr Deer is able to park his vehicle and leave, he is afraid to do so, and thus he travels further, further and further, to places he does not know at all. The only way out is to keep going. However, the ride itself is not the point of this book, but the space to which it leads the titular hero.

## Mr Deer

Roksana Jędrzejewska-Wróbel  
Grażyna Rigall  
Wydawnictwo Bajka  
Warszawa 2018  
205 x 260, 36 pages  
ISBN 978-83-65479-33-4  
Translation rights:  
Wydawnictwo Bajka  
k.jaszecka@poczta.fm



**Roksana Jędrzejewska-Wróbel** (1969) is doctor of literature, has written dozens of books for children, which have received many awards and distinctions. She also writes scripts and stage adaptations.



THE WHITE RAVENS 2019



**Grażyna Rigall** (1970) is a painter, a illustrator of children's book, and a graphic designer. A graduate of the Academy of Fine Arts in Gdańsk. Her greatest professional passion is designing and making unique dolls which she presents at numerous exhibitions in Poland and throughout the world.

This book forces us to ask ourselves: Where is my place? Where can I feel safe? What is my true nature? Is what I do during the day good for me?

Unexpectedly for himself, Mr Deer probably discovers his true self. Are we, small and big readers, ready for it? Do we know what we like, what we are afraid of, what our dreams are?

'Mr Deer' is a book that is significant for its simplicity. The seemingly uncomplicated story opens a space for reflection, which may result in the questions asked above. However, each reader can and should follow their own path of reflection stimulated by this book.

It is worth paying attention to the illustrations of Grażyna Rigall. Just like the hero of the book, we may feel a little confused when we are looking for the rest of the story. It is what at the same time stimulates us to greater curiosity and a desire to read on. (O.B.P.)



# Ariadne's Thread

*'Ariadne's Thread' is a wonderful combination of a work of art, an activity book, and a compendium of knowledge about Greek mythology. The huge book consists of labyrinths and is a labyrinth itself.*

Illustrated madness full of gods, heroes, monsters, people, cities, dances, and events is consistently maintained in the style inspired by the iconography and typography of Ancient Greece.

## **Ariadne's Thread**

Jan Bajtlik

Wydawnictwo Dwie Siostry

Warszawa 2018

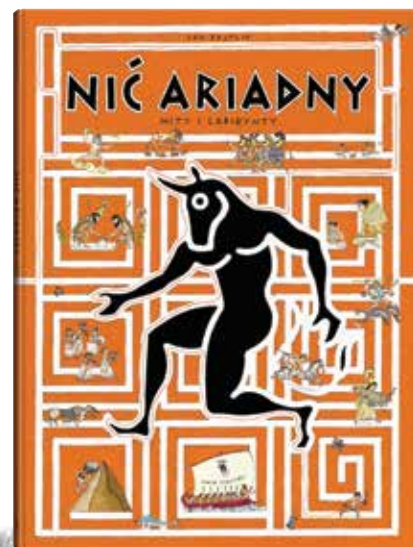
272 x 360, 72 pages

ISBN 978-83-65341-99-0

Translation rights:

Wydawnictwo Dwie Siostry

[jadzia@wydawnictwodwiesiostry.pl](mailto:jadzia@wydawnictwodwiesiostry.pl)

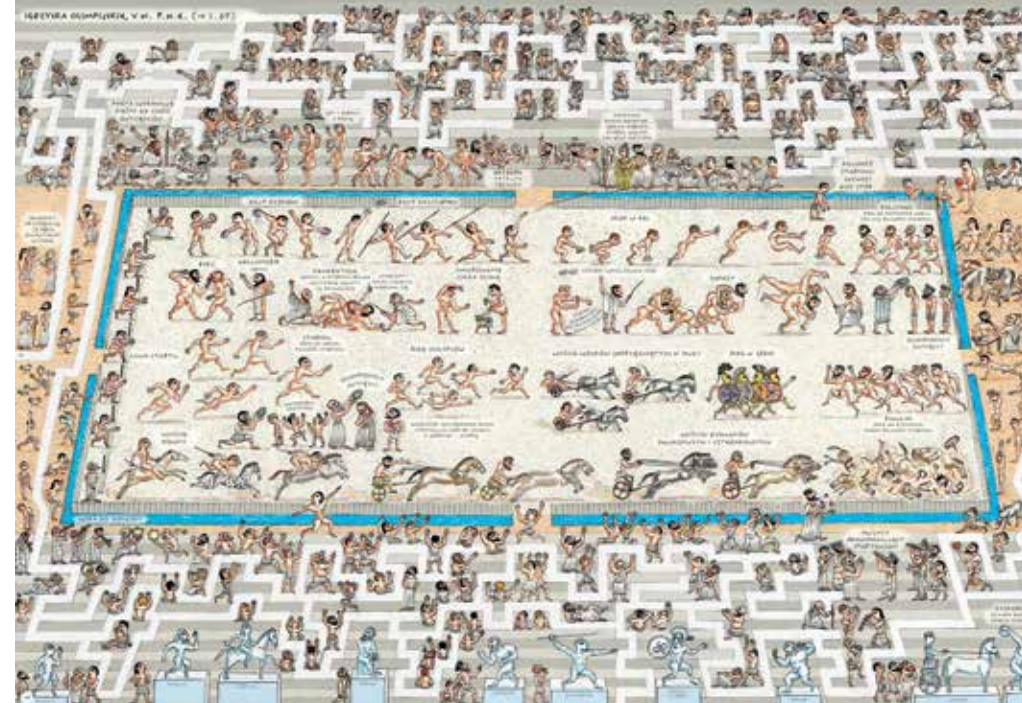


**THE WHITE RAVENS 2019**

## **DISTINCTION**

in the competition of The Polish Section  
of IBBY for Book of the Year 2018

Translated into 12 languages



**Jan Bajtlik** (1989) is multidisciplinary artist working in the fields of illustration, graphic design, painting, and drawing. He graduated from the Graphic Arts Faculty at the Academy of Fine Arts in Warsaw (2013). His works have been exhibited worldwide. Jan received numerous awards in national and international graphic competitions.

There is an expedition for the Golden Fleece and the terrifying descendants of the great Typhon; the twelve labours of Heracles and the palace at Knossos; the Trojan War and Odysseus' expedition. There is also Sisyphus and the whole tragedy of his fate aptly shown on one spread.

All of this is provided with concise informational notes, accessible explanations, and useful instructions that make 'Ariadne's Thread' fit into the educational ideal of our time: to entertain and teach. Jan Bajtlik's book will appeal to both five-year-olds and secondary school students. It will also delight adults because it lends itself to family reading, thanks to which much time can be spent together: follow the fate of successive tiny figurines, examine the family tree of the divine inhabitants of Olympus, and remember the exotic names of mythical monsters.

Just grab the title thread of Ariadne firmly and let yourself be guided through the successive mazes of Greek stories. (A.Cz.)

# Enjoy Your Meal, Wolf

*Marta Guśniowska has already proven her enormous writing talent with her award-winning book 'Let the Goose Kick.' Her new novel is another feast for the young reader. It is full of unconventional heroes, brilliant dialogues, and comic twists – it will captivate both child and parent.*

This time the hero is an old, somewhat grouchy wolf tired of life. Nothing upsets him like any and all deviation from routine, nothing irritates him more than guests. Badly reared, he thinks mainly about himself, and to be honest it is hard to bear with him. One day a hedgehog knocks on his door, an adorable rabbit in fact dressed as a hedgehog – an orphan. The adult reader can easily guess what has happened to its missing dad and who is to blame. However, the rabbit has no idea, nor does it know what life in the forest is like. Can a wolf be its foster dad? Will the wolf deceive the laws of nature and escort the rabbit safely to its grandmother? The idea seems absolutely ridiculous, but the characters set off, on a path that will change them.

## Enjoy Your Meal, Wolf

Marta Guśniowska

Jaga Słowińska

Wydawnictwo Tashka

Warszawa 2018

150 x 300, 104 pages

ISBN: 978-83-64634-37-6

Translation rights: Tashka

k.jaszecka@poczta.fm



## Marta Guśniowska

(1979) is a famous and award-winning fairytale writer, author of almost a hundred plays staged in most Polish children's theatres and many outside Poland. She received The Ferdynand Wspaniały Award for 'Let the Goose Kick'.



## Jaga Słowińska

is the author of illustrations for children's books and magazines. She graduated from the Wrocław Academy of Fine Arts.

This wonderful, warm, hilarious story shows how stereotypes can disorient us, how many of them are contingent upon us, and how much we change under the influence of others, especially when we begin to (really) depend on them. The author shows an important intergenerational aspect as well. It turns out that not only the wolf is needed by the rabbit, but the old-timer gains tremendously through this encounter as well.

The book 'Enjoy Your Meal, Wolf' is also a gem of editorial work. Excellent, subtle illustrations by Jaga Słowińska rounds out the book, creating an unusual atmosphere for the story. (A.K.Sz.)



# Garden of Garbage: Zero Waste

'Garden of Garbage' is an ingenious album that, through words and images, makes us aware of how we humans pollute our planet on a daily basis: 'too many people produce too much garbage every day. We produce too quickly things that breaks down too slowly.' From these two specific sentences springs the core work of the author, who reveals step by step how excess packaging made of plastics affects the condition of the Earth.

## Garden of Garbage: Zero Waste

Aleksandra Woldańska-Płocińska  
Papilon  
Poznań 2019  
308 x 249, 80 pages  
ISBN: 978-83-271-0442-7  
Translation rights:  
Papilon  
papilon@publicat.pl



**Aleksandra Woldańska-Płocińska** (1985) is a graphic designer, illustrator, and children's book author. In 2010, her book won an award for the Most Beautiful Book of the Year of 2009 in the competition organized by the Polish Society of Book Publishers.

The book consists of short chapters in which the author simply, briefly and specifically shows how we poison the Earth and what we can do to save it. The author is above all a recognized illustrator, and the image is a great asset in her book. Full-page, colourful illustrations will certainly reach young readers, maybe even more so than the words. The informational content is very specific, written in plain language. There are a lot of inspiring curiosities here. Tips often seem obvious, but the simplest things are the hardest to do. The book thus makes us aware of that we can change the world for the better with small steps.

The author provides condensed knowledge in an attractive form that is readable by people around the world. Almost every page or spread can be a poster that rallies people to live according to the zero waste movement. (M.L.G.)



# I Saw a Beautiful Woodpecker

*This is a unique book. It seems to be a simple diary of a child who, during the holidays of 1939, writes one sentence each day describing ordinary everyday life. The boy is eight years old at the time and he has to record one event to pass to the second grade.*

And so he does. He writes, calligraphically, simple sentences in a lined notebook. 'I was with a friend in the woods.' 'I was with my grandmother on a walk.' 'I found a large caterpillar and carried it to my garden.' 'I saw a beautiful woodpecker'... One can see that the boy is trying. He makes mistakes, sometimes corrects them. This is a humble record of simple events from the summer of 1939. This boy is an authentic character. Michał Skibiński survived World War II, and his notebook survived wartime.

## ***I Saw a Beautiful Woodpecker***

Michał Skibiński

Helena Stiasny

Wydawnictwo Dwie Siostry

Warszawa

140 x 200, 128 pages

ISBN 978-83-8150-058-6

Translation rights:

Wydawnictwo Dwie Siostry

jadzia@wydawnictwodwiesiostry.pl



### **Helena Stiasny**

(1997) is a painter, photographer, and creator of animated films. She is a student at the Faculty of Graphic Arts at the Warsaw Academy of Fine Arts.



## **MENTION**

of the Opera Prima category in BolognaRagazzi Award competition 2019

## **DISTINCTION**

in the competition of The Polish Section of IBBY for Book of the Year 2019



### **Michał Skibiński**

(1930) formerly: a first-grade graduate in a Warsaw primary school, today: a calm, elderly man.

After several dozen years, using the illustrations of a student, he has transformed it into a poignant book, a book of witness. Helena Stiasny's pictures, with their painterlyness, grandeur and texture, perfectly outline the atmosphere of hot summer holidays in 1939. At the beginning of the book, the vivid colours of the pictures perfectly reflect the carefree summer atmosphere of fun. Luscious green, blue skies, warm browns, the yellow peace of interiors...

On September 1, 1939, the boy writes down the sentence: 'War has begun.' The colours and mood of the pictures change. They get darker and more terrifying with each page. One feels the terror and pronouncement of drama. Michał Skibiński survived, but millions lost their lives during World War II. In this context, the entire book takes on a different sense. The sweeping strokes of the brush of a young student with the simple sentences of a little boy from that time are crushing. This book is a simple but extremely suggestive and painful record of a child innocence lost forever. (M.L.G.)



g +

Bajka at the End of the World (series)

How Hard It is to be King

The Water Queen

Little Puck and the mystery  
of poorthing / Little Puck and  
the Stone Angel

Mirabelle

Let's play! A Musical Rumpus  
from Little Richard to Bjork

Travelers

Lost Island





# Bajka at the End of the World

(series)

*For several years, comics have been experiencing a real renaissance. Marcin Podolec, a talented screenwriter and cartoonist, has created a pair of original characters : Victoria, a nice girl who is a bit chubby and gap-toothed, and Bajka, a talking dog. Together, they wander through the gloomy, apocalyptic landscape in search of the heroine's parents.*

We do not know what has happened to them. The world has been hit by a cataclysm. Stumps of trees protrude from the ground, there is no vegetation, sometimes empty buildings emerge from the fog in which Victoria and Bajka find shelter.



## ***Bajka at the End of the World (series)***

Marcin Podolec

Wydawnictwo Kultura Gniewu

Warszawa 2017

185 x 250, 64 pages

ISBN: 978-83-64858-59-8

Translation rights:

szymon@kultura.com.pl

marcinpodolec@gmail.com

Rights sold to: France, Spain

## **ADAPTATION**

an animated cartoon series based on the comic book in production.



The action develops slowly, the author explains little at the beginning, but skillfully distributes tension throughout the story, which in turn fuels our interest in the story of a girl who is only a few years old.



## **Marcin Podolec**

(1991) is a Polish graphic designer and comic book artist. His comics have been published outside of Poland, including France, Spain, and Germany. His comics 'Sometimes,' with his illustrations, was recognized as the best Polish comics work in 2011 by the Polish Comics Association.

An interesting practice is casting female characters in lead roles. They wonderfully complement, supplement, and support each other.

It is an on-the-road story. Wiktorina bravely wanders through the empty world with Bajka at her side. It is a story about an extraordinary friendship between dog and human. It is a story about longing for one's family.

The picture frames of the comic are transparent and legible. The line is simple but expressive, which brings out the individuality of the heroines. The colour scheme is strong, but warm, thanks to which this apocalyptic landscape is not so intense. There is a lot of wit here and despite the ubiquitous emptiness, a lot of optimism. (M.L.G.)

# How Hard It is to be King

*Janusz Korczak's classic 'King Matt the First,' the most widely known Polish novel for children abroad, has undergone a modern artistic interpretation. Iwona Chmielewska has chosen and illustrated only those passages of the story that make up the tale of power.*

A little boy becomes king and he finds that ruling does not mean doing what you feel like doing. Cooperation with ministers and waging wars prove difficult; it is not easy to take care of the state budget, and it also requires skill to gain and keep the good will of subjects.

## **How Hard It is to be King**

Janusz Korczak

Iwona Chmielewska

Wydawnictwo Wolno

Muzeum Historii

Żydów Polskich POLIN

Warszawa — Lusowo, 2018

185 x 265, 48 pages

ISBN 978-83-951861-1-0

Translation rights:

Wydawnictwo Wolno

j.borowiec@wydawnictwowolno.pl

Rights sold to:

France, Korea



## **Iwona Chmielewska**

*is an illustrator and creator of author's picture books published all over the world. Her books have been published in South Korea, Japan, Spain, France, and Germany. She is the winner of many prestigious awards, including Golden Apples at the Illustration Biennale in Bratislava and three times won the Bologna Ragazzi Award (2011, 2013, 2020).*



The figure of King Matt, modelled on the picture of Korczak at eleven, appears in all the illustrations. He has with him a crown — sometimes small, almost toy-like, on which you can play a rhythm as if on a drum, and sometimes huge, overwhelming with its weight. At times, the crown has the power of wings, allowing one to rise to the very sky. At other times it is like shackles crushing one mercilessly to the ground.



## **Janusz Korczak**

*(1878-1942) was a writer, doctor, pedagogue, educator. After graduating from medical school and interning at a children's hospital, he managed the Warsaw Orphans' House for Jewish children.*

With the talent of Iwona Chmielewska, a snaggle-toothed boy in red attire becomes close and understandable to contemporary readers. His dilemmas are their dilemmas, his responsibility is their responsibility, because the fact that nobody, even the king, is omnipotent, that life is associated not only with victories but also with failures, and that everyone bears the consequences of their own decisions, is relatable and always relevant. It would be difficult to find someone more skilled at showing this than the surprising duo of Janusz Korczak and Iwona Chmielewska. (A.Cz.)



# The Water Queen

*'The Water Queen' is a novel combining many genres. It has a psychological dimension, referring to the painful, though currently widespread problem of so-called patchwork families.*

The young heroes have to deal with a situation in which they have a 'new mother,' a 'new dad,' and moreover a new place of residence. And this location, distant from the city, devoid of the digital comforts of modern times, becomes a space of adventures happening in the context of fantastic motifs based on Slavic mythology.

## **The Water Queen**

Marcin Szczygielski

Instytut Wydawniczy Latarnik

Warszawa 2019

138 x 205, 331 pages

ISBN: 978-83-63841-48-5

Translation rights:

Instytut Wydawniczy Latarnik

latarnik@latarnik.com.pl



## **Marcin Szczygielski**

(1972) is a writer, journalist and graphic designer. A three-time winner of the Astrid Lindgren Grand Prix Literary Competition, winner of the Duży Dong Award, Green Gosling and City of Warsaw Literary Award. He was also several times nominated and awarded in the competition organized by The Polish Section of IBBY.

Here, the real world collides with the past, recalled through the fairy-tale history of the family of the 'new father' and his son. Home and garden begin to live spontaneously as if they were deciding for themselves.

The young heroes confront an unspoken, mystery tale about the death of 13 children and a mysterious woman, whose portrait is found by Aga, the heroine of the novel. The answer to many questions lies in the garden pond and purple roses that have always bloomed, but suddenly wither.

The feeling of horror and mystery is enhanced by black and white illustrations of aquatic animals with highly eclectic shapes.

The end of the book does not end the adventures of the heroes, according to the motto written in it: 'End with the beginning, begin with the end'. The last sentence of the novel opens up adventures to come: 'For starters... — the water gurgled under the blue bowl — ...you must open a well to start with. We will start from here.'

Marcin Szczygielski's novels cannot be put off; we abandon one book to reach for another; after the end there is a beginning. (M.M.)



# Little Puck and the mystery of poorthing / Little Puck and the Stone Angel

*Bożydar's house is full of creatures not of this world, each of which has its own place and role to fulfill. Giant Crackers, a monster from the abyss, equipped with a lot of prehensile tentacles, gives free rein to his culinary talents by creating tasty home-made dishes, although perhaps not entirely dietary. Licho, a tiny and chubby guardian angel, allergic to the feathers of his own wings, loves to clean more than anyone else in the world, and afterwrads have fun.*



## AWARD

in the competition for Book of the Year of The Polish Section of IBBY 2019

## Little Puck and the mystery of poorthing

## Little Puck and the Stone Angel

Marta Kisiel, Paulina Wyr  
Wilga / GW Foksal  
Warszawa 2018

135 x 200, 304 pages

ISBN: 978-83-280-5221-5 (1st part)

Translation rights:

Grupa Wydawnicza Foksal

krystyna.kolakowska@gwfoksal.pl

Rights sold to Russia

## AWARD

Ferdinand and the Splendid award for the Best Book for Children and Young People in 2018



## Paulina Wyr

is an illustrator, art historian, and graduate of the Animation Department at the University of Arts in Poznań.



## Marta Kisiel

(1982) is a fantasy writer, Polish philologist, and author of books for children and adults.



Ghosts of German soldiers live in the attic, good-natured Gucio, a cephalopod, is accommodated under the bed, and Uncle Turu, a powerful and bearded Viking, makes sure that nobody oversteps the bounds out of common sense. Bożydar's mother is quite an ordinary person, while his dad is not. It is on account of the latter that the boy has a passion for romantic poetry and a tendency to get into trouble. Going to school or a trip to his aunt, events that most children experience without major turmoil, end up being for Bożydar dangerous trips to the afterlife, where someone always needs to be saved from oppression.

Marta Kisiel constructs a world recklessly and with originality à la Neil Gaiman, whose world we know has a tendency to transform into a mysterious and magical reality. The narrative sparkles with humor: the mundane problems arising from the fact that one house is inhabited by many creatures completely different in size, character, and temperament, counters the loftiness of heroic deeds.

Finally, it turns out that only love and acceptance count because everyone needs them: children and adults, people and non-people, angels and monsters. (A.Cz)

# Mirabelle

*The story in Harasimowicz's novel unfolds at a varied pace (including years and seasons): children and trees grow together, sharing an extraordinary bond. The narrative is conducted in a simple but colourful way, because it is 'through the eyes of a tree,' which has an unusual gift: the ability to talk to children.*

The mirabelle as described in this wonderful book really existed, a witness to many happy and dramatic moments in the lives of the inhabitants of Muranów — one of the neighbourhoods of Warsaw.

## Mirabelle

Cezary Harasimowicz

Marta Kurczewska

Zielona Sowa

Warszawa 2018

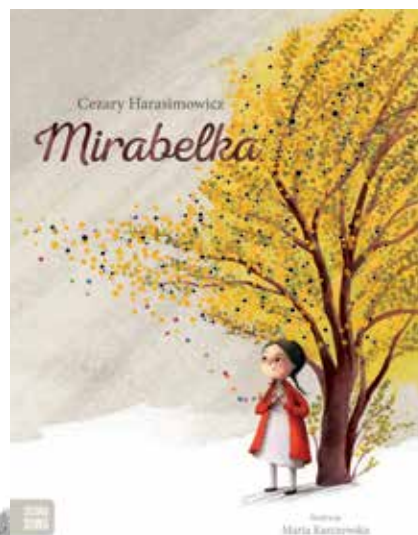
165 x 215, 200 pages

ISBN 978-83-8073-771-6

Translation rights:

Zielona Sowa

maja.trybulec@zielonasowa.pl



**Marta Kurczewska**  
(1977) is the author of illustrations for children's books.



## AWARD

City of Warsaw Literary Award 2019

## DISTINCTION

in the competition of The Polish Section of IBBY for Book of the Year 2018



**Cezary Harasimowicz**  
is a screenwriter, actor, playwright, writer. He published nine novels. Winner of the American screenwriting competition 'Hartley-Merrill Prize'. Member of the European Film Academy.

Small mirabelles turn into plum trees, and small children grow up, starting families and having to face adversities. In the course of the story, we learn the story of individual heroes: Dorka, Chaim or Mr. Friedman, as well as the history of 20th-century Poland, including the tragedy of the Second World War.

The youngest residents have fun under the mirabelle tree, councils take place, and lovers kiss each other for the first time. However, not only words are important in this story — it also refers to the readers' other senses. The tree not only hears but also feels. Together, we experience the world: summer wind, winter frost, the warmth of the spring sun, and conflagration.

The Mirabelle sparkles with emotions like beads from the factory of one of the characters. We experience wonder at love, fear of war, the hardships of growing up and sweet memories of youth.

The book is complemented by illustrations by Marta Kurczewska: full of colours, yet clean and transparent in a beautiful way reflecting the features of individual characters and changes that have taken place in the architectural structure of Warsaw over the years. (O.B.P.)



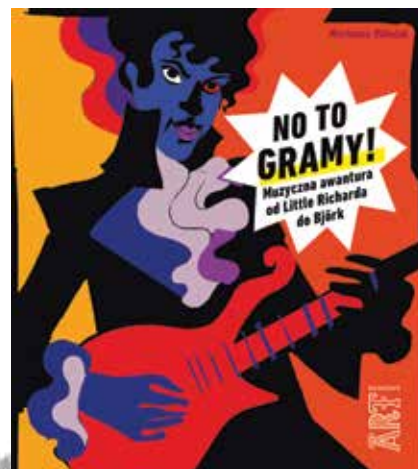
# Let's Play! A Musical Rumpus from Little Richard to Björk

*Marianna Oklejak, a recognised and award-winning illustrator with knowledge and love for music has created a unique album about contemporary entertainment music. On 128 large-format pages, the author presents giants of various styles of 20th century music.*

We have here icons of pop culture such as David Bowie, Björk, and Prince (who gazes at us from the cover). Nobel laureate Bob Dylan is juxtaposed with Czesław Niemen. Here are two personalities looking at us. The entire Beatles spread reveals the phenomenon of the band. The four lads from Liverpool break through crowd of fainting admirers. Iggy Pop throws himself from the stage into a crowd of fans and Elvis Presley, in a characteristic pose, softens the hearts of women.

## **Let's Play! A Musical Rumpus from Little Richard to Björk**

Marianna Oklejak  
Wydawnictwo Egmont  
Warszawa 2019  
245 x 275, 112 pages  
ISBN: 9788328120976  
Translation rights: Egmont  
rights@egmont.pl



## **NOMINATION**

in the competition of the polish section of IBBY for Book of the Year 2019



## **Marianna Oklejak**

(1981) is a graphic designer and illustrator. Graduated with distinction from the Faculty of Graphic Design of the Academy of Fine Arts in Warsaw (2006) in the book design and illustration studios. Her illustrations have earned a lot of awards and distinctions.

Marianna Oklejak has managed to weave together a wealth of styles, characters, and personalities into a coherent form. By means of expressive colours, she shows the diversity in the world of music. She accurately captures the facial expressions, gestures, and personality of the characters we know from music videos, posters, and concerts. She is witty, ironic, and sometimes treats musicians with a grain of salt, but always with sympathy.

The author has written an attractive, universal compendium. Laconic notes will certainly connect with young readers. She has provided a lot of anecdotes, fragments of songs, and chorus lines that crowds have come to love. At the bottom of the page, she placed a timeline of the years during which bands or singers were active. There is a good chance that the original format combined with witty texts will encourage young people to search and discover. Three specific commentators are a nod to younger readers. A dog, ferret, and rabbit appear in the book's pages. They peek, remark, joke a little, and definitely have fun. (M.L.G.)



# Travelers

*This book is a treat for those who love travelling and discovering new places in different parts of the world. It contains descriptions of real expeditions undertaken by Poles from the Middle Ages to the present day.*

Who crossed Mongolia on horseback? Which of the Polish Himalayan mountaineers was only the second man on Earth to reach the Crown of the Himalaya? Who traveled Africa by bicycle? Who arrived at both poles on their own, and who crossed the Atlantic Ocean by kayak alone?

They are Ferdynand Ossendowski, Jerzy Kukuczka, Kazimierz Nowak, Marek Kamiński, and Aleksander Doba, but these are just some of the names chosen by Andrzej Fedorowicz. All together there are seventeen.

## Travelers

Andrzej Fedorowicz

Zosia Frankowska

Jacek Ambrożewski

Wydawnictwo Dwie Siostry

Warszawa 2019

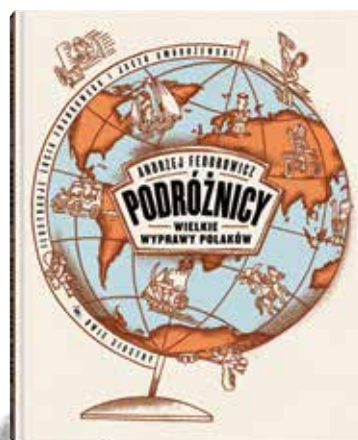
200 x 250, 144 pages

ISBN 978-83-8150-018-0

Translator rights:

Wydawnictwo Dwie Siostry

jadzia@wydawnictwodwiesiostry.pl



**AWARD**

in the competition of The Polish Section of IBBY for Book of the Year 2019



**Zosia Frankowska**

(1990) is a graphic

designer and illustrator.

In 2017, she defended

her theses in book

and illustration design

practice at the Faculty

of Graphic Arts

of the Academy

of Fine Arts in Warsaw.



**Andrzej Fedorowicz**

(1965) is a journalist who

is passionate about history,

technology, exceptional

biographies, and travel.



**Jacek**

**Ambrożewski**

(1989) is a graduate of

the Graphic Arts

Department of the

Academy of Fine Arts in

Warsaw. He deals with

illustration and graphic

design. In both these areas

he has been awarded

many times.

The author briefly described the achievements of the travellers, their struggles with nature, daily adversities, and their own weaknesses. The content is brief and contains the most important facts. The amount of information is not overwhelming here.

Illustrations are very important in this book. Strong, monumental characters awaken the imagination, which is a huge advantage of this book. We see different continents, the colours change depending on where the traveler finds himself. At the beginning of each chapter, there is a map showing the path that a specific person has taken to reach his destination. The book's layout is very clear. The whole can be read and looked at with great pleasure, and most importantly, curiosity. Reading the book makes you think that a person possesses much power and can have the world at their feet, but at the same time makes you aware that, yes, nature is beautiful, fascinating, but it is governed by its own laws and can be dangerous. (M.L.G.)

# Lost Island

*A brief description of this book will not do justice to the extraordinary quality of 'Lost Island.' It is best to pick up the book and read, browse, examine it, and be delighted. Full, or rather filled to the brim with details, it provides readers with a rich display of the author's imagination and illustrative artistry.*

'Lost Island' is a picture book that combines two interwoven stories. The first of these is presented in the convention of comics, a detailed graphic story (including the exact time) of the illustrator — Nikola Kucharska herself, who is in a position to prepare her own publication, but unfortunately has no idea how to go about doing so. She unexpectedly wins a spot on a boat.

## Lost Island

Alojzy Rzepa

Nikola Kucharska

Wydawnictwo Nasza Księgarnia

Warszawa 2019

240 x 320, 128 pages

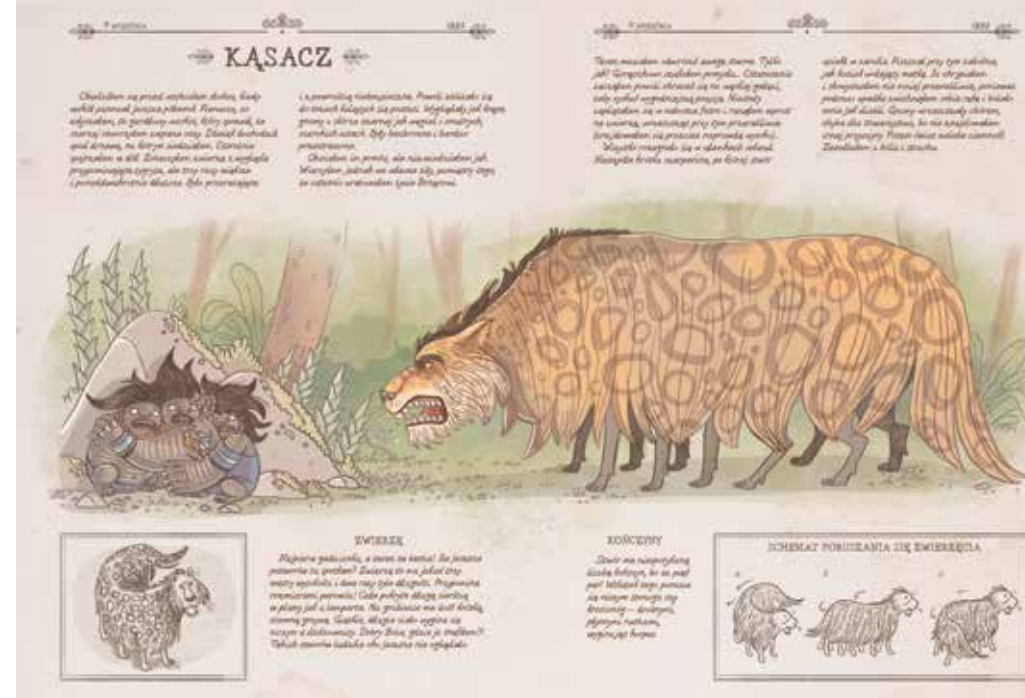
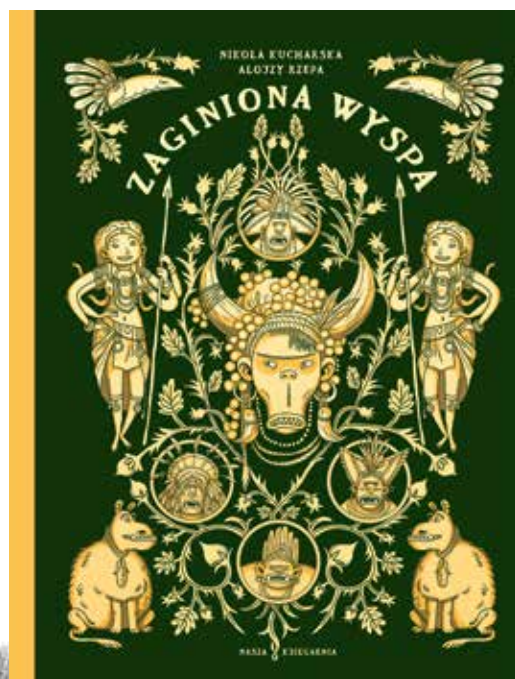
ISBN: 978-83-10-13424-0

Translation rights:

Wydawnictwo Nasza Księgarnia

a.zielinska@nk.com.pl

Rights sold to: Russia, China



In this way she travels to an island where she finds a box, and in it a scientific-research journal bound in leather. It is written by a man named Alojzy Rzepa at the end of the 19th century. Rzepa's fictional journal, rich in old engravings, is a description of a journey through the island. It contains detailed descriptions and drawings of the tribes inhabiting it (their clothing, places of residence, cultures and customs) as well as plants and animals.



## Nikola Kucharska

is a graphic artist, illustrator, designer, and author of comic books.

As the author herself writes, her book was created in the course of seven years. It underwent fundamental processes of change several times, dictated by the author's desire to achieve even better results. This long-enduring work is visible in 'Lost Island,' which attracts the reader like a magnet and then enchants with its beauty. The constant balancing act on the verge of truth and fiction, past and present, and with a large dose of humor mixed with a pinch of horror makes it a book worth getting to know. (O.B.P.)



# 13+

Horror

Like Grains of Sand  
Whispered

Adulthood Pills

Adela's Summer



# Horror

*This extraordinary book, beautifully published, invites you to the world of art with a capital 'A'. The chilling stories of suffering and death are illustrated in the appropriate noir style. Individual portraits of battered heroes, as well as rich ornaments accompanying the texts, abundantly draw on the history of painting.*

Freely exploring, for instance, Baroque Mannerism, Emilia Dziubak invites the reader to a truly virtuosic contemplation of the passion that the characters presented in the book share; they are fruits and vegetables.

## Horror

Madlena Szeliga

Emilia Dziubak

Gereon

Kraków 2018

260 x 310, 92 pages

ISBN: 978-83-946-4977-7

Translation rights: Gereon

k.jaszecka@poczta.fm

Rights sold to:

Spain, Lithuania



## DISTINCTION

in the competition of The Polish Section  
of IBBY for Book of the Year 2018



### Emilia Dziubak

(1982) is an illustrator  
and children's author.

She made her debut in  
2011 with a cookbook

for children entitled:

'A Treat for Picky  
Eaters'. The book was

selected for the final  
of the prestigious

4th CJ Picture Book

Award in South Korea

competition for the

most beautiful book

illustrations.



### Madlena Szeliga

(1987) is an economist  
and political scientist

by profession, an author  
of children's books

by choice.



These victims of human gastronomy get their own voice in this book: a cruelly pickled cabbage, a banana cut into pieces, a carrot wounded with a peeler to rub salt into it, peas brutally crushed, and a monumental pineapple whose thick skin is not able to protect it against facing the end of its life in the human stomach. 'Vampires exist' — we read in the chapter about compote interpreted as the blood of fruit ingredients, and these vampires are us humans, eating beings, whose delights of the palate and culinary artistry for the plant world mean the ordeal of torture.

The ironic undertone of 'Horror' is perfectly legible thanks to the consistently grotesque narrative parodying stories with a thrill. The work of Szeliga and Dziubak will provide teen readers familiar with this type of literature a moment for reflection on the philosophical and ethical issue of human life in the natural world, in addition to the pleasure rising from an elaborate game with conventions. (A.Cz.)



# Like Grains of Sand

*The heroine is an ordinary teenager with everything that is associated with it. Her life is not ideal, and it is not until a close friend's unexpected suicide that it changes irreversibly.*

We observe great longing, pain, misunderstanding, anger, and loneliness. Through her self-reflection, we accompany her in her desperate fight and process of returning to the world with a lump in our throats.

## **Like Grains of Sand**

Joanna Jagiełło

Wydawnictwo Nasza Księgarnia

Warszawa 2018

135 x 204, 320 pages

ISBN: 978-83-10-13344-1

Translation rights:

Wydawnictwo Nasza Księgarnia

a.zielinska@nk.com.pl



## **AWARD**

in the competition of The Polish Section  
of IBBY for Book of the Year 2018

**THE WHITE RAVENS 2019**



## **Joanna Jagiełło**

(1974) is an author of many books for children, adults and, above all, for young people. Her novels have won prizes and distinctions in the Astrid Lindgren Literary Competition and have been nominated and awarded in the Book of the Year competition of the Polish Section of IBBY.

Based on actual tragic events, the author tells the story not only of the girl, but also of an entire generation that is faced with plenty of opportunities, but also threats that were once inconceivable.

The book can serve as a cautionary tale, revealing a specific practice and method of manipulation, but also shows young people the complexity of evil in the adult world. The author carefully and respectfully touches upon problems faced not only by teenagers, but also parents. She sensitises us to the Other. She shows the complexity of relationships that are the result of our intentions, but also experiences and emotions. She poses certain fundamental questions: How do we continue to live when every scrap of the world reminds us of a loved one who has passed away? Where is the boundary beyond which we stop accepting someone else's behaviour? Does every teenager who decides to commit suicide commit an ill-conceived folly? Are young people truly hypersensitive nowadays? How well do we know our loved ones, and how well do we know ourselves?

Despite such difficult topics, the book is written in an incredibly light, lively language, at times bordering on the poetical, while mundane and brutal at other times. This makes reading it a wonderful experience, and one that is deeply moving and memorable. (A.K.Sz.)

# Whispered

*Filip and his three colleagues are Warsaw high school students. Like many of their peers, they are fascinated by football. They decide to earn money to purchase tickets to the final match of the Champions League in Warsaw, but their plans get complicated.*

Not everyone manages to draw tickets, and compelled moreover to regulate financial obligations, they undertake various jobs: they distribute advertising leaflets in the center of Warsaw, engage in buzz marketing (whisper marketing on the Internet), and finally take part in creating online content (using trolling) for a political campaign in Australia. In the meantime, they experience their first love and need to verify their perceptions of friendship, responsibility, and loyalty.

## **Whispered**

Paweł Beręsewicz

Wydawnictwo Nasza Księgarnia

Warszawa 2018

135 x 204, 288 pages

ISBN: 978-83-10-13391-5

Translation rights:

Wydawnictwo Nasza Księgarnia

a.zielinska@nk.com.pl



## **Paweł Beręsewicz**

(1970) is a writer, poet,  
and translator.

He writes novels, stories,  
and poems for children.

He is the winner of the  
Gulliver Prize, the literary  
competition of the  
Polish Society of Book  
Publishers, and the Kornel  
Makuszyński Literary Prize.

The novel — brilliantly written, witty and suspenseful to the last word — presents a world close to modern teenagers in every latitude. Universal access to the media makes it easy to cross borders of countries and languages, but also imposes additional responsibility for information made public. Young people, immersed in a virtual 'fluid reality', are convinced that the real world and the virtual world are not hermetically separated spaces, and words that are placed on the web without reflection can hurt, cheat, and complicate life.

The main theme of this work is to draw attention to the 'twisted world [subject to the media] in which you can never be sure whether something is what it seems or something completely different', which places before young people the necessity to choose the truth while meandering through fictional post-truths. This choice has its price. While far from moralising, *whispered* argues that there is no escape (still) from ethical responsibility for the word. (M.M.)



# Adulthood Pills

*The main character Marek is thirteen years old and earnestly wishes to be an adult. This is not unusual especially as colleagues tease him because of his height, his parents constantly argue, and his father, instead of being an authority figure, tries to be a laid-back friend.*

However, what is unusual about this story is how the author has structured it. The boy's idea for gaining acceptance and sympathy is to write a blog. Dorota Suwalska's book astonishes with its original approach to very important issues for young teenagers frequently broached upon.

Shifting the focus to the Internet brings home the novel for the young reader. It also allows the reader to get to know the hero from the perspective of his entries and reflections. The blog becomes flywheel of action as there appears in life a suspicious Magician who offers 'adulthood pills' right after the first entry.

## **Adulthood Pills**

Dorota Suwalska

Wydawnictwo Adamada

Gdańsk 2018

198 x 127, 256 pages

ISBN:978-83-7420-768-3

Translation rights:

Wydawnictwo Adamada

mankiewicz@adamada.pl



## **DISTINCTION**

in the competition of  
The Polish Section  
of IBBY for Book of  
the Year 2018



## **Dorota Suwalska**

Is a writer, cultural  
organiser, illustrator,  
journalist, and  
screenwriter. She has  
written volumes of poetry  
and novels for children  
and young people. She was  
nominated for the 2014  
Astrid Lindgren Memorial  
Award. Her books  
have been translated  
into Spanish, Catalan,  
Slovenian, and Ukrainian.



The author makes use of the pretext to remind us of online security, but then goes a few steps further. The pills work chaotically, changing the thirteen-year-old into a thirty-year-old, and vice versa, in completely unexpected situations. The farce is so difficult to manage that the boy asks for an antidote. In exchange, the Magician pulls him into a certain game, as a result of which the boy undergoes an internal transformation, matures, accepts his life and family, and learns to build relationships while maintaining them.

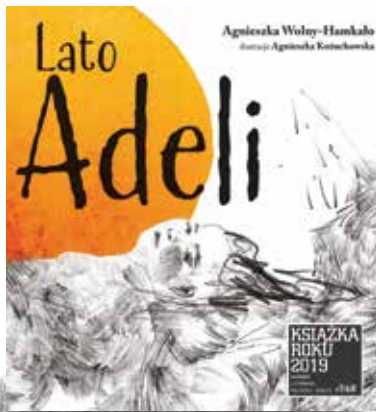
This is a book about growing up, not only in the context of a teenager. The boy's father proves to be a highly interesting character, who, not wanting to repeat his own father's mistakes, falls into another trap. The book undoubtedly touches upon the absence of authority and parents not occupying their roles. Dorota Suwalska's book is somewhat like the Magician who prompts and inspires. If the reader is attentive, maybe their life will change a little as well, without the use of supernatural powers. (A.K.Sz.)

# Adela's Summer

*Thirty-two lyrical sketches, some longer, others quite short, depict Adela's everyday life – that of a girl who is in fact currently growing up in a typical block of flats, during the most ordinary days and nights of a particular summer. The change is fundamental and at the same time barely noticeable, it consisting of small events, subjective impressions, memories made during sleepless nights, and strange waking dreams.*

## **Adela's Summer**

Agnieszka Wolny-Hamkało  
Agnieszka Koźuchowska  
Wydawnictwo Hokus-Pokus  
Warszawa 2019  
200x 215, 56 pages  
ISBN 978-83-60402-7  
Translation rights:  
Wydawnictwo Hokus-Pokus  
marta@hokus-pokus.pl



**Agnieszka Wolny-Hamkało**  
(1979) is a Polish poet, literary critic, writer, and publicist. She is the winner of the Polish Writers' Association award and curator of the International Short Story Festival. For her books for young people, she received a distinction and award from the Polish Section of IBBY.



## **DISTINCTION**

in the competition of The Polish Section of IBBY for Book of the Year 2019



**Agnieszka Koźuchowska**  
graduated from the graphics department of the Academy of Fine Arts in Warsaw. She works as an illustrator for books, the press, and also in general graphics. In 2017, she received the New Talent award of the international illustrators' competition iJungle.

Perspective is an important element of puberty. Adela is changing her perspective of the world. Her female friends look at her differently, each of whom wants to be like her. Her male friends want her close in a different way than before. A gentleman looks at her persistently – a neighbour from the stairwell who drives a car, the one from the balcony opposite hers.

The world is also seen differently by Adela herself, whose bright days of vacation sharpen her eyes and change her perspective, and warm nights bring reflection, when 'one can become an adult inadvertently'. Who knows who Adela is this summer. Not a girl anymore, not a woman yet. Not a child anymore, not yet an adult.

She is a hybrid, change embodied, which the poet Agnieszka Wolny-Hamkało with talent captures in words, impressions, and images. Elusive as she matures, Adela is someone unfamiliar: beautiful, vital, intriguing. And at the same time, she is very much identifiable for readers as she evokes bits of memories and traces of experiences that are the part of every adolescent girl. (A.Cz.)



# SUCSESSES

## *The International Success of Polish Childrens' Artists*

### Bolognaragazzi Award

2008 /category: Children Poetry/

*Tuwim. Wiersze dla dzieci (Tuwim. Verses for children)*  
Julian Tuwim (text), Małgorzata Urbańska, Monika  
Hanulak, Małgorzata Gurowska, Marta Ignerska,  
Anna Niemierko, Agnieszka Kucharska-Zajkowska,  
Justyna Wróblewska (illus.)  
Wytwórnia

2011 /category: Non Fiction — mention/

*Co z ciebie wyrośnie? (What Will Become of You?)*  
Aleksandra Mizielińska, Daniel Mizieliński (text, illus.)  
Wydawnictwo Dwie Siostry

2011 /category: Opera prima — mention/

*Stoniątko (The Little Elephant)*  
Adam Jaromir (text), Gabriela Cichowska (illus.)  
Wydawnictwo Muchomor

2012 /category: Non Fiction/

*Wszystko gra (Everything's Working)*  
Anna Czerwińska-Rydel (text), Marta Ignerska (illus.)  
Wytwórnia

2014 /category: Non Fiction/

*Majn Alef Bejs*  
Jehoszue Kamiński (text), Urszula Palusińska (illus.)  
Żydowskie Stowarzyszenie Czulent

2015 /category: Non Fiction — mention/

*Typogryzmoł*  
Jan Bajtlik  
Wydawnictwo Dwie Siostry

2015 /category: Books & Seeds — mention/

*Wytwórnik kulinarny (FOOD!)*  
Szymon Tomiło (text),  
Katarzyna Bogucka (text, illus.)  
Wytwórnia

2017 /category: Braw on Art — mention/

*Książka do zrobienia (A Book to make)*  
Aleksandra Cieślak  
Wydawnictwo Dwie Siostry

2018 /category: Fiction — mention/

*Zgubiona dusza (The Lost Soul)*  
Olga Tokarczuk (text),  
Joanna Concejo (illus.)  
Wydawnictwo Format

2018 /category: Braw on Art — mention/

*Wytwórnik górą! (Mountains!)*  
Madalena Matoso  
Wytwórnia

2018 /Bologna Prize for the Best

Children's Publishers of the Year/  
Wydawnictwo Dwie Siostry

2019 /category: Braw-Toddler — mention/

*Kominarz /Piekarz (Chimney sweeper/Baker)*  
Dominika Czerniak-Chojnacka  
Wydawnictwo Dwie Siostry

2020 /category: Opera prima — mention/

*Widziałem pięknego dzięcioła*  
(*I saw a beautiful woodpecker*)  
Michał Skibiński (text), Helena Stiasny (illus.)  
Wydawnictwo Dwie Siostry

### IBBY Honour List

2008 /category: author/

*Dom ośmiu tajemnic (The House of Eight Secrets)*  
Liliana Bardijewska (text),  
Monika Kanios-Stańczyk (illus.)  
Wydawnictwo Nasza Księgarnia

2008 /category: illustrator/

*Wielkie zmiany w dużym lesie*  
(*Big Changes in a Little Forest*)  
Grażyna Ruszewska (text),  
Piotr Fąfrowicz (illus.)  
Wydawnictwo FRO9

2010 /category: illustrator/

*D.O.M.E.K (H.O.U.S.E)*  
Aleksandra and Daniel Mizielińscy  
Wydawnictwo Dwie Siostry

2012 /category: author/

*Za niebieskimi drzwiami (Behind the Blue Doors)*  
Marcin Szczygielski  
Wydawnictwo Latarnik

2014 /category: illustrator/

*Wszystko gra (Everything's Working)*  
Anna Czerwińska-Rydel (text),  
Marta Ignerska (illus.)  
Wytwórnia

2016 /category: author/

*Most nad Missisipi (The Bridge on the Mississippi)*  
Ewa Przybylska  
Wydawnictwo Akapit-Press

2018 /category: author/

*Wędrówka Nabu (Nabu's journey)*  
Jarosław Mikołajewski (text),  
Joanna Rusinek (illus.)  
Wydawnictwo Austeria

2018 /category: illustrator/

*Cuda wianki. Polski folklor dla młodszych  
i starszych (The Wonder of Garlands:  
Polish Folklore for Young and Old)*  
Marianna Oklejak  
Egmont

2019 /category: illustrator/

*Horror (Horror)*  
Madlena Szeliga (text), Emilia Dziubak (illus.)  
Gereon

### The White Ravens (Internationale Jugendbibliothek, Munich)

2015

*Kosmonautka (Spacewoman)*  
Piotr Wawrzeńnik (text),  
Dorota Wojciechowska (illus.)  
Wydawnictwo Poławiacze Perła

*Ptakty (Bird-news)*

Paweł Mildner  
Wydawnictwo Ładne Halo

*Lokomotywa/IDEOLO*

(*The locomotive / IDEOLO*)  
Julian Tuwim (text),  
Małgorzata Gurowska (illus.)  
Wydawnictwo Centrala

*Cześć, wilki! (Hello, wolves!)*

Dorota Kassjanowicz (text),  
Agata Dudek (illus.)  
Wydawnictwo Dwie Siostry

2016

*5 sekund do 10 (5 seconds to 10)*

Małgorzata Warda

Wydawnictwo Media Rodzina

*Pszczoły (Bees)*

Wojciech Grajkowski (text), Piotr Socha (illus.)

Wydawnictwo Dwie Siostry

*Kern. Wiersze dla dzieci (Kern. Verses for children)*

Ludwik Jerzy Kern (text), Małgorzata Gurowska,

Monika Hanulak, Marta Ignerska, Agnieszka

Kucharska-Zajkowska, Anna Niemierko, Gosia

Urbańska-Macias, Justyna Wróblewska (illus.)

Wytwórnia

*Ignatek szuka przyjaciela (Ignatek wants a friend)*

Paweł Pawlak

Wydawnictwo Nasza Księgarnia

2017

*Rutka*

Joanna Fabicka

Wydawnictwo Agora

*Praktyczny pan (The practical man)*

Roksana Jędrzejewska-Wróbel (text),

Adam Pęksalski (illus.)

Wydawnictwo Bajka

*Wędrówka Nabu (Nabu's journey)*

Jarosław Mikołajewski (text),

Joanna Rusinek (illus.)

Wydawnictwo Austeria

*Legendy warszawskie. Antologia*

(Warsaw legends. Anthology)

Wojciech Pawliński (illus.)

Muzeum Warszawy

2018

*Brzuchem do góry (Belly up)*

Ula Palusińska

Wydawnictwo Dwie Siostry

*Cuda-niewidy (The weird and the wonder)*

Marianna Oklejak

Egmont

*Dom nie z tej ziemi (The house not of this world)*

Małgorzata Strękowska-Zaremba

Wydawnictwo Nasza Księgarnia

*Zgubiona dusza (The lost soul)*

Olga Tokarczuk (text), Joanna Concejo (illus.)

Wydawnictwo Format

2019

*Nić Ariadny (Ariadne's thread)*

Jan Bajtlik

Wydawnictwo Dwie Siostry

*Babcocha*

Justyna Bednarek (text),

Daniel de Latour (illus.)

Wydawnictwo Poradnia K

*Jak ziarnka piasku (Like grains of sand)*

Joanna Jagiełło

Wydawnictwo Nasza Księgarnia

*Jeleń (The stag)*

Roksana Jędrzejewska-Wróbel (text),

Grażyna Rigall (illus.)

Wydawnictwo Bajka



# ADDRESSES

Wydawnictwo  
Adamada  
adamada.pl

Czuły Barbarzyńca Press  
czuly.pl/wydawnictwo.php

Instytut Wydawniczy Latarnik  
latarnik.com.pl

Gereon  
gereon.pl

Tashka  
tashka.pl

Muzeum Historii Żydów  
Polskich POLIN  
polin.pl

Papilon  
publicat.pl/papilon

Wydawnictwo  
Wilga / Grupa  
Wydawnicza Foksal  
www.gwfoksal.pl

Wydawnictwo Agora  
wydawnictwoagora.pl

Wydawnictwo  
Bajka  
bajkizbajki.pl

Egmont  
egmont.pl

Wydawnictwo  
Dwie Siostry  
wydawnictwodwiesiostry.pl

Wydawnictwo  
Nasza Księgarnia  
nk.com.pl

Wydawnictwo  
Kultura Gniewu  
kultura.com.pl

Wydawnictwo  
Hokus-Pokus  
hokus-pokus.pl

Wydawnictwo Wolno  
wydawnictwowolno.pl

Wytwórnia  
wytwornia.com

Wydawnictwo  
Zielona Sowa  
zielonasowa.pl

Wydawnictwo  
Poradnia K  
sklep.poradniak.pl



# SMALL BOOK – GREAT MAN

*The Polish Book Institute's Small Book – Great Man campaign reminds us of the benefits of reading together as a family right from the first months of a child's life. It has been devised to complement the bookstart programme, in which young parents in maternity wards receive a unique 'Reading Layette'.*

We believe that reading begins from the cradle, long before children begin to independently put letters together. Well-chosen books develop their minds and emotions, shape their linguistic competence, root them in culture and stimulate their imagination.

The Reading Layette consists of a selection of poems for children entitled: 'First poems for' ('Pierwsze wiersze dla...') by celebrated Polish poets including: Jan Brzechwa, Julian Tuwim, Wanda Chotomska, Joanna Papużyńska and Józef Czechowicz beautifully illustrated by husband-and-wife team Ewa Kozyra-Pawlak and Paweł Pawlak. And the brochure Connected by Books: the Role of Books in Children's Lives, aimed at parents and showing the incalculable role of reading in a child's development.

We want to convince parents that reading together can become not just a great pleasure, but above all a wonderful opportunity to build intimacy and strong and lasting family connections. When parents read to their children they influence their future and help them to achieve success. Thus far, 800.000 Reading Layette have been given out under that programme.

The next step of our campaign is dedicated for children beginning their pre-school education (3-6 years old). Its aim is to encourage parents to visit libraries frequently and read daily with their children.



Every child who comes to the library participating in the project will receive, as a gift, a Reading Layette, which includes the book 'First reading book for...' ('Pierwsze czytanki dla...') and a Little Reader's Card. For each visit to the library resulting in borrowing at least one book from the children's book collection, the Little Reader will receive a sticker, and, after having collected ten of them, they will be honoured with a personal certificate confirming their reading interests. Parents will also find something for themselves in the Layette. We have prepared an information brochure for them, reminding them of the benefits of reading to children and suggesting where to draw new reading inspirations. Last year, we have started our campaign addressed to almost 300,000 preschoolers, who, together with their parents, could collect books in 5,200 libraries across the country.

The third stage of our startbook project is to be targeted at children starting primary school. In 2020, every first-year student starting school will receive a book that will be a selection of the best classic texts by Polish authors for this age group.

*The Small Book – Great Man initiative was funded by the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage as part of the National Programme of Reading Development.*

The Bookstart Project of the Polish Book Institute is planned for the long-term. From the very beginning, we cared for a coherent, long-term plan, within the framework of which we will take care of shaping reading habits and increasing readership among children at every stage of their development. Our ultimate goal is for every Polish child to receive their first book in hospital (just after being born), later in the library, when they start pre-school education, and in the school library in their first school year.





# THE POLISH BOOK INSTITUTE

The Polish Book Institute is a national institution established by the Polish Ministry of Culture, established in Kraków in January 2004. The Institute's basic aims are to influence the reading public and to popularise books and reading within Poland, as well as to promote Polish literature worldwide. These goals are accomplished by:

- promoting the best Polish books and their authors;
- organising study visits for translators and foreign publishers;
- increasing the number of translations from Polish into foreign languages with the help of the ©POLAND Translation Programme and Sample Translations ©POLAND;
- making information on Polish books and the Polish publishing market accessible to foreign consumers.

The Institute organises literary programmes to promote Polish books at international book fairs, appearances by Polish writers at literary festivals, and within the scope of programmes designed to promote Polish culture worldwide, it publishes an annual catalogue 'New Books from Poland.'

The Polish Book Institute is also the publisher of cultural journals covering mainly literature and theatre (Akcent, Dialog, Literatura na świecie, Nowe Książki, Odra, Teatr, Teatr Lalek, and Twórczość).

## Selected Polish Book Institute programmes

**The ©POLAND Translation Programme** — The Book Institute provides financial support for publishers aiming to publish works of Polish literature in foreign-language translations. Since 1999, the ©POLAND Translation Programme has provided about 2,500 grants for translations into 47 different languages published in 63 countries. The average grant was worth approximately € 3,500. The Book Institute can help cover the costs of publishing the following types of works:

- literature — prose, poetry, and dramas
- works in the humanities, broadly conceived, whether older or contemporary (with particular regard for books devoted to the culture and literature of Poland)
- non-fiction literature (literary reportage, biographies, memoirs, essays)
- historical works (essays and popular history, barring specialist and academic works)
- literature for children and young people
- comics

The financial contribution of the Book Institute is designed to support the following publication costs:

- translation
- copyright license
- printing

**Sample Translations ©Poland** — The aim of this programme is to encourage translators to present Polish books to foreign publishers. The programme may cover up to 20 pages of the translation. The translator must have published a minimum of one translation in book form before making an application. Full information on our programmes, including a list of grants awarded to date and a funding application form can be found on the Book Institute's website, [bookinstitute.pl](http://bookinstitute.pl). For further information please contact: Elżbieta Wierzchowska, [e.wierzchowska@bookinstitute.pl](mailto:e.wierzchowska@bookinstitute.pl).

**The Transatlantyk Prize** — it has been awarded annually by the Book Institute since 2005 to outstanding ambassadors of Polish literature abroad. It provides a focal point for translators of Polish literature and its promoters (publishers, literary critics, academics and organisers of cultural events). The prize is worth € 10,000.

**The Found in Translation Award** is given to the translator(s) of the finest book-length translation of Polish literature into English published in the

previous calendar year. The winner receives a prize of 16,000 zlotys and a one-month residency in Kraków. The Book Institute has presented this award in partnership with the Polish Cultural Institutes in London and New York on an annual basis since 2008.

*The Translators' College* — Based at a new building on the grounds of the Book Institute in Kraków, this programme provides study visits for translators of Polish literature. During their residency, the translators are provided with suitable conditions for their work and assistance with their translations. The college has been active since 2006. By 2019, over one hundred translators from 34 countries had taken part.

*The World Congress of Translators of Polish Literature*, which has been organized every four years since 2015. Around two hundred and fifty translators from all over the world attend meetings with writers, critics and academics. The Congress provides an opportunity to find out more about Polish literature, meet colleagues from other countries and exchange information, ideas and opinions.

*Seminars for Foreign Publishers* — Since 2006, the Book Institute has invited groups of publishers from various countries to Kraków to show them what Polish literature has to offer. During the study visit, they attend meetings with writers, publishers and critics to encourage them to publish Polish literature.