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Iceland will be Guest of Honour at the Frankfurt Book Fair in 2011. This will provide a unique opportunity to present Icelandic literary culture to the book world as a whole.

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www.sagenhaftes-island.is

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fiction

LITERARY FICTION
POETRY
CRIME FICTION



ANDRI SNAER MAGNASON

(b.1973) has won the Icelandic literary prize for both fiction and non fiction. His work has been published or performed in over twenty countries and received numerous international awards, amongst them the Janusz Korczak Honorary Award, the West Nordic Children's Book Prize and, more recently, the Kairos prize awarded by the Alfred Toepfer Foundation to outstanding individuals. Magnason has been active in the fight against the destruction of the Icelandic Highlands. www.andrimagnason.com

*"Very entertaining, very funny and original concepts.
I had a great time reading this book."*

BREAKFAST TV, CHANNEL 2

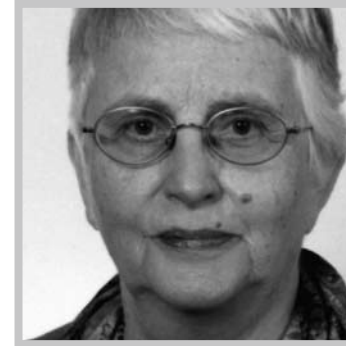
Love Star

Love Star, novel, 2002

- *Bookseller's Literary Award 2002*
- *DV Newspaper's Book of the Year Prize*
- *Nominated for The Icelandic Literary Prize 2002*

A multinational called LoveStar has put Iceland on the map by marketing death and programmed love. Indridi and Sigridur are cordless individuals in this technological community which they believe in until a letter arrives from the powers that throws their lives into disarray. They were not meant for each other and Sigridur is summoned north to Oxndal Valley, where the LoveStar logo shines behind the clouds over a vast pleasure ground, to meet her only love. As soon as the lovers start to deal with the consequences of the letter, LoveStar, the founder of the company, is about to make the greatest discovery of his life. A fantasy about a society in which the principles of marketing and technology rule supreme, but still fail to suppress man's deepest and most ancient instincts: love and lust for life. 275 pp

Sold to:
Germany/Switzerland/Austria
(Verlagsgruppe Lübbe)
English translation available



ALFRUN GUNNLAUGSDOTTIR

(b.1938) has authored numerous novels and short-stories. Three of her novels have been nominated for the Nordic Council Literary Prize, first *Going in Circles* in 1991, *Confidentially* in 1995 and *Across the Ebro River*, in 2003.

*"... the stirring narrative
is skilfully woven into this
masterly constructed work."*

MORGUNBLADID NEWSPAPER

*"I can't remember having read any
account of the horrors of war and its human
consequences as stirring as this, with the
possible exception of Laxness' **The Happy
Warriors** and Homer's **Iliad**."*

MORGUNBLADID NEWSPAPER

Time of Shadows

Rán, novel, 2008

Down through the years, life's currents have swept Rán far from her place of birth. Now she finds herself on the way back, travelling from a home and husband in Switzerland to her native Iceland, with a stopover in Barcelona, where she once spent many eventful years. Though her memories are fresh as ever, the city she encounters is quite another and her journey turns out to be a search for a lost time, forcing her to face up to moments long gone and ideals abandoned. Following a path through the thorny woods of memories takes courage, however.

A powerful and captivating book, weaving together internal and external conflicts in times of social upheaval, to reveal the ambiguity of individual truths. 251 pp

- *Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize 2008*

Across the Ebro River

Yfir Ebrofljótið, novel, 2001

It is not widely known that three Icelanders fought in the Spanish Civil War. In this novel one such veteran, Haraldur, recalls his years with the International Brigade, the Battle of the River Ebro, daily life in the military camps and his battle for a normal life on returning to Iceland. This is an epic novel, at once richly informative and exciting and also highly intelligent. 459 pp

- *Nominated for the Nordic Council Literary Prize*

Chapters in English available



AUDUR JONSDOTTIR (b.1973) is one of Iceland's most highly acclaimed young writers. She has received numerous awards for her works. Her novel, *The People in the Basement*, received The Icelandic Literary Prize and a nomination for the Nordic Council Literary Prize.
www.jonsdottir.com

“Written with real dexterity, she’s a highly inventive author who can play skilfully with language and circumstances ... When the curtain falls, the novel leaves a definite mark on you, she’s a writer with a sneaky subtlety ... A very fine book.”

KILJAN/ ICELANDIC STATE TELEVISION

Wintersun

Vetrarsól, novel, 2008

“The metropolitan police is searching for Arndis Theodorsdottir . . . she was last seen at Korpulfsstaðir Centre for Culture last Friday . . .” Sunna is shocked when she sees the announcement on the internet. Memories from her time as a student with Arndis in Barcelona haunt her and make it difficult to focus on the crime fiction writing course she is supposed to be directing. On the other hand, the pre-Christmas rush at the publishing house where she is working has

reached its peak and there's little time left to investigate the disappearance of an old friend. To make matters even worse, the relentless winter storms are holding Axel, Sunna's boyfriend, hostage in a remote town in the West Fiords, leaving her abandoned with his ten year old son, whom she hardly knows. When Sunna realizes that three mysterious men are following her around it seems as if her life is turning into a crime thriller ... 255 pp

Sold to:
 Germany/Switzerland/Austria
 (Random House/btb);
 The Netherlands (Querido)
Film rights sold to:
 Silja Hauksdottir (producer)

★ ★ ★ ★ ★
“A compelling and elegantly styled, thoroughly thought-out story about important issues.”

FRETTABLADID NEWSPAPER

Deposit

Tryggðarpanur, novel, 2006

Gisella, a girl who has never known anything other than wealth and opulence, suddenly has to face the fact that her abundant inheritance is dwindling. She therefore needs to devise ways of increasing her income, and as a free-lance reporter, decides to write about the shortage of accommodation in the city. As a way of killing two birds with one stone, she rents out three of the rooms in her enormous apartment to three homeless women of different nationalities. This creates a colourful ménage, to say the least, and by the end of the story, all of the women's lives have been changed, not least Gisella's. An exhilarating and credible story with a burning relevance to our times, that can be interpreted as a metaphor for modern day Europe and its clashes of cultures. 335 pp

• Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize 2006

Sold to:
 Denmark (Tidnerne Skifter)
Film rights sold to:
 Litla gula hænan

“An excellent contemporary tale.”

POLITIKEN, DENMARK

The People in the Basement

Fólkið í kjallaranum, novel, 2004

Klara is an artist in her thirties who can't quite find her footing in life. Her boyfriend, Svenni, a happy-go-lucky entrepreneur, has pretty much cornered her into hosting a dinner party for his nouveau riche friends. As the mirth mounts, Klara withdraws increasingly into her own world. Painful memories from her past emerge and bit by bit, the past and present begin to fuse in her mind. Then Klara's sister turns up out of the blue to ask her to mind her son, while the party grows livelier, her parents barge in on her and the mysterious neighbour in the basement knocks repeatedly on their door. This ordinary dinner party eventually degenerates into mayhem, one big catastrophe, as the narrative craftily steers a course from its realistic setting into the realm of the absurd. But that's Klara's life! 290 pp

• The Icelandic Literary Prize 2004
 • Nominated for the Nordic Council Literary Prize 2005

Sold to:
 Denmark (Tidnerne Skifter);
 Sweden (Kabusa)

A stageplay from the book will be premiered in Reykjavik City Theatre autumn 2010.



BRAGI OLAFSSON'S (b.1962) novels are undoubtedly among the most original and remarkable Icelandic stories of recent years. Olafsson's novel *The Ambassador* received the 2006 Icelandic Bookseller's Award and was nominated for the Icelandic Literary Award and the Nordic Council Literary Prize in 2008.

"So how long do we have to wait for English versions of his other books?"

LOS ANGELES TIMES

"I'm convinced beyond any doubt that Bragi Olafsson is among our best authors."

DV NEWSPAPER

Letters of Intent

Handritið að kvikmynd Arnar Featherby og Jóns Magnússonar um uppnámið á veitingahúsinu, eftir Jenný Alexson, novel, 2010

When Chas Featherby, a sailor from Hull, dies at a ripe old age, his son Örn Featherby, a playwright and legal translator, finds out from his aunt that he has inherited about two hundred pairs of shoes from his father. At the same time, Örn and his partner, Jon Magnusson, a trained film director who is reduced to working as a librarian, are given an opportunity they have long dreamt of: the half-promise of some funding in the form of a letter of intent from their old

school friend, to produce a feature film. The set of events that are set in motion by these two factors are chronicled by Jenný Alexson, Jon's ex-sister-in-law. *Letters of Intent* is a travelogue and family story, but also a reflection on whether words can ever suffice to describe what we see and hear (and imagine) – recorded by a woman who is suspected of being the secret author of a popular crime novel series under a pseudonym.

The Ambassador

Sendiherrann, novel, 2006

Icelandic poet Sturla Jon Jonsson attends an international poetry festival in Lithuania – but this is no ordinary poetry trip. As the poetic ambassador of his country, Sturla Jon shrugs off his official duties, deciding to become the ambassador to his own feelings instead. A story about the criminal in all of us, the things we steal to be ourselves and the investigations we have to carry out to find out why we committed a crime. A metaphysical novel about an unexpected dark deed in the bewitching world of literature. 386 pp

- Nominated for the Nordic Council Literary Prize
- The Icelandic Bookseller's Prize 2006
- Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize 2006

Sold to:

Denmark (Athene); Germany/Switzerland/Austria (S. Fischer Verlag); USA/Canada/UK/Australia (Open Letter)

Film rights sold to:

The Icelandic Film Company

Party Games

Samkvæmisleikir, novel, 2004

Printer trainee, Fridbert, has invited his friends and relatives to his 30th birthday party, and in the small hours of the morning, when he's finally said goodbye to what he thinks is his last guest, he discovers there's still one person left in the flat. An unusual, provocative, and hilarious story that deals with the significance and insignificance of moral issues. 340 pp

- The DV Newspapers's Cultural Award 2004
- The Icelandic Bookseller Prize 2004

The Pets

Gæludýrin, novel, 2001

Emil, a young Icander, returns home after a short trip to London to find that a sinister old acquaintance, Havard, has been roaming the streets of Reykjavik looking for him. The prospect of a face-to-face encounter proves too much for Emil, and when Havard forces his way into his flat, he hides under his own bed and reminisces over their disastrous flat-sharing experience in London a few years previously. A tale of cowardice, comeuppance and assumed identity, this is an original and very funny take on the theme of the double. 248 pp

- Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize
- Nominated for the DV Newspaper's Cultural Award

Sold to:

Denmark (Lindhardt & Ringhof); Germany/Switzerland/Austria (dtv); USA/Canada/UK/Australia (Open Letter); France (Actes Sud)/South and Central America /Spain/USA (Bajo la luna)

Time Off

Hvöldardagar, novel, 1999

"I try to imagine who would be the first person to walk into my flat, if I weren't to come back from Heidmork. And how long it would take for someone to miss me. Probably two and half months, I thought, which is about what I have left of my summer leave."

The narrator of this clever novel has been granted an unusually long summer leave from his job. He decides to head up to the Heidmork nature reserve on a daytrip, but the hike takes a sudden and unexpected twist. 192 pp

- Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize 1999
- Nominated for the DV Newspaper's Cultural Award 1999



EINAR KARASON (b.1955) is a novelist and one of the most popular author and scriptwriter of his generation; best known for his *Devils' Isle trilogy*. His novel *Fury* (2009) was nominated for the Nordic Council Literary Prize and awarded the Icelandic Literary Prize.

“Karason is a storyteller worth his weight in gold. He can bring together tragedy and humour opposites, which stand naturally side by side, like two sides of the same coin.”

HUVUDSTADSBLADET, HELSINKI, FINLAND

I Am Amused

Mér er skemmt, novel, 2010

Since the start of his writing career, Karason has told us stories of innumerable comical and entertaining characters. Many of these characters – and not always the most well-mannered – have become close acquaintances of readers both in Iceland and throughout the world. Now attention turns to Einar himself. In several shining chapters he tells stories from his own life, for example a dramatic tale of his crooked path through school and hilarious stories of his dealings with the film industry. Karason opens, with rare candor and sincerity, the door to his own life, ideas, and ideals, confidently following the path of the many writers who have also written their best when telling of their own adventures. 223 pp

Fury

Ofsi, novel, 2008

1252 AD. A bloody civil war grips Iceland. Gissur Thorvaldsson, leader of the powerful Haukadalur clan, has returned to Iceland to attempt to make his peace with the Sturlungs. As a token of good faith, he offers to marry his son to daughter of the Sturlung leader. At the fine estate Modruvellir dwells the local hero Eyjolfur Ofsi. While he is prepared to accept Gissur's outstretched hand, his wife is not about to forgive Gissur her father's and grandfather's deaths. Generous and easygoing in the daytime, Eyjolfur's mood darkens as night falls. Feelings of inferiority fester like a cancer inside him, leading to a fateful outcome. 192 pp

- *The Icelandic Literary Prize 2009*
- *Nominated for the Nordic Council Literary Prize 2010*

Sold to:
Germany/Switzerland/Austria
(Verlagsgruppe Random House);
Denmark (Gyldendal)

“Certainly not everyone can tackle as big a theme as revenge and get away with it as well as this.”

JYLLANDS-POSTEN, DENMARK

Storm

Stormur, novel, 2003

The central character of this powerful novel is Eyvindur Jonsson Stormur, a clever, witty but self-deceptive man, who is surrounded by a motley crew of heavy drinkers, hippies, business men, losers and Icelandic students abroad. A brilliant rendering of the ideas and spirit of the times and an entertaining gallery of expressive characters and hilarious events. 333 pp

- *Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize 2003*
- *Nominated for the Nordic Council Literary Prize 2004*
- *The DV Newspaper's Cultural Award 2003*

Sold to:
Norway (Cappelen); Denmark (Gyldendal);
Germany/Switzerland/Austria (Verlagsgruppe
Random House); Russia (Fluid)

Killian's People

Killiansfólkið (Heimskra manna ráð, *Kvikasilfur*, novels), new edition, 2004

Colourful tales of the entrepreneurs and motley crew that make up Killian's family, and the noble goals and petty dreams of these nouveaux riches yet perennially broke people, painting a portrait that sharply reflect the history of Iceland in recent years. 413 pp

Sold to:
Sweden (Bonniers); Norway (Aschehoug);
Denmark (Gyldendal); Finland (Like);
France (Seuil); Germany/Switzerland/Austria
(Zsolnay/Hanser, paperback rights: Random
House/btb)

A Gathering of Foes

Óvinafagnaður, novel, 2001

When news reaches Thordur Kakali in Norway that his father and brothers, members of the most powerful family in Iceland, the Sturlunga clan, have been killed by a rivalling clan, he has few options. After years of drink and gambling, Thordur has few friends. He's heavily in debt and when he learns that hitmen are after him, Thordur decides to face his enemies in Iceland. 248 pp

Sold to:
Denmark (Gyldendal); Finland (Johnny Kniga/WSOY);
Germany/Switzerland/Austria (Verlagsgruppe
Random House)

Film rights sold to:
Fridrik Thor Fridriksson/Spellbound Productions

Where Devils' Isle Rises

The Isle of Gold

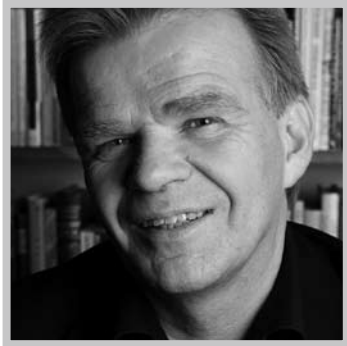
The Promised Land

Þar sem djöflaeyjan rís, *Gulleyjan*,
Fyrirheitna landið, novels, 1983–1989

Set in Reykjavik in the fifties, this highly colourful family saga describes in a very lively and humorous way the immense change in Iceland, when a simple rural culture of farmers and fishermen clashed with the American mass culture. 200–215 pp

Sold to:
Denmark (Gyldendal); Sweden (Bonniers); Finland
(Like); The Netherlands (De bezige bij); Norway
(Aschehoug); Faroe Islands (Árting); Germany/
Switzerland/Austria (Eichborn/Die andere Bibliothek/
Paperback rights: Random House/btb); Poland
(Marpres/as an e-book: Tower Press); U.K. (Canongate)

A motion picture based on these novels received an award for the best Nordic film in 1997.



EINAR MAR GUDMUNDSSON

(b.1954) is a novelist, short-story writer and poet, one of the most widely translated Icelandic authors born in the post-war period. A storyteller with a lyrical perceptive and humorous style, his work charts the growth of urban culture in the capital and the larger-than-life characters that it spawns.

“Behind Bars is yet another of Einar Mar’s warm and humane stories that touch the reader deeply. Perhaps his best, because it is a road map to the hope of rebuilding one’s life when substance abuse threatens to destroy everything.”

VIGDIS FINNBOGADOTTIR, FORMER PRESIDENT OF ICELAND

Behind Bars

Rimlar hugans, novel, 2007

Early 2002 Einar Mar Gudmundsson received a letter from an inmate in the security ward in Litla-Hraun prison to thank the author for his books and to tell his story, the story of Einar Thor, a convicted drug dealer and an addict and his girlfriend Eva, portrayed through the letters they exchange during Einar’s stay in prison. A powerful tale of human frailty, reckoning and redemption. 362 pp

- Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize 2007

Sold to:
Denmark (Borgen/Vindrose);
Germany/Switzerland/Austria (Hanser);
Norway (Cappelen)
Chapters in English available

The Beatle Manifesto

Bítlaávarpið, novel, 2004

“A spectre is haunting the streets of the world, the spectre of the Beatles.” Master storyteller Gudmundsson returns with this wonderful book, which in its narrative approach and style is a kind of *The Knights of the Spiral Staircase* meets *Angels of the Universe*. 253 pp

- Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize 2004

Sold to:
Denmark (Borgen);
Norway (Cappelen);
Sweden (Natur & Kultur);
Finland (Like)

Footprints on the Heavens Dreams on Earth Nameless Roads

Fótspor á himnum, novel, 1997
Draumar á jörðu, novel, 2000
Nafnlausir vegir, novel, 2002

This trilogy traces the fortunes and misfortunes of several generations (modelled in part on the author’s own family) from around the turn of the century to the end of the 1930s, with the largest gallery of heroes and rogues ever to come from Gudmundsson’s pen. A unique depiction of life in Iceland in the first half of the twentieth century. 213–222 pp

Sold to:
Denmark (Borgen/Vindrose); Germany/Switzerland/Austria (Hanser, paperback: btb); Norway (Cappelen); Sweden (Natur & Kultur); Finland (Like); Italy (Iperborea); Czech Republic (Odeon)
English translation available

Angels of the Universe Englar alheimsins, novel, 1993

The story tackles the torment of psychiatric illness as experienced by the central character, who narrates his whole life from birth to death, as he gradually succumbs to the terrors of mental illness and the equally horrific treatment applied to its sufferers. Despite the air of tragedy that

Sold to:
Denmark (Vindrose); Norway (Cappelen); Sweden (Natur & Kultur); Finland (Like); Faroe Islands (Mentunargrunnur studentafelagsins); Greenland (Atuakkiorfik); Germany/Switzerland/Austria (Hanser/Paperback rights: btb); UK (Mare’s Nest); The Netherlands (De bezige bij); Italy (Iperborea); Lithuania (Tyto Alba); France (Flammarion); Spain (Siruela); Portugal (Canguru); USA (St. Martin’s Press); The Czech Republic (Odeon); Poland (Tower Press/also as an e-book); Serbia (Narodna knjiga); Turkey (Acikdeniz Publishing); China (The Commercial Press); Estonia (Imahaa); Bulgaria (Hemus); Hungary (Siraly Kiado); Spain (Rinoceronte Editora, in Galician); Korea (Nangiyala Publishing House); Latvia (Valtiers un Rapa), Slovenia (Temza); Russia (Corpus)
Adapted into an award-winning motion picture directed by the Oscar nominee Fridrik Thor Fridriksson.

The Knights of the Spiral Stairs Wingbeat on the Rooftops Epilogue of Raindrops

Riddarar hringstigans, novel, 1982
Vængjasláttur í þakrennum, novel, 1983
Eftirmáli regndropanna, novel, 1986

Highly original portrait of the life of small boys in a suburb of Reykjavik. The narrator is a six-year-old boy who juggles the language of children and adults to set the scene and describe the action of the novel. Boys in a suburb of Reykjavik “give their thoughts wings” to create a private world where life is breeding pigeons and building coops. But their yearning for freedom clashes harshly with the strictures of organized adult society. 190–235 pp

Sold to:
Denmark (Borgen); Norway (Cappelen); Sweden (Natur & Kultur); Finland (Like); Germany/Switzerland/Austria (Hanser) and France (Gaïa)

“Angels of the Universe is ... a rare, suggestive and poetic novel.”

SUDDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG

pervades the whole work, the tale ripples with humour as it presents a whole pantheon of colourful characters, whose inner worlds are larger than life. 224 pp

- Nordic Council Literary Prize 1995



EIRIKUR ORN NORDDAHL (b.1978) has written novels and poetry. Furthermore, he is a translator, both of fiction and non fiction, and has written articles about literature and social issues. www.norrdahl.com

“Kindness is a sermon-on-the-mount about contemporaneity, performed in nimbly encoded images, sharp and rich in content.”

TMM LITERARY REVIEW

Kindness

Gæska, novel, 2009

When conservative MP Halldor Gardar wakes up the world is a different place from what it was the night before. Not only is mt. Esja ablaze, Reykjavik enveloped in clouds of smoke and Parliament square crammed with demonstrators, but Halldor Gardar no longer feels right – he feels left. At some point during the night his conscience must have got turned upside down and suddenly the whole

world seems new and frightening. When a young Moroccan girl asks him to help free her parents from the clutches of the Icelandic state, his life acquires a purpose he had never suspected before... An incredibly imaginative and funny novel about everything that has been amiss in Iceland in the past years. 340 pp

Chapters in English available

Poison for Beginners

Eitur fyrir byrjendur, novel, 2006

Halldor and Herdis live together but are not known to have ever kissed. When Herdis brings into the home a hazardous potplant and Hogni, a student of gender studies, Halldor loses the ability to leave the house, but develops a sudden interest in the use of poison. *Poison for Beginners* is a novel that features in a sensitive way the relationship of a young couple. 139 pp

Sold to:
Germany/Austria/Switzerland (Kozempel & Timm)
English sample translation available

Ideological Slut

Hugsjónadruslan, novel, 2004

Thrandur is on his way to Copenhagen to meet a girl he met on the internet. She is a polyamorous Texan with a master in anthropology. On his way over on the ferry, he meets Faroese cello player Ani, a pearl in the North Atlantic. During a carefree piss-up in Christiania and Copenhagen with the gay Billy and a bunch of happy-go-lucky Danish punks, Thrandur is brutally awakened to the fact that we’ve shifted into the “post 9/11” era. In times like these you can’t just sleep around, hopping from one ideological bed into another, if you don’t want to be called a slut. 259. pp

Chapters in English and Danish available



ELISABET JOKULSDOTTIR (b.1958) is an author with masses of creative talent and great sensitivity for human emotions. She has published novels as well as short stories and poetry.

“I say bravo for this book, didn’t put it down for a second. I’ve never read a book that deals so brazenly with sex.”

JULIA ALEXANDRA / JOURNALIST

The Locksmith’s Good Advice

Heilræði lásasmiðsins, a novel, 2007

Elisabet and Algea met when she was on a trip to New York. He American, she Icelandic; he black, she white; he a hatter and a drummer, she a writer; he from a big city, she a child of nature. He follows her to Iceland but they both have difficulties distinguishing between fantasy and reality and encounter a fair dose of turbulence on their path. Not least when love leads to those recesses of their inner lives that have been bolted under lock and key for a very long time – and a locksmith needs to be called in.

A candid, blunt and intimate account of the relationship between two very different individuals who meet and form a temporary bond that is destined to dissolve. 219 pp

Football Stories (Mini Stories)

Fótboltasögur, örsögur, 2001

Footballers all have their positions to defend, both on and off the pitch. With piercing black humour, these stories tell us of the fullbacks, forwards, goalkeepers and other players on the pitch and on the bench, in reality and in dreams, and recounts their feats or would-have-been actions. The author has full control over her players and excels in attack, but leaves occasional gaps in the defense to allow the reader to run in and join the game. 77 pp

English translation available

“Jökulsdóttir’s stories revolve around football and the craze it inspires, but also, not least, the psychology of the characters, their emotions, language and reality – and in most of them she really scores.”

MORGUNBLADID NEWSPAPER



FRIDA A. SIGURDARDOTTIR

(b.1940–2010) worked as a lecturer at the University of Iceland and as a librarian before turning exclusively to writing in 1978. Her first work was the short story collection *Nothing Serious*, published in 1980.

In Julia's House

Í húsi Júlíu, novel, 2006

The story of two sisters and their tempestuous relationship. After an absence of many years abroad, Lena makes a sudden and unannounced return. Wheels are set in motion, the moment Lena steps into Julia's house, ushering new dangers into the home. This novel by Sigurdardottir encompasses many haunting elements, and in her own unique manner she manages to interweave the various narrative threads to create a poignant and powerful contemporary story. 235 pp

In a Closed World

Í luktum heimi, novel, 1994

Tomas, a middle-aged man, wakes up one morning haunted by questions of the purpose and meaning of life. How can an individual control his own fate, love and happiness? Or are these just words, devoid of any significance? The novel describes a few desperate weeks of Tomas' life; weeks filled with joy and despair, love and unbearable pain. 281 pp

- Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize 1994

Sold to:
Sweden (Rabén/Prisma/Arleskar)



GERDUR KRISTNY (b.1970) proved herself as one of Iceland's most interesting poets with her first book, and has since then published several books of poetry, as well as short stories, novels and children's books. Awards for her work include 1st prize in the National Broadcasting Service short story competition, 1st prize in poetry competition in a cultural programme on TV, The Children's Choice Book Prize and the Halldor Laxness' Literary Prize for *A Boat with Sails and All*.

“There is a deep solitude and quest in the text that underlies the rugged surface, and Gerdur Kristny develops this subtext quite brilliantly; Oddfridur's story touches and stirs the reader without ever succumbing to sentimentality (which no reader of Gerdur Kristny's would have expected anyway) and doesn't shy away from her heroine's faults – and a subtle humour pervades it all.”

BOKMENNTIR.IS

A Boat with Sails and All

Bátur með segli og allt, novel, 2004

A Boat with Sails and All is an exciting family tale of corruption and betrayal in contemporary Reykjavik. A young woman reporter is hired by a small daily newspaper, and sucked into a power struggle in a dog eats dog world. At the same time, she is trying to come to terms with her

own roots. Gerdur Kristny has skilfully woven a thrilling story that sharply reflects our times. 319 pp

- The Halldor Laxness' Literary Prize 2004

Chapters in English available

Night Watch

Meðan nóttin líður, novel, 1990

Nina appears to be a successful modern woman – sophisticated, intelligent and confident. But her success is overshadowed by doubt and despair. As she sits at her mother's deathbed, perennial questions arise in her mind. Fragments of present and past realities are woven together in the course of the story, which carries a poignant message for our times. 193 pp

- The Icelandic Literary Prize 1991
- The Press Cultural Award for Literature 1991
- The Nordic Council Literary Prize 1992

Sold to:
Czech Republic (Mladá Fronta/Praha); Denmark (Rhodos); Germany/Switzerland/Austria (Steidl); Sweden (Rabén/Prisma/Arleskar); Norway (Emilia); Finland (Gummerus); UK/Australia/New Zealand/South-Africa (Mare's Nest); Lithuania (Leidykla Vaga)



GUDBERGUR BERGSSON (b.1932) is one of Iceland's leading writers, the first author to win the coveted Icelandic Literary Prize twice, first in 1991 for the widely acclaimed *The Swan* and then in 1997 for the first volume of his biographical novel *Father and Mother and the Mystery of Childhood*, which was also nominated for the Nordic Council Literary Prize in 1992.

"A great European novelist."

MILAN KUNDERA



"Loss is doubtless one of his more influential works, terse and chiseled, inspiring the readers to reflect."

MORGUNBLADID NEWSPAPER

"Loss is a masterful narrative of how old age clutches a person... it is funny and very bleak... an incredibly beautifully written book."

KILJAN, NATIONAL TV

Loss

Missir, novel, 2010

To what does the mind turn when one reaches the end of the road and there is little ahead but eternity itself? To past times... now disagreeable memories. Nothing breaks the silence but the merciless hiss of the kettle, the everyday accompaniment to a lonely man's reckoning with his life, love or lack of love that reaches beyond the borders of life and death – and old age, the

lot awaiting everyone when the body becomes decrepit and stamina dries up. Here Gudbergur Bergsson provides a provocative and unexpected insight into an everyday world that one and all recognize but beautify in their own particular way. *Loss* is a novel that exposes the individual in relation to his inevitable fate. 128 pp

Sold to:
Spain/Andorra/South and Central America/USA (Tusquets)

"The mixture of irony and simplicity, depression and distance and most of all the density of the atmosphere, creates a mood unlike any other and elevates this story, making it a work of art."

BERLINER MORGENPOST

The Search for the Child in the Chasm

Leitin að barninu í gjánni, novel, 2008

Gudbergur Bergsson is well-known for his unconventional approach and inventive narratives. In *The Search for the Child in the Chasm – A Children's Story not for Children* he once more strikes a new note. This tender and symbolic story, which is definitely meant for adults, describes the journey of a child and a teacher along strange paths, through

a secret door in the basement of the school among others. Under the surface is another more haunting story, not least about the imagination which is sometimes stolen from young people – and about the challenge of finding the courage to do battle with oneself. 147 pp

The Swan

Svanurinn, novel, 1991

The Swan is the story of a nine-year old girl raised in a fishing village, who is sent to a farm in the country as punishment for shoplifting. There she discovers feelings she had not known before, mysterious, terrible and painful. A novel built on tension and contradiction, where the grotesque and the beautiful, the comical and the dramatic, are at once contrasted and yet reconciled. 148 pp

- *The Icelandic Literature Prize 1991*
- *Nomination to The Nordic Council Literary Prize 1992*

"A literary voyage of the soul, filled with wonders and adventure."

NDR RADIO

Sold to:
Bulgaria (Hemus); Brazil (Rocco); Czech Republic (Ivo Zelezni/Praha); Denmark (Rhodos); Sweden (Rabén/Prisma/Arleskar); France/Switzerland/Luxembourg/Canada (Gallimard); Spain/Andorra/South and Central America/USA (Tusquets); UK/Australia/New Zealand/South-Africa, USA/Philippines (Mare's Nest); Germany/Switzerland/Austria (Steidl); Italy (Il Saggiatore); Finland (Like); The Netherlands/Belgium/Luxembourg (De Geus); Greece (Ellinika Grammata); Estonia (SA Kultuurilient); Lithuania (Leidykla Vaga); Taiwan (Owl Publishing)

“Wonderful, ironic, sad, shocking and funny.”

DV NEWSPAPER

The Paralyzed Teachers

Lömuðu kennslukonurnar, novel, 2004

Coming home after a period of study, a proud mother’s bright hope gets a full-time job as a social worker that takes him to the bedside of two paralyzed sisters. He starts to invent stories for them and before he knows it, the sisters have led him down a road from which

there is no turning back. The power of the paralyzed sisters lures him into a narrative totally against his own will. Primitive and vulgar elements gain the upper hand. But what is left of the author’s mind after allowing himself to be duped into the story? 213 pp

Sold to:
 Lithuania (Pasvires Pasaulis)



“An uncomfortable masterpiece from Gudbergur –
 who just seems to get better with age.”

FRETTABLADID NEWSPAPER

1 1/2 Book – A Terrible Story

1 1/2 bók – Hryllileg saga, novel, 2006

In *1 1/2 Book – A Terrible Story* Gudbergur Bergsson takes on one of his most ambitious topics to this day: Icelandic culture and its influences, from the time Iceland was under Danish rule to our day.

In *1 1/2 Book – A Terrible Story* he delves under the surface of Icelandic society and portrays unforgettable characters in a work of fiction that tackles the truth and history, and not least the Icelandic national identity. 260 pp

“Bergsson is one of this century’s principal geniuses and rarely has he been more successful than in this novel.”

DAGUR NEWSPAPER

Father and Mother and the Mystery of Childhood

Faðir og móðir og dulmagn bernskunnar, novel, 1997

In this captivating and touchingly honest story, Gudbergur Bergsson revisits the days of his youth in the fishing village of Grindavik. He revives days passed, examining these childhood years with an adult’s eyes attempting to see himself through his parents and the surroundings out of which he grew. 320 pp

- The Nordic Council Literary Prize 2004
- The Icelandic Literary Prize 1997
- Selected Dagur Newspaper’s Novel of the Year
- Nominated for the 1998 DV Newspaper’s Cultural Prize
- Nominated for the 1999 Aristeion European Literary Prize
- Nominated for The Nordic Council Literary Prize 1999 (vol. 1 and 2)

Sold to:
 Brazil (Rocco); Spain/Andorra/South
 and Central America/USA (Tusquets);
 Germany/Switzerland/Austria (Steidl);
 Sweden (Atlantis)

“A magnificent work which will undoubtedly be considered among this century’s leading work of literature ...”

DV NEWSPAPER

Like a Stone Smoothed by the Sea

Eins og steinn sem hafið fágur, novel, 1998

Volume II of Bergsson’s biographical novel. In this captivating story, Gudbergur Bergsson picks up where he left off in his award-winning work, *Father and Mother and the Mystery of Childhood*, reviving a life which now only exists in the recesses of his mind. Bergsson writes both compellingly and candidly of the world which shaped his own mentality, emotions and writings. 405 pp

- Nominated for the 1998 Icelandic Literary Prize
- Nominated for The Nordic Council Literary Prize 1999 (vol. 1 and 2)

Sold to:
 Sweden (Atlantis)

Torments of Love in the Chamber of the Mind

Sú kvalda ást sem hugarfylgsnin geyma, novel, 1993

A middle-aged man inherits a childhood friend’s assets, as well as his male lover. In a basement room he searches for a passion that is invisible to the rest of the world. 250 pp

- Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize 1993

Sold to:
 Sweden (Rabén/Prisma/Arleskar);
 Spain/Andorra/South and Central
 America/USA (Tusquets); UK/
 Australia/New Zealand/South-Africa,
 USA/Philippines (Mare’s Nest);
 Germany/Switzerland/Austria (Steidl)



GUDRUN EVA

MINERVUDOTTIR (b.1976) has earned herself a place among Iceland's most promising writers. In her incredible poignant style she interweaves all kind of relationships and exchanges, which, in one way or another, together form a kind of study of the body and its connections to the mind, culture and just the world.

“The Creator is an exceptionally well constructed story ... Minervudottir shows convincingly just how difficult relations between two people can be. In this case the ugly beauty which cannot endure on the surface is allowed to break free, showing that what it contains is always more than any silicon sex doll.”

VIDSJA, ICELANDIC NATIONAL BROADCASTING

The Creator

Skaparinn, novel, 2008

Sveinn has devoted himself to the artistic pursuit of creating the loveliest sex dolls imaginable. Living alone and keeping to himself, he has limited contact with the world around him. Glancing out of his window after working especially long and hard, he happens to see a woman, Loa, attempting to change a tire. After succumbing to the natural urge to help her out, Sveinn invites her into his home, only to gradually become entangled in Loa's family

affairs. Not only does this have unforeseen results, it also leads him to reassess his own life. Powerfully written, the text uniquely captures human emotion at the breaking point. Here, as in her previous works, Gudrun Eva Minervudottir spotlights everyday people grappling with unusual situations, where help sometimes arrives from where it is least expected. 280 pp

- Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize

Sold to:
Italy (Scritturapura); Germany/
Austria/Switzerland (Random House/
btb); UK/Australia/New Zealand/
South-Africa, USA/Philippines
(Portobello); Finland (Atena)

“Yosoy is an ambitious work ... a powerful reflection of a society of alienation and over-consumption.”

MORGUNBLADID NEWSPAPER

“A very ambitious work ... the author's prose is so potent that she manages to effortlessly convey complex concepts to the reader, through the sheer beauty of her words and subtle narrative.”

TIFEO, ITALY

Yosoy

Yosoy, novel, 2005

Madame Louise de Roubaix meets Dr. Olafur Benediktsson at an international congress on pain in Brussels and charges him with the investigation of a strange circus in Iceland. The whole organisation is shrouded in mystery and gaining the trust of its members turns out to be a peculiar experience for Olafur, as he gradually discovers the true nature of these unforgettable and perplexing people.

This is a powerful tale about pain and human nature, sublime and zany love, innate and acquired talents – and how people cultivate their God-given gifts. 383 pp

- The DV Newspaper's Cultural Award 2006
- Nominated for the Bookseller's Literary Award 2005 as the best novel of the year

Sold to:
Italy (Scritturapura); Danmark (Art People)
Film rights sold to: Pegasus Pictures



GUDMUNDUR ANDRI THORSSON (b.1957) received the DV Newspaper's Cultural Prize for Literature for his novel *The Icelandic Dream* in 1991. The book was also nominated for The Icelandic Literary Prize in the same year. The novel *Journey to Iceland* was nominated for the same prize in 1996.

"... an entertaining book ..."

THE WEEKLY PAPER

Tell Mama I'm Fine

Segðu mömmu að mér líði vel, novel, 2008

"We kissed. Then, gently extracting herself from my embrace, she smiled and waved a goodbye before getting into the car. I remember that our eyes met and I said something about going to buy sausage for dinner – like I sometimes did – sausage made from horsemeat – and she gave a wry smile at the wellworn joke, saying she wasn't sure she'd make it for dinner, she'd call ..."

Kata's call takes its time in coming, however, and in the meantime Einar goes for a walk with his dog. His thoughts turn to Kata and her son, to his father – an alcoholised saxophone player who has known better days – with whom he has lived all these years. And to his mama, a country girl turned singer, pondering how their fates were all entwined ... Until the phone rings shrilly and nothing is ever the same again. 152 pp

The Power of Mercy

Náðarkraftur, novel, 2003

A sardonic family saga about a son who has to tell his parents that a song he wrote has reached the final in the Eurovision Song Contest – which he knows will horrify them – and the daughter has to decide whether she should sacrifice her fiancé, a promising young Europeanist, for a bluesy dope-head whom she doesn't know is probably the heir to a fortune. The mother is a priest who has to deal with the sudden return of psychic powers, and the father is a former Socialist member of parliament who cultivates his garden. These are the last Socialists, their ideals have made them a laughing stock, and they live under the shadow of shattered dreams and damnation, but in spite of it all, they still gather around the piano sometimes in the evening and sing "Gracias a la vida" ... 237 pp

"... an especially well-written and engaging novel."

KISTAN.IS



HALLGRÍMUR HELGASON (b.1959) is a writer and artist, one of Iceland's most popular authors. His novel *101 Reykjavik* was nominated for the Nordic Council Literary Prize and he received the Icelandic Literary Prize for *The Author of Iceland*. www.hallgrimur.is

Literary agent:
Andrew Nurnberg Associates
e-mail: lbrannstrom@nurnberg.co.uk

The Woman at 1000°C

Konan við 1000°C, novel, 2011

In the eastern part of Reykjavik, fall of 2009, an old lady awaits her death alone, bedridden but connected to the world through the internet. 400 pp

Hitman's Guide to Housecleaning

10 ráð til að hætta að drepa fólk og byrja að vaska upp, novel, 2008

A story of mistaken identity, human destiny and the forces of good and evil present within us all. 287 pp

Sold to:
Germany (Klett-Cotta); Denmark (Lindhardt og Ringhof); Norway (CappelenDamm); Poland (Slowo/Obraz Terytoria); Netherlands (Meulenhoff); Russia (Corpus); The Czech Republic (Albatross nakladatelsvi); Italy (ISBN Edizioni)

Rokland

Rokland, novel, 2005

The story of a solitary rebel, who is too smart for his hometown, too angry for the big town, and too frank for his country. 391 pp
• Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize 2005

Sold to:
Germany (Klett-Cotta); Denmark (Aschehoug); Sweden (Norstedts)
Film rights sold to: Pegasus Pictures

The Author of Iceland

Höfundur Íslands, novel, 2001

An impressive story, fascinating and disturbing, about fact and fiction, death and creation. 510 pp

- The Icelandic Literary Prize 2001
- The Bookseller's Literary Award 2001

Sold to: Italy (Longanesi/Ugo Guanda); Germany (Klett-Cotta); Finland (Otava); Sweden (Norstedts); Denmark (Rosinante); Norway (N.W. Damm & Sön)
Chapters and synopsis available in English

101 Reykjavik

101 Reykjavík, novel, 1996

A highly unusual and catching novel about a young man, Hlynur Bjorn, whose way of life is totally in accordance with the essence of the modern consumer society. 383 pp

Sold to:
UK (Faber & Faber); USA (Simon & Schuster); Denmark (Rosinante); Finland (Otava); Sweden (Norstedts); Norway (N.W. Damm & Sön); Germany (Klett-Cotta); France (Actes Sud); Italy (Longanesi); Spain/Mexico/Argentina/Uruguay/Colombia (RBA); Romania (Universal Dalsi); Poland (Swiat Literacki/as an e-book: Tower Press); The Netherlands (Meulenhoff); Russia (Azbooka); Latvia (Valters un Rapa); Spain (Rinoceronte Editora, in Galician); Korea (Dulnyuk)



The Nobel laureate **HALLDOR LAXENSS** (1902-1998) is the undisputed master of contemporary Icelandic fiction and considered one of the greatest European novelists of the twentieth century. He was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1955.

“One of the greatest novelists of the 20th century.”

DIE WELT

“Laxness is the patriarch of European literature.”

DIE WOCHENZEITUNG

Literary agent:

Licht & Burr, Copenhagen, Denmark
e-mail: tl@licht-burr.dk

Halldor Laxness was prolific during his long career, writing more than 60 books which have been translated over 40 languages and published in more than 500 editions. They have sold in large numbers all over the world, e.g. hundreds of thousands of copies in the US alone. His career is unique, the diversity of his works almost without parallel, and with every book he can be said to have approached his readers from a new and unexpected direction. In Laxness' works man and nature, legend and reality merge in magic unity and as a master of story-telling he possesses a fantastic imagination and inexhaustible resources of technique. Nine of the stories by Halldor Laxness have been filmed. The filming rights to the tenth, *Independent People*, one of Halldor Laxness' most famous novels, have been sold to Pegasus Pictures.

Under the Glacier

Kristnihald undir Jökli,
novel, 1968

A youthful emissary of the Bishop of Iceland travels to the beautiful and mysterious district of Snaefellsnes, locally known as “Under the Glacier”, to investigate the affairs of the parish and its enigmatic pastor. The story is the young man's report to the bishop on the extraordinary events taking place at the foot of Snaefells-Glacier. In this strange region all accepted distinctions between past and present, the mundane and the supernatural seem at times to vanish. A complex biblical allegory with many levels of meaning and hugely intricate and intriguing structure, and as such a unique work in Nordic literature. 334 pp

Sold to:

Germany/Austria/Switzerland (Steidl); The Czech Republic (Aurora); Hungary (Balassi); Romania (Niculescu); USA (Random House/Vintage); The Netherlands (De Geus); Italy (Iperborea)
Previously translated into 9 languages

The Fish Can Sing

Brekkukotsannáll, novel, 1957

This is the tale of Alfgirim, an abandoned child, left in the turf-and-stone cottage of Bjorn of Brekkukot on the outskirts of what is now Reykjavik. The central motif is the dichotomy between a genuine and unassuming way of life in an old homestead and the misguided pursuit after fraudulent renown. One of Laxness' most endearing and many-faceted novels with a large collection of unforgettable individuals. 316 pp

Sold to:

Norway (Oktober); UK and USA (Harvill Press/Vintage); Germany (Steidl); Italy (Iperborea); France (Librairie Arthème Fayard); Spain/South America (Turner); The Netherlands (De Geus); Greece (Kastaniotis); Lebanon (Arab Scientific Publishers); Macedonia (Mikena doo); Portugal (Cavalo de ferro)
Previously translated into 16 languages

The Iceland's Bell

Íslandsklukkan, novel, 1943-46

This major novel is set at a time when Iceland was an oppressed colony at the mercy of Denmark. After making a bawdy joke about the Danish king, farmer Hreggvidsson finds himself a fugitive from a charge of murder. In the course of his wanderings he becomes entangled in the star-crossed love affair between a beautiful, headstrong noblewoman and the King's antiquarian, a worldly aristocrat secretly devoted to his downtrodden people. *Iceland's Bell* creates a Dickensian canvas of heroism and perversity, violence and sorrow, charged with narrative enchantment on every page. 484 pp

Sold to:

Netherlands (De Geus); Sweden (Svenska Akademian/Atlantis); USA (RandomHouse/Vintage); Estonia (Varrak); Israel (Schocken); Denmark (Gyldendal)
Previously published into 23 languages

Paradise Reclaimed

Paradísarheimt, novel, 1960

A tale of a poor farmer who abandons his land and family in pursuit of a dream of happiness, and chases it all the way to the Mormon communities in Utah. In the end he returns home convinced not only that all his efforts were in vain but that he has lost the most important thing of all. 301 pp

Sold to:

USA (Random House/Vintage); Germany/Austria/Switzerland (Steidl); France (Gallimard); Denmark (Gyldendal); The Netherlands (De Geus)
Previously translated into 13 languages

Independent People

Sjálfstætt fólk, novel, 1934-35

A timeless elemental masterpiece, which was one of the works for which Halldor Laxness was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature. It evokes the mood and rhythm of life in an isolated community in a remote corner of Europe as no other writer has done since the time of the great Icelandic sagas. Richly lyrical, often humorous, conceived on a grand scale, and with a cast of memorable characters, *Independent People* is one of the truly great poetic novels of the 20th century. It is the story of a crofter on Iceland's remotest moor, but it is also a study of deception, love and grief among all people. 726 pp

Sold to:

UK (Harvill Press); USA (Random House/Vintage); The Netherlands (De Geus); Germany (Steidl); Brazil (Globo); France (Librairie Arthème Fayard); Italy (Iperborea); Norway (Tiden); Denmark (Gyldendal); Spain (Turner); Literatur Yayincilik (Turkey); Sweden (Leopard); Faroe Islands (Sprotin); Portugal (Cavalo de ferro); Esperanto (Mondial); Korea (Think Big); Hungary (The Hungarian Radio)
Previously translated into 27 languages
Film rights sold to: Pegasus Pictures



HUGRUN KRISTJANSDDOTTIR

(b. 1972) is a scholar in Icelandic studies and webpage designer. This is her first novel.

Stolen Voices

Stolnar raddir, novel, 2010

“At that moment I didn’t know that my life was about to go haywire.”

Sollilja is an energetic girl from Reykjavik but is both lazy and a liar, besides being unsure of what exactly she should do with herself. Continue her university studies and remain eternally penniless, or go to work and make money? Keep seeing the law student Gunni, who has a future, or turn instead to the middle-aged newshawk and lady’s man Krummi? But when by accident Sollilja finds – hidden behind the beautiful engagement

photograph of her grandfather and grandmother – another photo of her grandmother with another man, her own problems become trifles. Little by little Sollilja discovers that her grandmother hides an immense sorrow, and that her grandfather and grandmother lived an entirely double life without anyone knowing. It turns out that it’s not just Sollilja who knows how to lie. 272 pp



JONINA LEOSDOTTIR (b. 1954)

as worked as a journalist and written biographies, plays, and novels. Her trilogy *Kisses and Olives*, *Black and White* and *You and I*, has enjoyed great popularity.

Just Fine – And You?

Allt fínt – en þú?, novel, 2010

Nina does not know how to react when her father, a handsome man of seventy, turns up with a new girlfriend only a few weeks after the death of his wife. But the celebrity actress Sunna, Nina’s sister, will have none of it: she wants to cut off all contact with her father. Immediately! As befits a self-respecting vicar’s wife and her family’s pillar of strength, Nina tries to be understanding and help smooth things over, in spite of already having enough on her plate. Her finances are a shambles, she has grave worries about her two daughters and her husband is irritatingly slow at reading her mind.

Therefore, Nina has great difficulties mediating between her father and sister, and the situation in the family becomes increasingly complicated – until things finally reach boiling point. *Just Fine – And You?* describes a few months in the life of a nearly forty-year-old woman in Reykjavik. A woman who cannot say no and desperately wants to be kind to everyone ... and therefore runs the risk of neglecting herself. An extremely funny story about deadly serious matters that could happen in most families. 288 pp

Sold to:
Germany (KiWi)
Chapters in English available



HUGLEIKUR DAGSSON (b.1977) can be called Iceland's uncrowned prince of the graphic novel. His work has received a great deal of praise both in Iceland and abroad, although some people look on his comic strips as childish scribbles. That attitude is challenged with this most recent book, which many consider his best to date.
www.dagsson.com

Literary agent: Penguin Group
e-mail: Kate.Brotherhood@uk.penguin.com

"Ban this sick book."

THE IRISH SUN

Kisi, the One-Eyed Cat and the Recession – Escape from Reykjavik

Eineygði kötturinn Kisi og ástandið – flóttinn frá Reykjavík, cartoon, 2009

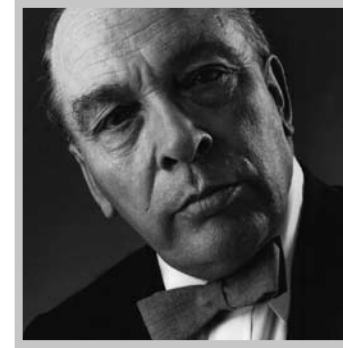
Kisi is back and is as resourceful and homicidal as ever. But in the fourth book, the one-eyed-cat has to grapple with the recession with his friends. The book features, among other things, a possessed curly-haired martyr, an un-understanding publisher and the underworld of Icelandic genetics which may hold the key to the future of this tormented nation. The Kisi series of books have been popular with readers of all ages. 64 pp

Should You Be Laughing At This?

Forðist okkur, cartoon, 2005

Sure, Hangman is violent, but rarely have simple line drawings been made to enact the kinds of scenarios found in Icelandic artist Hugleikur Dagsson's collection, *Should You Be Laughing At This?* The first few pages alone offer up murder, cannibalism and incest, and the jokes keep coming from there. Dagsson's sweet little cartoons took the Icelandic counter-culture scene by storm becoming a best-seller in Iceland. The stage play won the Best Play of 2005 award in Iceland's main national newspaper. Dagsson's second UK collection of cartoons is called *Is This Supposed to Be Funny?* published in 2007. 224 pp

Sold to:
Italy (Arnoldo Mondadori); Finland (Atena); Norway (Gyldendal); US (HarperCollins); Hungary (Partvonal); Germany (Rowohlt); France (Sonatine); Sweden (Nicotext)



INDRIDÍ G. THORSTEINSSON (1926–2000) was one of Iceland's most prominent 20th-century writers.

Phases in the Life of a Nation

Tímar í lífi þjóðar, novels, 1978

Phases in the Life of a Nation was the title Indridi G. Thorsteinsson gave to his trilogy *Land and Sons*, *North of War*, and *Calling Cab 79*. Together these three novels illustrate some of the most radical sociological changes in the history of Iceland, in the wake of the Depression, military occupation, and the emergence of new

forms of employment. In his books, Indridi G. Thorsteinsson provided us with an X-ray of the emotional roots of two generations, and in doing so, created classic fiction about the nature of human destiny itself. Two of his novels, *Calling Cab 79* and *Land and Sons* have been adapted into milestone movies. 358 pp

Calling Cab 79 sold to:
Germany (Transit Verlag)



KRISTIN MARJA BALDURSDOTTIR (b.1949) is one of Iceland's most highly acclaimed novelists, author of novels and a short story collection that all demonstrate the author's great gift for characterisation.

"Beautifully executed, an excellent read."

KILJAN, NATIONAL TV

"Baldursdottir has a complete mastery of her style ..."

FRETTABLADID NEWSPAPER

The Big Dipper

Karlsvagninn, novel, 2009

When Gunnur wakes up one morning, she realises to her horror that her home has been burgled while she was sleeping. All her state-of-the-art modern gadgets have vanished – and all her credit cards. They've wiped her clean and her husband is abroad. Full of revulsion for this violation of her home, she decides to flee to the couple's summer house in the east, even though it's the heart of winter. But she doesn't get to go there alone. While she's talking to the police, she's saddled with taking care of a young girl, before she even has a chance to protest. This

odd pair, a psychiatrist in her fifties and a girl close to confirmation age, are lumbered together in a remote house without any gadgets for the whole weekend. Secluded in the frost and snow, they have no choice but to tap into two resources they've lost the habit of using: their memories and the imagination.

Even though *The Big Dipper* spans only three days, Baldursdottir sheds light on the nature and development of mankind throughout the ages in this original yarn about the whole art of story telling. 173 pp

Sold to:
Germany/Switzerland/Austria (Krüger Verlag);
Denmark (Gyldendal)



"Karitas is a wonderful story, which as any great novel grabs you for the duration of the story and which then follows you, long after the book, sadly, is over."

BERLINSKE TIDENDE

Chaos on Canvas

Óreiða á striga, novel, 2007

Set in Iceland, Paris and New York, this vivid portrait of a gifted female artist spans five decades, an extraordinary range of emotions and paints a compelling image of her life and the sacrifices she must make to be able to pursue her art. The author skillfully unravels the destiny of the artist through the process of creation, her relationship with her family and friends, solitude, betrayal, success, unbearable sorrow and great passion. Memorable characters make their appearance in this powerful and moving story, brimming with life and humanity. 541 pp

Sold to:
Germany/Switzerland/Austria (Krüger Verlag);
The Netherlands (Querido);
Denmark (Gyldendal); France (Gaïa)

Karitas – Untitled

Karítas án titils, novel, 2004

The dramatic and fascinating story of a young girl who, despite her low social background, manages to study Art at the beginning of the 20th century, at a time when very few women did so. This is the insightful story of a single woman's destiny and women as a whole – a vivid portrait of their role and lives in the 20th century and a conflict between two powerful forces: love and art. 447 pp

• Nominated for the Nordic Council Literary Prize 2005

Sold to:
Germany/Switzerland/Austria (Krüger Verlag);
The Netherlands (Signature); Sweden (Bra böcker);
Denmark (Gyldendal); France (Gaïa)



“... masterfully constructed ... Kristin Marja sets herself a major challenge with *Seagull’s Laughter* and achieves it in style.”

BT, DENMARK

Seagull’s Laughter

Mávahlátur, novel, 1995

Everything is turned upside down in the peaceful village world when Freyja suddenly appears one day, all the way from America. And this is hardly surprising, considering who she is. Her thick, black hair reaches down to her hips, her icy-blue eyes are piercing, her lips are red and her shape perfect. She has seven trunks of clothes and her manner is colder than death. Seen through young Agga’s inquiring eyes the life of the village takes on an air of complex mystery and romance. Who is Freyja? Agga wants to find an answer to that. Is she perhaps a fairy queen? A Viking heroine?

A murderess? The Goddess of Love? The setting, a 1950s fishing village, is expertly depicted, and the characters are well-drawn. An absolutely irresistible story of female uprising before the days of feminism. 246 pp

A film based on *Seagull’s Laughter* was premiered in December 2001, starring the German actor Heino Ferch. The film won most of Iceland’s major awards for 2001 and at its World Premiere, at Karlovy Vary International Film Festival, where it played in the main competition, it received the best actress award.

Sold to:
Germany/Switzerland/Austria (Krüger Verlag);
Denmark (PP-forlag, pocket edition: Gyldendal);
The Netherlands (Signature); Sweden (Bra Böcker);
Norway (Pantagruel); Italy (Edizioni Elliot)
English chapters available



KRISTIN STEINSDOTTIR’S

(b.1946) numerous books have received a variety of awards, including the Fjoruverdlaun award for high-quality innovative works by women, which she received for the novel *By Herself*. The book was also nominated for the Nordic Council Literary Prize.

“It touches the reader in a powerful way ...
Here nothing is redundant and nothing is missing.”

VIDSJA, ICELANDIC NATIONAL RADIO

Ljosa

Ljósa, novel, 2010

“I hadn’t put much of my life behind me when it first made its presence felt. The bird which would end up becoming an inseparable part of my life. Spreading its wings, singing and sending my heart speeding. Why did it have to snuggle up against my neck like that? Trying to smother me. Keeping me from sleeping at night. Lying down on top of me and squashing me.”

Ljosa grows up late in the 19th century under the glacier’s dome with a sweeping view of the sea and the barren lands. With every chance of being happy, but reality turned out otherwise. As time passes, she loses her grip on life, to retreat into a world of illusion that confounds other people.

Ljosa is Steinsdottir’s third novel, a gripping tale of the joys and sorrows of a unique woman. 242 pp

Chapters in English available

By Herself

Á eigin vegum, novel, 2006

Sigthrudur has reached the autumn of her life, become a widow, and scrapes a living, delivering newspapers. She tends to her garden and plants, hangs around cafés and libraries, takes care of cats and attends funerals. She is alone but not lonely; from early childhood she has learnt to rely on no-one but herself, to expect nothing. All of her close ones are gone, although she is still with them in her mind, sitting in the stillness of her solitude, pondering. But deep in her soul she hides a dream for another life, another country – a dream sparked off by all the women who lived their uneventful lives and died.

But could such a dream ever become a reality? 136 pp

- Nominated for the Nordic Council Literary Prize
- The Fjoruverdlaun Award

Sold to:
Germany/Austria/Switzerland (Verlag C.H Beck); Sweden (Kabusa); Finland (Lurra)
Chapters in English and French available



KARI TULINIUS (b. 1981) *Untalented Martyrs* is Kari' Tuliniu's first novel, but he has previously focused on poetry. His work has been published in the anthology *Of Concrete*, as well as in the *British Poetry Review* and elsewhere.

*“The strength of **Untalented Martyrs** lies particularly in its structure, how the timeline holds together, and in the plot... an outstanding first go.”*

MORGUNBLADID NEWSPAPER

Untalented Martyrs

Píslarvottar án hæfileika, novel, 2010

The novel *Untalented Martyrs* is about five youths in Reykjavik. They all want to leave their mark on society, but with little result. They have a half-formed desire to commit an act of

terrorism but it is difficult to be a fanatic when there is nothing worthwhile to kill or die for. Is it possible to be a hero in a day and age lacking ideals? 224 pp.



KRISTIN EIRIKSDOTTIR (b. 1981) previously made a name for herself with her poetry. Here, in this collection of short stories, she calls out to be heard again in a memorable way. Her voice is strong and importunate – one of the most original of her generation.

Doris Dies

Doris deyr, short stories, 2010

These are stories of contemporary life, dealing with relations between the sexes, love, and ordinary drab existence. The stories are beautiful, often funny, but their tone is threatening... life is always shown in a new and unexpected light.

Kristin Eiriksdottir has published three books of poetry that attracted attention for their powerful and frank poems, in which expression takes precedence and there is no holding back. 165 pp

One story available in English translation



KRISTJAN THORDUR

HRAFNSSON (b.1968) is a poet, playwright and a renowned translator of plays. His work has been noted for, among other things, the powerful way in which he manages to convey the intimate detail of human relations.

“... a well thought-out and crafted novel that stirs the reader ... Complex ... deserves to be read twice.”

MORGUNBLADID NEWSPAPER

The Strong Ones

Hinir sterku, novel, 2005

A young woman has acquired great popularity and recognition for her assertive hosting of a TV debating programme after the evening news – but then a series of unexpected events shake her world to its foundations. *The Strong Ones* is a poignant novel about human conflict, the damage it causes to people’s lives, and the wounds it conceals. 191 pp

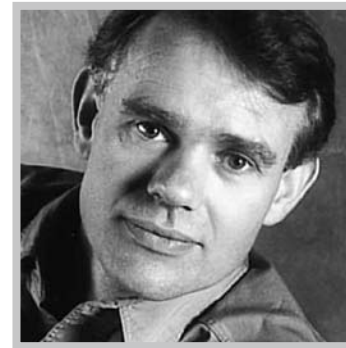
“The story unravels in a quiet murmur without resorting to shocks or ruptures. And it is precisely this quietness and candour that ensures this book will haunt the reader’s mind for a long time to come.”

MORGUNBLADID NEWSPAPER

Others’ Thoughts

Hugsanir annarra, novel, 2002

Others’ Thoughts is an unusual and charming novel about a man’s experience of a secret and forbidden passion. A soliloquy to love and the sacrifices it sometimes demands in its honour, a story about forbidden love, betrayal, desire, selfishness and generosity. A story about torment and rapture, regret, longing and excitement; a story about feeling and being alive. 125 pp



PETUR GUNNARSSON

(b.1947) is among the most widely acclaimed authors of his generation, writer of popular novels, poetry and essays.

*“Gunnarsson achieves the impossible, endowing the history of the universe, natural sciences, religion and philosophy – to name but a few – with such urbane wit and narrative verve that it becomes a delight to read ... **The Picture of the World** is in a class of its own.”*

MORGUNBLADID NEWSPAPER

Trilogy

Picture of the World

The Way to Rome

The Mechanism of Time

Myndin af heiminum, 2000

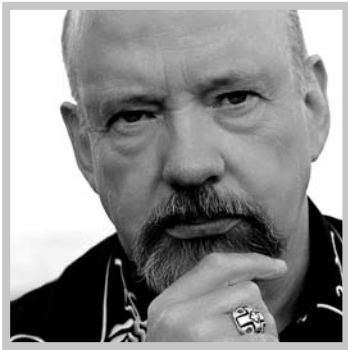
Leiðin til Rómar, 2002

Vélar tímans, novels, 2004

The creation of the world, of man – these are Petur Gunnarsson’s themes in the three novels series called *The Novel of Iceland*. We visit important events in the history of Iceland and the Icelanders, crucial places and times. The author follows the example of medieval writers, who generally sought to begin at the beginning, i.e. at the Creation, and recount history from them. While the narrator probes fundamental questions, he has to tackle them in his own life too – creating an exciting and particularly rewarding story, told with the humour, depth and compassion which characterize Petur Gunnarsson’s writing. 128–182 pp

- Nomination for the Icelandic Literary Prize 2000 and 2002

Chapters in English available



OLAFUR GUNNARSSON (b.1948) is among Iceland's best storytellers. With his highly acclaimed trilogy, *Trolls' Cathedral* (1992), *Potter's Field* (1996) and *Winter Journey* (1999), he has earned a place among the major realists in Icelandic letters. *Troll's Cathedral* was nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize in 1992 as well as the IMPAC Dublin Literary Award in 1997. An adaptation for the stage premiered at The National Theatre in 1996 and the film right has been sold. Gunnarsson received the Icelandic Literary Prize for his novel, *The Axe and the Earth*, in 2004.

"Of all the contemporary Icelandic authors that German readers have had an opportunity to read in translation, Olafur Gunnarsson is the one who most obviously picked up the torch from his great colleague and predecessor Halldor Laxness. He also paints an impressive portrait of how contemporary social and economic changes have affected traditional Icelandic society."

FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE ZEITUNG

Dark Roses

Dimmar rósir, novel, 2008

The stage is Reykjavik in the years 1969 to 1971, years of conflict between the old time and the new; the years when Kinks and Led Zeppelin hold concerts in Iceland, young people look towards the future in a state either of expectation or intoxication, as the case may be, and the older generation really don't know what hit them. The dramatis personae is formed by two picturesque families in town. The characters come in all sizes and shapes; from the rebellious teenage girl to the well-meaning theology

student, from the longhaired drummer to the old car mechanic, from the colourless accountant to the actress who is permanently on stage. The action is spun around the fates of these two families, unexpectedly entwined together in an enthralling read.

In this book Gunnarsson paints a vibrant portrait of a period and a set of characters faces with the fundamental issues of integrity and ethics. 408 pp

Chapters in English available

Head Ransom

Höfuðlausn, novel, 2005

It is the summer of 1919 and Reykjavik is suddenly transformed from a village into a town, when a troupe of actors and film crew come to Iceland to shoot Gunnar Gunnarsson's famous *Family Saga*. Jakob Olafsson, a young man who runs his own taxi service, drives the foreigners around, and before he knows it, falls in love with the leading lady. There is not just one but two women in Jakob's life when he meets Asthildur Björnsdóttir, an apprentice goldsmith. But just as Jakob seems to be on the point of finding happiness, his life takes a twist and reserves him and his close ones an unexpected fate. 194 pp

The Axe and the Earth

Öxin og jörðin, 2003

The Axe and the Earth is an historical novel based on one of the most dramatic events in Icelandic history, when the catholic bishop Jon Arason and his two sons were executed by the leaders of the reformation. This is an exceptionally well written story about faith and doubt and how the struggle for power dominates the actions of characters who step forward from the mists of the past. The human qualities of Gunnarsson's characters make their tragedy only too tangible in our own principle-testing times. 366 pp

- *The Icelandic Literary Prize 2003*
- *The Icelandic Booksellers' Prize 2003*

Sold to:

Lithuania (Pavires Pasaulis); France/Switzerland/Belgium/Luxembourg/Canada (Gaia)

Film rights sold to:

Palomar Pictures, producer Joni Sighvatsson

Troll's Cathedral

Tröllakirkja, novel, 1992

The year is 1953. An architect yearns to build a cathedral echoing the shapes of the landscape, the arc of a seabird's wing, the hollows of a cliff-face. Yet his current project, plagued by uncertainty and debt, is for the first franchise department store in Reykjavik. A single seemingly random act, an assault on his young son, will destroy the family. Obsessions, dreams and difficult memories lead inevitably to violence. 278 pp

- *Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize*
- *Shortlisted for the Impac Dublin Literary Award*

Sold to: UK (Mare's Nest); Germany (Steidl); France/Switzerland/Belgium/Luxembourg/Canada (Gaia); The Czech Republic (Host)

Potter's Field

Blóðakur, novel, 1996

Set in modern-day Iceland, *Potter's Field* is an epic tale of three distinguished families and a Catholic priest. The families suffer all the problems of an ordinary family, and some more, in spite of their wealth and influence. The second volume in Gunnarsson's trilogy, focusing on the themes of guilt, responsibility and tragedy. 508 pp

Sold to: UK (Mare's Nest)

Winter Journey

Vetrarferðin, novel, 1999

Sigrun is an ambitious Reykjavik businesswoman during World War II who pays a high price for the fulfillment of her goals. This third novel in Gunnarsson's trilogy deals with difficult questions of integrity, loyalty and responsibility in a world where "homo homini lupus est". 482 pp

Film rights sold to: Spellbound Production, producer Fridrik Thor Fridriksson



OLAFUR JOHANN OLAFSSON

(b.1962) has carved out an unusually impressive career as a novelist. Formerly the president of Sony Interactive Entertainment, Olafsson is currently vice chairman of Time Warner Digital Media. His books have all become best-sellers in Iceland.

Literary agent:
Marsh Agency
e-mail: Camilla@marsh-agency.co.uk

“... top-notch Nordic novelist, who may become that true rarity, an Icelandic Nobel Prize winner.”

FORBES MAGAZINE

“An ambitious, harrowing collection.”

LIBRARY JOURNAL

“There’s not an ounce of fat on most of these stories; Olafsson is an admirably brisk, compelling narrator.”

KIRKUS REVIEWS

Valentines

Aldingarðurinn, linked stories, 2006

A haunting collection of thematically linked stories that encompass the twelve months of a year, capturing the most candid moments between lovers, husbands and wives, parents and children, when truths and true feelings surge to the surface and everything changes. Olafsson’s fans will recognize the perfect restraint and precision – and quick wit – with which he characteristically explores these dark epiphanies, when the heart is suddenly laid bare, whether by love or betrayal, disenchantment or regret, or the shock of loss. While their settings range from the East

Coast to the West Coast, from Paris to Slovenia and Iceland, these contemporary stories probe the complexity of modern relationships over time. Each of the twelve stories reveals another element in the agonizing nature of passion, diminished and yet sustained over time. A powerful work of fiction from one of our most gifted and subtle international writers at work today. 288 pp

- *The Icelandic Literary Prize 2006*
- *The O Henry Award 2008 for the short story April*

Sold to:
USA (Knopf); Serbia (RTV B92, Samizdat B92); Israel (Modan); Japan (Hakusui-Sha)

The Innocents

Sakleysingjarnir, novel, 2004

Dagur Alfred, the protagonist of this book, a boy born on a door in the middle of the last century, recounts his incredible life and lets others decide whether he is innocent. Olafsson takes the reader on a phenomenal journey set against the backdrop of Iceland, England, India and the United States. Dagur Alfred carries the world on his shoulders and the individuals who meander into

“... This is a wide-ranging novel which introduces a new perspective into Icelandic literature.”

MORGUNBLADID NEWSPAPER

his life. The characters are complex and cut deeper than many first imagine. A powerful tale about human frailty, solitude, fate, love and nostalgia. The author’s elegant style interweaves perfectly with this exciting plot, which is unravelled with great artistry and keeps the reader captivated from beginning to end. 555 pp

English translation available

Walking into the Night

Höll minninganna, novel, 2001

A powerful novel about an Icelander, Kristjan, who vanished from his family and friends one dark night and ended up as a servant to the American tycoon, William Randolph Hearst, at the end of the first World War. What possessed him to abandon his wife, children and blossoming company and the security of Reykjavik? How did he end up in the service of Hearst, the press magnate, on the Pacific Ocean?

“Olafsson, a tremendous talent, has written an unforgettable novel.”

THE BOSTON GLOBE

An unforgettable study of human destiny, love, segregation, isolation, solitude and nostalgia. Stylishly written with vibrant characters. *Walking into the Night* was highly acclaimed by both readers and critics, and is currently being developed into a movie. 324 pp

Sold to:
USA (Pantheon); UK (Faber and Faber); Sweden (AlfabetaAnamma); Italy (Longanesi); The Netherlands (Nijgh en Van Ditmar); Israel (Modan); Italy (Longanesi); Russia (Azbooka); Serbia (RDP B92); Spain (RBA); Turkey (Can Yayinlari)

The Journey Home

Slóð fiðrildanna, novel, 1999

Olafsson weaves a powerful and moving story of Icelandic destiny into the turbulent history of Europe in the mid 20th century. For years Asdis Jonsdottir has run a smart country-house hotel in England but now she must confront the deceptions in her life – and the truth. She must return home – to the island she left 20 years before – in search of the life she turned her back on. 367 pp

- *Nomination for The IMPAC Dublin Literary Award 2002*
- *A Barnes and Noble Discover Great New Writers Selection*
- *Nominated as one of the 100 best novels of 2005 in the Netherlands by BOEK magazine*

Sold to:
USA (Pantheon, hardcover; Vintage, paperb.); UK (Faber and Faber); Germany (Knaus); Spain (RBA); Italy (Longanesi); France (Seuil); Denmark (Lindhardt & Ringhof); Sweden (AlfabetaAnamma); Israel (Modan); Portugal (Temas & Debates); China (Chongqing); The Netherlands (Nijgh & van Ditmar)
Film rights sold to: Hollywood – Paloma Pictures



OFEIGUR SIGURDSSON (b. 1975) has previously published five volumes of poetry and the novel *Texture* (2005).

Jon

Jón, novel, 2010

In 1755 Reverend Jon Steingrimsson from Skagafjörður travels south to Myrdalur to look after his wife's farm. He lies under suspicion of having murdered her former husband and has been expelled from his position at Reynistadur Monastery. The South, however, is not a desirable place in which to dwell: Katla is erupting and Myrdalur is shrouded in a cloud of ash, but Jon goes to live in the Badstofuhellir cave along with his brother and a farmhand. In letters to his wife he describes the many things that

happen to him that winter. He then receives a visit from the traveling companions Eggert and Bjarni, as well as Sheriff Skuli. He also reflects in his letters on the story of the love between him and Thorunn, which turned out to be so fateful.

Jon Steingrimsson is one of the most well-known clerics in the history of Iceland, the famous "fire priest" of the Skafta eruptions. In this unique novel we meet him long before those renowned events. 214 pp



OSKAR MAGNUSSON (b. 1954) is educated in law. He first worked as a news director and Supreme Court attorney but for nearly two decades has been the director of various businesses. He is now the publisher of the daily *Morgunblaðid*.

Hafnarfjörður Hrafnkelsson

Hafnarfjörður Hrafnkelsson, short stories, 2010

Oskar Magnusson's short stories are mainly concerned with common folk in everyday situations that everyone recognizes. The author brings his characters to life with an acute sense of the distinctive features in their demeanor and behavior, not least in the fine details, for which he has a sharp eye. We meet a sensitive composer in "The Apartment Block", a countryside farrier in "The Premiere", a couple travelling in Venice in "The Fine Evening" and a former bank manager in "Sigurjon." Dr. Hroar, Ingveldur Melinda, and the prostitute Françoise Girbaud are among

the characters with whom the reader shares pleasant company.

Oskar's stories are multifarious. Most often they take on an ironical tone and even become frolicsome, but in most of them there are serious undertones and frequently minute traces of criticism.

This is the author's second short-story collection. The first one was published in 2006, to an excellent reception by both readers and critics.

156 pp



RAGNA SIGURDARDOTTIR (b.1962)

is also an artist and art critic. In 1993 she published her first novel *Borg* (City), which was nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize the same year.

*“In this unique novel about ordinary people Ragna Sigurdardottir succeeds in exposing those illusions that have only recently fallen from favour. **The Perfect Landscape** demonstrates conclusively that Sigurdardottir is one of the best novelists of her generation.”*

MORGUNBLADID NEWSPAPER

“I think this is a very fine book... Well written and well put together... outwardly unpretentious but with much going on beneath the surface. Crafted in such a way that it stays with you after reading it.”

KILJAN TV PROGRAMME

The Perfect Landscape

Hið fullkomna landslag, novel, 2009

Hanna returns to Iceland from Amsterdam to arrange an exhibition space in the city's Art Museum. Iceland is enjoying a financial boom and tycoons are lavishing expensive gifts on the museum. One of them is a landscape painting with a birch tree by a famous artist from the last century. The only problem is that the head warden of the museum, the enigmatic Steinn, believes the painting to be a forgery. Is it? And what can be done if it turns out not to be genuine?

In this original story, Sigurdardottir taps into her insights into the art world in a unique way. Characters from the Icelandic and international art world and museums are vividly brought to life and collide in conflicts that are driven by ambition, greed and betrayal – and the passion for art. 224 pp

Chapters in English available



SIGRUN DAVIDSDOTTIR (b.1953)

is the author of a series of a popular range of cookery books as well as fiction. Her book for children, *Silfur Egils*, received The Reykjavik City Literary Award as the children's book of the year in 1989. She lives in London where she's a correspondent for Icelandic and foreign media.

*“Davidsdottir's narrative is well spun and few loose ends. The book is confidently structured and the main strength lies in the fact that the author manages to build up a great tension between the main characters, arriving at a believable and sensual climax ... **Uchronia** is a skilfully written novel and the characters are excellently depicted.”*

MORGUNBLADID NEWSPAPER

Uchronia

Feimnismál, novel, 2006

A young Icelandic photographer in New York is assigned to photograph the widow of one of the most famous photographers of our time. They seem to have little in common, other than the fact that they are both Icelanders living abroad. However, he is captivated by her age and experience, she by his youth and enthusiasm – and their fatherland and the Icelandic language turn out to create an unexpected bond between them.

Steeped in sensuality, *Uchronia* takes us on a complex erotic journey through life in New York, Paris, Naples and Iceland: food, betrayal and attachment are just some of the elements in this novel that explores the senses and sheds new light on the meaning of time, intimacy, nature and pleasure in the uncharted landscape of love, body and soul. 408 pp

Chapters in English available



**SIGURBJÖRG
THRASTARDÓTTIR** (b.1973) has a B.A. degree in comparative literature at the University of Iceland as well as a degree in Journalism and Mass Communication. She works as a journalist for Morgunbladid newspaper alongside her work as a writer and poet.

“The reader is deeply moved ...

*Thrastardóttir here depicts the effects of gross abuse in a vivid, effective manner. **The Story of Sol** is a rewarding read for all those who love good fiction ... The reader is left with beautiful words and hope in his soul.”*

STUDENTABLADID NEWSPAPER

*“Compelling and impressive ...
written with remarkable style and art.”*

JURY' ASSESSMENT

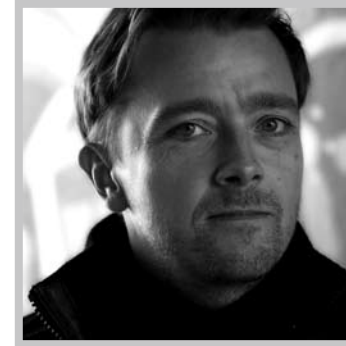
The Story of Sol

Sólar saga, novel, 2002

A young Icelandic girl living in Italy is brutally attacked and raped. The first person narrative of Sol (Sun) traces her ensuing search for herself as she collects the pieces of a shattered self-image in this highly unusual odyssey through one of Italy's most beautiful cities. 231 pp

- Tomas Gudmundsson Literary Award 2002

Chapters in English available



STEINAR BRAGI (b.1975) studied comparative literature and philosophy at the University of Iceland. His first published book was the poetry collection *Blackhole* in 1998. Since then he has sent forward a number of poetry books as well as novels. His first novel *The Tower* came out in 2000, followed by *Worrydolls* in 2002.



“... a kind of doom-story, a darkly sinister and painful work that deals with pornography, debasement, slavery and sexual and spiritual violence against women, presented in the manner of a skilfully built, self-deconstructing thriller.”

MORGUNBLADID NEWSPAPER

“Steinar Bragi's simple tale of a young couple's failed romance is heartbreaking, understated, and at times funny.”

BOOKSLUT.COM

White Mountain

Himinninn yfir Þingvöllum,
three stories, 2009

Three young men. Three young girls. Three different worlds: Reykjavik, the French Alps and a oil rig that is suddenly left standing in the middle of a desert when the sea disappears. Despair looms everywhere in a deafening silence and profound solitude that lead to bizarre events and extremes.

In these three gripping stories, Steinar Bragi explores solitude and the longing to connect, the borderline between the human and in-human, and the link between reality and the imaginary with the same sensitivity that he displayed in *Women* which was so warmly received by both readers and critics last year. 230 pp

One story available in English translation

Women

Konur, novel, 2008

Eva Einarsdóttir returns home to Iceland after living in New York. She has been offered a rent-free apartment in a hi-tech high-rise with state-of-the-art security and monitoring in downtown Reykjavik. *Women* depicts Iceland in the moments before the crash, when fantasies of Reykjavik as a financial powerhouse at the edge of the world reached their dizziest heights of madness. But it is also, obviously, a book about women: how women become commodities in the neo-libertarian world where everything has its price. The sense of menace intensifies as the work progresses, culminating in the excruciating second half. 220 pp

- Nominated for the DV Newspaper's Cultural Award 2009
- Nominated for the Nordic Council Literary Prize 2010

Sold to:

Germany/Austria/Switzerland (Verlag Antje Kunstmann);
France (Métaillé); Sweden (Natur & Kultur); Poland
(Krytyka Polityczna)

Chapters in English available



SIGURDUR PALSSON (b.1948) was born in Northern Iceland and studied literature, drama and cinema direction in Paris. He is one of the most unique and intimate poets of his generation and a prolific translator of French literature. Palsson has won numerous awards for his work. He received Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres in 1990.

“The novel achieves almost a musical quality and resounds in the mind of the reader long after the final page.”

WORLD LITERATURE TODAY

A Notebook from Memory

Minnisbók, novel, 2007

Fourteen years would pass before Sigurdur Palsson finally returned to Iceland from Paris, where he arrived after graduating from secondary school in 1967. This is a memoir from those years, but as the author points out in the first chapter, memories come into existence even if they are in a state of perpetual motion. They are filtered through time and through the senses,

which actually created them in the first place and with time sensation becomes the real essence of memory. Sigurdur Palsson's memories are distilled, sensual snapshots of France, and Paris especially, during the years when he made the country his home. 295 pp

- *The Icelandic Literary Award 2007*

English synopsis and excerpt available

Night Lodging

Næturstaður, novel, 2002

The magnificent descriptions of nature and powerful characterizations prove irresistible to the reader as he is drawn into a narrative stream where past, present and future unite, spreading new and refreshing perceptions.

176 pp

Blue Triangle

Blár þríhyrningur, novel, 2000

The second of Sigurdur Palsson's novels, *Blue Triangle*, proves that the renowned poet has fully mastered his new medium. His purity of style and lively characters drive the plot, with scenes of true erotic beauty. 179 pp

“Full of magic, sharp insight and poetic imagery.”

ICELANDIC NATIONAL BROADCASTING SERVICE

The Paris Wheel

Parísarhjól, novel, 1998

A novel that spans a summer in the life of a young Icelandic artist who is faced with great sorrow at the death of the person closest to him. A serious and sensual novel, where joy and grief are mingled with an adept sensitivity. 188 pp



SIGURDUR GUDMUNDSSON (b.1942)

is one of Iceland's most important pioneers of concept art. His previous novels are *Tabula rasa* (1993) and *The Invisible Woman* (2000), which was nominated for the Icelandic Literary Award. Like the other novels, *The Beasts in Saigon* is an interweaving of a traditional biographical sketch and fiction.



"... at once fiction and a philosophical experiment about man... the book worked on me like a lyrical work of fancy replete with eroticism, even though the erotic element never directly becomes physical. What is remarkable about this complicated book is how readable and accessible it is despite all of its imaginative complications."

MORGUNBLADID NEWSPAPER

The Beasts in Saigon

Dýrin frá Saigon, novel, 2010

In *The Beasts in Saigon*, the artist Sigurdur Gudmundsson is fivefold: besides the man in him there is also a horse that is a poet, a homosexual swan, a seagull that expresses itself only in English and a fourteen-year-old girl who is a philosopher. This quintet enjoys life to the hilt, composes poetry and creates the most magnificent works of art.

The Beasts in Saigon is Sigurdur Gudmundsson's third novel, written during its author's ten-month stay in Vietnam in 2008. In the novel the artist attempts to survive without language, divorces himself from his own culture, and tries living like a wise beast. It is at once a poetical and philosophical work and an unusual love story. 228 pp



STEINUNN JOHANNESDOTTIR

(b.1948) studied drama in Stockholm and worked as an actress for some years. *Gudridur's Journey* is her first novel. The book was on the bestseller list in Iceland for months and has been reprinted every year after its first publication.

"The author does a very good job of re-creating the period and the surroundings for the reader in vivid detail ... And here the author has succeeded admirably... Gudridur's character description is never simplistic; on the contrary, the author communicates to us a complex and multifaceted image which stays with the reader long after the book has concluded."

MORGUNBLADID NEWSPAPER

Endowment

Heimanfylgja, novel, 2010

This captivating novel, set in 17th century Iceland, narrates formation years at the episcopal see at Holar of Hallgrimur Petursson, the writer of the nation's favourite hymns. Characterised by passion, love and conflict, the story of Hallgrimur Peturson is set against the backdrop of dramatic contemporary events: volcanic eruptions, political power struggles and raids by Turkish pirates. People and places, both real and invented, come alive as they appear in the story. Gradually we see a unique personality emerging, grappling with major setbacks. His poetic talents cost him dearly, yet also serve as his solace and salvation. Steinunn Johannesdottir weaves an imaginative and sympathetic portrait from the limited sources that exist on Peturson's early years and development. Among her previous works is the novel *Gudridur's Journey*, which tells the amazing tale of Peturson's wife, who was among those captured by Turkish raiders and sold into slavery. 350 pp

Gudridur's Journey

Reisubók Guðríðar Símonardóttur, historical novel, 2001

In 1627 one of the most dramatic and terrifying events in Icelandic history occurred, the so-called Turkish Raid, when sea raiders from a distant world took some 400 Icelanders prisoner, and transported them south across the sea to be sold into slavery on the Barbary Coast. Among them was Gudridur Simonardottir, a young fisherman's wife and mother from the Westman Islands. Author Steinunn Johannesdottir follows Gudridur on her lengthy journey to slavery in Algiers, tells of her nine-year stay there, and then of her journey northward, until she once more sees Iceland, together with the young theology student, Hallgrimur Petursson, who eventually becomes the country's most celebrated hymnist. 499 pp

Sold to:

Germany (Wunderlich/Rowohlt); Norway (Engelstad)
English synopsis available and translation of two chapters.
One chapter available in Swedish, synopsis in French.



SVAVA JAKOBSDÓTTIR (1930–2004) was one of Iceland's leading contemporary authors and her short stories, often depicting the lives of women, hold a special place in Icelandic literature. Jakobsdóttir was also acclaimed as a playwright, literary scholar and a novelist.

“The style of this book is unusually rich and composed of dissimilar elements, harsh realistic descriptions and poetic inspiration from the world of the Edda and myth... Svava Jakobsdóttir's most significant, most mature and greatest work to date, and one of the best and most noteworthy novels to appear in Iceland in recent years.”

SV. SK. HOSKULDSSON, PROFESSOR OF ICELANDIC LITERATURE

The Saga of Gunnlod

Gunnlaðar saga, novel, 1987

A young Icelandic woman is arrested in the National Gallery of Denmark for stealing a priceless gold urn. The police suspect she is either mad or a terrorist, but the woman herself claims she is just recovering her birthright – the gold urn containing the mead of poetic creativity which she, Gunnlod, guarded in ancient times,

until it was stolen by the god Odin. The narrator is the woman's mother, who gradually comes to understand and appreciate the significance of her story. 196 pp

- *Nominated for the Nordic Council Literary Prize*
- *The Henrik Steffens Prize 1997*

Sold to:
 Norway (Cappelens forlag);
 Sweden (Norstedts); Denmark (Rhodos);
 Finland (Otava); France (Corti);
 Lithuania (Tyto Alba); Italy (Giardini);
 UK/USA (Norvik Press)



THORBERGUR THORDARSON (1888–1947) was a superb stylist who won a wide following with his humorous autobiographical writings. In 1924 Thorbergur Thordarson published *Letters to My Beloved* (*Bréf til Láru*), one of the most unusual prose works in Icelandic. In it he broke all the conventions about subject and language and established himself as one of the greatest Icelandic stylists.

Rights to Íslenzkur Aðall
Sold to: Germany (S. Fischer Verlag)

*“Thordarson is the most interesting
 – if eccentric – of all modern Icelandic writers
 ... he was a superior writer.”*

MARTIN SEYMOR-SMITH



THOR VILHJALMSSON (b.1925) is considered the leading innovator in modern Icelandic literature. He has published around 25 books in Icelandic: novels, short stories, poetry, travel books, essays, besides three monographs on painters. His books have been translated widely into all the Nordic languages, and other languages as well such as English, French, German, Spanish and Italian. Vilhjalmsón received the prestigious Nordic Council Prize for Literature in 1988 for his novel *The Grey Moss Glows*. He has long held a leading role in the cultural life of Iceland.

“Discovering Vilhjalmsón is an absolute must; he is a great author, and it is irrelevant whether or not he is Icelandic.”

INROCKUPTIBLES

“Wreath is an ambitious novel ...

A challenging modern work, which fuses the present with the past, and reminds us that the age of battles is still upon us in the world; the ruthless lust for power, vendettas, warfare and contemporary bloody religious conflicts are clear signs that history repeats itself; taking us back to a new Sturlunga Age.”

MORGUNBLADID NEWSPAPER

The Wreath

Sveigur, novel, 2002

In this novel, Thor Vilhjalmsón once more delves into that great magical treasure of the past: the 13th century classic, *Sturlunga Saga*. *The Wreath* paints a captivating picture of the life of a poet who is born a pauper, raised by

monks, and later becomes retainer to a powerful chieftain, and witnesses the harshest civil war in Iceland in the 13th century. 207 pp

- Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize 2002

Sold to:
France (Actes Sud); Italy (Iperborea)

Morning Verse in the Grass

Morgunþula í stráum, novel, 1998

A historical novel based on characters from the classic 13th-century *Sturlunga Saga*. In 1234, Sturla Sighvatsson set off for Rome to seek Papal absolution for his sins, and, as *Sturlunga Saga* recounts, was led between the principal churches. He stood then at the peak of his achievements, and had even greater ambitions. His aim was to gain supreme power in Iceland. But something went wrong with the plans of this splendid potentate. *Morning Verse in the Grass* contains hard-won wisdom; it is a contemplation on power and pride, violence and love, and is a confrontation with the heroic myths Iceland has inherited. 290 pp

- The Icelandic Literary Prize 1998

Sold to:
Sweden (Bra böcker); Denmark (Borgen/Vindrose); France (Actes Sud); Italy (Iperborea); Germany/Austria/Switzerland (Osburg Buch Verlag); Spain (Nórdica)
Chapters in English and a synopsis available

“Thor Vilhjalmsón is undoubtedly known as a master of style, and this book certainly won’t disappoint his admirers, if anything increase their numbers ... This is an accessible text which bears all the trademarks of Vilhjalmsón at the height of his powers; his mastery of style and visual power merge well with the exciting narrative weaved out the sagas, recollections and consciousness of the Icelanders.”

MORGUNBLADID NEWSPAPER

The Grey Moss Glows

Grámosinn glóir, novel, 1986

A historical novel set in 19th-century Iceland, now considered a Nordic classic. A story of love between half-brother and sister, and their prosecution by the authorities, a narrative of drama, poetry and landscapes; a compelling novel of obsession and aversion. 267 pp

- The Nordic Council Literary Prize 1988

Sold to:
Denmark (Vindrose); Norway (Norsk Gyldendal); Finland (Otava); Sweden (Wiken/Bra böcker); Germany (Kleinheinrich/Paperback rights: Ullstein); France (Actes Sud); Italy (Iperborea); Turkey (Telos Yayinalik); UK (Mare’s Nest, published under the title Justice Undone); Bulgaria (Hemus); Lithuania (Lithuanian Writers’ Union Publishers); Spain (Nórdica)

Killing in the Deep of Night

Náttvíg, novel, 1989

Love, death, the sea: the author interweaves these threads in a stirring story set in Reykjavík’s underworld, revealed through the mouth of a taxi driver. Most of the story takes place in the course of two nights. The first night is characterised by a series of seemingly innocent events, but the darkness conceals a killing; on the second three louts burst into the narrator’s car and force him on an expedition. The journey triggers off the narrator’s memories about his past at sea, violence, death and the precariousness of life.

A dark vision of human nature, urban anguish seen in Vilhjalmsón’s inimitable, grand literary style. 245 pp

Sold to:
Denmark (Vindrose); Sweden (Wiken); France (Actes Sud)



THORARINN ELDJARN (b.1949) is one of Iceland's most admired authors and the recipient of many awards. He has tackled every genre; he is one of Iceland's most accomplished poets, has published countless children's books, written novels, collections of short stories and scripts and also worked as a translator.



“Eldjarn’s ingenious mastery of the short story form is already beyond discussion. His social criticism, on the other hand, has never been as sharp as it is in these stories because the role of fiction now more than ever is to define the truth, expose trickery and tell the truth.”

MORGUNBLADID NEWSPAPER

“Eldjarn is a great stylist and subtle humorist ... an entertaining collection of well thought-out stories.”

KILJAN, ICELANDIC STATE TELEVISION

Always the Same Story

Alltaf sama sagan, short stories, 2009

Always the Same Story contains eleven stories presenting a rich gallery of characters and wonders from the past, present and future. The stories feature a poetic speaking dog, an ancient Saab, a mysterious oaf, a lost hammer, a revolution in the population's sporting activities, haunted places and hardships. These are in-

gratiating stories in here for just about everyone. Thorarinn Eldjarn is a linguistic wizard who likes to play with his characters, ideas, words and, not least, the readers themselves: What's the man thinking of – or is it perhaps always the same story? 159 pp

“The Baron is a beautifully crafted book and a historical novel of the best possible kind.”

MORGUNBLADID NEWSPAPER

“The story of the baron in Hvitarvellir is absolutely charming.”

FRETABLADID NEWSPAPER

The Baron

Baróninn, historical novel, 2004

This gripping novel is based on the fantastic but true story of the tragic life of Baron Charles Gauldrée Boilleau, a mysterious French/American musician and son of a French diplomat, turned farmer and entrepreneur in remote and backward Iceland in 1898–1901.

Baron Boilleau was a multifaceted man and the book gives us a vivid portrait of the “belle époque” of the Euro-American bourgeoisie, and how a man's artistic aspirations and ideals of progress become shipwrecked once they hit the barren shores of a backward Icelandic society. Sophisticated, a cellist and composer, educated in a British boarding school and with a second home on the Italian Riviera, Boilleau tries to establish a dairy in Iceland at the turn of the 1900's. It can only lead to one thing: disaster. An exceptionally well written book by one of Iceland's most popular and respected authors of the past quarter-century. A book where the incredible is true, and the credible untrue. 309 pp

Film rights sold to: Krumma Films
English and French chapters available

The Blue Tower

Brotahöfuð, historical novel, 1996

A brilliantly written novel, set in Iceland and Denmark in the 17th century. Accused of encouraging immorality, Gudmundur Andresson was sent to prison in Copenhagen's notorious Blue Tower. Andresson is probably the only prisoner who has managed to „escape“ from there, which he did when he accidentally fell through the bars of his cell window, to the astonishment of an aristocratic couple who were copulating inside a room below. This dramatic entrance drew the king's attention to Andresson's case, and in the end the charges against him were dropped. A timeless and universal historical novel. 252 pp

- Shortlisted for the European Aristeion Literary Award
- Nomination for the Nordic Council Literary Prize
- Nomination for the IMPAC Dublin Literary Award 2001

Sold to:

UK (Mare's Nest); Finland (Like);
France (Le Cavalier Bleu);
Denmark (Poul Kristensens Forlag)

“Gripping saga ... insistently memorable and intensely real.”

PUBLISHER'S WEEKLY



THORUNN VALDIMARSDÓTTIR

(b.1954) is a writer and historian whose earlier works count novels, books of poetry, biographies and academic publications. Her books have received numerous awards, such as nominations for the Icelandic Literary Prize and the Nordic Council's Literary Prize.

"... this is above all a riveting contemporary story that gives the reader more satisfaction than can usually be expected from reading crime fiction."

MORGUNBLADID NEWSPAPER (ON COLD BLOOD)

The Lion Has Many Ears

Mörg eru ljónsins eyru, novel, 2010

The Lion has Many Ears is a second novel in a crime series using the Icelandic Sagas as a model. This time the author plays with themes from Laxdaela Saga and recreates it in a modern context.

This novel is a follow up of *Cold Blood*, nominated for the Icelandic Literature Prize in 2007, resetting scenes from Niall's Saga in a contemporary setting. In these stories the traditional crime fiction format is beautifully interlaced with the Icelandic traditional Saga and Icelandic fate in the past and present. 324 pp

Cold Blood

Kalt er annars blóð, novel, 2007

Cold Blood is an unusual crime novel where the traditional format is beautifully interlaced with the Icelandic traditional Saga and Icelandic fate in the past and present.

In the chilly city of Reykjavik a raven circles the sky and watches events unfold that will have dire consequences. He sees things hidden to human eyes – money exchanging hands, cats run over by cars, houses burnt to the ground, and people shot like dogs. When Asa finds a body by chance in a gravel mound out on the heath many unknown things start coming to light – what drives people to make away with others and what happens when restraints disappear one by one and things spin out of control? 332 pp

• Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize 2007

Girl with a Finger

Stúlka með fingur, novel, 1999

A novel recounting the life of an ordinary young girl, Unnur Jonsdóttir, her relationships and forbidden love. The author skilfully weaves a dramatic and exciting tale about life at the turn of the last century. 314 pp

- The DV Newspaper's Cultural Award 1999
- Nominated for the Nordic Literature Prize 2001

Sold to:
Sweden (Publish America)

Quite Enough

Alveg nóg, novel, 1997

The heroine, Gudrun Jonsdóttir, is in Copenhagen reminiscing about the past, her search for love and the tragic events that upset her existence. But with the realization that destiny can not be escaped, Gudrun manages to turn her life around. 148 pp

- Nominated for the DV Newspaper's Cultural Award 1997

The Four Elements, Love Letter Service

Höfuðskepnur, ástarbréfaþjónusta, 1994

A young woman is offered a hefty sum to write love letters to a stranger and decides to go for it. 221 pp

"This is an intricate novel ... It is written in lucid and powerful language, the characters are convincing and memorable, and the story becomes true to life through its special manner of projecting a novel look at society, a look which is as convincing as it is challenging."

WORLD LITERATURE TODAY

"Openness, honesty and human insight characterize the tale of Gudrun's relationships and the loss of her child. Yet it is Thorunn Valdimarsdóttir's mastery of suspense techniques that makes Quite Enough hold the reader's enthusiastic attention until the final page."

WORLD LITERATURE TODAY

"The Four Elements is a remarkable, unusual and somewhat provocative book. With extraordinary eloquence the author tests the boundaries of morality and challenges our views on love and sex, as she explores the relationship between author and reader and comments on the role of literary art in society."

WORLD LITERATURE TODAY



VALUR GUNNARSSON (b.1976) divided his childhood between Iceland, Norway and Great Britain, and spent his summers as a teenager in Saudi-Arabia and China where his father worked as an engineer. He has a BA in History, and an MA from the Creative Writing program at Queens University Belfast. He has worked as a free-lance journalist and correspondent in Iceland for foreign media.

“The King of the North is a thoroughly entertaining book, hilarious and interesting.”

VIDSKIPTABLADID NEWSPAPER



“A wonderful first book from this author.”

FRETTABLADID NEWSPAPER

King of the North

Konungur norðursins, novel, 2007

Ilkka Hämäläinen is an unloved and overweight Helsinki shipcleaner, who silently and from afar adores a girl at the supermarket, and sometimes has strange dreams about leaving his own body. In a bout of depression Ilkka stows away on a ferry bound for Sweden, with the intention of becoming outrageously drunk. While he lies helpless in drunken stupor his body is occupied by an unscrupulous ghost which had been haunting the Baltic for a millennium. The ghost subtly takes control without Ilkka’s knowing and sends him on a quest to the North in search of the necklace of Freyja, and the mighty sword of

Freyr, which can even defeat Hel, the goddess of death. When hapless Ilkka finally succeeds in finding the sword the spirit uses it to cut the silver chord which connects his spirit with his body. Now Ilkka must go to Hel to get another chance at life and then retrieve his body. But does he really want to return to a world he never really liked to begin with? Partly set in 6th century Sweden and Finland, this original first novel is littered with allusions to the *Eddas*, as well as to the Finnish national epic, *The Kalevala*. 196 pp

Chapters in English available



VIGDIS GRIMSDOTTIR (b.1953) has received widespread recognition for her work and her books have been translated into several languages. Vigdis has won many prizes for her writing, including among other things, the Icelandic Literary Prize. Two of her novels have been adapted for the stage in Sweden and Iceland, and one of her novels, *Cold Light* (*Kaldaljós*), has been made into a major motion picture.

“Bibi Olafsdottir’s tale is not your run-of-the-mill confessional story of an Icelandic working class hero or a leading figure, and it isn’t told with mild detachment but poetic intimacy and warmth ... This is a truly beautifully written book about a woman’s development and a dramatic tale with some moments of high drama.”

FRETTABLADID NEWSPAPER

Bibi

Bíbí, sagan af Bíbí Ólafsdóttur, novel, 2008

Bibi is the extraordinary story of a tenacious working class woman who never falters in the face of adversity, a woman who makes the impossible possible. Her tale is brought to life through the stylistic ingenuity of Vigdis Grimsdottir’s pen.

Bibi Olafsdottir was born in 1952 under difficult circumstances and this is her dramatic story. She speaks with candid honesty and leaves no stone unturned, because she is true to the promise that she once made to herself when her

young daughter was given no hope of survival. Her attitude is an incitement to us all to embrace adversity with humour, goodwill towards others and to rejoice in the small things of life. Vigdis Grimsdottir evokes the era so vividly that you can hear the creaking of the old barracks dwellings in the Mulakampur neighbourhood, sniff that peculiar smell or stench in the air, sense the joy and sorrow, and experience the character’s relentless struggle and determination to succeed.

Sold to:
Germany/Austria/Switzerland (Cargo Verlag)

*“This is a truly unique, riveting, mysterious
and multi-layered book.”*

SVENSKA DAGBLADET

*“She bewitches the reader into following her on an
adventurous journey where beauty reigns supreme to the point
that it becomes impossible for the reader to remain
as an impassive observer, he simply has to take part in it.”*

TRELLEBORGS ALLEHANDA

From Light to Light

Frá ljósi til ljóss, novel, 2001

In this first volume of Vigdis Grimsdottir's trilogy the reader is introduced to Rosa, her friends and family. The secrets, wishes and dreams of these characters are revealed as they try their best to find their way in a confusing world of contradictions and underlying conflicts, truth and lies, life and death – not knowing what awaits them around the corner. 196 pp

Sold to:
Finland (WSOY/Johnny Kniga); Sweden (Anamma)

When a Star Falls

Þegar stjarna hrapar, novel, 2003

The third and last book in the trilogy. The characters struggle with their existence, heated emotions, difficult history and ironic fate, in an unforeseen and momentous manner. Before long no-one is safe on that merry-go-round of dreams and reality, which does not come to a halt until all the chickens have come home to roost. 218 pp

Sold to:
Finland (WSOY/Johnny Kniga)

Heart, Moon and Blue Birds

Hjarta, tungl og bláir fuglar, novel, 2002

Grimsdottir has a unique talent for unveiling the truth and providing insight into the complex relations between human beings. Her mesmerizing narrative style is here at its best, as the characters deal with a new reality in a colourful setting where bluebirds nest in the trees, and miracles happen. 236 pp

Sold to:
Sweden (Anamma); Finland (WSOY/Johnny Kniga)

*“Cold Light is an ode to beauty, trust, and cruelty;
a multi-faceted story of love and mystique, yet of realism.*

Crafted with great skill. Incomparable! ...

A work of art that I wish I could frame on my wall.”

MORGUNBLADID NEWSPAPER

Cold Light

Kaldaljós, novel, 1987

The story of Grimur Hermundsson and his family has captured the imagination of Icelandic readers ever since its publication in 1987. Based partially on a true story, a misfortune devastating an Icelandic fishing village, legend and fairy tales are also a source of inspiration for the author.

The book describes an unusually beautiful and contradictory life of Icelanders who face a cruel nature and the misdeeds of their fellow beings with their imagination, dreams and poetry. There is no doubt that *Cold Light* sets Grimsdottir amongst those of our contemporary authors who best know how to tell a story. 254 pp

Film rights sold to:
Icelandic Film Corporation

*“The Silence is probably Grimsdottir's best novel,
but at the same time the most unrelenting.
At first she shows us a picture of a beautiful relationship
between a young girl and her grandmother.
Gradually, however, a shadow darkens that picture
– until it at last becomes simply frightening.”*

FALU KURIREN

The Silence

Þögnin, novel, 2000

In *The Silence* Grimsdottir perhaps delves deeper than ever before, juxtaposing love and submission against repression and folly in a context that makes it impossible for readers to shun their responsibilities. Linda's grandmother, who early on in her life decided to commit herself to silence, plays a major role in the young girl's upbringing

and teaches her to appreciate art and culture, albeit in a truly novel way. The book starts as Linda returns to Iceland after a period of study in the United States to sit by her grandmother's death bed. She recalls her childhood and her relationship with her grandmother since her very infancy. 381 pp



VILBORG DAVIDSDOTTIR (b.1965) is the author of popularly acclaimed historical novels, including, among others, *The Raven* which was nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize. She hosts her own blog, *Mindful Living*, in Icelandic at www.vilborgd.blogspot.com

“The characterisation in the story is superb and this is where the writer’s strength lies. Audur the Wise Woman is revealed very much alive, an independent, hot-tempered, proud and daring woman... Davidsdottir has convincingly demonstrated that she is an excellent historical novelist...”

WWW.EYJAN.IS

Audur

Auður, historical novel, 2009

Audur is set in the British Isles in the 9th century. As is the case in many of Vilborg’s other works, the heroine is a young woman, but this time she is a well known figure from the Icelandic sagas: Audur the Deep-Minded, one of the first main settlers in Iceland. The novel traces her story from childhood through her stormy relationship with King Olaf the White of Dublin and, at the same time, paints a vivid picture of this tumultuous period when battles were con-

stantly being waged between the Norse invaders and the islanders of the Atlantic.

Audur’s kin are all heathens, but when she meets the Scottish monk Gilli she is attracted to his message about the White Christ. What she doesn’t know is that there is more to Gilli’s mission to the islands than converting the inhabitants to Christianity, and their friendship will ultimately cost them dearly. 271 pp

- Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize 2009

*“Vilborg Davidsdottir has put plenty of effort into her historical and geographical research, which makes **The Raven** a very tangible and thought-provoking story ...”*

FRETTABLADID NEWSPAPER

*“In **Magic** Davidsdottir skilfully weaves together a story of great destinies, personal as well as social. It seems to have been very well researched and the grimness of its social struggles is expressed with great clarity.*

A finely-honed narrative, this is an extremely well written novel.”

MORGUNBLADID NEWSPAPER

The Raven

Hrafninn, historical novel, 2005

Naaja grows up with her father in an Inuit community in fifteenth-century Greenland. Mutual support is the cornerstone of Inuit society but father and daughter are at odds with their world, initially due to the father’s idiosyncrasy but later because of what happens in the solitude of a deserted fjord one winter when Naaja and her father forsake their village.

A powerful, gripping story of an alien world, based on exhaustive research into the customs and culture of the old Inuit society. 312 pp

- Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize

Sold to:
Germany (btb)
Chapters in English available

Magic – A Novel

Galdur – skáldsaga, historical novel, 2000

The year is 1419. Ragnfridur and Thorkell are betrothed as children, by decision of their high-ranking parents. But Ragnfridur becomes pregnant by an English castaway, and after this Thorkell leaves to study at the Sorbonne in Paris. While he is away, unrest grows in Iceland. The Norwegian authorities feel threatened by the growing English presence in Iceland. When Thorkell returns, and falls in with the English bishop of Holar, John William Crexton, he meets up with the bishop’s housekeeper, Ragnfridur, and her young son ... 192 pp

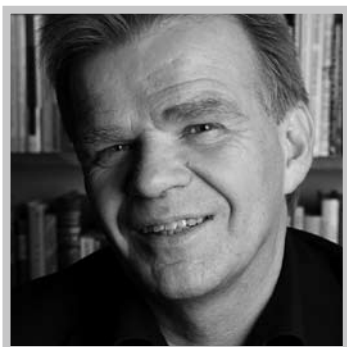
Sold to:
Germany (btb)

The imprints of Forlagid publish works by many of Iceland's poets, such as

ARNI IBSEN | BJORN SIGURBJORNSSON | DIDDA | EINAR BRAGI | ELISABET JOKULSDOTTIR | EIRIKUR ORN NORDDAHL | GYLFI GRONDAL | GYRDIR ELIASSON HAUKUR INGVARSSON | HJORTUR PALSSON | ISAK HARDARSON JOHANNES UR KOTLUM | JON HELGASON | JON UR VOR | JONAS HALLGRIMSSON JONAS THORBJARNARSON | KRISTIN EIRIKSDOTTIR | KRISTJAN THORDUR HRAFNSSON | MATTHIAS JOHANNESSEN | PETUR GUNNARSSON | SIGTRYGGUR ELIASSON | SNORRI HJARTARSON | STEINN STEINARR | THORUNN VALDIMARSDOTTIR TOMAS GUDMUNDSSON | VIGDIS GRIMSDOTTIR | VILBORG DAGBJARTSDOTTIR

For further information please contact the foreign rights department.

POETRY



EINAR MAR GUDMUNDSSON'S

(b.1954) fame as an author has travelled the world wide and his novels have been translated into many languages – but in Iceland it was as a poet that Einar Mar had his first breakthrough. In 1980, he published his first two poetry books, *Loneliness of the Delivery Boy* and *Who's Wearing the Korona Line?* which both attracted a lot of attention, due to the power of their imagery and the freshness of his approach and became bestsellers. He followed these up, one year later, with *Robinson Crusoe Returns Home*, which was equally well received, and in 1991 he published a collection of poems under the title of *A Rock in the Ocean* which was nominated for the Icelandic Literary Award that year. In 1995 he published *In the Eye of Chaos*. Translations available in several languages.

A Short Cut Round Death

Ég stytti mér leið framhjá dauðanum,
poetry, 2006

Sold to:
Denmark (Vindrose/Borgen)

A Short Cut Round Death is Gudmundsson's sixth collection of poems, in which the poet looks back to his origins in a powerful and candid way. 143 pp

POETRY



GERDUR KRISTNY (b.1970) proved herself as one of Iceland's most interesting poets with her first book, and has since then published poems in papers and magazines, in addition to her books of poetry. Translations available in several languages.

Bloodhoof

Blóðhófnir, poetry, 2010

Bloodhoof is Gerdur Kristny's third book of poetry. Like in her earlier works her topics are many and multifold and span everything from the deepest emotion to playful observations about life and the living. The poet's voice is often razorsharp and the imagery pointed. 120 pp



HANNES PETURSSON (b.1931) has long been hailed as one of the greatest Icelandic poets of the 20th century. Since the publication of his first collection of poems in *Kvaedabok* in 1955, at the young age of 23, the nation has welcomed his poetry with open arms. Few poets can poeticize with the same craftsmanship and confidence, both in traditional forms and freer verse. Petursson's poetry is also renowned for the force of its peculiar imagery. He writes about human feelings in all its myriad of forms, and not least poetry about nature and the history of Iceland, which have won him the affection of the nation. He has received many prizes for his writing, including the Icelandic Literary Prize in 1993. Translations available in several languages.



HAUKUR MAR HELGASON

(b.1978) has written in addition to his fiction articles on politics and philosophy in Icelandic and foreign newspapers and magazines. He has also translated *The Plague of Fantasies* by Slavoj Žižek, which was nominated for the DV Newspaper's Cultural Award.

The Rain Sets Us Free

Rigningin gerir ykkur frjáls, poetry, 2009

In *The Rain Sets Us Free* Helgason takes stock of the “old Iceland” and engages in a provoking dialogue with the “new” country and the world around it. This isn't a perfect world, much of it is reminiscent of the thirteenth century and will be squashed when the oil runs out, something has to burn. Poems about politics, love, joy, anger and irritation and the rain which washes away stories and sins and sets us free. 54 pp



INGIBJÖRG HARALDSDÓTTIR

(b.1942) has for a long time now occupied a place of honour as one of Iceland's most distinguished poets, in addition to being an outstanding translator. Her poetry has a limpid quality and is never cumbersome, and she frequently manages to create a bewitching atmosphere and to charm the reader into viewing things he or she thought he knew in a fresh and unexpected light. Haraldsdóttir has published poetry books and translated numerous novels and volumes of poetry. She has received many awards for her work, including, among others, the DV Newspaper's Cultural Award in 1988 for her translation of *The Idiot* by Dostojevski. She also received the 2002 Icelandic Literary Award for her book of poetry *Wherever I May Be*. Translations available in several languages.

*The Head of the Woman sold to:
Spain (Libros del innumbrable)*



ANTON HELGI JONSSON

(b. 1955) has gained attention and recognition for his poetry, including the Jon from Vor Award for Poetical Achievement (*Ljodstafur Jons ur Vor*). *Poems from a Family Reunion* is his fifth book of poetry. www.anton.is

Poems from a Family Reunion

Ljóð af ættarmóti, poetry, 2010

In the poems of Anton Helgi Jonsson we hear the voices of people gathered at a family reunion: celebrating old friendships, exchanging gossip, sharing memories, lamenting days gone by, confessing their sins and revealing the sins of others, scolding each other and themselves, finding fault with the government or struggling with guilty consciences. Here everyone can hear himself – you as well. 96 pp



LINDA VILHJALMSDÓTTIR

(b.1958) is a poet of deep and delicate emotions, finely expressed in crafted verse. She was awarded the DV Newspaper's Cultural Award in 1993 for her book of poetry *Ice Children (Klakabörnin)*. Translations available in several languages.

Frost Butterflies

Frostfiðrildi, poetry, 2006

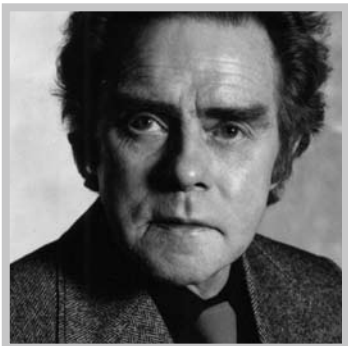
A collection of 30 poems, in which the poet senses the tangible closeness of her loved one, despite his distance, as he climbs the glacial slopes, and the spirit of the one who waits roams restlessly across the landscape, haunted by anxieties that seem to insinuate themselves everywhere, even under her sheets. The book, with its broad sweep of melancholy, bears a clear relation to older poems of similar type. 36 pp



SIGFUS DADASON (1928–1996) was one of Iceland's leading poets in the latter half of the twentieth century. He started writing at a time of great fermentation in the Icelandic literary and art world and was exposed to foreign contemporary influences at an early age. Nonetheless his poetry always retained a very personal and original tone. Dadason's choice of material and his treatment of it clearly sets him in a class of his own in the context of Icelandic poetry.



JOHANN HJALMARSSON'S (b. 1939) poems have appeared in numerous anthologies. From the beginning his poetry has been marked by surrealism. Hjalmarsson's latest books have been characterized by critics as modern and postmodern. His poems have diverse roots in the old Icelandic Sagas, modern history and human life. Hjalmarsson's book *Hljodleikar* was nominated for the Nordic Council Literary Prize 2003. His poems have been translated into thirty languages.



STEFAN HORDUR GRIMSSON (1929–2002) was a leading representative of modernist poetry in Iceland. Grimsson's poems are usually short and condensed, some of them reminiscent of aphorism, others are poetry in prose; his subjects include nature and love, and his capability of creating memorable images is exceptional. Translations available in several languages.



SIGURBJORG THRASTARDOTTIR (b. 1973) has a B.A. degree in comparative literature at the University of Iceland as well as a degree in Journalism and Mass Communication. She works as a journalist for Morgunbladid newspaper alongside her work as a writer and poet. Translations available in several languages.

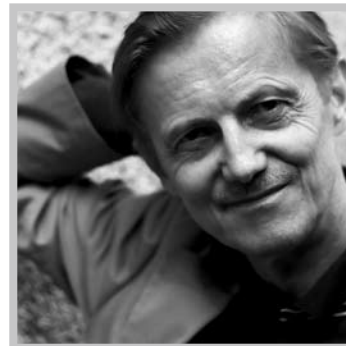
Candlelight Vigils

Blysfarir, poetry, 2007

Sold to:
Germany (Blumenbar)
Swedish translation available

Candlelight Vigils treads that thin line between poetry and a novel; the powerful verse moulds the tale of a poisoned relationship, white dragons on Icelandic summer nights, air tickets to hope, the beauty of grave yards and arms that try to connect as they're bleeding. A text of unusual magnetic power. 147 pp

• Nominated for the Nordic Council Literary Prize



SIGURDUR PALSSON (b.1948) is one of Iceland's greatest poets, prose writers and playwrights. His numerous awards include the Icelandic Literary Prize for his book *Minnisbók* (Notebook) in 2007. *Poetry Energy Craving* is Palsson's fourteenth book of poetry. Translations available in several languages.

Poetry Energy Craving

Ljóðorkuþörf, poetry, 2009

Poetry Energy Craving can be read as a poetic symphony in seven movements, each of which is made up of seven poems, although each piece stands as a separate poem in its own right. The book's form therefore reflects one of its main preoccupations, the connection between the individual and society, and the need for every individual to have a healthy relationship with himself. 104 pp



THORARINN ELDJARN (b.1949) is one of Iceland's most admired authors and the recipient of many awards. He has tackled every genre; he is one of Iceland's most accomplished poets, has published countless children's books, written novels, collections of short stories and scripts and also worked as a translator. Translations available in several languages.

Lyrical Lust

Vísanafýsn, poetry, 2010

In *Lyrical Lust* Thorarinn Eldjarn composes with both abandon and restraint about everything under the sun – ditties and verses about the various sides of existence, not least the unexpected. Here are found wisdom and hearsay about whims and consciences, personalities and trivialities. An unusual volume that has an urgent message for an honest yet cringing nation. 83 pp

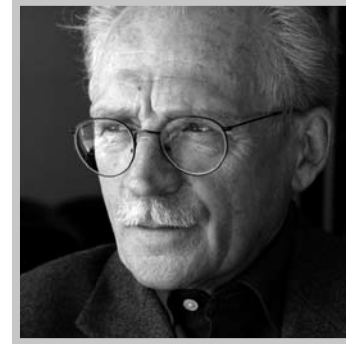


BERGUR EBBI BENEDIKTSSON (b. 1981) is a lawyer and a well known member of the band Sprengjuhöllin where he plays the guitar and has written many of the lyrics. This is his first book of poetry.

The Time for Wit is Past

Tími hnyttinnar er liðinn, poetry, 2010

The book of poetry *The Time for Wit is Past* conveys lessons for our time, messages that are at once optimistic, ingratiating, and lively – but entirely free of wit. The poems are meant to embrace us rather than throw us off balance, comfort us in place of provoke us, and call to mind what unites rather than what divides. 60 pp



THORSTEINN FRA HAMRI (b.1938) has long been established as one of the greatest poets in the Icelandic language. Ever since he published his first collection of poems in 1958, he has continued to shape and refine his style, and it is often said that he has been particularly successful at fusing old poetic traditions and contemporary devices into a modernist poetic language. Thorsteinn has also written several novels and stories, in addition to his translation work. He has received many awards for his writing, including the Icelandic Literary Prize in 1992. Translations available in several languages.

Each Word Is an Event

Hvert orð er atvik, poetry, 2008

Each Word Is an Event is the title of the latest collection of poems to come from national poet Thorsteinn fra Hamri and is the eighteenth collection to be published. Thorsteinn is a tireless, eloquent and poignant thinker, the poet who gives a voice to nature and history, the country and the life of its society. He writes poetry that strikes people in the heart, at times cruel and provocative, at others bitter-sweet and tender. *Each Word Is An Event* is a book that carries the echoes of history and the past, but also, at the same time, resonances of the contemporary world in which there is a burning need for this craft, pure poetry, to be savoured and cherished. 56 pp



ARNALDUR INDRIDASON

(b. 1961) has the rare distinction of having won the Nordic Crime Novel Prize two years running. He is also the winner of the highly respected and world famous CWA Gold Dagger Award for the top crime novel of the year in the English language, *Silence of the Grave*. Indridason's novels have sold in more than five million copies worldwide.

Strange Shores

Furðustrandir, crime novel, 2010

Erlendur is at his childhood home in the East Fjords and the past comes to haunt him. Not just events from his own life, but also other unsolved cases, unsettled matters. Many decades ago sinister events occurred when a large group of British soldiers became lost in a storm in the mountains. Some made it with difficulty back to town, others did not. On the same night,

a young woman disappeared in the same area and was never found. Her story arouses the curiosity of Erlendur, who hungers for answers to the riddles of his past, no matter how painful they might be. *Strange Shores* is Arnaldur Indridason's fourteenth novel, with Detective Erlendur Sveinsson taking the lead role as so often before. 304 pp

Sold to:
The Netherlands/Belgium/Luxembourg (Querido)

“European crime-writing at its best.”

SYDSVENSKAN, SWEDEN

“An exciting discovery from the high north ... Indridason can now count himself among the best of Nordic crime writers.”

WOCHENBLATT BADEN/PFALZ, GERMANY

Black Skies

Svörtuloft, crime novel, 2009

A woman accused of blackmail is beaten to death practically under the noses of the police. The assailant manages to get away, but everything seems to indicate that he is a debt collector – hired by a respected member of society. Meanwhile a well-known criminal has been making repeated attempts to contact the police for reasons that are murky at best.

Arnaldur Indridason has been Iceland's most

popular author for well over a decade. In his latest novel he picks up the thread from his previous books and once more reunites his readers with the familiar team of investigators at the Hverfisgata headquarters. Indridason's books have been translated into many languages and topped bestseller lists both in Iceland and abroad. 326 pp

Sold to:
The Netherlands/Belgium/Luxembourg (Querido);
Germany/Switzerland/Austria (Verlagsgruppe
Lübbe); France/Switzerland/Luxembourg/Canada
(Éditions Métailié); Finland (Blue Moon)

Outrage

Myrká, crime novel, 2008

In a flat near the city centre, a young man lies dead in a pool of blood although there are no signs of a break-in or any struggle. A purple woman's shawl, found under the bed, gives off a strong and unusual aroma. A vial of narcotics found in the victim's pocket among other clues soon lead Erlendur's colleagues down a trail of hidden violence and psychological brutality. And of wrongs that will never be fully righted. 294 pp

Sold to:
Germany/Switzerland/Austria (Verlagsgruppe Lübbe); The Netherlands/Belgium/Luxembourg (Querido); France/Switzerland/Luxembourg/Canada (Éditions Métailié); Norway (Cappelen); UK/Australia/New Zealand/South-Africa (Random House/Harvill Secker); USA/Philippines (St. Martin's Press/Thomas Dunne Books); Finland (Blue Moon); Norway (Cappelen); Sweden (Norstedts / Prisma); Italy (Ugo Guanda)

Hypothermia

Harðskafi, crime novel, 2007

On a cold autumn night in Thingvellir, a woman is found dead in her summer house. She had been troubled for a while and the noose was her way out of despair. When Erlendur receives a recording of a séance that the woman attended just before her death, he is driven to dig up her story and find out why her life ended in such a sudden and sad way. At the same time he is haunted by unsolved riddles of disappeared people and his own past. Erlendur Sveinsson is one of the most loved fictional characters of contemporary Icelandic literature, the eccentric cop with the brisk exterior and warm heart has charmed readers both in Iceland and abroad for several years. 295 pp

- Shortlisted for the CWA International Dagger 2010
- One of the best crime novels of 2009 in UK, selected by Sunday Times
- Reviewed as the best crime novel of 2009 in The Times
- Nomination for the Glass Key – The Nordic crime Novel Award 2008
- The Drop of Blood – The Icelandic Crime Novel Award 2008
- Shortlisted for the Icelandic Booksellers' Literary Award 2007

Sold to:
UK/Australia/New Zealand/South-Africa (Random House/Harvill Secker); USA/Philippines (St. Martin's Press/Thomas Dunne Books); Germany/Switzerland/Austria (Verlagsgruppe Lübbe); The Netherlands/Belgium/Luxembourg (Querido); Sweden (Norstedts/Prisma); France/Switzerland/Luxembourg/Canada (Éditions Métailié); Finland (Blue Moon); Denmark (Rosinante); Norway (Cappelen); The Czech Republic (MOBA); Italy (Ugo Guanda); Korea (Munhakdogne); Russia (Corpus)

The King's Book

Konungsbók, crime novel, 2006

1955. A young Icelander travels to Denmark for his studies and tracks down a fellow countryman and downtrodden old professor, who harbours a terrible secret: during the turmoil of the war years, he lost sight of a unique and priceless manuscript, which he had been entrusted with, the Codex Regius itself, the Poetic Edda – the age old relic of the Icelandic nation. Together, the professor and his disciple embark on an

uncertain journey across Europe in a quest to recover this invaluable vellum manuscript; a treasure that some people are willing to die and kill for. This is an unusual and extremely exciting story about what can be sacrificed – and what must be sacrificed – for the greatest jewel of the ages. 363 pp

Sold to:
Germany/Switzerland/Austria (Verlagsgruppe Lübbe); The Netherlands/Belgium/Luxembourg (Querido); The Czech Republic (MOBA)

Arctic Chill

Vetrarborgin, crime novel, 2005

The body of a dead child is found in the gardens of a Reykjavik apartment block on a cold January day; a young dark-skinned boy, lies face-down in his own blood, frozen to the ice. When the police arrive on the scene, they suspect a horrific crime. Erlendur, Elinborg and Sigurdur Oli start their investigation and, through the darkness and the blizzards, gradually uncover facts that turn out to be chillier than an Arctic winter night. 333 pp

- One of the most notable crime novels of 2009 in USA, selected by The New York Times
- Shortlisted for the CWA International Dagger 2009
- Nomination for the Swedish Martin Beck Award 2007

Sold to:
UK/Australia/New Zealand/South-Africa (Random House/Harvill Secker); USA/Philippines (St. Martin's Press/Thomas Dunne Books); Germany/Switzerland/Austria (Verlagsgruppe Lübbe); Sweden (Norstedts/Prisma); The Netherlands/Belgium/Luxembourg (Querido); Finland (Blue Moon); Czech Republic (MOBA); France/Switzerland/Luxembourg/Canada (Éditions Métailié); Italy (Ugo Guanda); Norway (Cappelen); Spain/Andorra/South and Central America/USA (RBA Libros); Catalonia (La Magrana); Russia (Corpus)

“*The Draining Lake* is a beautiful,
sad, haunting tale of lost love and lost illusions,
regret and betrayal.”

THE TIMES

- Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize 2004
- Le Prix du Polar européen du POINT, France, 2008
- The Barry Award, USA, for Best Novel of the year 2009
- Nominated for the Macavity Award by Mystery Readers International 2009

Sold to:
UK/Australia/New Zealand/South-Africa (Random House/Harvill Secker); USA/Philippines (St. Martin's Press/Thomas Dunne Books); Germany/Switzerland/Austria (Verlagsgruppe Lübbe); The Netherlands/Belgium/Luxembourg (Signature); Sweden (Norstedts/Prisma); Czech Republic (MOBA); France/Switzerland/Luxembourg/Canada (Éditions Métailié); Finland (Blue Moon); Denmark (Rosinante); Norway (Cappelen); Italy (Ugo Guanda); Spain/Andorra/South and Central America/USA (RBA Libros); Catalonia (La Magrana); Brazil (Companhia das Letras); Portugal (Porto Editores); Hungary (Animus); Turkey (Dogan); Russia (Corpus)

“... A particularly gripping, exciting and ingenious story about a femme fatale ... The first models to spring to mind might be *The Postman Always Rings Twice* or *Double Indemnity*, by James M. Cain, both of which were adapted into great movies.”

FRETTABLADID NEWSPAPER

Sold to:
Germany/Austria/Switzerland (Verlagsgruppe Lübbe); Czech Republic (MOBA)

The Draining Lake

Kleifarvatn, crime novel, 2004

The water level of a lake drops in the wake of an earthquake, revealing the hidden skeleton of a man in the sand below. Attached to it is a communication device with Russian inscriptions. The police are called in and Erlendur, Elinborg and Sigurdur Oli begin their investigation, which takes them back several decades, unearthing shattered dreams, and hot passions dampened by the Cold War. 349 pp

Betty

Bettý, crime novel, 2003

“I made mistakes. I fell into one trap after another. Sometimes willingly. Deep inside I knew they were there and knew they were dangerous, but I didn't know everything. Sometimes I tell myself I'd let myself fall into them again, if I only could.”
A young lawyer sits in custody and recalls a fateful encounter with Betty, who appeared one day in a tight dress and a golden chain on her ankle. And when she smiled ... 215 pp

Voices

Röddin, crime novel, 2002

- The Martin Beck Award 2005, Sweden

Nominated in The Netherlands 2005 as:

- one of the 8 best best crime novels by *crimezone.nl*
- one of the 10 best crime novels by *De Volkskrant*
- one of the 100 best books of the year by *BOEK Magazine*

The Christmas rush is at its peak in a big Reykjavik hotel, packed with foreign guests, when the police are called in to investigate a murder: a member of the staff, a middleaged man, has been stabbed to death, and found dressed in a Santa outfit with his trousers around his ankles. The police, Erlendur, Elinborg and Sigurdur Oli, have a complex case on their hands, and initially seem to have few clues to lead them to the murderer. But delving into the victim's adventurous and sad childhood, Erlendur and his colleagues begin to unravel some promising leads. A terribly exciting story about the oddness of human fate, solitude and loss in the broadest sense of those terms. 330 pp

Sold to:

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“A chilling read.”

THE TIMES

Silence of the Grave

Grafarþögn, crime novel, 2001

- The CWA Gold Dagger Award 2005, UK, for the top crime novel of the year in the English language
- The Glass Key 2003, The Nordic Crime Novel Award
- Prix Fiction 2006 du Livre insulaire de Ouessant
- Shortlisted for the Icelandic Booksellers' Literary Award 2001
- Nomination for the Swedish Martin Beck Award 2004
- Nominated as the best crime novel of 2004 in The Netherlands by crimezone.nl
- One of 10 Top Crime Books Of The Year 2005 by CrimeSquad.com, UK
- Grand Prix des Lectrice de Elle 2007

A skeleton is unearthed on a building site in Reykjavik; clearly someone was buried here several decades ago. The familiar cast of Erlendur and his detective colleagues, well known to readers of Indridason's previous novels, try to discover what happened, seeking out people who lived in the area decades before. Various unpleasant truths surface, and the story behind the skeleton turns out to be both complex and horrifying. This recklessly exciting story is both powerful and realistic; a story that will keep the reader's pulse pounding. 295 pp

Sold to:

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Film rights sold to: Blueeyes Production

“Jar City keeps the reader captivated from the first page.”

DV NEWSPAPER

Jar City

Mýrin, crime novel, 2000

- The Glass Key 2002, the Nordic Crime Novel Award
- Nomination for the DV Cultural Award
- Nomination for the Swedish Martin Beck Award 2003
- The Swedish Caliber Award 2003, as The Best Crime Novel of the Year
- Nominated as the best crime novel of 2003 in The Netherlands by crimezone.nl
- Selected as one of the best thrillers of 2004 in New Zealand, by The New Zealand Herald
- Nomination for the International IMPAC Dublin Literary Award 2006
- Final selection of Grand Prix des Lectrices de Elle 2005
- The Black Heart Award (Le Prix du Coeur Noir) in Festival du Polar de Saint Quentin, France, 2006
- Awarded the French Le Prix Mystère de la Critique 2006
- One of 10 most noteworthy crime novels in USA 2005, nominated by Kansas City Star
- Nominated for the Gumshoe Awards 2006, as one of the five best European crime novels published in USA

An elderly man is found dead in his basement flat. The murderer has left a note which the police detectives Erlendur and Sigurdur Oli (known from other books by the author) have to find out the meaning of. Getting at the truth leads the detectives to truly horrifying secrets from the past. A brilliantly plotted crime novel with convincing character portrayal and interesting side-plots. 280 pp

Sold to:

UK/Australia/New Zealand/South-Africa (Random House/Harvill Secker); USA /Philippines (St. Martin's Press/Thomas Dunne Books); Germany/Switzerland/Austria (Verlagsgruppe Lübbe); The Netherlands/Belgium/Luxembourg (Querido); France/Switzerland/Luxembourg/Canada (Éditions Métailié); Italy (Longanesi/Ugo Guanda); Spain/Andorra/South and Central America/USA (RBA Libros); Brazil (Editora Record); Portugal (Livraria Civilizaçao Editora); Finland (Blue Moon); Denmark (Rosinante); Sweden (Norstedts/Prisma); Norway (Cappelen); Faroe Islands (Sprotin); Bulgaria (Infodar); Croatia (Edicije Bozicevic); Czech Republic (MOBA); Hungary (Animus); Poland (WAB); Rumania (Trei); Slovenia (Didakta); Israel (Keter); Greece/Cyprus (Livanis Publishing); Turkey (Sinemis Yayınları); Estonia (Nynorden); Japan (Tokyo Sogensha Co); China/Hong Kong/Singapore (People's Literature Publishing House); Taiwan (Crown); Korea (Younglim Cardinal Inc.); Russia (Corpus); Lebanon (Arab Scientific Publishers); Thailand (Pearl Publishing); Latvia (Apgards Mansards); Lithuania (Baltos Lankos); Vietnam (AlphaBooks)

A motion picture based on the novel has won prizes at several international film festivals.
Producer: Blueeyes Productions

Operation Napoleon

Napóleonskjölin, crime novel, 1999

Sold to:

Germany/Switzerland/Austria (Verlagsgruppe Lübbe); Czech Republic (MOBA); UK/Australia/New Zealand/South-Africa (Random House/Harvill Secker); USA /Philippines (St. Martin's Press/Thomas Dunne Books)

Film rights sold to:

Pegasus Pictures
English synopsis available

The wreckage of a WWII-era airplane surfaces from under the ice on Vatnajökull glacier, and the American naval forces at Midnesheidi moor are put on the alert. When Kristin, an attorney with the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, begins to investigate, she ends up on the run in a bone-chilling attempt to save her own life. A fast-paced thriller against the hauntingly beautiful backdrop of wintertime Iceland. 278 pp

Silent Kill

Dauðarósir, crime novel, 1998

Sold to:

Germany/Switzerland/Austria (Verlagsgruppe Lübbe); Czech Republic (MOBA); The Netherlands/Belgium/Luxembourg (Querido)

The body of a young girl is found on the grave of the leader of Iceland's 19th century independence movement. Investigations reveal that her death is linked to a larger case responsible for the greatest migrations in Icelandic history, still ongoing. 255 pp

Sons of Earth

Synir duftsins, crime novel, 1997

Sold to:

Germany/Switzerland/Austria (Verlagsgruppe Lübbe); The Netherlands/Belgium/Luxembourg (Signature)
English synopsis available together with Reader's Report

The story opens with the suicide of Daniel, a 40-year-old patient in a Reykjavik mental hospital. Simultaneously an elderly teacher – a man who had only recently begun visiting him at the hospital – burns himself to death. When Daniel's brother tries to find out what connected them, he begins to his horror to find evidence of a childhood drug testing programme which went wildly wrong. 294 pp



ARNI THORARINSSON (b.1950) is a nationally renowned award-winning journalist and a media personality, besides being the author of several gripping crime novels.

“Angel of the Morning is a crime masterpiece. Arni Thorarinsson's best book. Courageous and true.”

MORGUNBLADID NEWSPAPER

“Exciting, revealing and revolting, with a surprising twist in its tail.”

KATRIN JAKOBSDOTTIR, MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE

Angel of the Morning

Morgunengill, crime novel, 2010

They may not seem to have much in common, the North Iceland postman with hardly a penny to her name and the capitalist in Reykjavik carrying billions in debt in his briefcase. However, fate tangles their paths together when the journalist Einar searches for justice no less than a front-page scoop.

Seldom has he come across a crime this complex. Nothing is what it used to be. Except that one man's meat is still another man's poison. *Angel of the Morning* is a crime novel set in contemporary Iceland, compelling and disturbing in its portrayal of lost innocence, the need for atonement, and acceptance of one's origin. 300 pp

Chapters in English available

“...supple and quick...”

A sharp discourse on human interaction and society as a whole.”

MORGUNBLADID NEWSPAPER

“...supple and quick... A sharp discourse on human interaction and society as a whole.”

MORGUNBLADID NEWSPAPER

The Seventh Son

Sjöundi sonurinn, crime novel, 2008

Anticipation is hardly the word to describe the mood of Einar, a reporter for the Evening News, sent off to the remote West Fjords in midwinter to write about the local fishing industry. Before long, however, Einar’s nose for news begins to twitch. After an old house in the centre of town burns down, suspicions of arson arise. While interviewing the building’s owners, Einar only just avoids being run over by a mobile caravan driving by at top speed. Two other guests in town,

a popular soccer player and his mate, disappear without a trace. When the mobile caravan is found outside of town, also gutted by fire and a grisly sight, Einar is up to his neck in a frightening sequence of events. This contemporary story of revenge, greed and alienation pulls no punches. Leading us, in the closing chapters, to one basic question that begs for an answer: What does it mean to be a victim? 376 pp

Sold to:
France/Switzerland/Luxembourg/Canada
(Éditions Métalié)



“A compelling crime novel which fans of the genre should not miss under any circumstances.”

DV NEWSPAPER

“A future Stieg Larsson?”

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(Éditions Métalié); Germany/Switzerland/
Austria (Droemer-Knaur); Spain/South America
(Ediciones ámba)

“Raymond Chandler, Dashiell Hammett or Ross Macdonald: The Einar-Series is a modern Icelandic version of the hard-boiled American classic.”

DPA, GERMANY

“Full of humour, vivacity and suspense.”

LE NOUVEL OBSERVATEUR

- Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize 2005

Sold to:
Germany/Switzerland/Austria (Droemer Knaur); Denmark (Bazar); Finland (Bazar); Norway (Bazar); France/Switzerland/Luxembourg/Canada (Éditions Métalié); The Netherlands (De Geus); Czech Republic (Argo); Poland (Cat Books); Greece (Polis); Spain/South America (Ediciones ámba); Sweden (Bazar)

Film rights sold to:
Fridrik Thor Fridriksson/Spellbound Productions

Italian and Swedish translations available

Death of a Clown

Dauði trúðsins, crime novel, 2007

Are ghosts afoot during bright summer nights in Akureyri? When things are slow anything goes with reporter Einar. A summer festival is starting up and thousands of guests head for the capital of North-Iceland to party. At the same time a rumour is going around that Hollywood stars have arrived in town to film an erotic thriller. Before Einar and the Chief Constable know, assignments are piling up. Who was the young girl found dead in the old house? Who is the mysterious woman on the phone claiming to be clairvoyant? What is reality and what is illusion? A potent mixture of brilliant wit and deep seriousness drives this thrilling novel about the dangers lurking in human relations. 391 pp

Season of the Witch

Tími nornarinnar, crime novel, 2006

Einar has given up his old hunting ground of chronicling crime life in the capital, and moved to the small town of Akureyri, where he’s expected to boost the circulation of the Evening Press. But on his way to a theatre rehearsal, Einar finds himself covering a hotter piece of news: a local woman has fallen to her death in an obscure river accident on a company outing. This is the first – but not the last – death to occur in the sinister course of events that unfold in this new adventure of the reporter Einar. Arni Thorarinsson intertwines historical heritage with his sensitive perceptions of Icelandic society, weaving an intricate narrative in which each riddle triggers off the next. 384 pp

Blue Moon

Blátt tungl, crime novel, 2001

Einar is going to his parent's house with his daughter for a traditional Christmas meal, when the radio reports a case of a missing person, an old girlfriend of his, and he feels compelled to find out more. Thus opens a fast-paced, exciting sequence of events in which Einar tackles old and new adversaries, including himself. Before the dust settles he has to draw on all his resources so as not to lose both his reputation and his mind. *Blue Moon* is a crime story from the depth of the Icelandic winter, in which mysterious elements of the human psyche and familiar features of everyday life are intertwined in a complex but tightly woven plot. 236 pp



"The excellent psychological analysis of Einar's mental problems is the best bit in Thorarinnsson's colourful and witty crime story. He uses deep psychological intuition to lay bare Einar's tortured soul, while at the same time presenting us with a vivid picture of Iceland today ..."

FYENS STIFTSTIDENDE

The Night Has a Thousand Eyes

Nóttin hefur þúsund augu, crime novel, 1999

A murder is reported at the Airport Hotel and journalist Einar is hauled out of bed with a thundering hangover to get the scoop. By chance he overhears some things his colleagues do not know and finds himself the nation's source on

The White Rabbit

Hvíta kanínan, crime novel, 2000

Einar, a journalist, is forced to go on a vacation in Spain with his daughter. Soon terrible things start to happen, but these are only the beginning of a horrifying and gripping course of events where nothing and nobody is what they seem to be. 224 pp

"Thorarinnsson is a leading crime author of today ... I do not hesitate to say that it is the best Icelandic novel to be published ... I wouldn't be surprised if it was successful abroad with foreign readers ..."

STRIK.IS

this grisly crime. Einar is told to pursue the case further and he sets off. But he would have been better off to leave the case alone. A story that captures the reader right up to the final page. 202 pp

Sold to:
Denmark (Modtryk); Germany/
Switzerland/Austria (Butler und Kawohl)
English excerpt available



PALL KRISTINN PALSSON (b.1956)

has worked as a journalist, editor and producer of documentaries. He is the author of several novels, short stories and film scripts, as well as two crime novels written in collaboration with Arni Thorarinnsson.

The Passenger

Farþeginn, crime novel, 2006

When taxi driver Sigurdsson picks up company director Hjalmarsson in the centre of Reykjavik on an ice-cold New Year's day, a bizarre journey begins. What initially appears to be a coincidental encounter and lighthearted journey soon turns out to be a bitter reckoning with the past and the present. *The Passenger* is an unusual and well-paced thriller. 238 pp

"Excellent crime novel."

MORGUNBLADID NEWSPAPER

"A crime novel that grabs and holds your attention."

KASTLJOS, NATIONAL TV

"A distinguished psychological thriller."

DV NEWSPAPER

Film rights sold to:
Sagafilm

And God Created Murder

Í upphafi var morðið, crime novel, 2002

Kristrun is a young filmmaker working on a documentary called *"A Year in the Life of a Glacier"* when her mother is found dead by apparent suicide in their home. Police investigators, however, show that the mother was murdered. Before she realises, Kristrun has started investigating the case herself and hurles into a course of events that will soon shatter old certainties regarding her life. 268 pp



STEFAN MANI (b.1970) has already acquired a solid fan base of readers with books such as *Black Curse*, *The Ship* and *Memento Mori*, which were acclaimed for their suspense and power. *The Ship* received The Icelandic Crime Novel Award 2007 and was nominated for the Glass Key, The Nordic Crime Novel Award 2007. French literary magazine *Lire* named *The Ship* the best crime novel to appear in France in 2010.

Literary agent:
Andrew Nurnberg Associates
e-mail: lbrannstrom@nurnberg.co.uk

Abyss

Hyldýpi, crime novel, 2009

In *Abyss* Stefan Mani once more displays his unique style and insights and the setting for his story is just as chilling as ever. 265 pp

Memento Mori

Ódáðahraun, crime novel, 2008

A hard-hitting thriller that keeps the reader enthralled from beginning to end. 296 pp

Sold to:
Denmark (Gyldendal)

The Ship

Skipið, crime novel, 2006

The Ship is a crazy roller-coaster ride, a truly magnificent piece of magical narrative, which entangles the reader in a tightly woven net of premonitions, magic and adventure, drawing one into a reality from which there seems to be no escape. 432 pp

Sold to:
France/Switzerland/Luxembourg/Canada (Gallimard); Germany/Switzerland/Austria (Ullstein); Sweden (Bonnier); Denmark (Gyldendal); The Czech Republic (Motto); Poland (WAB); Italy (Marco Tropea); Australia/New Zealand (Pier 9)
Film rights sold to: Zik Zak Filmworks

Black Curse

Svartur á leik, crime novel, 2004

By an unexpected twist of fate a young man gets sucked into an incredible, breathtaking course of events, partly based on recent Icelandic crime history. 548 pp

Sold to:
France/Switzerland/Luxembourg/Canada (Gallimard)
Filmrights sold to:
ZikZak



STELLA BLOMKVIST

No one knows who the mysterious Stella Blomkvist really is. The only information given is that Stella writes under a pseudonym.

*“Everything
is as one might expect;
the story is exciting,
and Stella as cool as ever.”*

DV NEWSPAPER

Murder in the Supreme Court

Morðið í Hæstarétti, crime novel, 2001

An actress is found murdered in the office of a Supreme Court judge. Security camera recordings show the judge and the actress entering the building shortly before the murder, but the judge claims to have been far away at that time. 254 pp

Murder on Television

Morðið í sjónvarpinu, crime novel, 2000

A famous producer is murdered on a live broadcast. Seeking refuge, the suspect seeks the help of a tough minded attorney, Stella Blomkvist. 207 pp

Sold to:
Germany/Switzerland/Austria (Random House/ btb);
Czech Republic (MOBA)

Murder in Rockville

Morðið í Rockville, crime novel, 2006

The American army is closing down its military camp at Midnesheidi Heath after 60 years, leaving a ghost town behind them. The body of a man is discovered inside one of the houses and turns out to be a former employee of the army's. An Icelandic tycoon is suspected of the murder and turns to Stella Blomkvist for help. 230 pp

Murder in the Drowning Pool

Morðið í Drekkingarhyl, crime novel, 2005

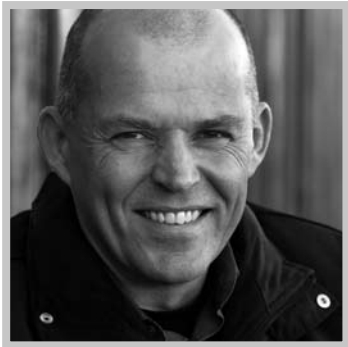
One day in late summer, German tourists find a corpse in the Drowning Pool in Oxara river. The body proves to be that of a young Kurdish girl. Her Middle Eastern descent immediately gives rise to the suspicion that the murder is a crime of honour. 278 pp

Murder in Parliament

Morðið í Alþingishúsinu, crime novel, 2002

A reporter falls off the balcony of the House of Parliament during a live broadcast. A xenophobe is accused and Stella is hired to defend him. Research into the case sends her on a trail that leads straight into Reykjavik's underworld. 233 pp

Sold to:
Germany/Switzerland/Austria (Random House/ btb);
Czech Republic (MOBA)



VIKTOR A. INGOLFSSON (b.1955) is one of Iceland's most accomplished crime fiction authors. Ingolfsson's novel, *No Trace*, was nominated for the Glass Key – the Nordic Crime Novel Award in 2001 and *The Flatey Enigma* was nominated for the same prize in 2004 – a bestseller for weeks in Germany as well as *Daybreak*, published in 2005.

“Viktor Arnar has an unquestionable knack for writing historical or cultural crime fiction.”

DV NEWSPAPER

*“... an Icelandic revelation, wonderful and vivid. ... Iceland, that little island in the North Atlantic has yielded some great authors, hitherto unknown in this country. Ingolfsson is one of them. His **Flatey Enigma** doesn't only give us excitement, but also a deep insight into the Icelandic soul.”*

NDR, GERMANY

Sunna's Candlesticks

Sólstjaskar, crime novel, 2009

Seated in the office of the Icelandic embassy in Berlin is a dubious tycoon. His entrails are protruding and a razor sharp hunting knife has been planted in his stomach. He's dead. On the previous evening he had been the guest of the ambassador along with six other Icelandic men and the ambassador's wife. Who wanted this man out of the way? And how did the knife slip through the Nordic Embassies' building tight security?

Birkir Li Hinriksson, Gunnar Mariuson and Anna Thordardottir are dispatched to Berlin to start the murder investigation. But despite

the confined scene of the crime and the very few actors involved, the case turns out to be quite complex and rooted in the distant past. The Icelandic police team urgently need to dig up everything they can to prevent others from meeting the dead man's fate.

This is the same team that solved the riddle of Ingolfsson's *Daybreak*, which formed the basis for the popular Icelandic *Man Hunt* television series. 286 pp

Sold to:
Germany/Switzerland/Austria
(Verlagsgruppe Lübbe);
Czech Republic (MOBA)

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

“A tremendous crime novel.”

FRETTABLADID NEWSPAPER

“Really entertaining.”

LAUSITZER RUNDSCHAU, GERMANY

Sold to:

Germany/Switzerland/Austria
(Verlagsgruppe Lübbe); Czech Republic (Moba)

Film rights sold to:

Reykjavik Films for the popular Icelandic
Man Hunt television series
Chapters in English available

“... A marvelous book that completely fulfills the reader's expectations.”

WWW.KRIMI-COUCH.DE

- Nomination for *The Glass Key*,
The Nordic Crime Novel Award 2004

Sold to:

Germany/Switzerland/Austria (Verlagsgruppe
Lübbe); Czech Republic (Moba); Italy (Iperborea)

Film rights sold to:

Reykjavik Films
Danish translation available
Chapters in English available

- Nomination for *The Glass Key*, *The Nordic Crime Novel Award 2001*

Sold to:

Germany/Switzerland/Austria
(Verlagsgruppe Lübbe); Czech Republic (Moba)

Daybreak

Afturelding, crime novel, 2005

It is autumn, and hunters make for the countryside in search of geese. But one hunter isn't seeking geese – he's after humans. The hunters fall one by one, day after day, at the hands of an unknown and unpredictable killer, able to appear anywhere in the country and who seems to be especially eager to target those who try to solve the mystery. But policemen Gunnar and Birkir decide to go hunting for geese when there's no one left who dares ... 285 pp.

The Flatey Enigma

Flateyjargáta, crime novel, 2002

In the spring of 1960 three men accidentally discover a decaying body on a deserted island, later identified as the body of a Danish codicologist who had been missing for several months. An investigation ensues and the case is mysteriously linked to the contents of a medieval manuscript known as the Book of Flatey. Before long another body is found in Flatey, but this time an eagle has been carved into the victim's back in blood, in the ancient Viking tradition. 284 pp

No Tracks

Engin spor, crime novel, 1998

It is early in the year 1973 and a man has been found dead in a distinguished old house in Reykjavik. The cause of death is a fatal shot wound to the chest. The police investigation reveals that the man's father was shot to death in the same living room in 1945, a crime which was never solved. 264 pp



non-fiction

*CURRENT AFFAIRS
NARRATIVE NON FICTION
BIOGRAPHY
MEMOIRS
SOCIAL STUDIES
HISTORY
COOKERY
BOOKS ON ICELAND*



“Such an accurate piece of writing ... We can be thankful that the right man was in the right place at the right time.”

FRETTA BLADID NEWSPAPER



PAPERBACK
JUNE 2009
428 pp
Rights available

GUDNI TH. JOHANNESSEN
The Collapse:
Iceland on the brink of
bankruptcy and disintegration

The first comprehensive overview of the meltdown of the Icelandic economy and its aftermath – spanning from the moment when the first stormy clouds of the credit crunch gathered on the horizon to the fall of the Icelandic government.

An engrossing behind-the-scenes account based on a great wealth of sources. Interweaving previously unpublished emails, phone calls and memos with great craftsmanship, the author paints a stirring and utterly persuasive picture of these incredible current events.

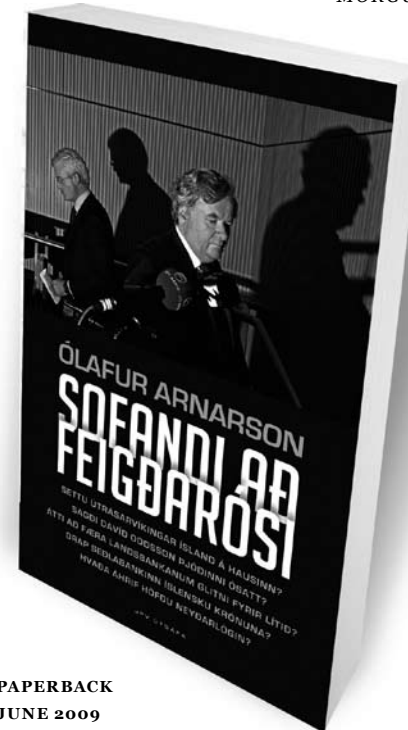
This book is the subject of a documentary to be broadcast on Icelandic State Television in the autumn of 2009.



GUDNI TH. JOHANNESSEN has a doctorate in History from Queen Mary, University of London and is a professor of History at the University of Iceland. He is the author of numerous books and articles on contemporary history and issues, published both in Iceland and abroad.

“The focus of Arnarson’s book (and it’s strength) is his approach to link together and explain the crash and it’s underlying political and systemic causes.”

MORGUNBLADID NEWSPAPER



PAPERBACK
JUNE 2009
189 pp
Rights available

OLAFUR ARNARSON
**The Iceland
Meltdown**

Lehman Brothers’ demise in September 2008 sent shockwaves around the world. Trust, the glue of financial markets, evaporated and what had started out as a credit crisis turned into a worldwide economic recession. The first true casualty of this was the Icelandic banking system, which promptly collapsed, leaving the country isolated in the world of international finance and diplomacy.

The Iceland Meltdown is a riveting, thriller-like read, without technical jargon, intended for people with no background in banking or finance, as well as those who know their way about international finance, which describes in plain language what **really** happened in Iceland.



OLAFUR ARNARSON has a MBA from Vanderbilt’s Owen Graduate School of Management. He has held the posts of Secretary General of the Parliamentary Group of the Independence Party in Iceland, senior political advisor to the Minister for Culture and Education and has also worked as an investment banker for Dresdner-Kleinwort-Benson and Lehman Brothers. Since 2003 Arnarson runs an investment consultancy.

*“This book had an enormous impact
in Iceland when it came out.*

*After Icelandic politicians had sold Icelandic nature cheap
to some of the industrial giants of this world
without the people’s consent,
the Icelandic people were upset.*

We didn’t get a chance to defend ourselves.

Or our nature.

*I have a feeling this is a universal problem
that our generation will find solutions to.*

This book is one of these solutions.”

BJÖRK



ANDRI SNAER MAGNASON (b.1973) has won the Icelandic Literary Prize for both fiction and non fiction. His work has been published or performed in over twenty countries and received numerous international awards, amongst them the Janusz Korczak Honorary Award, the West Nordic Children’s Book Prize and, more recently, the Kairos Prize awarded by the Alfred Toepfer Foundation to outstanding individuals. Magnason has been active in the fight against the destruction of the Icelandic Highlands.

www.andrimagnason.com



PAPERBACK
2006
304 pp
English translation available
Sold to:
England (Citizen Press)
Japan (NKH Publishing)
Denmark (Tiderne Seifter)
Sweden (Natur och Kultur)
Germany/Austria/Switzerland (Orange Press)

ANDRI SNAER MAGNASON **Dreamland:** Self-Help for a Frightened Nation

Dreamland is a wake-up call, a devastating polemic that puts environmental issues into global perspective.

Dreamland is an influential book about the most burning issues of our times, written with knowledge and a rare passion that will move any reader.

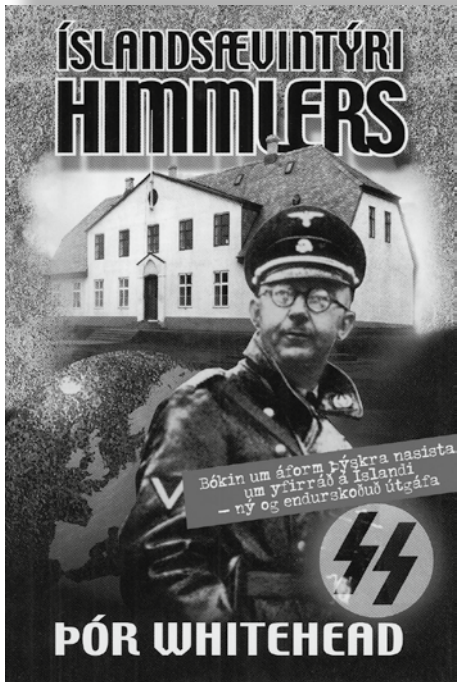
Dreamland immediately became a best seller on publication in Iceland and has already attracted worldwide attention due to its radical style, in the vein of Naomi Klein, Malcolm Gladwell and Jared Diamond, as well as critical acclaim from the Icelandic media.

Revised edition with an introduction by Björk and a new chapter on the bank crisis in Iceland.

Dreamland has been made into a movie.

- *The Iceland Literary Award*
- *The Icelandic Bookseller Prize*
- *The Kairos Prize – a European cultural prize awarded by the Alfred Toepfer Stiftung*

A journey that unravels the peculiar ideological world of Nazi Germany and sheds a light on its plans to gain power in Iceland.



HARDBACK
1998
221 pp
Rights available
The book contains a vast collection of photographs.

THOR WHITEHEAD
**Himmler's
 Icelandic Adventure**

This book, of unquestionable historical merit, reads like a thriller and provides a unique account of some of the bizarre ideas Heinrich Himmler and a few of his kindred spirits entertained about Iceland and its inhabitants. Himmler looked on Iceland as a sacred land which preserved the remnants of the noble and ancient high culture of the Norse, the origins of the Germanic race. At the same time he intended to annex Iceland into the Nazi's "Thousand Year Reich" and planned to boost trade between the two countries and promoting large scale industry in Iceland.



THOR WHITEHEAD is a professor of history at the University of Iceland specializing in political and military history. He has written extensively on Icelandic foreign relations and security during the 1930's and the Second World War as well as publishing some works on the Cold War era and the history of the Communist movement in Iceland.

"This is the story of a woman who, at one time, was one of America's most effective impostors: a person who enthralled great numbers of people with her fabrications. ... a multilayered text that gradually builds a cogent picture of the life experience of an unusual woman and the society in which she lived and functioned."

MORGUNBLADID NEWSPAPER



HARDBACK
2004
275 pp
English translation available
Sold to:
USA (University of Michigan Press)
English translation available

INGA DORA BJORNSDOTTIR
**Olof the Eskimo
 Lady**
A Biography of an Icelandic Dwarf in America

A dwarf girl, Olof Solvadottir, was born in Iceland in 1858. She moved to the Western World at the age of 19, following the tracks of an American travelling circus, but then transformed herself into an Inuit Eskimo and started to deliver lectures about Greenland and her life there. As an Eskimo, Olof acquired fame and recognition with her concocted biography, travelled widely across America, and managed to con the world for more than two decades and deliver some 2,500 lectures without raising any suspicions.

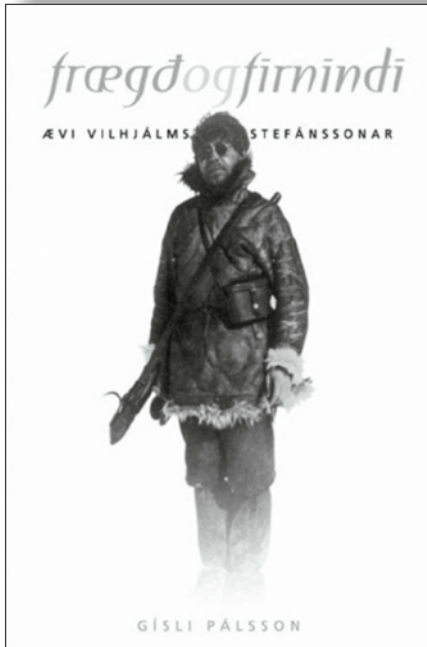
- *Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize 2004*



INGA DORA BJORNSDOTTIR studied anthropology at Lund University in Sweden and at New York University before earning her doctoral degree from the University of California at Santa Barbara. She has taught anthropology at the University of California, as well as at the University of Iceland. Dr. Björnsdóttir is the author of several biographies, as well as the co-author of books and documentaries.

“This book is informative and entertaining – a genuinely good read. It sheds new light on our man Vilhjalmur Stefansson, and for that reason alone it is well worth owning.”

MORGUNBLADID NEWSPAPER



GISLI PÁLSSON
Traveling Passions

The Arctic explorer Vilhjalmur Stefansson was a famous explorer who led three expeditions to the Arctic, an anthropologist, and a popular lecturer, who was widely renowned for his writings. G. Pálsson, a professor in Anthropology, has written Stefansson’s biography from a new angle. He focuses on specific aspects of Stefansson’s life and work: the contents of his travelling journals, the silence surrounding his Inuit family, the women in his life, his links with Iceland, and the tug of war between his private life and the theories Stefansson came to be renowned for.

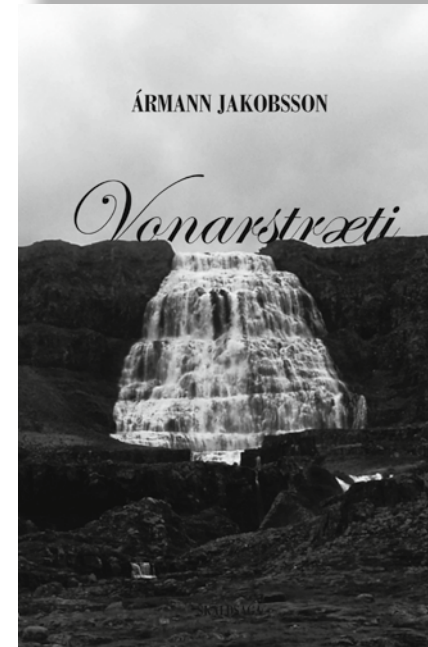
HARDBACK
2003
416 pp
English translation available
Sold to:
Canada (University of Manitoba Press)



GISLI PÁLSSON (Ph.D., University of Manchester, 1982) is Chair and Professor of Anthropology at the University of Iceland. His most recent book is *Anthropology and the New Genetics* (2007). Currently, Pálsson’s research focuses on the social implications of biotechnology, genetic history, environmental change, and Arctic exploration.

“*Hope Street* is a well delimited novel, short and pacey... the narrator manages to draw countless contemporary parallels ... It offers a broad historical perspective ... written with empathy ...”

ICELANDIC STATE RADIO



ÁRMANN JAKOBSSON
Hope Street

In early 1908, Skuli and Theodora Thoroddsen travelled to Copenhagen to participate in negotiations about Iceland’s future within the kingdom of Denmark. In the space of a few months everything changed: Icelanders staged a silent uprising and were now bent on independence. Skuli became a national hero but the shadow of death hovered over his family at 12 Vonarstræti, Hope Street. *Hope Street* is a historical novel about great ideals, human frailty and one of the few uprisings ever to have taken place in Iceland.

HARDBACK
2008
192 pp
Chapters in Danish available
Rights available

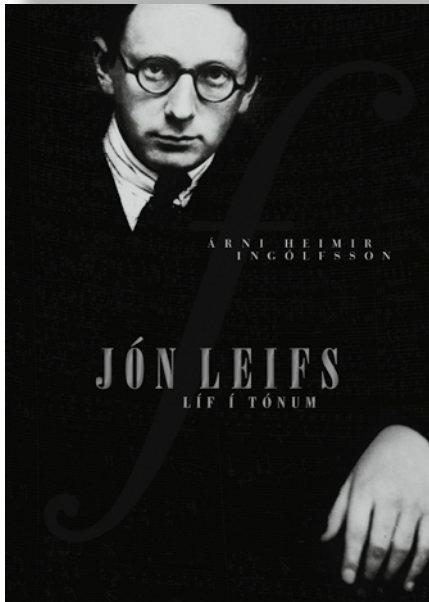


ÁRMANN JAKOBSSON has written articles about social and cultural issues in newspapers and magazines for decades, as well as in-depth pieces on Icelandic literature and a book on *Tolkien and the Ring* in 2003. This spring he published a collection of poems entitled *News from my land*. *Hope Street* is his first novel.



“A deserving memorial to an unusual and difficult artist.”

FRETTABLADID



HARDBACK
AUTUMN 2009
Rights available

ARNI HEIMIR INGOLFSSON

Jon Leifs

Jon Leifs (1899–1968) was one of the most significant and unusual Icelandic artists of the twentieth century.

In the middle of World War I, he sailed to Germany, determined to dedicate himself to music, without the slightest inkling, however, of what that entailed. Like Halldor Laxness he was overtaken by world events, married a woman of Jewish origin and lived in Germany until 1944. This book recounts his story more bluntly than ever before. Arni Heimir Ingolfsson has left no stone unturned in his quest for sources on Jon Leifs' life, which reveals itself to be gripping and fraught with suspense.



ARNI HEIMIR INGOLFSSON holds a PhD degrees in Musicology from Harvard University and is the Programme Director of the Iceland Symphony Orchestra.

“... a great, magnificent, and remarkable book.”

EGILL'S SILVER, NATIONAL TV



PRESSAN.IS



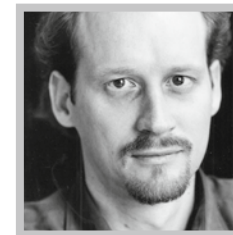
HARDBACK
AUTUMN 2009
Rights available
Sold to:
Germany/Austria/Switzerland (Orlanda)
Chapters in English available

PÁLL VALSSON

Vigdís – The Woman Who Became President

Vigdís – The Woman Who Became President recounts the story of this woman who not only charmed her own countrymen as president, but also much of the world, thanks to her charisma, warm attitude and intelligence. In 1980 Vigdís Finnbogadóttir was sworn in as Iceland's fourth president, becoming the world's first elected female head of state. What did this entail and what sacrifices had to be made? This comprehensive portrait of the person of Vigdís Finnbogadóttir, covers every shade hue from sorrow to victory, so that by the end of the book, the reader is left with both an intimate and lasting impression of her.

- *Chosen best biography at the annual award ceremony for bookshop employees, 2009.*



PÁLL VALSSON has a Masters Degree in Icelandic Literature from the University of Iceland. He was the chief editor and director of the Edda Publishing House and Mal og menning. Páll received the 1999 Icelandic Literary Award in the scholarly category for his biography of the national Icelandic poet *Jonas Hallgrímsson*.

A biography of Olafía Johannesdóttir

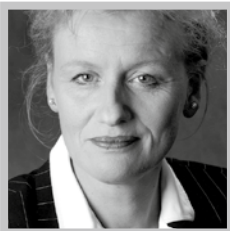


SIGRIDUR DUNA
KRISTMUNSDOTTIR

Mother Theresa of the North

Olafía Johannesdóttir (1863–1924) was born into the poor rural society of nineteenth century Iceland where women had few civil rights and even fewer vocational opportunities. But Olafía defied her destiny, became an ardent campaigner for women’s rights, education and temperance and a popular lecturer in Europe and North America where she travelled widely. She has been called “Mother Theresa of the North” as she devoted herself to easing the misery of destitute women in Oslo, who in turn loved her like a mother.

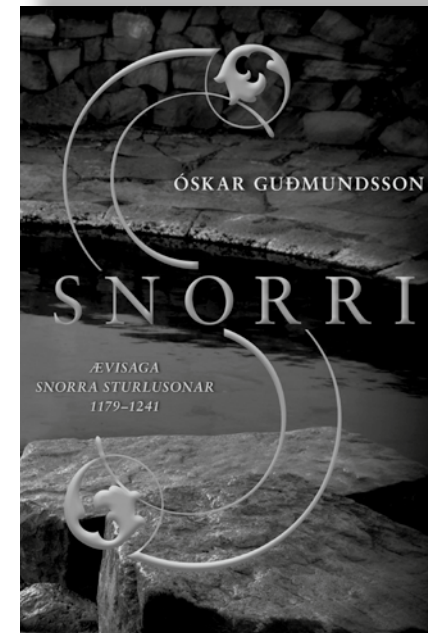
HARDBACK
2006
539 PP
Rights available



SIGRIDUR DUNA KRISTMUNSDOTTIR is professor of Anthropology at the University of Iceland. She was awarded the Icelandic Literary Prize for non-fiction in 2001.

“... a real masterpiece ... the text is terse and sharp,
extremely readable and written with mature genius.”

OSSUR SKARPHEDINSSON / DV NEWSPAPER



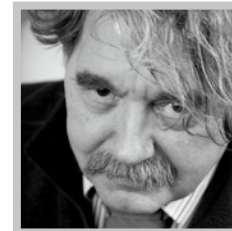
OSKAR GUÐMUNDSSON

Snorri

Snorri Sturluson (1179–1241) left more of a mark on the history of Iceland and the culture of western Europe than perhaps any of his fellow countrymen. This biography paints a vivid portrait of an exceptionally talented individual who had to grapple with kings abroad, chieftains at home, his children and his own weaknesses. But this man who struggled against the world more than eight centuries ago also conquered it through his literature.

The book lifts the veil of some of Iceland’s most intriguing historical figures and conjures up memorable images of cunning individuals and harrowing events.

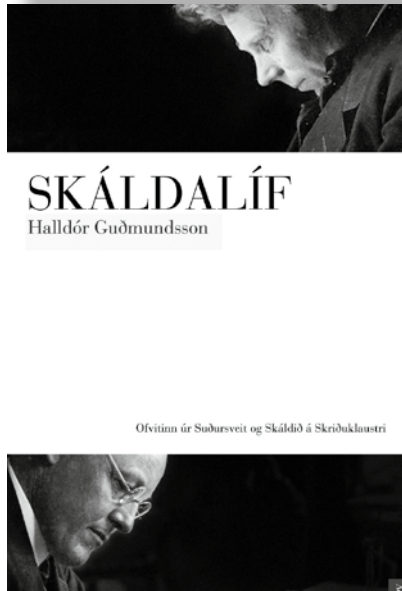
HARDBACK
AUTUMN 2009
350 PP
Rights available
Sold to:
Germany/Switzerland/Austria
(Böhlau Verlag)



OSKAR GUÐMUNDSSON studied History, Literature and Social Sciences at the University of Reykjavík, in Bremen, Germany and in Copenhagen during the seventies. He was the editor in chief of the magazine *Studenta-bladið*, the weekly *Nordurland* and the news magazine *Thjódlif*. Oskar has worked as an independent academic and writer and has been involved in the publication of numerous books as editor and author.

“Incredibly intriguing ... a bold idea ... a remarkable book written with vigour and intensity.”

ICELANDIC STATE TV



HARDBACK
2006
440 pp
Rights available

HALLDOR GUDMUNDSSON

Writer's Lives

The Sudursveit Prodigy and the Skríðuklaustur Poet – a Biography

Do they have anything at all in common, the cosmopolite Gunnar Gunnarsson and the homebody Thorbergur Thordarson? One wrote in Danish and saw his books translated into a host of foreign languages; the other's books were a well-kept secret known only to the few who knew his native tongue. One probed the mystery of human existence; the other was a noted and mercurial humorist.

Halldor Gudmundsson sketches a unique portrait of these two authors in this parallel biography.

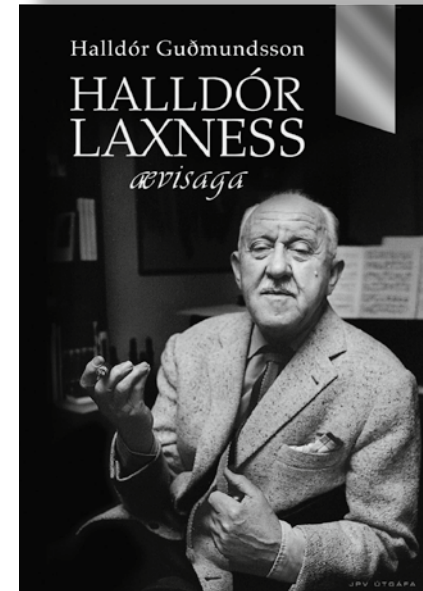
- *Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Award*



HALLDOR GUDMUNDSSON studied literature at the University of Iceland and then at the University of Copenhagen. For 19 years he worked in publishing, for the longest time as the publisher for *Mal og menning*. At the same time he continued researching and writing about literature, with emphasis on the works of Halldor Laxness.

“Stylistically admirable, exceptionally informative and will be the standard biography of Halldor Laxness.”

DIE WELT



HARDBACK
2004
486 pp
Sold to:
UK, USA (MacLehose Press/Quercus)
Germany (bth)
Norway (Tiden/Norsk Gyldendal)
Denmark (Vandkunsten)
Sweden (Leopard)

HALLDOR GUDMUNDSSON

The Islander, a Biography

Halldor Laxness was the most renowned Icelandic writer of the 20th century, having won the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1955. In his best works he is considered to have combined the spirit of classical literary forms such as the Icelandic sagas with qualities that are reminiscent of what was later called South American magical realism.

This major biography is narrated in a gripping, exciting, and consistently critical way, giving readers a grand description of a personality in which the manifold conflicts of the 20th century are mirrored.

- *The Icelandic Literary Prize 2004*
- *The Biography of the year by Icelandic Booksellers*

The Icelandic Bookseller's Prize 2005
The Icelandic Journalist Award 2005



GERDUR KRISTNY
 THELMA ASDISARDOTTIR

Portrait of a Father – My Story

Thelma and her four sisters were brought up in the 1970's and 80's. There they were subjected to the cruellest violence that can be inflicted on any child – relentless sexual abuse from her father and other paedophiles. Thelma soon learnt that absolute silence was to reign over her experiences, a silence she didn't break until she became an adult woman and came into contact with, an organization set up to help women who have suffered sexual abuse. Author Gerdur Kristny recounts Thelma's story in a poignant and dispassionate style. A story of a woman who has been helped to come to terms with her excruciating past and stands up, victorious.

HARDBACK

2005

232 pp

Chapters in English available

Sold to:

Sweden (Bra böcker)

Film rights sold to:

Elf Films



GERDUR KRISTNY is an award winning poet and writer. She has published several poetry books, short stories, novels and children's books. Her biography of Thelma won the Icelandic Journalist Award 2005, bestowed by the Icelandic Press Association.

"Gives a devastating insight into the world of someone trapped in the vicious circle of madness and drug use."

Du NEWSPAPER



CLARE DICKENS

A Dangerous gift

A Dangerous Gift is a frightful tale of a very bright young man, whose outstanding talents were crushed before he had the chance to learn the crucial skills needed to keep his Bi-Polar manic depression at bay. This is neither a critical essay on the short comings of our Health Systems, nor is this a cry for help. This is simply a true story, unfortunately an all too common one. A story told by a mother, thrown into this confusing world of Manic Depression without any warning or training; trying to comprehend what her son, with this elusive, frightening disease, is trying to deal with on a daily basis.

HARDBACK

2007

235 pp

English translation available

Rights available



CLARE DICKENS was born in Scotland, raised and educated in England and lived in the United States for almost thirty years. As the wife of an American diplomat she has lived with her husband and two sons in Belgium, Iceland and the United States.

“An excellent book that reflects warm interest in and respect for society. It shows clearly that the guiding light of schools should be respect and care. The work is very useful for educational policy and for myself, not only in my role as minister of education but also as a parent.”

THORGERDUR KATRIN GUNNARSDOTTIR,
MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE, ICELAND (2003–2009).



HARDBACK
2007
537 pp
Chapters in English available
Rights available

SIGRUN ADALBJARNARDOTTIR

Respect and Care – a Challenge for the 21. Century

Respect and Care is a unique work that describes the pathways to individual maturity and the guidance along those pathways provided by education and the action of teachers. Few things are more important than the education of young people. Here attention is drawn to the role of the educator in cultivating universal values for human interaction: respect and care, friendship and love, justice and tolerance. The main stress is on the importance of enhancing communicative skills and ethics of children and young adults and to lay the foundation for their skills in diversity and democratic citizenship. The book is a remarkable contribution to education in the spirit of democracy and citizenship, absolutely innovative and based on years of solid experience.



SIGRUN ADALBJARNARDOTTIR is a Professor of Education at the Faculty of Social Sciences at the University of Iceland. Her current research activities include a longitudinal study on the risk-taking behaviour of young people who have been followed for seven years since age 14. She has also conducted a long-term research project on the promotion of students' social and moral growth.

Nominated for the 2008 Icelandic Literary Award



TRADE PAPERBACK
2008
511 pp
Rights available

VILHJALMUR ARNASON

A Successful Life, a Just Society – Ethical Theory

In his book Vilhjalmur Arnason discusses several of the key ethical theories in Western history and also provides some insights into the contemporary debate on success in life and a just society. The book both focuses on established masters in the field of philosophical ethics such as Plato, Aristotle, Hobbes, Kant and Mill, and authors such as Hegel, Marx, Kierkegaard and Nietzsche. It also includes a detailed analysis of the key movements of the twentieth century: existentialism, logical analysis, virtue ethics, Rawl's theory of justice and discourse ethics.



VILHJALMUR ARNASON is a professor of Philosophy at the University of Iceland and his writing and lectures have focused primarily on ethics and contemporary ethical solutions. *A Successful Life, a Just Society* offers a comprehensive, pointed and highly readable study of the key movements in ethics and the reasoning behind them – issues that concern every individual and society as a whole.

*“Children are not an investment and time is not money.
A child is only a child for a short time, but childhood
is a period that remains stored in us.”*

ANDRI SNAER MAGNASON, AUTHOR AND FATHER



TRADE PAPERBACK
2009
203 pp
Rights available

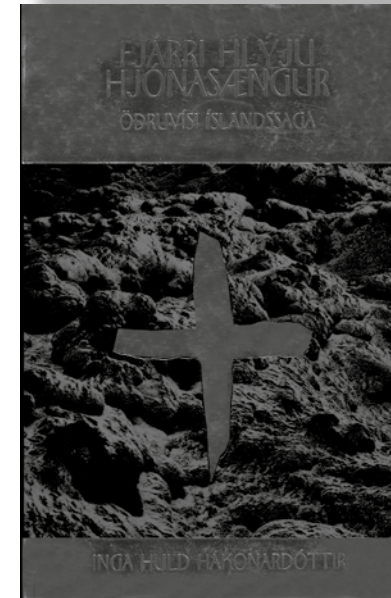
SAEUNN KJARTANSDOTTIR The Years No-One Remembers

We don't remember the first months of our lives, not even the first two to three years. Research however, is increasingly showing that it is precisely those first months and years that have a lasting impact on our lives from that point onwards. The child's every experience has a direct effect on its self-image and its relationships with others. The care and stimulation of those around them can be rewarded with incredible development. Our experiences later in life can never be equal to the first connections that are established, because they form the basis for the life that lies ahead. *The Years No-One Remembers* is a vital book for the parents of young children and all those who tend to little children.



SAEUNN KJARTANSDOTTIR is an independent psychoanalyst who has a long track record in individual therapy and counseling in the health service. She is also the author of *What Makes People? The Psychoanalytic Quest for Understanding* (1999).

Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Award



HARDBACK
1992
323 pp
Rights available

INGA HULD HAKONARDOTTIR Far from the Warmth of the Marital Bed A Different History of Iceland

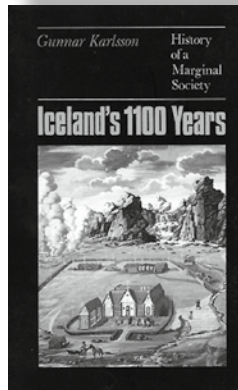
An overall picture of gender relations in Iceland from the earliest settlement until the 19th century with emphasis on the discussion of matrimony and extramarital relationships. The book analyses the attitudes which lay behind the restrictions imposed by both ecclesiastical and secular authorities on extramarital sexual relations and the punishments for crimes of adultery. Central to this discussion is her examination of the *Storidomur* – a criminal code covering moral offences of 1564 and its application in the centuries following, used by the authorities to control the sexual lives of the commoners.



INGA HULD HAKONARDOTTIR studied History at the University of Iceland and the University of Copenhagen. She has worked as a journalist for newspapers and magazines as well as a scholar specializing in Women's History. Hakonardóttir has written numerous articles, conferences and interviews and is the author of several biographies and works on History.

*“This is a truly important book
and there is nothing like it available ...”*

JESSE BYOCK, PROFESSOR OF ICELANDIC STUDIES, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA



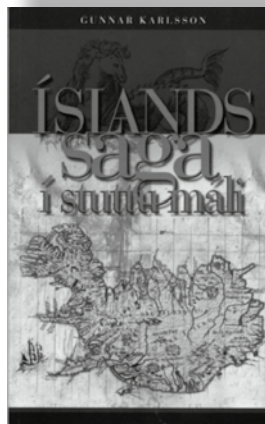
HARDBACK
2001
418 pp
Rights available

GUNNAR KARLSSON Iceland's 1100 Years

This volume recounts the history of a society on the margin of Europe as well as on the margin of reaching the size and wealth of a proper state – Iceland. Beginning with colonisation around the year 870, it concludes with the year 2000, having taken the reader through Iceland's period of foreign domination, by the Norwegians, then the English and finally the Danes, who ruled the country until 1944. Politics, religion, economics and technological innovation are covered in detail, while the role of women and literature, ancient and modern, including, of course, the sagas, are also discussed.

GUNNAR KARLSSON A Brief History of Iceland

The history of Iceland spans just over 1100 years, from the settlement of the country in the 9th century to the modern republic of today. This book gives a concise, clear and vivid overview of Icelandic history through these centuries, the main events, the people and their way of life, in times of glory and in times of degradation and natural disaster.

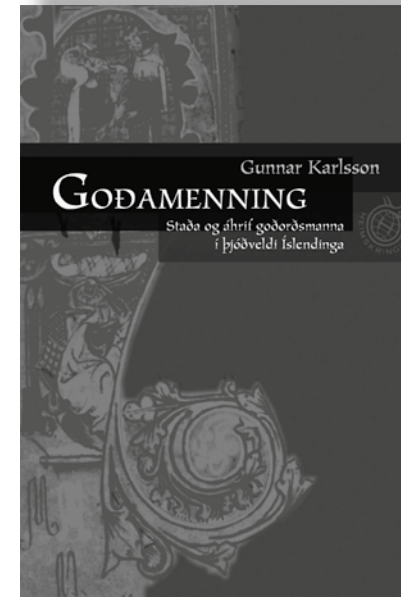


PAPERBACK
2000
72 pp
Available in:
English, Swedish and German
Sold to:
Japan (Waseda Daigaku Shuppan)

GUNNAR KARLSSON Chieftain Culture – the Status and Influence of Icelandic Chieftaincies on the Icelandic Commonwealth

Chieftain Culture is a multi-layered investigation into the role and social influence of the Icelandic chieftains (goðar) on the Icelandic Commonwealth. The book places a particular focus on aspects of this society that have been hailed by historical studies tainted by a nationalistic bias, highlighting distinctions between legislative and judiciary powers, the democratic nature of the chieftaincies, and the relationship between the chieftaincies and Icelandic literature in the Middle Ages.

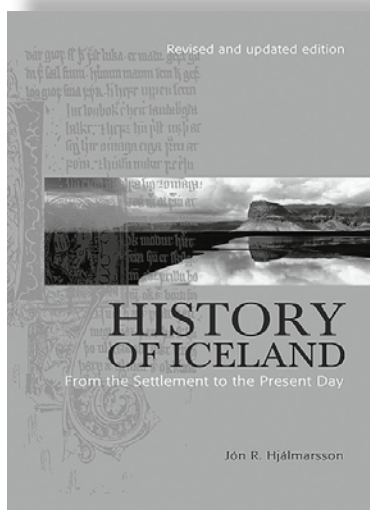
The author's conclusion is that this was in many ways a unique and, in some cases, even remarkable society. This is not so much, however, attributed to the greatness of the Icelandic nation, as the nationalistic theories might have us believe, but rather Iceland's remoteness from the rest of Europe, and the difficulty of navigating the Atlantic ocean, which held royal authority at bay for centuries, after the settlers had assimilated a Christian literary culture.



HARDBACK
2004
539 pp
The book includes
an English summary.



GUNNAR KARLSSON is a historian and professor of History at the University of Iceland. He has written a wealth of books, articles, studies, teaching books and introductions to Icelandic history.



PAPERBACK
1994
200 pp
Available in:
 English, Danish and German
Sold to:
 Russia (Ves Mir)
 Bulgaria (Riva)

JON R. HJALMARSSON
History of Iceland

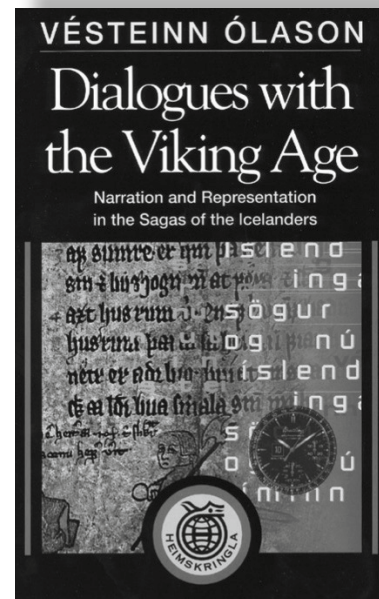
A lively and absorbing description of the development of the Icelandic nation from the settlement more than eleven hundred years ago and up to the present day. In concise and highly informative accounts, written with the general reader in mind, the book charts the glories and achievements of the Republic and Saga Age; the bitter and bloody civil war which led to humiliation and suffering under colonial rule; and the nationalist awakening which has created a thriving modern republic with deep attachment to its unique past.



JON R. HJALMARSSON is a historian and educator and served as a school principal and later as regional administrator of education in south Iceland for many years. He is well known as a broadcaster and as the author of several books on history and related subjects.

“An excellent work.”

SVENSKA DAGBLADET



HARDBACK
1998
297 pp
Sold to:
 Italy (Editoriale San Giusto srl
 – Edizioni Parnaso);
 Germany/Austria/Switzerland
 (Ludwig Verlag)
 English translation available

VESTEINN OLASON
**Dialogues with
 The Viking Age**

An introduction to and a critical discussion of the Sagas of the Icelanders or the Icelandic Family Sagas, as they are often called. The author presents the historical and literary background of the saga genre, analyses the narrative form and describes the world view expressed in the sagas. He sees the sagas as dialogues between the authors and their past, conversations between the Middle Ages and the Age of the Vikings. He joins in that conversation from a modern standpoint and leads the reader into the sagas step by step, gradually helping him to develop a deeper understanding both of individual works and of the genre as a whole.



VESTEINN OLASON has been professor of Icelandic literature at the University of Iceland, UC Berkley and the Universities of Copenhagen and Oslo as well as being the director of The Arni Magnusson Institute for Icelandic Studies. Olason has published numerous articles on Icelandic literature in Icelandic and foreign magazines as well as several books, amongst them Traditional Ballads of Iceland. He received the Icelandic Literature Award in 1993.



HARDBACK
2004
148 pp
Available in:
Icelandic and English
Also available in small format

NANNA ROGNVALDARDOTTIR Cool Cuisine

Favourite traditional Icelandic dishes are brought to life in this inspirational cook-book. A mixture of old and new, combined with excellent ingredients, provides a collection of mouth-watering recipes. Learn how the Icelanders cook puffin, reindeer or simple delicacies like fresh fish or the famous Icelandic lamb, raised on aromatic mountain grasses and herbs. This book gives you a taste of Iceland's coolest cuisine with recipes which are easy to follow and fun to cook.



NANNA ROGNVALDARDOTTIR is Iceland's most popular cookbook author and food writer. She has among other things written a 700-page encyclopaedic work on food and cooking followed by a huge cookbook with over 3,600 recipes and a couple of books in English on Icelandic food, *Cool Cuisine* and *Icelandic Food and Cookery*. *Nanna's Home Cooking* was published in 2009 and became an instant bestseller in Iceland.



HARDBACK
2009
240 pp

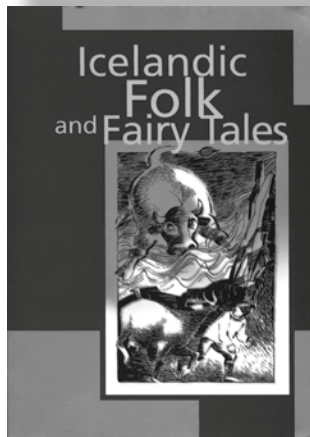
NANNA ROGNVALDARDOTTIR Nanna's Home Cooking

Nanna's Home Cooking is a compilation of fifty dishes frequently cooked by Nanna Rognvaldardottir, Iceland's best known food writer, for her own family. Some of the dishes are variations on traditional Icelandic recipes, some are modern European or American, some a bit more exotic – but all are fairly simple, inexpensive and above all tasty. Besides the recipes themselves, this unconventional cookbook includes several suggestions for accompaniments to each dish as well as numerous suggestions on how to change the recipe according to individual preferences, advice on how to cook a smaller version of the dish for singles and what to do with the leftovers.

- *The Icelandic Winner of the Gourmand World Cookbook Awards 2009 in two categories*

“For those who wish to know and understand the Icelandic people of today, there could be no better introduction.”

ALAN BOUCHER



PAPERBACK
1987
123 pp

Icelandic Folk- and Fairytales

In the mid-nineteenth century, Jon Arnason compiled a set of Icelandic folktales. Ever since that set was first published in 1862–64, it has been considered the foremost collection of Icelandic folktales and has provided readers with inspiration for works of art, adventure tales for recreational reading, and information about life and people of earlier times. The late professor Alan Boucher, former Chairman of the Department of English at the University of Iceland, translated a series of these tales, which we now present to the public in book-form. In his introduction to this selection, Alan Boucher expressed the hope that it would offer English-speaking readers a fair sample of some of the best Icelandic folktales.



HARDBACK
2008
25 pp
Available in:
Icelandic and English

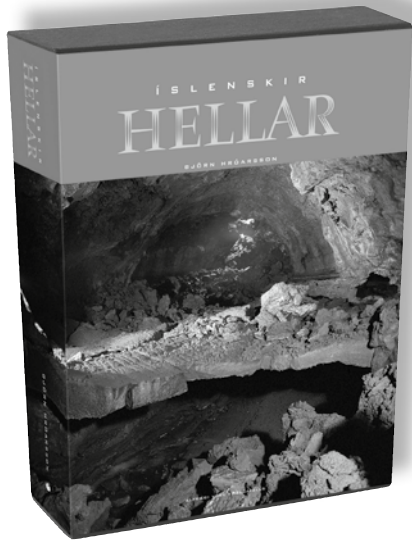
BRIAN PILKINGTON
TERRY GUNNELL

Hidden People

Shrouded in mystery, steeped in legend, the *huldufolk* (hidden people) of Iceland have inhabited the island at least as long as humans. Countless tales are told of these wondrous creatures, their hidden world, their customs and festivals and their interactions with human beings. Usually only seen when they wanted people to see them – often entering their dreams – they sometimes sought help from humans and gave rich rewards. The hidden people still demand respect in Iceland, where roads have been altered and construction plans changed to avoid disturbing elf-stones, large rocks housing *huldufólk* families. The hidden people have been known to avenge destruction of their homes with a vengeance ...



The Hidden People of Iceland is richly illustrated by award-winning artist BRIAN PILKINGTON. The text is written by TERRY GUNNELL, Associate Professor of Folkloristics at the University of Iceland.



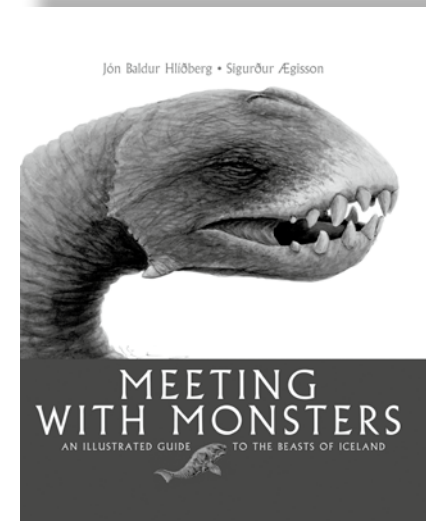
BJORN HROARSSON
Icelandic Caves

A vast portion of the volcanic island of Iceland is made up of lava fields. Until quite recently, however, very few people realized that there are over five hundred caves concealed below the lava, which jointly can be hundreds of kilometres in length. For the first time ever, the wonderful cosmos of these underground worlds is revealed in spectacular photographs, maps and detailed accounts, based on the most up-to date research. The book gathers the experiences of the daring explorers who have discovered these subterranean crypts over the past few years. Over a thousand photographs of stunning geological formations by some 40 photographers unseal worlds of breathtaking beauty that have never been beheld by human eyes before. This is a book about some of the few unexplored areas left on this planet, pooling the findings of many cave experts and specialists in various fields. Follow them on secret adventurous trails that so few have followed before.

- *Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Award in non-fiction in 2006*



BJORN HROARSSON is a geologist and cave expert, who has been researching lava caves for over a quarter of a century.



SIGURDUR AEGISSON
 ILLUSTRATIONS BY
JON BALDUR HLIDBERG

**Meeting with
 Monsters**

Icelandic folklore heritage contains a wealth of tales about weird animals and ferocious monsters. These creatures terrified Icelanders in prior centuries but have hardly been noticed recently a least for the most part.

The main folk legends and stories of these monsters from in or around Iceland are recounted in this book, from both oral and written sources. The monsters and their peculiarities are described in the text in a detailed, insightful manner, and the locations where they have been spotted are shown on a map. The illustrations accompanying the text shed additional lights on this interesting part of Icelandic folklore.

Noted wildlife artist JON BALDUR HLIDBERG has thrown himself into a new arena illustrating creatures of legend.

SIGURDUR AEGISSON is a folklorist and theologian by training and has written over the years on the subjects of natural history and folklore.



JON BALDUR HLIDBERG has long been famous for his wild life illustrations, which have adorned specialists books and variety of other informative material in recent years. A portfolio of his stunning artwork is available at www.fauna.is, an image database of over 1800 images of various plants and animals he has painted over the years. Images are added to the database as Jon Baldur Hlidberg paints new ones or as older ones are freed for publication. The database can be searched by English, Icelandic and Latin names.

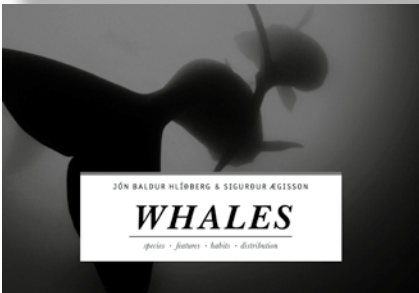
SIGURDUR AEGISSON
ILLUSTRATIONS BY JON BALDUR HLIDBERG

Whales

species – features – habits – distribution

Interest in whale watching has greatly increased in recent years. This book is intended to meet the growing need for easy-to-read material on these mysterious creatures. It can be used both when observing whales in their natural environment and as a general handbook. All whales found in the temperate and cold seas of the North Atlantic Ocean are covered in detail, while exceptional pictures highlight all the main distinguishing features of the animals. The book is divided into two parts. The first is a diagnostic key that allows users to easily identify the whales they see. The main physical features, habits and similar species are noted. The second part contains general information about whales, including the species found in the seas around Iceland.

PAPERBACK
21 x 14,5 cm
155 pp
Available in English



AEVAR PETERSEN
ILLUSTRATIONS BY JON BALDUR HLIDBERG

Icelandic Birds

The most up-to-date and thorough book on Icelandic birds ever. Each species is described in independent chapters including distribution maps and an illustration of the every breed's egg and different plumages.

- Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Prize in 1998



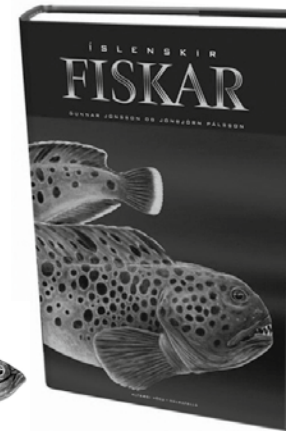
HARDBACK
33 x 25,5 cm
312-344 pp
Rights available
Illustrations available on
www.fauna.is



GUNNAR JONSSON & JONBJORN PALSSON
ILLUSTRATIONS BY JON BALDUR HLIDBERG

Icelandic Fish

The book is written by the two of Iceland's foremost experts in this field. It deals with the 340 species of fish found in Icelandic waters and contains over 500 pictures, both portraits and details, most of them from actual specimens.

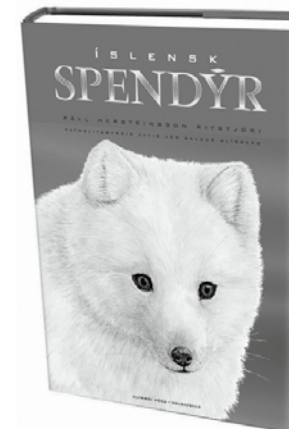


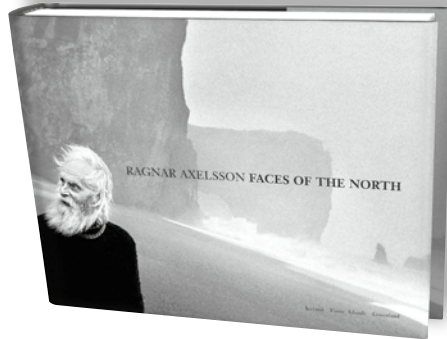
PALL HERSTEINSSON
ILLUSTRATIONS BY JON BALDUR HLIDBERG

Icelandic Mammals

Over 60 species of mammals are analysed in this book, each presented in lively and interesting prose, and accompanied by stunning water-colour illustrations, in addition to a wealth of maps and diagrams.

- Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Award in non-fiction in 2004





HARDBACK
 23.5 x 30.5 cm
 152 pp
Available in:
 English, French, German and Icelandic
 98 tritone photographs

RAGNAR AXELSSON Faces of the North

Amazing images from Iceland, Greenland and the Faroe Islands. It will give you the rare opportunity of witnessing some of the most extraordinary cultures, times and places in our world. The photographer is an indefatigable traveller, who does not hesitate to venture out into storms and blizzards, to wait for hours in temperatures of 40° below freezing, or risk his life on vertiginous cliffs, all for a good picture. Foreword by Mary Ellen Mark.



RAGNAR AXELSSON, known as RAX, has for many years been a leader among Icelandic photographers and has worked for Iceland's biggest daily, Morgunbladid. He has won a variety of honours around the world for his work and his photographs have been published in magazines such as National Geographic, Time, Life, Stern and Le Figaro.



HARDBACK
 2004
 197 pp
Available in:
 English, French, German and Icelandic

SIGURGEIR SIGURJONSSON UNNUR JOKULSDOTTIR Icelanders

Over a period of two years, photographer Sigurgeir Sigurjonsson and author Unnur Jokulsdottir travelled the length and breadth of Iceland and visited people from all over the country. The result of their journey is the book *Icelanders*, which contains haunting photos of people and nature, amusing dialogue, and lyrical narrative spiced with gentle humour. Small-boat fishermen, jacks-of-all-trades, tourist farmers, fox hunters, rock collectors, hired women, and children of nature are among the people we meet – people who want to live their lives according to their own designs, in the environment they know best.

- *Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Award in non-fiction in 2004*



UNNUR JOKULSDOTTIR has worked in various fields, including horse-training, hotel management, business management, and writing. After sailing around the world, she chronicled her travels and has since then written several travel books and a novel for children.



SIGURGEIR SIGURJONSSON has worked as a photographer in Reykjavik for a number of years and is the author of several magnificent books of photography, all of which have enjoyed enormous success for Sigurjonsson's ability to express the unique qualities of the Icelandic landscape.

SIGURGEIR SIGURJONSSON Volcano Island

On average, volcanic eruptions occur in Iceland every four to five years, most of the time to little attention outside the country shores. In April 2010 the world took good notice of happenings in Iceland as the volcanic ash cloud from the eruption in Eyjafjallajökull wrecked havoc on air travel in Europe for days. This magnificent book shows the drama unfolding around Eyjafjallajökull, and the effects on the territory, as well as giving a general background of volcanism in Iceland.



PAPERBACK
2010
23 x 23 cm
144 pp



Over 50.000 copies sold!

HARDBACK
22 x 26 cm, 160 pp
Available in:
English, French and German



"A miniature dream."

ICELAND REVIEW.COM

HARDBACK
9x9 cm, 311 pp
Available in English

SIGURGEIR SIGURJONSSON Lost in Iceland

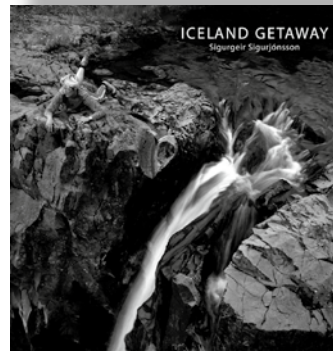
Tranquillity, silence ... qualities that are becoming increasingly rare in our frenetic 21st-century world, a world in which we live and work to a persistent soundtrack of manmade noise. In contrast, the sounds evoked by Sigurgeir Sigurjonsson's photographs are the eternal sounds of nature – the sighing of the wind, the lapping of waves, the hissing of steam and the unchanging roar of a waterfall.

SIGURGEIR SIGURJONSSON The Little Big Book about Iceland

Iceland in a nutshell - or rather, a compact volume showcasing the raw beauty of this fascinating country, its nature and the volatile forces that shape it - and the people that inhabit it and are themselves shaped by their environment. Sigurgeir Sigurjonsson is justly famed for his photographic work and this little big book shows why.



PAPERBACK
19 x 19 cm, 213 pp
Available in:
English, French and German



PAPERBACK
30 x 29 cm, 220 pp
Available in English



HARDBACK
19 x 19 cm, 160 pp
Available in:
English, French and German

SIGURGEIR SIGURJONSSON

Made in Iceland

A treasure trove of wondrous photographs of the Icelandic landscape, of the forces of nature – and of ordinary people. This is nature photography at its finest. Sigurgeir Sigurjónsson demonstrates once more his ability to express the peace, quiet and solitude of the stark emptiness of the Icelandic landscape, and its brief glimpses of human life in harmony with nature.

SIGURGEIR SIGURJONSSON

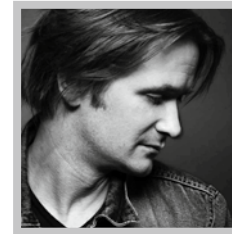
Iceland Getaway

Sigurjónsson's pictures and sensitivity to the awesome natural forces of the north, the splendour of the Icelandic highlands, and the magical power of waterfalls and hot springs have become part of Icelandic iconography.

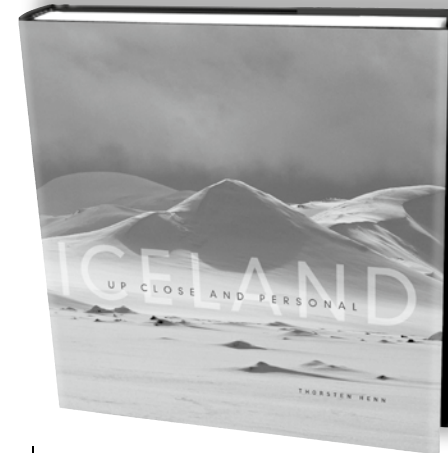
SIGURGEIR SIGURJONSSON

Icelandic Horses

A unique book of beautiful photographs that shows the Icelandic horse in nature, in winter, summer, spring and autumn. The pictures are both of herds and individual horses, while superb photos of Icelandic competition horses can also be found.



THORSTEN HENN has lived in Iceland since 1998 after having first been enchanted by its beauty during a visit in 1985. He runs a photo studio in Reykjavik and his work has been printed in numerous well-known magazines in Iceland and abroad.



HARDBACK
2009
26,5 x 26,5 cm, 142 pp
Available in:
English, German and Icelandic



HARDBACK
23 x 27 cm, 127 pp
Available in:
English, French and German

THORSTEN HENN

Iceland Up close and personal

Iceland Up Close is a fantastic, high-quality illustrated book that makes for a wonderful insight into Icelandic life. The book is divided into four parts: Land, a display of some of Iceland's greatest rock features, be they striking basalt formations or the lunar landscape of the lava fields; Water, a paean to Iceland's stunning waterfalls and the majesty of the sea; Air, a selection of aerial photographs, allowing you to see the huge scale of Iceland's incredible natural landscape; and finally People, expressive images of Iceland's hardy fishermen, urban trendsetters and political heavyweights alike.

THORSTEN HENN

Colours of Iceland

German photographer Thorsten Henn composes a unique and personal ode to Iceland with this impressive selection of magnificent photographs of the Icelandic landscape. With a foreword by Sigur Ros.



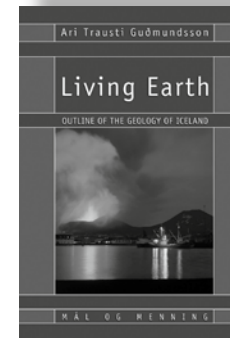
ARI TRAUSTI GUDMUNDSSON is a geophysicist and one of Iceland's foremost experts on volcanic activity and volcanoes. He is the author of some twenty books on geology, travelling, and nature, including a comprehensive study of all the volcanic areas in Iceland.

ARI TRAUSTI GUDMUNDSSON Eruptions

This beautiful book contains photographs of all the volcanic eruptions that Icelandic photographers have managed to capture over the course of the 20th century, with some truly phenomenal sights, including some world famous historical moments such as the Surtsey eruption which created a new island between 1963–1967 and the eruption on the island of Heimaey in 1973, which formed a new volcano on the outskirts of a town of 5.000 inhabitants.



HARDBACK
2005
29 x 23 cm, 312 pp
229 color/b&w photographs
7 illustrations



PAPERBACK
W/PLASTIC JACKET
2007
48 pp
Available in: English and German

ARI TRAUSTI GUDMUNDSSON Living Earth The Geology of Iceland

One of Iceland's most distinguished writers of popular geological and nature books has compiled international research into Icelandic geology, providing the reader with an overview of the pooled findings, which are explained in a clear and accessible style. An incredibly useful and readable handbook that will satisfy even the most scientific readers.



PAPERBACK
W/PLASTIC JACKET
2004
334 pp
Rights available
Sold to: UK (Cicerone)

ARI TRAUSTI GUDMUNDSSON PETUR THORLEIFSSON Icelandic Mountains Walking Routes to 151 Summits

A wonderful book for trekkers and outdoor activity lovers. *Icelandic Mountains* contains walking routes to Iceland's major summits, which are indicated in a clear and entertaining way, with detailed maps of mountains and their surroundings areas, and precious information for travellers on the length of each walk, the level of difficulty involved and its duration.



HORDUR KRISTINSSON is a Dr. rer.nat. in botany and has been studying and photographing the flora of Iceland for almost fifty years.



PAPERBACK
W/PLASTIC JACKET
2010
368 pp
Published in Icelandic, German and English
Rights available



PAPERBACK
W/PLASTIC JACKET
2009
240 pp
Rights available

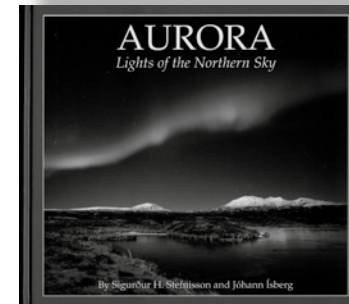
Other available books in this series:
The Icelandic Stones Handbook
The Key to Icelandic Geology
21 x 14,5 cm

HORDUR KRISTINSSON Flowering Plants and Ferns of Iceland

Flowering Plants and Ferns of Iceland, one of the most popular guides to Icelandic flora, has now been extensively revised and improved. Inside you'll find 465 different species of plants, some of which are new to Iceland or have been naturalized in recent decades.

ARNBJÖRG L. JOHANNSDÓTTIR Icelandic Medicinal Herbs

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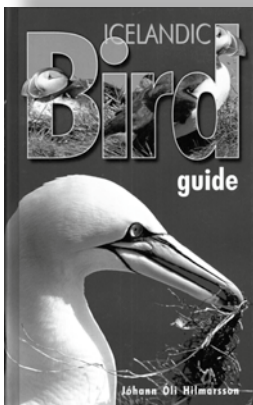
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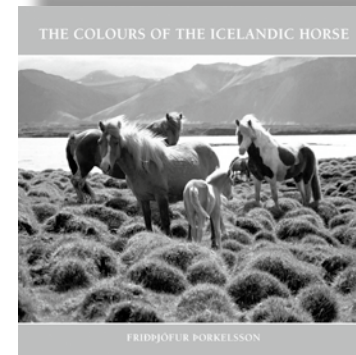
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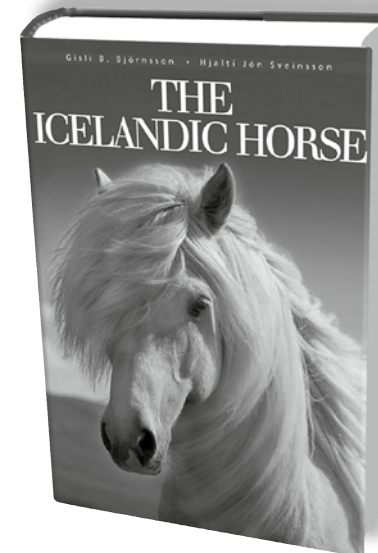
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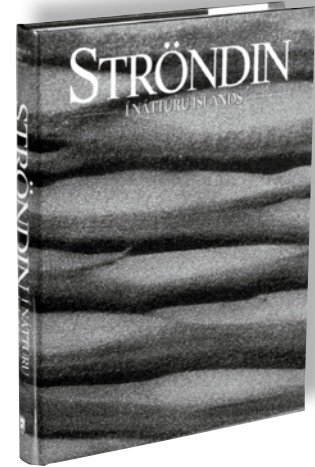
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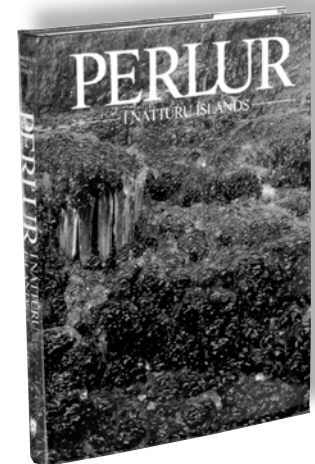
GUDMUNDUR PALL OLAFSSON has a B.Sc degree in biology from Ohio State University and is a doctor of marine biology from Stockholm University. He also has a degree in art from Columbus College of Art and Design, Ohio. He has worked as a teacher, a writer, naturalist, nature photographer, active conservationist, columnist and lecturer in Iceland, and sometimes abroad.



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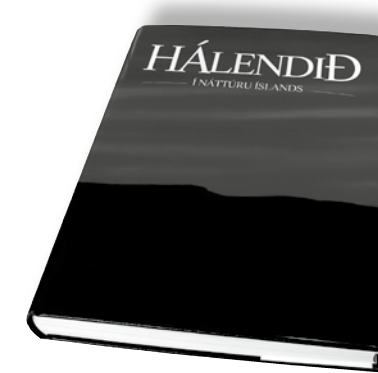


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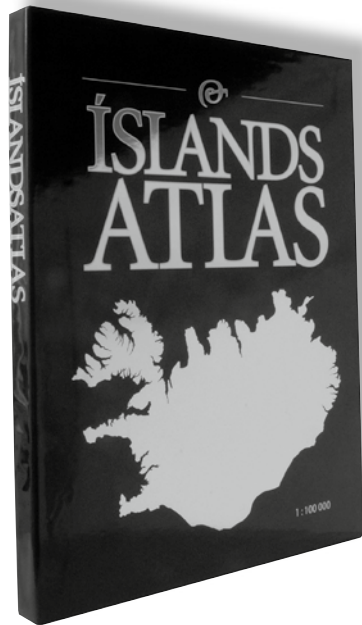
- *Nominated for the Icelandic Literary Award in non-fiction in 2005*



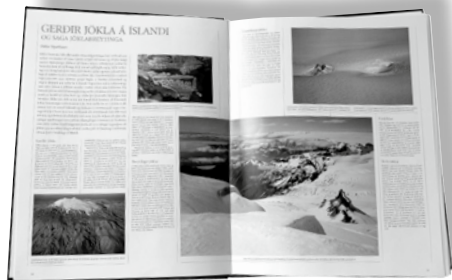
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The Icelandic Atlas is the most extensive atlas of Iceland ever published, and marks a turning point in Icelandic cartographic history. The entire country, from the highest peaks to the outermost headlands and islands, is depicted on 132 magnificent maps in the scale of 1:100 000. The maps are highly detailed, including over 43.000 place-names, along with an introduction on the history of Icelandic mapmaking and on the country's nature. Using the ArcGIS geographic information system from ESRI, the surface of the country could be reproduced with extraordinary accuracy, so that the height of mountains, the depth of valleys, and the endless expanses of the wilderness are perceived as if one were flying over the landscape. The Icelandic Atlas is a unique reference work on the geography of Iceland, which has been warmly welcomed by the people of Iceland. The Icelandic Atlas won three awards at the ESRI Conference in San Diego in 2006, the world's largest geographic information conference, with more than 1000 companies competing in 10 categories, where the Icelandic Atlas had the honour of being chosen absolute favourite.



Hiking maps

The Hiking maps are produced for those who travel in Iceland's most popular natural regions. The maps focus on enjoyable driving and walking routes, and include a variety of information, including many place-names. On the reverse of the maps are descriptions of the main natural attractions of the regions, together with more precise maps of individual walking routes, etc.

Ten maps in this series have now been published:

- Map 1: Reykjanes – Thingvellir 1:100 000 / 1:50 000
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