GRAYWOLF PRESS & FRANKFURT BOOK FAIR 2017

Fiction

This Mournable Body by Tsitsi Dangarembga

A complex and sensitive novel that explores shifting attitudes about race, gender, class, and money in contemporary Zimbabwe. Tambu has left behind the village where she grew up and, at midlife, is struggling to support herself in Harare after quitting her job at an ad firm where her white coworkers took credit for her work. When she eventually is hired by a new ecotourism venture, she is faced with the choice of offering an exploitative tour of her home village or losing her job and her precarious newfound security.

Novel / August 2018 / World: Graywolf

She Would Be King by Wayétu Moore

A debut novel about the founding of Liberia, centered around three indelible characters who have supernatural abilities. Indigenous Gbessa is immortal. Orphaned former slave June Dey's skin is impervious to whips and bullets. Norman Aragon, the son of a Jamaican maroon and a British scholar, is invisible. This trio meets in Monrovia and uses their unlikely talents to fight slave traders who still roam the Gold Coast.

Novel / September 2018 / World English: Graywolf / Translation: Writers House

Scribe by Alyson Hagy

A haunting, evocative tale about the power of storytelling, set in rural Appalachia after war and disease has decimated the population. The central character ekes out a lonely living on her family's farmstead, maintaining an uneasy peace with local enforcer Billy Kingery, sharing her land with a migrant group known as the Uninvited, and bartering her letter-writing skills for tobacco, firewood, and other scarce resources. An unusual request for a letter from a man with hidden motivations sets off a series of increasingly calamitous events that culminate in a harrowing journey to a crossroads.

Novel / October 2018 / World: Graywolf

Children of God by Lars Petter Sveen, translated from the Norwegian by Guy Puzey

A collection of alternative gospels that portray the lives of peripheral characters in the New Testament: the soldiers who slaughtered all the young male children in Bethlehem at Herod's command, thieves on the road to Jericho, a boy healed of a speech impediment, and others, all while a shadowy figure urges them to give in to their darker impulses.

Novel / October 2018 / World English: Graywolf / Translation: Aschehoug/Oslo Literary Agency

Tomb Song by Julián Herbert, translated from the Spanish by Christina MacSweeney

A kaleidoscopic and episodic coming-of-age story that starts with a character named Julián Herbert at the deathbed of his mother, who worked as a prostitute for much of his childhood. *Tomb Song* is a painful and funny book that expands into a broader portrait of the poverty and violence that afflict Mexico today.

Novel / March 2018 / World English: Graywolf / Translation: Penguin Random House Spain

Some Hell by Patrick Nathan

An emotionally resonant debut novel that reckons with grief, loss, and identity, set in the Midwest. Colin's teenage life unravels as he comes to terms with his gay sexual identity and the dissolution of his family in the wake of his father's suicide, while his mother, Diane, has hopes for a new relationship after therapy. "There's nothing metaphysical about the hell Patrick Nathan takes us to in this brave and harrowing novel. It's the hell we make for one another, out of silence and grief and desire, a hell whose necessary precondition is love."—Garth Greenwell

Novel / February 2018 / World: Graywolf

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Nonfiction

Bunk: The Rise of Hoaxes, Humbug, Plagiarists, Phonies, Post-Facts, and Fake News by Kevin Young *Longlisted for the National Book Award in Nonfiction*

An investigation of hoaxes in American culture, from PT Barnum to Donald Trump, with considerations of JT Leroy, James Frey, Nasdijj, and Rachel Dolezal as well. Young shows how the American character is associated closely and all too easily with fakery, and uncovers how often American hoaxes are linked to race.

Nonfiction / November 2017 / World: Graywolf

The Collected Schizophrenias by Esmé Weijun Wang

Winner of the Graywolf Press Nonfiction Prize

A debut collection of essays about schizophrenia by a young woman living with the disease. Wang cogently and powerfully breaks open the social, historical, medical, and spiritual aspects of schizophrenia. In making her argument she considers Andrew Solomon's treatment of it in *Far from the Tree*, her decision not to have children, and her use of a fashion uniform as a tool to appear "normal," among other subjects.

Nonfiction / Winter 2019 / World English: Graywolf / Translation: Wylie Agency

Poetry

Wade in the Water by Tracy K. Smith

A new collection by the US Poet Laureate and the author of *Life on Mars*, winner of the Pulitzer Prize in Poetry. Smith boldly ties America's present moment to the nation's fraught founding history, with poems of sliding scale: some capture a flicker of song or memory; some collage an array of documents and voices; and some push past the known world into the haunted, the holy.

Poetry / April 2018 / World: Graywolf / Rights sold: UK (Penguin), World Spanish (Vaso Roto)

WHEREAS by Layli Long Soldier

Longlisted for the National Book Award in Poetry

A powerful debut collection that confronts the coercive language of the US government in its responses, treaties, and apologies to Native American peoples and tribes, and reflects that language in its officiousness and duplicity back on its perpetrators.

Poetry / March 2017 / World: Graywolf

Don't Call Us Dead by Danez Smith

Longlisted for the National Book Award in Poetry

A powerhouse collection whose central sequence imagines an afterlife for black men shot by police, a place where suspicion, violence, and grief are forgotten and replaced with the safety, love, and longevity they deserved back here on earth.

Poetry / September 2017 / World: Graywolf / Rights sold: UK (Chatto & Windus)

Subagents

China: Big Apple Agency / France: Agence Michelle Lapautre / Germany & Eastern Europe: Michael Meller Agency / Greece: Ersilia Literary Agency / Israel: Deborah Harris Agency / Italy: Clementina Liuzzi Agency / Japan: Tuttle-Mori Agency / Spain, Portugal, Latin America: Casanovas & Lynch / Turkey: AnatoliaLit Agency