

Publishing Scotland International Fellows 2023

Publishing Scotland

Foillseachadh Alba



Chris Herschdorfer, Publisher Non-Fiction, Noordboek (Netherlands)

After more than 30 years in trade publishing, working most recently as Managing Director & Publisher at AmbolAnthos and Atlas Contact, Chris Herschdorfer decided to pick up his older role as a hands-on publisher again. In his previous life he published a mix of literary fiction, up-market non-fiction and crime writing. Original Dutch titles and in translation.

At his new company, Noordboek, they publish around 100 books a year with a focus on high quality (illustrated) history, art & culture, natural history, philosophy, psychology, social sciences and regional non-fiction.

Besides the above mentioned subjects he particularly enjoys narrative non-fiction exploring contemporary issues. He's looking for storytellers who bring an original, often personal, approach to a subject -- and if hiking, cycling or hills & mountains are involved he's a fan.

He has recently published two Scottish titles: *The Salt Roads* by John Goodlad and *The Ponies at the Edge of the World* by Catherine Munro.



Daniella Wexler, Senior Editor, HarperVia and HarperOne (USA)

Daniella Wexler is a Senior Editor at HarperOne, an imprint of HarperCollins. She has worked with many brilliant authors on books that expand our worldview and feed our spirits. In her role, she publishes across the HarperOne, HarperVia and Amistad lists. For HarperOne and Amistad, she looks for books to help us become more intentional (psychology, mindfulness, social science), as well as eye-opening memoir and cultural commentary. For HarperVia, she brings phenomenal literary works from all over the world to English readers, in translation, as a way of building bridges across borders. She also publishes novels written in English that immerse us in unfamiliar subcultures, including colonial, immigrant, and second-generation lives. Prior to joining HarperOne, she was an editor at Atria Books/Simon & Schuster, where she published beloved, award-winning books like *Everyone in This Room Will Someday Be Dead* by Emily Austin, *Things in Jars* by Jess Kidd, *Shmutz* by Felicia Berliner, and *Rage Becomes Her* by Soraya Chemaly. In 2018, she was named a Publishers Weekly StarWatch finalist and participated in the Visiting International Publishers (VIPs) Program in Sydney, Australia. Daniella sits on the Emerging Leaders Board at the Jewish Book Council and is based in Brooklyn, New York.



Joey McGarvey, Senior Editor, Spiegel & Grau (USA)

Joey McGarvey is senior editor at Spiegel & Grau, an independent publishing house in New York City, where she acquires literary fiction and nonfiction. Previously she was at the nonprofit publisher Milkweed Editions for seven years and at Penguin Random House for six years. She has worked with authors including New York Times opinion writer Margaret Renkl; Pulitzer Prize finalist Elizabeth Rush; current US Poet Laureate Ada Limón; and Barnes & Noble Book of the Year author Aimee Nezhukumatathil. Joey is interested in formally innovative, curious writing with a strong sense of voice. On the fiction side, she loves high-concept work, fabulism, and magical realism; on the nonfiction side, she's looking for creative nonfiction and narrative projects, with one focus on writing about the environment and natural world.



Johannes Engelke
Editorial Director Non-Fiction, Goldmann Verlag & Mosaik Verlag
(Germany)

Johannes Engelke, born 1985 in Bückeburg, Germany, graduated in cultural studies in Lüneburg and Marseille, before he entered the publishing world in 2011. After occupations at Droemer Knaur (Munich) and Albin Michel (Paris), he entered Random House Germany in 2015 as a non-fiction editor for the imprints Goldmann and Mosaik, and became the editorial director of those two non-fiction lists in 2018. Thanks to a team of eight, they publish around 90 non-fiction books per year (national and international authors) as well as a successful selection of calendars.



Julia Eisele, Publisher, Eisele Verlag (Germany)

Julia Eisele has worked for many years as an editor and editorial director at Random House and Bonnier. Most recently, she was in charge of the popular fiction section at Piper Verlag. In 2016, Julia set up her own publishing house in Munich. Eisele Verlag publishes 8 to 10 hand selected new titles every year, mainly fiction, very few non-fiction. With over 20 years' experience in publishing, Julia is always true to her own tastes, which are just as varied and individual as those of modern readers. Like them, she looks beyond the traditional labels such as "commercial" or "literary fiction" to ask: is it special? Does it inspire me? Will it fire enthusiasm in me and other people? These are often novels that defy the genre/literary divide – emotionally moving texts with a strong story and a unique voice. Julia's list currently includes international bestselling authors such as Madeline Miller, Rebecca Makkai, Mary Beth Keane, Clare Chambers and Niccolò Ammaniti. She speaks fluent English, French and Italian.



Katalin Vas

Head of Publishing and License Acquisition, Móra Publishing House (Hungary)

Katalin Vas is Head of Publishing and Rights at Móra Publishing House, Budapest, Hungary. She has been working in publishing for 23 years, of which the first 3 were spent in magazine business. In 2003 she joined the wonderful world of book publishing, focusing on the children and juvenile audience.

Between 2003 and 2014 she worked at Egmont-Hungary, first as Book Product manager, later as Head of Publishing. During her time there she gained experience in the fields of buying rights and international licenses, strategic and operational planning, building a balanced publishing portfolio primarily for kids and teen target group and naturally in building an effective and creative publishing team.

After joining Móra in 2014 as Head of Publishing and Rights, co-ordinating and leading 17 people, she had the opportunity to get a deeper insight also in local content development, handling evergreen authors as Móra has been on the market for more than 70 years now. Móra is the No. 1 children publisher in Hungary and is continuously developing its portfolio to guard the evergreen values but also offer contemporary content.



Siren Marøy Myklebust

Acquiring Editor, Gyldendal Norsk Forlag (Norway)

Siren Marøy Myklebust started at a young age by working part-time in a bookshop, through school and University. After several years of working full-time in a bookshop, she moved to Oslo and continued in the book business. Purchasing manager of a bookshop chain, head of sales and marketing for a medium-sized publishing house, and now an acquiring editor of translated fiction, mostly crime and suspense, at Gyldendal Publishing House. She finds great inspiration in meeting authors and colleagues.

She is on the right (book)shelf in life. Born and raised in Bergen, on the west coast of Norway. She lives just outside of Oslo with her husband and daughter. Commuting by boat to and from work gives her a pleasant break to read manuscripts and books.



Susanne van Leeuwen
Editor-in-Chief Fiction, Nieuw Amsterdam Publishers (Netherlands)

As senior commissioning editor Susanne van Leeuwen is responsible for the Nieuw Amsterdam literary fiction fund. They publish literary fiction, commercial fiction, narrative non-fiction, and poetry. Her specialisation is upmarket literary fiction with a strong storyline and unforgettable characters. The biggest kick she gets from this job is finding those authors and titles that - after some time - win prizes and can move a lot of readers. A few examples she is proud to name are Douglas Stuart (commissioned before he won the Booker), Hanya Yanagihara (Susanne was her first international publisher), Leïla Slimani (before she won the Goncourt), and Elif Shafak, who she took over in the Netherlands before she got Booker shortlisted.

Douglas Stuart gave Susanne a list of Scottish authors to check out, hence her interest in learning and knowing more of Scotland's literary scene. Next to getting a good and thorough overview of Scottish literature, classic and modern, she hopes to learn more about the market, and to meet fellow publishers from around the globe, to compare best practices and publications.



Véronique Haitse, Editor, Ecole des Loisirs (France)

Véronique Haitse has been working for more than twenty years in the heart of L'Ecole des Loisirs, a French publishing house specialized in children's books. She publishes novels from early readers to young adult fiction. By « heart » it is that she is working with authors, «marrying» writers and illustrators. She has the chance to work with authors very important in children's books in France as Marie-Aude Murail (Hans Christian Andersen 2022), Susie Morgenstern, Kitty Crowther, Florence Hinckel, Xavier-Laurent Petit, Eric Pessan, Brigitte Giraud, Catharina Valckx... She also edits foreign authors as Anne Fine, Lois Lowry, Elle McNicoll, Guus Kuijer, Davide Morosinotto...

She developed a collection of audio books to give voice at some of the book from the Ecole des Loisirs catalogue.

For two years, she has been teaching at the University of Clermont Ferrand in a master's program designed to train future publishers of children's literature.