



**SAQI**



**2019**



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‘A list of exceptional writers’

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‘An outstanding independent house  
... always a superb source of books  
from and about the Arab world’

*THE INDEPENDENT*

‘Saqi plays an invaluable role in  
making available pioneering, specialist  
and often controversial books that  
large publishers refuse to go near’

*THE TIMES*

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# SAQI

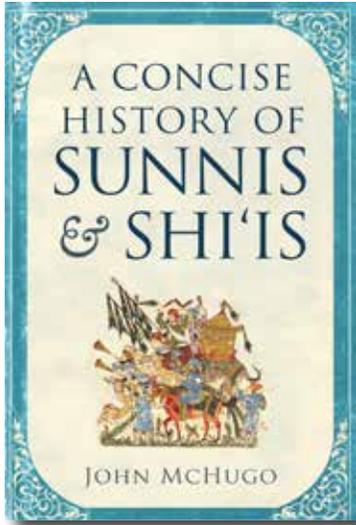
Saqi is a leading independent publisher of trade and academic books on the Middle East and North Africa. Publishing in a wide range of fields, from history and gender studies, to art and literature, Saqi is the go-to place for conversations on the region's most pressing issues, and to discover its rich cultural heritage.

Some of our bestsellers include *The Crusades through Arab Eyes* by Amin Maalouf, *Beyond the Veil* by Fatema Mernissi and *The Arabic Alphabet* by Nick Awde and Putros Samano.

# A Concise History of Sunnis and Shi'is

John McHugo

NEW IN PAPERBACK



History / Religion

January 2019

£10.99

352pp

Paperback Bformat

ISBN 978 0 86356 926 5

eISBN 978 0 86356 158 0

Territories: World ex. North America

An essential guide to the most important religious divide in the Muslim world

The 1400-year-old schism between Sunnis and Shi'is is currently reflected in the destructive struggle for hegemony between Saudi Arabia and Iran – with no apparent end in sight. But how did this conflict begin, and why is it now the focus of so much attention?

In this definitive account, John McHugo charts the history of Islam from the lifetime of the Prophet Muhammad to the present day. He describes the conflicts that raged over the succession to the Prophet, how Sunnism and Shi'ism evolved as different sects during the Abbasid caliphate, and how the rivalry between the empires of the Sunni Ottomans and Shi'i Safavids ensured that the split would continue into the modern age. In recent decades, his centuries-old divide has acquired a new toxicity resulting in violence across the Arab and Muslim world.

'An important corrective ... a clear-headed appraisal of the modern Middle East'

*Times Literary Supplement*

'Crucial and timely' *Asian Affairs*

**John McHugo** is a Senior Fellow at the Centre for Syrian Studies at St Andrews, and a board member of the Council for Arab-British Understanding and the British Egyptian Society. His other publications include *A Concise History of the Arabs* and *Syria: A Recent History*.

# Believing Women in Islam

## Unreading Patriarchal Interpretations of the Qur'an

Asma Barlas

A major contribution to the debate on women and Islam, now fully revised with three new chapters

Does Islam call for the oppression of women? The subjugation of women in many Muslim countries is often used as evidence of this, while many Muslims read the Qur'an in ways that seem to justify sexual oppression and inequality. In this paradigm-shifting book, Asma Barlas argues that, far from supporting male privilege, the Qur'an affirms the complete equality of the sexes.

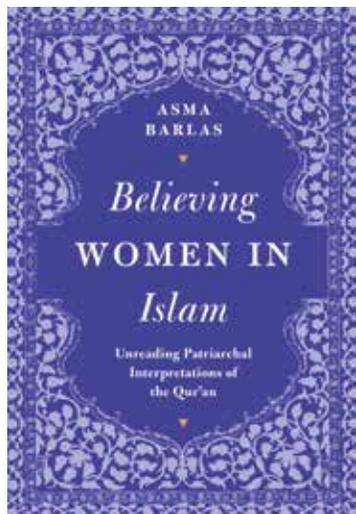
Offering a historical analysis of religious authority and knowledge, Barlas shows how, for centuries, Muslims have read patriarchy into the Qur'an to justify existing religious and social structures. In this seminal volume, she takes readers into the heart of Islamic teachings on women, gender and patriarchy, offering an egalitarian reading of Islam's most sacred scripture.

'Original and ground-breaking'

John L. Esposito

'[A] brilliantly executed work'

*Arab Studies*



Religion / Gender

February 2019

£25

352pp

Paperback Original Royal

ISBN 978 0 86356 462 8

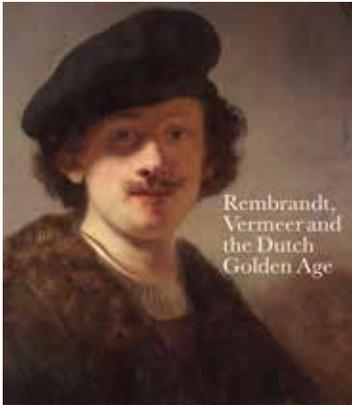
eISBN 978 0 86356 472 7

Territories: World ex. North America

**Asma Barlas** is a professor of politics at Ithaca College. Her publications include *Re-understanding Islam: A Double Critique* and *Islam, Muslims, and the US: Essays on Religion and Politics*.

# Rembrandt, Vermeer and the Dutch Golden Age

Edited by Blaise Ducos and Lara Yeager-Crasselt



Art

March 2019

£35

192pp

Hardback 285 x 240mm

110 colour illustrations

ISBN (Eng) 978 0 86356 321 8

ISBN (Fre) 978 0 86356 390 4

Territories: World

Louvre Abu Dhabi exhibition catalogue providing a glimpse into the Dutch Golden Age

*Rembrandt, Vermeer and the Dutch Golden Age* presents the finest pieces from one of the most important private collections in the field, The Leiden Collection, New York, alongside a selection from the Louvre's holdings.

This exhibition catalogue illuminates the extraordinary art that flourished during the Dutch Golden Age in the seventeenth century – a time of unprecedented prosperity. Pioneering still life, realism, portraiture, landscape and genre painting, artists such as Rembrandt, Vermeer, Jan Lievens, Gerrit Dou, Frans van Mieris and Frans Hals infused new life into Dutch art, forming a national artistic awakening.



**Blaise Ducos** is curator of seventeenth- and eighteenth-century Dutch and Flemish paintings at the Musée du Louvre in Paris.

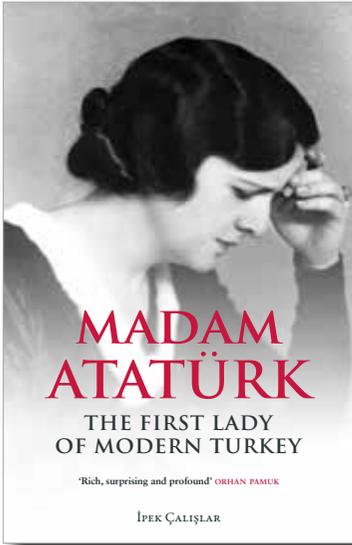
**Lara Yeager-Crasselt** is curator of The Leiden Collection in New York. Her publications include *Michael Sweerts (1618–1664): Shaping the Artist and the Academy in Rome and Brussels*.



# Madam Atatürk

The First Lady of Modern Turkey

Ipek Çalışlar



Biography / History

March 2019

£12.99

368pp

Paperback Demy

ISBN 978 0 86356 335 5

eISBN 978 0 86356 847 3

Territories: World

A poignant and fascinating biography highlighting an important moment in the struggle for women's suffrage

Mustafa Kemal Atatürk is hailed as one of the most charismatic political leaders of the twentieth century, but little is known today about his wife – Latife Hanım. A multilingual intellectual educated at the Sorbonne, Latife's marriage to Atatürk raised her to the pinnacle of political power. She played a central role in the creation of a modern Turkey, and championed the emancipation of women, campaigning tirelessly for women's right to vote.

Throughout their marriage, Latife stood beside her husband, acting as his interpreter and diplomatic aide. However, after only two years of marriage, Atatürk divorced Latife, who spent the rest of her life in seclusion.

In this intimate biography, Ipek Çalışlar vividly brings to life the fascinating story of an exceptional and courageous woman – well ahead of her time – who lived through a remarkable period in Turkish history.

'Sumptuous, surprising and profound'  
Orhan Pamuk

'A daring biography' *Independent*

**Ipek Çalışlar** is a journalist and writer who has worked at the prestigious daily *Cumhuriyet* and has served on the boards of KA-DER and PEN Turkey. Her first literary work, *Madam Atatürk* has been translated into eleven languages.

# A Map of Absence

An Anthology of Palestinian Writing on the Nakba

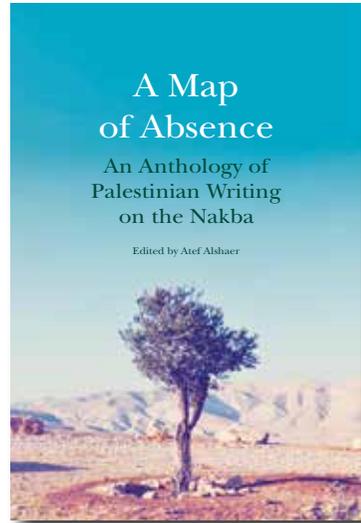
Edited by Atef Alshaer

A seminal collection of writings by leading and emerging Palestinian writers

*A Map of Absence* presents the finest poetry and prose by Palestinian writers over the last seventy years. Featuring writers in the diaspora and those living under occupation, these striking entries pay testament to one of the most pivotal events in modern history – the 1948 Nakba.

This unique, landmark anthology includes translated excerpts of works by major authors such as Mahmoud Darwish, Ghassan Kanafani and Fadwa Tuqan alongside those of emerging writers, published here in English for the first time. Depicting the varied aspects of Palestinian life both before and after 1948, their writings highlight the ongoing resonances of the Nakba.

An intimate companion for all lovers of world literature, *A Map of Absence* reveals the depth and breadth of Palestinian writing.



Literature / Palestine

May 2019

£16.99

320pp

Paperback Original Royal

ISBN 978 0 86356 990 6

eISBN 978 0 86356 995 1

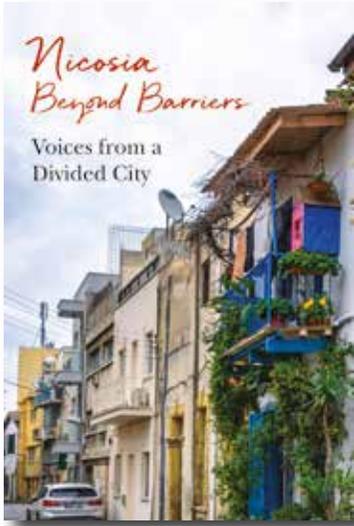
Territories: World

**Atef Alshaer** is a lecturer in Arabic Studies at the University of Westminster. His other publications include *Poetry and Politics in the Modern Arab World* and *Love and Poetry in the Middle East* (forthcoming).

# Nicosia Beyond Barriers

Voices from a Divided City

Edited by Bahriye Kemal et al



## Literature

June 2019

£12.99

256pp

Paperback Original Demy

ISBN 978 0 86356 674 5

eISBN 978 0 86356 305 8

Territories: World

Published in partnership with  
the Commonwealth Writers' Foundation

A unique collection from the world's last divided capital city

Cyprus' capital Nicosia has been split by a militarised border for decades. In this collection, writers from all sides of the divide reimagine the past, present and future of their city.

Here, Cypriot-Greeks coexist alongside Cypriot-Turks, the north with the south, town with countryside, dominant voices with the marginalised. This is a city of endless possibilities – a place where an anthropologist from London and a talkative Marxist are hunted by a gunman in the Forbidden zone; where a romance between two aspiring Tango dancers falls victim to Nicosia's time difference; and where an artist finds his workplace on a rooftop, where he paints a horizon disturbed only by birds.

Together, these writers journey beyond the beaten track creating a complete picture of Nicosia, the world's last divided capital city, that defies barriers of all kinds.

**Bahriye Kemal** is a research associate and lecturer at the Centre for Colonial and Postcolonial Studies at the University of Kent.

# Arabicity

## Contemporary Arab Art

Edited by Rose Issa and Juliet Cestar



Showcases artworks by internationally renowned Arab artists, whose groundbreaking works reflect the pulse of the region

*Arabicity* reflects on four decades of the aesthetic, conceptual and socio-political concerns of contemporary Arab artists. Beautifully produced, it features over 200 artworks by fifty Arab artists including Bahia Shehab, Ayman Baalbaki, Hassan Hajjaj and Raeda Saadeh, who explore their cultural heritage, and themes such as memory, destruction and conflict, with humour, visual poetry and great warmth.

Whether through video art, painting, photography or installation, these artists challenge the confines of their identity, resisting stereotyping and reshaping the parameters of their cultural traditions. In their diverse media and subject matter, their works reflect the pulse of the region. In chaos, they discover what endures.

### Art

August 2019

£19.99

160pp

Paperback Original 250 x 200mm

200 colour illustrations

ISBN 978 0 86356 688 2

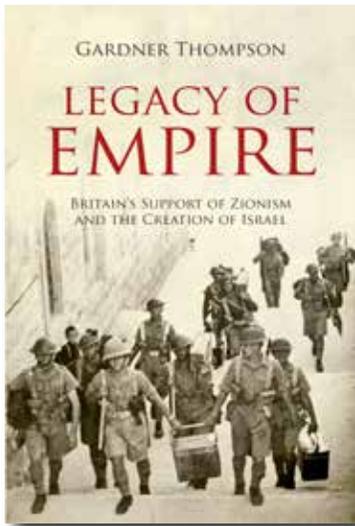
Territories: World

**Rose Issa** is a curator and writer who has championed visual art and film from the Middle East for more than thirty years. Issa has produced exhibitions worldwide, including at the Victoria & Albert Museum, Leighton House Museum and Tate Britain. She also lends work and advises on collections for institutions around the world.

# Legacy of Empire

## Britain's Support of Zionism and the Creation of Israel

Gardner Thompson



### History

September 2019

£20

352pp

Hardback Royal

15 b&w photographs

ISBN 978 0 86356 361 4

eISBN 978 0 86356 386 7

Territories: World

Highly readable and compelling account of Britain's imperial legacy in the Middle East

The Arab-Israeli conflict rages on, with no peace process and no sign of resolution. Much ignorance remains of the origins of the modern state of Israel, and in particular, Britain's central role in its creation.

In the early twentieth century, Britain took two momentous decisions: first, to issue the Balfour Declaration in 1917, which pledged to facilitate the establishment in Palestine of a 'national home for the Jewish people'; the second, to retain it as the cornerstone of British rule in Palestine after the First World War. Indeed, over the next two decades, British imperial decision-makers would oversee the colonisation of Arab Palestine by Jewish immigrants, disregarding warnings that Britain would acquire 'another Ireland'.

In the end, this inexorably led to bitter conflict. In response to full-scale revolt by the Arabs, Britain proposed the partition of an ungovernable land: a 'two-state solution' which – though endorsed by the United Nations in 1947 – has so far brought into being neither two states nor a solution to this conflict.

**Gardner Thompson** is a historian of British colonialism and a fellow of the Royal Historical Society. His publications include *Governing Uganda: British Colonial Rule and its Legacy* and *African Democracy: Its Origins and Development in Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania*.

# SAQI BOOKSHELF

Saqi has been publishing innovative writing from the Middle East and beyond since 1983. Our new Saqi Bookshelf series brings together a curated list of the most dazzling writing from this kaleidoscopic region. From bold, original voices to modern classics and contemporary bestsellers, begin collecting your Saqi Bookshelf and discover the world around the corner.

# Memoirs of a Woman Doctor

Nawal El Saadawi

Translated by Catherine Cobham



Fiction

March 2019

£8.99

128pp

Paperback Bformat

ISBN 978 0 86356 610 3

eISBN 978 0 86356 723 0

Territories: World. ex North America

Searing novel about a young woman's love affairs in 1950s Cairo by the foremost Arab feminist writer

A young Egyptian woman clashes with her traditional family when she chooses a career in medicine. Rather than submit to an arranged marriage, she cuts her hair short and works fiercely to realise her dreams. At medical school, she begins to understand the mysteries of the human body. After years denying her own desires, the doctor begins a series of love affairs that allow her to explore her sexuality – on her own terms.

Written in her twenties when Nawal El Saadawi was studying in Cairo, *Memoirs of a Woman Doctor* is the searing coming-of-age story of a woman striving for freedom in a male-dominated world. This classic feminist novel remains as thought-provoking today as when it was first published.

‘The leading spokeswoman on the status of women in the Arab world’ *The Guardian*

‘Nawal El Saadawi writes with directness and passion.’ *New York Times*

**Nawal El Saadawi** is one of the world's most influential feminist writers and activists. She is founder and president of the Arab Women's Solidarity Association and co-founder of the Arab Association for Human Rights. Her novels, short stories and plays have been translated into more than thirty languages, and are taught at universities worldwide. They include *Zeina*, *The Fall of the Imam* and *Love in the Kingdom of Oil*.

# Love in the Kingdom of Oil

Nawal El Saadawi

Translated by Basil Hatim & Malcolm Williams

A surrealist, startling novel about the limits of female freedom in a patriarchal society

A woman disappears without trace. Nobody, including the police commissioner investigating the case, can understand how she could simply walk away, leaving husband and home behind. After all, in the Kingdom of Oil where His Majesty reigns supreme, no woman has ever dared disobey the command of men.

When the woman finally reappears, there is a blurring between the men in her life, as she leaves one to join another, then returns to her first husband who has since taken a new wife. She is trapped in a man-made web, unable to escape from a male figure who continually fills urns that she must carry.

‘At a time when nobody else was talking, [El Saadawi] spoke the unspeakable.’

Margaret Atwood, *BBC Imagine*

‘The most influential feminist thinker in the Arab world over the past half-century’

*Financial Times*



Fiction

April 2019

£8.99

144pp

Paperback Bformat

ISBN 978 0 86356 626 4

eISBN 978 0 86356 733 9

Territories: World

**Nawal El Saadawi** is one of the world's most influential feminist writers and activists. She is founder and president of the Arab Women's Solidarity Association and co-founder of the Arab Association for Human Rights. Her novels, short stories and plays have been translated into more than thirty languages, and are taught at universities worldwide. They include *Zeina*, *The Fall of the Imam* and *Memoirs of a Woman Doctor*.

## Zeina

Nawal El Saadawi

Translated by Amira Nowaira



### Fiction

April 2019

£8.99

256pp

Paperback Bformat

ISBN 978 0 86356 355 3

eISBN 978 0 86356 449 9

Territories: World

A gripping novel following a mother's search for her daughter

Distinguished literary critic Bodour is trapped in a loveless marriage and carries with her a dark secret. She fell in love in her youth and gave birth to an illegitimate daughter, Zeina, whom she abandoned on the streets of Cairo.

Bodour doesn't know that Zeina has blossomed into one of Egypt's most beloved entertainers. Pining for her estranged daughter, she writes a fictional account of her life in an attempt to find solace. But as the revolution in Cairo begins to gain fire, the novel goes missing and Bodour must find who has stolen it. Will her search bring mother and daughter together, or is Bodour destined to lose her daughter to Cairo forever?

'Read this novel to grasp the bravery of El Saadawi's activism' *The Guardian*

'An uncompromising attack on patriarchy, power and hypocrisy in modern-day Egypt' *The Times*

**Nawal El Saadawi** is one of the world's most influential feminist writers and activists. She is founder and president of the Arab Women's Solidarity Association and co-founder of the Arab Association for Human Rights. Her novels, short stories and plays have been translated into more than thirty languages, and are taught at universities worldwide. They include *Memoirs of a Woman Doctor*, *The Fall of the Imam* and *Love in the Kingdom of Oil*.

# The Quarter

Naguib Mahfouz

Foreword by Elif Shafak    Translated by Roger Allen

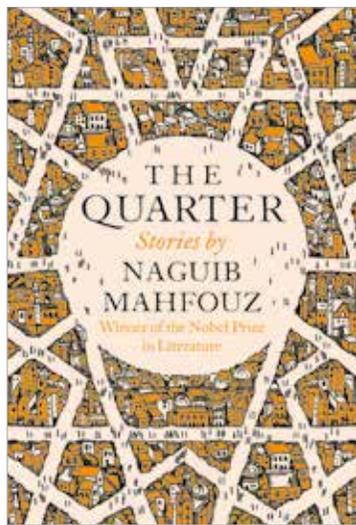
Recently discovered stories set in Cairo by a Nobel Prize winning novelist

Meet the people of Cairo's Gamaliya quarter. There is Nabqa, son of Adam the waterseller who can only speak truths; the beautiful and talented Tawhida who does not age with time; Ali Zaidan, the gambler, late to love; and Boss Saqr who stashes his money above the bath. A neighbourhood of demons, dancing and sweet halva, the quarter keeps quiet vigil over the secrets of all who live there.

This collection by pre-eminent Egyptian writer Naguib Mahfouz was recently discovered among his old papers. Found with a slip of paper titled 'for publishing 1994', they are published here for the first time. Resplendent with Mahfouz's delicate and poignant observations of everyday happenings, these lively stories take the reader deep into the beating heart of Cairo.

'A master of detailed realism and fabulous storytelling' *The Guardian*

'A towering literary figure, and the joyous chronicler of a turbulent Egyptian century' *The Economist*



Fiction

July 2019

£10.99

128pp

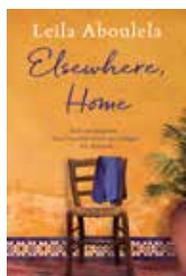
Hardback Bformat

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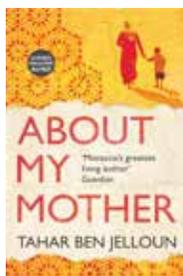
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Territories: World

**Naguib Mahfouz** was Egypt's foremost writer. Over a career that lasted more than five decades, he wrote 34 novels, 13 short story anthologies, numerous plays and 30 screenplays. Of his many works, the most famous are *The Cairo Trilogy*, *The Children of Gebelawi* and *The Thief and the Dogs*. Mahfouz received the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1988, the first writer in Arabic to do so.



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9781846592119



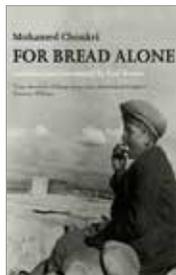
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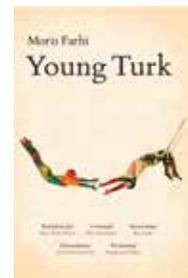
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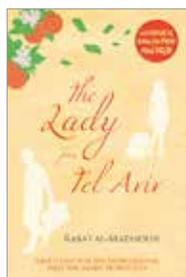
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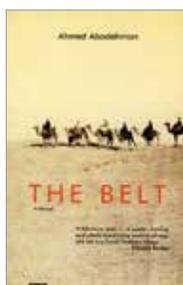
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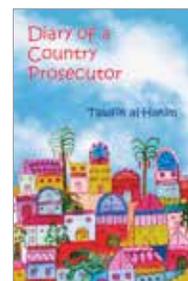
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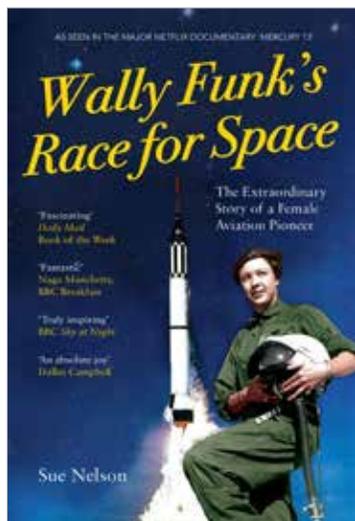
# The Westbourne Press

Publishing thoughtful and entertaining works of non-fiction that engage with the leading issues of our time, this imprint boasts several bestsellers with *Zealot: The Life and Times of Jesus of Nazareth* by Reza Aslan and *Sex and Punishment: Four Thousand Years of Judging Desire* by Eric Berkowitz. Titles this year won't disappoint with an inspiring biography of a female trailblazing pilot and an empowering handbook on making it in the arts. Happy reading!

# Wally Funk's Race for Space

The Extraordinary Story of a Female Aviation Pioneer

Sue Nelson



Biography / Space

June 2019

£8.99

272pp

Paperback Bformat

10 b&w photographs

ISBN 978 1 908906 38 0

eISBN 978 1 908906 35 9

Territories: World. ex North America

As seen in the major Netflix documentary *Mercury 13*

In 1961, Wally Funk was the youngest of thirteen American female pilots in the Woman in Space programme. Her mission was to become one of the first women astronauts. But a combination of politics and prejudice meant the programme was abruptly cancelled. Neither Wally nor the other pilots ever made it into space.

Now approaching eighty, Wally is joined by fellow space enthusiast Sue Nelson as she races to make her giant leap – before it's too late. They travel across the United States and Europe – taking in NASA's mission control in Houston and Spaceport America in New Mexico, where Wally's ride into space awaits – meeting with female astronauts and trailblazers along the way. Touching on the Space Race and women's achievements in aviation, this is the remarkable story of a courageous pioneer who could have been the first woman in space.

'Extraordinary ... A global Thelma and Louise-style adventure' *Daily Mail Book of the Week*

'Fantastic!' *Naga Munchetty, BBC Breakfast*

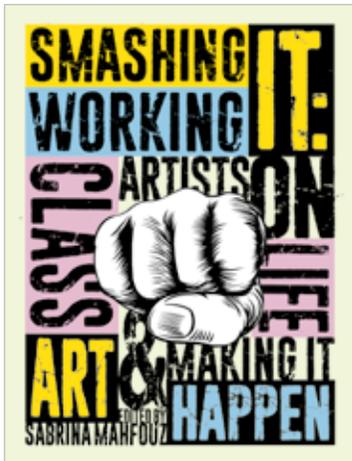
'Truly inspiring' *BBC Sky at Night* ★★★★★

**Sue Nelson** is an award-winning writer and broadcaster. A former BBC science correspondent, she produces short films for the European Space Agency, and presents the Space Boffins podcast.

# Smashing It

Working Class Artists on Life, Art and Making It Happen

Edited by Sabrina Mahfouz



## Literature/Culture

October 2019

£12.99

192pp

Paperback Original 210 x 148mm

Full colour

ISBN 978 1 908906 40 3

eISBN 978 1 908906 41 0

Territories: World

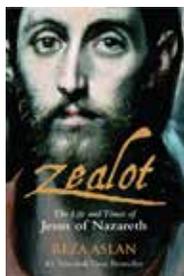
This empowering handbook is a must-read for those aspiring for a career in the arts

*Smashing It* celebrates the achievements of working-class artists in Britain, from the global takeover of Grime musicians to the literary powerhouses pushing representative narratives. Offering guidance and inspiration, leading musicians, playwrights, visual artists, filmmakers and writers share how they overcame obstacles, from the financial to the philosophical, to make it in the arts.

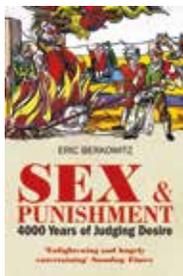
An essential read, *Smashing It* will empower those who will be a part of tomorrow's bigger picture.

Includes a guide section on how to make it in the arts, and contributions from Riz Ahmed, Bryony Kimmings, Kerry Hudson, DJ Target, Anthony Anaxagorou, Salena Godden, Madani Younis and many more.

**Sabrina Mahfouz** is an award-winning playwright and poet, and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature. Her previous books include *The Things I Would Tell You*, a *Guardian* Book of the Year.



£9.99  
9781908906298



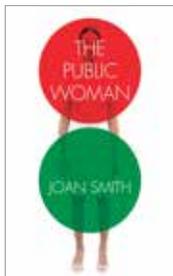
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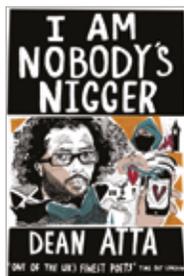
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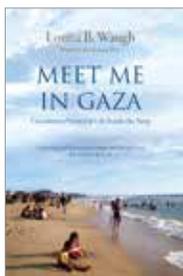
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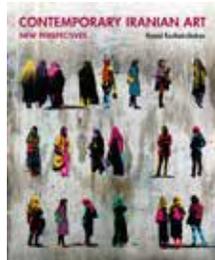
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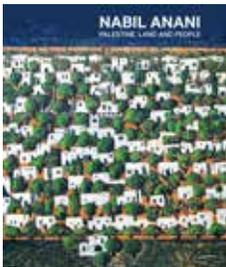
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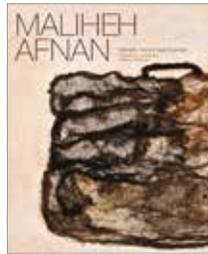
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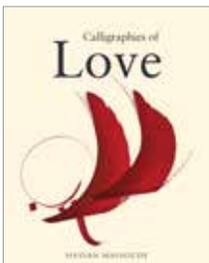
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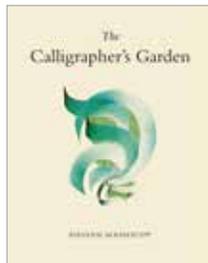
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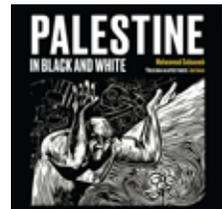
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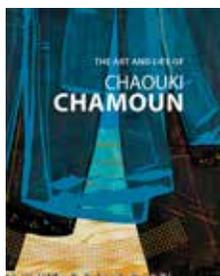
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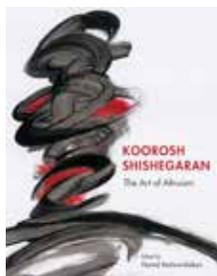
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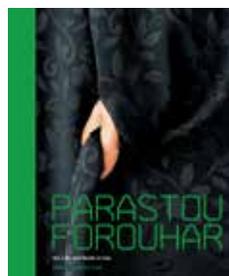
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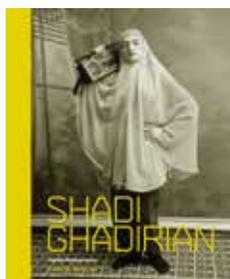
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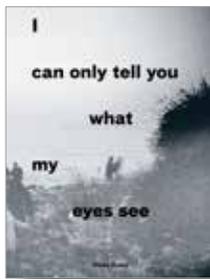
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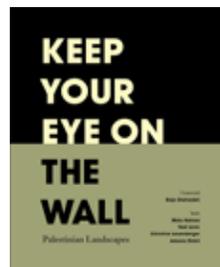
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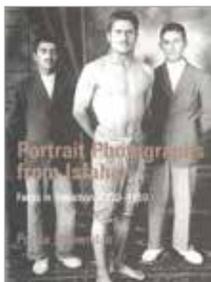
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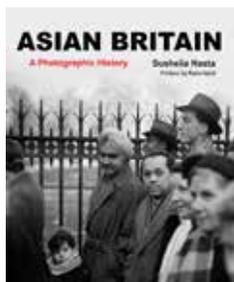
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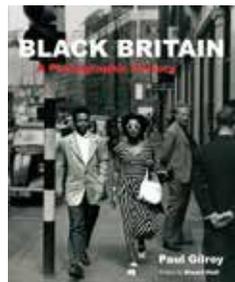
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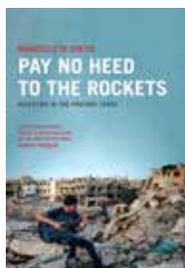
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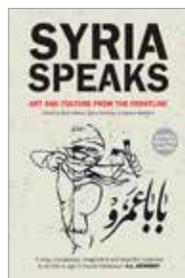
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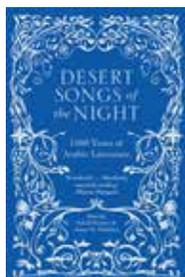
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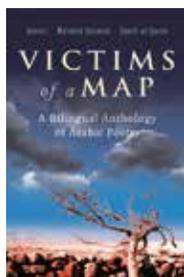
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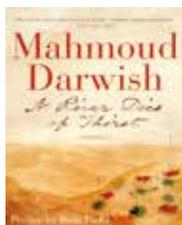
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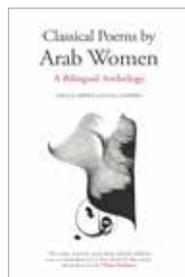
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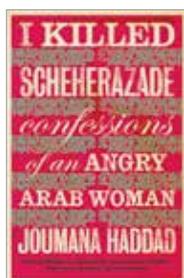
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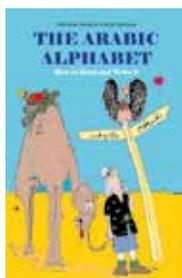
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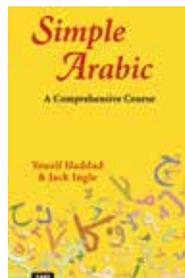
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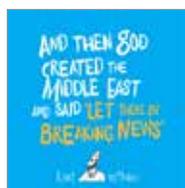
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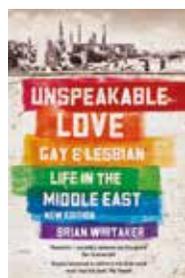
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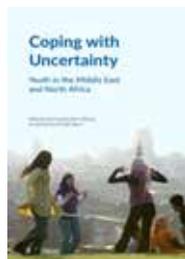
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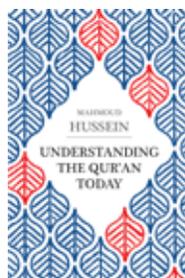
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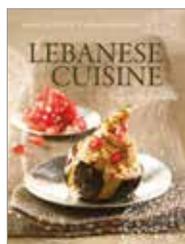
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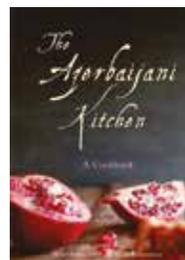
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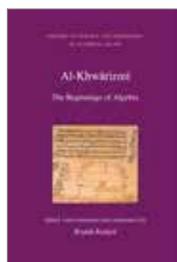
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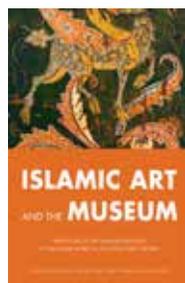
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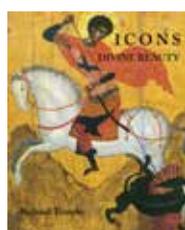
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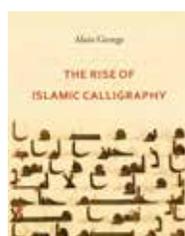
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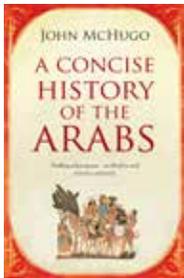
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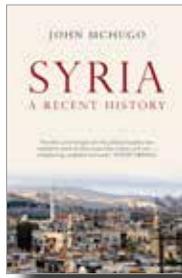
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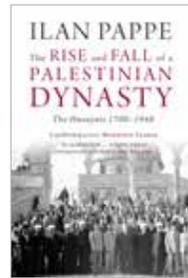
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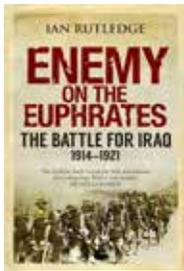
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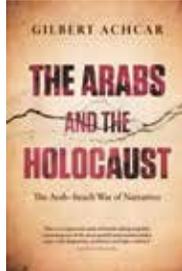
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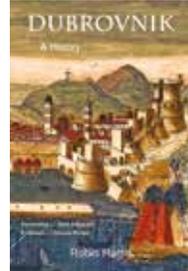
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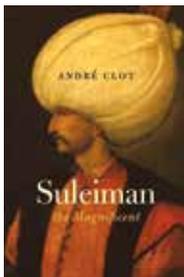
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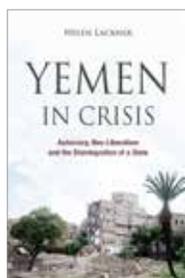
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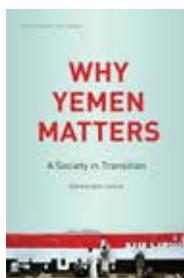
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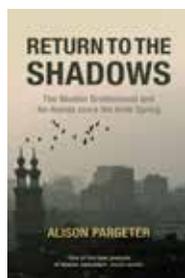
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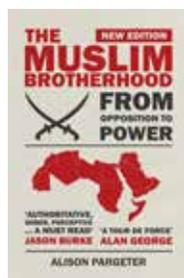
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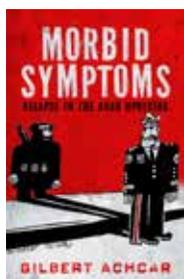
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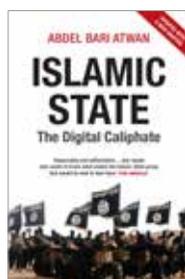
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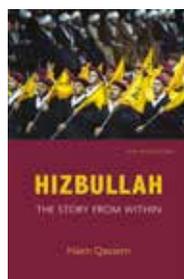
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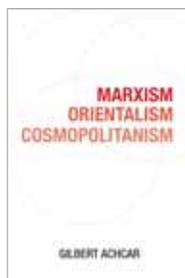
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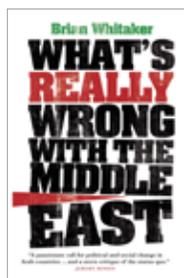
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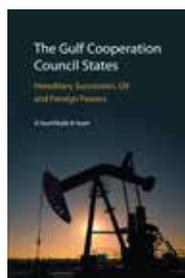
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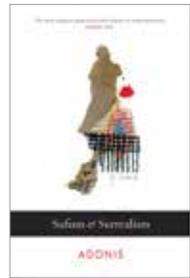
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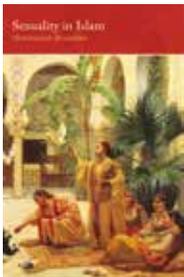
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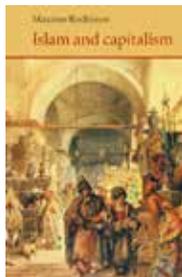
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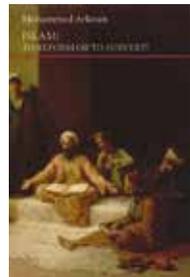
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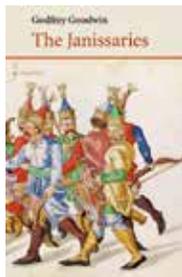
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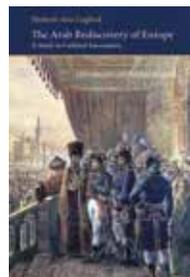
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