



Picturebook experts curate 100 international titles for Frankfurt Book Fair exhibition

Children's book specialists Leonard S. Marcus (USA), Ulla Rhedin (Sweden), Martin Salisbury (UK) and Sophie Van der Linden (France) have curated a selection of international picturebooks for an exhibition at this year's Frankfurt Book Fair.

The exhibition, entitled '100 Outstanding Picturebooks', will feature titles selected from <u>dPICTUS</u>, an online platform where award-winning picturebook publishers and agents from around the world promote their titles, secure foreign rights deals and make new industry connections.

Sam McCullen, who co-founded dPICTUS with his brother Jon and is organising the '100 Outstanding Picturebooks' exhibition with Belgian author-illustrator Kitty Crowther, said: "I think we're highlighting a wonderful selection of contemporary picturebooks here, and lots of countries are represented. Some of the publishers of these books are very small and many of them don't have a stand at the fair, so I hope this exposure will bring them lots of foreign rights interest."

McCullen, who also selected picturebooks for the exhibition, said his goal with dPICTUS (and his <u>Picturebook Makers</u> blog and gallery, which will also have a presence in Frankfurt) is to "help outstanding international picturebooks reach new markets and captivate new readers." He would particularly like to see more translated picturebooks published in countries which currently publish few picturebooks in translation, such as the UK, where dPICTUS is based.



Titles selected for the exhibition include 'Yōkai' by Manuel Marsol (Fulgencio Pimentel, Spain), which won Marsol the Fundación SM International Award for Illustration at the Bologna Children's Book Fair 2017; 'The Lost Soul' by Olga Tokarczuk and Joanna Concejo (Editions Format, Poland), which received a Special Mention in this year's BolognaRagazzi Awards; and 'Stories of the Night' by Kitty Crowther, which was originally published in Swedish last year by Lilla Piratförlaget and has already been sold into 16 other languages. The English-language edition was recently published by Gecko Press, with Kirkus Reviews saying the book has "the feel of a classic."

The dPICTUS '100 Outstanding Picturebooks' exhibition will run from 10-14October 2018 in the new 'Frankfurt Kids' hub, a 500 square metre space in Foyer 5.1/6.1. The hub was initiated by Hendrik Hellige, who previously worked as a publisher at Gestalten, and is now Business Development Manager for Children's Books at the Frankfurt Book Fair.

Download the dPICTUS Frankfurt 2018 catalogue: dpic.co/2xM7zlE



Learn more about dPICTUS at <u>dpictus.com</u>

The dPICTUS curators



Leonard S. Marcus | United States

Leonard S. Marcus is one of the world's leading writers and speakers about children's books and the people who create them. He's written over 25 award-winning books, is a founding trustee of the Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art, writes for the New York Times Book Review, and teaches at New York University and the School of Visual Arts.



Sophie Van der Linden | France

Sophie Van der Linden is a specialist in children's literature, focussing mainly on picturebooks. She's chief editor of Hors-Cadre[s], an observatory of illustrated literature, and has written a number of reference works on children's books. Sophie teaches Visual Culture at Condé in Paris and Children's Literature at several universities. She also runs a popular children's literature blog.



Martin Salisbury | United Kingdom

Martin Salisbury is Professor of Illustration and founder of the MA Children's Book Illustration at the Cambridge School of Art. He's written numerous books on the practice and theory of children's book illustration, speaks on the subject around the world and has been on many award juries, including chair of the jury for the BolognaRagazzi Awards.



Ulla Rhedin | Sweden

Ulla Rhedin is a literary scholar, critic, researcher, author and lecturer. She has a PhD on a thesis in picturebook theory and has written several books on the subject. Ulla was on the jury of the Bologna Children's Book Fair Illustrators Exhibition, and for twelve years she was an illustration expert on the jury of the Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award (ALMA).



Sam McCullen | United Kingdom

Sam McCullen is the co-founder and managing director of dPICTUS and he runs the Picturebook Makers online resource where the world's finest picturebook artists talk about the creation of their books. Sam is also an illustrator, writer, editor and designer, and has worked on a variety of international publishing projects.

About dPICTUS

dPICTUS is a curated platform where international picturebook publishers and agents promote their titles globally throughout the year – generating foreign rights deals, business opportunities and new publishing industry connections to meet at book fairs.

Members of the platform can look at outstanding new releases and backlist titles in full from award-winning publishers, including winners of the BolognaRagazzis and the Bologna BOP 'Best Children's Publishers' Prize.

From 2018, dPICTUS is working with picturebook specialists from different countries – curating titles on dPICTUS and selecting picturebooks to be exhibited at book fairs.

dPICTUS also runs a popular online resource called Picturebook Makers, where the world's finest picturebook artists talk about the creation of their books. Contributing artists include Shaun Tan, Jon Klassen, Kitty Crowther, Blexbolex, Isol, Beatrice Alemagna, Anna Höglund, Jimmy Liao, Carson Ellis, Bernardo P. Carvalho and Eva Lindström.

The dPICTUS team see their projects as "an ongoing celebration of international picturebooks and their creators."

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