

**15 BOOKS
FROM GEORGIA 2015**



15 Books from Georgia

Prepared and published by the *Georgian National Book Center*.

The catalogue is distributed free of charge during the international Book Fairs to foreign publishers and editors.

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Established in 2014 by the Ministry of Culture and Monument Protection of Georgia supports the process of translation of Georgian and foreign literature, enhancing intercultural dialogue through literature and presenting centuries-long Georgian intellectual heritage to the international literary and publishing arena.

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Introduction

Quite apart from the 1500-year-old canon of Georgian literature, its posterity, contemporary Georgian writers, has a very complex creative heritage. The great authors of 19th and 20th century Georgian literature, who can without fear of exaggeration be called modern classics, are still very relevant and interesting as authors for Georgian readers. Nevertheless, contemporary Georgian literature is developing apace and Georgian authors are trying to represent and arraign for society's judgement whatever is uppermost in the minds of the people of modern Georgia. Today's authors have had considerable success in finding their place in the literary sphere and they attempt to introduce their own styles, to form a new modern literary taste. This is a very interesting process and it is of great significance for the preservation of the country's sense of identity, as well as for the Georgian language, which is being developed and enriched in parallel with the literary process.

The aim of the catalogue now in your hands, which have been put together by the Georgian National Book Centre, is to give foreign publishers interested in Georgian literature an idea and an outline of Georgian literature published between 2013 and 2015. The literary works have been chosen for the catalogue with the following criteria:

- Works short-listed and award-winning in literary prize competitions;
- Sales figures obtained from the distributor network;
- Recommendations from Georgian publishers;
- Recommendations made by the Supervisory Board of the Georgian National Book Center;
- Book reviews and other public responses.

Of about the 200 books considered under the above five headings, we selected the works of 15 Georgian authors. These 15 authors, who represent more than one generation, often work in completely different literary genres and seek to attract the discriminating Georgian reader with their particular literary style and concerns.

Although it follows that the information we have gathered and processed is in itself interesting and important, our team has decided to add as an appendix to the catalogue complete list of recommended Georgian titles published in different years made by our Center's Supervisory Board.

We are convinced that the catalogue will be a good guide for foreign publishers interested in Georgian authors to get the general impression on the processes undergoing in Georgian literature.

Shy Emerald

/ მორჩილადე ზურმუხტი /

For centuries, Kings, Atabegs and Emirs, but never Emperors, governed Georgia. In this novel Emperor Vakhtang VII rules Georgia alongside black British Empress Kathryn Barkley, so whom Georgians find exotic. He decides to change the names of Georgian cities to make people feel he has total control. But in fact his power over the country is dwindling as are his own excesses. This sparks an uprising involving the whole country. In a parallel storyline Prince Margalite Abashidze tries to organize a coup against the Emperor. He introduces a new deaf-and-dumb king to society, but everyone realizes this step only helps Margalite to gain the power he has longed for all his life. Abashidze's ally, Priest Porfile becomes the army leader by using religion to manipulate the soldiers. Meanwhile, the Emperor senses the coming uprising and tries to quell strikes and capture Abashidze before it is too late. Grandiose events happen everywhere – in dusty, noisy cities and deep, still forests, in the Opera House and in the depths of the Hispaniola naval brothel: everything and everyone is interconnected. Although *Shy Emerald* is fiction, it reads like a historical novel. And all these 'historical' facts subtly echo Georgia's current reality.

The book was shortlisted for the Literary Award SABA in 2014 in the category The Best Novel of the Year.

About the author:

'Morchiladze has created... a playful mad, vibrant world...'

(Süddeutsche Zeitung)

'Aka Morchiladze was a professor of history, but... reveals himself as an alchemist of history, a poet and a thinker...' (Literary Portal lib.ge)

'Morchiladze deserves to be read not merely as an example of a Georgian novelist but as a world-class novelist in his own right.'

(Tweed's Magazine of Literature & Art)



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Aka Morchiladze was born in 1966. He is arguably the most outstanding, most widely recognized and talented contemporary Georgian fiction writer. He studied and later taught Georgian History at Tbilisi State University; Worked as a sports journalist in a sports daily newspaper and participated in Literature Express in Europe in 2000. Aka Morchiladze's twenty novels and three books of short stories have been published by Sulakauri Publishing since 1998. In 2005-2006 he was an author and presenter of one of the most interesting TV programmes to date dealing with literature. Several films and plays have been based on his works. Like Milorad Pavić, his favourite author, Morchiladze believes that a novel does not need to start at the beginning or proceed straight to the end; instead, he applies Umberto Eco's theory of the emancipated reader. Currently, he lives and works in London. Morchiladze has won numerous literary prizes in Georgia, including most the Literary Award SABA for the Best Novel of 2011, which was awarded for *Obolé*.

Aka Morchiladze's works are translate into: German, English, Swedish, Italian, Azeri and Albanian.

The Third Bank

/ მესამე ბანკი /

The Third Bank depicts a mystical place, too far and too close at the same time, where the community of either rejected or self-claimed dregs of society perform the desperate living. In the place where impurity, cruelty and sin has become the main values, the life beyond the bank is forgotten, so the characters have new names and do whatever their destructive instincts tell them – sex, drugs and rock ‘n’ roll. The protagonist of the story, outcast Jio, makes a living from playing on harmonica in a subway together with his friend, guitarist Alexander. The subway is their home and shelter, where one day they meet a tattoo artist Nea and her boyfriend Markus, who joins their company with a flute in a guitar case, to grab his piece of adventure in a wild anarchy, until AIDS takes his life. The novel has all the features to surprise the modern experienced reader with its depth, dynamism and the live story. But the most influential is the author’s genuine skill of storytelling, its sincerity and the novelty of the subject.

The book was shortlisted for the Literary Award SABA in 2015 in the category The Best Novel of the Year.



Luka Bakanidze was born in 1982. He is a journalist, poet and promising writer. Luka Bakanidze published his first literary works in the journal Literaturuli Palitra and instantly gained readers’ interest. The young author mainly attracts attention with his authentic writing style and extraordinary topics. In 2014 Publishing House Palitra L offered to Georgian audience Luka Bakanidze’s first Novel The Third Bank.



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Lucrecia515

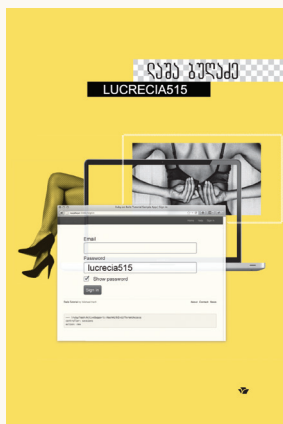
/ ლუკრეცია 515 /

‘There is no sex in the Soviet Union’ was a very popular slogan in the USSR after a young woman said it during the US-USSR TV bridge show. Sex was a ‘closed’ issue, deeply tabooed at the time, and this inertia continued well into the post-Soviet period. The protagonist of the novel *Lucrecia515* is Sandro. He is 37, married and something of a Don Juan. He keeps a conscientious record of his sexual adventures, ranking women according to their looks, peculiarities, nationality and the impression they make on him. He also has an unconventional strategy for making new conquests, repeatedly managing to sneak away from his wife into the company of a wide range of women. But things stop running smoothly when someone hacks into his email and social media accounts. He is a type of a modernized Georgian, a married Don Juan, putting a lot of effort and enthusiasm into making up for the ‘sexless period’. Very similar to Leporello and Don Giovanni, Sandro also keeps a list of women complete with their socio-psychological indications, such as ‘has marriage in mind’, ‘fatally stubborn’, ‘living in the past’, ‘beyond reach for various reasons’, ‘easy to get’, etc.

The book was shortlisted for the Literary Award SABA in 2014 in the category The Best Novel of the Year.

‘The writer’s subtext constantly reminds us that we are dealing with light-hearted relationships and, therefore, with a light-hearted approach to style. But problems are dealt with in such depth that the novel ends by giving us a lot of food for thought.’

(G. Lobjanidze, poet, literary critic / Radio Liberty)



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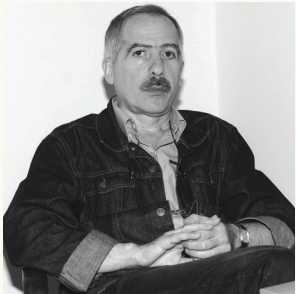
Lasha Bugadze was born in 1977. He is the author of numerous novels and plays which have been performed in many European cities. His works have been translated into French and English. Bugadze focuses his critical and ironic attention on relationships between the generations, and he describes situations in which people fall victim to their prejudices, fixed ideas or stereotypes. He won the Russia and Caucasus Region category of the BBC International Radio Playwriting Competition in 2007 and one of the two top prizes in 2011 for his play *The Navigator*. Bugadze is a writer and presenter of literary programmes broadcast on radio and TV by the Georgian public broadcaster. He is also a gifted cartoonist. He lives and works in Tbilisi.

Lasha Bugadze's works are translated into: English, German, Swedish and French.

The God Exists, You Know?

/ ღმერთი არსებობს, იცო? /

On a Sunday morning Kaspar Hauser enters a London recording studio: he is here to be recorded playing percussion instruments. Hauser is alone and he practises, trying to play a tune (which couldn't be recorded the day before because of a disagreement) the way his accompanist, the singer Mary, has told him to. After playing around with various different approaches to playing it, he suddenly hears Mary's voice. Kaspar is taken aback to find that he is not alone in the studio. It takes only a couple of moments for the musicians to realise that they can communicate with each other wordlessly and create a wonderful hit song. Kaspar Hauser can't believe that the most beautiful woman in the world and the most successful singer would record his song with him and offer him ten thousand pounds for it. Kaspar is destitute and homeless: there is yet another amazing thing about this unbelievable development. The next day Mary takes Kaspar to see the musician Jones, who was a close friend of her father, the pop-star Steven Cooper (who died tragically) and who is also a musician whom Kaspar worships. Jones turns out to be tired of life and confined to his house, but to his own surprise he suddenly agrees to make a new musical album with Mary which will include a song that her father had not finished composing.



Kakha Jamburia was born in 1959. He studied Philology at Tbilisi State University. Since 1981 he has worked at the Georgian Literature Institute, starting as an assistant and then as a full academic. He has published some twenty articles on various periods of Georgian literature. Since 1999 he has been appointed as an expert to the Ministry of Education's Project for Reforming and Consolidating the Education System.



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Sample translation available
in German and English

Jazzmine

/ ჯაზის ყვავილობა /

In March 1956, the Soviet army stormed peaceful rallies in Tbilisi, Georgia; People went out onto the streets to defend Stalin and Georgian identity after Khrushchev's speech of denunciation at the Communist Party Congress. The events that followed this violent repression later developed into the emergence of nationalism in Soviet Georgia, a process which lasted for several decades. In the same year, 1956, the CIA launched a project 'Ambassadors of Jazz' – including the VOA jazz programme hosted by Willies Connover. The project was intended to influence the population of the Socialist Block countries, to plant the seeds of freedom and liberation in people's minds. This was the beginning of the clandestine invasion of jazz music and American culture in general into Georgia too. Groups of aesthetic dissidents appeared in Tbilisi, as well as the first jazz musicians.

The story here is of the collision between nationalism and individual freedom.

The CIA project was also masterminded and inspired by occult celestial forces, which worked to incite globalization developments on the Planet Earth. A pagan Georgian character from the 20th century literary classic novel had a hand in this too.

The book was shortlisted for Literary Award SABA in 2015 in the category The Best Novel of the Year.

'The author attempts a deconstruction of the stereotypes of Georgian Soviet space and, by using real material and a powerful artistic imagination, he succeeds to a remarkable degree.'

(Sh. Iatashvili, poet, literary critic / Radio Liberty)



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Azri Publishing House,

Zurab Karumidze

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Zurab Karumidze was born in 1957. He graduated in English from Tbilisi State University and was awarded a PhD in 1984 for a thesis on 'Wit and Conceit in the Poetry of John Donne'. He worked for years as a research associate for the Centre for XX Century Literary Studies at Tbilisi State University. In 1994-95 he had a stint at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee as a visiting Fulbright Scholar, studying post-modernist American meta-fiction. Two of his short stories were published in the US (Clockwatch Review, Bloomington, IL, 1996). He co-edited (with James Wertsch) the book Enough: Rose Revolution in the Republic of Georgia 2003 (Nova Science Publishers, New York, 2005). His book on the history of jazz music - The Life of Jazz - came out in 2009 and won Georgia's top Literary Award SABA (2010). He is an international fellow of the Centre for Humanities at the Washington University in St. Louis.

Zurab Karumidze's works are translated into: English, Swedish and Turkish.

The Story of a Bird and a Man

/ ჩიჭის და კაცის ამბავი /

Archil Kikodze is a good narrator. But the narrator is not just a writer; he has to have something of the epic poet about him. His narrative is calm and tranquil. He is not in a rush. But, unlike epics, a narrative prosewriter’s protagonists are ordinary people, not heroes. And, unlike epics, his stories are not fiction even if they are invented by the author. He derives his material from experience, and according to the German philosopher, Walter Benjamin, experience gets its authority from death. Where there is experience, we also find mystery. Thus, these short stories are detective stories, even though they are not meant to be. Archil Kikodze slowly, quietly, step-by-step leads his readers towards unvarnished truth that is neither beautiful, nor mysterious and therefore all the more convincing. The Crime and Punishment, Pride and Prejudice, Love and Hate of this detective is Georgia, Georgia of family stories that are more real than Georgian history in school textbooks. Kikodze does not deal in black and white. He treats executioners and victims, as well as their children and grandchildren, equally. The legacy of their crimes or their love is his main concern.

Literary Award SABA in 2014 in the category of The Best Collection of Stories of the Year.

‘Archil Kikodze’s stories lead the reader very slowly, quietly and stealthily towards a bare, unavoidable and unvarnished final truth which is neither beautiful nor secret and which is therefore all the more plausible.’

(Z. Andronikashvili, literary critic)



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Sample translation is available
in German and English.



Archil Kikodze was born in 1972. He started writing at the age of 21. He works for several literary and non-literary magazines. His essays and novels are regularly published in Literaturuli Palitra and Tskheli Shokoladi. Kikodze won Literary Award GALA for a book of short stories Calmly. Kikodze is also a professional photographer. He has taken part in national and international photo exhibitions and has won many awards. Furthermore, he has published magazine articles on environmental, ethnographic and social issues. He is the author of three guidebooks on science tourism, which is developing quickly in Georgia and Switzerland. Archil Kikodze is co-author of the documentary film Spring in Javakheti (winner of the Niamori Festival Prize in 2004). He wrote the script for the film Tbilisi, I Love You. Archil Kikodze plays a leading role in the film Blind Dates (2013), which has won several prizes at international film festivals.

Who Killed Chaika?

/ ვინ მოკლა ჩაიკა? /

Elizabeth is a single yet happy woman who does no harm to anybody. She is surrounded by plenty of friends. She loves life and wants to dance, travel and just be happy. Elizabeth is a person with a free soul who enjoys breaking stereotypes. ‘Chaika’ is the name for this kind of woman. Suddenly Chaika’s dreams are interrupted. She is murdered. Everybody knows everything except the detective who is investigating the case. Who was Chaika? Who murdered her? Chaika’s friends have a clue about the murderer but say nothing to the detective. Two of those friends decide to revenge the deceased Elizabeth themselves. This is a very complicated and intriguing story written in a very catchy way.

IliaUni Literary Award in 2013 in the category The Best Novel of the Year.

"The central figures of this novel, with all their idiosyncrasies and emotional outbursts, are as lovable as Almodóvar characters".
(M. Kharbedia, literary critic / Radio Liberty)



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Sample translation available in German.



Ana Kordzaia-Samadashvili
was born in 1968. She lives in Tbilisi, works as a writer, translator and cultural journalist. She also teaches literature and creative writing at Ilia State University in Tbilisi. Her expressive and emotional tales and short stories about men and women, love and hate, sex and disappointment are somewhat outré and sarcastic, but it is this that gives them their appeal. Ana Kordzaia has won various Georgian literary prizes (1999). She also translates from German into Georgian and has in particular translated the work of Cornelia Funke and Elfriede Jelinek. She was awarded a prize by the Goethe Institut Tbilissi for her translation of Elfriede Jelinek’s novel Die Liebhaberinnen (Women as Lovers). Ana Kordzaia-Samadashvili has won the Literary Award SABA in 2003 in the category of Best Debut for the Berikaoba (as Sophio Kirvalidze).

Ana Kordzaia-Samadashvili’s works are translated into: German, English and Swedish.

The City in Snow

/ ქალაქი თოვლში /

The *City in Snow*, a new collection by Beka Kurkhuli, contains five stories. In the first one, *The Killer*, the author tells of the lives and battles of Georgian soldiers and partisans during and after the war in Abkhazia. Real stories show the impact of the war on common people – Georgians and Abkhazians, people who used to share the same land before the war and who were for centuries linked by a common homeland and by close relations. The title story – *The City in Snow* – is about the love of a young boy and a girl, who, despite the dark cold days of the 1990s, are warmed by passion that leaves its imprint forever on their lives. The protagonist of *I Had a Dream* is a blind man. There are many blind people around us but we hardly notice them. We give them a helping hand only out of a feeling of duty. The writer describes the feelings of a human being who cannot see daylight. In the story *The Evening* the author recalls his school years, the multi-ethnic Tbilisi of Soviet times and his friends, most of whom are now no more. The fifth story, *Musakali*, tells the story of Georgian soldiers sent to Afghanistan on a NATO mission.

The book was shortlisted for the Literary Award SABA in 2014 in the category The Best Collection of Stories of the Year.

‘The narrative technique can be classified as cinematic: from the first page to the last it has the constant inner tension, the excitement and the suspense of an action film as one ordeal follows another. The text of The Killer is so rhythmic and the reader’s involvement in the actions described is so deep, that you read it at one sitting, despite the grave nature of the subject matter.’

(S. Tsulaia, literary critic / Literaturuli Gazeti)



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Sample translation of the short story
Murderer is available in English.



Beka Kurkhuli was born in 1974. His first novel was published in the newspaper Mamuli in 1991. From 1999 to 2004 he worked as a reporter for the newspaper Dilis Gazeti, visiting different parts of Georgia and conflict regions in the Caucasus. His first book, *Full Stop... Lost People from Lost Territory* was published in 2004 by Dilis Gazeti and The Caucasian House. In 2005 his book *A House Somewhere Else* was shortlisted for the Literary Award SABA as the Best Prose Work of the Year.

Form No.100

/ ფორმა N100 /

The central theme of Zviad Kvaratskhelia’s novel *Form No.100* is a generation mined with explosives. He himself, seeking a name for it, explained, ‘We are the generation that has been mined. We’ve had our inner timer switched on and nobody knows when we are going to explode and shed blood.

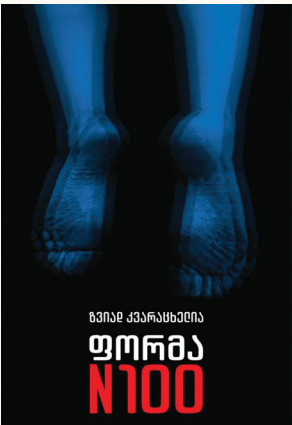
A pretty young girl called Martha becomes a victim of boys who have grown up in a mire of unaccountable lawlessness. She too is a child of this mire; In fact, she has herself decided to wade into that mire in order to find a way out and thus rescue her only brother, who is in prison expecting a hellish sentence. Everyone is equally embroiled in the entire system, a hellish system, from a government official to the person next door, and they all have their own reasons and peculiar way of offering Martha help.

Form No.100 is a modern novel: it contains several texts each with its own linguistic diapason. The metatexts give each other clarity and, at the same time, an aura of mystery.

Form No. 100 can be said to be the story of a sin. A general sin, which alienates and at the same time unites several persons involved in the action, is the novel’s main subject for elaboration and the object of the author’s key research. A sin committed in one’s youth, its causes and effects are what the writer is telling us about.

Literary Award SABA in 2014 in the category The Best Novel of the Year.

‘Form 100 could be called a cruel novel, for the most unrelenting truths of life have been turned into literary reality.’
(T. Chiladze, writer)



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Sample translation available
in English.



Zviad Kvaratskhelia was born in 1986. In 2008 he graduated from the Faculty of Jurisprudence at Shota Meskhia Zugdidi State Institute. In 2007-2008 he was art editor of the magazine *Premieri*, in 2010-2011 deputy editor of the magazine *Kartuli Mtserloba*. He works at the publishing houses *Intelekti* and *Artanuji* as coordinator of publication projects and as editor. He is the author and editor-in-chief for several publication projects. Since January 2013 he has been a blogger on the internet magazine *Matsavlebeli.ge*. He has published short stories, miniatures and literary-documentary essays in Georgian periodicals, as well as story collections.

Give us Another Smile, Guinplen!

/ ერთიც გაგვიცინე, გუინპლენ! /

Lasha Tabukashvili's novel has two protagonists: the 24-year-old Beka Ishkhneli and the 62-year-old Lazare Ishkhneli. The former comes from Tbilisi, the latter is an American. It could, however, be said that they are one person, split into two.

When Lazare visits Georgia, he finds a country of paradoxes. This is a land where businesses are started up with no plans, a land where paramedics tell surgeons what to do, because they consider themselves closer to the people; This is a land where a con-man spends more money on receiving a guest than on deceiving him.

Lazare has brought his parents' ashes to be scattered at Alaverdi in accordance with their will. When he was a child he made himself up at Halloween to look like Guinplen and he amused his college friends so much that they nicknamed him Guinplen or Gui. In the finale of the novel the soul of Lazare-Guinplen is transferred into Beka's being.

'The more that you look at this earthly world, the more interest it takes in you! Anyway, wouldn't it be better to look up to the heavens?! Even if you have to crush your neck vertebrae? But you haven't got the will to do that.' This is Beka's inner voice, the voice of his conscience, the bewitching spirit. From the terrestrial world to the stars – this is principally what Lasha Tabukashvili's novel has to say.

The book was shortlisted for the Literary Award SABA in 2015 in the category The Best Novel of the Year.

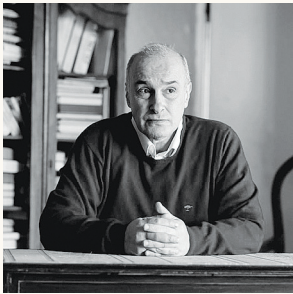
'His works have everything that attracts today's readers: a skilfully devised plot, well-defined characters and the ability to manage dramatic conflicts: in dealing with these conflicts he gives a real master-class in playful craftsmanship.'

(G. Lobjanidze, poet, literary critic / Radio Liberty)



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Sample translation available
in German and English



Lasha Tabukashvili was born in 1950. His debut short story *The Boy Is Killed* was published in the magazine *Tsiskari* in 1969. He is the author of twenty short stories which are translated into many languages. One of them-*Farewell, Madam*-was recently published in Japan in a collection of European writers.

Lasha Tabukashvili is the author of the plays: *The Wound*; *Spring Beyond the Shutters*; *The Old Waltz*; Many of them were staged in the drama theatres in different countries, including Germany, and translated into many languages.

The Invention of the East

/ აღმოსავლეთის გამოგონება /

Irma Tavelidze is a masterful storyteller with a unique literary voice. The stories in *The Invention of the East* consist mainly of seductively slow tales that the first-person narrator recalls from the past. Often the stories involve an amour fou – lives full of burning, insatiable longing. Tavelidze focuses on a particular type of person, varying the character with great literary skill: he or she is a self-centred intellectual, approaching collapse, with a strong libido, prone to transgressions and excesses, with an active imagination that replaces or absorbs the character’s perception of life. Although the stories tell of particular individuals, they are pervaded by the atmosphere of the country and the period.

The book was shortlisted for the Literary Award SABA in 2014 in the category The Best Collection of Stories of the Year.

‘Irma Tavelidze’s texts never have anything open-handed about them; They remind you of a clenched fist from which the fingers have to be slowly freed, one by one.’

(E. Kevanishvili, poet, literary critic / Akhali Saunje)



Irma Tavelidze was born in 1972. Since completing her degree in philology she has lived in Tbilisi, working as a translator from English and French (she has translated the work of Michel Houellebecq and Paul Auster, among others). Since 1999 she has been a creative writer. In 2008 she won the TSERO literary competition, in which the prize is awarded by readers. Her first volume of stories, *Autobiography* in French, was published in 2007. Irma Tavelidze’s story *Gori Castle* appeared in Swedish translation in the anthology *Goris fästning* (Tranan 2011).



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Asynchrony

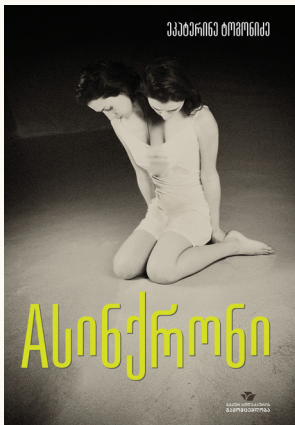
/ ასინქრონი /

Siamese twins Lina and Diana die in mysterious circumstances. In this tragic story, their absent father Rostom learns of their existence first through the terrible fact of their death, then, page by page, from their poignant diary entries. Although they are conjoined, the girls are two very different individuals with well-defined and separate personalities. Easy-going, happy Lina is capable of falling in love, an optimistic and romantic soul who writes poetry in her diary and finds joy in the smallest details of her life. Diana, tougher and more down-to-earth, is less accepting of their situation, and angrier. Like most siblings they argue and envy each other; Unlike most they cannot act in isolation except through this one outlet, their diaries. The two contrasting voices chronicle their extraordinary experience as two separate individuals who from the waist down share one body. Until they are teenagers, the vulnerable twins are hidden from the outside world and cared for by their grandmother, who struggles to protect them in impoverished post-Soviet Georgia, a society with little compassion for the disabled. After her death they are defenceless and fall victim to every type of ill-treatment. They are abused sexually and psychologically, and forced to work as freaks in a circus.

The book was shortlisted for the Literary Award SABA in 2014 in the category The Best Novel of the Year.

‘Ekaterine Togonidze has a niche of her own in literature: hitherto, the themes she elaborates have been virtually entirely ignored by Georgian literature.’

(L. Bugadze, author / IMEDI TV)



Number of Pages: 160
Cover: Paperback
Size: 13X19.5 cm
Published in: 2013
Copyright Holder:
Bakur Sulakauri Publishing House
Contact: Michael Tsikhelashvili / michael@sulakauri.ge

Sample translation available in English.



Ekaterine Togonidze was born in 1981. She graduated in journalism from Tbilisi State University. She was a news programme anchor and then a morning programme presenter in Georgian Public Broadcasting and has written for several Georgian newspapers and magazines. Her first short story collection *Anaesthesia* won the Best Debut of the Year at Literary Award SABA. Her novella *The other W-A-Y* has been translated into German and published in the short story collection *Techno der Jaguare* (Frankfurter Verlagsanstalt). This novella was the basis for her script of a full-length film which won the script competition of the Georgian National Film Centre in 2013. She now writes novels and also works as marketing and PR manager in the Georgian-American University.

Ekaterine Togonidze’s works are translated into German and English languages.

The Wisdom of Fancy

/ სიმბოლურ სივრცეში /

The Wisdom of Fancy is a modern romance about a small town which is aware of everything: what has happened, what is going on and what is going to take place ... The plot of the story develops in Telavi. The narrative's central character, Noti, lets other characters-Do, Re, Mi, Fa, Sol, La, Si-become major heroes and primary figures of the novel's seven chapters. Noti starts telling the story from the age of fifteen, when he falls in love with Do, the wife of his friend-Dziezi. The couple makes love after Dziezi's death, on his grave, just for one night. The town itself, besides being the space where the action takes place, sometimes becomes a character and plays the role of a guard, from which Noti is always hiding and running away. Noti's last love affair involves Si, the last note in the scale and a victim of domestic violence. Finally, Noti realizes that he has to leave the area which has become for him a town of dead people and ghosts. Noti cannot live like that, because he is a musical note! He has understood that there is an unbearable gap between Wisdom and Fancy and he now has to make his choice.

Literary Award SABA in 2014 in the category The Best Literary Prose Debut of the Year.



Number of Pages: 216

Cover: Paperback

Size: 14X20 cm

Published in: 2013

Copyright Holder:

Palitra L Publishing

Contact: Tinatin Asatiani /

t.asatiani@palitra.ge

Sample translation available
in Russian.



Toresa Mossy was born in 1984. He is a screenwriter and musician. Very early, several of his stories were published in various literary publications and received a positive critical response. Ladder Studio released a comedy film *Givi* (producer Demetre (Duta) Skhirtladze) based on Mossy's script. In 2015 *Palitra L* published his second book including short stories and a novel *I/You are Christ*.

The Town and The Saints

/ ქალაქი და წმინდანები /

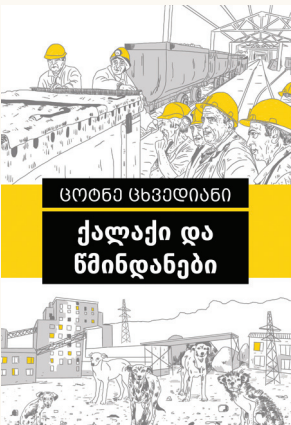
Tsotne Tskhvediani’s debut short story collection *The Town and The Saints* deals with Georgians’ everyday lives in rural province towns. Like everyone else, these characters are waiting to get jobs, dream about fame, and try to escape the difficulties around them. But their only prospects are a depressing dreariness and despair. They cannot take a wider view of their lives. They hope for a better future but that hope is never realized.

It is hard to say whether it is love or hate, sadness or happiness, life or death that dominates the desolation which pervades the town. Each story and its characters are deeply moving, so that every reader will be affected and will be able to analyse the way life develops in abandoned and forgotten towns.

The book was shortlisted for the Literary Award SABA in 2015 in category The Best Literary Debut of the Year.

‘In principle I would make this book required reading for members of parliament, for ministers and governors, and see that they read it. Whereas political meetings attended by thousands of people and television programmes have been unable to change anything, a ‘Molotov cocktail’ hurled with such good aim by a writer may be more effective.’

(Sh. Iatashvili, poet, literary critic / Radio Liberty)



Number of Pages: 136
Cover: Paperback
Size: 13X19.5 cm
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Copyright Holder:
Bakur Sulakauri Publishing House
Contact: Michael Tsikhelashvili / michael@sulakauri.ge

Sample translation of the short story the Golden City is available in English.



Tsotne Tskhvediani is one of the most talented and promising authors in contemporary Georgian literature. He was born in August 1993 in Kutaisi, Georgia. He studied World History at Tbilisi State University. Tskhvediani’s debut in Georgian literature was in March 2013 when his short story *Underground* was published in the literary magazine *The Literature Palitra*.

Tskhvediani’s short story *Golden City* will be published in *Best European Fiction* 2016.

The King of the Woods

/ ტყეების მეფე /

“You are the King of the woods and will never be able to come out into the valley” – This is how the Seljuks addressed the King David IV the Builder. Despite of the difficulty of his mission, he managed to re-create Georgia from the demolished woods to the Kingdom.

This is the latest novel by Dato Turashvili, the all-time bestselling author in Georgia. The King of the Woods was firstly planned as a script, meant to be the base for a movie on the greatest kings of Georgia. Legends and historical facts are connected with the King David IV the Builder and so are in the book. The book tells us the story of Georgia's most powerful king, David IV the Builder. After King George II abdicated, sixteen year-old David was crowned king and became responsible for the whole country, which had been destroyed by the Seljuk Empire. His main aim was to build a new country which would be free and strong in economic, military, diplomatic and cultural spheres. But such details are to be found in academic history books... In this novel the writer introduces us to a mix of urban legends and historical facts, and that is what makes the story both beautiful and fantastic. King David IV is presented as just an ordinary adult, but one who gained power and became responsible for everything.



Number of Pages: 240

Cover: Paperback

Size: 14.5X21.5 cm

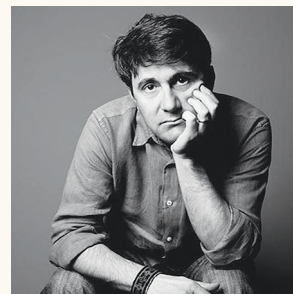
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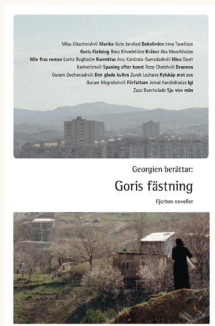
Contact: Michael Tsikhelashvili /

michael@sulakauri.ge



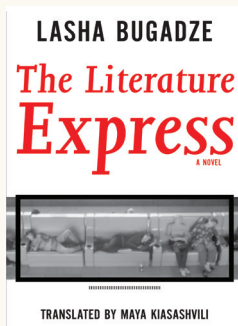
Dato Turashvili was born in 1966. He studied literature, film and art history at Tbilisi, London and Madrid Universities. Apart from screenplays, he also writes novels, short stories and plays. His debut prose collection was first published in 1991. Dato Turashvili has published a total of 14 books. He has translated both prose and poetry from Russian, Spanish and English. His novel *Flight from the USSR (The Jeans Generation)* is a number-one bestseller in Georgia. He has taken part in mountain climbing expeditions in the Caucasus, Andes and Himalayan mountains. Dato Turashvili has twice won Literary Award SABA in the category of Best Play: *Two Islands in the Black Sea* - 2003, *Black Sneakers* - 2008

Dato Turashvili's works are translated into: German, English, Italian, Croatian, Spanish, Korean, Basque, Russian, Armenian, etc.



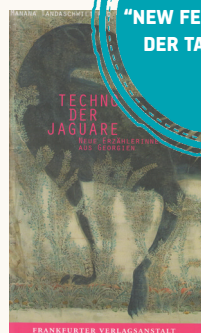
**Gori Fortress /
Goris Fästning**
(Collection of short stories)

Translated into Swedish
by Tamar Maisuradze
Tranan / 2013



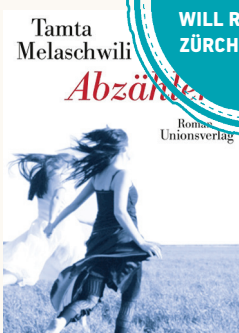
Lasha Bugadze
The Literature Express

Translated into English
by Maya Kiasashvili
Dalkey Archive Press / 2013



**Techno of Jaguar /
Techno der Jaguare**
(Collection of Short Stories)

Translated into German
by Maia Tabukashvili,
Maka Kandelaki, Anastasia
Kamarauli, Irma Shiolashvili,
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Frankfurter Verlagsanstalt /
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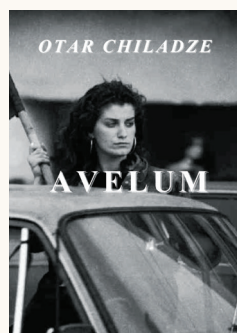
Tamta Melashvili
Counting Out / Abzählen

Translated into German
by Natia Mikeladze-Bachsoliiani
Unionsverlag / 2012



Tamta Melashvili
Counting Out / Считалка

Translated into Russian
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Samokat / 2014



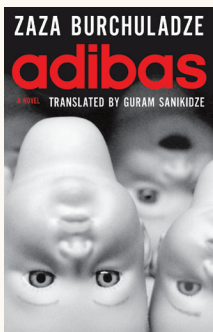
Otar Chiladze
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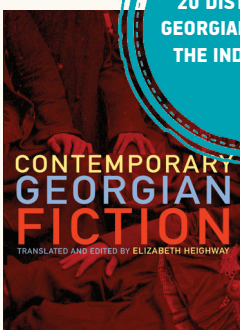
Ana Kordzaia-Samadashvili
Me, Margarita / Ich, Margarita

Translated into German
by Sybilla Heinze
Hans Schiler Verlag / 2013



Zaza Burchuladze
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Translated into English
by Guram Sanikidze
Dalkey Archive Press / 2013



**Contemporary
Georgian Fiction**

Translated by Elizabeth
Heighway
Dalkey Archive Press / 2012



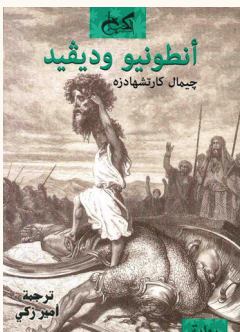
Zaza Burchuladze
Inflatable Angel /
L'ange Gonflable

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L'Age D'Homme / 2013



Beso Khvedelidze
The Taste of Ashes /
Der Geschmack von Asche

Translated into German
by Anastasia Kamarauli
Leipziger Literaturverlag / 2013



Jemal Karchkhadze
Antonio and David /
ديفيدو وين وطن

Translated into Arabian
by Amir Zaky
Al Kotob Khan Publishing /
2014



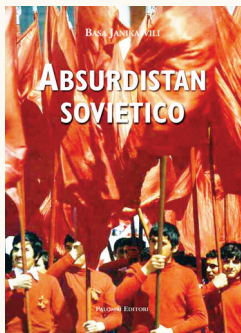
Dato Turashvili
Flight from the USSR /
Westflug

Translated into German
by Anastasia Kamarauli
Wagenbach / 2014



Basa Janikashvili
Shoot ‘em Up / Гра у
Войнушку

Translated into Ukrainian
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PR-Prime Company / 2014



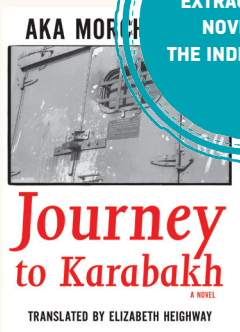
Basa Janikashvili
Absurdistan / Absurdistan
Sovietico

Translated into Italian
by Ketevan Charkviani
Palombi Editori 2014



Aka Morchiladze
Of Old Hearts and Sword /
Spegel Riket

Translated into Swedish
by Linnéa Melcherson
2244 / 2013



Aka Morchiladze
Journey to Karabakh

Translated into English
by Elisabeth Heighway
Dalkey Archive Press / 2013



Irakli Samsonadze
Ear Pillow / Ականջաբարձ

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Antares / 2014



Shota Rustaveli

The Knight
in the Panther's Skin /
Der Recke im Tigerfell

Translated into German
by Hugo Huppert
Reichert Verlag / 2014



Vazha Pshavela

Stories / Mäusefalle und
andere Erzählungen

Translated into German
by Giorgi Bregadze
Paramon / 2014

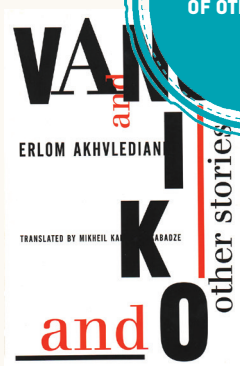


"THE BEST HOLIDAY
READS 2015",
THE GUARDIAN

Mikheil Javakhishvili

Kvachi

Translated into English
by Donald Rayfield
Dalkay Archive Press / 2014



"IN DEFENCE
OF OTHERNESS",
TLS

Erlom Akhvlediani

Vano and Niko

Translated into English
by Mikheil Kakabadze
Dalkey Archive Press / 2014



Erlom Akhvlediani

Mosquito in the City /
Sivrisinek Sehirde

Translated into Turkish
by Ciloglu Pahretin
Dedalus Kitap / 2014



"IN DEFENCE
OF OTHERNESS",
TLS

Tamaz Chiladze

The Brueghel Moon

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by Maya Kiasashvili
Dalkey Archive Press / 2014

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The Cushion (Irakli Samsonadze)

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The First Two Circles and Everyone Else (Naira Gelashvili)

The Guest (Guram Gegeshidze)

The January River (Teona Dolenjashvili)

The Literature Express (Lasha Bugadze)

The Nightingales of Isfahan (Nestan Kvinikadze)

The Piano Stool (Gela Chkvanava)

The Story of Your Life (Aka Morchiladze)

The Taste of a Mouse (Beso Khvedelidze)

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Zebulon (Jemal Karchkhadze)

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