



AUTUMN 2008

ELECTRIC SHADOWS BOOKSHOP



esb news

Welcome to the autumn edition of ESB News. The days are getting shorter and the nights colder, yes it's definitely autumn in Canberra. So now is the time to start listing and stockpiling all the books and DVDs that you will need to while away the winter blues. We hope you'll find a few good ideas in this edition.

ESB'S GIANT EASTER SALE 21 MARCH – 25 MARCH

Don't miss our giant annual Easter sale! It runs for 5 days only, from Good Friday, 21st March, until Tuesday, 25th March. There will be a **MINIMUM OF 15% OFF ALL OUR STOCK** plus loads of quality remainders and other bargains — such as **25% off a range of Oxford University Press subject dictionaries** and **huge savings on a great selection of world cinema DVDs** from Madman Entertainment, Hopscotch Films and Roadshow (but only while stocks last!).



SOME OF THE DVD HIGHLIGHTS ARE — the full *Studio Ghibli* range of best selling Japanese animation (including the most recent *Tales from Earthsea*) will be discounted to \$24.95 each (a saving \$5–\$10 off RRP). *The Adventures of Tintin* box set will be discounted to \$49.95 (save \$20 off RRP). *The Jacques Tati box set* will be discounted to \$59.95 (save \$40 off RRP). *The Beginners*

Guide to Cinema box set will be discounted to \$89.95 (save \$10 off RRP). *The Essential Bergman: the faith trilogy* box set will be discounted to \$39.95 (save \$20 off RRP). *Brokeback Mountain*, *The Cave of the Yellow Dog*, *Downfall* and *Joyeux Noel* (sale price \$14.95), *The Lives of Others* and *Pan's Labyrinth* (sale price \$19.95), *Kundun*, *Life is Beautiful* and *The Mission* (sale price \$9.95).



Easter trading hours

Good Friday — 11 am to 6 pm
Easter Saturday — 9 am to 8 pm
Easter Sunday & Monday — 11 am to 6 pm

CRIME NIGHT

ON MORT STREET

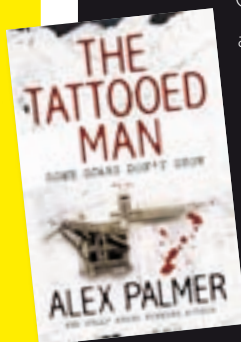
As befits our street name we are thrilled to announce that on **Thursday 13th March** (at 6 for 6.30pm) we will be launching the electrifying new crime novel by local author, Alex Palmer. Alex's first novel, *Blood Redemption*, won the Ned Kelly Award for Best First Crime Novel, The Canberra

Critics Circle Award for Literature and the Sisters-in-Crime Davitt Award (jointly with Gabrielle Lord).

Her new novel, **THE TATTOOED MAN** will be officially launched by Canberra's leading connoisseur of crime writing, Jeff Popple. All welcome but please RSVP by Tuesday 11th for catering purposes.

Telephone 6248 8352 or email

esb@electricshadowsbookshop.com.au



MADMAN
ENTERTAINMENT

MAD 4 KIDS DVD GIVEAWAY



Our friends at Madman Entertainment have another fantastic giveaway for our readers. The beloved British children's book character Paddington Bear turns 50 this year and as part of the celebrations MADMAN are releasing a special anniversary edition of *Paddington* (the original stop motion Paddington Bear TV series made for the BBC). This 2 disc DVD is valued at \$39.95. To win all you have to do is answer a simple question: "what is Paddington's favourite food?"
DROP IN OR EMAIL YOUR ENTRIES TO
esb@electricshadowsbookshop.com.au

Consuming Passions

A SELECTION OF NEW



MURDER ON THE APRICOT COAST

by Marion Halligan

The eagerly-awaited sequel to the bestselling *The Apricot Colonel* is

another charming novel of fruit preserving, cross-dressing ... and murder. Cosy crime at its very best. All is not as it seems in the calm, well-ordered streets of the nation's capital. After the turbulence of their courtship, Cassandra and the colonel have settled into wedded bliss — only to have it shattered by a death far too close to home. A friend's daughter is found dead from a drug overdose — a tragic suicide. But when her unfinished manuscript turns up containing an explosive expose of the local child prostitution scene, suicide turns to murder. With characteristic panache, much reading between the lines, and a magnificent wardrobe of women's clothes (his), Cassandra and her colonel set out to unravel the truth. \$21.95pb



CONSUMED

by Caroline Hamilton

A story of gluttony, madness, boiled tomatoes and a woman who will stop at nothing in her search

for a perfect recipe. Amelia wants to be the best cook in the world. But being the best cook is not just about preparing the perfect bean dish or cooking a steak so that it melts in your mouth, it's about struggle and learning. Amelia befriends Katarina, a strange, old Eastern European woman who teaches Amelia about tea, bread, bottled tomatoes and the art of cooking. Katarina's mysterious death unleashes a passion within Amelia and she discovers an age-old secret that unlocks the power and magic of famous cooks throughout history. In trying to invent a new recipe, Amelia discovers that her beloved Katarina was murdered and Amelia knows who did it. She begins to plan the tastiest recipe of her life, her recipe for revenge. \$24.95pb



THE ART THIEF

by Noah Charney

Three daring art thefts are simultaneously investigated in three European cities, but these apparently

isolated crimes have much more in common than anyone imagines. In Rome, the police enlist the help of renowned art investigator Gabriel Coffin when tracking down the stolen masterpiece. In Paris, Geneviève Delacloche is aided by Police Inspector Jean-Jacques Bizot, who finds a trail of bizarre clues and puzzles that leads him ever deeper into a baffling conspiracy. In London, Inspector Harry Wickenden of Scotland Yard oversees the museum's attempts to ransom back its stolen painting, only to have the masterpiece's recovery deepen the mystery even further. Full of fascinating art-historical detail, crackling dialogue, and a brain-teasing plot, this debut novel is a sophisticated, stylish thriller, as irresistible and multifaceted as a great work of art. \$29.95

Kid's CORNER



Maree RECOMMENDS



Here we are, well into the new school year, but with Easter and more school holidays to look forward to, Yaahooo! One book I really liked was *The Scribble Book* by Herve Tillet (\$19.95pb.) It's great! Feed scribbles to the hungry monster, scribble water to put out a fire, the scribbles turn into puzzles and then into real drawings. My preschool brother loves it too, as it makes his scribbles look like the right thing to do and boy does he like showing them off!

What Colour Is Your World by Bob Gill (\$19.95hb) has not been in print for a long, long time ... I think it said 40 years, but gee it's beautiful. It teaches us about the wonderful world of colour. I think even grown ups would love to have a look at this one.



Oh, I nearly forgot *Follow The Line* by Laura Ljungkvist (\$16.95pb) it follows one continuous line from the city to the country, from the sky to the ocean, from morning till night ... and Mum said the lady who designed it works as a designer for *The New Yorker* and she also has a web site with lots of cool downloads for kids.



Hilltop Hospital volume 1 (\$19.95) is surprisingly my DVD pick. My little brother got a copy of it, but I just had to watch it with him. It was sooo cute! It is animated, Dad says it's claymation, and the hospital is run by animals for animals (Dad said it looks just like *ER* for preschoolers). Pity I forgot to do my homework that evening ... Anyway, hope you like some of these books and DVDs.

FEATURED SOUNDTRACK



So Frenchy So Chic 2008
\$34.95



The unofficial soundtrack of the annual Alliance Francaise French Film Festival, features the freshest sound from France's diverse musical landscape — Charlotte Gainsbourg, Daphne, Solal, Ultra Orange, Emmanuelle and much more ...

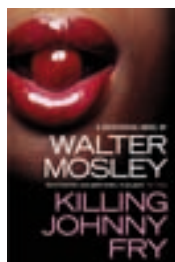
CRIME FICTION

ALEX PALMER RECOMMENDS



We asked Alex to share with us some of her favourite crime and detection stories and here is what she came up with (and she isn't necessarily genre driven as you will see!)

- ▶ *Crime and Punishment* (Dostoevsky)
- ▶ *The Devils* (also by Dostoevsky)
- ▶ *My Dark Places* (James Ellroy)
- ▶ *The Pardoner's Tale* from *The Canterbury Tales* (Chaucer)
- ▶ *Emma* (Jane Austen)



KILLING JOHNNY

FRY by Walter Mosley,

Award-winning author Walter Mosley breaks new ground in this noir novel about a man who finally reaches breaking

point ... When Cordell Carmel catches his long-term girlfriend with another man - the thick-necked chauvinist Johnny Fry — something profound happens to him. Overnight Cordell's calm life dissolves. Finding himself prey both to thoughts of murder and an insatiable libido, he begins a dark sexual odyssey in search of retribution and gratification, leading him deep into the erotic heart of New York City. \$23.95pb

CHRISTOPHER KOCH and **GERALD MURNANE** were recently announced as the joint winners of the Australia Council's prestigious Emeritus Award.

The awards (with prize money of \$50,000 each) are amongst the highest honours in Australian literature and recognise the achievements of writers over the age of 65. Christopher Koch,

NON-FICTION



MADELEINES IN MANHATTAN

by Colette Rossant

It is 1955, and Colette Rossant, newly married, has just arrived in

America with her husband. A young Frenchwoman in New York, bemused by American customs and most importantly by the food: the limp sandwiches, the ubiquitous mayonnaise, the iceberg lettuce. But post-war New York is bristling with energy, and the Rossants discover a whole new world in Greenwich Village: theatre and avant-garde cinema, farmers' markets and Jewish delis. Colette slowly falls in love with her adopted country and this is the story of her journey from young housewife and passionate cook to acclaimed food writer. \$21.95pb



\$12 MILLION STUFFED SHARK

by Don Thompson

This is the *Tipping Point* or *Freakonomics* for the art world. It will appeal to anyone interested in art, but also for anyone who has wondered 'yes, but, is it art?' It is the first book to look at the economics and marketing strategies which power the contemporary art market. It offers a fascinating behind the scenes look at what makes or breaks an artist and the branding which drives this lucrative market. It contains exclusive interviews with artists, collectors, auctioneers and exhibitors. \$39.95pb

the author of seven novels, his most recent being *The Memory Room*, has twice been awarded the Miles Franklin Award. His novel, *The Year of Living Dangerously*, was made into a film by Peter Weir and was nominated for an Academy Award. Gerald Murnane is the author of eight books, most notably the award-winning novel, *The Plains* and his recently re-printed first novel, *Tamarisk Row*.

Australian Literature

IN THE SPOTLIGHT



THE SPARE ROOM

by Helen Garner

In this short and powerful novel — her first work of fiction for fifteen years — one of Australia's bestselling and most

admired writers tells an extraordinary story about two women. Helen lives in Melbourne, and her friend Nicola flies down from Sydney for a three-week visit. She will sleep in Helen's house, in her lovingly prepared spare room. This is no ordinary visit. Nicola has advanced cancer and is seeking alternative treatment from a clinic in Helen's city. From the moment Nicola steps off the plane, gaunt, staggering like a crone, her voice hoarse but still with something grand about her, Helen becomes her nurse, her protector, her guardian angel and her stony judge. \$29.95tpb

DUE APRIL

AMERICAN JOURNEYS

by Don Watson

The best-selling Australian master of non-fiction (political biographer and analyst of the decay of public language) now turns his attention to the United States. Part travelogue, part history, part contemporary critique, *American Journeys* investigates the meaning of the United States: its confidence, its religion, its heroes, its violence, its material obsessions and its stupefying contradictions. \$49.95hb.



DECEMBER 2007 –
FEBRUARY 2008

Braddon Bestsellers

BOOKS

- 1 *The Uncommon Reader*
by Alan Bennett \$24.95hb
- 2 *Exit Right (Quarterly Essay # 28)*
by Judith Brett \$14.95pb
- 3 *The Memory Room*
by Christopher Koch \$32.95pb
- 4 *Musicophilia*
by Oliver Sacks \$32.95pb
- 5 *Being Elizabeth Bennett: Create Your Own Jane Austen Adventure*
by Emma Campbell Webster
\$29.95hb

DVDs

- 1 *As it is in Heaven*
Dir. Kay Pollak \$34.95
- 2 *Ten Canoes*
Dir. Rolf de Heer \$34.95
- 3 *Romulus, My Father*
Dir. Richard Roxburgh \$34.95
- 4 *Blade Runner the Final Cut*
Dir. Ridley Scott \$24.95
- 5 *Black Book*
Dir. Paul Verhoeven \$39.95

NEW FILM BOOKS & DVDS

Please see our website for
the latest titles available

www.electricshadowsbookshop.com.au



DVD ROUNDUP

After the eagerly awaited release in February of *As it is in Heaven*, plus the other music-focused delights of the biopic about Edith Piaf, *La Vie En Rose*, and the Irish film *Once*, March and April will still provide you with lots of good viewing choices.

Four strong Australian dramas are amongst the March line-up, starting with *The Jammed* which deals with the dark world of human trafficking and prostitution, followed by *The Bet*, a stylish thriller set in the finance world and starring Matthew Newton and Aden Young as a pair of ruthless brokers. Then we have Rolf de Heer's charming homage to the era of silent films and slapstick comedy — *Dr Plonk*; and finally the first film to come out of the Tropfest Feature Program — *September* — a coming of age film, set in the '60s, dealing with mateship and indigenous issues.

By strange coincidence there are two equally strong films dealing with '80s music legends coming out only a week apart. The first, *Strummer: the Future is Unwritten* (directed by Julian Temple) covers the life of Joe Strummer, punk icon and enigmatic frontman of The Clash. The second, *Control*, directed by Anton Corbijn, is about Ian Curtis the frontman for Joy Division.



There are also several very notable foreign language releases this month, led by last year's winner of the Palme d'Or at Cannes — the Romanian film *4 Months, 3 Weeks and 2 Days*. Set in the

1980s, when abortion was still a very serious crime in that country, this extraordinary and emotionally powerful

drama takes place over the space of just one Saturday when a pregnant student, supported by her female friend, visit a black market abortionist. The other release to look out for is a multi-layered German film, *Four Minutes*, which follows the story of a young woman (a former child music prodigy) who has been imprisoned for murder since her early teens. While in prison she meets an elderly Prussian piano teacher who has been teaching inmates since World War II. Both women harbour dark secrets.

Towards the end of March and throughout April there is a whole swag of this year's Oscar nominees and winners being released on DVD. There's our



Cate in *Elizabeth the Golden Age*, Sean Penn's *Into the Wild*, Julie Christie's extraordinary performance as a victim of Alzheimers in *Away From Her*, the Coen Brother's big winner —

No Country for Old Men and finally at the end of the month, is *Atonement*.

A few other titles to look out for in April are *Angel* (French auteur Francois Ozon's British period drama); *The Italian* (a Russian film with a big heart); *Hula Girls* (a touching Japanese comedy set in the 1960s) and *Death at a Funeral* (a very British, very black comedy).



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bookshop

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