



# FOREIGN RIGHTS GUIDE

London Book Fair 2018

# Table of Contents

TABLE OF CONTENTS	1
<b>FICTION</b>	
<b>Alice Fokkelman</b> – <i>I Still Know Who You Are</i>	3
<b>Carla de Jong</b> – <i>The Johansons</i>	4
<b>Tomer Pawlicki</b> – <i>Thanks to the War</i>	5
<b>Jocelyn Vreugdenhil</b> – <i>Afternoon Swimmers</i>	6
<b>Herien Wensink</b> – <i>Clay Skin</i>	7
<b>NON-FICTION</b>	
<b>Sarah Domogala</b> – <i>The Art of Disappearing</i>	10
<b>Oscar van Gelderen &amp; Manuela Klerkx</b> – <i>Art Safari: The Joy of Hunting for Art</i>	11
<b>Kemal Rijken</b> – <i>The Conspiracy Against Europe</i>	12
<b>CO-AGENTS</b>	13

# FICTION

Alice Fokkelman

# I Still Know Who You Are

**Imagine: the bully who made your life hell when you were young becomes your neighbour twenty years later...**

## ABOUT THE BOOK

Manon leads a comfortable life. She is married, has one daughter, and her neighbors like her. It seems as if nothing can stand in the way of her happiness. Yet, there is one man who can slip by all of her defenses and turn her life into a living hell.

From the day that Wessel moves in next door, Manon returns to her insecure former self. While her husband hits on Wessel's girlfriend, Manon feels herself sinking deeper and deeper into the past. Is Wessel still the same manipulative bully he used to be, or is she terrorized by her own delusions?

*I Still Know Who You Are* is an addictive thriller. Raw anger, fear and frustration almost jump out of the pages. But who is the real victim in this situation?



- **Dutch rights sold in a pre-empt to Xander**
- **For readers of Liane Moriarty and Paula Hawkins**

- ❖ Publication: Xander, 2018 (April)
- ❖ 272 pages
- ❖ Dutch manuscript available



## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Alice Fokkelman (1966) studied Dutch and English in Utrecht. She started writing short stories in 2003; several of these were published in both literary and commercial magazines. Alice is a Communication Manager for a large corporation and lives with her husband in the Randstad-area.

Carla de Jong

# The Johansons

'A powerful, intriguing family novel, about youthful ideals, love, deception and betrayal.' *Zin*

## ABOUT THE BOOK

Anne, a highly intelligent girl, is the odd one out in her loving working class family. When she meets the intellectual Johansons, she quickly realizes that she wants to be a part of their family. She strikes up a close friendship with the daughter and the two sons of the Johansons. This friendship blossoms as they grow into adulthood, but it falters due to a series of tragic events. Thirty years later, the paths of the Johansons and Anne cross once again. Will they be able to forgive each other?

*The Johansons* is a novel about family, but also about growing up, about family ties, displacement, the dreams of youth and the disillusionments of adulthood. A tale about friendship, love, passion, betrayal, loss and reconciliation.

## PRAISE

'Gripping and moving.' *Elegance*

'The Johansons stay with you: after finishing the book, you won't be able to stop thinking about them. Don't miss out on this great novel.' author **Jackie van Laren**

'An ingenious psychological drama that leaves you satisfied with the happy moments in life, despite all the cruel twists and turns fate sometimes has in store for us.' *Hebban*

## PRAISE FOR HER PREVIOUS WORK

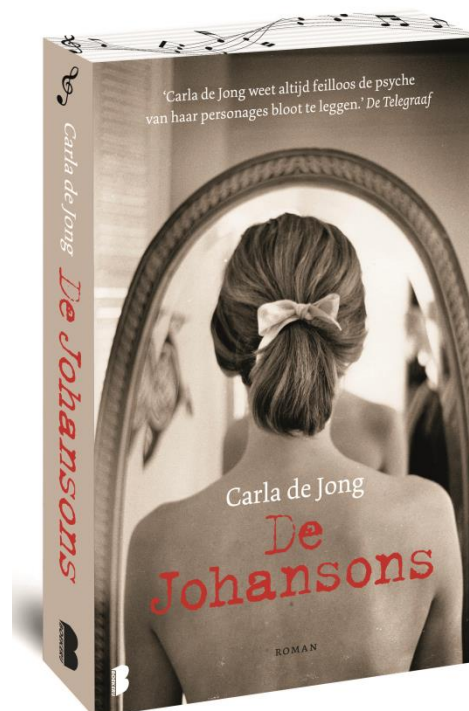
'Always highly enjoyable.' *NRC*

'Carla de Jong flawlessly lays bare the psyche of her characters.' *De Telegraaf*



## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Carla de Jong** studied Dutch, nursing and social sciences. She is the author of five books, of which one, the thriller *Serpent*, was nominated for the Gouden Strop-award for best Dutch thriller. Carla de Jong also works at the Dutch writers' academy, where she teaches both starter courses and advanced classes creative writing. Carla lives in Amsterdam with her husband and their two children.



- ❖ Publication: **De Boekerij, 2017**
- ❖ **320 pages**
- ❖ **Dutch pdf & finished copies available**

Tomer Pawlicki

# Thanks to the War

**A tragi-comical, autobiographical novel about the meaning of WWII for the third generation**

## ABOUT THE BOOK

Did anything good come out of the Second World War? Twenty-five year old Tomer struggles with that question. He does not feel like a victim but people say he is. Fact is, he owes his existence to the war.

Looking for answers, Tomer turns to his mother, but she cannot tell him anything about their Jewish past. She would rather hear him tell her that he loves her. His father only spouts oneliners from eighties action movies and instructs his son to take after Arnold Schwarzenegger. Then Tomer receives an unexpected letter from his grandmother, who survived the concentration camps.

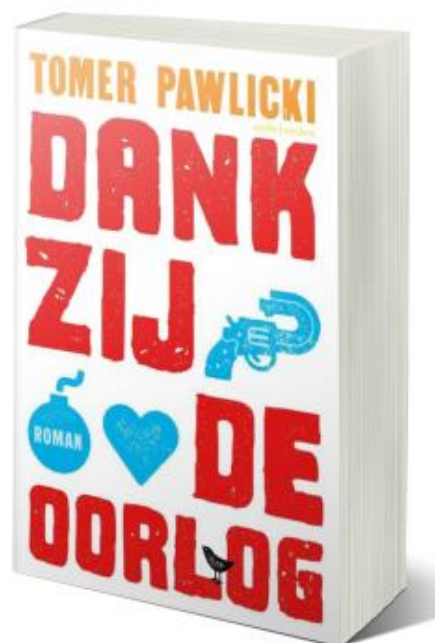
*Thanks to the War* is a novel about remembering versus forgetting and the search for an identity. In his own poignant yet tragicomic way, Tomer Pawlicki shows what it means to live thanks to the war. And how to be happy about that.

## PRAISE

‘A wonderful, ambitious debut with plenty of potential. The exchanging of thoughts between the grandmother and her grandson is fascinating and beautifully written.’ *Nederlands Dagblad*

‘Pawlicki’s book excels in humour and swagger: the characters are unforgettable. A terrific book that asks questions about World War II and the holocaust: how do we remember the war now that the generation that lived through it is slowly disappearing?’ *Mappa Libri*

‘Not a provocation, but rather a philosophical contemplation, pensive and carefully probing.’ *NRC*



- ❖ Publication: Ambo | Anthos, 2017
- ❖ 240 pages
- ❖ Dutch pdf + finished copies available



## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Tomer Pawlicki** (Tel Aviv, 1986) studied theatre in Arnhem. He acted in several stage productions, movies and television shows. In 2014-2015, he put on a one man stage show, *Thanks to the War*, which received critical acclaim. Pawlicki was also featured in the show *Pax Mama*, written by Arnon Grunberg.

Jocelyn Vreugdenhil

## Afternoon Swimmers

Comical drama about a lesbian couple searching for a donor

- Lead title for the summer catalogue of Luitingh-Sijthoff

### ABOUT THE BOOK

Charlie, producer at a cooking show, and Sanne, career tiger in the Amsterdam City, are happy together. Until they decide to have a child. Confidently, they start their search for a donor. But how to find the right one? How to find one at all?

Along with this desire to have a child, other issues develop. Sanne has profound doubts, Charlie gets more and more obsessed. While Charlie seeks comfort in the arms of her friend Amber, Sanne envelops herself in her work. The two women start drifting apart.

A story about love and family, told with poignant humour, and devilish dilemmas by a new ambitious talent.

### PRAISE

'Middagzweimmers *in three words?*

Raw, honest, and hilarious.

*In two?*

Poignant and smart.

*In one?*

Wonderful.' **Edine Russel**, editor in chief *ELLE*

'A hilarious, as well as touching journey filled with sudden infatuations, contemplations, difficult decisions, and other forty-plus issues. To be read in one breath.' **Jolein Laarman**, screenwriter



### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Jocelyn Vreugdenhil** (1974) is a freelance text writer and lives in Amsterdam North with her girlfriend and two daughters. For years, she has been writing for magazines such as *ELLE FOOD*, *Management Team*, and *Red*. *Middagzweimmers* is based on her own life. She is currently working on her second book.



- ❖ Publication: Luitingh-Sijthoff, 2018 (June)
- ❖ 256 pages
- ❖ Dutch pdf & finished copies + English sample translation available

Herien Wensink

## Clay Skin

Intense novel about two wounded soldiers during World War I

- Dutch rights sold in a six-way auction
- Lead title for the spring catalogue of de Arbeiderspers

### ABOUT THE BOOK

Flanders 1918. In a temporary hospital, British officer Rupert Atkins and soldier Harvey Cole are forced to share a room. Harvey has sustained heavy injuries to his face and is recovering slowly, but there seems to be nothing wrong with Rupert. He does not want to stay there and refuses to talk about his war experiences.

At first, their relationship is one of aversion, but gradually, a mutual fascination develops. Because of their close quarters, both men will need to come to terms with the mental and physical damage that the war has inflicted on them.

An ambitious and at times horrific novel about war, identity, trauma, friendship and art.

### PRAISE

'A remarkable novel that captures the absolute misery of trench warfare.' \*\*\*\* *Noordhollandsch Dagblad*

'*Clay Skin* is a tough and psychological war novel; Wensink shows she is highly capable of describing both the war scenes as the aftermath for the victims.' *Trouw*

'Already an accomplished writer [...] Tough and sensitive at the same time.' \*\*\*\* *NRC Handelsblad*

'Light of tone, and a beautiful, captivating writing style. [...] An accomplished debut about two men and the way in which the war dictates their lives.' \*\*\*\* *Hebbon*



### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Herien Wensink (1977) studied Cultural Sciences and Dutch Language and Literature in Amsterdam. As a journalist who writes for the cultural section, she is able to combine her two greatest loves: writing and art. She has worked for *Het Parool* and *Elsevier* and she was part of the founding of *nrc.next* in 2006. For the next ten years, she was an editor for *NRC Handelsblad* and recently, she was appointed the theatre editor at *de Volkskrant*.



- ❖ Publication: **Arbeiderspers, 2018 (January)**
- ❖ **304 pages**
- ❖ **Dutch pdf + finished copies + English sample translation available**





# NON-FICTION

Sarah Domogala

# The Art of Disappearing

On Living Fast and Breaking Down

**Young, successful and suffering from a crippling anxiety in your twenties: the devastating fear of not being perfect**

## ABOUT THE BOOK

Sarah is young, ambitious, creative and successful. She is a movie director who travels the world, going from shoots to parties. Her work is her whole life. She wants matter, to make a difference. She wants to be the best, and in trying to reach her goal, she sleeps and eats less and less, but she keeps going. Until she self-destructs. She is twenty-six when she burns out. In the shattering silence that follows, she returns to her roots. Where is that quiet girl from the sticks with the rich imagination?

In wonderfully poetic and powerful language and with devastating insight, Sarah paints an intimate portrait that will resonate with many of us. *The Art of Disappearing* is about where we come from, who we are and what connects us. And how we can keep our head above water in these hectic, anonymous times.

## PRAISE

'Domogala deserves a standing ovation.' \*\*\*\* *Hebban*

'Definitely worth your while. Never before have I read something so tangible and insightful about how a successful, intelligent person becomes so utterly incapable of doing anything from one moment to the next.' author **Thomas Heerma van Voss** in *Metro*

'I want my friends to read this, so that, afterwards, we can talk about it and about ourselves. About what happens when we get home and take our masks off. That is what Sarah shows us.' **Gaite Jansen**, actress (*Peaky Blinders*)



## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Sarah Domogala** (1978) is a French-Dutch film maker. Her documentary *All We Ever Wanted*, about young people with a burn-out, has become a symbol of the era of millennials. In 2008, the film won the IDFA-prize for the Best Scenario. Sarah works as a coach and speaker for The School of Life, and writes articles for *Happinez*, *Harper's Bazaar*, *Vogue* and *NRC Handelsblad*. *The Art of Disappearing* is her debut.



- ❖ Publication: **Nieuw Amsterdam, 2018 (February)**
- ❖ **256 pages**
- ❖ **Dutch pdf + finished copies + English sample translation available**

For more information, please contact Marianne Schönbach: [m.schonbach@schonbach.nl](mailto:m.schonbach@schonbach.nl)

Oscar van Gelderen & Manuela Klerkx

## Art Safari

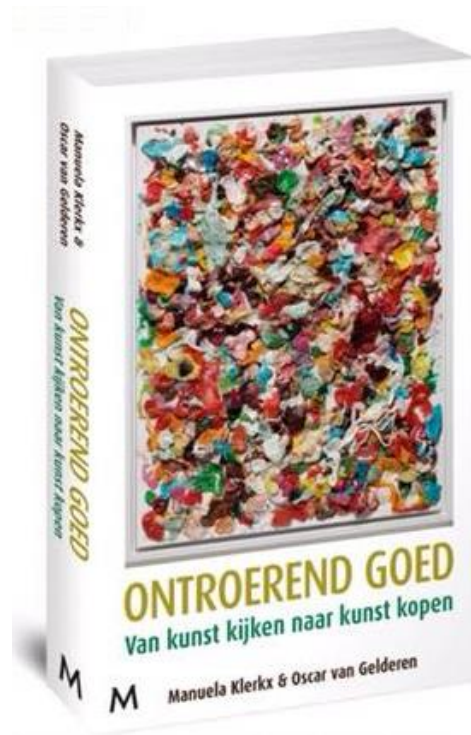
The Joy of Hunting for Art

**An inspiring and practical guide about buying art: how it works and how to go about it**

### ABOUT THE BOOK

Many people feel that art is an elitist hobby, not accessible to 'normal people'. Galleries are being experienced as intimidating white cube venues, prices charged are not transparent ('asking price'), and the accompanying texts are more confusing than clarifying.

But there is good news too: possessing art is not limited to the happy few. You can buy art for as little as a few hundred euros (if you do some research and dare to buy 'early on'). The art world is characterized by whole language of its own and is ruled by codes that Manuela Klerkx and Oscar van Gelderen are trying to break in *Art Safari*. How are prices being established? Can you bargain with galleries? How does an art fair work? There is so much choice: what to buy and how to buy it?



### PRAISE

'The art world has its own unique codes; this book helps you crack them.' *Trouw*

'Easy to read and practical.' *NRC Books*

'Van Gelderen & Klerkx prove that art doesn't have to be difficult, expensive, far away, or inaccessible.' *Het Financieele Dagblad*

- ❖ Publication: **Meulenhoff, 2018 (January)**
- ❖ **408 pages**
- ❖ **Dutch pdf & finished copies + English sample translation available**
- ❖ <https://www.ontroerendgoedboek.nl/international/>



### ABOUT THE AUTHORS

**Manuela Klerkx** (1962) graduated in French Linguistics and in Philosophy. In 1992 she worked as an assistant at Rodolphe Janssen Gallery, two years later she moved to Milan, where she worked for top notch galleries such as Karsten Greve Gallery and Massimo De Carlo. In 2004 she set up her own gallery in Milan: KLERKX, specialized in emerging Dutch and international artists. She currently runs an art agency: [www.klerkxiam.com](http://www.klerkxiam.com).

**Oscar van Gelderen** (1965) is publisher at Lebowski, in Amsterdam. He publishes a mix of international and Dutch fiction, has a knack for rediscoveries and loves cult books.

Some of the authors he works with are Dave Eggers, Niccolò Ammaniti, David Sedaris, Arnon Grunberg, Astrid Holleeder, John 'Stoner' Williams, Matt Haig, Charles Bukowski, and Hunter S. Thompson. He has been collecting art since the 90s, with a special love for outsider art.

For more information, please contact Marianne Schönbach: [m.schonbach@schonbach.nl](mailto:m.schonbach@schonbach.nl)

Kemal Rijken

# The Conspiracy Against Europe

The Rise of Right-Wing Populism in Europe

**Closing our borders and betting against Europe: is the Union poised to collapse?**

- ❖ Publication: Ambo | Anthos Uitgevers, 2018
- ❖ English proposal available

## ABOUT THE BOOK

Europe is currently in the throes of one of the biggest crises in its history. The economic downturn, the refugee crisis and Brexit have brought the train of European integration to a grinding halt.

Riding this wave of emotions, the right-wing populist parties are steadily gaining ground at the expense of the established parties, championing a Europe of nation states with closed borders and their own currencies but without multi-culturalism and Islam. They, too, are pressing for the end of the European Union. To achieve this objective, they need the support of the people, who will ultimately decide on their fate— as well as Europe’s – in the polling stations.

Since the late eighties, the populist, right-wing parties have been steadily evolving and gaining more political influence. But who are their main actors? What is their background? What motivates them and what will their rise in popularity lead to?

In the run-up to the European elections in 2019, the right-wing populists plan to consolidate their cooperation. Will they restore the European democracy, as they claim, or will they resolve to undermine it?

- **Based on in-depth interviews with Jean-Marie le Pen, Alexander Gauland, Rolf Bossi, and many more representatives of right-wing parties in Europe and the individuals who voted for them**

## PRAISE FOR HIS EARLIER WORK

‘In an immensely readable and lively style, Rijken paints a vivid picture of the religious history of the Netherlands. Man oh man, what a writer!’ *Trouw*

‘Rijken’s writing is completely on the mark.’ *Hebban*



## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Kemal Rijken** (1980) is a journalist and author. He writes about politics, government and minorities in our society for *NRC*, *De Groene Amsterdammer* and *Het Parool*. Among his published works are *Roma*, a book about the Sinti and Roma in the Netherlands, *De Westermoskee*, about the history of religious freedom in the Netherlands, and *Van der Laan*, a critically acclaimed biography about the mayor of Amsterdam.

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