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Rave On

Music

Global Adventures in Electronic Dance Music
Matthew Collin

In Detroit, techno is helping the city heal its economic wounds.

In Berlin, idealists are battling the corporatisation of nightlife.

In Vegas, EDM celebrities like Avicii play scattershot dancepop to a new teen audience.

In South Africa, deep house is soundtracking the 'Apartheid After-Party'.

In Ibiza, the superstar DJs of the 1990s play to economy-class travellers.

In the south of France, illegal 'teknivals' pit local police against thousands of ravers.

In Shanghai, promoters put on branded nights and talk about market share.

In Israel, Israelis and Arabs dance side by side to psytrance by the Sea of Galilee.

In Dubai, unlikely dance music scenes spring up like oases in a desert.

And in New York, gay nights are still holding out against the forces of sanitisation.

Rave culture once defined what it meant to be young and different. It set off an explosion of creativity, generating new musical form after new musical form, from hip-hop and house to dubstep and grime. But in a quarter-century it has gone from the subculture to the mainstream, and every year it seems closer to reflecting the individualistic, consumerist era it was born in. In *Rave On*, Matthew Collin crosses the globe to tell the story of where electronic music has come from and where it is going – and tries to find out whether it will survive its own success.



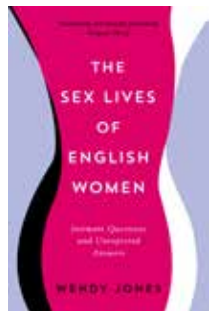
Matthew Collin is the author of the critically-acclaimed books *Altered State*, *This is Serbia Calling*, *The Time of the Rebels* and *Pop Grenade*. He has worked as a correspondent for the BBC and Al Jazeera, and as the editor of *The Big Issue*, *i-D* magazine and the *Time Out* website. He has also written for many newspapers and magazines, including the *Guardian*, *Observer*, *Wall Street Journal*, *The Face*, *Mixmag* and *Mojo*.

Wendy Jones

There have been endless studies asking how often men think about sex: results range from every seven seconds, to once or twice an hour. But what role does sex – in the head and in the bed – really play in men’s lives? Wendy Jones wanted to find out, so she interviewed men from all walks of life, including singletons and married men, a psychiatrist, a masseur, men whose sex lives are bound up in their religious beliefs, men who have suffered abuse and men who make a living from sex.

The men talked about their lives, bodies, sexual fantasies and relationships, about what they’ve learned, how they have been hurt, what they enjoy and what they long for. The interviews are frank, engaging and surprising. Each man is unique but together they speak for a majority, and it’s time we listened.

This honest and inspiring exploration of male desire will change the way we think and talk about sex forever.



Praise for *The Sex Lives Of English Women*:

‘Fascinating and thought-provoking’ Grayson Perry

‘A compelling and thought-provoking collection ... it’s brave, honest and full of things you’ll relate to.’ *Elle*

‘The interviews feel very real and immediate... entertaining, heart-warming’ *Telegraph*

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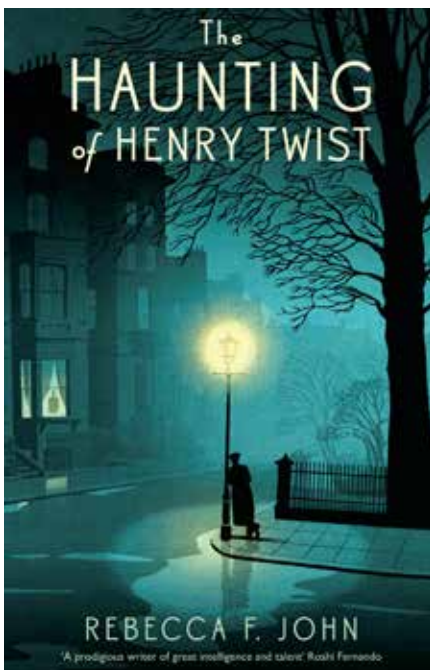
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Sample chapters available

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Wendy Jones is a graduate of the University of East Anglia and has a PhD from Goldsmiths in creative writing. She has published two novels and is the author of *Portrait of the Artist as a Young Girl*, a biography of Grayson Perry.



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The Haunting of Henry Twist

Rebecca F. John

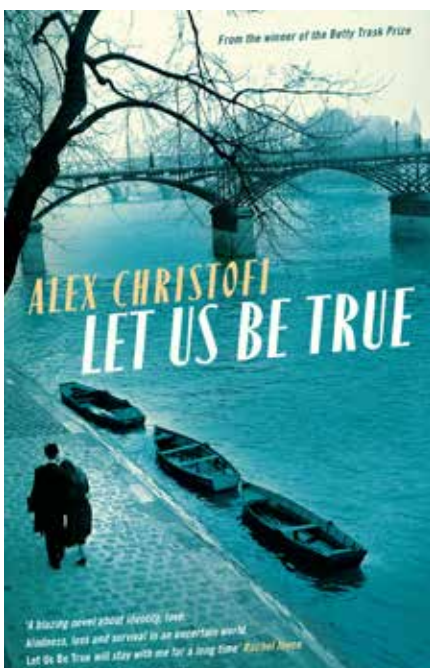
Fiction

London, 1926: shell-shocked, grief-stricken, Henry Twist has suddenly become a single father in a world without single fathers. Gripped with memories of his dead wife, and racked with guilt and fear, he hides his baby daughter from prying eyes, only walking her through the streets at night.

But one evening, a strange man steps from the shadows. He has lost his memory, but knows his name is Jack. Henry is both afraid of and drawn to the mysterious Jack, as they spend time together at the parties, protests, private gardens and darkened streets of roaring twenties London. But the more Henry sees him, the more he sees that Jack has echoes of his dead wife. Has she returned to him? Has he conjured Jack himself from thin air? Or is he in the grip of a sophisticated con man?

As more disappearances afflict his life, Henry must set aside his obsession with the past in order to make a bid for the future. This is an elegant debut novel about the limits and potential of love and of grief.

Rebecca F. John was born in 1986, and grew up in Pwll, Wales. Her short stories have been broadcast on BBC Radio 4. She is the winner of the PEN International New Voices Award 2015, and the British participant in the 2016 Scrittura Giovani project.



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Let Us Be True

Alex Christofi

Fiction

Christofi belongs to the school of Julian Barnes ... He has an acute sense of narrative and stylistic decorum. Nothing outrageous or soppy: emotions derive from the quiet, understated accumulation of events. *Let Us Be True* is only Christofi's second novel. It's tender and sensitively written with a powerful feeling for the passage of time.' *The Times*

Paris, 1958. Ralf is alone, waiting for life to happen to him. Then, one night, Elsa – bold, enigmatic, unpredictable – whirls into a bar and into Ralf's world, knocking him out of his cautious routine and into a life full of spontaneity and excitement. But Elsa is hiding something. As Ralf falls deeper in love, he reveals more of his past – his childhood in Nazi Germany, his time in a British tank division in WWII. But what is Elsa hiding? And can their love survive it?

Evocative, charismatic and sweeping in scope, this is a moving story of love and loss, of the things we hide from ourselves and from others, and of the personal cost of Europe's turbulent twentieth century.

Alex Christofi was born in Dorset and read English at Oxford University. As well as working as an editor, he writes occasional essays and reviews. His first novel *Glass*, also published by Serpent's Tail, won the Betty Trask Prize.

That Old Black Magic

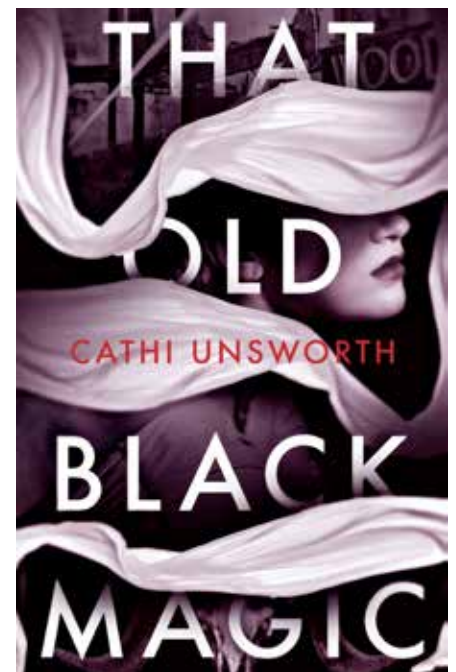
Cathi Unsworth

Crime Fiction

April 1943: four boys playing in Hagley Woods, Essex make a gruesome discovery. Inside an enormous elm tree, there is the body of a woman, her mouth stuffed with a length of cloth. As the case goes cold, mysterious graffiti starts going up across the Midlands: 'Who put Bella in the Wych Elm?'

To Ross Spooner, a police officer working undercover for spiritualist magazine *Two Worlds*, the messages hold a sinister meaning. He's been on the track of a German spy ring who have left a trail of black magic and mayhem across England, and this latest murder bears all the hallmarks of an ancient ritual.

At the same time, Spooner is investigating the case of Helen Duncan, a medium whose messages from the spirit world contain highly classified information. As the establishment joins ranks against Duncan, Spooner must face demons from his own past, uncover the spies hiding beneath the fabric of wartime society – and confront those who suspect that he, too, may not be all he seems ...



March 2018

£12.99

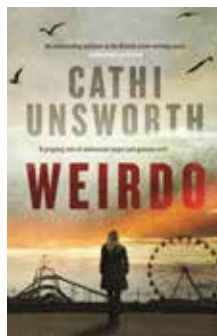
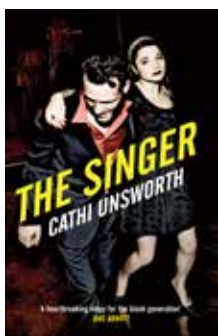
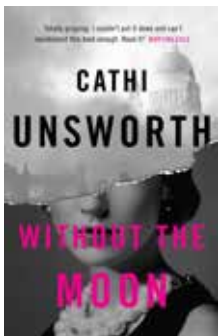
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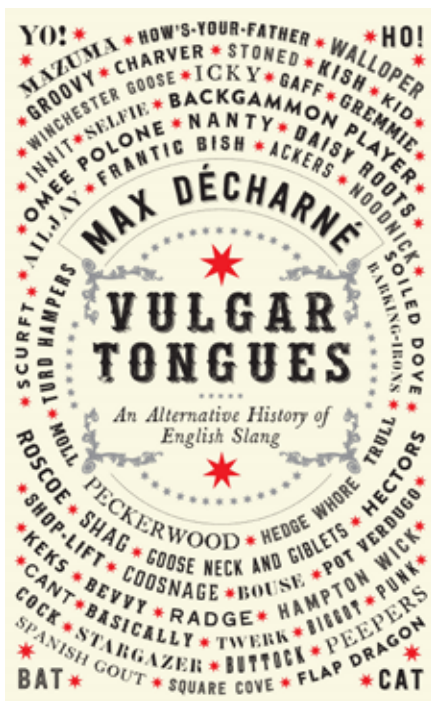
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Cathi Unsworth began a career in journalism at nineteen on the music weekly *Sounds*, and has since worked for many music, arts, film and alternative lifestyle journals. She is the author of four other novels, *Without the Moon* [9781846689864], *Weirdo* [9781846687938], *The Not Knowing* [9781852428921], *The Singer* [9781846686405] and *Bad Penny Blues* [9781846686788], and the editor of the award-winning crime compendium *London Noir*, all published by Serpent's Tail. She lives in London.



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Vulgar Tongues

History

An Alternative History of English Slang

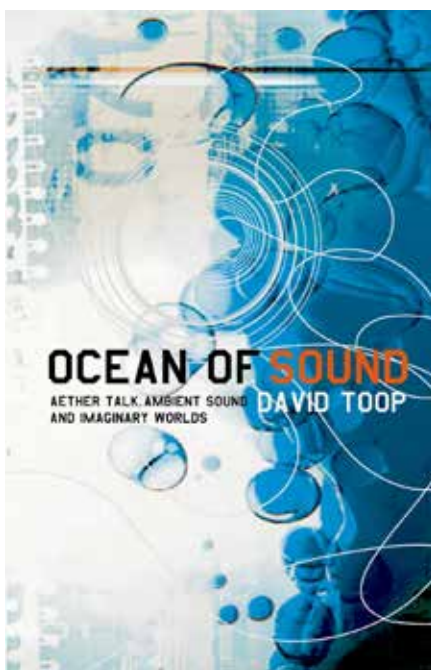
Max Décharné

Slang is the language of pop culture, low culture, street culture, underground movements and secret societies; depending on your point of view, it is a badge of honour, a sign of identity or a dangerous assault on the values of polite society.

Witty, energetic and informative, *Vulgar Tongues* traces the many routes of slang, beginning with the thieves and prostitutes of Elizabethan London and ending with the present day (where the centuries-old terms rap and hip-hop still survive, though their meanings have changed). On the way, we'll meet Dr Johnson, World War Two flying aces, pickpockets, schoolchildren, hardboiled private eyes, carnival geeks and the many eccentric characters who have tried to record slang throughout its chequered past.

If you're curious about flapdragons and ale passion, the changing meanings of punk and geek, or how fly originated on the streets of eighteenth-century London and square in Masonic lodges, this is the book for you.

Max Décharné is an author, songwriter and musician. A regular contributor to *Mojo* magazine since 1998, his books include *Hardboiled Hollywood*, *King's Road*, the jive-talk dictionary *Straight From The Fridge, Dad*, and *A Rocket in my Pocket*, a history of rockabilly music (Serpent's Tail 2010).



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Ocean of Sound

Music

Aether Talk, Ambient Sound and Imaginary Worlds

David Toop

Sun Ra, Brian Eno, Lee Perry, Kate Bush, Kraftwerk, Aphex Twin, Ryuichi Sakamoto and Brian Wilson are interviewed in this extraordinary work of sonic history. It travels from the rainforests of Amazonas to virtual Las Vegas; from David Lynch's dream house high in the Hollywood Hills to the megalopolis of Tokyo.

Ocean of Sound begins in 1889 at the Paris exposition when Debussy first heard Javanese music performed. An ethereal culture developed in response to the intangibility of 20th century communications.

Author of *Rap Attack 3* and *Exotica*, David Toop has in *Ocean of Sound* written an exhilarating, path-breaking account of ambient sound.

Now being reissued as a Serpent's Tail Classic.

David Toop is a highly regarded author, music critic and musician. Since 1995 he has released three solo albums, curated five compilation albums (including the soundtrack to *Ocean of Sound*), and the sound and music exhibition at the Hayward Gallery: 'Sonic Boom'. His music journalism appears in *The Wire*, *Book Forum*, *The Times* and *The Face*.

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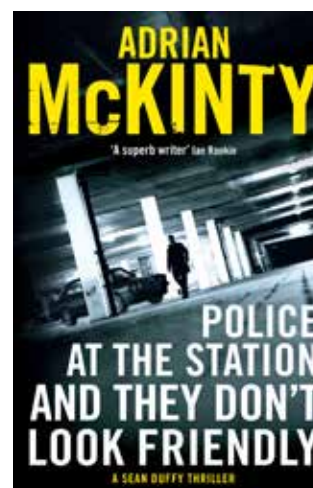
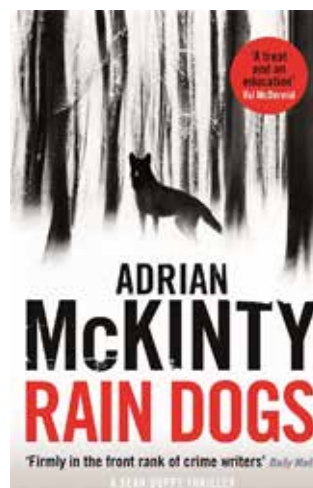
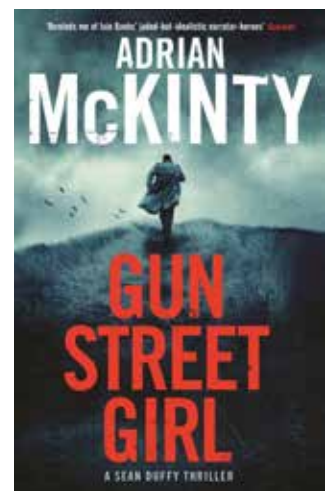
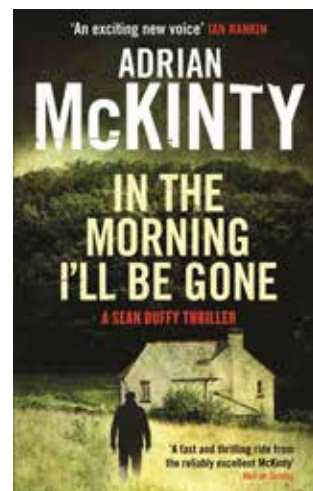
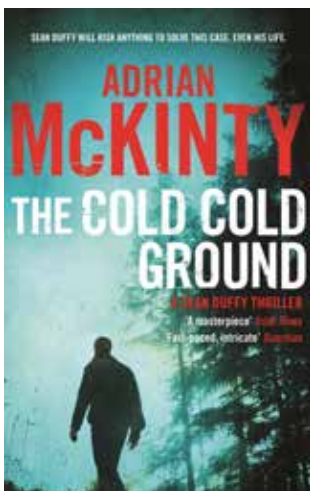
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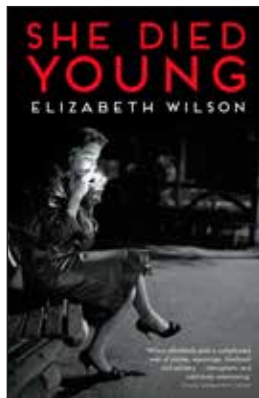
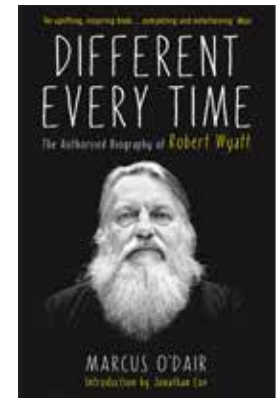
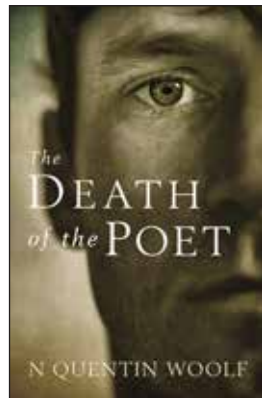
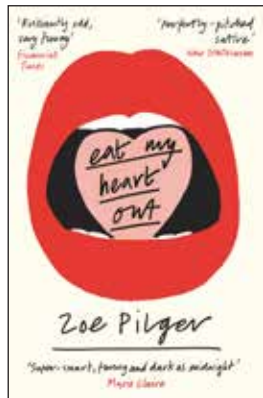
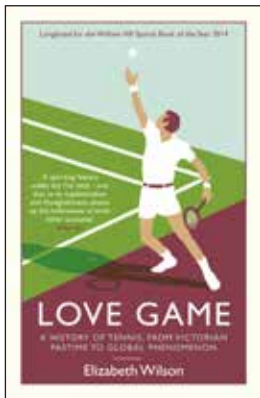
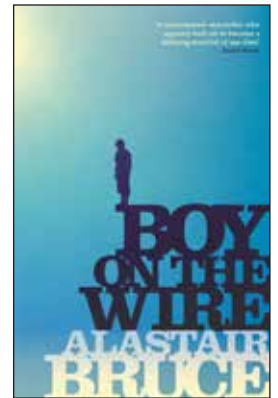
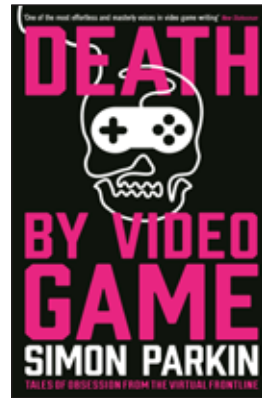
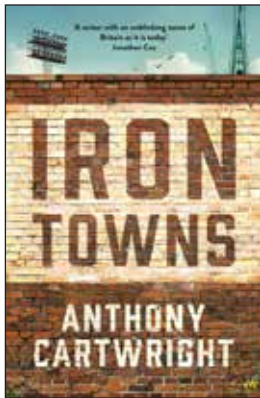
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Email: penny.daniel@profilebooks.com

TRANSLATION RIGHTS VIA: Andrew Nurnberg Associates

Tel: +44 20 3327 0400

Fax: +44 20 7253 4851

Email: hkoscia@nurnberg.co.uk

US RIGHTS VIA: George Lucas at Inkwell Management

Tel: 00 1 212 922 3500

Fax: 00 1 212 922 0535

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