

# Catalogue

2022-2023



CHEERIO



May 2023

**Rights:**

CHEERIO Publishing: World

**ART IS MAGIC**

Jeremy Deller

A holistic and revealing account of the inspirations, passions and practices of one of the country's foremost contemporary artists.

In work that is playful, political and provocative, borrowing from many forms and produced over many mediums, Jeremy Deller enjoys critical acclaim in the UK and across the world.

*Art is Magic* is the first book in which the artist reflects on the entirety of his career, his life and his art.

*'[Jeremy Deller is a] genius at the encapsulation of an idea, a mood, a moment'*  
— *The Scotsman*

*'One of the country's most critically acclaimed – and popular – artists'*  
— *Creative Review*

**Jeremy Deller** studied Art History at the Courtauld Institute and at Sussex University. He won the Turner Prize in 2004 for his work *Memory Bucket* and represented Britain in the 55th Venice Biennale in 2013.

His projects over the past two decades, such as *Battle of Orgreave* (2001), *We're Here Because We're Here* (2016) as well as the documentary *Everybody in the Place: An Incomplete History of Britain 1984-1992* (2019) have influenced the conventional map of contemporary art.





**September 2023**

**Rights:**

CHEERIO Publishing: World

**SHOPPING LISTS**

Ingrid Swenson

Some years ago, Ingrid Swenson began collecting found shopping lists from the same North London Waitrose while on her weekly shop.

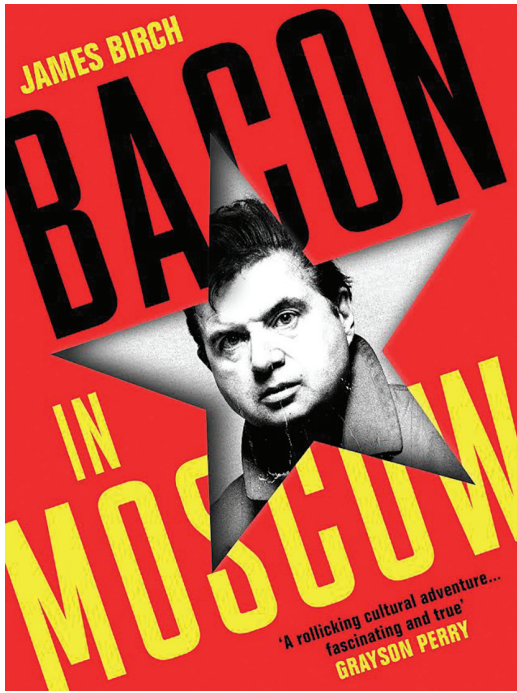
Enlightening and funny, fascinating, and poetic, these private notes to self-detailing someone's weekly shop - rocket and antibacterial wipes, treacle and prawns, fags and milk – invite us to speculate on and imagine the private universes of their authors. They are, in effect, domestic haikus, scribbled on the back of letters and bills.

Having formed the basis of an exhibition at the Art Workers' Guild in 2017, *Shopping Lists* documents a consuming fascination – of both Swenson's and her subjects' – providing an amusing, insightful and occasionally profound insight into the lives of ordinary Londoners.

**Ingrid Swenson** MBE is a curator and writer. From 1998 to 2021 she was the director of acclaimed arts organisation, PEER. Previous to this she worked at other London-based arts organisations including the ICA, Serpentine, Whitechapel and The Contemporary Art Society. She has commissioned and presented the work over 150 UK-based and international artists over her long career, including Martin Creed, Raymond Pettibon, Mike Nelson, Siobhan Hapaska, Fiona Banner and more recently Jadé Fadojutimi, Samson Kambalu and Lubna Chowdhary. She is passionate about communicating visual art's ability to connect people and ideas across cultures, generations, and geographies.

Her celebrated book about art for young audiences, *Masterpieces in Pieces, A Young Person's Guide to Taking Great Art Apart*, was published summer 2022.





**Spring 2023**

Paperback

**Rights:**

CHEERIO Publishing: World

**A WATERSTONES  
BOOK OF  
THE YEAR 2022**

(Art, Architecture  
and Fashion)

## BACON IN MOSCOW

James Birch

The uproarious account of one man's quest to mount a Francis Bacon exhibition in the Soviet Union.

This funny and personal memoir is the account of an audacious attempt by James Birch, a young British curator, to mount the ground-breaking retrospective of Francis Bacon's work at the newly refurbished Central House of Artists, Moscow in 1988.

Sidelined by the British establishment, Birch found himself at the heart of a honey-trap and the focus for a picaresque cast of Soviet officials, attachés and politicians under the forbidding eye of the KGB as he attempted to bring an unseen western cultural icon to Russia during the time of 'Glasnost', just before the fall of the Berlin Wall.

*Bacon in Moscow* is the story of the evolution of an exhibition that was at the artistic and political heart of a sea of change that culminated with the fall of the USSR.

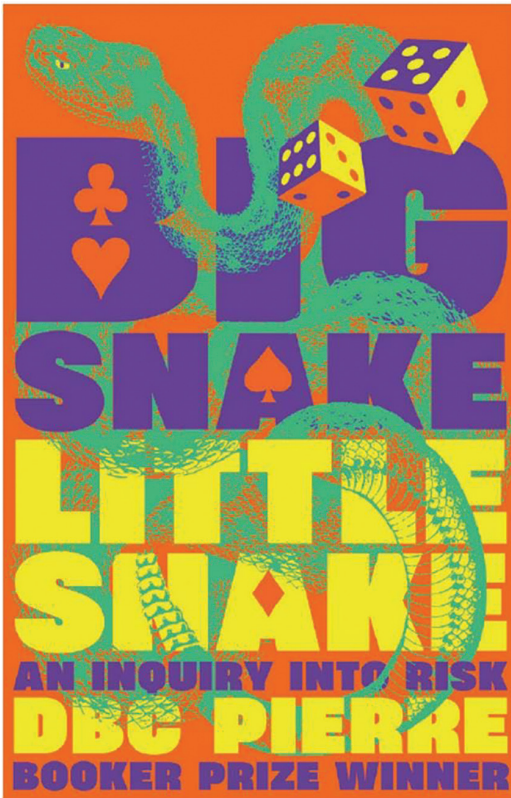
*'Evocative and authentic.'*  
— Observer

*'An amusing romp that  
could act as a cautionary tale.'*  
— Mail on Sunday

*'Brilliantly entertaining.'*  
— Perspective

**James Birch** has been a promoter of modern art exhibitions both in the UK and overseas for over thirty years. He opened his first gallery, James Birch Fine Art, in 1983, which specialised in showing the work of Surrealists and Young Contemporary Artists. His second gallery, Birch & Conran Fine Art, opened in 1987 in London's Soho, and a decade later he opened the A22 Gallery, in Clerkenwell, London.

James has exhibited artists including Grayson Perry, Francis Bacon, Gilbert & George, Genesis P-Orridge and Eileen Agar and Denis Wirth-Miller in galleries all over the world.



April 2022

Paperback

**Rights:**

CHEERIO Publishing: UK & North America

C&W: Translation

## BIG SNAKE, LITTLE SNAKE

DBC Pierre

A meditation on the ever-constant allure of risk, fortune and fate.

*Big Snake, Little Snake* is a cascade of true stories recorded by Pierre while on his way to make a short film with a parrot in Trinidad. It not only examines the nature of gambling, the love affair between gambler and game and the mindset of obsessive practitioners, but aims to shed light on the invisible odds and outrageous chances of everyday life on Earth.

Snakes symbolise a road in a Trinidadian numbers game based on dreams and superstition. The inquiry was prompted by a little snake on Pierre's doorstep.

*'If writers were athletes, DBC Pierre would be hanging out with the skydivers, the stunt-snowboarders and the white-water rafters.'*

— Independent

*'If any novelist can collate the killing irony of what is happening around us it is DBC Pierre...'*

— Alan Warner, *Guardian*

One of the nation's most uncompromising literary voices, **DBC Pierre** is author of the novels *Vernon God Little*, *Ludmila's Broken English* and *Lights Out In Wonderland*, plus the picture book for distracted adults *Petit Mal* and the Hammer-novella *Breakfast With The Borgias*. The novel *Vernon God Little* sold in 43 territories and won the Man Booker Prize, the Whitbread Prize for Best First Novel, the Bollinger Wodehouse Everyman Award and the James Joyce Award from University College Dublin. In 2016, Faber & Faber launched *Release the Bats*, a memoir and practical guide to breaking through in fiction without killing yourself.

Pierre divides his time between the UK and Ireland. His ground-breaking new novel *Meanwhile in Dopamine City* was published by Faber & Faber in August 2020.





June 2023

**Rights:**

CHEERIO Publishing: UK Commonwealth

**KIT**

Megan Barker

**Megan and Kit met in their early twenties. Their friendship was intense, wild and true.**

Years later, when Kit becomes desperately unwell, Megan tries to pull her old friend back from the precipice, navigating the difficulties of revisiting a relationship conceived in the great freedom of youth, whilst attempting to remain fully present in the messy beauty of her family life.

*Kit* is a story of the sumptuous complication – and precariousness – of life and relationships. It describes a call to intimacy in a state of emergency. It is a story of one life disrupted as another moves toward its end.

Told in a spare, winding prose-poem, with a voice reminiscent of Max Porter or Kae Tempest, *Kit* is a splintered, powerful work of empathy, friendship and unconditional love.

*‘This beautiful, unflinching book asks us what it might mean to truly confront loss – its shame, its intimacies, its clarifying horrors, the ways it forces us to relearn how to live.’*

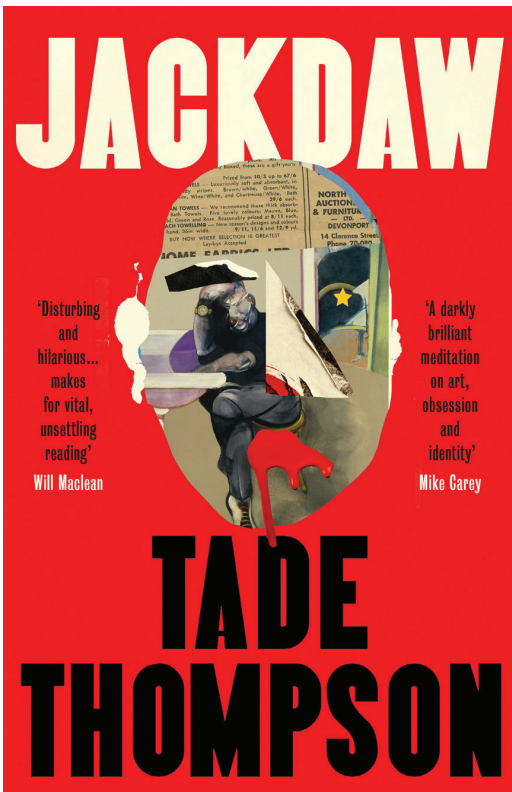
— Keiran Goddard, author of *Hourglass*

*‘If I put it down for a moment on almost every page it was only to steady myself, or to savour, or marvel, and occasionally (thank God) to laugh. I can’t wait to read it again.’*

— Sue Peebles, author of *Snake Road*

**Megan Barker** lives in South Wales. She has a background in theatre, and her plays have been produced at theatres such as Soho Theatre, Sherman Cymru, The Arches, The Traverse and The Tron. She also writes song lyrics, most recently for *Quiet River of Dust* by Richard Reed Parry. *Kit* is her first novel.





**Autumn 2023**

Paperback

**Rights:**

CHEERIO Publishing: UK & North America

C&W: Translation

**AN OBSERVER  
BOOK OF THE  
YEAR 2022**

## JACKDAW

Tade Thompson

A powerful literary novella about obsession, the creation of art and the many ways in which the urge to make can also turn into an urge to destroy.

In this shocking and darkly comic novel, a psychotherapist hired to write a short piece on the painter Francis Bacon becomes obsessed with the artist, his life, and the characters who surrounded him.

As he becomes consumed with the need to understand his subject, and to create his own art, his grip on reality becomes increasingly tenuous, and he is haunted by disturbing figures.

This short, bold piece of fiction explores how the passion needed to create art can also destroy the artist.

*'An exquisite, razor-sharp exploration on the nature of all-consuming art. Tade Thompson is a wonder'*

— Irenosen Okojie

*'A wild, darkly comic nightmare set on the borderlines of creativity, imagination and madness'*

— Guardian

*'A darkly weird thunderbolt of a novella... by the end you can practically taste the tang of scorched earth in the air'*

— Daily Mail

**Tade Thompson** is the author of numerous novels, including the critically acclaimed sci-fi novel *Rosewater*, the first in his award winning *Wormwood Trilogy*, *Making Wolf*, and most recently *Far From the Heaven*, as well as the *Molly Southbourne* series of novellas and several short stories.

He has won the Arthur C. Clarke Award, the Nommo Award, the Kitschies Golden Tentacle award, and the Julia Verlange award, and been shortlisted for the Hugo Award, the Philip K. Dick Award, the British Science Fiction Association Award, and the Shirley Jackson Prize, among others.



April 2023

**Rights:**

CHEERIO Publishing: World

**PLUS ULTRA**

Sarah Fletcher

*Plus Ultra* is the dazzling debut collection from a poet pushing at the boundaries, reaching towards the 'further beyond' of its title poem to explore questions of pain, love, sex, power and the sublime.

These poems challenge, play and press, but also carry an anxiety around borders: what is 'beyond'? What happens when we puncture that line that separates what we know from the things we do not yet know?

With a sharp, Plathian interrogative voice Fletcher's poems prowl the bars and night-haunts of Madrid and London, and in rich, mythic language plumb the below-places where discoveries are made, drowned, and left behind.

*'Sarah Fletcher's poems are highly mobile, troubled, troubling, rich and fraught.'*

— Chris Kraus, author of *I Love Dick*

*'Alliterative, witty, interrogative; the poems in this pamphlet have the sharp specificity of dream, but also touch 'the universal in this caper'. I read it and re-read it again — Caviar is addictive and truly exciting, like the prowling, boozy dark talking restlessly in its sleep.'*

— Martha Sprackland

**Sarah Fletcher** is an American-British writer currently researching a PhD at Aberystwyth in pain and language. Her poems have appeared in the *White Review*, *Poetry London*, *Poetry Review* and other publications. She has published three pamphlets: *Kissing Angles* (Dead Ink, 2015), *Typhoid August* (Poetry Business, 2018) and *Caviar* (Out-Spoken, 2022).







**October 2023**

**Rights:**

CHEERIO Publishing: World

## **COWBOY**

Kandace Siobhan Walker

The poems in *Cowboy* are knowing, millennial, internet-sick and funny, demonstrative of the wildness underneath the smooth glass-and-chrome surfaces of modern life.

There are deeper undercurrents, too – of embodied and disembodied longing; of animals; of family and family stories; of grief; of autism-spectrum diagnoses and case histories; and of early and enduring disappointment.

Throughout, the echo of a question permeates the collection — where did I grow up? Moving restlessly between Wales, London and the esoteric spaces of the internet, childhood transfigures into adolescence, which transforms — inexplicably — into adulthood, with all its attendant weirdness of rent-paying and cohabiting and the churn of mindless work.

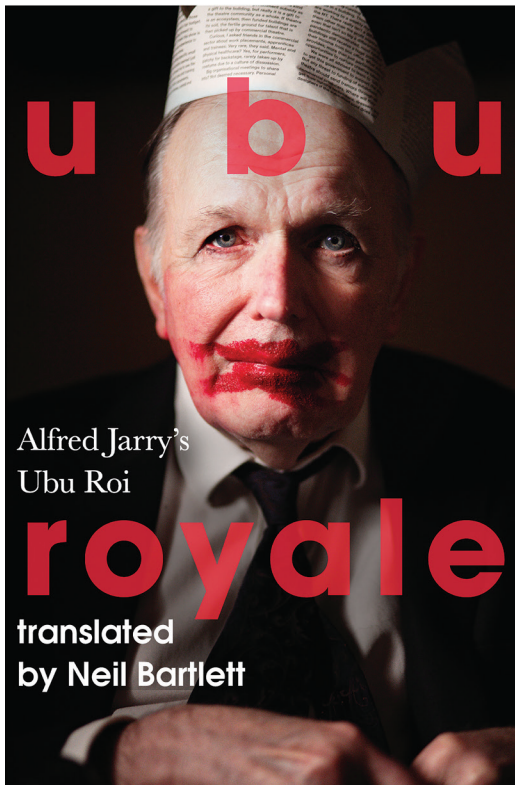
The generous abundance of *Cowboy's* references — memes, TV shows, songs, place names, drinking games, videogames — bring anxiety and pressure, but also joy and glory to this singularly impressive debut.

*‘Walker’s approach is as improvisationally deft as it is technically assured.*

— Kayo Chingonyi, editor of *More Fiya*

**Kandace Siobhan Walker** is a writer and artist of Canadian, Jamaican, Gullah-Geechee and Welsh heritage. She is an editor at *bath magg*. In 2021, she was an Eric Gregory Award recipient and the winner of the White Review Poet’s Prize. Her debut poetry pamphlet, *Ka/eido*, was published by Bad Betty Press in 2022. She lives in London.





**Autumn 2023**

**Rights:**

CHEERIO Publishing: UK Commonwealth

**UBU ROYALE**

*Alfred Jarry's Ubu Roi*, translated by Neil Bartlett

*Alfred Jarry's play Ubu Roi burst like a bomb on the stages of fin-de-siecle Paris; Neil Bartlett's new translation was created during the London lockdown of 2021.*

Cheerfully documenting the laugh-out-loud rise to power of a brain-dead despot, *Ubu Royale* finds in Jarry's potty-mouthed original a dark mirror for the obscenities of Trump, Putin and Johnson.

Warning: this work of art contains war in Europe, dismembered bodies, and some pretty dodgy Shakespeare gags. Plus, a big dead bear.

*'[Neil Bartlett is] a writer who can really change the way people think' — Literary Review*

**Neil Bartlett OBE's** plays and translations have been performed by the National Theatre, the Royal Shakespeare Company, the Manchester Royal Exchange, the Glasgow Citizens, the Abbey in Dublin, the Arena in Washington, the American Repertory Theatre in Boston, as well as by schools, colleges and amateur companies around the world.

His new stage adaptation of Virginia Woolf's *Orlando* opened at the Garrick Theatre in London in 2022.





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