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# Pygmalion

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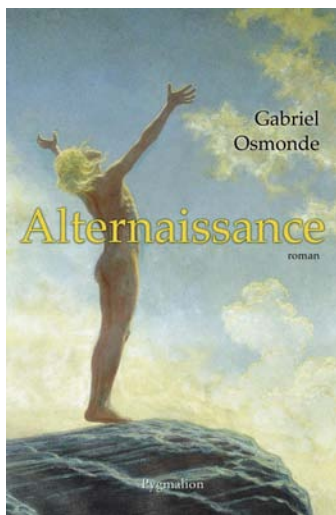
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320 PAGES

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Gabriel Osmonde / Andreï Makine

## Alternnaissance

Alternnaissance

A traveler guided by his last hope discovers on the edge of the Western Australian desert a ghost town inhabited by men and women united by mysterious research activities. A world where everything has taken on new meaning: our desires, our fears, our memories, our thirst for existence, our mortal concerns, the way we love. Or rather, everything here has acquired its true meaning. That of our *Alternnaissance*.

The heroes of these pages – the “diggers” – are not exceptional beings. Like you, they have reached the edge of despair, the tempting proximity of nothingness, the ease with which one can develop a revulsion of existence. Yet one day, they revolted.

This fascinating chronicle of their revolution initiates readers to an experience shared by more and more today. Knowledge of salvation and liberation inspires the extraordinary quest of the *diggers*. The world that they are creating breaks away from the deathly instincts of our own world, its wars, its inequalities, its follies of overproduction, its bestial selfishness – its way of life which is destroying life itself on the planet.

The new universe already exists, the only thing missing is the voice of our courage.

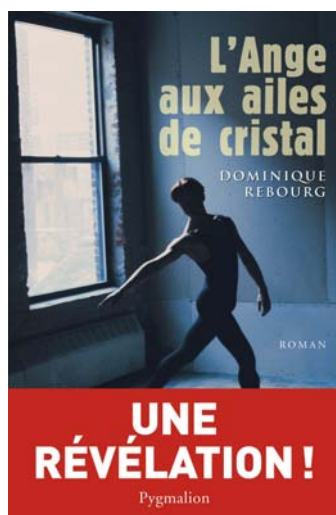
This book is the fourth novel by Gabriel Osmonde, a secretive author dedicated to the authenticity of his vocation. In *L'Œuvre de l'amour*, the writer led us through the shadows of Eros, violence and solitude experienced by modern man. *Alternnaissance* opens up a luminous exit that our cynical world vitally needs.

### THE AUTHOR

**Gabriel Osmonde**, following *Le Voyage d'une femme qui n'avait plus peur de vieillir*, *Les 20 000 femmes de la vie d'un homme*, and *L'Œuvre de l'amour*, continues his exploration of a visionary world.

### KEY SELLING POINTS

- **Gabriel Osmonde had emerged from his obscurity... He is nobody else but the great writer Andreï Makine !**
- A great writer who confirms his original talent.
- An epic voice, rare in French literature.



PUBLICATION DATE: MAY 2011

PRICE: 19.90 EUR

360 PAGES

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*An entrancing story.*

Télé Magazine

*An original and  
appealing topic especially  
if you like dancing.*

ResMusica

Dominique Rebourg

## L'Ange aux ailes de cristal

The Crystal-Winged Angel

At the end of a dazzling world tour, Guillaume Bast, a star dancer, leaves the Opéra de Paris to join the Pavel Niouchine company.

His good looks, talent, and bewitching personality make him irresistibly attractive to all around him. Pampered by his friends, loved by men and women, both seductive and solitary, strong and fragile, he is also completely captivated by himself. There is no room in his life for anything but dancing. When he learns that he has a malignant brain tumour, he decides to continue dancing and to keep his secret to himself. While the illness sours his character and disarms those close to him who can no longer recognise him, he is trapped by the following paradox: he dances so as not to die, while knowing that dancing will kill him.

Where will this passion, which has been with him since childhood, now lead?

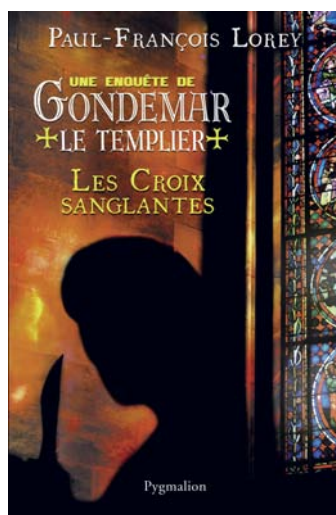
By plunging readers into the secrets of high-level dancing, Dominique Rebourg breathes life into a remarkable character.

### THE AUTHOR

**Dominique Rebourg**, born in Alsace in 1955, spent her childhood and adolescence in the French region of Franche-Comté. She has already published several novels with Pygmalion.

### KEY SELLING POINTS

- A great story with an unforgettable hero.
- A fascinating immersion into the world of classical dance and its ruthless demands.



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*A well-constructed scenario.  
All facts are rigorously  
related and testify the history  
knowledge of the author.  
A successful book.*

L'Est-éclair

Paul-François Lorey

## Les Croix sanglantes Une enquête de Gondemar le Templier

The Crosses of Blood

Gondemar the Knight Templar Investigates

Maître Leutbald, a rich merchant from Troyes, vanishes on a fog-covered path leading to the commandery. His servants find him several hours later, with a smashed skull. This murder marks the start of a series of attacks on the Templars of Payns community.

One common feature links all these crimes: a cross on the chest of each victim, traced in his own blood. This is the signature of the Phantom of the Bois des Fontaines, a killer who had already struck three years previously.

Between the closed, at times hostile world of the Templar commandery, and the rural community which strongly believe in the spirit world, Gondemar, a novice among the Knights Templar, must untangle the strings of this plot while warding off the threats hanging over himself.

Does his master, the quirky Brother Roland, deserve his trust? But above all, who is the Phantom of the Bois des Fontaines? A spectre straight out of the kingdom of shadows or else an elusive bloodthirsty being who revels in the terror he inspires in his victims?

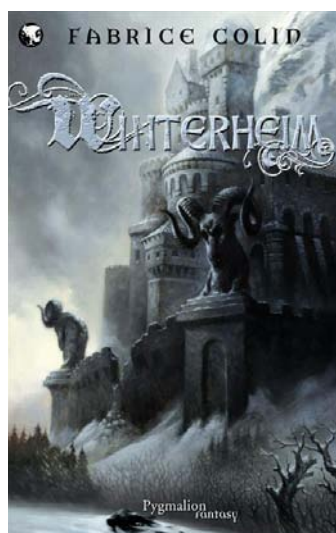
During his quest to solve the crime, Gondemar exposes a peasant society set against the power of nature, in the heart of the swampy banks of the Seine River. An expert on the medieval world, Paul-François Lorey leads us on a breathtaking investigation where reason will ultimately conquer superstition.

### THE AUTHOR

**Paul-François Lorey** was born in Troyes, in the Champagne region. As a medieval specialist, he has been exploring the history of the Templar Order for twenty years. Today, he has set aside his historian's pen to take up his writer's quill, offering readers his first novel: a medieval crime story where suspense is matched by rigour.

### KEY SELLING POINTS

- The discovery of a young author.
- A theme that is very much in vogue: mysteries surrounding the Knights Templar.
- A dynamic genre.



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PUBLICATION DATE: OCTOBER 2011

PRICE: 21.90 EUR

380 PAGES

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Fabrice Colin

## Winterheim

Winterheim

A long, long time ago, the Faeders and the Dragons decided that they would no longer get involved in mortal affairs. Having withdrawn far from Midgard, they have nevertheless entrusted to the Lady of Dreams and her three half-sisters, the Darkness trio, the task of watching over humans. Today, in the kingdom of Walroek, the young woodman Janes Oelsen, whose parents have never understood his dreaminess and juvenile impetuousness, acquires, following a wager, a mysterious map. Accompanied by his faithful owl Snowflake, he sets off for the forsaken Château of Nartchreck where, according to legend, a fabulous treasure lies hidden...

### THE AUTHOR

Born in 1972, **Fabrice Colin** quickly became the leading figure amongst a generation of writers exploring imaginary worlds in France at the end of the 1990s. Through his texts such as *Dreamericana* (J'ai lu), *Or not to be*, and later, *Sayonara Baby*, *La Mémoire du vautour* and the recent *Big Fan* published by Inculte, he has confirmed his position, over the last decade, as an unconventional author with no qualms about mixing up genres and trying out literary experiments. He is also the prolific author of novels for children including *La Malédiction d'Old Haven*, *Les Etranges sœurs Wilcox*, and *Bal de givre à New York*.

### KEY SELLING POINT

Unavailable for several years and gathered here for the first time in a single volume, the *Winterheim* trilogy remains to this day one of the most ambitious and bewitching works on Nordic mythology...



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340 PAGES

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*A strong and subtle book.*

Le Nouvel Observateur

*A rich and moving collection.*

Le Figaro

*A book extremely intense.*

*A poignant testimony.*

Sceaux Magazine

*A set of moving testimonies  
in which family history  
mingles with the History  
in general.*

Le Télégramme

## Marie Curie et ses filles

### Lettres

Letters

Marie Curie and her daughters

Marie Curie was awarded the Nobel Prize in Physics with Pierre Curie in 1903, and the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 1911. When Pierre Curie died in an accident in 1906, the Curies' elder daughter Irène was only nine years old and the younger daughter Ève, two years old. The letters exchanged between mother and daughters gathered in this book discuss small and great events, right up to the death of Marie Curie, in 1934. They attest to the close bonds of affection that did not cease to develop between the mother and her daughters.

In the early years, the children wrote from the spots where they were spending their holidays while Marie was working in Paris. The onset of the war in 1914 and the installation and activity of X-ray cars roused fervent exchanges. After the war, the missives were often sent from holiday resorts (Arcouest in Brittany, Cavalaire in the south of France) or else destinations visited by Marie Curie during her many trips throughout the world: Poland, where she rekindled ties with her family, Brussels, for physics conferences, Geneva, where she participated in the Committee on Intellectual Cooperation of the League of Nations, as well as Brazil, Spain and the United States.

Irène followed in the scientific footsteps of her parents, forming a team with her husband Frédéric Joliot, while Ève became a concert pianist, then a journalist.

Many of these letters draw us into the intimacy of the Curie family: three extremely brilliant women, linked by an intense affection which would never wane.

#### THE AUTHOR

Edition produced by **Hélène Langevin**, daughter of Irène Joliot-Curie, granddaughter of Marie Curie, and **Monique Bordry**, a former director of the Musée Curie.

#### KEY SELLING POINTS

- Following the recent death of Ève Curie (on 22 October 2007 at the age of one hundred and two), part of this correspondence has become newly available.
- 2011: the centenary of the second Nobel Prize of Marie Curie, which will give rise to numerous conferences.
- An original presentation, making this a perfect gift book.



PUBLICATION DATE: APRIL 2011

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360 PAGES

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*Gilbert Sinoué brilliantly draws the portrait of the exceptional destinies of 12 women of the Orient.*

Le Figaro littéraire

Gilbert Sinoué

## 12 Femmes d'Orient qui ont changé l'Histoire

12 History-Changing Women of the East

Whether born to poverty or to wealth, in Egypt, Morocco, Syria or Constantinople, at every epoch, women of the East have succeeded in steering destiny and hitching themselves upwards, with and against others, towards the stars.

Take the unforgettable Oum Kalsoum, “the voice of the Arabs”, La Kahena, the wild warrior woman, Hoda Shaarawi, a feminist before her time, Hatshepsut, history’s sole queen-pharaoh, Zenobia, Queen of Palmyra, or else Aisha, the favourite wife of the Prophet... Each in her own way has left a lasting mark on the great book of human history.

It is their radiant destinies that Gilbert Sinoué retraces for us over these pages where dream and reality intertwine.

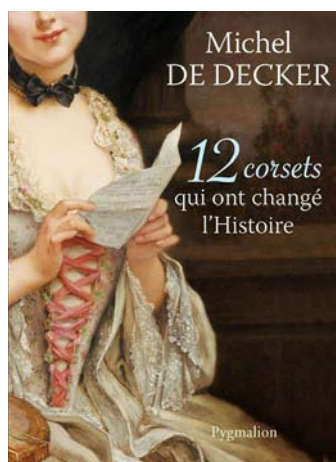
### THE AUTHOR

**Gilbert Sinoué** is a writer and historian. Born in Cairo, where he lived until the age of eighteen, he arrived in France in 1968. He is the author of 17 novels, essays and biographies, including *Le Livre de Saphir* (Prix des Libraires 1996), *L’Enfant de Bruges*, *Les Silences de Dieu* (Grand Prix de Littérature Policière), *Des jours et des nuits* which was turned into a television series on France 3 featuring Stéphane Freiss and Caterina Murino, and *Moi Jésus*. With Flammarion, he has recently published: *Erevan*, in 2009, translated into Arab, Russian, Italian, Greek and Bulgarian; the two tomes of *Inch’Allah* in 2010 (*Le Souffle du jasmin* and *Le Cri des pierres*), translated into Arab, Greek, Turk and Italian.

He is also the co-author and screenwriter of a three-episode television series broadcast in 2008 on M6, *La Légende des trois clefs*.

### KEY SELLING POINTS

- A new historical series allowing readers to rediscover major figures and facts in context.
- Outstanding destinies that left a mark on their times.
- A new concept that has been developed since 2009.
- Advertising and press support.



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PUBLICATION DATE: OCTOBER 2011

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PRICE: 19.90 EUR

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320 PAGES

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Michel De Decker

## 12 Corsets qui ont changé l'histoire

### 12 History-Making Corsets

Whether it be in silk, lace, or whalebone and lacing, this instrument of torture or pleasure – the corset – has truly left its mark on every epoch.

It was more by tightening her corset than by showing off her long nose that Cleopatra endeavoured to change the face of the world. It was around the corset of Isabeau de Bavière that the great treasons of the Hundred Years' War were woven. Meanwhile, at the sight of Agnès Sorel's enticingly full and silky corset Charles VII the Indolent couldn't help thinking about becoming Charles the Victorious. The corset of a commanding woman, Catherine de' Medici, and that of a liberated woman, Ninon de l'Enclos; a sombre corset for the Sun King Louis XIV, another sullied with blood at the guillotine; the Empress Eugénie wore one as rigid as her image; a French President who met his demise from unlacing one too many times; that of Mata Hari was riddled by bullets during World War I, and before closing down houses of ill repute, Marthe Richard loosened hers regularly for clients!

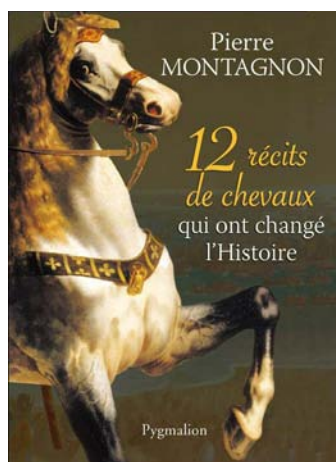
Twelve corsets, twelve women whose ambitions, dreams, passions and alcove secrets have overturned the lives of many, influenced politics, and made History.

#### THE AUTHOR

A historian, television scriptwriter, radio presenter and lecturer on firm land and at sea, **Michel De Decker** is the author of almost thirty works including the following published by Pygmalion: *La Princesse de Lamballe*, *Madame de Montespan*, *La Duchesse d'Orléans*, *Diane de Poitiers*, *Gabrielle d'Estrées*, *La Marquise des plaisirs* (the Marquise de Pompadour), and *La Reine libertine* (Queen Margot), as well as *Claude Monet*. A multiple award-winner of the Académie Française, he has also won the Prix du Cercle de l'Union Interalliés.

#### KEY SELLING POINTS

- The fourth volume in a successful series.
- History lessons that may be light in tone but at the same time less frivolous than one might imagine...



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280 PAGES

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Pierre Montagnon

## 12 Récits de chevaux qui ont changé l'histoire

12 History-Making Horse Stories

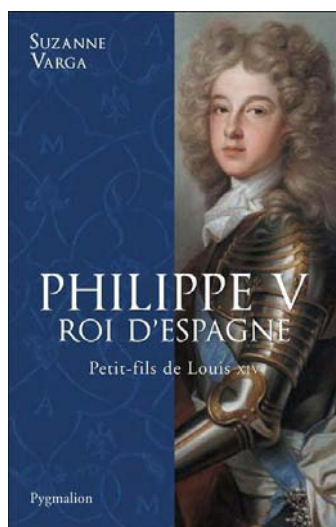
For thousands of years, the horse has been man's great companion, especially during conflict and war. Humans – whether commanders-in-chief or mere horsemen – have become one with horses in battles, sharing the same dangers. What general has never experienced the slumping of the horse beneath him as it is felled in combat? Scanning over two centuries of history, Pierre Montagnon recounts twelve episodes where the horse has played a starring role. The mounts of Alexander the Great, Henri IV, Murat, the Crusaders, the Cuirassiers of Reichshoffen, and the Gironde Squadron, file past these colourful pages. Here are 12 narratives abounding in gallops, sabre attacks, sacrifices, panache and bloodshed, that allow us to relive great moments when the horse took centre stage.

### THE AUTHOR

**Pierre Montagnon**, a Commander of the Legion of Honour, is a historian, lecturer, and Académie Française prize winner. He is the author of numerous works published by Pygmalion.

### KEY SELLING POINTS

- Third volume in a collection aimed at introducing history to the general public.
- Colourful battle narratives.



PUBLICATION DATE: OCTOBER 2011  
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320 PAGES  
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Suzanne Varga

## Phillippe V, roi d'Espagne Petit-fils de Louis XIV

Philippe V, King of Spain  
Grandson of Louis XIV

Grandson of Louis XIV, Philippe V occupied, for forty-six years (1700-1746), the throne of the empire of Spain, the European leading power at that period. Entirely unprepared for this destiny, this seventeen-year-old prince was brutally transplanted to an unknown country following the death of Charles II, the last king of the dynasty founded by Charles V, the holy Roman Emperor who recognised him as his heir. Although he had to immediately face a disastrous war and several personal tragedies – including the death of the first woman he loved –, he dedicated himself to this task and led Spain to the modern era. He was also a great patron of the arts and humanities, notably music, and his long relationship with the castrato Farinelli has always intrigued historians. It is his direct descendant, King Juan Carlos, who reigns in Spain today.

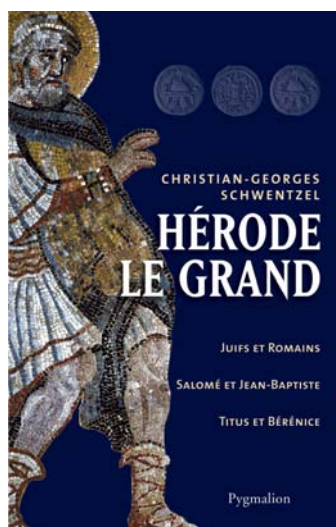
Suzanne Varga masterfully restores the obscure personality of this unjustly criticised king who was prone to serious spells of melancholy, and was driven by deep piety as well as a very strong sexual appetite that his two wives helped him to satisfy.

### THE AUTHOR

Holder of an *agrégation* and a PhD, university professor **Suzanne Varga** has devoted herself, for over thirty years, to research on the Spanish Golden Age. Her major works deal with the era's dramatic works, poetry, music and society. In 2002, she was awarded the Grand Prix for literary biography by the Académie Française for her *Lope de Vega*.

### KEY SELLING POINTS

- The first great biography in French of this monarch, grandson of Louis XIV and founder of the Bourbon dynasty in Spain.
- A section with eight colour photographs.



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PUBLICATION DATE: JUNE 2011

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PRICE: 23.90 EUR

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320 PAGES

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Christian-Georges Schwentzel

## Hérode le Grand

Herod the Great

We have the Gospels to thank for the general public's familiarity with the figures of Herod the Great and his son Herod Antipas today. Herod the Great is most commonly remembered as the evil king who, after the visit of the Wise Men, attempted to kill Jesus by commanding the Massacre of the Innocents. Meanwhile, his son was the rogue who ordered the beheading of John the Baptist to keep a promise to his niece Salome after she performed a dance before him. But what is the reality behind these figures?

Comparing various sources, from Flavius Josephus to the Gospels, via archaeological discoveries, the author endeavours to pin down the complex personalities of Herod the Great, his sons and grandsons, all inseparable from the religious, political and cultural context of Judea where conflicts of all types were building up.

Was Herod the Great in fact a Jewish king? Was he guilty of the Massacre of the Innocents? Did Salome's dance really take place? What is known about the unhappy passion harboured by the future Roman emperor Titus for Berenice, the Jewish queen?

### THE AUTHOR

**Christian-Georges Schwentzel** is a lecturer in ancient history at the University of Valenciennes. He specialises in royal functions in Hellenistic and Roman Near-East monarchies. He is also the author of a number of research works including *Cléopâtre* (PUF, 1999) and *L'Orient méditerranéen à l'époque hellénistique* (Editions du Temps, 2003).

### KEY SELLING POINTS

- A highly comprehensive monograph on Herod the Great and his posterity.
- Written by an academic who is a specialist on the era.



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320 PAGES  
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Bertrand Meyer-Stabley

## Marie Laurencin

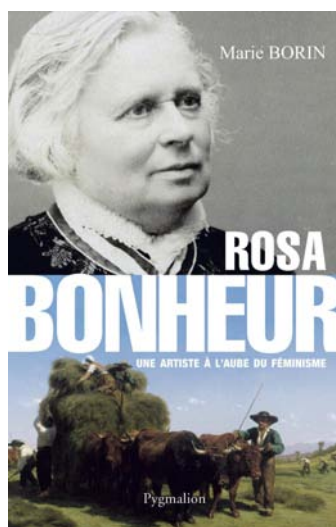
This is the first comprehensive biography of a woman who remains unique in the history of painting. A magnificent artist by turns loved and abandoned, supported and solitary, renowned for her great love story with the poet Guillaume Apollinaire and adulated in the 1920s. Born in Paris to an embroiderer mother from Normandy and an unknown father, she grew up in the French capital, and after school, studied painting at the Manufacture de Sèvres, before going on to learn drawing. She would soon cross path with a few of the future giants: Georges Braque and Pablo Picasso who introduced her to Apollinaire. It was love at first sight. For five years, the two lived out a stormy passion in Montmartre, where they were part of the joyful artistic Bateau-Lavoir group. Marie Laurencin would also become the friend of other artists including Douanier Rousseau, Matisse, and Derain. Little by little, her works won her renown. She also had passionate affairs with two women, but ended up marrying a German baron. Forced into exile due to her German connection in 1914, she fled to Spain where she mingled with Diego Rivera, Picabia, and Sonia Delaunay. She returned to Paris to be part of the Swinging Twenties buzz in Montparnasse. Here, celebrated on all sides, she drew close to Cocteau, Saint-John Perse, Valéry Larbaud, Marcel Jouhandeau, Coco Chanel, and had a few female lovers. Her portraits – mainly depicting women and characterised by a troubled and troubling dreaminess – were snatched up at exorbitant prices over that period. Yet her nonchalant elegance would not resist the passing of time. The Second World War heralded her decline. The suspicious company she kept during the Occupation led her to the Drancy internment camp during the Purges. She died in solitude, in the care of a governess, in 1956. Accessing countless previously unused documents, Bertrand Meyer-Stabley retraces her incredibly rich life, opens up her secret correspondence, unveils her notebooks published here for the first time, and shares the private life of a singular female painter.

### THE AUTHOR

**Bertrand Meyer-Stabley** has been described by Edmonde Charles-Roux as a “biographer’s equivalent of a goldsmith”. A long-time journalist for *Elle*, he has published, with Pygmalion, numerous biographies devoted to mythical twentieth-century women, translated into various languages. His last biography to be published was *Oona Chaplin*.

### KEY SELLING POINTS

- The first great biography of this artist.
- Previously unpublished sources and documents.
- A section with eight colour photographs.



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PRICE: 22.90 EUR

380 PAGES

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*A superb biography.*

Le Parisien

Marie Borin

## Rosa Bonheur

Celebrated worldwide as the most exemplary animal painter of her times, Rosa Bonheur (1822-1899) was the first female artist to be awarded a Legion of Honour, presented by Empress Eugénie, and the first woman to receive a rosette – signifying a second Legion of Honour –, this time presented by the French President at the time, Sadi Carnot.

In a century when women were considered as subordinate or unfit in the eyes of the law and in view of their capacities – a position relegating them to be subject to a father, brother or husband, banning them from access to knowledge and all forms of power including the power to earn a living with a decent job –, Rosa Bonheur swore to “improve the lot of women”.

This was a promise that the young Rosa formulated in memory of her mother who died from exhaustion and poverty after her husband “abandoned” her and their four children to live with Saint-Simonians “for the good of humanity”. It was nevertheless thanks to the talent of her father Raimond Bonheur as a drawing teacher that his daughter would become an acclaimed painter...

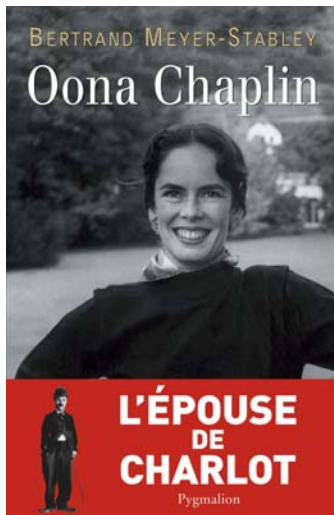
Composed from journals, previously unpublished letters and testimonies from Rosa Bonheur’s entourage, this biography is the first to allow readers such deep insight into the artist and her true personality, until now frequently masked by vague accounts.

### THE AUTHOR

**Marie Borin** is a writer, poet, novelist and playwright. This new work of hers is dedicated to the “great Rosa Bonheur”.

### KEY SELLING POINTS

- The first major biography of this well-known female painter who campaigned throughout her life in favour of the independence of women.
- A plunge into the 19<sup>th</sup> century at a time when the female condition was a highly debated topic.
- A section with eight colour photographs.



PUBLICATION DATE: MAY 2010

PRICE: 21.90 EUR

320 PAGES

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Bertrand Meyer-Stabley

## Oona Chaplin

Bertrand Meyer-Stabley delivers a new title in the “Grands Mythes Féminins du XX<sup>e</sup> Siècle” series, on the life and time of Oona Chaplin, Charlie Chaplin’s wife.

Charlie Chaplin is 54 years old when he marries Oona O’Neill, barely 18, in 1943. Her father, the playwright and Nobel Prize winner Eugène O’Neill, disinherits her as the newspapers call Chaplin a cradle snatcher.

After three unhappy marriages Chaplin finally finds the child-bride he has always been looking for in vain. Sacrificing her promising career as a stage actor, she devotes herself exclusively to the well-being of her husband, bringing him peace and stability. They have 8 children and enjoy 34 years of harmony despite the exile to Switzerland, professional disappointments and hardships.

Who was the woman who lived in Chaplin’s shadow, while her photos filled the gossip magazines of the era? What kind of relationship did she have with her children? What were her secret passions and who were her true friends? What place did she keep in heart for J.D. Salinger, her first boyfriend? What was the part played by Orson Welles, her *cicerone* in Hollywood? What were the roles of Ryan O’Neal and David Bowie in her widowhood? And what kind of link bound her for life to Truman Capote?

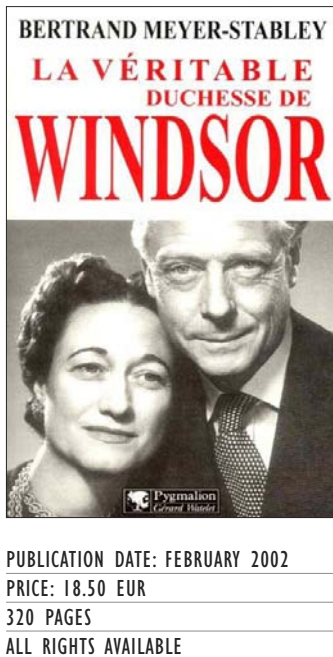
Thanks to unpublished testimonies from several of her children, Bertrand Meyer-Stabley answers these questions and gives us the amazing life of a Muse, daughter and wife of men of genius. He also portrays a clan, the scattered destinies of the 8 Chaplin children and an extraordinary brotherhood.

### THE AUTHOR

**Bertrand Meyer-Stabley** is a famous biographer. He is the author of *Grace de Monaco*, *Jackie Kennedy*, *Audrey Hepburn* and many other biographies translated into several languages, notably Hungarian, Bulgarian, Estonian, Czech and Polish. He was also a journalist at *Elle* and the personal secretary to Princess Margaret for many years.

### KEY SELLING POINT

A section with sixteen black and white photographs.



Bertrand Meyer-Stabley

## La Véritable Duchesse de Windsor

The Real Duchess of Windsor

Love interest versus national interest. His passion for Wallis Simpson, the future Duchess of Windsor, led Edward VIII, King of England, to renounce the throne. Neither the royal family nor the Church of England could abide the marriage of their sovereign with a twice-divorced American commoner. Edward abdicated on 10 December 1936, married a few months later, and commenced a long exile with his chosen one.

A long life of wandering followed, from sumptuous palaces to extravagant holidays. For Wallis loved luxury, parties and comfort. She was an elegant, refined and droll perfectionist, continually with a smile on her lips. "You can never be too thin or too rich," she once said. She loved to play the hostess, with each of her receptions leaving her guests with enchanted memories.

Rarely was a figure so vilified. Was she really a greedy, conniving social climber? Her weakness for gems, her eccentricities and her whims have been caricatured to such an extent that we often forget that she was intelligent, lucid and passionate.

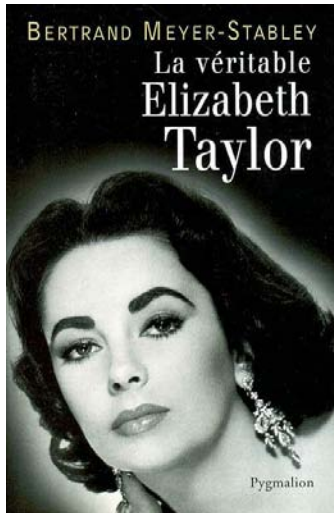
By retracing her exceptional destiny, Bertrand Meyer-Stabley reveals a personality as secretive as she was subtle, and plunges readers into an extraordinary love story that shook an empire in its time.

### THE AUTHOR

As the great-great-grandson of Elizabeth Sarah Stabley, lady-in-waiting to Queen Victoria, **Bertrand Meyer-Stabley** has long lived in London. The author of six books on the Windsor family, he was the press attaché in France for the first book by Princess Michael of Kent and curator of the exhibition on the Duke and Duchess of Windsor at the Château de Candé. He has already published *La Vie quotidienne à Buckingham*, translated into twelve languages.

### KEY SELLING POINTS

- **Madonna's new film, presented at the Venice Film Festival on 1 September, is based on the relationship between Wallis Simpson and Edward VIII (to be released in December in the United States, in spring 2012 in Europe).**
- A section with eight black and white photographs.



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Bertrand Meyer-Stabley

## La Véritable Elizabeth Taylor

The Real Elizabeth Taylor

Violet eyes, a bewitching smile, an immoderate penchant for huge diamonds and alcohol, eight husbands (including the love of her life, the famous Richard Burton), brutal and desperate surgical operations, violent disputes on film sets, a conversion to Judaism for love's sake, an unpredictable character and great generosity: who is the woman hiding behind such a multi-faceted reputation? Bertrand Meyer-Stabley unveils the answer in this meticulously researched biography. This star, adulated ever since she found her first acting job at the age of ten, was above all a workaholic. Demanding and inflexible, she unceasingly sought to enrich the palette of her acting talent. Starting her career playing roles as a well-brought-up young girl, she gradually took on increasingly complex characters, incarnating for example, an unforgettable Cleopatra followed by a masterful performance as a tortured woman in *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* In spite of countless trials and hard knocks, her passion for life never abandoned her and to the end, she fought against AIDS through the world-renowned association that she set up. Elizabeth Taylor is the incarnation of one of the greatest myths of our times.

### THE AUTHOR

Half French, half Irish, **Bertrand Meyer-Stabley** has published with Pygmalion a number of biographies in the same collection: *Grace de Monaco*, *Jackie Kennedy*, *Audrey Hepburn*, *Margaret d'Angleterre*, *Melina Mercouri*, *La Duchesse de Windsor*, *Ingrid Bergman*, *La Princesse Soraya*, *Sophia Loren*, and *Marilyn Monroe*. He contributes to several French and foreign newspapers.

### KEY SELLING POINTS

- As always, Bertrand Meyer-Stabley retraces the destiny of a star with great impartiality.
- A section with eight black and white photographs.

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