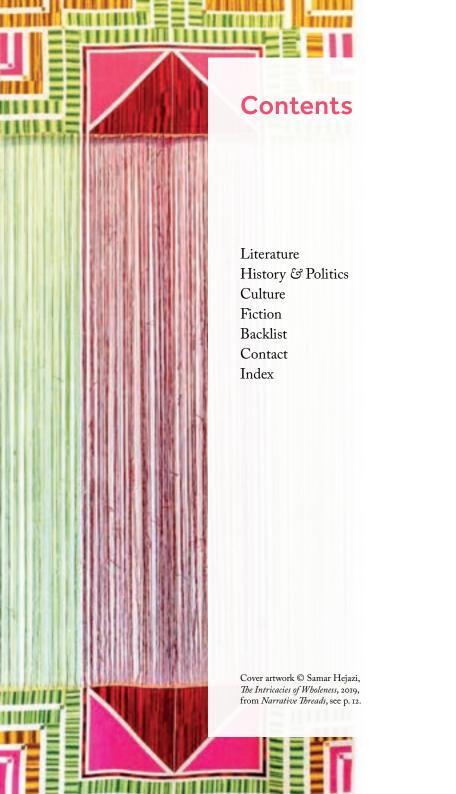


SAQI 2025



Dear Friends,

2

9

II

21

24

38

40

Welcome to Saqi's 2025 catalogue. Our eclectic list showcases a wide array of culture, writing and critical thought from and about the Middle East. The writers, poets, artists and citizens presented here hail from all over the world, but in their works, they each feature the best that humanity has to offer. They remind us that in the face of repression everywhere, intellectual inquiry and creative expression still flourish. They remind us that there is still hope.

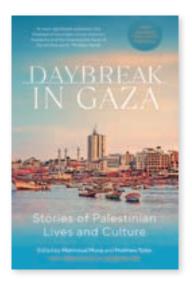
Highlights this season include *This Queer Arab Family*, the brilliant follow-up to the bestselling *This Arab is Queer*; *Babylon, Albion*, a luminous inquiry into British Iraqi identity and migration; and *A Passage to Europe*, the astonishing story of an Indian prince's travels in the eighteenth-century.

This year, we honour and celebrate Palestinian culture and its proud heritage. *Narrative Threads* and *The Gaza Kitchen* offer up sumptuous feasts of tatreez and taste. The art practitioners and conservationists in *Archiving Gaza in the Present* discuss how to preserve its culture in the face of erasure; and *The Gaza Catastrophe* analyses the root causes of and conditions required to end the cycle of violence.

Last year, our publications travelled far and wide, with translations into dozens of languages. Our authors participated in more than one hundred events. Matthew Teller and Mahmoud Muna, *Daybreak in Gaza*'s editors, undertook three European tours, reaching thousands of readers. We were shocked by the recent arrest of Mahmoud and Ahmad Muna, owners and booksellers at The Educational Bookshop in Jerusalem. The worldwide support they have received has been phenomenal. We are proud to have organised a fundraiser in support of the bookshop, and to have raised more than £15,000 for Medical Aid for Palestinians.

Thank you to our writers, translators, booksellers, readers and all our friends for your support. As you inspire us, we hope these pages bring you inspiration. Happy reading.

Lynn Gaspard Publisher



October 2024 £14.99 336pp Paperback Original Demy

41 b&w Illustrations ISBN 978-1-84925-069-6

Territories: World

MAHMOUD MUNA runs Jerusalem's celebrated Educational Bookshop. His writing has appeared in the *London Review of Books* and *Jerusalem Quarterly*.

MATTHEW TELLER is the author of *Nine Quarters of Jerusalem*, a *Telegraph* Book of the Year. His journalism has featured in the BBC, *Guardian*, *Times* and BBC Radio 4.



NEXT READ

A Map of Absence 978-0-86356-990-6 £16.99

Daybreak in Gaza

Stories of Palestinian Lives and Culture

Edited by Mahmoud Muna and Matthew Teller

With Juliette Touma and Jayyab Abusafia

A powerful chronicle of Gaza's cultural heritage, blending history with deeply personal memoirs and testimonies

This is Gaza – a place of humanity and creativity, rich in culture and industry. A place now utterly devastated, its entire population displaced by a seemingly endless onslaught, its heritage destroyed.

Daybreak in Gaza is a record of an extraordinary place and people, and of a culture preserved by the people themselves. Vignettes of artists, acrobats, doctors, students, shopkeepers and teachers offer stories of love, life, loss and survival. They display the wealth of Gaza's cultural landscape and the breadth of its history.

Daybreak in Gaza humanises the people dismissed as statistics. It stands as a mark of resistance to the destruction and as a testament to the people of Gaza.

Profits donated to Medical Aid for Palestinians

'A most significant collection, one that frightens, awes and inspires, the timeliest of reminders of the irrepressible force of the written word.'

PHILIPPE SANDS

'A collection of brave, resilient, heartbreaking, defiant, scared stories.'

ANTHONY SATTIN,

The Spectator

'An extraordinary, vital, urgent book.'

The Guardian

'A love letter to Gaza.

A heartbreaking testament to the beauty and courage of Palestinian people in the face of extraordinary brutality.'

ISABELLA HAMMAI

'Profoundly moving ...
a devastating indictment
of genocide.'

CHINA MIÉVILLI

'Astonishing ...
Please read this.'
BRIAN ENO





January 2025 £16.99 256pp Hardback Demy 17 b&w images ISBN 978-1-908906-61-8 Territories: World

CARLO GREPPI is an awardwinning historian. He is the author of fourteen books, including *Un uomo di poche parole* (*A Man of Few Words*), which has been translated into six languages and has sold more than 20,000 copies in Italy.



A Man With No Title 978-0-86356-982-1 £10.99

A Man of Few Words

The Bricklayer of Auschwitz Who Saved Primo Levi

Carlo Greppi

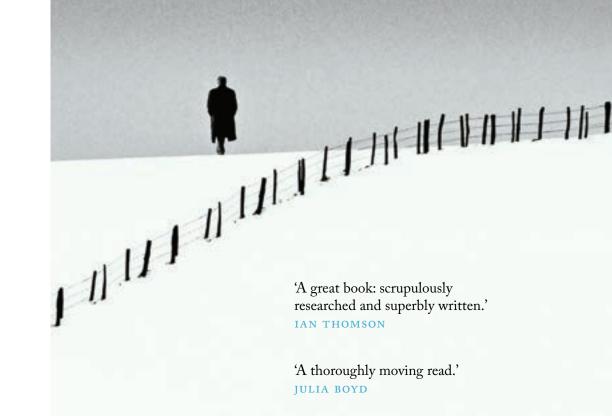
Translated from the Italian by Howard Curtis

How a friendship forged amid darkness shaped the legacy of the Holocaust's most vital chronicler

'Nobody knows how much I owe that man,' Primo Levi said of the bricklayer who saved his life at Auschwitz-Birkenau. For six months, Lorenzo Perrone risked his own life to smuggle food, letters and clothing to prisoners. Without Perrone, Levi could not have survived and the world would have been deprived of his writing.

In *A Man of Few Words*, Carlo Greppi pieces together the life of Perrone, a near destitute labourer with little formal education. Despite their stark differences, Levi and Perrone's friendship continued until Perrone's tragic death. Levi never forgot Perrone. He tried persistently to preserve the memory of this man of few words who had saved his life, but who left few traces of his own behind.

Compassionate, worldly and prescient, Greppi brings to light a universal story about an individual who kept hope alive in one of the darkest times and places known to man.

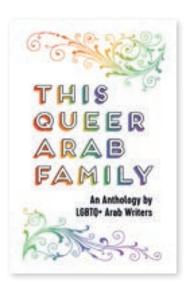


'A marvel of sympathetic insight.'
TLS

'There is much to admire in this intriguing study [which] answers the deepest question of Levi's oeuvre: what it means to be human.'

The Observer

LITERATURE LITERATURE LITERATURE



This Queer Arab Family

An Anthology by LGBTQ+ Arab Writers

Edited by Elias Jahshan

A moving and bold collection of Queer Arab writing – the follow-up to the bestseller This Arab is Queer

Anthologies / LGBTQ+ September 2025 £14.99 244pp Demy Paperback Original ISBN 978-1-84925-088-7 Territories: World

ELIAS JAHSHAN is a Palestinian-Lebanese Australian journalist. He currently writes for *The New Arab* and has been published in *The Guardian*, *SBS Voices* and *My Kali*. Jahshan is the editor of *This Arab Is Queer*, which was shortlisted for the Lambda and Bread and Roses awards, and selected as an *Evening Standard* Best LGBTQ+ Book of All Time.



NEXT READ

This Arab is Queer 978-0-86356-478-9 £14.99

This Queer Arab Family celebrates the family we inherit and the friends we choose as family. Elias Jahshan presents ten LGBTQ+ writers from across the Arab world and diaspora who are redefining what traditional families look like.

From raising children with dad and dad, to cooking with sisters on the other side of the world and finding kinship in gender neutral toilets, community can be found in the most unexpected places.

This groundbreaking collection is testament to the challenges and triumphs that bind us together. *This Queer Arab Family* is here to slay.

Praise for This Arab is Queer

'Heartwarming, moving and uplifting ... celebrates the true colours of the vibrant Arab queer experience.' *Evening Standard*

'I'm not sure if there's ever been an anthology like this before — and it's about time.' *Book Riot*

Babylon, Albion

A Personal History of Myth and Migration

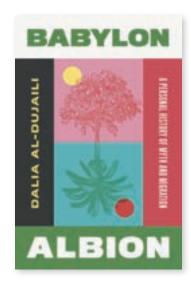
Dalia Al-Dujaili

An exquisite debut memoir on migration and identity, from an exciting, young writer

Whoever said nature is still has not borne witness to the migration of the seasons.

In this lyrical enquiry, Dalia Al-Dujaili considers what it means to belong in your land. She traces the rich heritage of the earth beneath our feet and the wildlife who call it home, from the oak tree and date palm to fairytale creatures, such as dragons, unicorns and the ancient Lamassu. Weaving together Arab and Islamic mythology with the English and Christian pastoral, she unmasks the communal lush, familiar and, at times, dark places we share.

A love song to Britain, Iraq and the body of earth we hold in common, *Babylon*, *Albion* is a compelling re-imagining of what it means to be native.



Memoir / Nature Writing

May 2025 £12.99 192pp Hardback Bformat ISBN 978-1-84925-071-9 Territories: World

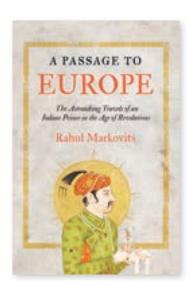
DALIA AL-DUJAILI is an Iraqi British writer, editor and producer based in London. She tells stories from the SWANA region and diaspora, and reports on community-led stories from the margins for *The Guardian*, *Huck*, *The New Arab* and more.



NEXT READ

The Birds They Sang 978-1-90890-636-6 £12.99

HISTORY & POLITICS HISTORY & POLITICS



A Passage to Europe

The Astonishing Travels of an Indian Prince in the Age of Revolutions

Rahul Markovits

A remarkable account of an Indian prince's experiences in eighteenth-century Britain, France and Turkey

History
November 2025
£25
352pp
Hardback Royal
13 b&w illustrations
ISBN 978-1-84925-095-5
Territories: World ex. India

RAHUL MARKOVITS is Associate Professor in early modern history at the École normale supérieure, France. His work focuses on transnational cultural exchange in the eighteenth century. He lives in Paris.



The Last Prince of Bengal 978-1-90890-651-9 €10.99

NEXT READ

What was an Indian prince doing in the retinue of a French envoy at Constantinople in 1796? When Ottoman Emperor Sultan Selim III, struck by the unusual sight of a fellow Muslim in a French cortège, asked how this Indian prince came to be there, Ahmad Khan told him his extraordinary story.

A Passage to Europe traces the journey of Indian prince Ahmad Khan from Gujarat to Constantinople, revolutionary France, London and back again. His voyage began in 1772 with the annexation of the coastal town of Broach by the East India Company. Twenty years later, he reached London to seek redress. The British government paid his expenses while they looked into his case, but although his tale was true, Khan was not the man he claimed to be. Authorities arrested and imprisoned him for being a spy, and then he simply vanished.

Uncovering an elusive paper trail, Markovits illuminates in vivid detail the astonishing story of this unlikely traveller's passage to Europe and offers a unique counter-narrative to Eurocentric accounts of the Age of Revolutions.

The Gaza Catastrophe

The Genocide in World-Historical Perspective

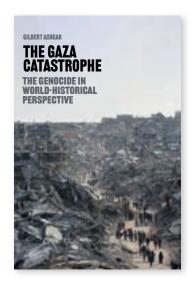
Gilbert Achcar

An incisive collection of essays on the genocide in Gaza by a foremost expert on the region

The sheer scale of destruction in Gaza following 7 October 2023 has shocked the world – but it follows a trajectory set in motion long before. It is the continuation of a decades-long course in which Israeli politics, policies and military strategies have inexorably shifted to the Right.

In *The Gaza Catastrophe*, renowned political scientist Gilbert Achcar explores the complex historical process that culminated in the war on Gaza. Achcar offers critical insights on the genocide's regional and international consequences, as well as radical critiques of Zionism, Hamas and other state and non-state actors.

This vital volume places the Gaza catastrophe in its wider geopolitical and historical context. It is essential to understanding the root causes of the violence destabilising the entire region and the wider world, as well as the conditions required to bring it to an end.



Current Affairs / History
June 2025
£16.99
240pp
Paperback Original Royal
ISBN 978-1-84925-091-7
Territories: World ex. North America

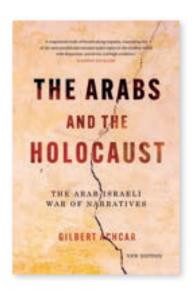
GILBERT ACHCAR is Emeritus Professor of Development Studies and International Relations at SOAS, University of London. His publications include *The New Cold War, The People Want: A Radical Exploration of the Arab Uprising*, and *Morbid Symptoms: Relapse in the Arab Uprisings*.



NEXT READ

The New Cold War 978-1-90890-653-3 £16.99

HISTORY & POLITICS CULTURE



The Arabs and the Holocaust

The Arab-Israeli War of Narratives

Gilbert Achcar

Translated from the French by G. M. Goshgarian

A new edition of a groundbreaking critical exploration of the Holocaust and the Nakba

History / Israel / Palestine
March 2025
£18.99
400pp
Paperback Royal
ISBN 978-1-84925-079-5
Territories: World ex. North America

GILBERT ACHCAR is Emeritus Professor of Development Studies and International Relations at SOAS, University of London. His publications include *The New Cold War*, *The People* Want: A Radical Exploration of the Arab Uprising, and Morbid Symptoms: Relapse in the Arab Uprisings.



NEXT READ

After Zionism 978-0-86356-941-8 £12.99

The Arab–Israeli conflict goes far beyond the wars waged on Middle Eastern battlefields. There is also a war of narratives revolving around the two defining traumas of the conflict: the Holocaust and the Nakba. One side is charged with Holocaust denial, the other with exploiting a tragedy while denying the tragedies of others.

Gilbert Achcar explores these conflicting narratives and considers their role in today's Middle East dispute. In analysing the various Arab responses to the Holocaust and assessing their political and historical context, he offers a unique ideological mapping of the Arab world. In the process, Achcar defuses an international propaganda war that has become a major stumbling block in the path of Arab–Western understanding.

'A fascinating, subtle and original analysis.'
SIMON SEBAG MONTEFIORE, BBC History Magazine

'The best book on the subject so far.'

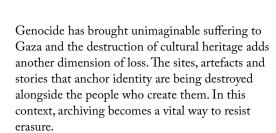
The Guardian

Archiving Gaza in the Present

The Power of Bearing Witness at a Time of War and Destruction

Edited by Dina Matar and Venetia Porter

A critical examination of Gazan culture and efforts to conserve it in a time of crisis



Archiving Gaza in the Present addresses this urgent crisis. Gathering voices from diverse fields, it documents the degradation of Gaza's rich cultural landscape and explores the ways in which we can preserve its memory and heritage.

In essays, interviews, poems and visual materials, including more than 150 photographs, maps and artworks, this invaluable interdisciplinary collection emphasises the stakes of conserving Gazan culture.

Published in partnership with the Arab British Centre and the Centre for Palestine Studies. SOAS.



Art and Culture
November 2025
£25
288pp
Paperback Original 250 x 200mm
+150 colour illustrations
ISBN 978-1-84925-097-9
Territories: World

VENETIA PORTER is an honorary Research Fellow at The Courtauld Institute of Art and The British Museum. Her publications include *Haij: Journey to the Heart of Islam*.

DINA MATAR is Professor of Political Communication and Arab Media and the chair of the Centre for Palestine Studies at SOAS, University of London.



NEXT READ

Keep Your Eye on the Wall 978-0-86356-759-9 £45



Art / Culture
July 2025
£35
272pp
Hardback 270 x 210mm
+200 colour illustrations
ISBN 978-1-84925-081-8
Territories: World

JOANNA BARAKAT expresses her deep-rooted connection to Palestinian culture through her artwork, which combines painting and embroidery and has been exhibited at the ICA and the American Museum Katzen Art Cente. Barakat shares her passion for Palestinian embroidery by teaching workshops and through her Instagram page, The Tatreez Circle.



NEXT READ

Nabil Anani

978-0-86356-148-1 £25

Narrative Threads

Palestinian Embroidery in Contemporary Art

Joanna Barakat

A celebration of a timeless Palestinian craft reimagined by contemporary artists across diverse media and visions

For centuries, Palestinian women wrote the stories of their lives and land with a needle and thread. Appreciation for their embroidery, or *tatreez*, inspired artists who embraced and reinterpreted it visually and conceptually. They transformed Palestinian embroidery into a symbol of Palestinian identity, steadfastness and resistance.

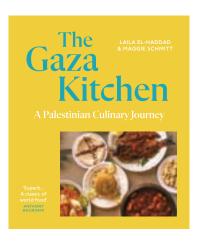
In *Narrative Threads*, Joanna Barakat documents contemporary artists' vital role in shaping and maintaining Palestinian embroidery. She brings together the work of twenty-four established and emerging artists who incorporate its motifs and symbolism across various media. While some use traditional imagery to celebrate and preserve Palestinian identity, others reimagine this to explore ideas about time, space or memory, challenging colonial and Orientalist constructs.

Featuring more than 200 striking illustrations as well as insightful essays by leading art historians, *Narrative Threads* celebrates the immense beauty and significance of Palestinian embroidery in contemporary art.



Shadi Alzaqzouq, *Le Pardon*, 2017. Ramzi and Saeda Dalloul Art Foundation

Essays by
Rachel Dedman (V&A)
Wafa Ghnaim (Metropolitan Museum of Art)
Tina Sherwell (NYU Abu Dhabi)



The Gaza Kitchen

A Palestinian Culinary Journey

Laila El-Haddad and Maggie Schmitt

Winner of the Gourmand Best Arab Cuisine Cookbook Award – a sumptuous tribute to Gaza's cuisine

Cookery / Palestine
September 2025
£25
336pp
Paperback Original w/ flaps 254 x 215mm
+200 colour illustrations
ISBN 978-1-84925-093-1
Territories: World ex. North America

LAILA EL-HADDAD is a Palestinian writer, journalist and social activist. She has written for the Washington Post and was formerly Al Jazeera English's Gaza correspondent.

MAGGIE SCHMITT is a writer, researcher, translator, educator and social activist.



NEXT READ

The Sultan's Feast 978-0-86356-156-6 €25

The cuisine of Gaza is a vibrant reflection of its rich heritage, blending bold flavours, fresh ingredients and time-honoured techniques. Spicy stews, tangy dips, fragrant fish dishes and honey-soaked desserts embody a culinary tradition shaped by history and sustained through adversity. Each dish tells the story of a people whose connection to their land and culture endures despite immense challenges.

The Gaza Kitchen brings new life to this cuisine with more than one hundred recipes collected first-hand by the authors. It offers an intimate portrait of everyday Gazan life through hundreds of photographs of cooks, farmers and produce merchants at work, and in-kitchen interviews in which these women and men tell the stories of their food, heritage and families.

This award-winning cookbook, now in a new sumptous edition, stands as both a celebration of Palestinian cultural identity and a powerful testament to the resilience of the Gaza community. 'A superb
collection from
a delicious cuisine.
A classic.'
ANTHONY
BOURDAIN

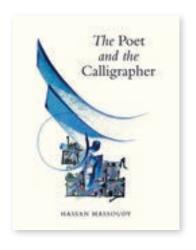
The Gaza Kitchen

A Palestinian Culinary Journey

'The recipes and stories are magically woven together, inspiring to read, cook and eat.'

YOTAM OTTOLENGHI & SAMI TAMIMI

'The recipes are distinctively Palestinian and many also uniquely of Gaza. A very special book.'
CLAUDIA RODEN



The Poet and the Calligrapher

Hassan Massoudy

This beautifully illustrated gift book offers inspiration for meditation

Art / Literature
April 2025
£11.99
128pp
Paperback Original w/ flaps 180 x 140mm
114 colour and b&w illustrations
ISBN 978-1-84925-077-1
Territories: World

HASSAN MASSOUDY is widely considered to be one of the greatest living calligraphers. His work has been exhibited throughout Europe, North Africa and the Middle East, and is housed in the permanent collections of the British Museum and the Jordan National Gallery of Fine Arts, among others.



NEXT READ

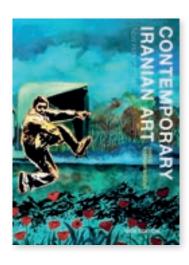
Calligraphies of Love 978-0-86356-905-0 £10 The poet is the prince of words, the calligrapher the choreographer.

Inspired by ancient classical poets, master calligrapher Hassan Massoudy pays homage to the depth of poetry through visual expression. In more than one hundred calligraphies, he responds to these timeless poems with his signature broad strokes and vibrant colours, capturing the words and wisdom of our greatest poets – from Al Mutanabbi, Rumi and Khalil Gibran, to Socrates, Shakespeare and Jacques Prévert. From evocations to the immensity of the desert to soulful expressions of unrequited love, Massoudy breathes new life into the classics with vibrant artistry.

Beautifully illustrated, *The Poet and the Calligrapher* is the perfect gift and journey for poets, art lovers and dreamers alike.



CULTURE CULTURE



Contemporary Iranian Art

New Perspectives

Hamid Keshmirshekan

The definitive book on Iranian art featuring more than 380 artworks by the country's leading artists

Art / Iran
February 2025
£25
368pp
Paperback 270 x 220mm
+380 colour illustrations
ISBN 978-0-86356-979-1
Territories: World

HAMID KESHMIRSHEKAN is Senior Teaching Fellow at the Department of History of Art and Archaeology at SOAS, University of London, and Senior Research Fellow at the Khalili Research Centre, Oxford University. His publications include Koorosh Shishegaran: The Art of Altruism,



also by Saqi Books.

NEXT READ

Woman Life Freedom 978-0-86356-972-2 £14.99

Iranian artists have produced some of the world's most thought-provoking and intellectually grounded works of art of the modern era. In this landmark compendium, renowned art historian Hamid Keshmirshekan provides a thorough review of contemporary art in Iran and shows that the twentieth century was a crucial period in the country's culture, resulting in an explosion of creativity and critical reassessment of both tradition and modernism.

Contemporary Iranian Art is an unprecedented introduction to Iran's vibrant art history in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. This fully revised and updated edition features more than 380 colour illustrations by the country's leading artists, including Mahmoud Bakhshi, Shadi Ghadirian, Barbad Golshiri, Farhad Moshiri, Shirin Neshat, Sohrab Sepehri, Mitra Tabrizian, Parviz Tanavoli and Charles Hossein Zenderoudi.

'Revelatory, scarcely matched and surpassed by none. A master connoisseur.' HAMID DABASHI, Columbia University

The Sultan's Sex Potions

Arab Aphrodisiacs in the Middle Ages

Nasīr al-Dīn al-Tūsī

Translated from the Arabic and Introduced by Daniel L. Newman

A vivid translation of an intriguing thirteenthcentury guide to increasing sexual potency

Arabic erotic literature has a long and rich history going back as far as the ninth century. Far from being the pursuit of prurient pornographers, eroticism and sexuality received considerable attention from scholars.

Written by leading thirteenth-century scientist Naṣīr al-Dīn al-Ṭūsī, *The Sultan's Sex Potions* is part of a group of works devoted to aphrodisiacs as well as sexual practices and positions. Sober and measured in tone, it was composed at the request of the ruler and so its potions, electuaries, syrups and enemas enjoyed a 'royal warrant of appointment'.

This volume includes three Arabic manuscripts accompanied by an English translation as well as an introduction to Arabic erotic literature, a biography of the author, a bibliography of erotological works and extensive indexes.

'Provides a much-needed guide to the genre ... accessible and inviting to both specialists and non-specialist readers.'

School of Abbasid Studies

The
Sultan's
Sex
Potions
And Aphredicians
in the Middle Ages
Nasir al-Dia al-Tool
Chant I. Horoma

Literature / Culture August 2025 £16.99 256pp Paperback Demy ISBN 978-1-84925-075-7 Territories: World

DANIEL L. NEWMAN holds the Chair of Arabic Studies at the University of Durham. His publications include *An Imam in* Paris: Account of a Stay in France by An Egyptian Cleric, The Sultan's Feast and The Exile's Cookbook.

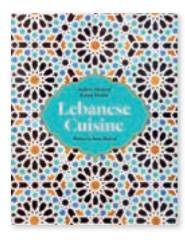


NEXT READ

The Exile's Cookbook 978-0-86356-992-0 £25

19

CULTURE FICTION



Lebanese Cuisine

Karim Haïdar and Andrée Maalouf

Preface by Amin Maalouf

Winner of the Gourmand Best Cookbook Award – authentic Mediterranean food at its best, perfect for everyday eating and entertaining

Cookery / Lebanon
July 2025
£25
176pp
Paperback 246 x 189mm
+90 colour illustrations
ISBN 978-0-86356-377-5
Territories: World ex. North America

KARIM HAÏDAR is a worldrenowned chef acclaimed for reinventing Lebanese cuisine, notably at the fast food chain Comptoir Libanais in London. Haïdar recently founded the Academy of Arab Cuisine in Paris.

ANDRÉE MAALOUF has adapted the culinary tradition of Lebanon to suit the tastes and produce of today.



NEXT READ

Sufi Cuisine 978-0-86356-836-7 £18.99

Lebanon offers a unique variety of fragrant and refined dishes, enriched over centuries by new flavours and spices brought by traders from across the Mediterranean. Appreciated the world over, Lebanese cuisine is renowned for its savoury and sweet specialities: from falafel, tabbouleh, spicy grills and simmered stews, to succulent rose and pistachio pastries.

Andrée Maalouf and Karim Haïdar (Comptoir Libanais) share this rich culinary heritage through more than one hundred easy-to-follow recipes, along with an explanation of key ingredients and their place in Lebanese cooking. Traditional recipes have been subtly re-interpreted with a modern twist, which will delight lovers of Lebanese cuisine of all generations.

'A fascinating and beautifully illustrated book with appetising recipes.'

Le Vif/L'Express

A New Year

Leila Aboulela



A heart-warming story about family, ageing and fresh starts

Suad misses her husband. He died unexpectedly during an argument at work, leaving her no chance to say goodbye. After several false starts, she moves in with her oldest son's family in the countryside.

At first, she receives a warm welcome and things go smoothly. Her grandchildren adore her falafel, and they spend cozy evenings watching television. But over time, tensions with her daughter-in-law grow. Accused of interfering with the children, Suad is eventually asked to leave.

Now on her own, Suad must build a new life. How can she budget for one, and will she be able to fill the long hours? Will her neighbours welcome her? Determined, she sets out to find her own path.

'Leila Aboulela's narratives glow with a rare beauty, a shining sensual awareness of the joy of life.'

The Scotsman

Published in partnership with The Reading Agency.



Literature / Culture
April 2025
£1.00
128pp
Paperback Original Bformat
ISBN 978-1-84925-073-3
Territories: World

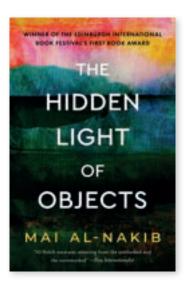
LEILA ABOULELA is the author of six critically acclaimed novels, translated into fifteen languages. Her short story collection, Elsewhere, Home (Telegram Books) won the Saltire Fiction Book of the Year Award. River Spirit (Saqi Books) was a New York Times and Scottish Herald Book of the Year. Aboulela grew up in Sudan and now lives in Scotland.



NEXT READ

River Spirit 978-0-86356-904-3 £9.99

FICTION



The Hidden Light of Objects

Mai al-Nakib

Winner of the Edinburgh International Book Festival's First Book Award – a collection of incisive short stories

Fiction / Short stories
June 2025
£9.99
256pp
Paperback Bformat
ISBN 978-1-84925-085-6
Territories: World

MAI AL-NAKIB is the author of An *Unlasting Home* (Saqi Books). Her short stories have appeared in publications including *Ninth Letter*, *The First Line*, *After the Pause* and *World Literature Today*.



An Unlasting Home 978-0-86356-927-2

£14.99

A young girl, renamed Amerika in honour of the US role in the liberation of Kuwait, finds her name has become a barometer of her country's growing hostility towards the West. A self-conscious Palestinian teenager is drawn into a botched suicide bombing by two belligerent classmates. A middleaged man dying from cancer looks back on his extramarital affairs and the abiding forgiveness of his wife. A Kuwaiti woman returns to her family after being held captive in Iraq for a decade.

The headlines tell of war, unrest and religious clashes. But if you look beyond them you will see life in the Middle East as it is really lived – adolescent love, the fragility of marriage, pain of the most quotidian kind. Mai Al-Nakib's luminous stories unveil the lives of ordinary people – and the power of objects to hold extraordinary memories.

'Al-Nakib should be heralded as an exciting new literary voice.' *The National*

'Al-Nakib writes with penetrating insight and such compressed lyricism that at times her prose seems to border on poetry. It's a densely imagined and beautifully written debut.' Sydney Morning Herald

A Mouth Full of Salt

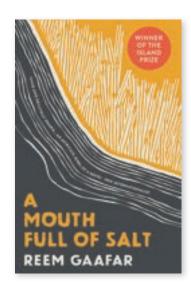
Reem Gaafar

Winner of the Island Prize – a riveting debut charting three generations of women in traditional communities

A small farming village in North Sudan wakes up one morning to the news that a little boy has drowned. Soon after, the animals die of a mysterious illness and the date gardens catch fire and burn to the ground. Whispers ripple through the village, sharing a secret that has been buried for a generation. Sixteen-year-old Fatima is impatient. Will the search for the little boy's body unearth the past her village is trying so hard to bury?

In Khartoum, a single mother makes her way in a world that wants to keep women back. As civil war swells, her position in the capital becomes untenable. She must return, to face both the villagers and the river that have given and taken so much away from her. A Mouth Full of Salt uncovers a country on the brink of seismic change as its women decide for themselves which traditions are fit for purpose – and which prophecies it's time to rewrite.

'I was gripped until the very last sentence.'



Fiction
March 2025
£9.99
256pp
Paperback Bformat
ISBN 978-1-84925-090-0
Territories: World ex. Canada

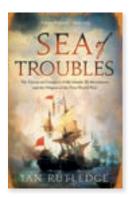
REEM GAAFAR is a writer, physician and filmmaker based in Canada. Her writing has appeared in *African Arguments, African Feminism, Teakisi Magazine, Andariya* and 500 *Words Magazine.* Her debut novel *A Mouth Full of Salt* won the Island Prize in 2023.



NEXT READ

Elsewhere, Home 978-1-84659-211-9 £8.99

PRIZE SELECTIONS KEY BESTSELLERS



Sea of Troubles

Shortlisted for the PEN Hessell-Tiltman Prize 2024

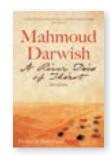
'Compelling ... a shrewd overview that should encourage much-needed comparisons with the other great spheres of European imperialism.'

Times Literary Supplement

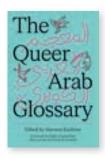
£25 9780863569500



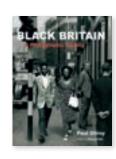
£14.99 9781849250696



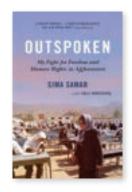
£12.99 9780863560613



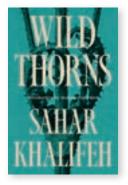
£15.99 9780863560927



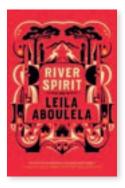
£19.99 9780863565403



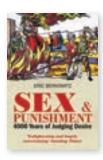
Shortlisted for the CG Moore Prize 2024 £16.99 • 9780863568985



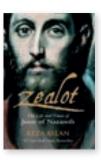
Longlisted for the Palestine Book Awards 2024 £9.99 • 9780863569869



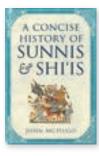
Longlisted for the Jhalak Prize & Kayva Prize 2024 £9.99 • 9780863569043



£11.99 9781908906106



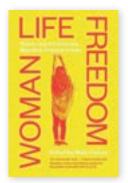
£9.99 9781908906298



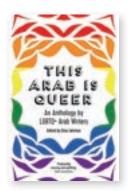
£12.99 9780863569265



£16.99 9780863560231



Shortlisted for the Bread and Roses Award 2024 £14.99 • 9780863569722



Finalist Lambda Literary Awards 2023 £14.99 • 9780863564789



Longlisted for The American Library in Paris Book Award 2024 £16.99 • 9781908906557



£7.99 9781846590009



£7.99 9781846590320

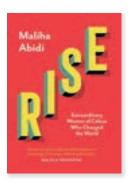


£24.99 9780863569593



£12.99 9780863561467

BACKLIST: ART BACKLIST: ART



RISE

Extraordinary Women of Colour Who Changed The World

'Women and girls worldwide will find inspiration and strength in the pages of this beautiful book.'

Malala Yousafzai

£20 9780863561375



£25 9780863561795



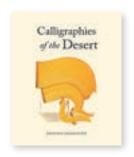
£45 9780863567599



£25 9780863561481



£10 9780863568565



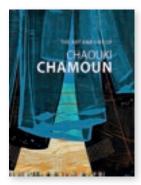
£10 9780863561771



£10 9780863569050



£19.99 9780863566882



£35 9780863567919



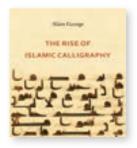
£35 9780863569098



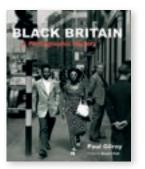
£18.99 9780863566790



£25 9780863569012



£35 9780863566738



£19.99 9780863565403

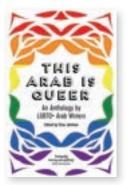


£20 9781908906113

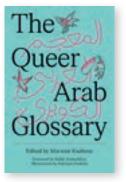


£19.99 9780863565533

BACKLIST: CULTURE BACKLIST: CULTURE



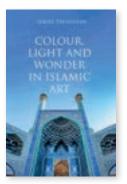
£14.99 9780863564789



£15.99 9780863560927



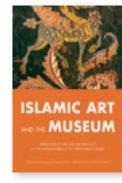
£12.99 9780863569999



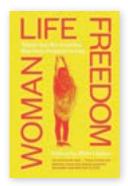
£25 9780863560606



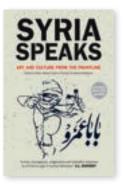
£7.99 9780863564284



£25 9780863564130



£14.99 9780863569722



£14.99 9780863567872



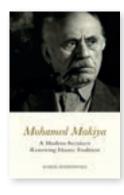
£8.99 9780863569807



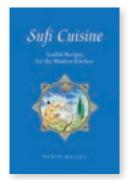
£10.99 9780863569364



£70 9780863564307



£20 9780863564161



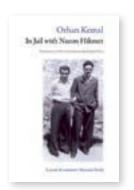
£18.99 9780863568367



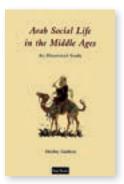
£25 9780863569920



£25 9780863561566



£10.99 9780863564116



£45 9780863560439



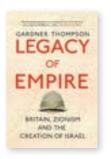
£19.99 9780863564079

BACKLIST: HISTORY & POLITICS

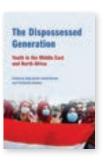
BACKLIST: HISTORY & POLITICS



£25 9780863569500



£12.99 9780863564826



£25 9780863569524



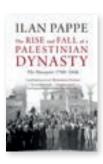
£24.99 9780863569609



£45 9780863569517



£14.99 9780863564031



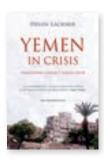
£14.99 9780863564536



£16.99 9780863564772



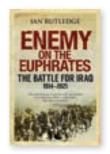
£10.99 9780863561603



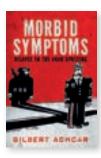
£12.99 9780863569661



£12.99 9780863569418



£10.99 9780863561702



£12.99 9780863561832



£9.99 9780863567933



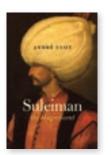
£9.99 9780863561344



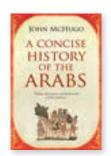
£10.99 9780863566998



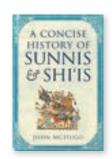
£12.99 9780863563355



£14.99 9780863564987



£12.99 9780863567421



£12.99 9780863569265



£24.99 9780863569593



£16.99 9780863560231

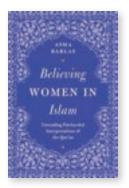


£16.99 9780863561443



£14.99 9780863564710

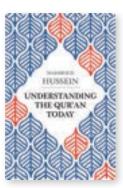
BACKLIST: RELIGION BACKLIST: LITERATURE



£25 9780863564628



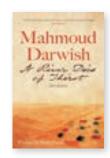
£14.99 9780863564123



£10 9780863568497



£10.99 9780863569821



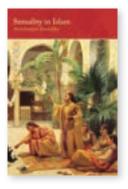
£12.99 9780863560613



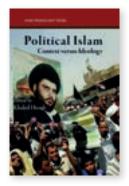
£16.99 9780863569906



£12.99 9780863569340



£16.99 9780863564932



£16.99 9780863566592



£14.99 9780863561597



£14.99 9780863563973



£14.99 9780863561757



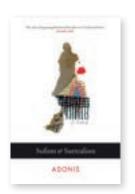
£12.99 9780863561467



£14.99 9780863563171



£14.99 9780863567650



£14.99 9780863561894



£14.99 9780863564710



£12.99 9780863565243



£9.99 9780863564277



£16.99 9780863568985

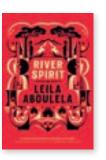


£6.99 9780863563317

BACKLIST: SAQI BOOKSHELF
BACKLIST: THE WESTBOURNE PRESS



£9.99 9780863569869



£9.99 9780863569043



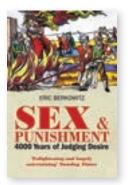
£14.99 9780863569272



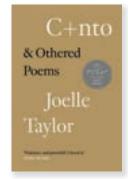
£9.99 9780863569630



£16.99 9781908906595



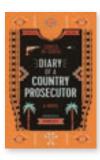
£11.99 9781908906106



£10.99 9781908906489



£9.99 9780863569685



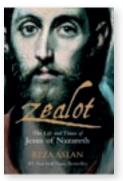
£9.99 9780863569814



£9.99 9780863569760



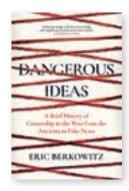
£10.99 9780863563751



£9.99 9781908906298



£16.99 9781908906533



£20 9781908906427



£9.99 9780863569166



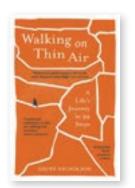
£9.99 9780863566103



£8.99 9780863566264



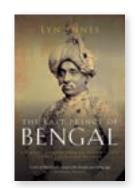
£8.99 9780863563553



£12.99 9781908906571



£16.99 9781908906557



£10.99 9781908906519

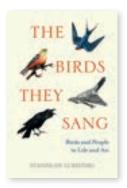
BACKLIST: THE WESTBOURNE PRESS
BACKLIST: TELEGRAM



£8.99 9781908906182



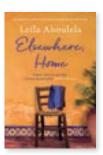
£7.99 9781908906144



£12.99 9781908906366



£7.99 9781846590009



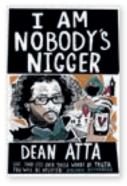
£8.99 9781846592119



£9.99 9781846590108



£11.99 9781846590610



£8.99 9781908906168



£16.99 9781908906205



£12.99 9781908906403



£7.99 9781846590320



£8.99 9781846590344



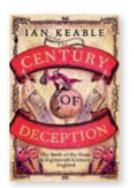
£9.99 9781846590399



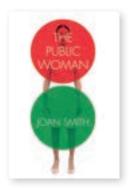
£8.99 9781846592010



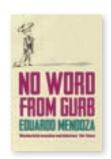
£8.99 9781908906090



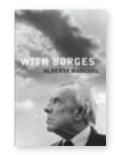
£20 9781908906441



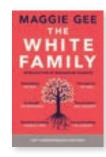
£12.99 9781908906045



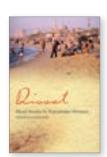
£7.99 9781846590160



£6.99 9781846590054



£9.99 9781846592157



£9.99 9781846590122

CONTACT CONTACT

HEAD OFFICE

Saqi Books Gable House 18-24 Turnham Green Terrace London W4 1QP Contact: Simon Liebesny T: +44 (0)207 221 9347 E: simon@saqibooks.com

DISTRIBUTION

WORLD EX. N. AMERICA / ANZ / SOUTHERN AFRICA

Turnaround Publisher Services 2nd Floor, Crown House 47 Chase Side, Southgate London N14 5BP www.turnaround-uk.com T: +44 (0)208 829 3002 E: orders@turnaround-uk.com

UNITED STATES / CANADA

Consortium Book Sales & Distribution The Keg House 34 13th Avenue NE, Suite 101 Minneapolis, MN55413, USA www.cbsd.com info@cbsd.com T: +1 800/343-4499 E: ipsjacksonorders@ingramcontent.com

AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND

New South Books, Sales & Marketing Alliance Distribution Services 9 Pioneer Ave, P.O. Box 3520 Tuggerah NSW 2259, Australia www.newsouthbooks.com.au T: +61 02 4390 1300 E: adscs@alliancedist.com.au

MIDDLE EAST

Dar al Saqi Al-Nour Bldg, Oueini St, Verdun PO Box 113/5342, Beirut, Lebanon www.daralsaqi.com T: +9611 866442 E: manal@daralsaqi.com

SOUTHERN AFRICA

Blue Weaver PO Box 30370 Tokai, Cape Town 7966 South Africa www.blueweaver.co.za T: +27 (0)21 701 4477 E: admin@blueweaver.co.za

SALES REPRESENTATIVES

UK

Yale Representation Ltd. 47 Bedford Square London WC1B 3DP www.yalerep.co.uk T: +44 (0) 207 079 4900 E: yalerep@yaleup.co.uk

Head of UK Sales Andrew Jarmain M: 07768 891574 E: andrew.jarmain@yaleup.co.uk

London, excluding South London John Gall M: 07809 349237 E: john.gall@yaleup.co.uk

Southeast England, South London, East Midlands Martin Brown M: 07803 012487 E: martin.brown@yaleup.co.uk

Northern England & North Wales Sally Sharp M: 07803 008218 E: sally.sharp@yaleup.co.uk

London Key Accounts, Southwest England, South Wales & West Midlands Matthew Wright M: 07803 012521 E: matthew.wright@yaleup.co.uk

Scotland
Colin Duncan
M: 07803 012461
E: colin.duncan@yaleup.co.uk

EUROPE (inc. N. IRELAND & ROI)

Durnell Marketing www.durnell.co.uk T: +44 (0) 1892 544 272 E: team@durnell.co.uk

MIDDLE EAST, TURKEY, NORTH AFRICA

Trevor Naylor Parkway Sales and Publishing M: +44 (0)7748 231703 E: trevor@parkwaybooks.com

ASIA (EX-CHINA/HONG KONG)

Andrew White The White Partnership T: +44 (0)7973 176046 E: andrew@thewhitepartnership.org.uk

CHINA / HONG KONG

Wei Zhao & Nimo Lu Beijing New Knowledge Era Cultural Communications Limited T: +86 10 5707 6180 E: everest_intl@126.com E: wzbooks@163.com

EBOOK DISTRIBUTION

Faber Factory
The Bindery, 51 Hatton Garden
London EC1N 8HN
www.faberfactory.co.uk
E: factory@faber.co.uk

RIGHTS SUBAGENTS

CENTRAL/EASTERN EUROPE, SCANDINAVIA AND THE BALTIC COUNTRIES

Red Rock Literary Agency Ltd Renata Kasprzak 6 Alders Grove, East Molesey KT8 0AB www.redrockliteraryagency.com E: renata@redrockliteraryagency.com

CHINA

Big Apple Agency Inc.
Maggie Han
3F, No. 833, Zhongshan Bei Road,
Zhabei District, Shanghai 200070, China
www.bigapple1.info
E: maggie-han@bigapple-china.com

ITALY, PORTUGAL, SPAIN, LATIN AMERICA

Casanovas & Lynch Agencia Literaria Marina Penalva Muntaner, 340, 2° 1ª 08021 Barcelona, Spain www.casanovaslynch.com E: marina@casanovaslynch.com

INDIA & SOUTH EAST ASIA

Jacaranda Lit Jayapriya Vasudevan 61 Tai Seng Ave, 04-13/14 Print Media Hub, Singapore 534167 www.jacarandalit.com E: jay@jacarandalit.com

JAPAN

Tuttle Mori Agency Asako Kawachi 2-17 Kanda Jimbocho, Chiyoda-ku Tokyo 101-0051, Japan www.tuttlemori.com E: asako@tuttlemori.com

TURKEY

Anatolia Lit Agency Hasret Parlak Torun Caferaga Mah., Gunesli Bahce Sok., No: 48, D: 4-, 34710, Kadikoy, Istanbul, Turkey www.anatolialit.com E: hasret@anatolialit.com

ALL OTHER TERRITORIES

E: rights@saqibooks.com

INDEX OF KEY TITLES

Arabs and the Holocaust, The	IO	Man with No Title, A	33
Archiving Gaza in the Present	II	Map of Absence, A	33
Babylon, Albion	7	Mouth Full of Salt, A	23
C+nto	35	Narrative Threads	12
Calligrapher's Garden, The	26	New Year, A	21
Calligraphies of Love	26	Passage to Europe, A	8
Calligraphies of the Desert	26	Poet and the Calligrapher, The	16
Classical Poems by Arab Women	33	Queer Arab Glossary, The	25
Concise History of Sunnis and Shi'is, A	25	River Dies of Thirst, A	25
Concise History of the Arabs, A	30	River Spirit	24
Contemporary Iranian Art	18	Sea of Troubles	24
Crusades Through Arab Eyes, The	25	Sex and Punishment	25
Daybreak in Gaza	2	Shrinking Goddess, The	35
Desert Songs of the Night	33	Sultan's Sex Potions, The	19
Gaza Catastrophe, The	9	Syria Speaks	28
Gaza Kitchen, The	14	This Arab Is Queer	2,4
Hidden Light of Objects, The	22	This Queer Arab Family	6
Lebanese Cuisine	20	Victims of a Map	33
Legacy of Empire	30	We Wrote in Symbols	33
Man of Few Words, A	4	Zealot	25

Stay connected with Saqi











Sign up to our newsletter



www.saqibooks.com

What people say about us

'A great publisher. Saqi fulfils a vital role.'

MARY BEARD

'A beacon of enquiry and intellectual exchange.'

KAMILA SHAMSIE

'Saqi sets the standard of excellence in Arabic and English publishing on the Middle East.'

EUGENE ROGAN

'Small but conscientious publishing houses like Saqi have assembled a diverse cross-section of contemporary work from the Arab world.'

EDWARD SAID

'Saqi plays an invaluable role in making available pioneering, specialist and often controversial books that large publishers refuse to go near.'

THE TIMES

'An outstanding independent house ... always a superb source of books from and about the Arab world.'

INDEPENDENT

'Saqi brings out fine original books.'

EVENING STANDARD

'An outstanding independent house'

'A list of exceptional writers' THE GUARDIAN



