



**SAQI FBF 2020**

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## Contacts

### SAQI HEAD OFFICE

Elizabeth Briggs

[elizabeth@saqibooks.com](mailto:elizabeth@saqibooks.com)

T: +44 (0)20 7221 9347

[www.saqibooks.com](http://www.saqibooks.com)

### SUBAGENTS

Central and Eastern Europe, Scandinavia & The Baltic Countries

Renata Kasprzak, Red Rock Literary Agency E: [renata@redrockliteraryagency.com](mailto:renata@redrockliteraryagency.com)

#### China

Maggie Han, Big Apple Agency E: [maggie-han@bigapple-china.com](mailto:maggie-han@bigapple-china.com)

#### France, Italy, Latin America, Portugal, Spain

Marina Penalva, Casanovas & Lynch Literary Agency

E: [marina@casanovaslynch.com](mailto:marina@casanovaslynch.com)

#### Japan

Asako Kawachi, Tuttle Mori Agency E: [asako@tuttlemori.com](mailto:asako@tuttlemori.com)

#### Turkey

Cansu Canseven, Anatolia Lit (fiction rights) E: [cansu@anatolialit.com](mailto:cansu@anatolialit.com)

Dogan Terzi, Anatolia Lit (non-fiction rights) E: [dogan@anatolialit.com](mailto:dogan@anatolialit.com)

#### Korea

Lucy Choi, Yu Ri Jang Literary Agency E: [lucy.choi@yrjagency.com](mailto:lucy.choi@yrjagency.com)

#### India & South East Asia

Jayapriya Vasudevan, Jacaranda Lit E: [jay@jacarandalit.com](mailto:jay@jacarandalit.com)

cover portrait (c) Maliha Abidi. Publisher, editor, writer and broadcaster Margaret Bushby  
from *Rise: 100 Extraordinary Women of Colour Who Changed the World* (Saqi Books, 2021)

# Rise

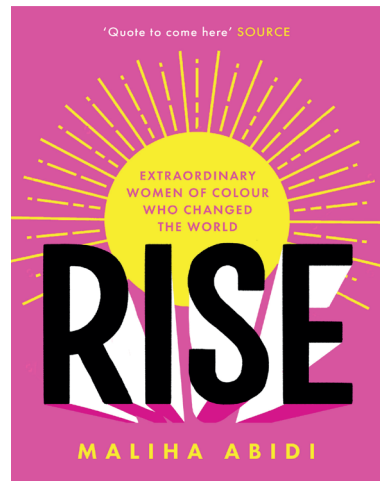
Extraordinary Women of Colour Who Changed the World

Maliha Abidi

A beautifully illustrated, inspirational celebration of women of colour from around the world, ideal for fans of *Goodnight Stories for Rebel Girls*

*Rise* celebrates the true stories of over 100 women of colour who achieved the extraordinary. From the woman who built the first university in the world to the Emirate's leading racing driver, these writers, activists, dancers, mountaineers, mathematicians and educators achieved greatness thanks to their ingenuity, courage and determination, often in the face of seemingly insurmountable hurdles.

Accompanied by striking portraits, these female icons are celebrated front and centre. Ranging from personal heroes to household names from more than fifty countries, prepare to be awed and inspired by these unparalleled women who have changed the world. *Rise* is a global message of hope and empowerment for generations to come.



'An incredibly inspiring artist' *Glamour UK*

'Exquisite paintings' *Metro*

World Rights available

March 2021  
Gift/Women in History £16.99  
HB 224pp  
100 colour illustrations

Materials: SAMPLE AVAILABLE

**Maliha Abidi** is an artist and feminist who has worked with renowned platforms, including UN Women and Peace Corporation. Born in Pakistan, Abidi recently moved to the UK where she is pursuing a BA in Medical Neuroscience at Sussex University. She is the author of the acclaimed *Pakistan for Women*, which she self-published in 2018.

# We Wrote in Symbols

Lust and Erotica by Arab Women Writers

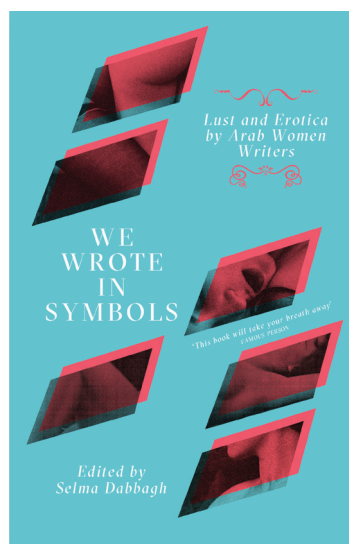
Selma Dabbagh

The first anthology of its kind. Includes Leila Slimani, Isabella Hammad and many more

It is a little-known secret that Arabic literature has a long tradition of erotic writing. This ground-breaking collection celebrates the women who dare to articulate their own desires with artistry and skill.

These stories and poems of lust and erotica lay bare the most private, prohibited and primitive sexual experiences and awakenings. Enter and experience tantalising encounters in Parisian bars, stumble across dark confessions whispered in forgotten Beirut alleyways, and be seduced by old friends learning to love again unexpectedly in later life.

Wherever these fantasies take us, there is no such thing as a typical sexual encounter – and there never has been – as this exhilarating anthology shows through 7000 years of Arab female writing on lust and erotica. Writers both classical and contemporary, including Isabella Hammad, Hanan Al Shaykh, Hoda Barakat, Leila Aboulela, Joumana Haddad and Leila Slimani, convey the complexities, intrigues and thrill of the chase, inviting you to share their written women's most private moments.



World Rights available

February 2021

Fiction/Erotica

£14.99 Demy PbO 262pp

Materials: MS AVAILABLE

**Selma Dabbagh** is a British Palestinian writer of fiction. Her debut novel *Out of It* (Bloomsbury) was a Guardian Book of the Year. Her radio play *The Brick* was nominated for the Imison Award and produced by BBC R4. She has also published numerous short stories with *Granta*, *Wasafiri*, *Saqi*, *Telegram* and *International PEN*, and is a *PEN* and *Pushcart* Nominee. Her work has been translated into Arabic, Mandarin, Spanish, Portuguese, Italian and French.



# Cunto

And Other Poems

Joelle Taylor

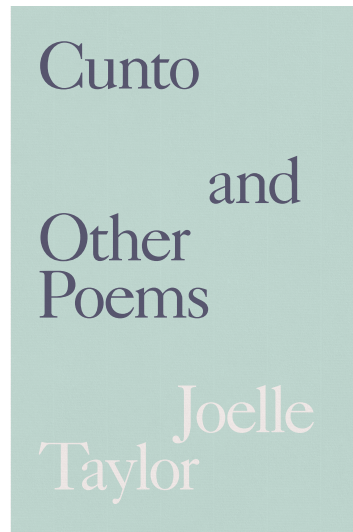
The story of subversive butch counterculture that has been missing from contemporary LGBT narrative

Rejected by our fathers, feared by our mothers, *Cunto* speaks of the female body as a political act and reveals the homophobia and misogyny exerted on that body.

History, magic, rebellion, party and sermon vibrate through the cantos to uncover the underground communities forged by women through the 90s. It celebrates the protests they led to reclaim their bodies as their own and examines the difficult dance between survival and self-expression.

Taylor writes into the silence surrounding masculine women and shows how personal narrative can become a political act. Part-memoir, part-conjecture, she investigates sexuality and gender in poetry that is lyrical, expansive, imagistic, epic and intimate. *Cunto* is a love poem, a riot, a late night and an honouring.

‘Joelle Taylor’s poetry roars and soars and conjures up the most extraordinary images to express the unsayable, the shocking and ultimately the great compassion she feels for the plight of women around the world.’ **Bernardine Evaristo**



World Rights available

June 2021

Poetry/LGBTQ+

£10.99 PbO Bformat 96pp

Materials: MS AVAILABLE

Joelle Taylor is an award-winning poet, playwright and author. She is the author of 3 full poetry collections, 3 plays and is completing her debut book of short stories *The Night Alphabet*. She founded SLAMBassadors, the UK's youth slam championships, is a Fellow of the RSA and is the host and co-curator of Out-Spoken, the UK's premier poetry and music club, currently resident at the Southbank Centre.

# Dangerous Ideas

A Brief History of Censorship from the Ancients to Fake News

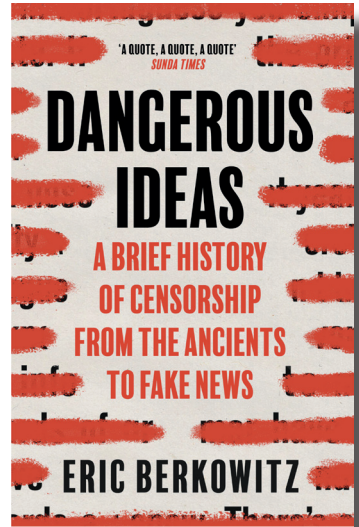
Eric Berkowitz

A soaring history of censoring people, words, art and ideas, from ancient to modern times

The urge to censor is as old as the urge to speak. From the first Chinese emperor's wholesale elimination of books to the Vatican's suppression of pornography, and on to the attack on Charlie Hebdo and the advent of Internet troll armies, words, images and ideas have always been hunted down by those trying to suppress them.

In this compelling account, Eric Berkowitz reveals why and how humanity has, from the beginning, sought to silence itself. Ranging from the absurd – such as Henry VIII's decree of death for anyone who 'imagined' his demise – to claims by American slave owners that abolitionist literature should be suppressed because it hurt their feelings, Berkowitz takes the reader on an unruly ride through history, highlighting the use of censorship to reinforce class, race and gender privilege and guard against offence.

Elucidating phrases like 'fake news' and 'hate speech', *Dangerous Ideas* exposes the dangers of erasing history and the forms it is taking today – and to what disturbing effects.



World Rights ex. NA available

April 2021

History

£20 HB 352pp

Materials: MS AVAILABLE

Eric Berkowitz is a lawyer and journalist. He has published investigative pieces in the *LA Times* and maintains a public interest law practice, where he represents victims of domestic violence and homosexuals seeking political asylum in the United States. His previous works include *Sex and Punishment: 4000 Years of Judging Desire* (TWP, 2013)

# The Last Prince of Bengal

An Indian Family's Journey from Royalty to Obscurity in the Age of Empire

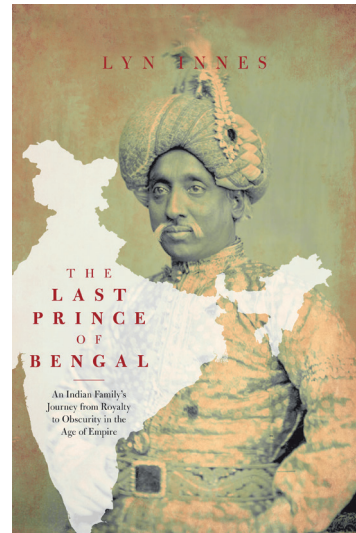
Lyn Innes

The colourful history of His Royal Highness, the last Nawab Nizam of Bengal, Bihar, and Orissa, and his family's turbulent relationship with the British

On 15 May 1870, a Muslim wedding ceremony took place in one of London's most prestigious hotels. The groom was Nawab Nizam, the much-feted Prince of Bengal, whose Indian kingdom was three times the size of Britain. The bride was Sarah Vennell, a seventeen-year-old English woman employed as a chambermaid at the hotel.

The Nawab had been received by Emperor Napoleon III, Queen Victoria and the Prince of Wales. But only ten years after his controversial marriage, he was forced by the British to abdicate, and his titles were permanently abolished. A generation later, against the backdrop of WWI and the Great Depression, the Nawab's son, Prince Nusrat Ali Mirza, in search of a better life, emigrated with his family to Australia to work as a farmer.

Weaving in scandals, broken marriages and political machinations to enthralling effect, *The Last Prince of Bengal* is the extraordinary portrait of a royal family's fall from power over one hundred years. Great-granddaughter of the Nawab Nizam, Lyn Innes exposes the complex prejudices regarding class and race, work and family, and religion and gender, at the heart of recent British and Indian history.



World Rights available

April 2021

History/Biographies

£20 HB 288pp

30 b&w images, 2 maps

Materials: MS AVAILABLE

Lyn Innes is the great-grand daughter of His Royal Highness, the last Nawab Nizam of Bengal, Bihar, and Orissa. She has taught postcolonial literatures at the University of Massachusetts and the University of Kent. She co-edited two volumes of African short stories with Chinua Achebe and was associate editor of the journal he founded, *OKIKE*. She was the founding President of the Association for the Teaching of African, Asian & Caribbean Literatures and has been on the board of the journal, *Wasafiri*, since 1984.

# Midnight in Cairo

The Female Stars of Egypt's Roaring 20s

Raphael Cormack

The captivating story of Egypt's interwar nightlife and entertainment industry through the lives of its most pioneering women

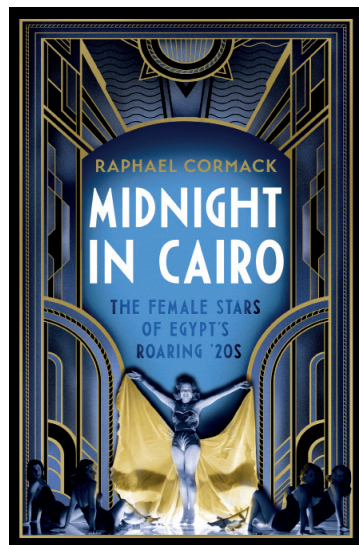
1920s Cairo: singers are pressing hit records, new theatres and dramatic troupes are springing up, and cabarets are packed – a counter-culture is on the rise. In bars, hash-dens and music halls, people of all classes and backgrounds come together as a passionate group of eccentrics, narcissists and idealists strive to entertain Egyptian society.

Of these performers, Cairo's biggest stars were female, and they asserted themselves on the stage like never before. Two of the most famous troupes were run by women; Badia Masabni's dancehall became the hottest nightspot in town; pioneer of Egyptian cinema Aziza Amir made her stage debut; and legendary singer Umm Kulthum first rose to fame. It is these women, who knew both the opportunities and prejudices that this world offered, who best reveal this cosmopolitan and raucous city's secrets.

Introducing a thrilling cast of characters, it reveals a world of revolutionary ideas and provocative art – one which laid the foundations of Arab popular culture today. It is a story of modern Cairo as we have never heard it before.

'Cormack uncovers an unexpected story of powerful women and their no less powerful voices – on stage and behind the scenes. Beguiling and original.'

Marina Warner



World Rights available

SOLD

W.N. Norton (North America)

AUC Press (Egypt)

May 2021

History/Egypt/Gender/Culture & Society

£20 HB 320pp

Materials: MS AVAILABLE

Raphael Cormack lived in Cairo for several years and his writing on Arabic literature, culture and history has appeared in the *London Review of Books*, *Prospect*, *TLS* and *Apollo Magazine*, among others. He is the co-editor of *The Book of Khartoum* and the editor of *The Book of Cairo*.

# Sea of Troubles

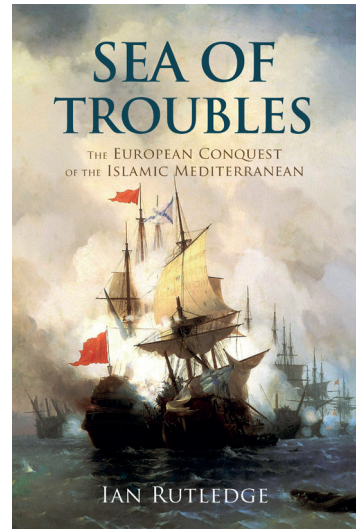
The European Conquest of the Islamic Mediterranean, c.1750–1918

Ian Rutledge

A sweeping, compelling account of European imperialism that led to the Great War and fall of the Ottoman Empire

In the mid-eighteenth century, most of the Mediterranean coastline and its hinterlands were controlled by the Ottoman Empire, a vast Islamic power regarded by Christian Europe with awe and fear. By the end of the First World War, however, this great civilisation had been completely subjugated, and its territories occupied by European powers.

*Sea of Troubles* is the definitive account of the European conquest of the Levant and North Africa over three centuries. Ian Rutledge reveals the intense imperial rivalry between six European powers – Britain, France, Italy, Spain, Austria-Hungary and Russia – who all jostled for control of the trade, lands and wealth of the Islamic Mediterranean. The competition between these states made their conquest a far more difficult and extended task than they encountered elsewhere in the world. Yet, as new contenders entered the contest, and as rivalries intensified in the early twentieth century, events would spiral out of control as the continent headed towards the First World War.



World Rights available

August 2021

History/Imperialism

£25 HB 384pp

35 b&cw images, 6 maps

Materials: MS AVAILABLE

**Ian Rutledge** is an economist and historian, who previously taught at the Universities of London and Sheffield. Rutledge has devoted the past two decades to researching the economic and political history of the Middle East. His other works include the critically acclaimed *Enemy on the Euphrates: The Battle for Iraq, 1914–1921*.



# Calligraphies of the Desert

Hassan Massoudy

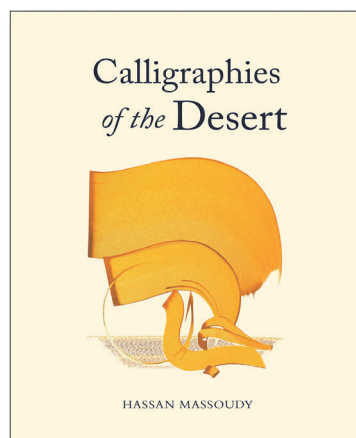
Texts by Isabelle Massoudy

A beautifully illustrated gift book offering inspiration for meditation

'The desert was lost in the realm of your heart. What can this desert be?' [Rumi](#)

Celebrated master calligrapher Hassan Massoudy carries the desert within him. Through majestic, sweeping strokes, he depicts its breath-taking beauty and wonder. Massoudy draws inspiration from the words and wisdom of some of our greatest poets and writers – Rumi, Goethe, Baudelaire, Antoine de Saint-Exupery, Khalil Gibran – who have lost themselves in the mysteries of the desert.

Beautifully illustrated, *Calligraphies of the Desert* offers inspiration for meditation. Speaking to the senses, it is a treasure for travellers, poets and dreamers looking to transcend time and place.



'A striking rendering of the peace, magical shifts and timeless beauty of the desert.' [Leila Aboulela](#)

World Rights available

Sep 2020

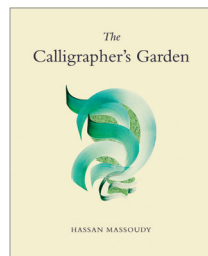
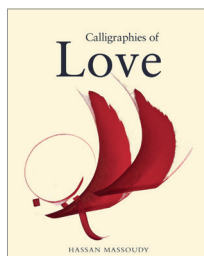
Gift/Art/Literature

£10 128pp PbO w/flaps

Over 70 colour illustrations

Materials: MS AVAILABLE

Hassan Massoudy is an Iraqi artist considered to be the greatest living calligrapher. His work has influenced a generation of calligraphers and was exhibited and used as the primary promotional image for the British Museum's 2006 exhibition, *Word Into Art: Artists of the Modern Middle East*.



# Revolt Against the Sun

The Selected Poetry of Nazik al-Mala'ika: A Bilingual Reader

Edited and Translated by Emily Drumsta

**The first study of Nazik al-Mala'ika, a pioneer of Arab modernist poetry**

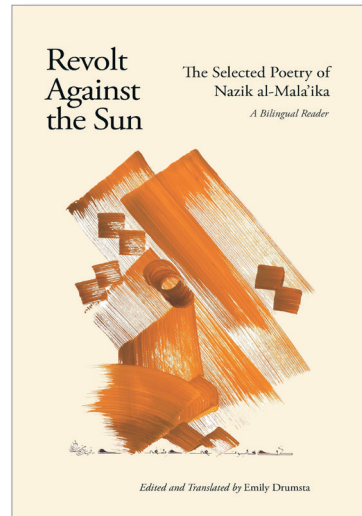
The Iraqi poet Nazik al-Mala'ika was one of the most important Arab poets of the twentieth century. Over the course of a four-decade career, her contributions to the theory and practice of free verse poetry confirmed her position as a pioneer of Arab modernism.

*Revolt Against the Sun* presents a selection of al-Mala'ika's poetry from each of her collections in English for the first time. Tracing her transformation from a lyrical Romantic poet in the 1940s to a fervently committed Arab nationalist in the 1970s and 1980s, the translations offer an overview of her life and work, as well as an insight into the political and social realities in the Arab world at the time.

This bilingual reader reveals how one woman transformed the landscape of modern Arabic literature and culture in the twentieth century. Featuring a comprehensive critical introduction, it is a key resource for students and teachers of Arabic and world literature, as well as for readers interested in discovering an alternative narrative of modern Iraqi culture.

'Nazik al-Mala'ikah was a twentieth-century literary trailblazer in the world of Arab poetics. This bold and long-overdue collection opens a generous window onto her poetry.' [Sinan Antoon](#)

**Emily Drumsta** is Assistant Professor of Comparative Literature at Brown University. She has published articles in *Research in African Literatures*, *Social Text* and *Middle Eastern Literatures*, and has a chapter in *The Routledge Handbook of Arabic Translation*.



World Rights ex. Arabic available

Oct 2020  
Literature/Poetry/Language  
£14.99 PbO 256pp

Materials: MS AVAILABLE

# The Sultan's Feast

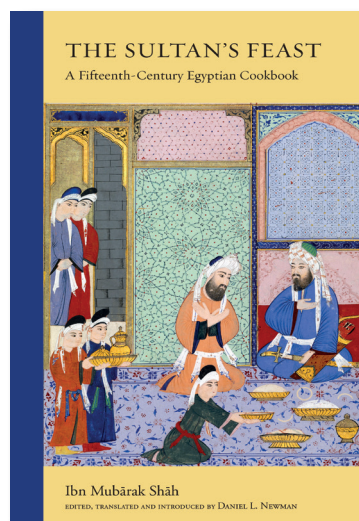
A Fifteenth-Century Egyptian Cookbook by Ibn Mubārak Shāh

Edited, Translated and Introduced by Daniel L. Newman

Available in English for the first time, this bilingual volume offers a unique insight into the world of medieval Arabic gastronomic writing

The Arabic culinary tradition burst onto the scene in the middle of the tenth century when al-Warraq compiled *The Book of Dishes*, containing over six hundred recipes. It would take another three centuries for cookery books to be produced in Christian Europe. Until then, gastronomic writing remained the sole preserve of the Arab-Muslim world with cooking manuals and recipe books being written from Baghdad, Aleppo and Egypt in the East, to Muslim Spain and North Africa in the West.

Nine complete cookery books have survived from this time, containing around four thousand recipes. *The Sultan's Feast* by the Egyptian scholar Ibn Mubarak Shah features more than 330 recipes, from bread-making and savoury stews, to roasts, sweets, pickles and condiments, as well as tips on a range of topics. Composed in the fifteenth century and available in English for the first time, this critical bilingual volume offers a unique insight into the world of medieval Arabic gastronomic writing.



World Rights available

Oct 2020

Bilingual Arabic-English  
Classic Texts/Social History/Medieval  
Studies/Egypt/Middle East  
£25 PBO Royal 352pp

Materials: MS AVAILABLE

**Daniel L. Newman** holds the Chair of Arabic Studies at the University of Durham, UK. His publications include *An Imam in Paris: Account of a Stay in France* by An Egyptian Cleric, *The Sultan's Sex Potions: Arab Aphrodisiacs in the Middle Ages* and *Modern Arabic Short Stories: A Bilingual Reader* (with Ronak Husni), all by Saqi Books.

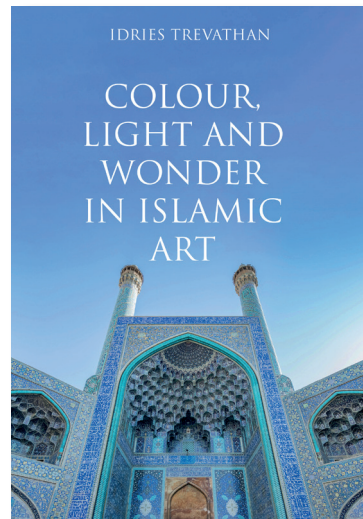
# Colour, Light and Wonder in Islamic Art

**Idries Trevathan**

**A unique investigation into the aesthetics of colour in Islamic art revealing its deeper symbolic and mystical meanings**

The experience of colour in Islamic visual culture has historically been overlooked. In this new approach, Idries Trevathan examines the language of colour in Islamic art and architecture in dialogue with its aesthetic contexts, offering insights into the pre-modern Muslim experience of interpreting colour.

The seventeenth-century Shah Mosque in Isfahan, Iran, represents one of the finest examples of colour-use on a grand scale. Here, Trevathan examines the philosophical and mystical traditions that formed the mosque's backdrop. He shows how careful combinations of colour and design proportions in Islamic patterns expresses knowledge beyond that experienced in the corporeal world, offering another language with which to know and experience God. Colour thus becomes a spiritual language, calling for a re-consideration of how we read Islamic aesthetics.



‘This book is an important contribution to the study of Islamic art, revealing the deeper symbolic significance of the use of colour and light. Idries Trevathan brings out with admirable clarity the metaphysical and cosmological meanings of colour and light beyond their decorative function.’

Seyyed Hossein Nasr, George Washington University

World Rights available

February 2020

Art / Islam

£45 HB 288pp

27 colour illustrations

Materials: MS AVAILABLE

**Idries Trevathan** is a curator and conservator of Islamic art collections. He regularly works on conservation projects and has conducted technical colour studies on a range of Islamic art objects, including the Malay Qur'an manuscripts and Ottoman porticoes in the grand mosque in Mecca.

# Lebanese Wine

A Complete Guide to its History and Winemaking

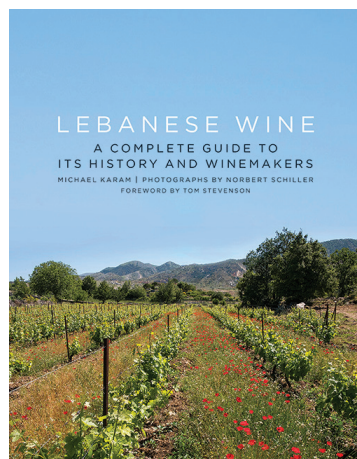
Michael Karam / Photographs by Norbert Schiller

Foreword by Tom Stevenson

**Visit the wineries, meet the producers and discover the wines of Lebanon, one of the world's oldest winemaking regions**

Lebanon's wine heritage dates back thousands of years. In the second millennium BC, wine made and traded by the Phoenicians was regarded as the finest in the world. The Romans loved it so much they built a temple to Bacchus in the Beqaa Valley. From the dawn of time until the present day, despite regional turmoil, civil conflicts and religious intolerance, Lebanon has consistently produced world-class wines.

Michael Karam and Norbert Schiller take us on a journey through the vineyards of Lebanon, telling the story of its wine, as well as that of its people and their traditions. Lavishly illustrated, *Lebanese Wine* includes profiles of the fifty wineries operating in the country today – their produce, grapes, and techniques – as well as interviews with the most exciting winemakers. At once a guide and cultural history, this tribute to one of the world's oldest winemaking regions is an invaluable reference for wine lovers, travellers and casual readers alike.



World Rights available

July 2021

Food & Drink

£25 HB 256pp

130 colour photographs

Materials: SAMPLE AVAILABLE

**Michael Karam** is a journalist, wine writer and documentary maker. His books include *Wines of Lebanon*, which won the Gourmand Award for Best New World Wine Book *Arak and Mezze*. **Norbert Schiller** has lived and worked as a news photographer in the Middle East and Africa for nearly three decades, working for the *Associated Press*, *Agence France Presse*, *New York Times*, and *Der Spiegel*, among others.



# Lebanon: The Cookbook

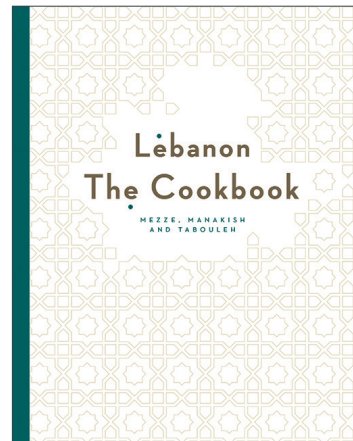
Mezze, Manakish and Tabbouleh

Liza and Ziad Asseily

A contemporary Lebanese cookbook that is a feast for the eyes and soul

*Lebanon: The Cookbook* celebrates Lebanese cuisine at its best: fresh, light and generous. Liza and Ziad Asseily reveal the richness of their culture and *art de vivre* by following a typical Beirut day in 75 recipes. From breakfast, lunch and aperitifs, through to festive meals and street food enjoyed at night, this cookbook offers a full gastronomic experience. Among mouth-watering additions such as pomegranate molasses and tahini to kibbeh, mouttabal and spicy stews, you'll also find gluten-free and vegetarian variations of authentic favourites. Traditional dishes are revisited with new ingredients and refined flavours, delivering well-loved classics with a modern twist.

These healthy, easy-to-cook recipes are illustrated with lavish photographs from Liza and Ziad's chic restaurants in Beirut and Paris. With recommendations and anecdotes about the history of Lebanese cuisine guiding you through Lebanon's best kept secrets, take an enchanting trip to Beirut and make memories to last forever from the comfort of your own home.



World English available

September 2021

Cookery

£25 HB 224pp

125 colour photographs

Materials: MS AVAILABLE

Lebanese restaurateurs **Liza and Ziad Asseily** opened Liza Paris in 2005 and Liza Beirut in 2013. Located in a former nineteenth-century palace in the Ashrafieh District and lavishly decorated, this upscale restaurant was selected as one of the most beautiful restaurants in the world by Condé Nast Traveller.

# Legacy of Empire

Britain's Support of Zionism and the Creation of Israel

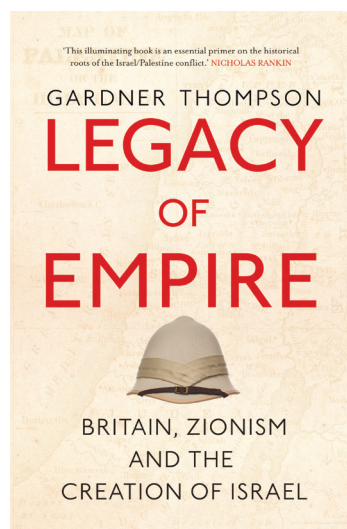
Gardner Thompson

Highly readable and compelling account of Britain's imperial legacy in the Middle East

It is now more than seventy years since the creation of the state of Israel, yet its origins and the British Empire's historic responsibility for Palestine remain little known. Confusion persists too as to the distinction between anti-Zionism and anti-Semitism. In *Legacy of Empire*, Gardner Thompson offers a clear-eyed review of political Zionism and Britain's role in shaping the history of Palestine and Israel.

Thompson explores why the British government adopted Zionism in the early twentieth century, issuing the Balfour Declaration in 1917 and then retaining it as the cornerstone of their rule in Palestine after the First World War. Despite evidence and warnings, over the next two decades Britain would facilitate the colonisation of Arab Palestine by Jewish immigrants, ultimately leading to a conflict which it could not contain. Britain's response was to propose the partition of an ungovernable land: a 'two-state solution' which – though endorsed by the United Nations after the Second World War – has so far brought into being neither two states nor a solution.

A highly readable and compelling account of Britain's rule in Palestine, *Legacy of Empire* is essential for those wishing to better understand the roots of this enduring conflict.



World Rights available

September 2019  
History/Britain/Israel/Palestine  
£20 HB Royal 352pp  
5 maps / 15 b&w photographs

**Gardner Thompson** is a historian of British colonialism and a fellow of the Royal Historical Society. His other publications include *Governing Uganda: British Colonial Rule and its Legacy* and *African Democracy: Its Origins and Development in Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania*.

# Yemen in Crisis

Autocracy, Neo-Liberalism and the Disintegration of a State

Helen Lackner

An indispensable guide to understanding the dramatic turn of events in the country since 2011

Yemen is in the grip of its most severe crisis in years. Fuelled by Arab and Western intervention, the civil war has quickly escalated, resulting in thousands killed and millions close to starvation. Suffering from a collapsed economy, the people of Yemen face a desperate choice between the Huthi rebels allied with ex-President Saleh on the one side and the internationally recognised government propped up by the Saudi-led coalition and Western arms on the other.

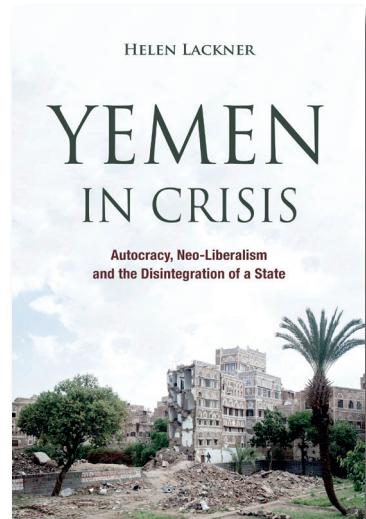
In this invaluable analysis, Helen Lackner uncovers the roots of the social and political conflicts that threaten the very survival of the state and its people. She reveals the corruption of the country's US-backed autocratic regime, as well as its failure to address national impoverishment and to plan an equitable economy for Yemen's growing population.

'An outstanding book ... Written with compassion and insight, Lackner confirms her standing as the foremost authority on Yemeni politics at work today.'

Eugene Rogan

'The discussion has a developmentalist tenor, patiently setting out the myriad of challenges that any future Yemeni government will have to confront.'

Tariq Ali, the *New Left Review*



World Rights available

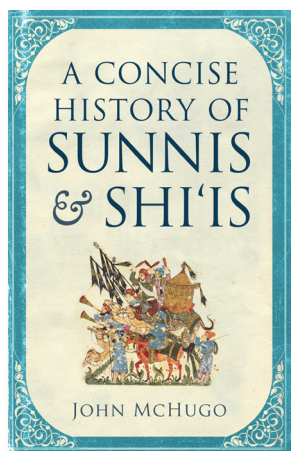
SOLD  
Verso (North America)  
El Maraya (Arabic)

2017  
Politics / IR  
£25 HB 330pp

Helen Lackner has spent the past four decades researching Yemen, and has worked in the country for fifteen years. She is currently the editor of the *Journal of the British-Yemeni Society*. Her publications include *Why Yemen Matters: A Society in Transition*.

# John McHugo

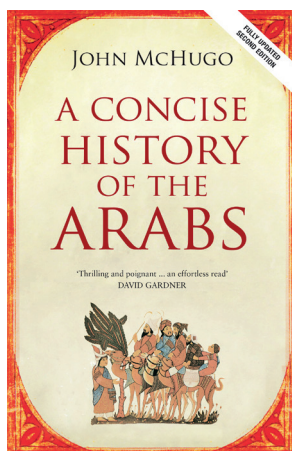
**John McHugo** is a Senior Fellow at the Centre for Syrian Studies at St Andrews, and a board member of the Council for Arab-British Understanding and the British Egyptian Society. His other publications include the critically acclaimed *A Concise History of the Arabs* and *Syria: A Recent History*.



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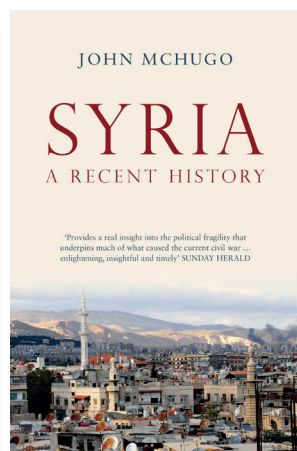


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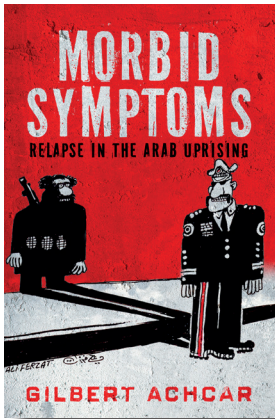
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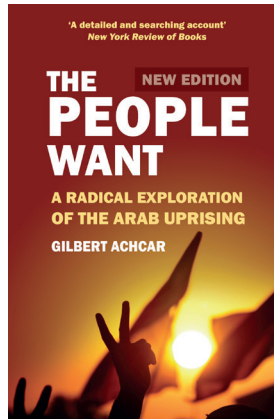
Gilbert Achcar is Professor of Development Studies and International Relations at the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London. His publications include *The Clash of Barbarisms*, *The Arabs and the Holocaust* and *Perilous Power* with Noam Chomsky.



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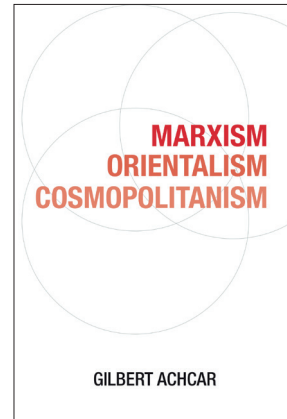
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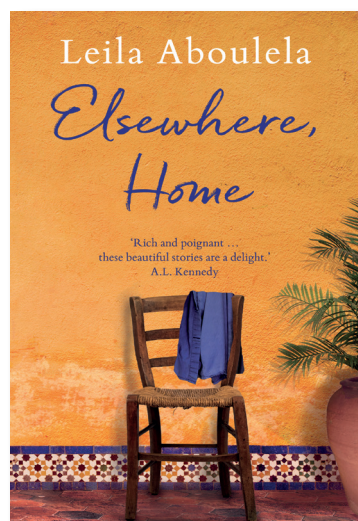
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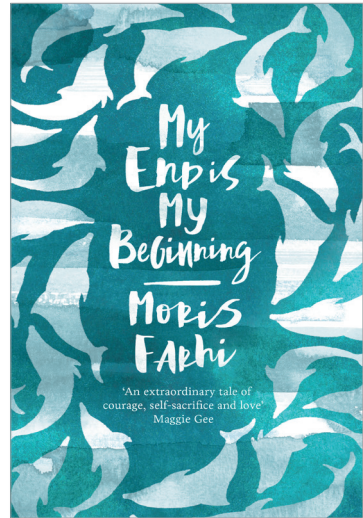
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**Moris Farhi** (1935–2019) was a writer and international human rights campaigner. A Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature and Vice-President of PEN International, he was appointed an MBE for services to literature in 2001. His publications include *Young Turk* and *A Designated Man*, both by Saqi Books.

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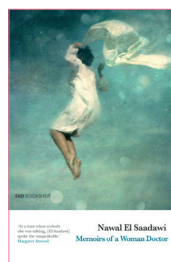
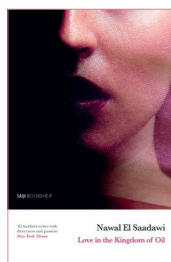
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# The Quarter

Naguib Mahfouz

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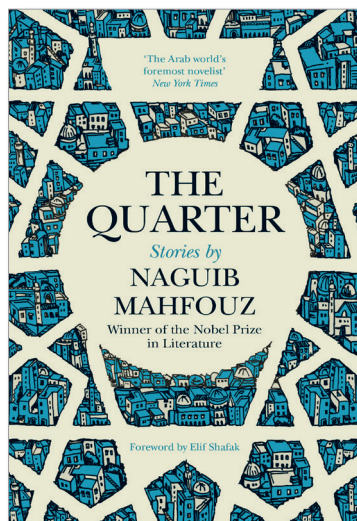
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