



Brazilian Literary Festival

May - June 1997

Brazilian Literary Festival

May and June see the visit of four outstanding Brazilian literary figures in a nationwide tour taking in arts centres and literary festivals throughout England, Scotland and Wales.

Chico Buarque, Rubem Fonseca and Patricia Melo (all published by Bloomsbury) and João Gilberto Noll (published by Boulevard) are visiting the country to give readings and talk about their work.

Bloomsbury would like to thank the Ministry of Culture and Foreign Affairs in Brazil and the British Council for their generous support.

For further details and to arrange interviews please call Becky Shaw on
0171 494 6012

Also coming from other publishers:

A SIMPLE BRAZILIAN SONG by James Woodall

A personal introduction to the music of Chico Buarque, Caetano Veloso and Gilberto Gil. (Little, Brown £16.99 June 1997)

HOTEL ATLANTICO by João Gilberto Noll

A sexy existentialist trip to the Brazilian interior, a brisk account of violence, desperation and love that plumbs the psyche of one of the world's most mysterious and astounding modern nations. (Boulevard £8.95 May 1997)

INTIMATE DIARY by Ana Christina César

A witty glance at love, sex and the consumer society by one of Brazil's best women writers. (Boulevard £7.95 May 1997)

REBELLION IN THE BACKLANDS by Euclides da Cunha (1866 - 1909)

Known as 'The Bible of Brazilian Nationality', this classic account of the resistance of the backlands people in 1896 is one of the most remarkable works of world literature. (Picador £15.99)

B L O O M S B U R Y

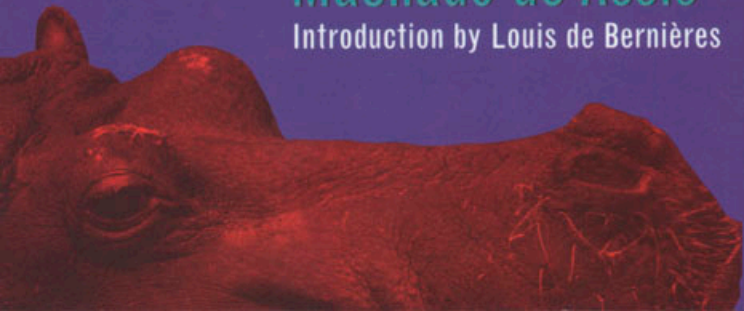


Epitaph of a Small Winner

'One of the masterpieces of Brazilian literature' **SALMAN RUSHDIE**

Machado de Assis

Introduction by Louis de Bernières



Epitaph of a Small Winner

Machado de Assis

Translated by William L. Grossman

with a new introduction by Louis de Bernières

A wickedly comic improvisation of a dead man's acerbic commentary on his undistinguished life, *Epitaph of a Small Winner* is by one of the great masters of Latin American and world literature.

'If Borges is the writer who made Garcia Marquez possible, then it's no exaggeration to say that Machado is the writer who made Borges possible...It is one of the masterpieces of Brazilian literature, and in this witty lucid translation it is a pure delight to read.' *Salman Rushdie*

MACHADO DE ASSIS

Born in Rio de Janeiro in 1839 into a poor mulatto family, Machado de Assis has been compared to Laurence Sterne as well as Samuel Beckett. Orphaned young and largely self-educated, he started writing at the age of fifteen. He won recognition in the 1860s and 1870s with works in the prevailing romantic vein until a severe illness in 1879 marked a startling change in his style and his later works such as *Epitaph of a Small Winner*, *Philosopher or Dog?* and *Dom Casmurro* are brilliantly original ironic novels. Elected first President of the Brazilian Academy of Letters in 1897, on his death in Rio in 1908 he was given a state funeral. He is honoured to this day as one of Brazil's great writers.



philosopher

or

dog

?

'Fantastic...strange
and wonderful'

NEW YORK TIMES

Machado de Assis

Introduction by Louis de Bernières



Philosopher or Dog?

Machado de Assis

Translated by Clotilde Wilson

with a new introduction by Louis de Bernières

The rich and eccentric philosopher Quincas Borba names his dog after himself, because he knows his pet will outlive him. Quincas does die first, leaving his fortune to his friend Rubião, provided that he care for the dog. The dim-witted Rubião is hardly prepared for the life that awaits him – 'What was he a year ago? A teacher. What is he now? A capitalist' – when he forsakes his quiet hometown for Quincas' Rio mansion. With masterful irony, Machado de Assis carefully delineates Rubião's exploits – as lover, patron and politician – in this fresh and astonishingly modern novel.

'Fantastic...strange and wonderful.' *The New York Times*

MACHADO DE ASSIS

Born in Rio de Janeiro in 1839 into a poor mulatto family, Machado de Assis has been compared to Laurence Sterne as well as Samuel Beckett. Orphaned young and largely self-educated, he started writing at the age of fifteen. He won recognition in the 1860s and 1870s with works in the prevailing romantic vein until a severe illness in 1879 marked a startling change in his style and his later works such as *Epitaph of a Small Winner*, *Philosopher or Dog?* and *Dom Casmurro* are brilliantly original ironic novels. Elected first President of the Brazilian Academy of Letters in 1897, on his death in Rio in 1908 he was given a state funeral. He is honoured to this day as one of Brazil's great writers.



The background of the entire cover is a 3x3 grid of human eyes. Each eye is rendered in a different color palette, creating a vibrant, multi-colored effect. The colors include shades of orange, yellow, green, teal, red, and blue. The eyes are looking forward, and the highlights on their pupils and irises are also colored to match the overall theme of each panel.

Turbulence

Chico Buarque

'A nightmarish tour de force' Independent



Turbulence

Chico Buarque

Translated by Peter Bush

For twenty years **Chico Buarque** has been Brazil's most popular composer, lyricist and performer.

Set in a city that can only be Rio, Chico Buarque's first novel, *Turbulence*, evokes the surreal quality of urban Brazilian life through the comically hyperactive consciousness of the unnamed narrator, for the disturbing events of the novel occur as much in the country of the mind as in Brazil.

'An undeniably haunting read' *Daily Telegraph*

'The staccato quality of the prose...effectively conveys the disorientation of a society poised on the abyss of anarchy' *The Times*

'An intriguing cross-fertilisation of creative technique in a narrative as unpredictable as a sustained passage of jazz improvisation' *Independent*

'Employing a taut, nervy prose and a telling eye for detail, Buarque expertly depicts a Brazil that is shot through with crime, corruption and dislocation' *Financial Times*

'An unmistakably Brazilian text. A little like *Ulysses* turned inside out' *New Statesman*



TRANSLATED AND INTRODUCED BY ELIZABETH BISHOP

THE DIARY OF
'HELENA MORLEY'



The Diary of 'Helena Morley'

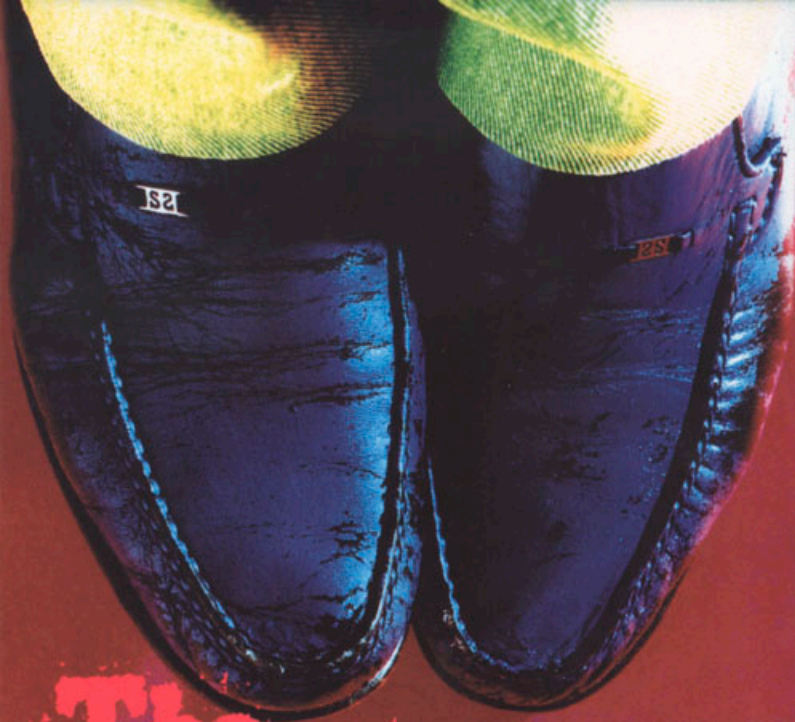
Translated by Elizabeth Bishop

First published in 1942 in an edition of 2,000 copies with the idea of amusing the author's family and friends, *The Diary of 'Helena Morley'* soon gained a reputation in literary circles in Rio de Janeiro, and by 1952 had been reissued three times. In her introduction to the diary, Elizabeth Bishop says of it: 'When I first came to Brazil, in 1952, I asked my Brazilian friends which Brazilian books I should begin reading. They frequently recommended this little book, *Minha vida de menina*...In English the title means 'My Life as a Little Girl', or 'Young Girl', and that is exactly what the book is about, but it is not reminiscences; it is a diary, the diary actually kept by a girl between the ages of twelve and fifteen, in the far-off town of Diamantina in 1893-1895...The more I read the book the better I liked it. The scenes and events it described were odd, remote, and long ago, and yet fresh, sad, funny, and eternally true. The longer I stayed on in Brazil the more Brazilian the book seemed, yet much of it could have happened in any small provincial town or village, and at almost any period of history – at least before the arrival of the automobile and the moving-picture theatre.'

'Helena Morley' was the pseudonym of Senhora Augusto Mario Caldeira Brant, who took the names from her English father's family. She later became well known and much loved in Rio society.

Elizabeth Bishop was one of the greatest, most beloved poets of the twentieth century. Born in the United States, she spent fifteen years in Brazil.





The

Patrícia Melo

The

Killer

The Killer

Patrícia Melo

Translated by Clifford E. Landers

You may know someone like Maiquel: someone with a short fuse, a dubious habit or two perhaps, but basically decent. He's just suggestible, prey to whim. See how Maiquel in a mad moment loses his temper and kills someone - and gets away with it. Then a toothache and a random visit to the dentist provide the opportunity for another murder, this time for profit. Follow Maiquel on his path of good intentions, indecision and then escalating violence. Observe his adoration yet misuse of women, his capitulation to goading friends in high places, his ironic rise in social esteem and career success as he sinks into moral depravity. Patrícia Melo's is an acid vision of urban violence, but more, it is the brilliant portrait of a recognisable individual careering out of control.

Patrícia Melo is a young screenwriter and playwright as well as a novelist. She lives in São Paulo.

Clifford E. Landers is professor of political science at Jersey City State College (USA). He has translated novels by Jorge Amado, João Ubaldo Ribeiro and Marcos Rey, as well as shorter fiction by Rachel de Queiroz, Lima Barreto and Osman Lins.



The Lost Manuscript

Rubem
Fonseca



B L O O M S B U R Y

The Lost Manuscript

Rubem Fonseca

Translated by Clifford E. Landers

Rubem Fonseca is one of Brazil's most popular and distinguished novelists and screenwriters. He has written many novels including *Bufo & Spallanzani* and *High Art*, which was made into the film *Exposure*. His work has been translated into German, French, Spanish and Italian, among other languages. He lives in Rio de Janeiro.

A runaway bestseller when published in Brazil, *The Lost Manuscript* (*Vastas Emoções e Pensamentos Imperfeitos*), like other novels by Rubem Fonseca, utilises the thriller framework to present searing insights into the human psyche. Filled with fascinating detail of the high camp world of carnival costume design, the intricate history of precious stones, the nature of dreams and the subtlety of film-making, it is absorbing at every level.

Clifford E. Landers is professor of political science at Jersey City State College (USA). He has translated novels by Jorge Amado, João Ubaldo Ribeiro and Marcos Rey, as well as shorter fiction by Rachel de Queiroz, Lima Barreto and Osman Lins.



Benjamin



Chico Buarque