

2018 Frankfurt Book Fair Hotlist

NON-FICTION

Sabrina Benaim | Depression and Other Magic Tricks [Button Poetry] (Poetry)

- From the viral spoken word poet whose piece "Explaining My Depression to My Mother" has **over 7,000,000 views** on YouTube, this debut collection is a documentation of struggle and triumph, a celebration of daily life and of living that has sold **over 75,000 copies**
- **Depression and Other Magic Tricks** is a devastating and hopeful collection from a writer who understands the power of words with sharp edges with each poem, readers are introduced to vivid portraits of a fractured life in a form that asks to be sung, screamed and belted out
- For readers of **Rupi Kaur** and **Amanda Lovelace's** *The Princess Saves Herself in this One*, the verses in *Depression and Other Magic Tricks* both cripple and intoxicate
- Rights Held: World, excl. North America English (Button Poetry), World Polish (Wydawnictwo Literackie); Final Pages available; Pub date: Aug 2017; Page extent: 96 (pb)

Sasha Chapin | Love and Losing: A Chess Memoir [CookeMcDermid Agency] (Non-Fiction—Memoir)

- If Gold and Silver National Magazine Award-winning journalist **Sasha Chapin** could have chosen a different path in life he would have become a chess genius instead, Chapin gives us the glorious *Love and Losing*, a meditation on the two years he travelled the world pursuing his dream of playing chess professionally
- In sparkling prose, Chapin reflects on his lifelong relationship with chess, first as his refuge, through adolescence and his early twenties shaped by a struggle with bipolar disorder, chess, a "perfect information game," captivated him, and a decade later, his passion for chess rekindled, becoming an obsession and then a full-fledged addiction
- For readers of William Finnegan's Barbarian Days and Stefan Fastis's Word Freak, Chapin asks, "should we live our lives in the service of what is comfortably attainable, or thrillingly impossible?"
- Rights Held: World, excl. Canada English (McClelland & Stewart); Ms available; Pub date: Spring 2019; Page extent: TBD (hc)

Susan Doherty | The Ghost Garden [Random House Canada] (Non-Fiction-Psychology)

- Perfect for readers of **Mark Lukach's** *My Lovely Wife in the Psych Ward*, this is a rare work of narrative non-fiction that beautifully illuminates a world most of us try not to see, a world most writers don't have access to: the daily lives of the severely mentally ill, who are medicated, marginalized, locked away and shunned
- For the past decade, the severely ill patients of the wards of a prominent mental health hospital in Montreal have found a friend in Susan Doherty, who volunteers there and then follows the people she befriends out into the world as they struggle to get through their days with their full cooperation, she brings us their stories, challenging the ways we think about people with mental illness
- The spine of *The Ghost Garden* is Caroline Evans (pseudonym), a woman in her early sixties whom Susan has known since she was a school girl, who has been through it all, including the way the justice system treats the severely mentally ill
- Rights Held: World, excl. Canada (Random House Canada); Ms available Nov 2018; Pub date: Spring 2019; Page extent: TBD (ms)

Anna Mehler Paperny | Hello! I Want to Die, Please Fix Me: Depression in the First Person [Random House Canada] (Non-Fiction – Memoir/Mental Illness)

- From award-winning *Reuters* reporter Anna Mehler Paperny, this is a frank, eye-opening, heartbreaking yet disarmingly funny memoirmeets-exposé about surviving suicide and the ways we try to talk about and treat depression
- In her early 20s, having just landed her "dream job" as an investigative journalist, with a loving family and a strong social network, Paperny found herself spiralling into despair, suicide attempt that land her in intensive care – and uses her investigative journalist's eye to interview those on the front line of treatments, revealing the novel hypotheses some specialists are putting forward about online testing for depression, the far frontiers of brain mapping, and the disturbing truth about just how primitive our methods of healing sick brains still are
- In a world where, in the U.S alone, suicide is the second leading cause of death among teens and young adults and the annual suicide rate increased 24% between 1999 and 2014, *Hello! I Want to Die, Please Fix Me* is an overwhelmingly urgent work
- For readers of *Brain on Fire* and *Being Mortal*, this important book takes *Girl Interrupted* into the 21st century and beyond in its search to uncover desperately needed answers
- Rights Held: World, excl. Canada English (Random House Canada); Ms available Oct 2018; Pub Date: Aug 2019; Page extent:: 393 (hc)